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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50)
FPO AP 96682-1170

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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 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Commanding Officers Photograph
(2) Commanding Officers Biography
(3) Executive Officers Photograph
(4) Executive Officers Biography
(5) Ship's Chronology 1992
(6) Command Composition and Organization
(7) Ship's History
(8) USS VALLEY FORGE messages (U) IN CLASS FILE
(9) Miscellaneous Incoming Messages

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (9) are submitted.
2. Enclosure (8) contains the following outgoing USS VALLEY FORGE messages (read in two columns):

USS VALLEY FORGE 150143Z Jan 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 310645Z Mar 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 220300Z Jan 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 010340Z Apr 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 230300Z Jan 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 020445Z Apr 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 242000Z Jan 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 171630Z Apr 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 032000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 312207Z May 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 042000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 082015Z Jun 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 052000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 082300Z Jun 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 142335Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 062355Z Jun 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 192000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 130325Z Jun 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 202000Z Feb 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 180730Z Jun 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 210511Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 192137Z Jun 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 242000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 251645Z Jun 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 211700Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 012200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 252000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 022000Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 262000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 032200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 272000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 042200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 282000Z Feb 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 052200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 011945Z Mar 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 062200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 012000Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 070310Z Aug 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 030205Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 072200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 032000Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 082200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 030205Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 092200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 052000Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 102200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 170715Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 112200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 180830Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 122200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 190910Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 140503Z Aug 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 210315Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 142200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 240630Z Mar 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 152200Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 250600Z Mar 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 160520Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 260800Z Mar 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 170600Z Aug 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 270610Z Mar 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 180150Z Aug 92 (C)

Classified by: Multiple Sources
Declassify on: OADR

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USS VALLEY FORGE 200635Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 242000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 202235Z Aug 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 252000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 230600Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 260835Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 240410Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 262000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 250401Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 271410Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 270615Z Aug 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 271415Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 290445Z Aug 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 272000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 300443Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 281800Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 300500Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 282000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 310430Z Aug 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 290815Z Oct 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 010530Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 291800Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 020644Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 292000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 030800Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 302000Z Oct 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 040645Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 012000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 162000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 042000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 182000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 050713Z Nov 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 192000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 062000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 202000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 072000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 222000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 082000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 232000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 092000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 231526Z Sep 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 032000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 242000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 112000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 252000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 122000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 262000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 141645Z Nov 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 282000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 142000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 292000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 152000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 302000Z Sep 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 162000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 012000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 172000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 022000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 182000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 032000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 192000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 040630Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 202000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 042000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 212000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 052000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 222000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 062000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 232000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 082000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 242000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 090555Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 252000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 092000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 261030Z Nov 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 100615Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 262000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 102000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 272000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 112000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 282000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 122000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 292000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 142000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 302000Z Nov 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 150715Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 012000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 152000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 022000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 161215Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 031530Z Dec 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 162000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 032000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 172000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 042000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 181810Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 062000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 182000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 101245Z Dec 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 192000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 122000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 201005Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 132000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 202000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 142000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 212000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 152000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 211400Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 171730Z Dec 92
USS VALLEY FORGE 211740Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 172000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 222000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 182000Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 221200Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 191200Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 232000Z Oct 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 201200Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 241420Z Oct 92	USS VALLEY FORGE 210509Z Dec 92 (C)

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USS VALLEY FORGE 210900Z Dec 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 260730Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 220800Z Dec 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 270640Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 230800Z Dec 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 280630Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 240800Z Dec 92 (C)	USS VALLEY FORGE 290625Z Dec 92 (C)
USS VALLEY FORGE 250545Z Dec 92 (C)	

