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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS MIAMI (SSN 755)
FPO AE 09578-2411

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From: Commanding Officer, USS MIAMI (SSN 755)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical
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Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

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Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Awards for 1999
(3) Media Articles on USS MIAMI for 1999
(4) USS MIAMI Command History for 1999 (Floppy disk) (C)


J. P. RANSOM III

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USS MIAMI (SSN 755) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

1. Command Composition and Organization.

Mission: USS MIAMI (SSN 755) is the 44th ship of the Los Angeles class of nuclear attack submarines, but fitted with such advanced modifications that she and her sister ships, beginning with SSN-751, are specially designated as Improved 688 Class Submarines. These modifications include retractable bow planes, under ice operation capability, vertical launch Tomahawk Cruise Missile capability, significant ship quieting enhancements, integrated combat systems suite, and improved speed. MIAMI represents the Submarine Forces' premier asset for accomplishing the variety of missions demanded in today's political environment. An independent and powerful anti-ship/anti-submarine asset, she is the ultimate stealth platform, and the singular defense resource capable of covert mining operations, special forces delivery and retrieval, precision land attack strike warfare, sophisticated intelligence gathering, covert communications monitoring, deep arctic operations, visual and electronic surveillance, and regional sea control/denial. Her speed, endurance, versatility, and sustained readiness make MIAMI one of the most formidable, operationally cost-effective, and flexible assets within the country's defense structure.

ISIC: Commander, Submarine Squadron FOUR

Commanding Officer: Commander James P. Ransom III, USN

Homeport: Groton, CT

2. Chronology.

- 01 JAN 99 Anchored at PT 22 at Port Suez Egypt awaiting northerly transit through the Suez Canal. COMCRUDESGRU 12 (RADM DAWSON) came to visit MIAMI and present a few Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medals to key personnel involved in the successful Tomahawk strikes of Operation DESERT FOX. MIAMI crossdecked several personnel to USS ENTERPRISE to experience how the other side lived.
- 02 JAN 99 Underway from Port Suez. Transited through Suez Canal. INCHOP
03 JAN 99 to CTF 69.
- 04 JAN 99 BSP Souda Bay, Crete. INCHOP team embarked led by CAPT Boroff.
06 JAN 99 Welcomed back our crossdeckers.
- 07 JAN 99 - Moored to USS SIMON LAKE in La Maddalena, IT. Commenced short
14 JAN 99 upkeep and first ever in-theater post strike missile reload. The crew was able to taste some of the excellent local cuisine. The wardroom was able to take advantage of the wonderful Submarine Sanctuary. Favorite restaurant: "The Fighting Lobster". Weapons Department worked extremely hard, and the entire ship did not get a lot of liberty.
- 15 JAN 99 Underway from La Maddalena, transiting for Haifa, Israel for
16 JAN 99 participation in exercise NOBLE DINA and some anticipated liberty in Israel.

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19 JAN 99 Moored Haifa for port visit. Port visit and exercise cancelled and underway same day due to political/military situation in Kosovo. Transited to Adriatic Ocean to participate in FLEXIBLE ANVIL.

24 JAN 99 MIAMI departs Adriatic Ocean for some extended liberty in Souda Bay, Crete.

27 JAN 99 - Moored at NATO fuel pier in Souda Bay, Crete. The first true
05 FEB 99 liberty port of the deployment; the crew was able to relax and enjoy the sites of Crete and take in some shopping. Tours of Knossos and exploration of the local geography filled much of the free time of the crew. Meanwhile, everyone else was at Leather Alley buying leather bags, coats and chess boards; a lot of chess boards. Also in port during this period was the entire NASSAU ARG. Ten days in Crete in Jan/Feb is not necessarily a good deal.

06 FEB 99 Underway from Souda Bay, Crete. Transited to participate in COMSIXTHFLT exercise INVITEX.

09 FEB 99 - Participated in INVITEX-99 in central Mediterranean.
17 FEB 99

18 FEB 99 - Participated in NATO exercise DOGFISH 99, a coordinated ASW
20 FEB 99 exercise. Sortied from exercise due to situation in Kosovo.

21 FEB 99 Operations in Adriatic Sea.

25 FEB 99 - Returned to finish DOGFISH 99.
04 MAR 99

05 MAR 99 - Moored alongside USS SIMON LAKE at Santo Stefano, Sardegna for
15 MAR 99 forward-deployed upkeep. During their off-duty time, some of the crew enjoyed traveling in Sardegna with trips to Rome and Florence.

16 MAR 99 Underway for one day to test sonar acoustic equipment. 20 SIMON LAKE personnel were invited.

17 MAR 99 Completed forward-deployed upkeep alongside SIMON LAKE and
18 MAR 99 prepared for operations in the Adriatic Sea.

19 MAR 99 - Underway for operations in the Adriatic Sea. Conducted Tomahawk
06 APR 99 cruise missile strikes in support of Operation ALLIED FORCE. These strikes made MIAMI the first submarine to conduct combat in two theaters since WWII.

07 APR 99 - Moored alongside the USS SIMON LAKE for one day at Augusta Bay, Sicily for repairs to VH-1.

08 APR 99 - Underway for Naples, Italy with Rear Admiral James W. Metzger,
11 APR 99 Commander, Submarine Group EIGHT/Commander, Submarines Mediterranean.

