



Rec'd 3/26/91
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO CA 96682-1170

IN REPLY REFER TO

5750
Mar 1, 1991

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

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS VALLEY FORGE Command History for 1990

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. F. Tedeschi Jr.", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

E. F. TEDESCHI JR

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS VALLEY FORGE is the fourth ship of the TICONDEROGA (CG 47) Class of AEGIS Guided Missile Cruisers, designed to lead the surface forces of the United States Navy well into the 21st Century. 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 and 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.

USS VALLEY FORGE, homeported in San Diego, California, is permanently assigned to Cruiser Destroyer Group Three under Commander, Naval Surface Force, United States Pacific Fleet. The Commanding Officer was Captain Philip A. Bozzelli from 01 January through 12 May, when he was relieved by Captain E. F. Tedeschi Jr. The Executive Officer was Lieutenant Commander Peter B. Opsal from 01 January through 14 July, when he was relieved by Lieutenant Commander J. P. Wisecup. Ship's company consists of 30 officers and 365 crew members divided into four departments: Operations, Engineering, Combat Systems, and Supply. Lieutenant Commander D. Heiser was the Officer-in-Charge of HSL-47's Detachment Two, which was embarked from 24 September through 17 October, 05 through 17 November, and finally for the deployment commencing 08 December continuing through the end of the year. Detachment Two consisted of two LAMPS MK III helicopters, Saberhawk 71 and 74, 6 pilots and 16 enlisted crewmembers.

During COMPTUEX 90-3, READIEX 90-3A/B, and the Battle Group ECHO Battle Group Evaluation, USS VALLEY FORGE was under the operational and tactical control of Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN. Battle Group ECHO deployed on 08 December in support of Operation Desert Shield with Commander, Carrier Group SEVEN in operational and tactical control of USS VALLEY FORGE, USS RANGER (CV 61), USS PRINCETON (CG 59), USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD 964), USS HARRY W. HILL (DD 986), USS FRANCIS HAMMOND (FF 1067), AND USS KANSAS CITY (AOR 3). VALLEY FORGE served as battle group Anti-Air Warfare Coordinator (EW) and Link Coordinator (EF).

CHRONOLOGY

01 - 15	JAN	Inport - Upkeep San Diego
16 - 19	JAN	Underway - TYT SOCAL
19	JAN	Surface-to-Air Missilex SOCAL PMTC
20 - 22	JAN	Inport - Port Hueneme, California
23 - 25	JAN	Underway - All Comers at Sea - SOCAL
25	JAN	Naval Gunfire Support Qualification, San Clemente Island
26 - 31	JAN	Inport - Upkeep San Diego
01 - 04	FEB	Inport - Upkeep San Diego
03	FEB	San Diego Boy Scouts visit
05 - 08	FEB	Underway - SOCAL CNO SPECOPS
09	FEB	Underway - Enroute Treasure Island, California
10 - 11	FEB	Inport - Treasure Island, California
12 - 16	FEB	Inport - Material Inspection and Harpoon Certification, San Francisco, California
17 - 19	FEB	Inport - San Francisco, California
20 - 21	FEB	Underway - Enroute Indian Island, Washington
22 - 23	FEB	Inport - Ammo Offload, Indian Island, Washington
24 - 26	FEB	Underway - Enroute Portland, Oregon
27 - 28	FEB	Inport - Portland, Oregon
01 - 02	MAR	Inport - Portland, Oregon
03 - 05	MAR	Underway - Enroute San Diego, California
06 - 18	MAR	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
19 - 31	MAR	DSRA, National Steel and Shipbuilding, San Diego, California
01 - 30	APR	DSRA, National Steel and Shipbuilding, San Diego, California
01	APR	Embark COMCRUDESGRU THREE
01 - 31	MAY	DSRA, National Steel and Shipbuilding, San Diego, California
01	MAY	Debark COMCRUDESGRU THREE
12	MAY	Captain E. F. Tedeschi relieves Capt P. A. Bozzelli as Commanding Officer
22	MAY	Light Off Assessment
01 - 04	JUN	DSRA, National Steel and Shipbuilding, San Diego, California
05 - 06	JUN	Underway - Sea Trials, SOCAL
07 - 08	JUN	DSRA San Diego, California
09 - 17	JUN	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
09	JUN	USNA Class of 1946 Reunion
18 - 22	JUN	Underway - TYT SOCAL
18	JUN	Burial at Sea
20	JUN	Ammunition onload, NAS North Island, California
21	JUN	Naval Gunfire Support Qualification, San Clemente Island
22	JUN	CORTRAMID Midshipmen Cruise, SOCAL
23 - 24	JUN	Inport - San Diego, California
25 - 26	JUN	TRE
25 - 29	JUN	CSA
27 - 30	JUN	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California

