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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO CA 96682-1170

IN REPLY REFER TO

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From: Commanding Officer, USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) USS VALLEY FORGE Command History for 1989

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).


P. A. BOZZELLI

COMMAND HISTORY - 1989

USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50)

A. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS VALLEY FORGE is the fourth ship of the TICONDEROGA (CG 47) Class of AEGIS Guided Missile Cruisers. These ships are truly multipurpose, possessing significant anti-air, anti-surface and anti-submarine warfare capabilities. The MK 7 AEGIS Weapons System, the world's most capable shipboard air defense radar and missile system, enables VALLEY FORGE to provide protection for units of a carrier battle group in extreme threat environments. Hostile targets may be engaged with a variety of weapons: surface-to-air missiles, surface-to-surface missiles, ship and air-launched torpedoes, anti-submarine rockets, guns, rapid-fire close-in weapons, electronic jammers and decoys. VALLEY FORGE is well able to counter all current and projected threats to the U.S. Navy.

USS VALLEY FORGE, homeported in San Diego, CA, is permanently assigned to Cruiser Destroyer Group THREE under Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. From 01 September-31 December, VALLEY FORGE was temporarily administratively assigned to Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group FIVE. Captain Philip A. Bozzelli is the Commanding Officer, with Lieutenant Commander Peter B. Opsal as Executive Officer. Ship's company consists of 26 officers and 370 enlisted crew members divided up into four major departments: Operations, Engineering, Combat Systems and Supply. Lieutenant Commander Robert M. Moore was the Officer in Charge of HSL-47's Detachment Two, which was embarked 01 January - 01 June 1989. Detachment Two consisted of two LAMPS MK III helicopters, Saberhawk 66 and 67, 6 pilots and 18 enlisted crew members.

During the period of 01 January-01 June (Western Pacific and Indian Ocean Deployment), VALLEY FORGE was under the operational and tactical control of Commander, Carrier Group ONE as a unit of Battle Group Delta, which included USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64), USS FOX (CG 33), USS LEFTWICH (DD 984), USS HENRY B. WILSON (DDG 7), USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1), USS MARVIN SHIELDS (FF 1066), and USS WHITE PLAINS (AFS 4). VALLEY FORGE served as battle group Anti-Air Warfare Commander (DW) and Force Track Coordinator (DF).

During PACEX '89, conducted 05 September-19 October, VALLEY FORGE was once again under the operational and tactical control of Commander, Carrier Group ONE as a unit of Battle Group Delta, which included USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64), USS JOHN YOUNG (DD 973), USS FANNING (FF 1076), USS KNOX (FF 1052), USS ROARK (FF 1053), USS GRAY (FF 1054), USS LANG (FF 1060), USS FLINT (AE 32), and USS KANSAS CITY (AOR 3). VALLEY FORGE served as battle group Anti-Air Warfare Commander (DW), alternate battle group Composite Warfare Commander (DV), alternate battle group Electronic Warfare Commander (DZ), battle group Helo Element Coordinator (DL), and battle group Main Body Coordinator (DM). Additionally, HSL-47 Detachment 13, commanded by LCDR Michael Hegland, consisting of two LAMPS Mk III SH-60B helicopters, 6 pilots, and 15 enlisted crew members was embarked from 05 September-18 October.

From 01-15 December, VALLEY FORGE conducted Law Enforcement Operations (LEOPS) in the Gulf of California/Sea of Cortes while under the operational and tactical command of Commander, Joint Task Force FIVE. For these operations, HSL-47 Detachments 7 & 8, commanded by LCDR David Landon and consisting of two LAMPS Mk III SH-60B helicopters, 7 pilots, and 16 enlisted crew members, and a Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET), commanded by CW02 Allen Jorgensen and comprised of 5 enlisted members, were embarked.

