



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HUE CITY (CG 66)  
FPO AA 34091-1186

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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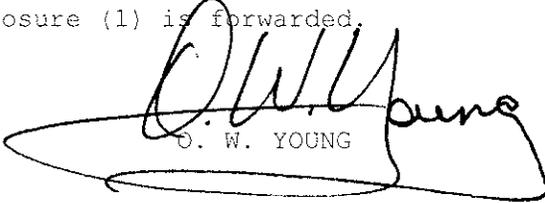
From: Commanding Officer, USS HUE CITY (CG 66)  
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard,  
805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060

Subj: 2002 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command History

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

  
D. W. YOUNG

USS HUÉ CITY CG 66  
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2002

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NOTE: The signed cover letter, and supporting documents a., b., c., e., and g. will be submitted via US Mail. Supporting documents d., f., h., j., and u. will be submitted via unclassified e-mail. Supporting documents k., l., m., n., o., p., q., r., s., and t. will be submitted via classified e-mail.

I. Command Composition and Organization:

USS HUÉ CITY (CG 66)  
FPO AA 34091-1186  
NAVAL STATION MAYPORT  
UIC: 21656

a. Command Mission Statement

- (1) The mission of HUÉ CITY is to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of a carrier battle group or amphibious assault group. HUÉ CITY has been designed to defend against coordinated saturation attacks involving enemy surface ships, submarines, aircraft, and missiles. Additionally, HUÉ CITY is able to engage in offensive actions against the enemy through employment of long-range anti-shiping missiles, land attack missiles, and naval gunfire.
- (2) The twentieth of the Ticonderoga Class cruisers, USS HUÉ CITY is the first United States ship to bear this name and the only ship named after a battle of the Vietnam War.
- (3) At the heart of HUÉ CITY is the Aegis Weapons System, a significant advance in fleet air defense with the capability to counter all current and projected threats to the United States Navy's battle force. The Aegis Weapon System can rapidly fire and put in flight more missiles with greater accuracy than any other combat system.
- (4) The potency of the Aegis Weapons System was increased by the addition of Cooperative Engagement Capability in 1998. CEC brings revolutionary new air defense capability by distributing sensor and weapons data from existing systems to all other units and combining the information into a single common air picture. Thus, CEC enables the Vertical Launching System to be used against an enemy target that is being tracked by another CEC vessel.

b. Command Organization Structure:

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| (1) ISIC -                | Commander, Carrier Group Six<br>RADM Steven J. Tomaszewski, USN<br>RADM Donald K. Bullard, USN |
| (2) Commanding Officer -  | Captain Richard G. Hoffman, Jr., USN<br>Captain Orrin W. Young, USN                            |
| (3) Executive Officer -   | CDR Mark A. Johnson, USN   |
| (4) Chaplain -            | LT [REDACTED], USN   |
| (5) Navigator -           | LT [REDACTED], USNR  |
| (6) Assistant Navigator - | LT(jg) [REDACTED], USNR  |

(7) Combat Systems Officer - LCDR ██████████, USN  
 (8) System Test Officer - CWO2 ██████████, USN  
 ENS ██████████, USN  
 (9) Electronic Maintenance Officer - LT ██████████, USN  
 (10) Fire Control Officer - LT ██████████, USNR  
 LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (11) CF Division Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (12) Operations Officer - LCDR ██████████, USN  
 LCDR ██████████, USN  
 (13) Combat Information Center Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USN  
 LT(jg) ██████████, USN  
 (14) Electronic Warfare Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (15) Communications Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (16) Signal Warfare Officer - CWO2 ██████████, USN  
 (17) Air Warfare Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (18) Training Officer - LT ██████████, USNR  
 LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (19) OI Division Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (20) Weapons Officer - LT ██████████, USN  
 (21) First Lieutenant - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (22) Undersea Warfare Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (23) Gunnery Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (24) Strike Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (25) Assistant Weapons Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (26) Chief Engineer - LCDR ██████████, USN  
 (27) Damage Control Assistant - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (28) R Division Officer - ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (29) Main Propulsion Assistant - CWO2 ██████████, USN  
 (30) Electrical Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (31) Engineering Training Officer - LT ██████████, USN  
 LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (32) Auxiliaries Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (33) Supply Officer - LCDR ██████████, USN  
 LCDR ██████████, USN  
 (34) Disbursing Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (35) Food Service Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 ENS ██████████, USNR  
 (36) Administration Officer - LT(jg) ██████████, USNR  
 (37) Command Master Chief - CMDCM(SW) Mark A. Dubiel, USN