27	JUN	Staff Tactical Watch Officer Class Visit
01 - 06	JUL	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
05	JUL	Mr. Robert S. Silberman, Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy (Manpower) visit
06	JUL	Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group Three Change-of-Command
06 - 10	JUL	Underway - Enroute Vancouver, British Columbia
11 - 15	JUL	Inport - Vancouver, British Columbia
16	JUL	Underway - Enroute Indian Island, Washington
17 - 18	JUL	Inport - Ammunition onload, Indian Island, Washington
19 - 22	JUL	Underway - Enroute San Diego, California
23 - 24	JUL	Inport - San Diego, California
25 - 27	JUL	Underway - IRFT SOCAL
28 - 29	JUL	Inport - San Diego, California
28	JUL	San Diego Research Science Institute Visit
30 - 31	JUL	Underway - IRFT SOCAL
01 - 03	AUG	Underway - IRFT SOCAL
04 - 05	AUG	Inport - San Diego, California
06 - 10	AUG	Underway - IRFT SOCAL
11 - 23	AUG	Inport - Upkeep, San Diego, California
16	AUG	Congressional Staff visit
21	AUG	College of English Language visit
21	AUG	National Recycling Coalition visit
22	AUG	Mr. Eric Thoemmes, Congressional Military Legal Advisor visit
24 - 26	AUG	Underway - TYT/ Missilex SOCAL
24	AUG	Navigation Check Ride
27	AUG	Inport - San Diego, California
28 - 31	AUG	Underway - TYT SOCAL
01 - 09	SEP	Inport - San Diego, California
10 - 11	SEP	Underway - IERA
12 - 26	SEP	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
24 - 30	SEP	Underway - COMPTUEX 90-3
24	SEP	Embark HSL 47 Det 2
01 - 05	OCT	Underway - COMPTUEX
04 - 05	OCT	Embark COMDESRON SEVEN
05	OCT	Flagship, ACCOLADES '90 Parade of Ships
05	OCT	Debark COMDESRON SEVEN
06 - 08	OCT	Inport - San Diego, California
09 - 17	OCT	Underway - READIEX 90-3A
18 - 26	OCT	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
18	OCT	Debark HSL 47 Det 2
20	OCT	Naval War College Visit
27	OCT	Underway - Dependent's Cruise SOCAL
28 - 31	OCT	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
30	OCT	VADM Atago Terai, JMSDF (Ret) visit
01 - 04	NOV	Inport - Upkeep San Diego, California
05 - 08	NOV	Underway - MEFEX 91-1
05	NOV	Embark HSL 47 Det 2
09 - 13	NOV	Underway - READIEX 90-3B
14 - 16	NOV	Underway - Battle Group "E" BGE
17 - 30	NOV	Inport - POM, San Diego, California

17	NOV	Debark HSL 47 Det 2
26 - 30	NOV	Inport - IMAV, San Diego, California
01 - 07	DEC	Inport - POM, San Diego, California
01 - 07	DEC	Inport - IMAV, San Diego, California
08 - 31	DEC	Underway - Battle Group "E" Deployment
08	DEC	Embark HSL 47 Det 2
22	DEC	INCHOP Seventh Fleet
29 - 31	DEC	Inport - Upkeep Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines

NARRATIVE

1990 began with VALLEY FORGE enjoying holiday leave and upkeep in San Diego. The first underway period of the year saw VALLEY FORGE conduct successful surface-to-air missile engagements of two targets, while developing valuable TACMEMO evaluations regarding Silent Spear and Link-11 Tactical Considerations. The first port visit followed with a 3 day stay in Port Hueneme, California. This served as an embarkation point for an All-Comers-at-Sea cruise back to San Diego. Enroute, VALLEY FORGE conducted a highly successful Naval Gunfire Support Exercise on the 25th, garnering a 98.3 score for an overall "OUTSTANDING" grade. January closed with VALLEY FORGE in San Diego for upkeep.

