



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINTE PAUL (SSN 708)

FPO AE 09578-2388

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From: Commanding Officer, USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINTE PAUL (SSN 708)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH), 2000 Navy Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20350-2000

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History for 2002

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

  
F. T. BORREGO  
By direction

**USS MINNEAPOLIS - SAINT PAUL (SSN 708)**

**UIC: 20884**

**Command History for 2002**

I. Command Composition and Organization:

Ship's Mission:

USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINTE PAUL's primary mission is to hunt down and destroy enemy surface ships and submarines. With the advent of the Tomahawk cruise missile, the ship is capable of tactical strike against land-based targets. Secondary missions include: coastal surveillance and Special Forces insertion.

**Immediate Senior Command**

Commander, Submarine Squadron SIX

**Commanding Officers**

Commander John A. Ferrer  
(1 January - 05 April 2002)

Commander David S. Ratte  
(05 April 2002- 31 December 2002)

**Executive Officer**

Lieutenant Commander Blake Converse  
(1 January- 31 December 2002)

II. Chronology:

Jan-July	Mediterranean Deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom
July	Post Deployment Stand-down, Norfolk, Virginia
Aug	At sea refresher training
Sept	In port Maintenance Upkeep
Oct	At sea tactical training
Nov	At sea for Tactical Readiness Evaluation
Dec	In port Maintenance Upkeep and Holiday Stand-down

### III. Narrative

The USS MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL (SSN 708) spent the first six months of 2002 in the Mediterranean Sea as a forward deployed asset in support of the Global War on Terrorism. As an instrumental intelligence-gathering platform, the ship provided valuable information during Operation Enduring Freedom.

During the Mediterranean deployment, the ship represented the United States during foreign port visits at Toulon, France; Aksaz, Turkey; LaMaddelena, Italy and Souda Bay, Crete. Furthermore, the ship embarked the U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See-The Honorable Jim Nicholson during transit from Naples, Italy to LaMaddelena, Italy.

During an April stop in LaMaddelena, the ship held a Change-of-Command Ceremony-- passing the torch from CDR Ferrer to CDR Ratte.

While transiting back to the United States, MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL successfully completed an Operation Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE).

During the month of July, the ship returned to homeport Norfolk, Virginia for a well-deserved post-deployment stand down. Then, the ship participated in a brief maintenance upkeep before spending the month of August at sea for refresher training.

The month of September was a month-long maintenance upkeep. Then, the ship spent the majority of October and November at sea for tactical training. To end the underway period, the ship completed a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE).

Following maintenance and training in port during December, MINNEAPOLIS-SAINT PAUL enjoyed a traditional Holiday stand-down.

### IV. Supporting Documents:

- a. Commanding Officer Biography
- b. Executive Officer Biography