II. Chronological Listing of Major Events

JAN 02:

01-06 Holiday Leave & Upkeep  
11-13 34th Battle of Hue Memorial Weekend  
16 Underway in JAX OPAREA  
19 Underway from Mayport, FL  
19-26 JFK BATTLE GROUP JTFEX Phase I  
19 TACAN Certification  
19 HSL 48 DET 10 Fly-On  
20 VANDALEX 2  
26 HSL 48 DET 10 Fly-Off  
26 RAS with USNS LARAMIE  
26 Inport, Mayport, FL

FEB 02:

07 Underway from Mayport, FL  
07 HSL 48 DET 10 Fly-On  
07-11 JFKBATGRU JTFEX Phase II  
07-28 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
10 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
11 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
12-15 Inport, Norfolk, VA for Hull Repairs  
14 CINCLANTFLT Visit  
15 RAS with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN  
15-22 TRANSLANT  
18 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
22 Straits of Gibraltar Transit (Eastbound)  
22 Out CHOP C2F  
22 In CHOP C6F  
25-28 PVST Valletta, Malta

MAR 02:

01-31 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
01 PVST Valletta, Malta  
02 RAS with USNS KANAWHA  
04 Suez Canal Transit (Southbound)  
04 Out CHOP C6F  
04 In CHOP C5F  
05 RDVZ with USS PETERSON for Linguist Transfer  
07 BAB EL-MANDEB Transit (Southbound)  
07 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
07 RDVZ with FGS EMDEN  
08-10 Escort USS JOHN F. KENNEDY En Route North Arabian Sea  
09 CV Plane Guard  
10 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
10 Detach En Route Gulf of Aden  
11 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
13 RDVZ with FGS BAYERN  
14 BAB EL-MANDEB Transit (Northbound) Escort BATAAN ARG  
14-18 ISR MIO OPS Red Sea  
15 RAS with USS BATAAN  
15 VBSS MIO EX with USS SHREVEPORT  
16 Dry Hook-up with USS BATAAN  
17 RAS with USNS SPICA  
17 RAS with USNS SATURN  
18 BAB EL-MANDEB Transit (Southbound) Escort WASP ARG

18-31 ISR MIO OPS Gulf of Aden  
18 RAS with USNS SPICA  
19 RAS with FGS SPESSART  
20 RDVZ with HMS CAMPBELTOWN  
21 VBSS Event with RFA DILIGENCE  
22 RAS with USS BRIDGE  
23 RDVZ with HMS CAMPBELTOWN  
23 CMS Transfer To FGS EMDEN  
24-25 RNDZ with HMS CAMPBELTOWN  
26 DIVTACS with HMS CAMPBELTOWN  
27 Killer Tomato GUNNEX  
27 VBSS Event with RFA DILIGENCE  
28 Humanitarian Assistance to Dhow  
30 RAS with FGS SPESSART  
30 RDZV with USS WASP

APR 02:

01-30 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
01-13 ISR MIO OPS Gulf of Aden  
01-02 ASW EMATT Exercise  
02 RDVZ with USS WASP  
03 RDVZ with SPS SANTA MARIA  
04 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
04 Aegis Weapon System Baseline 6.1.3.3 Upgrade  
04 RDVU for ASW Live TRACKEX with FS SAPHIR  
05 CASEX A6 (ASW Counter Attack)  
05-06 CASEX C4 (Protection of Force)  
05-06 ASW Free Play with FS SAPHIRE  
08 Assume Duties as CTF 150 Green Crown  
08 Assume Duties as CTF 150 Air Defense Commander  
09-11 RDZV with USS WASP  
09-11 Naval Surface Fire Support for MEUEX 2002  
12 HSL 48 DET 10 Chaff/FLIR EX  
13-15 ISR OPS Arabian Sea  
13 HSL 48 DET 10 CATEM EX  
14 REXTORP EX  
15 Assistance/Tow of M/V NABIMAHR O NOBOI 430  
16 Strait of Hormuz Transit (Northbound)  
16 ISR OPS Strait of Hormuz  
16-17 ISR OPS Southern Arabian Gulf  
17-21 PVST Manama, Bahrain  
18 C5F In Brief  
19 Reception Onboard SPS SANTA MARIA  
22 Comiskey Guard Ship Turnover with USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN  
22-30 Area Air Defense Commander  
22-30 Gold Crown  
22-30 Comiskey Guard Ship  
22-30 Sector Information Warfare Commander  
22-26 CART I  
23-30 MIO North Arabian Gulf  
25 RDZV with USS THE SULLIVANS  
26-30 MIO CDR, Commodore James Goldrick, RAN, Embarked  
27 RAS with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL

MAY 02:

01-31 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
01-20 MIO North Arabian Gulf

01-04 MIO CDR, Commodore James Goldrick, RAN, Embarked  
 01-20 Area Air Defense Commander  
 01-20 Gold Crown  
 01-20 Comiskey Guard Ship  
 01-20 Sector Information Warfare Commander  
 02 RAS with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL  
 05 RDVZ with HMAS NEWCASTLE  
 07-15 Naval Special Warfare C2 Embarked  
 08 RAS with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL  
 09 Military Spouse Appreciation Day Observed  
 11-15 MIO Surge  
 14 RAS with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL  
 14-17 Assumed Duties as Alternate IWC  
 14 Assumed Duties as Alternate LAC  
 19 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
 19-20 Comiskey Guard Ship Turnover with USS VICKSBURG  
 20 PHOTOEX with Coalition ships in Northern Arabian Gulf  
 20-22 C2 Conference  
 20-25 PVST Manama, Bahrain  
 25-31 JFKBG Air Defense Commander  
 26 Strait of Hormuz Transit (Southbound)  
 26 RAS with JDS TOKIWA  
 27 Memorial Day Ceremony  
 27-31 JFKBG Air Defense Commander  
 27-31 Red Crown  
 30 RAS with USS SEATTLE

JUNE 02:

01-30 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
 01-10, 15-23 JFKBG Air Defense Commander  
 01-10, 15-23 Red Crown  
 04 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
 07 USO Show  
 09-10 MCPON Visit  
 10 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
 14 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
 17 Bilateral ASWEX  
 19 RAS with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL  
 24 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
 24-30 En Route Suez Canal  
 25 CHAFFEX  
 27 BAB EL-MANDEB Transit (Northbound)  
 27 RAS with USNS BERLIN

JULY 02:

01-31 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
 01 Suez Canal Transit (Northbound)  
 02 Out CHOP C5F  
 02 In CHOP C6F  
 03 RAS with USNS PATUXENT  
 04-09 PVST Aksaz, Turkey  
 09-17 ISR MIO OPS Candlestick OPAREA  
 11 REXTORP/EMATT EX  
 11 RAS with USNS BIG HORN  
 14 Stream Towed Array Sonar  
 14 Burial at Sea  
 17 RAS with USNS PATUXENT

18-22 PVST Souda Bay, Crete  
24 RAS with USNS BIG HORN  
27-31 PVST Rejika, Croatia

AUG 02:

01-17 JTG 02-2 Deployment  
01 PVST Rejika, Croatia  
04 RAS with USNS LARAMIE  
04 RAS with USNS SATURN  
05 Strait of Gibraltar Transit (Westbound)  
05-08 PVST Rota, Spain  
06-10 Supply Management Assessment  
09 Out CHOP C6F  
09 In CHOP C2F  
10 RAS with USS SEATTLE  
12 CHAFFEX  
15 HSL-48 DET 10 Fly-Off  
15 Tiger Cruise Embarkation, Norfolk, VA  
15 Deputy CLF Visit  
15 COMNAVSURFLANT Visit  
15-17 Tiger Cruise  
15 RAS with USNS JOHN LENTHALL  
16 Sea Power Demonstration  
17 Return to Homeport, Mayport, FL  
17-31 Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep  
30 CAPT Cassidy's Retirement Ceremony Onboard HUÉ CITY

SEP 02:

01-13 Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep  
13 EN1(SW) [REDACTED] Retirement Ceremony Onboard HUÉ CITY  
17-20 3M Inspection  
20 RADM Bullard Visit  
20 Roving Sands Meeting  
23 CCG-6 Change of Command Ceremony Onboard HUÉ CITY  
24-25 Smartship Installation In-Brief  
24 CNO Brief Commanding Officer  
27 OS3 Bridges Memorial Service Onboard HUÉ CITY  
27 PNCS(SW) [REDACTED]'s Wedding Onboard HUÉ CITY

OCT 02:

01 CMS Assist Visit  
01 Berth Shift, Mayport, FL  
01 Ammunition Off-Load, Mayport, FL  
02 Safety Survey  
03 Fast Cruise  
03 Strike and TACAIR Seminar  
04-06 Underway, Western Atlantic Ocean  
04-06 Engineering LTT  
06-09 Inport, Earle, NJ  
07-09 Ammunition Off-Load, Earle, NJ  
07-09 Command PRT  
09-10 Underway, Western Atlantic Ocean  
10-15 PVST, Boston, MA  
10 Guest Reception Onboard HUÉ CITY  
11-14 General Public Tours  
15-17 Underway, Western Atlantic Ocean  
17 Inport, Mayport, FL

21-25 Roving Sands Conference  
21-31 ILO Validation  
25 Change of Command Ceremony Onboard HUÉ CITY  
28 Pre-AVCERT Assist Visit  
28-31 Recruiter Selection Team Visit  
28-29 Aegis Fleet Feedback Visit  
29-31 Disbursing Audit  
30 Underway, St. John's River Transit  
31 Dry-docked at Atlantic Marine, Jacksonville, FL  
30-31 Extended Dry-docked Selected Restricted Availability (EDSRA)

NOV 02:

01-30 ILO Validation  
01-30 EDSRA  
01-30 Dry-docked  
01-06 Disbursing Audit  
12-22 SEMAT I  
15 CDS-24 MIO Brief  
22 Information Warfare Tactical Seminar  
25 JFKBATDRU SCC Symposium

DEC 02:

01-31 ILO Validation  
01-30 EDSRA  
01-30 Dry-docked  
10 Mid Availability Conference  
12 Command Holiday Party  
13-31 Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period  
18 Postal Assist Visit

## Summary of Ship Activities

USS HUÉ CITY (CG 66), the first United States ship to bear this name and the only ship named after a battle of the Vietnam War, is the twentieth in the TICONDEROGA Class of Aegis guided missile cruisers and the fourteenth to be built by Ingalls Shipbuilding of Pascagoula, Mississippi. Her keel was laid on February 20, 1989. She was floated on June 1, 1990 and christened on July 21, 1991 by her sponsor, Mrs. Jo Ann Cheatham, the wife of Lieutenant General Earnest C. Cheatham, Jr., USMC (Ret.), a participant in the 1968 Battle of Hué City.

Following a year of pre-deployment preparations, HUÉ CITY sailed on March 11, 1993 for her maiden deployment to the Mediterranean Sea as Air Warfare Commander for the THEODORE ROOSEVELT BATTLE GROUP. Principally operating in the Adriatic Sea, HUÉ CITY developed the air picture and transmitted it to command centers afloat and ashore. In addition, HUÉ CITY monitored the safety of United Nations relief flights to Bosnia, ensuring Serbian aircraft did not violate no-fly zones. She also enforced the maritime embargo against the former Yugoslavia. On July 27, 1993, Captain Clement H. Ward relieved Captain Thomas L. Eubanks as Commanding Officer, USS HUÉ CITY, in a ceremony held in Theole sur-Mer on the French Riviera. HUÉ CITY returned from deployment on September 8, 1993.