February got off on an upbeat note with a visit from local Boy Scouts on the third; both crew and guests enjoyed the day. VALLEY FORGE was underway again on the fifth in company with USS PRINCETON for CNO Special Operation 124, exploring operational issues for future dual-AEGIS battle group employment and examining the possibility of AEGIS-to-AEGIS electromagnetic interference. VALLEY FORGE was personally commended by Naval Ships Weapon Systems Engineering Station Personnel at Port Hueneme, and the evaluation's results were processed and distributed in a series of lessons learned messages to COMTHIRDFLT, COMNAVSURFPAC, COMCRUDESGRU THREE, COMSURFWARDEVGRU, AEGIS Training Center, NAVSWC, and AEGIS Training Support Group, among others. The 10th saw VALLEY FORGE arrive in the San Francisco Bay for a material inspection, Harpoon Certification, and training availability at Treasure Island. AEGIS Training Support Group conducted a weeklong CIC Team Training that was varied and highly successful. The crew also enjoyed the San Francisco sights prior to departing on the 20th enroute to Indian Island, Washington for an ammunition offload. VALLEY FORGE arrived at Indian Island on the 22nd, offloaded the ammunition, and departed on the 24th. The next stop was a terrific port visit in Portland, Oregon that lasted from the 27th of February to the 2nd of March.

VALLEY FORGE departed Portland on the third of March and arrived home in San Diego on the Sixth. A two week upkeep commenced upon our return and served to get the ship prepared for the DSRA that began on March 19th. The ship spent much of the next two and a half months in a floating dry-dock at the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company yard, receiving dedicated repair work throughout the ship. Many of the crew took advantage of the prolonged inport time to attend schools, cross-deck to other ships, or participate in team trainers. VALLEY FORGE's AAW planners attended Fleet Air Superiority Training at NAS Miramar, where they briefed COMCARGRU SEVEN and CVW-2 on AEGIS AAW capabilities and limitations; also contributing significantly to the complete revision of CVW-2's TACPRO 210D (AAW). Additionally, the first in a series of Battle Group Echo AAW committee meetings was held at TACTRAGRUPAC, and the VALLEY FORGE AAW committee began work in earnest on a draft set of AAW OPTASKs for use in the upcoming deployment. COMTHIRDFLT AAW advisors would later term these OPTASKs "brilliant" for their innovative use of battle group TACSIT and AAW warning condition as a basis for establishing specific pre-planned responses which are easily expressed in matrix format. COMTHIRDFLT advisors adopted the revolutionary format for their own battle force OPTASK AAW, still in development as a C3F/C7F collaboration.

The 12th of May saw Captain E. F. Tedeschi Jr. relieve Captain Phillip A. Bozzelli as Commanding Officer of VALLEY FORGE. The ceremony was held at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California. VALLEY FORGE, finally floating again, could be seen at a NASSCO pier in the background. The 22nd of May saw a

successful Light-Off Assessment of the VALLEY FORGE engineering plant, and signalled the approaching end of DSRA.

Sea Trials were conducted on the 5th and 6th of June, and VALLEY FORGE was finally able to return to San Diego Naval Base on June 7th. June 9th saw VALLEY FORGE hosting a reunion of the United States Naval Academy's Class of 1946, a occasion truly enjoyed by all. Underway again on the 18th, VALLEY FORGE made a brief stop to take on ammunition at North Island Naval Air Station before conducting three days of type training in the SOCAL opareas. The 18th also saw the Burial-at-Sea of Captain Charles J. Brennan, USMC RET, in the time honored tradition. The 22nd brought over forty second-class midshipmen for a one day cruise that included small-arms firing and tactical maneuvering. Inport over the weekend, VALLEY FORGE commenced a combined Training Readiness Evaluation / Combat Systems Assessment on June 25th. The successful completion of both TRE and CSAT, and the visit on the 27th by the Staff Tactical Watch Officer Course, brought June to a close.

The first week of July saw the ship preparing to host the Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group THREE change of command. To add to the excitement, VALLEY FORGE was visited by MR. Robert S. Silberman, Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy (Manpower), on the 5th. Rear Admiral Philip M. Quast relieved Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser on the 6th of July, the ceremony took place on board VALLEY FORGE while moored pierside at North Island Naval Air Station. The guest of honor was retired Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral William T. Crowe, and both the ship and the ceremony were outstanding. The ship then made ready and departed the same day bound for a port visit in Vancouver, British Columbia. VALLEY FORGE arrived in Vancouver on the 11th and commenced a 5 day stay that saw more than 4,000 people tour the ship. While inport, we also saw Lieutenant Commander Peter B. Opsal relieved as Executive Officer by Lieutenant Commander J. P. Wisecup. Underway again on the 16th, VALLEY FORGE arrived at Indian Island, Washington on the 17th for a two-day ammunition onload. Upon the safe completion of the onload, VALLEY FORGE departed for home on the 19th and arrived in San Diego on the 23rd.