3. Enclosure (8) contains the following incoming USS VALLEY FORGE messages.

COMCRUDESGRU FIVE 222152Z JAN 92 (C)
COMNAVSURFPAC SAN DIEGO CA 141408Z FEB 92
COMCRUDESGRU ONE 060350Z MAR 92
COMFLETRAGRUPAC SAN DIEGO CA 152105Z APR 92
COMCRUDESGRU THREE 172120Z APR 92
COMCRUDESGRU ONE 210029Z APR 92
COMSURFWARDEVGRU 010924Z MAY 92 (C)
CTU THREE ZERO PT FIVE PT TWO 290001Z MAY 92 (C)
CNO WASHINGTON DC 031237Z JUN 92
CTG THREE ZERO PT FIVE 101050Z JUN 92 (C)
CTU THREE ZERO PT FIVE PT TWO 102100Z JUN 92
COMDESRON SEVEN 132308Z JUN 92 (C)
CTG THREE ZERO PT FIVE 180213Z JUN 92 (C)
CTU THREE ZERO PT FIVE PT ONE 180330Z JUN 92 (C)
USS CHOSIN 230551Z JUN 92 (C)
USS PHILIPPINE 261637Z JUN 92
CTG THREE ZERO PT FIVE 300020Z JUN 92
COMNAVSUPSYSCOM WASHINGTON DC 110702Z AUG 92
CTU THREE ZERO PT FIVE PT TWO 120800Z AUG 92 (C)
CTG SEVEN ZERO PT FIVE 150400Z AUG 92
COMNAVFORKOREA SEOUL KOR 180735Z AUG 92 (C)
CNO WASHINGTON DC 311725Z AUG 92
CTG SEVEN ZERO PT FIVE 050833Z SEP 92 (C)
COMCRUDESGRU ONE 261909Z SEP 92
USS TAYLOR 211602Z OCT 92

4. USS VALLEY FORGE (CG 50) point of contact, Ltjg [REDACTED]


B. CORNETT

Copy to:
COMCRUDESGRU ONE

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 capable enough to counter all current and projected threats.

USS VALLEY FORGE, homeported in San Diego, California, is permanently assigned to Cruiser Destroyer Group One under Commander, Naval Surface Force, United States Pacific Fleet. The Commanding Officer is Captain Billy Cornett II. The Executive Officer was Lieutenant Commander J. P. Wisecup from 01 January through 02 March, when he was relieved by Lieutenant Commander Alvin R. Smith. Ship's company consists of 36 officers and 366 crew members divided into four departments: Operations, Engineering, Combat Systems, and Supply. Lieutenant Commander J. Gillcrist was the Officer-in-Charge of HSL-47's Detachment Two, which was embarked from 24-29 February, 1-5 March, 16-20 March, 30 March - 3 April, 21-28 April, 18 May - 22 June, 18 May - 22 June and finally for the deployment commencing 01 August continuing through the end of the year. Detachment Two consisted of two LAMPS MK III helicopters, Saberhawk 63 and 65, 6 pilots and 16 enlisted crewmembers.

Over the past two and half years, VALLEY FORGE has been at the forefront of every major overseas operation - DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, SOUTHERN WATCH, AND RESTORE HOPE, thus truly living up to its motto "FIRST IN WAR, FIRST IN PEACE." During Battle Group Work-ups, USS VALLEY FORGE was under the operational and tactical control of Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group One. Ranger Battle Group deployed on 01 August in support of Operation Desert Storm with Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group One in operational and tactical control of USS VALLEY FORGE, USS RANGER (CV 61), USS CHOSIN (CG 65), USS KIRK (FF-1087), USS KINKAID (DD-965), USS MAUNA KEA (AE-22) AND USS WABASH (AOR-05). VALLEY FORGE served as battle group Anti-Air Warfare Commander (EW) and Link Coordinator (EF).

