



Rec'd 4/24/92
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS THACH (FFG 43)
FPO AP 96679 - 1498

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

5757
Ser FFG 43/122
14 APR 1992

[REDACTED] (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (3))

From: Commanding Officer, USS THACH (FFG 43)
To: Director of Naval History, Washington, D.C. 20374

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

Encl: (1) Commanding Officer's Picture and Biography
(2) Organization and Mission
(3) Statistical Data
(4) Ship's Photograph

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are provided for additional background.

A. B. Elkins
A. B. ELKINS
By direction

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC
COMDESRON FIFTEEN

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 18 Nov 2005

DECLASSIFIED

Declassify: 14APR2004 [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Command Composition and Organization.

a. USS THACH is a flight III Oliver Hazard Perry Class Guided Missile Frigate designed to provide anti-surface and medium range anti-air defense to battle group, amphibious or merchant convoy. THACH is a part of Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-ONE, Commanded by Captain R. H. Joyce. The ship is homeported in San Diego, CA is commanded by Keith T. Moore. During THACH's second deployment two LAMPS MKIII (SH60B) anti-submarine warfare helicopters were embarked.

Encl (2)

DECLASSIFIED

2. Chronology.

JANUARY 1990

- 1-2 Completed Independent transit from Pearl Harbor, HI
- 3 Visited Nabasan Wharf conducted Ammunition Onload
- 3-10 Visited Subic Bay NAVSTA
- 11 Underway Dual ship transit with USS RODNEY M. DAVIS (FFG 60)
- 15-18 Visited Singapore
- 22 Fuel stop at Columbo, Sri Lanka
- 26 Inchooped to Commander, Joint Task Force Middle East AOR
Conducted Middle East Force turnover with USS GARY (FFG-54)
Anchored Fujairah, United Arab Emirates
- 27 Transited Straits of Hormuz in company with USS RODNEY M. DAVIS (FFG-60) and USS SIMPSON (FFG 56)
- 28 LTJG [REDACTED] qualified as Officer of the Deck (Underway)
- 29 Anchored Sitrah Anchorage Bahrain

[REDACTED]

Encl (3)

DECLASSIFIED

FEBRUARY 1990

[REDACTED]

1-2 Inport Mina Sulman Pier, Bahrain
3-6 Anchored Sitrah Anchorage, Bahrain
7-9 Inport Mina Sulman Pier, Bahrain
10-18 Southern Persian Gulf Patrol
14 Refueled Mina Jabel Ali, UAE
15 Vertrep with USS DEWEY (DDG-4)
16 Earnest will escort with MV Chesapeake City
18 Anchored Sitrah Anchorage, Bahrain
19-23 Inport Mina Sulman Pier, Bahrain
23-25 Underway Southern Persian Gulf Patrol
23-31 Escorted M/V Surf City
26-28 Transit Straits of Hormuz
28 Commissioning Ceremony held in Central Control Station
for EMC(SW) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] commissioned Ensign by
CDR K.T. Moore, CO. Ensign [REDACTED] depart the ship via
Oceanlord 24, the last THACH plankowner onboard since
commissioning

[REDACTED]

End(I)

DECLASSIFIED

MARCH 1990

- 1 Enroute from North Arabian Sea
- 2 Fuel stop Ras-Al-Khayman, UAE
- 3-6 Southern Persian Gulf Patrol
- 6-14 Inport Mina Sulman Pier Bahrain
LCDR [REDACTED] reports for duty
- 14-18 Northern Persian Gulf Patrol
- 17 THACH birthday, 6 years old
- 18 Anchored Kuwait City, Kuwait for refueling
- 19-20 Southern Persian Gulf Patrol
- 21 EW Escort MV Bridgeton
- 21-24 Visited Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 25 Inport Mina Sulman Pier, Bahrain
LCDR [REDACTED] relieves LCDR [REDACTED] as Combat Systems
Officer
Ensign [REDACTED] reports for duty
- 30 Northern Persian Gulf Patrol

DECLASSIFIED

APRIL 1990

3-8 Anchored Sitrah, Bahrain
8-13 Inport Mina Sulman Pier, Bahrain
13-24 Northern Persian Gulf Patrol
24-26 Inport Mina Sulman Pier Bahrain
27 Underway for Fujairah, UAE
29 Middle East Force Turnover with USS REID (FFG 30)
Underway Diego Garcia

