



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG 57)
FPO AP 96671-1177

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From: Commanding Officer, USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG 57)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20374-0571

Subj: ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1995

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Command Chronology
(3) Command Narrative
(4) Supporting Documentation

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.

F. J. Dobrydney
F. J. DOBRYDNEY

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

- A. HOMEPORT:
SAN DIEGO, CA
- B. MISSION: LAKE CHMPLAIN operates offensively in a high-density multithreat environment as an integral member of a battle group or surface action group (SAG) to include striking at targets along hostile shorelines and well inland.
- C. COMMANDING OFFICER:
01 JAN-22 NOV CAPTAIN DENNIS J. VAN BUSKIRK
22 NOV-PRESENT CAPTAIN FRANK J. DOBRYDNEY
- D. ISIC:
- OPERATIONAL:
- | | | |
|---------------|----------|---|
| 01-26 JAN: | CTG 30.2 | COMCARGRU 7 |
| 26 JAN-10 FEB | CTF 35 | COMTHIRDFLT |
| 10 FEB-08 MAR | CTF 75 | COMCARGRU 5 |
| 08 MAR-16 JUN | CTF 159 | COMCRUDESGRU 1, COMDESRON 50,
COMCARGRU 8, COMCARGRU 3 |
| 16 JUN-14 JUL | CTF 75 | COMCARGRU 5 |
| 14 JUL-26 JUL | CTF 35 | COMTHIRDFLT |
| 26 JUL-05 OCT | CTG 30.2 | COMCARGRU 7 |
| 05 OCT-03 NOV | CTF 35 | COMTHIRDFLT |
| 26 JUL-31 DEC | CTG 35.2 | COMCARGRU 7 |
- ADMINISTRATIVE:
COMCARGRU 7
- E. UNITS UNDER OPERATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE COMMAND:
10 FEB-08 MAR USS OBRIEN, USS MCLUSKY
16 JUN-14 JUL USS OBRIEN, USS MCLUSKY
10 OCT-31 OCT USS JOHN A MOORE, USS MAHLON S TISDALE
- F. AIRCRAFT EMBARKED:
26 JAN-26 JUL HSL 45 LONEWOLF 51 AND LONEWOLF 55
05 OCT-03 NOV HSL 45 LONEWOLF 45

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY 1995

- 04 Jan
 - ADM D. B. Robinson, COMNAVSURFPAC visit
 - Deputy City Manager of Phoenix, AZ visit
- 10 Jan
 - NAVSUP Vice Commander visit
- 13 Jan
 - RADM Hickey retirement/Change of Command aboard USS KITTY HAWK. LAKE CHAMPLAIN provides Honor Guard
- 23 Jan
 - Underway 1100 for Sea Trials
 - Embarked HSL-45 Det 8, PACFIRE
 - University of Wisconsin Alumni visit
 - Moored 1530, Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego
- 24 Jan
 - RADM Bien, COMCARGRU SEVEN visit
- 26 Jan
 - Underway 0900 for WESTPAC '95
- 27 Jan
 - Burial at Sea
- 28 Jan
 - Commenced Operation Texas Thunder
- 29 Jan
 - Completed Operation Texas Thunder
- 01 Feb
 - Moored Pearl Harbor, 1500
- 04 Feb
 - Underway 0917, enroute Hong Kong
- 07 Feb
 - 5"/54/CIWS PACFIRE
- 09 Feb
 - UNREP w/USNS PECOS
- 10 Feb
 - Chop to SEVENTH Fleet
- 11 Feb
 - UNREP w/USNS PECOS
- 15 Feb
 - UNREP w/USNS PECOS
- 16 Feb
 - Moored HMS Tamar Pier, Hong Kong 0800
 - America's Club reception
- 20 Feb
 - ADM Zlatoper, CINCPACFLT visit
- 21 Feb
 - Underway 0800, enroute Singapore
- 25 Feb
 - Moored Sembawang, Singapore 1000

26 Feb - Reception for U.S. Treasury Department representative Cathy Buka and foreign treasury representatives in support of 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta

02 Mar - Underway 0800, enroute NAVCENT AOR
- Entered Straits of Malacca

04 Mar - Indonesian fishing vessel found DIW. LAKE CHAMPLAIN assists w/engine repairs, food and water

05 Mar - UNREP w/USNS DIEHL

06 Mar - Turnover luncheon w/USO OBRIEN and USS MCCLUSKY

08 Mar - Detached from SEVENTH Fleet
- Arrive NAVCENT AOR
- Detached USS MCCLUSKY

09 Mar - TLAMEX 95-9

10 Mar - Transit Straits of Hormuz

11 Mar - Anchored Bahrain 0900
- Conducted NAVCENT brief
- Underway 1630

12 Mar - Planeguard w/USO CONSTELLATION
Assume duties as ZW

13 Mar - UNREP w/USO CIMMARON

14 Mar - Moored Jebel Ali 0900
- Commence Technical Availability w/USO SAMUEL GOMPERS

18 Mar - Underway 0730
- UNREP w/USO CIMMARON

20 Mar - UNREP w/USO CONSTELLATION

23 Mar - Transit ISBAR 2N

24 Mar - Boarded MV Wonder. Vessel cleared to proceed

28 Mar - 5"/54 PACFIRE
- UNREP/VERTREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON and USNS SPICA

06 Apr - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON

07 Apr - 5"/54/CIWS PACFIRE
 - TLAMEX 95-11

08 Apr - Moored Mina Rashid, Dubai, United Arab Emirates 0800

11 Apr - CO visit to the Consul General

12 Apr - VADM Redd, COMUSNAVCENT visit
 - U.S. Ambassador to United Arab Emirates visit

19 Apr - Underway 0900
 - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON
 - Assume duties of ZW and ZP

20 Apr - Assume duties of ZM

24 Apr - Commence Operation NEMEAN LION 95-1

26 Apr - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON
 - Hump Day Restaurant Night
 - Completed Operation NEMEAN LION 95-1

29 Apr - Boarded MV Probo Bangor. Vessel cleared to proceed

03 May - UNREP w/USS SEATTLE
 - Escort ship for CORY CHOUEST

06 May - Boarded M/U Mai Ex-Lett 1. Turned over sanctions violators to USS OBRIEN for transfer to Kuwait

10 May - RADM Abbot, COMCARGRU EIGHT visit

11 May - TLAMEX 95-13

13 May - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON

14 May - Moored Mina Rashid, Dubai, United Arab Emirates 0800

16 May - Command PRT

17 May - Underway 0900
 - Investigated dhow awash in vicinity of Stiffe Bank, NAG. No personnel aboard

22 May - UNREP/VERTREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON
 - Boarded ATLANTIC RESCUER. Vessel cleared to proceed

23 May - Boarded cargo ship NADER. Vessel cleared to proceed

24 May - Boarded TUG WONDER. Vessel cleared to proceed

25 May - Escort ship for CORY CHOUEST

28 May - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON
 - Small boat transfer w/CORY CHOUEST
 - Turned over escort duties for CORY CHOUEST to USS OBANNON
 - TLAMEX 95-14

05 Jun - Boarded MV NANCY ORR GAUCHER. Vessel cleared to proceed

08 Jun - Anchored Bahrain 0700
 - Underway 0900
 - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON

09 Jun - Moored Mina Rashid, Dubai, United Arab Emirates 0800

12 Jun - 13 Jun - Turnover w/USS CHANCELLORSVILLE

14 Jun - Underway 0730
 - UNREP w/USNS JOHN ERICSSON
 - Transit Straits of Hormuz

16 Jun - Outchop NAVCENT AOR, enroute Phuket, Thailand
 - Inchop SEVENTH Fleet

19 Jun - UNREP w/USNS YUKON

23 Jun - Anchored Phuket, Thailand 0720

27 Jun - Underway 0825, enroute Singapore
 - PASSEX and ASW prosecution w/Royal Thai Navy

28 Jun - Anchored Man of War anchorage, Singapore 1300
 - Underway 1815, enroute Cebu, Philippines

02 Jul - Detached one SH-60B helo to Macton Air Force Base for duration of port visit
 - Anchored Cebu, Philippines 0900
 - Tour conducted for 10 certified press personnel and 120 members of public

03 Jul - Conducted official calls on Cebu City Mayor, Deputy Commander of Naval District, Regional Command Police Superintendent, and Commander of the Visayas Command