SHIP'S CHRONOLOGY 1992

01 - 14	JAN	Inport - San Diego, Ca
14 -	JAN	Underway - Pier Bravo, NASNI for Ammo Onload
14 - 20	JAN	Inport - San Diego, Ca
21	JAN	Embark Guests of the Navy
21 - 24	JAN	Underway - CSOSS Stage II, Soar/Rews RNG, NGFS and DLQ's
25	JAN - 03 FEB	Inport - San Diego, Ca
03 - 04	FEB	Underway - Combat System Assessment (CSA)
05 - 06	FEB	Underway - Training Readiness Evaluation (TRE)
- 07	FEB	SMTT Act Visit
07 - 17	FEB	Inport - San Diego, Ca
10 -	FEB	COMNAVSURFPAC SILVER ANCHOR PRESENTATION
- 14	FEB	VADM Bennet Command Inspection
18 - 19	FEB	Underway - Scientist at Sea
19 - 20	FEB	Inport - Onload Seal Beach
21 - 23	FEB	Inport - San Diego, Ca
24	FEB	Embark HSL-47 DET 2, Reserves embark
24 FEB - 05	MAR	Underway - CSOSS Stage III, ACAT, AOPS, PMTC
06 - 15	MAR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
7	MAR	Farewell XO, Hail PXO
16 - 19	MAR	Underway - Tailored Ship Training Availability (TSTA)
20 - 22	MAR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
23 - 27	MAR	Underway - TSTA
28 - 29	MAR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
30	MAR - 03 APR	Underway - TSTA
04 - 05	APR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
06 - 09	APR	Underway - TSTA
10 -	APR	Inport - Ambassadors of Baseball Tour
11 - 12	APR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
13 - 17	APR	Inport - Cruise Missile Tactical Quals
20 -	APR	CO'S Holiday - Switch to Summer Uniform
21 - 22	APR	Underway - Pre-overhaul Test and Inspection (POT & I)
23 - 26	APR	Inport - San Francisco, Ca
27 - 28	APR	Underway - Onload at Seal Beach
28 -	APR	Inport - Seal Beach
28 -	APR	Inport - San Diego, Ca
29	APR - 04 MAY	Inport - San Diego, Ca
04 - 08	MAY	Inport - San Diego, Ca/3M-SMA
09 - 15	MAY	Inport - San Diego, Ca
16 -	MAY	Underway - Dependent's Day Cruise
16 -	MAY	Inport - San Diego, Ca
18 - 22	MAY	Underway - COMPTUEX, NGFS II
22 - 25	MAY	Inport - San Diego, Ca
25	MAY	Embark Midshipman
26	MAY - 02 JUN	Underway - FLEETEX 92-1E
03 - 05	JUN	Inport - Seattle, Wa
06 - 16	JUN	Underway - FLEETEX 92-2E
17 - 21	JUN	Underway - FLEETEX 92-3E
22	JUN - 26 JUL	Inport - POM Period
27 -	JUL	Fast Cruise
28	JUL	LAMPS MKIII Ship Safety Award Presentation (CCDG-1 RADM Hancock)
28 - 31	JUL	Inport - San Diego, Ca
01 -	AUG	WESTPAC 1992 BEGINS
01 - 18	AUG	Underway - Transit to Yokosuka, Japan
18 - 22	AUG	Inport - Yokosuka, Japan
23 - 25	AUG	Underway - Transit to Pusan, Korea
26 - 28	AUG	Inport - Pusan, Korea
29	AUG - 18 SEP	Underway - Transit to Persian Gulf
18	SEP	Onstation PERSIAN GULF Operation Southern Watch

19 - 23	SEP	Underway - Persian Gulf
24	SEP - 02	Inport - Jebel Ali
03	OCT	Underway - Transit to Abu Dhabi
04 - 06	OCT	Inport - Abu Dhabi
07 - 09	OCT	Underway - CV Escort Operations, Persian Gulf
10 - 12	OCT	Underway - GULFEX XIV
13	OCT - 02	Underway - Cont CV Escort Operations, Persian Gulf
03 - 08	NOV	Underway - CV Escort Operations
09 - 14	NOV	Inport Jebel Ali
15 - 16	NOV	Underway - GULFEX XV
17 - 28	NOV	Underway - CV Escort Operations
29 - 30	NOV	Inport - Dubai
01 - 03	DEC	Underway - CV Escort Operations
04 - 07	DEC	Enroute Mogadischu, Somalia
07	DEC	Chamsagar Humanitarian Support
08 - 18	DEC	On station Operation Restore Hope
19 - 28	DEC	Underway - Transit to Perth/Freemantle
20 -	DEC	CROSSING THE EQUATOR
29	DEC - 02	Inport - Perth/Freemantle, Australia
	JAN	

VALLEY FORGE (CG-50) 1992

AT THE END OF 1991, VALLEY FORGE COMPLETED A SUCCESSFUL SELECTED RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY AND AN INTENSIVE SPECIFIC WARFARE TRAINING PERIOD. WITH THE NEW YEAR CAME A FEELING OF REJUVENATION AND IT WAS CLEAR TO SEE THAT THE MEN OF VALLEY FORGE HAD UNDERGONE A POSITIVE SYNTHESIS. PRIDE AND PROFESSIONALISM WERE THE WINNING INGREDIENTS THAT RAISED THE SHIP'S PERFORMANCE TO EXCEPTIONAL HEIGHTS AND MADE THE SHIP THE FORERUNNER IN A SERIES OF FIRSTS, NOT ONLY FOR THE SHIP BUT IN NAVAL HISTORY. THESE "FIRSTS", COMBINED WITH THE SUPERIOR OPERATIONS FOR WHICH VALLEY FORGE HAS BEEN KNOWN, IDENTIFY THE SHIP AND HER CREW AS THE BEST TRAINED AND MOST PROFICIENT AEGIS CRUISER ON THE WEST COAST.