Early in 1994 HUÉ CITY completed her first Selected Restricted Availability. She then sailed to the Caribbean Sea for counter-narcotics operations. Before checking on-station, HUÉ CITY shot 105.06% at the Vieques Naval Gunfire Range, and was subsequently awarded the Atlantic Fleet Gunnery Award for 1994. In April, HUÉ CITY successfully completed her Logistics Management Inspection. While conducting refresher training near Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, HUÉ CITY was directed to serve as Destroyer Squadron 22 flagship in support of United Nations sanctions against Haiti. In June, HUÉ CITY participated in the Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) change of command in Pensacola, Florida. Afterwards, HUÉ CITY conducted a second set of counter-narcotics operations in the Caribbean Sea. Pre-deployment training accelerated in August and October with the successful completion of Final Evaluation Period (FEP) training and Operational Propulsion Examination (OPPE). In November, HUÉ CITY completed Composite Unit Training off of Puerto Rico, followed by a strong

showing in Joint Task Force Exercise. Later that same year, HUÉ CITY sailed in support of the CNO's special LEAP project and provided sea-borne support in an attempt to track a ballistic missile trajectory - a feat not previously accomplished by an AEGIS cruiser. During 1994, HUÉ CITY was awarded the Navy's Community Service Award, the Chezek Award for highest naval gunfire score in the Atlantic Fleet, the Logistics Management Excellence Award (Blue E - first award), the Engineering & Survivability Excellence Award (Red E - first award), the Maritime Warfare Excellence Award (Black E - second award), the Command & Control Excellence Award (Green E - fourth award), and the Battle Efficiency Award (Battle 'E' - first award).

HUÉ CITY sailed for her second deployment March 22, 1995 with the THEODORE ROOSEVELT BATTLE GROUP, again as Air Warfare Commander. HUÉ CITY took station in the Red Sea, where she provided air coverage and support to combat air patrols enforcing the no-fly zone in southern Iraq. In May, HUÉ CITY, along with USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, was ordered to the Adriatic Sea for two months to support national interests. After a brief visit to Cannes, France, HUÉ CITY returned to the Adriatic Sea as REDCROWN. Captain Theodore L. Kaye relieved Captain Clement H. Ward as Commanding Officer on July 26, 1995. HUÉ CITY returned home to Mayport, Florida in September after completing an Intermediate Maintenance Availability and getting relieved by USS MONTEREY in her deployment duties. Upon her return, HUÉ CITY was realigned from Carrier Group Eight to Carrier Group Two with USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67). The year ended with the ship's second Selected Restricted Availability. In 1995, HUÉ CITY earned the Battle 'E' Award (second award), a Navy Unit Commendation, the Southwest Asia Service medal, the Sea Service Award (second award), the second consecutive Community Service Award, and the NATO Medal.

1996 began with HUÉ CITY in the beginning of her Inter-Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC). In March, HUÉ CITY performed an Operational Test Launch of a Tomahawk Cruise Missile in the Gulf of Mexico, followed by a Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) qualification in the Vieques Operation Area. HUÉ CITY sailed for the Baltic Sea on 24 May 1996 to participate in operations involving forty-eight ships from thirteen nations. Upon arrival in Germany, Commander Carrier Group Two, Rear Admiral Robert C. Williamson and his staff, embarked HUÉ CITY. The operations focused on tracking air, surface, and subsurface

targets in a multinational task force. HUÉ CITY returned to homeport on July 19, 1996, where the remainder of the year was spent in port completing her IDTC inspections. During 1996, HUÉ CITY was awarded the Chief of Naval Operations Community Service Award, the CNO's and Type Commander's Safety Awards, and the Battle 'E' Award (third award).