B. CHRONOLOGY

01-08 JAN Inport - Subic Bay, RP
09 JAN Underway - Enroute Indian Ocean/North Arabian Sea
17 JAN Battle Group Delta Turnover w/Battle Group Bravo
18 JAN VALLEY FORGE celebrates her third birthday
21 JAN INCHOP to Commander, Joint Task Force Middle East (CJTFME)
03 FEB Battle Group Delta Enroute Diego Garcia
05 FEB Crossing-the-Line Ceremony (first)
05-11 FEB Weapons Week - Diego Garcia
08-09 FEB Inport - Diego Garcia
11 FEB Surface-to-Air Missiles
11-12 FEB Inport - Diego Garcia
12 FEB LCDR Peter B. Opsal relieves CDR James A. Hazlett as Executive Officer

13 FEB Underway - Enroute North Arabian Sea
18-22 FEB Exercise BEACON FLASH
19 FEB French PASSEX
20 FEB US/UK PASSEX (w/HMS BIRMINGHAM D86)
20-26 FEB COMNAVSURFPAC Self-sufficient Ship of the Week
23-27 FEB TAV w/ USS ACADIA (AD 42) (Al Masirah anchorage)
27 FEB Underway - Enroute Karachi, Pakistan
01-03 MAR Anchorage - Karachi, Pakistan
04 MAR Underway - Enroute Strait of Hormuz Eastern Patrol Area (SOHEPA) Gateguard Ops

06-19 MAR SOHEPA Gateguard Ops
14 MAR Anchorage - Fujairah (Refuel)
18 MAR Anchorage - Fujairah (Refuel)
19-25 MAR Depart SOHEPA Enroute Rendezvous w/TG 70.4
25 MAR Rendezvous w/TG 70.4 Enroute Fremantle, Western Australia
31 MAR-06 APR Inport - Fremantle/Perth, Western Australia
07 APR Underway - Enroute Sunda Strait for Turnover w/Battle Group ECHO
11 APR Crossing-the-Line Ceremony (second)
12 APR Battle Group DELTA Turnover w/Battle Group ECHO
12 APR Depart Sunda Strait Enroute Pattaya, Thailand
17-20 APR Anchorage - Pattaya, Thailand
21 APR Underway - Enroute Subic Bay RP
25 APR ULM-4 Range
25-30 APR Inport - Subic Bay, RP
01 MAY Underway - Enroute Hong Kong
01 MAY ULM-4 Range
04-08 MAY Inport - Hong Kong
09 MAY Underway - Enroute Seattle, Washington
17 MAY INCHOP to COMTHIRDFLT (TG 30.4)
25 MAY 1989 Ship's Store Best Sales/Service Award Competition Review
26-27 MAY Inport - Seattle, Washington
28 MAY Underway - Enroute San Diego, California/Tiger Cruise '89
01 JUN Return to Homeport - San Diego, California
01-30 JUN Post-Deployment Leave/Upkeep
12-16 JUN CSAT Visit (Observed OCSOT/DSOT/Selected Equipment Checks)
01-09 JUL Upkeep San Diego
03 JUL Aviation Assist Visit (AAV) / CORTRAMID Tour
03 JUL Undersecretary of the Navy (Manpower & Reserve Affairs) Visit
03-06 JUL CART