THE END OF JANUARY AND THE BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A QUEST FOR A NEW PLATEAU OF EXCELLENCE. THE SHIP SPENT FOUR DAYS UNDERWAY TO CONDUCT EXERCISES LEADING UP TO DEPLOYMENT WORK-UPS AND TO HOST A "GUEST OF THE NAVY" CRUISE. VALLEY FORGE REALLY BEGAN THE WORK OF PREPARING FOR THE NEXT DEPLOYMENT WITH AN INTENSIVE COMBAT SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT AND TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION. THIS SIX DAY EVOLUTION, BY ALL ACCOUNTS, WAS THE FIRST TIME A COMBAT SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT (CSA) WAS CONDUCTED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION (TRE). THE COMBAT SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT TEAM EVALUATED VALLEY FORGE IN ITS ABILITY TO ENGAGE TARGETS WITH SM2BLK2, SM1BLK6, SRBOC, GUNS, HARPOON, ASROC, OVER THE SIDE TORPEDO AND CIWS. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME A WEST COAST CG-47 CLASS SHIP CONDUCTED ALL DETECT TO ENGAGE SEQUENCES UNDERWAY INSTEAD OF PRE UNDERWAY TRAINING PIERSIDE. THE EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE OF VALLEY FORGE AND HER CREW CONTINUED DURING USS RANGER'S INTEGRATED TRAINING ASSESSMENT.

THE SHIP WAS AWARDED THE COMNAVSURFPAC SILVER ANCHOR AWARD FOR ITS EXCELLENCE IN COMMAND RETENTION PROGRAMS. THE AWARD WAS PRESENTED BY VICE ADMIRAL BENNET, COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE FORCE PACIFIC FOR MEETING AND EXCEEDING FY 1991 RETENTION GOALS, AND WAS RECEIVED BY THE COMMAND CAREER COUNSELOR STGC (SW) [REDACTED] AND THE COMMAND MASTER CHIEF BMCM (SW) LUIZ.

VALLEY FORGE THEN COMPLETED A COMMAND INSPECTION WHICH SCRUTINIZED ALL OF THE COMMAND AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS AND POLICIES WHICH HAD NOT BEEN REVIEWED DURING THE JANUARY CSA AND TRE INSPECTIONS. ONCE AGAIN THE CREW ROSE TO THE OCCASION AND PERSONAL AWARDS WERE PRESENTED TO THOSE WHO EXHIBITED SUSTAINED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE OVER THE PROCEEDING MONTHS.

ANOTHER BRIEF UNDERWAY PERIOD ALLOWED VALLEY FORGE TO PARTICIPATE IN A "SCIENTIST AT SEA" VISIT AND MAKE ANOTHER STOP AT SEAL BEACH TO COMPLETE A WEAPONS ONLOAD. VALLEY FORGE RETURNED TO SAN DIEGO LONG ENOUGH TO EMBARK HSL-47 DETACHMENT TWO AND RESERVISTS FOR THEIR REQUIRED TRAINING AND CHANGE THE HEAD OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT. THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, COMMANDER JAMES P. WISECUP, WAS RELIEVED BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ALVIN R. SMITH, THE FORMER CHIEF ENGINEER ON USS VINCENNES, ON 02 MARCH. VALLEY FORGE GOT UNDERWAY TO PARTICIPATE IN COMBAT SYSTEMS OPERATING AND SEQUENCING SYSTEM (CSOSS) TRAINING PHASE THREE, ALL COMERS AT SEA TRAINING AND AIR OPERATIONS WITH THE USS RANGER. THESE WORK-UPS CULMINATED IN A MULTI-SHIP AND MULTI-AIRCRAFT MOBILE SEA RANGE MISSILE FIRING EXERCISE. VALLEY FORGE SUCCESSFULLY EXECUTED TWO EXTREMELY COMPLICATED MISSILE FIRING SCENARIOS WHILE ACTING AS SCREEN COMMANDER, ANTI-AIR WARFARE COORDINATOR, LINK COORDINATOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF ALL THE MISSILE TELEMETRY CHECKS.

THE STANDARD REFRESHER TRAINING WAS COMPLETELY REWORKED AND REPLACED WITH A NEW CONCEPT: TAILORED SHIP TRAINING AVAILABILITY (TSTA). THIS, ALONG WITH THE TRAINING ASSESSMENT THAT FOLLOWED, WAS THE FIRST EVER CONDUCTED IN THE PACIFIC FLEET. TSTA EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON TRAINING THE SHIP'S INTEGRATED TRAINING TEAM AND PROVIDING THE SHIP WITH THE TOOLS TO MAINTAIN PROFICIENCY THROUGH CONTINUED SELF TRAINING. TRAINING COMMANDS PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT INCLUDED FLEET TRAINING SUPPORT (FCTSUP), AEGIS TRAINING SUPPORT (ATSG), COMNAVSURFPAC MOBILE TEAM TRAINING (CNSP MTT), AND FLEET TRAINING GROUP (FTG).