HUÉ CITY completed COMPTUEX Phase II and Joint Task Force Exercises in the spring of 1997 before setting sail for her third deployment. HUÉ CITY deployed on April 29, 1997 to the Mediterranean Sea as Air Warfare Commander for the JOHN F. KENNEDY BATTLE GROUP. HUÉ CITY participated in NATO exercise ILLES D'OR, Sixth Fleet's INVITEX 97, SHARK HUNT 97, and certified as REDCROWN, overseeing all air activity in the Adriatic Sea in support of operation DELIBERATE GUARD. On July 5, Captain Patrick T. Cassidy relieved Captain Theodore L. Kaye as Commanding Officer. While underway in the Central Mediterranean, HUÉ CITY hosted the honorable John H. Dalton, Secretary of the Navy. HUÉ CITY was relieved by USS CARNEY and returned to Mayport on October 28. In December, HUÉ CITY began her Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) installation and TACINTEL II installation.

In the spring and summer of 1998, HUÉ CITY set sail to conduct operational testing and evaluation of the newly installed CEC equipment. HUÉ CITY successfully qualified at the Vieques Air Warfare Testing Facility in her Naval Surface Fire Support warfare area. On August 1, HUÉ CITY changed from the operational control of COMCARGRU TWO to Commander, Western Hemisphere Group (COMWESTHEMGRU). In the same month, HUÉ CITY completed her Engineering Certification and Propulsion Examining Board evaluation. From August 22-26 the entire Mayport Basin sortied for Hurricane "Bonnie." In December, HUÉ CITY hosted the Pearl Harbor Memorial ceremony in Fort Lauderdale, FL, conducted anti-submarine exercises, and participated in CEC testing. HUÉ CITY concluded 1998 with satisfactory completions of several ITDC inspections.

In 1999, HUÉ CITY sailed south for counter-drug operations in the Caribbean Sea. Later that year HUÉ CITY participated in her second Baltic Operations, a multinational sea exercise consisting of fifty-three vessels from twelve nations in the Western Baltic Sea. Numerous CEC testing events were also performed to prove the feasibility of the new war fighting system.

The year 2000 began with the completion of a Selected Restricted Availability, Readiness For Sea Inspection and Sea Trials, Aviation Certification/Aviation Readiness Evaluation, the annual Battle of HUÉ Memorial weekend, and CEC Test Period Number 8. HUÉ CITY then set sail to conduct multinational exercises in South America while acting as the Flagship in UNITAS 2000 Caribbean phase. Upon HUÉ CITY's return from UNITAS 2000, she completed an Intermediate Maintenance Availability. HUÉ CITY set sail again for the Road to CEC OPEVAL Underway Testing Period Number 9 where she performed her first missile firing events since 1996. On July 4, HUÉ CITY performed duties as the Presidential Reviewing Platform for the International Naval Review (INR) 2000 in New York City. Following her trip to New York City, HUÉ CITY sailed to participate in Operation Sail (OPSAIL) 2000 in Boston, MA and Tall Ships OPSAIL in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Later that year, HUÉ CITY completed CEC Test Period Number 10, Supply Management Inspection, Engineering Initial Assessment, Command Assessment Readiness Training II, and a final CEC Test Period with three live firing exercises. HUÉ CITY earned the TYCOM Safety Award, Community Service Award, and the Battle Efficiency Award (sixth award).

HUÉ CITY began 2001 by successfully completing her Underway Demonstration with COMCARGRU SIX, then moving onto the Cooperative Engagement Capability (CEC) Technical Evaluation. During this period, HUÉ CITY conducted six successful live missile firings against high speed, low altitude targets. HUÉ CITY then set sail for CEC Operational Evaluation, the final underway period of CEC testing that marked the culmination of three years of testing. HUÉ CITY conducted her Safety Survey, IT21 Installation, Intermediate Maintenance Availability, Naval Surface Fire Support Team Qualification, and Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification. She then set sail to conduct her five year Inspection and Survey. On September 11, HUÉ CITY got underway for her Final Evaluation Period, which quickly shifted focus in support of OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE. HUÉ CITY transitioned into her Composite Training Unit Exercises with the JOHN F. KENNEDY BATTLE GROUP and a Sink Exercise with the former USS GUAM. HUÉ CITY continued training by setting sail with the JFK Battle Group for Group Sail and an ammunition onload. HUÉ CITY earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Battle Efficiency Award (seventh award), the Southeast Region Project Good

Neighbor Community Service Award, and CINCLANT Retention Honor Roll for  
3rd QTR FY 01.