06 JUL International Surface Warfare Officers Ship Visit
 07 JUL ASW CART
 10-11 JUL Underway - TYT SOCAL
 10 JUL ULM-4 Range
 12-14 JUL Underway - Enroute San Francisco, California
 14-16 JUL Inport - San Francisco, California
 17-19 JUL Underway - Enroute San Diego / IERA
 20-31 JUL Moored NASNI / Upkeep San Diego
 24-28 JUL SEMMSS (PMT)
 26 JUL Defense Science Board Visit
 31 JUL PAATPAC Assist Visit
 01 AUG Underway - PreINSURV Material Checks / Moor NAVSTA San Diego
 02 AUG VALLEY FORGE Receives Second Place - COMNAVSUPSYSCOM Ships Store
 Best Sales and Service Award (Category III)
 07-11 AUG INSURV
 08 AUG Underway - UMI INSURV / Moor NAVSTA San Diego
 12-27 AUG Upkeep San Diego
 21-29 AUG Surface Line Week
 21-24 AUG COMNAVSURFPAC 3M Inspection / Supply Management Assessment (SMA)
 23-25 AUG COMCRUDESGRU THREE Command Inspection
 28-29 AUG Underway - Sea Trials SOCAL
 29 AUG Ammo Onload/Offload - NASNI
 31 AUG COMNAVSURFPAC FMO Visit
 01 SEP Temporarily Assigned COMCRUDESGRU FIVE
 05 SEP Embark HSL-47 Det 13
 05-15 SEP Underway - PACEX '89 Phase I / Assigned TG 30.4
 09 SEP SECNAV Guest Cruise Visit
 14 SEP SOCAL ASW Range Ops - Live Firing SVTT, RTT, LAMPS Mk 47 Drop
 17 SEP VALLEY FORGE Receives Runner-Up in COMCRUDESGRU THREE Battle "E"
 Competition - Receives ASUW, AAW, CCC, Supply, Nav/Seamanship,
 Damage Control, and Engineering Mission Area Excellence Awards
 18 SEP Underway - PACEX '89
 28 SEP Battle Group Delta Mobile Sea Range (MSR) Missilex
 11-13 OCT Inport - Victoria, British Columbia
 14-18 OCT Underway - Enroute San Diego
 19 OCT-05 NOV Upkeep San Diego
 30 OCT SEMMSS PMT Visit / ASIR Training Assist / AAV
 06-08 NOV Underway - TYT SOCAL / MTT Phase III
 09-14 NOV Upkeep San Diego
 14 NOV VALLEY FORGE Receives Runner-Up for COMNAVSURFPAC Anti-Surface
 Warfare Award
 15-16 NOV Underway - OPPE
 17 NOV Italian Chamber of Deputies Defense Committee Visit
 20-26 NOV SEMMSS PMT Visit
 22 NOV Environmental Health Survey
 25 NOV VALLEY FORGE Children's Christmas Party (USO) / Dinner Dance
 (Sea World)
 28 NOV Underway - ACAT
 29 NOV Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) Qualification - San Clemente Island
 30 NOV Missilex - VANDALEX / AMX 90-1

01-15 DEC Embark Coast Guard LEDET for Law Enforcement Operations (LEOPS)
01-15 DEC Embark HSL-47 Dets 7 & 8
15-31 DEC Inport - San Diego / Holiday Leave & Upkeep
18 JAN VALLEY FORGE Receives Second Consecutive CNO Surface Ship Safety
Award (January 1988-June 1989) in Cruiser/Battleship Category
27 JAN VALLEY FORGE Nominated by COMCRUDESGRU THREE for 1989 Ship-
Helicopter Safety Award

C. NARRATIVE

1989 began with VALLEY FORGE and Battle Group Delta inport Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, one month into the Western Pacific/Indian Ocean Deployment. Underway 09 January enroute to the North Arabian Sea (NAS), Battle Group Delta transited via the Singapore Strait and Straits of Malacca, effecting a turnover with Battle Group Bravo (USS NIMITZ battle group) in the Bay of Bengal on 17 January. VALLEY FORGE's counterpart in Battle Group Bravo was USS ANTIETAM (CG 54). Following the celebration of VALLEY FORGE's third birthday on 18 January, Battle Group Delta entered the operational command of Commander, Joint Task Force Middle East (CJTTFME) on 21 January. Soon after arriving on station in the NAS, Battle Group Delta departed for Diego Garcia. "Crossing the Line" 05 February, VALLEY FORGE conducted the appropriate ceremonies. Arriving in the vicinity of Diego Garcia 05 February, Battle Group Delta conducted a series of live ordnance exercises during "Weapons Week" 05-11 February, including VALLEY FORGE's second successful missile shoot of the deployment. In addition, during a brief port visit 11-12 February, LCDR Peter B. Opsal relieved CDR James A. Hazlett as Executive Officer. Battle Group Delta departed Diego Garcia 13 February, conducting Exercise Beacon Flash and a series of exercises with French and British ships enroute to the NAS. During this transit, VALLEY FORGE received recognition as COMNAVSURFPAC self-sufficient ship of the week for the week of 20-26 February, her second such award of the cruise. Upon arrival in the NAS, VALLEY FORGE proceeded to anchorage off the island of Al Masirah in order to conduct a four-day tender availability (TAV) with USS ACADIA (AD 42). Following the completion of the TAV, Battle Group Delta became only the second battle group to visit Karachi, Pakistan since 1987, anchoring offshore 01-04 March. Upon departure from Karachi, VALLEY FORGE detached and proceeded to the Gulf of Oman, relieving USS LEFTWICH (DD 984) as SOHEPA Gateguard 06-19 March. During this period VALLEY FORGE conducted several EARNEST WILL escort missions through the Strait of Hormuz into the Persian Gulf, refueling twice at Fujairah, Oman. After being relieved of SOHEPA duties by USS CURTS (FFG 38) on 19 March, VALLEY FORGE left to rendezvous with TG 70.4, now enroute Fremantle/Perth, Western Australia. That rendezvous was effected 25 March, and on 31 March Battle Group Delta began a week-long Australian port visit.