THROUGHOUT TSTA, VALLEY FORGE WORKED DILIGENTLY TO PREPARE FOR THE

UPCOMING CRUISE MISSILE TACTICAL QUALIFICATIONS (CMTQ). AS SOON AS TSTA WAS OVER, VALLEY FORGE STOOD READY TO DEMONSTRATE HER ABILITY TO DEPLOY ANTI-SHIP CRUISE MISSILES. THE ASUW TEAMS HAD TRAINED EXTENSIVELY AND HAD COMPLETED THE HARPOON TEAM TRAINER DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR WITH AN EXCELLENT GRADE OF 90 PERCENT. THERE WAS A CLOUD OVER THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT, HOWEVER, DUE TO A PREVIOUS CMTQ FAILURE AND SUBSEQUENT REQUALIFICATION DURING THE PREVIOUS INTER-DEPLOYMENT CYCLE. WHEN THE INSPECTION TEAM ARRIVED AND FOUND THE REVAMPED HARPOON FIRING DOCTRINE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS TO BE FREE OF ERRORS, THE TONE OF THE INSPECTION NOTICEABLY CHANGED. THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TEAM MEMBERS WAS BEYOND REPROACH, EACH WELL VERSED IN HIS ROLE DURING THE OVER-THE-HORIZON TARGETING SCENARIOS. THE QUALIFICATION WAS ALSO THE ULTIMATE TESTING GROUND FOR A VALLEY FORGE CREATED TMA SOFTWARE THAT SUCCESSFULLY ANALYZED MULTIPLE SURFACE CONTACTS SIMULTANEOUSLY AND PROVIDED ACCURATE RANGE INFORMATION ON ALL CONTACTS. THE CREWMEMBERS WHO DEVELOPED THE PROGRAM, OS1 MOSELEY AND OS2 WRIGHT, WERE GRANTED A \$2500.00 BENEFICIAL SUGGESTION AWARD FOR THEIR EFFORTS. THE PROGRAM IS UNDER FURTHER TEST AND DEVELOPMENT BY COMMANDER, NAVAL SURFACE FORCES, PACIFIC FLEET. DURING THE COURSE OF THE CERTIFICATION, VALLEY FORGE'S BLUE AND GOLD ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE (ASUW) TEAMS PERFORMED WITH TACTICAL ACUMEN, ACHIEVING 100 PERCENT ORDNANCE ON TARGET IN EVERY OTH-T ENCOUNTER. VALLEY FORGE SURFACE TARGET MOTION ANALYSIS TEAMS WERE ALSO LAUDED BY THE CRUISE MISSILE TACTICAL QUALIFICATION TEAMS WHO OBSERVED VALLEY FORGE THE "BEST" CRUISER THEY HAD EVER EVALUATED AND ON PAR WITH THE MOST PROFICIENT ASUW DESTROYER IN THE FLEET.

SHORTLY AFTER CMTQ, THE CREW WAS GIVEN A SHORT BREAK FROM THE RIGORS OF TRAINING AND TOOK A MORALE BOOSTING LIBERTY CALL IN SAN FRANCISCO. WHEN VALLEY FORGE RETURNED, THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT WAS UP TO BAT. COMNAVSURFPAC'S SUPPLY MANAGEMENT/3M ASSESSMENT OF VALLEY FORGE WAS CONDUCTED IN EARLY MAY 1992 AND THE RESULTS YIELDED FOUR OUTSTANDING AND ONE EXCELLENT ADJECTIVE GRADES IN FIVE FUNCTIONAL AREAS. THE COMNAVSURFPAC 3M ASSESSMENT PORTION OF THE INSPECTION ENDED WITH SIMILARLY IMPRESSIVE RESULTS, INCLUDING A PMS RECORDED ACCOMPLISHMENT RATE (RAR) OF 99.0% AND A ACCOMPLISHMENT CONFIDENCE

FACTOR (ACF) OF 97.1%. THESE PMS SCORES WERE THE HIGHEST ACHIEVED BY ANY SHIP IN SAN DIEGO DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS. THE FOOD SERVICE DIVISION (S-2), HOME OF THE MUCH CELEBRATED "VALLEY FORGE CAFE", EARNED HONORABLE MENTION DESIGNATION FROM COMNAVSURFPAC FOR OUTSTANDING CREW SUPPORT IN THE 1992 NEY COMPETITION.