## Summary of Activities for 2002

After returning from a holiday and pre-deployment leave and upkeep period, HUÉ CITY honored the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Hué with the annual Battle of Hué Memorial Weekend. This year's guest speaker, Colonel Myron Harrington, USMC, (Ret.), who fought at Hué as Commanding Officer of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, gave an elegant tribute to his Marines for their bravery and determination. He focused on sacrifice, and the importance of faith in God and your fellow Marines when faced with the dangers of combat. HUÉ CITY then set sail for, and successfully completed, her Joint Task Force Exercises (JTTFEX) with the JOHN F. KENNEDY BATTLE GROUP. During JTTFEX, HUÉ CITY was able to certify her TACAN, participate in a VANDALEX, and operate with an attached helicopter unit, HSL 48 DET 10.

February 7, HUÉ CITY set sail on her fourth deployment with USS JOHN F. KENNEDY, USS VICKSBURG, USS SEATTLE, and USS THE SULLIVANS as part of the JOHN F. KENNEDY BATTLE GROUP. On February 11, a panting bulkhead was discovered in one of HUÉ CITY's berthing compartments. On February 15, HUÉ CITY set sail from Norfolk, Virginia to proceed eastbound across the Atlantic Ocean with the rest of the Battle Group. HUÉ CITY arrived at the Straits of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea on February 22 and officially changed operational reporting from Second Fleet to Sixth Fleet. HUÉ CITY marked the commencement of her deployment with a port visit to the beautiful island of Malta.

The month of March found HUÉ CITY settling into the operational portion of her deployment. On March 4, HUÉ CITY transited the Suez Canal and changed operational reporting from Sixth Fleet to Fifth Fleet. HUÉ CITY sailed south through the Red Sea and Bab El-Mandeb at full speed with the battle group in order to rendezvous with and relieve the THEODORE ROOSEVELT BATTLE GROUP. After relieving THEODORE ROOSEVELT, HUÉ CITY and USS JOHN F. KENNEDY took station in the North Arabian Sea to continue with the air strikes in Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. On March 10, HUÉ CITY was relieved of the carrier's defense in order to return to the Gulf of Aden. Throughout the month of March and into April, HUÉ CITY operated with Coalition Forces of the British, German, French, and Spanish navies conducting intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance operations. HUÉ CITY also served as an escort ship for the BATAAN and WASP

AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUPS during their choke-point transits through the Bab El-Mandeb. From April 8-12, HUÉ CITY assumed duties as Air Defense Commander and Green Crown for the WASP AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP. During this time, in support of the WASP AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP's Maritime Expeditionary Unit Exercise 2002, HUÉ CITY provided Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS). In just two and a half days, HUÉ CITY's professional NSFS team fired 619 5"/.54 rounds onto the beach with unparalleled accuracy.

In mid-April, HUÉ CITY detached from the Coalition Forces in the Gulf of Aden and proceeded north through the Strait of Hormuz. After a brief port visit in Manama, Bahrain, HUÉ CITY relieved USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN as the Comiskey Guardship in the North Arabian Gulf (NAG). In addition, HUÉ CITY assumed duties as Area Air Defense Commander, Gold Crown, and Sector Information Warfare Commander while on station in the NAG. Along with USS THE SULLIVANS, USS JOHN S. MCCAIN, USS HOPPER, and multiple Australian Navy ships, HUÉ CITY conducted Maritime Interdiction Operations in support of United Nations sanctions against Iraq. HUÉ CITY continued this mission throughout the month of April and into May, conducting 101 boardings, 5502 container inspections, 87 Gulf Sentry missions, and health and comfort inspections. She was relieved of her MIO duties by USS VICKSBURG on May 20. HUÉ CITY then proceeded to a well-deserved port visit in Manama, Bahrain.

