



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS KEY WEST (SSN 722)  
FPO AP 96683-2402

*Rec'd 4/26/00  
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APR 5 2000

From: Commanding Officer, USS KEY WEST (SSN 722)

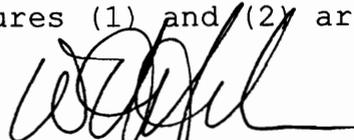
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09HB)

Subj: USS KEY WEST (SSN 722) 1999 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Organization, Chronology, and Narrative  
(2) Supporting Documents

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded.

  
W. H. HILARIDES

## **COMMAND HISTORY**

USS KEY WEST (SSN 722)

1999

### 1. Command Composition for USS KEY WEST (SSN 722):

#### a. Commanding Officer:

(1) CDR William H. Hilarides

#### b. Immediate superior in command:

(1) COMSUBRON THREE

#### c. Mission: Plan for and when ordered

- Conduct offensive submarine operations, including anti-submarine warfare, mining operations, and other operations as required.
- Conduct anti-submarine warfare in conjunction with other anti-submarine warfare forces and other operations as required.
- Conduct offensive strike operations

#### d. Homeport: Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

### 2. Chronology.

- \* 1 January - 3 January  
Holiday stand-down period
- \* 4 January - 8 February  
Upkeep
- \* 9 February - 2 March  
Local Operations
- \* 3 March - 4 March  
Operational Reactor Safeguards Exam
- \* 5 March - 07 March  
In port Pearl Harbor
- \* 8 March  
Dependent's Cruise

- \* 9 March - 30 March  
Pre-Depot Modernization Period availability
- \* 31 March  
Entered drydock
- \* 1 April - 16 December  
Depot Modernization Period
- \* 17 December - 31 December  
Holiday stand-down period

### 3. Narrative.

a. It was a very interesting year for the crew of the USS KEY WEST (SSN 722). We began the year by finishing up the holiday leave period followed by an intense upkeep. In January, Admiral Y. Yamamoto, Chief of Staff, Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) and several other senior JMSDF officers toured the KEY WEST during a Chief of Naval Operations sponsored visit to the United States. After successfully completing the January upkeep, KEY WEST went to sea for an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) and concluded the three week run with a dependent's cruise.

b. After returning to Pearl Harbor, KEY WEST began final preparations for commencing a Depot Modernization Period (DMP) at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard (PHNSY). A DMP is best described as thirteen-month shipyard availability designed to retrofit the submarine with some of the latest and technologically advanced systems. Since a significant amount of time is spent with the submarine in dry dock, the crew was required to off-load anything not permanently installed. This meant all the books, tools, repair parts, food, and personal items were weighed and off-loaded from the ship.

c. An Integrated Logistics Overhaul (ILO) scheduled in concurrence with the DMP, was commenced on 1 April 1999, to ensure the ship was outfitted with its projected equipment configuration and to improve the validity of on board inventory and stock records. To support this task, thirteen KEY WEST crewmembers were assigned to the Fleet Technical Support Center (FTSC), the local ILO facility, to inventory and verify the ship's configuration.

d. KEY WEST achieved several noteworthy accomplishments during the course of the DMP. KEY WEST was the first submarine to drydock one day early, complete the Equipment Rip-Out phase ahead of schedule, and finish Engineering Cold Operations in

four days; in half the time of any other submarine! The DMP has allowed the crew to spend more time at home and become involved in several community projects.

e. The KEY WEST Team took First Place in the Military Division and Second Place Overall in the Annual Hawaiian Plane Pull held 30 October 1999. The object of the event is to determine which team, limited to 20, can pull an Aloha Airlines DC-9 twelve feet in the fastest time. KEY WEST completed the task in 6.06 seconds, only two-tenths of a second behind the overall winner, the 24-Hour Fitness Center Team in the fastest pull. Special Olympics Hawaii has one of the oldest and most established plane pull events in the world. "If we are inport during next year's pull, we'll take on any and all challengers," said MM3(SS) [REDACTED].

f. The KEY WEST officially adopted Lanakila Elementary as part of the Partnership for Excellence Adopt-a-School program. The focus of this program is to develop the math and reading abilities of students by using bright, well-trained, professional sailors as tutors. Following an "aloha-filled" assembly, that introduced the crew to the school, sailors were immediately integrated into the classrooms. KEY WEST sailors, making themselves at home, quickly became involved. What the far-reaching impact of this experience will be on the sailors and students involved one can only guess. We do know, however, that the KEY WEST is helping to forge the submarine force of tomorrow, as a positive, influencing presence for the youths of today.

g. In the 1999 Squadron THREE Commodore's Cup, KEY WEST took Second Place, only to look forward to next year's competition! Not to be outdone, the KEY WEST First Class Petty Officer Association adopted a two-mile stretch of highway in Waipahu, here on the island of Oahu, as an opportunity to pay back the community with the spirit of Aloha.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Photograph (Ship - Navy Standard)
2. Welcome Aboard Booklet (CDR Hilarides)
3. USS KEY WEST (SSN 722) Bumper Sticker (1)
4. USS KEY WEST (SSN 722) Ship's Crest Sticker (2)