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- 12 APR 99 - Moored at Naples, Italy. The crew enjoyed the splendors of the Neapolitan lifestyle and local attractions of the Cameo factory, Mount Vesuvius, Herculaneum, Capri, Sorrento, and a bus trip to Rome. The crew were honored guests at the COMSUBGRU 8 Submarine Birthday Ball recognizing the 99th Birthday of the Submarine Force.
- 16 APR 99
- 17 APR 99 Underway for personnel transfer at La Maddelena, Italy for Engineering Readiness Review (ERR).
- 18 APR 99 - Embarked Commodore C. D. Hays, Commander, Submarine Squadron TWO
20 APR 99 TWO for ERR.
- 21 APR 99 - Moored at Gibraltar. The crew walked on cable cars and rode to
24 APR 99 the top of "The Rock," walked through natural and man-made tunnels built during World War II, and enjoyed photo opportunities with the Rock's Barbary Apes.
- 25 APR 99 - Underway to OUTCHOP from the Mediterranean Sea and into the
03 MAY 99 Atlantic Ocean. Embarked three COMSUBRON FOUR riders in preparation for an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination.
- 04 MAY 99 - Conducted Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination.
05 MAY 99
- 06 MAY 99 - Returned to Homeport of Groton, CT. Commenced standdown!
06 JUN 99
- 07 JUN 00 - Remained in Groton, for upkeep and training period.
30 JUN 00
- 01 JUL 99 - Docked in the ARDM-1 OAKRIDGE for an extended upkeep. During
26 AUG 99 this period there were many additions to the crew and many others left. More than 20 new personnel checked onboard.
- 27 AUG 99 - SPRUCE
12 SEP 99
- 17 SEP 99 - MIAMI once again was out to sea for Sea Trials. First time
21 SEP 99 underway since the Mediterranean Deployment.
- 22 SEP 99 - Returned to homeport.
15 OCT 99
- 16 OCT 99 - Participated in a Service Weapons Test. Shot a MK-48 warshot at
17 OCT 99 a stationary chain link fence target. For most onboard it was the first time to feel an underwater detonation.
- 18 OCT 99 - We had the first liberty port since the deployment; Halifax, Nova
22 OCT 99 Scotia. There the crew enjoyed the hospitality of the Canadians.
- 23 OCT 99 - Participated in Bi-Lateral Operations with the Canadians and
29 OCT 99 conducted Prospective Commanding Officer Operations enroute to Groton, CT.
- 30 OCT 99 - Returned to Groton, CT for upkeep. Given 22 hours notice to get
02 NOV 99 underway for PCO Operations.

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03 NOV 99 - Enroute to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.
05 NOV 99
06 NOV 99 - Port Call Roosevelt Roads, loaded the weapons for PCO Operations.
07 NOV 99 The crew had time to enjoy the Puerto Rican coast and climate.

08 NOV 99 - PCO Operations. The crew enjoyed a swim call off St Croix.
16 NOV 99

17 NOV 99 - Enroute to Homeport.

21 NOV 99 - VIP Cruise with Andy Rooney from 60 Minutes.

22 NOV 99 - MIAMI was in upkeep.
13 DEC 99

14 DEC 99 - Sea Trials.
16 DEC 99

17 DEC 99 - Holiday Standdown.
31 DEC 99

3. Awards (Enclosure 1): The USS MIAMI was awarded:

- a. Commander, Submarine Squadron FOUR Battle Efficiency "E", the Engineering Red "E" and the Medical "M" for 1999.
- b. Meritorious Unit Commendation awarded in 1999 for performance during deployed operations in 1997.
- c. Navy Unit Commendation awarded in 1999 for performance in Operation DESERT FOX 16-20 Dec 1998.
- d. Navy Unit Commendation for the time periods between January 31, 1999 to July 10, 1999.
- e. NATO Medal for participation in Operation ALLIED FORCE and Operation NOBLE ANVIL.
- f. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for participation in Operation DESERT FOX.
- g. Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet Battenberg Cup for 1999 as the all around fleet's best ship. The first time an Atlantic Submarine has won this award.

4. Media Articles (Enclosure 2):

- a. MIAMI Back from a Clean Sweep by Robert A. Hamilton, The Day newspaper.
- b. Untitled by JO2 Phillip Hall in Undersea Warfare Winter 1999.
- c. The "Big Gun's" Two Theater TLAM Tally by LTJG Alexander Barbara in Undersea Warfare 1999.
- d. Submarine Strike Undersea Warfare Spring 1999.

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e. A "New Dimension" in Warfighting Capabilities by Ernest Blazar, Sea Power July 1999.

f. USS MIAMI Skipper Shares Details Of Dual Missions by Robert A. Hamilton, The Day newspaper.

g. "Big Gun" Makes History by JO1 Ron Poole, The Dolphin newspaper.

h. "Submariners Welcomed Home to Groton" by Barbara A. Negy, The Hartford Courant, 7 May 1999.

i. "Merits for the MIAMI" by Robert A. Hamilton, The Day newspaper.

j. "Kosovo Crisis the Mission" by Massimo Calabresi, TIME magazine, 5 April 1999.

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