THERE IS NOTHING THAT MAKES A SAILOR MORE PROUD THAN SHOWING OFF HIS SHIP. OUR DEPENDENTS DAY CRUISE WAS EXTRA SPECIAL IN THAT WE BROUGHT ABOARD STUDENTS FROM JEAN FARB MIDDLE SCHOOL IN ADDITION TO OUR OWN FAMILY AND FRIENDS. EARLIER IN THE YEAR VALLEY FORGE HAD "ADOPTED" THE STUDENTS AND HAD THEM PARTICIPATE IN TOURS AND CREW INTERVIEWS. ABOUT 40 CREWMEMBERS SPONSORED FROM 3-5 SCHOOL CHILDREN EACH AS ESCORTS FOR TOURS. VALLEY FORGE CREWMEMBERS ALSO VOLUNTEERED THEIR TIME TO SPONSOR NUMEROUS EVENTS AT THE SCHOOL, WITH TUTORING AS THE MAINSTAY. BUT OF COURSE, THE BIGGEST EVENT FOR THE STUDENTS AND SHIP CULMINATED ON THIS DAY, THE DEPENDENTS DAY CRUISE, IN WHICH OVER 70 STUDENTS GOT UNDERWAY WITH VALLEY FORGE TO EXPERIENCE A SPECIAL DAY AT SEA.

THE LAST PORTION OF OUR WORK-UPS CONSISTED OF 3 PHASES OF FLEET EXERCISES IN WHICH THE CREW WAS STRETCHED TO THEIR LIMITS. IN THE INTERIM, WE GOT THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAMPLE THE HOSPITALITY OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

VALLEY FORGE WAS PRESENTED THE LAMPS MK III AVIATION SAFETY AWARD BY ADMIRAL HANCOCK, COMMANDER CRUISER DESTROYER GROUP ONE, ON THE 28TH OF JULY. THE SHIP WON THE AWARD FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SAFETY RECORD WHILE CONDUCTING EXTENSIVE FLIGHT OPERATIONS DURING THEIR FOURTH DEPLOYMENT TO THE WESTERN PACIFIC/INDIAN OCEAN AND PARTICIPATION IN OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM. VALLEY FORGE'S AIR TACTICAL AIR CONTROLLERS AND AIR CREW OF HSL 47 DETACHMENT TWO LOGGED WELL OVER 1200 HOURS OF FLIGHT TIME WHILE PARTICIPATING IN A VARIETY OF OPERATIONS RANGING FROM SEARCH AND SURVEILLANCE TO MINE DESTRUCTION. LIKEWISE, THE SHIP AVERAGED BETTER THAN 125 FLIGHT QUARTERS A MONTH WHILE DEPLOYED, PROVIDING THEIR HELICOPTER DECK FOR NUMEROUS DECK

LANDING QUALIFICATIONS, REFUELING EVOLUTIONS, VERTICAL REPLENISHMENT AND PASSENGER/LOGISTICS TRANSFERS FOR INTERNATIONAL AS WELL AS U.S. ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT, ALL WITHOUT INCIDENT.

IN THE DAILY EXECUTION OF ANTI-AIR WARFARE COMMANDER DUTIES ON THE TRANSIT FROM SAN DIEGO TO JAPAN, VALLEY FORGE DEVELOPED PROCEDURES AND TACTICS WHICH INCORPORATED THE USE OF A TIMELINE COMPUTER PROGRAM TO AID IN PLANNING PRECISE INTERCEPTS AGAINST INGRESSING AIRCRAFT. THE EFFECT OF SUCH ACCURATE PLANNING FACILITATED AN ECONOMY OF ANTI-AIR WARFARE EFFORTS. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS SYSTEM WAS TESTED IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, WHEN INDICATIONS OF POTENTIALLY HOSTILE AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY PROMPTED LAUNCH OF ALERT FIGHTERS TO INTERCEPT THE AIRCRAFT. THE INTERCEPTS WERE EXECUTED ALONG WITH THE LAUNCHING OF ALERT E-2C, F-14 AND TANKER ASSETS, RESULTING IN INTERCEPTS AT OR BETTER THAN THE RANGES SPECIFIED IN THE TIMELINE.