Upon completion of the visit 07 April, Battle Group Delta rendezvoused with Battle Group Echo (USS RANGER battle group) west of the Sunda Strait. Upon effecting the battle group turnover (VALLEY FORGE's counterpart: USS WILLIAM H. STANDLEY (CG 32), Battle Group Delta then proceeded through the Sunda Strait and the Gulf of Thailand enroute Pattaya, Thailand for a four-day port visit 17-20 April. Additionally in April, VALLEY FORGE received notification of a third-place finish in the 1989 Captain Edward F. Ney Award competition. A brief transit to Subic Bay followed with arrival 25 April for a six-day upkeep. On 01 May, Battle Group Delta left Subic Bay enroute to a 04-08 May visit to Hong Kong. Departing Hong Kong 09 May, Battle Group Delta transited the Tsushima Strait, conducting Carrier Battle Group operations in the Sea of Japan and a Northern Pacific Ocean transit enroute Seattle, Washington. Returning to the operational command of COMTHIRDFLT 17 May, TG 30.4 arrived Seattle 26 May. Staying only 2 days to onload dependents for the Tiger Cruise, Battle Group Delta departed Seattle 28 May enroute homeport - San Diego, California. On 01 June, VALLEY FORGE completed her second Western Pacific/Indian Ocean deployment, mooring Pier 8, Naval Station, San Diego and commencing a 30-day Post-deployment leave/upkeep period.

The upkeep period from 01 June-09 July provided an opportunity to accomplish some much needed maintenance and preservation following the cruise. Moreover, VALLEY FORGE once again resumed her role as a showcase for the Pacific Fleet, hosting midshipmen, international surface warfare officers, and a visit by the honorable Kenneth P. Berquist, Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) during the first week of July. CART and ASW CART were also conducted the first week of July with typically outstanding results. VALLEY FORGE was underway 12 July, sandwiching local SOCAL operations and a pre-OPPE ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment around a 14-16 July port visit to lovely and exciting San Francisco. Upon return to San Diego, VALLEY FORGE moored Juliett pier, NASNI to complete final preparations for INSURV. The final week of July also featured a visit by the Defense Science Board and a PAATPAC Assist.

August began with a preINSURV rehearsal followed by a return to Pier 8 Naval Station. Additionally, on 02 August VALLEY FORGE received notification of a second-place finish in the Navy's Ships Store Best Sales and Service Award Competition; a most noteworthy accomplishment. INSURV was conducted the second week of August, with painstaking preparations paying dividends in the form of a smooth, professional inspection and excellent results. The third week of August featured COMNAVSURFPAC Surface Line Week, with VALLEY FORGE participating in all events and winning first place in the Fancy Knot Board Competition, second place in the Damage Control Marathon and third place in the Gunmount Competition. August did not go quietly, ending with a COMNAVSURFPAC 3M inspection/Supply Management Assessment (SMA) and ISIC command inspection followed by sea trials. Once again, VALLEY FORGE took care of business with outstanding results in all areas. On 31 August, VALLEY FORGE was pleased to host a wedding as SM3 [REDACTED] married the former MS [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]. Captain Bozzelli gave the bride away in a beautiful ceremony on the forecandle attended by many of the crew.

VALLEY FORGE began September with a shift of administrative commanders to COMCRUDESGRU FIVE following the deployment of COMCRUDESGRU THREE. PACEX '89 - a multi-battle group exercise conducted from SOCAL to the Bering Sea - dominated the September-October timeframe. Some highlights: a SECNAV Guest Cruise visit 09 September; SOCAL ASW Range ops featuring successful live torpedo and ASROC firings; VALLEY FORGE's second and third successful missile firings of the year; and a port visit to Victoria, British Columbia enroute homeport 11-13 October. Additionally, during the third week of September VALLEY FORGE received notification of a second-place finish in the COMCRUDESGRU THREE Battle "E" Competition, receiving mission area excellence awards for ASUW, AAW, CCC, Supply, Nav/Seamanship, Damage Control and Engineering. Upon arrival San Diego the ship commenced a 19 October-05 November upkeep in preparation for the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).