On May 27, after successfully transiting the Strait of Hormuz, HUÉ CITY again took station with USS JOHN F. KENNEDY as Air Defense Commander and Red Crown, providing air coverage and direction to combat air patrols as a part of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. HUÉ CITY carried out her mission with JOHN F. KENNEDY until she detached on June 24 en route the Suez Canal.

HUÉ CITY escorted USS BOISE north through the Suez Canal on July 1. On July 2, HUÉ CITY changed operational reporting from Fifth Fleet to Sixth Fleet, then proceeded to Aksaz, Turkey, for a five-day port visit. From July 9-17, HUÉ CITY patrolled the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. On July 14, HUÉ CITY committed the remains of 10 veterans to the deep in a moving burial at sea ceremony, then proceeded to Souda Bay, Greece for a port visit. Following this, HUÉ CITY sailed north to Rejika, Croatia. As the first US Navy ship to visit Rejika since September 11, 2001, HUÉ CITY's port visit to Rejika was especially important and well received.

On August 5, HUÉ CITY made a transit through the Strait of Gibraltar and pulled into Rota, Spain, for her final port visit of deployment. HUÉ CITY spent four days on Spain's bustling Atlantic Coast, enjoying Spanish cuisine, history, and nightlife. In Rota, HUÉ CITY embarked a Supply Management Assist team. The outstanding professionalism and solid supply management techniques used by HUÉ CITY's Supply Department earned high grades and resulted in the waiver of the Supply Management Inspection. On August 9, HUÉ CITY made its final change in operational reporting from Sixth Fleet back to Second Fleet as she continued to sail west across the Atlantic Ocean towards the United States. HUÉ CITY pulled into Norfolk Naval Base for a Tiger Cruise embarkation on August 15. As HUÉ CITY sailed south towards Florida, the Tigers were kept busy with a nighttime underway replenishment evolution, a Sea and Air Power Demonstration, small arms firings, and the unique routines of a ship at sea. On August 17, HUÉ CITY returned to Mayport, Florida, to the sounds of a Navy band and the warm greeting of friends and family on the pier.

During the next month, HUÉ CITY Sailors were rewarded for a professional and busy deployment with a post-deployment leave and upkeep period. Immediately following this, HUÉ CITY passed, with high marks, its 3M inspection. On September 23, HUÉ CITY was honored to host the change of command ceremony as RADM Donald K. Bullard relieved RADM Steven J. Tomaszewski as Commander, Carrier Group SIX.

October commenced with a successful CMS Assist Visit, as well as a successful Safety Survey. On October 4, HUÉ CITY got underway for an ammunition offload in Earle, New Jersey, followed by a port visit to Boston, Massachusetts. The city of Boston greeted HUÉ CITY with graciousness and appreciation, forever endearing itself to the crew. After returning from Boston, HUÉ CITY commenced its six-month ILO validation. On October 25, HUÉ CITY welcomed her new Commanding Officer, Captain Orrin W. Young, while giving a fond farewell to her former Commanding Officer, Captain Richard G. Hoffman, Jr. Just days later, HUÉ CITY underwent a pre-AVCERT Assist visit, a Recruiter Selection Team visit, an Aegis Fleet Feedback visit, and successfully completed a Disbursing Audit. On October 30, HUÉ CITY began her first Extended Dry-docked Selected Restricted Availability (EDSRA) and dry-docked the following day.

HUÉ CITY conducted SEMAT I in November and continued with its EDSRA through the end of the year. In December, HUÉ CITY Sailors gathered together for the annual Command Holiday Party and then began a holiday leave and upkeep period.

During the year 2002, HUÉ CITY earned the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (second award), the National Defense Service Medal (second award), the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (fourth award), and the Southeast Region Project Good Neighbor Community Service Award.