04 Jul - Reception for 85 local political and military personnel

05 Jul - Underway 0800, enroute Guam
- UNREP w/USNS YUKON

08 Jul - Moored Guam 1000
- Transferred 55 SM2 missiles, unloaded 12 Tomahawks and 3 SM2 missiles

09 Jul - Underway 1827, enroute Pearl Harbor

14 Jul - Chopped to THIRD Fleet

17 Jul - Moored Naval Magazine LuaLuaLei 0900

18 Jul - Underway 1000, shift to Pearl Harbor
- Moored Pearl Harbor 1100
- Embarked 42 Tigers

20 Jul - Underway 0800

21 Jul - 5"/54/25mm/50cal/M60/CIWS Night Firing

24 Jul - 5"/54 PACFIRE

26 Jul - Moored Pier 2, Naval Station San Diego 1000, FINEX MEF 95-1

26 Jul - 09 Aug - Standdown Period #1

07 Aug - 17 Aug - CS POT & I

10 Aug - 23 Aug - Standdown Period #2

21 Aug - Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, ETCM(SW) John Hagan visit

24 Aug - RADM Bien, COMCARGRU SEVEN visit. Presentation of Battle "E" Award

25 Aug - Fast cruise

28 Aug - Underway 0850 SOCAL OPAREA
- NGFS Spotter services

29 Aug - Leaders to Sea

30 Aug - Leaders to Sea
- NGFS Spotter services

31 Aug - Leaders to Sea

01 Sep - Leaders to Sea
- Moored Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego,
1500

07 Sep - Secretary of the Navy, John Dalton visit

11 Sep - RADM McGinn visit

14 Sep - University of San Diego Political Science
Department visit

15 Sep - Cambodian Naval Officers visit

21 Sep - Underway 0600, enroute Naval Weapons
Station, Seal Beach
- Moored Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach
1200

22 Sep - Underway 1100, enroute Naval Station San
Diego
- Moored Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego 1630

25 Sep - Underway 0815 for rendezvous w/USS NIMITZ

26 Sep - Participated in joint military service
Tomahawk OTL-166 launch conducted and
monitored over video acquired from
missile fin camera, chase plane, and
pioneer UAV via compressed video from
launch to impact

28 Sep - UNREP w/USNS TIPPECANOE
- Participated in JTFX 95-3 as OPFOR

30 Sep - Conducted MIO boarding exercises w/USMC
personnel

02 Oct - Moored Pier 7, Naval Station San Diego 1430

05 Oct - Underway 0750, enroute San Francisco for
Fleet Week

07 Oct - Moored outboard USS VALLEY FORGE, Pier 35,
San Francisco 1630

08 Oct - 09 Oct - Hosted over 2000 people during Fleet Week
tours

10 Oct - Underway 0748, enroute Esquimalt British Columbia, Canada

11 Oct - 5"/54 PACFIRE

12 Oct - Moored "F" Jetty, Esquimalt British Columbia, Canada 0926
- Underway 1752 for berth shift
- Moored "C" Jetty, outboard HMCS PROTECTEUR 1813

16 Oct - Underway 0658 for MARCOT '95
- Conducted Battle Group exercises w/joint U.S., Chilean and Canadian Naval forces

26 Oct - UNREP w/HMCS PROTECTEUR

27 Oct - Moored "C" Jetty, Esquimalt British Columbia, Canada outboard HMCS PROTECTEUR 1055
- ADM Zlatoper, CINCPACFLT visit

31 Oct - Underway 0645, enroute San Diego

03 Nov - Moored "B" Pier, Naval Air Station North Island 0732
- Conducted ammunition offload
- Underway 0848, enroute Naval Station San Diego
- Moored Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego 0950