The first week of November saw VALLEY FORGE underway 06-08 November with the Eastern Pacific Mobile Training Team (MTT) for Phase III - final preparations for OPPE. On 14 November, VALLEY FORGE was notified of her runner-up status in the 1989 competition for the COMNAVSURFPAC Anti-Surface Award. OPPE, conducted 15-16 November with the ship receiving a grade of satisfactory. Upon return San Diego, VALLEY FORGE hosted a visit from the Italian Chamber of Deputies Defense Committee conducted entirely in Italian by the Captain; his native tongue. On 17 November, GSCS (SW) [REDACTED] and his lovely wife [REDACTED] renewed their vows

of matrimony on the forecastle after 25 years of marriage. Captain Bozzelli conducted the wedding ceremony. Additionally, VALLEY FORGE was the ceremonial location for a baptism service on 18 November. [REDACTED] son of Captain and Mrs. Bozzelli, was baptized on the missile deck by LT [REDACTED], CHC. The ship's bell was the baptismal fount used to hold the holy water for the ceremony. Due to the operational schedule, the ship's annual holiday parties were held 25 November; first with the children's Christmas Party at the USO in the morning, followed by the ship's annual Dinner Dance - held this year at the Sea World Pavilion & Restaurant. Smashingly successful, the parties served as farewells of a sort as VALLEY FORGE was underway yet again on 28 November for All-Comers-At-Sea Training (ACAT). ACAT proved immensely beneficial to VALLEY FORGE, providing opportunities for Naval Gunfire Support Qualification (NGFS) on 29 November (scored as excellent) followed by VANDALEX/AMX 90-1 on 30 November (VALLEY FORGE's fourth and fifth successful missile firings of the year).

Once detached from ACAT, the underway period continued as VALLEY FORGE embarked HSL-47 Detachments 7 & 8 and a Coast Guard law enforcement detachment in preparation for law enforcement operations. Transiting south to the Gulf of California/Sea of Cortes oparea, operations were conducted with USS TEXAS (CGN 39) and USS TRUXTUN (CGN 35). Although interdiction efforts were uneventful, the operations provided valuable training opportunities for the ships involved. As a most successful and fulfilling 1989 came to an end, VALLEY FORGE returned to San Diego 15 December to commence a holiday leave & upkeep period.

Note: VALLEY FORGE received notification in January 1990 of receipt of her second consecutive CNO Surface Ship Safety Award (January 1988-June 1989) in the Cruiser/Battleship category. Additionally, VALLEY FORGE was nominated by COMCRUDESGRU THREE for the 1989 Ship-Helicopter Safety Award in January.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- (1) Copies of 1989 "Spirit" (Ship's Familygram)
- (2) Commanding Officer's Biography
- (3) Executive Officer's Biography
- (4) Ship's Store Best Sales and Service Nomination message
- (5) COMNAVSURFPAC Self-Sufficient Ship of the Week messages
- (6) Ney Award message
- (7) Battle Group Delta Farewell message
- (8) COMNAVSURFPAC/COMCRUDESGRU THREE OCSOT messages
- (9) Assistant Secretary of the Navy message
- (10) Defense Science Board Visit message
- (11) COMNAVSUPSYSCOM Ships Store Best Sales and Service Award message
- (12) Ships Store Best Sales and Service Award message
- (13) 3M Inspection letter
- (14) Command Inspection letter
- (15) Surface Line Week message
- (16) Results of Battle Efficiency and Warfare Excellence Awards Competition message
- (17) Secretary of the Navy Guest Cruise message
- (18) Battle Efficiency and Warfare Excellence Awards Competition message
- (19) Aviation Facilities Certification message
- (20) COMNAVSURFPAC Anti-Surface Award messages
- (21) OPPE message
- (22) Ship-Helicopter Safety Award messages
- (23) CNO Surface Ship Safety Award messages