DURING BRIEF OPERATIONS IN SEVENTH FLEET, VALLEY FORGE PARTICIPATED IN TWO JAPANESE MARITIME SELF DEFENSE FORCE (JMSDF) PASSEX'S, INCLUDING EXERCISES IN EACH WARFARE AREA. VALLEY FORGE SERVED AS AAWC DURING SEVERAL HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AAWEX'S WHICH INCLUDED NON-ORGANIC TANKING, ORANGE P-3C BOGEYS FROM VP-4/VP-6 AND CVW-2 AIRCRAFT. VALLEY FORGE EMPLOYED THE USE OF LAMPS MK III, NON-ORGANIC AND ORGANIC RANGER BATTLE GROUP ASSETS TO PASSIVELY TARGET AND CONDUCT SIMULATED HARPOON STRIKES AGAINST JMSDF UNITS.

TADIL-A INTEROPERABILITY WAS ALSO DEMONSTRATED DURING THE JMSDF PASSEX'S. THE LINK TEAM PROVIDED BOTH JMSDF AND US DECISION MAKERS WITH CONCISE, COHERENT DATA. ADDITIONALLY, VALLEY FORGE USED THE INSTALLED LMS-11 TO PROVIDE REAL TIME LINK-11 ANALYSIS. DUE TO THE TACTICAL MANAGEMENT OF THE INSTALLED MULTI-FREQUENCY LINK SYSTEM, CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN ALL LINK PARTICIPANTS WAS EXCELLENT.

WHILE INPORT YOKOSUKA JAPAN, THE OFFICERS AND VARIOUS CREWMEMBERS ENJOYED A RECEPTION WITH THE OFFICERS AND CREW OF THE JAPANESE DEFENSE SHIP

(JDS) SHIRANE. AS WE GOT UNDERWAY FROM THE PORT, PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN A 3 DAY EXCHANGE AND GOT A CHANCE TO OBSERVE THE UNDERWAY ROUTINE ONBOARD THE JDS SHIRANE.

VALLEY FORGE'S NEXT STOP WAS THE PORT OF PUSAN, KOREA. VALLEY FORGE PARTICIPATED IN PROJECT HANDCLASP WITH THE DUKSUNG ORPHANAGE IN PUSAN KOREA. THE ORPHANAGE, MANAGED BY MS. KIM CHIN KI, IS APPROXIMATELY TWO ACRES IN SIZE AND IS HOME FOR APPROXIMATELY 85 CHILDREN AVERAGING IN AGES 5-9 YEARS WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF INFANTS AND OLDER CHILDREN. CREWMEMBERS DONATED TOYS, CLOTHING, FOOD AND MUNICIPAL SUPPLIES. SOME OF THE SAILORS SPENT THE DAY REFURBISHING PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AND MAKING MINOR REPAIRS TO THE FACILITIES AS WELL AS SOME TIME PLAYING WITH THE CHILDREN.

VALLEY FORGE HAD THE DISTINCTION OF HOSTING A LUNCHEON AND VISIT WITH COMMANDER ROYAL KOREAN THIRD FLEET (COMROKTHRDFLT), VADM HUEN AND CAPT CHO, HIS CHIEF OF STAFF. THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT VISIT AND VALLEY FORGE CAPITALIZED ON EVERY EFFORT TO MAKE AN OUTSTANDING AND LASTING IMPRESSION OF THE U.S. NAVY. THIS TOUR WAS THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY FOR RADM HUEN TO VISIT AN AEGIS CRUISER AS PART OF HIS PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN PREPARATION FOR COMMAND QUALIFICATION.

IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IN THE PERSIAN GULF IN MID SEPTEMBER VALLEY FORGE ASSUMED DUTIES AS THE ANTI-AIR WARFARE COMMANDER FOR THE ARABIAN GULF, RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING THE TACTICAL DATA EXCHANGE FOR ALL ASSIGNED UNITS AND CONTROLLING AIRCRAFT PATROL MISSIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS "NO FLY" ZONE IN SOUTHERN IRAQ (OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH). DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD OF THE RANGER BATTLE GROUP'S ASSIGNMENT IN THE GULF, NOT ONE IRAQI AIRCRAFT FLEW SOUTH OF THE 32ND PARALLEL. VALLEY FORGE ALSO PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL UNIQUE JOINT AND COMBINED OPERATIONS WITH FRENCH, BRITISH AND EVEN A RUSSIAN GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER, THE ADMIRAL VINOGRADOV, MARKING THE FIRST TIME A MULTI-NATIONAL EXERCISE WAS CONDUCTED WITH A RUSSIAN WARSHIP. IN FURTHER EFFORTS TO EXERCISE COMBINED OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT, VALLEY FORGE

CONDUCTED IT'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT WITH THE FRENCH SHIP VAR. OUR CREW ALSO ENJOYED A FELLOWSHIP WITH THE CREW OF THE FRENCH DESTROYER GEORGES LEYGUES.