22 Nov - Change of Command, Captain Dennis J. Van Buskirk is relieved by Captain Frank J. Dobrydney

27 Nov - Luncheon w/HMCS ALGONQUIN

28 Nov - Good Order and Discipline Standdown

01 Dec - Ship's Christmas Party

07 Dec - Congressional Representatives visit
- Children's Christmas Party at Chuck E. Cheeses'

11 Dec - Underway 0926, SOCAL OPAREA

12 Dec - 5"/54/CIWS PACFIRE

14 Dec - NGFS Spotter Services/FIREX

15 Dec - Moored Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego outboard USS PRINCETON 1500

LAKE CHAMPLAIN 1995 COMMAND NARRATIVE

The year began with USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG 57) moored Pier 8, Naval Station San Diego under the command of Captain Dennis J. Van Buskirk. The year included a very successful Arabian Gulf deployment from 26 January to 26 July in support of United Nations sanctions against the government of Iraq, 2 multi-national naval exercises, a successful Tomahawk shot and 21 successful Underway Replenishments during the course of the year. LAKE CHAMPLAIN departed Naval Station, San Diego the morning of 26 January enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. During the transit LAKE CHAMPLAIN conducted MEFEX 95-1, Phase III and participated in Operation TEXAS THUNDER, a Third Fleet tomahawk exercise.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN saw several quality of life port visits enroute to the Arabian Gulf. The first port visit, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was originally scheduled as a brief stop overnight. The visit lasted from 1 to 3 February, a result of a cracked fuel tank. The crew and SIMA Pearl Harbor worked around the clock to effect repairs. On 4 February, LAKE CHAMPLAIN left Pearl Harbor bound for Hong Kong. LAKE CHAMPLAIN moored at HMS Tamar on the morning of 16 February, the last U.S. Naval ship to do so. The facility had been sold to a private contractor who was completing his demolition of the base during LAKE CHAMPLAIN's visit. LAKE CHAMPLAIN hosted several local dignitaries and members of the Hong Kong American's Club for tours and lunches. LAKE CHAMPLAIN also hosted a visit and tour by Admiral Zlatoper, CINCPACFLT, who stopped in Hong Kong during a tour of Pacific Rim nations.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN sailed from Hong Kong 21 February bound for Singapore. LAKE CHAMPLAIN moored at Sembawang Repair Facility, Singapore the morning of 25 February for a port visit and voyage repair availability. During this visit, LAKE CHAMPLAIN hosted a very successful reception for Cathy Buka of the U.S Treasury Department who entertained several Foreign Treasury representatives to gain support for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. To express thanks for the occasion the Treasury Department reissued a commemorative medallion of the Battle of Lake Champlain and provided a copy to each member of the crew. LAKE CHAMPLAIN got underway from Sembawang enroute the Arabian Gulf on 2 March.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN transited the Straits of Hormuz on the evening of 10 March and anchored off of Manama, Bahrain the morning of 11 March to receive in briefs by COMUSNAVCENT, CTF 159 and COMDESRON FIFTY staffs. After the briefings were complete LAKE CHAMPLAIN set sail enroute the Northern Arabian Gulf (NAG). Upon arrival in the NAG, LAKE CHAMPLAIN assumed plane guard for USS CONSTELLATION and assumed Anti-Air Warfare Commander Duties from the USS CHOSIN. LAKE CHAMPLAIN's assumption of warfare commander duties within 24 hours of entering the Arabian gulf set the tone for her time in the NAVCENT Area of Operations (AOR). LAKE CHAMPLAIN spent 102 days in theater of which 82 were underway. LAKE CHAMPLAIN held the duties of Anti-Air Warfare Commander 92 percent of her time underway and provided support to the CONSTELLATION, THEODORE ROOSEVELT and LINCOLN Battle Groups. LAKE CHAMPLAIN also held Maritime Interception Operations (MIO) Commander duties 66 percent of the time underway and participated as a MIO asset 91 percent of the time underway. During the