DECLASSIFIED

MAY 1990

2 Outchopped Commander Joint Force Middle East AOR
Inchopped Seventh Fleet AOR

3 Conducted Air Exercises with USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70)
Battle Group

4 BSF Diego Garcia
PCO CDR T.A. Baker reports

5 Underway Fremantle, Australia

12 Conducted Change of Command Ceremony CDR Baker relieves
CDR Moore

12-14 Visit Fremantle, Australia

13 Participated in Softball game vs HMAS Stewart

15-19 Underway for Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

19-23 Visited Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

23-25 Underway Sydney, Australia

25-28 Visited Sydney, Australia

28-30 Underway Pago Pago

DECLASSIFIED

JUNE 1990

1 Underway Pago-Pago

2 Moored Pago-Pago

3 Inchop THIRD FLEET

7 Helicopter, OCEANLORD 26, lost at sea. LT [REDACTED], LT [REDACTED], and AW2 [REDACTED] were successfully recovered

8 Inport Pearl Harbor, HI

8 Helo accident investigation board embarked
Dependents/guests for tiger cruise embarked

9 Underway for San Diego

15-30 Inport NAVSTA San Diego, CA
Leave and Upkeep period

DECLASSIFIED

JULY 1990

1-31 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
1-15 Leave and Upkeep period
15-27 Restricted Availability period
28 Underway for Seattle to attend Seattle Sea Fair
28-30 Exercise Behavior Criteria
29 Admiral Quast visit
31 Arrive Port Angeles, WA

DECLASSIFIED

AUGUST 1990

[REDACTED]

1-5 Underway for Seattle, WA
Inport Seattle

6 Underway for San Diego, CA
Participated in MARDEZEX-PACNW 90

10 Inport NAVSTA San Diego

27-31 3M assist visit
Metcal team onboard

LTJG [REDACTED] reported onboard

DECLASSIFIED

SEPTMBER 1990

1-3 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
4-7 Underway
8-16 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
10 Aviation Readiness Examination
14 Ship's Picnic
17-21 Underway
22-30 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
Entered Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV)

DECLASSIFIED

[REDACTED] AL

OCTOBER 1990

- 1-14 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
- 15 Dead Stick berth shift to Continental Maritime for Selected Restricted Availability
- 15-31 Inport Continental Maritime
 - LTJG [REDACTED] departed
 - LT [REDACTED] departed
 - LT [REDACTED] departed

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

NOVEMBER 1990

1-30 Inport Continental Maritime for Selected Restricted
Availability

5-9 CDS-33 command inspection

8 CDS-33 ship's personnel inspection

[REDACTED]

DECLASSIFIED

DECEMBER 1990

- 1-9 Inport Continental Maritime
 - 3 ASIR Commences
 - 6 Fast Cruise
 - 10 Underway for sea trials
 - 13 Anchored Coronado Roads
 - 14-31 Inport NAVSTA San Diego
Holiday upkeep period
- LCDR [REDACTED] departs
LT [REDACTED] departed
ENS [REDACTED] reported for duty
ENS [REDACTED] reported for duty

DECLASSIFIED

3. Narrative

1990 began with THACH underway on her second deployment. Early in the month she stopped in the Republic of the Philippines. THACH left Subic Bay with USS RODNEY M. DAVIS (FFG 60). THACH entered the Mideast force AOR on 26 January and commenced a three month MEF operation.

In February, THACH was credited with the longest time spent in the Straits of Hormuz Silkworm envelope while escorting the Motor Vessel Surf City. M/V Surf City could only make good three knots since she had a fire onboard.

After several visits to Bahrain, in April, THACH finally conducted a MEF turnover with USS REID (FFG 30) and began the long transit to San Diego.

In May, CDR T. A. Baker relieved CDR K.T. Moore as Commanding Officer, USS THACH. THACH was rewarded for an outstanding MEF deployment with two port visits in Australia.

Early in June, THACH had her first major catastrophe. Oceanlord 26 went down while conducting routine flight operations off the coast of Hawaii. At the time, THACH had the SQR-19 TACTAS deployed so while maneuvering to recover the downed aircrew, she had to conduct an emergency recovery of the tail. LT [REDACTED], LT [REDACTED], and AW2 [REDACTED] spent nearly two hours in the water while THACH closed and recovered her tail. All aircrew members were successfully recovered.

An elated crowd met THACH in San Diego on 15 June 1990. THACH crew then entered a leave and upkeep period.

In July, THACH got underway to participate in Seattle Sea Fair and Exercise Behavior Criteria. During her return from Seattle, THACH was involved in MARDEZEX-PACNW 90, a joint Canadian-USN exercise.

After arriving back in San Diego, THACH had two brief underway periods for general training and then entered an IMAV.

In October, THACH moved to Continental Maritime and entered Selected Restricted Availability number three.

COMDESRON Thirty-three conducted a command inspection in November.

At the conclusion of SRA number three, in December, THACH got underway for sea trials. After completing the trials. She anchored out for cleaning and then entered San Diego for leave and upkeep period.