IN EARLY DECEMBER, VALLEY FORGE, RANGER, AND WABASH LEFT THE ARABIAN GULF AND STEAMED AT HIGH SPEED TO THE COAST OF SOMALIA, AFRICA, TO PROVIDE INITIAL ENABLING FORCE SUPPORT FOR OPERATION RESTORE HOPE. AS THE SHIP MADE HER TRANSIT, SHE RESPONDED TO A CALL FOR HELP FROM A 125 FT WOODEN BOAT, THE MOTOR VESSEL CHAMSAGAR. THE BOAT WAS DISCOVERED BY THE SHIP'S LAMPS MK III HELICOPTER WHILE CONDUCTING ROUTINE NIGHT FLIGHT OPERATIONS 07 DECEMBER. AFTER ESTABLISHING COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOAT VIA BRIDGE TO BRIDGE VHF RADIO, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PASSENGERS INDICATED THAT THE BOAT HAD BEEN UNDERWAY FOR 3 DAYS AND URGENTLY REQUIRED FOOD, WATER AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE. THIS INTERPRETER DESCRIBED THE PASSENGERS AS THE "SUFFERING PEOPLE OF SOMALIA" FLEEING THEIR HOMELAND. USS VALLEY FORGE IMMEDIATELY CLOSED THE BOAT AND, WITH A MEDICAL DETACHMENT FROM USS RANGER, COMMENCED ASSISTANCE OPERATIONS. THE CREW OF VALLEY FORGE WORKED THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT TO PREPARE THE TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES BY HELICOPTER. THE FOLLOWING MORNING, 12 LIFTS INCLUDING 250 GALLONS OF WATER AND OVER 500 POUNDS OF FOOD WERE COMPLETED. THIS WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL ACT OF HUMANITARIAN AID DURING OPERATION RESTORE HOPE.

10 DECEMBER MARKED ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE NAVY. IN ADDITION TO SERVING AS AIR DEFENSE ZONE COORDINATOR, ANTI-AIR WARFARE COMMANDER AND THE PRIMARY NAVAL GUN FIRE SUPPORT SHIP FOR THE NAVY AND MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES, VALLEY FORGE EMBARKED A DETACHMENT OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS FROM USS RANGER TO ASSIST IN DUTIES AS MOGADISHU INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL FACILITY. THE SPY RADAR SUCCEEDED WHERE THE SHORE UNITS COULD NOT DUE TO SEVERE EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS ASHORE. AROUND THE CLOCK LANDING ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED FOR HUNDREDS OF RELIEF AIRCRAFT ORIGINATING FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND RANGING IN SIZES FROM THE U.S. AIR FORCE C-5 GALAXY TRANSPORTS TO SINGLE ENGINE CESSNAS. THIS TASK WAS FURTHER COMPLICATED AT NIGHT WITHOUT INSTALLED AIRSTRIP LIGHTING, GUNFIRE DIRECTED AT THE FLIGHTS AND SHARED AIRSPACE WITH A MULTITUDE

OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT OPERATING IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF GROUND UNITS. THE OUTSTANDING RESULTS EPITOMIZED THE TEAM WORK AND PROFESSIONALISM OF THE ENTIRE BATTLE GROUP.

VALLEY FORGE CROSSED THE EQUATOR ON THE 20TH OF DECEMBER; AND ALTHOUGH THE CREW SPENT CHRISTMAS UNDERWAY, THEY WERE ABLE TO BRING IN THE NEW YEAR IN FREEMANTLE, AUSTRALIA. ON NEW YEARS DAY THE SHIP PROVIDED A MEMORABLE LUNCH AND TOURS FOR A NUMBER OF UNDERPRIVILEGED FAMILIES IN FREEMANTLE, AUSTRALIA.

VALLEY FORGE COMPLETED AN EXTREMELY SUCCESSFUL DEPLOYMENT, RETURNING TO HER HOMEPORT, SAN DIEGO, CA ON 31 JANUARY 1993.