course of MIO duties, LAKE CHAMPLAIN conducted a total of six boardings, one of which (the MV Mai) resulted in the discovery of 20,000 barrels of contraband crude oil. That vessel was subsequently seized by LAKE CHAMPLAIN in support of United Nations sanctions and turned over to the government of Kuwait.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN also served as the Strike Warfare Commander 75 percent of her time underway while in the NACENT AOR. While serving as a strike asset LAKE CHAMPLAIN participated in several operational exercises including: 4 Tomahawk exercises and Operation NEMEAN LION which was conducted from 24 to 26 April. During NEMEAN LION, LAKE CHAMPLAIN served as NAG Launch Area Coordinator and assumed tactical control of USS KEY WEST, the first time tactical control of a submarine was passed to a surface asset in theater. LAKE CHAMPLAIN conducted 4 port visits while in the Arabian Gulf, 1 to Jebel Ali and 3 to Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN departed Dubai on 14 June enroute Phuket Thailand. On 23 June LAKE CHAMPLAIN anchored off of Phuket, Thailand for a 5 day port visit. On 27 June, LAKE CHAMPLAIN weighed anchor enroute a brief stop for fuel at the Man of War anchorage in Singapore. During the transit of the Straits of Malacca, LAKE CHAMPLAIN conducted maneuvering drills and an ASW prosecution with the Royal Thai Navy. The exercise culminated with the Thai ship controlling LAKE CHAMPLAIN's embarked helo for simulated torpedo attacks. On 28 June, LAKE CHAMPLAIN anchored for 5 hours to take on fuel before proceeding to Cebu, Republic of the Philippines. Arriving on the 2nd of July, LAKE CHAMPLAIN spent 3 days in the Philippines hosting general ship tours, a diplomatic reception for Commander of the Visayas Command, the Mayor of Cebu City and others. After Cebu, LAKE CHAMPLAIN stopped in Guam to transfer Standard Missiles and receive Tomahawk missiles for further transport to the United States. LAKE CHAMPLAIN arrived at her next port of call, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on 17 July. During the 3 day stop LAKE CHAMPLAIN was able to offload more missiles and onload 42 dependents for the Tiger Cruise home. LAKE CHAMPLAIN arrived in San Diego, California on 26 July completing Middle East Force Deployment 95-1.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN was inport or conducting local training operations in the Southern California Operating Areas until 26 September when she conducted a Tomahawk missile firing for OTL 166. This firing was a joint military service exercise. After the missile was launched, fin mounted cameras on the missile, the chase plane and Pioneer UAV's monitored the missiles flight from launch to impact. After the missile shot was complete LAKE CHAMPLAIN joined JTFX 95-3 as a member of the opposition force. JTFX 95-3 was an joint integrated naval exercise for the NIMITZ Battle Group and the PELELIU Amphibious Readiness Group. During that exercise LAKE CHAMPLAIN served as the boarding platform for members of the Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) of the Peleliu ARG obtaining their Special Operations Capability (SOC) certification. This boarding consisted of an after dark helo fast rope insertion without landing lights or control from the ship's flight deck. This was the first time a boarding under those conditions was conducted during the MEU/SOC qualification process. After the completion of JTFX 95-3 LAKE CHAMPLAIN returned to port on 2 October. After a brief visit in home port

LAKE CHAMPLAIN got underway 5 October to conduct Fleet Week in San Francisco. LAKE CHAMPLAIN lead the Parade of Ships underneath the Golden Gate Bridge and conducted a gun salute for the Chief of Naval Operations. During the Fleet Week visit, LAKE CHAMPLAIN hosted over 2000 visitors. On 10 October LAKE CHAMPLAIN proceeded north towards Esquimalt, British Columbia to participate in MARCOT 2-95, a multinational naval exercise hosted by the Canadian Navy. During MARCOT, LAKE CHAMPLAIN served as Anti-Air Warfare Commander for Chilean, Canadian, U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Naval forces. Upon conclusion of the exercise LAKE CHAMPLAIN returned home 3 November.

On 22 November, Captain Frank J. Dobrydny relieved Captain Dennis J. Van Buskirk of command. Rear Admiral Lyle G. Bien, Commander, Carrier Group Seven was the guest speaker. On 27 November, LAKE CHAMPLAIN crewmembers were guests at a luncheon hosted by HMCS ALGONQUIN. On 7 December LAKE CHAMPLAIN provided an extensive tour of the ship to several Congressional Representatives. On 11 December, Captain Dobrydny took his ship to sea for the first time. During this week underway, the ship conducted numerous exercises in the SOCAL OPAREAS and conducted a naval gunfire support firing exercise, scoring 93 percent out of a possible 100. LAKE CHAMPLAIN also provided spotter training services for several U.S. Marine students. After a successful week of training at sea LAKE CHAMPLAIN returned to Naval Station, San Diego on 15 December and finished 1995 at Pier 8 outboard of USS PRINCETON.