After a short weekend, VALLEY FORGE started Interim Refresher Training on the 25th that ran until completion on August 10th. During IRFT, Fleet Training Group observers commented that the ship was the finest AAW platform they had seen in the previous eighteen months, and that the AAW team was "extremely organized" and "always ready". VALLEY FORGE performed beautifully throughout the training, even finding time to host a visit by the San Diego Research Science Institute on July 28th. Other visits during this period included a group of Congressional Staff personnel on the 16th of August, the College of English Language and the National Recycling Coalition on the 21st, and a visit by Mr. Eric Thoemmes, a Congressional Military Legal Advisor, on the 22nd. An inport upkeep period followed until the 24th of August when VALLEY FORGE once again underway for training in SOCAL. August 28th through 31st saw a Guest of the Navy cruise for four of San Diego's most prominent naval supporters.

September started inport and VALLEY FORGE remained there until the ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment was conducted the 10th through the 12th. The engineering department's impressive results guaranteed the highest levels of readiness and engineering excellence. A short upkeep period ended when Battle Group "E" work-ups began in earnest with COMPTUEX on the 24th. The completion of COMPTUEX saw VALLEY FORGE being chosen as COMDESRON SEVEN's flagship for the 05 October parade of ships that kicked-off ACCOLADES '90, the City of San Diego's salute to the military. READIEX 90-3A began on October 9th, and VALLEY FORGE, as

Battle Group "E" AAWC, used this period to conduct operational testing of Multi-Frequency Link 11, eventually attaining battle group link connectivity in excess of 95%. Battle Group "E" also easily defeated several manned air raids. After returning to port on the 18th, VALLEY FORGE hosted a visit by Naval War College International Course personnel on the 20th. Next came a Dependent's Cruise on the 27th of October. Over 750 members and guests of the VALLEY FORGE family enjoyed the day at sea. October closed with VADM Atago Terai, JMSDF (RET) visiting VALLEY FORGE on the 30th.

November saw VALLEY FORGE underway on the 5th as a key player in a Middle East Force Exercise. This was followed immediately by READIEX 90-3B and the Battle Group Evaluation, the final battle group work-ups before deployment. VALLEY FORGE continued to perform flawlessly as BG ECHO AAWC. During this period, USS PRINCETON replaced USS HORNE in Battle Group ECHO, creating the first dual-AEGIS battle group in the Pacific Fleet. VALLEY FORGE returned to port on the 17th to the news that she was the Commander, Naval Surface Forces Pacific's nomination for the 1991 Captain Edward Francis Ney Memorial Award; recognizing of the "Valley Forge Cafe" as one of the "best feeders in the Navy". The remainder of November was spent in an Intermediate Availability with SIMA San Diego and the Prior to Overseas Movement stand-down.

VALLEY FORGE left San Diego as part of Battle Group ECHO in support of Operation Desert Shield on December 8th. Following a Post-POM Evaluation in SOCAL, Battle Group ECHO started her long transit of the Pacific. The Battle Group came under Seventh Fleet's operational and tactical control on the 22nd of December and made her first stop enroute to the Arabian Gulf in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines on the 29th of December. This is where VALLEY FORGE saw 1990 come to a close.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- (1) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
- (2) Commanding Officer's Picture
- (3) Commanding Officer's Biography
- (4) Executive Officer's Biography
- (5) January - March 1990 Tacalert Kudos
- (6) Report of Gunfire Support Exercises Fired Letter
- (7) Dual Aegis Operations Message
- (8) Port Visit Pacific Northwest Message
- (9) 1990 Association of Old Crows Association EW Award Message
- (10) VALLEY FORGE Change of Command Message
- (11) United States Naval Academy Class of 1946 Reunion Message
- (12) Burial at Sea Message
- (13) Combat Systems Assessment Message
- (14) Staff Tactical Watch Officer Course Visit Messages
- (15) Mr. Robert S. Silberman Visit Message
- (16) COMCRUDESGRU THREE Change of Command Messages
- (17) Interim Refresher Training Messages
- (18) Congressional Staff Visit Message
- (19) Self-Sufficient Ship of the Week Messages
- (20) Guests of the Navy Embarkation Message
- (21) ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment Message
- (22) Naval War College Visit Message
- (23) VADM Atago Terai Visit Message
- (24) 1991 Ney Memorial Awards Messages