

U.S.S. VOLADOR (SS490)  
CARE OF FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96601



SS490:PCS:mmg  
5700  
Ser: 116  
21 March 1969

From: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. VOLADOR (SS-490)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History for 1968, OPNAV REPORT 5750-1; forwarding of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Chronology of highlights  
(2) Basic Narrative  
(3) Lessons Learned  
(4) Documentary evidence

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History of USS VOLADOR (SS-490) for 1968 is forwarded herewith as enclosures (1) through (4).

R. B. TIBSON, Jr.

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COMSUBFLOT ONE  
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LESSONS LEARNED

1. None of any historical value.

CHRONOLOGY OF HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 JAN - Underway in Western Pacific having deployed 24 July 1967.
- 10-15 JAN - Inport Hong Kong, B.C.C.
- 24-30 JAN - Upkeep Yokosuka, Japan.
- 31 JAN
- 02 MAR - Special Operations.
- 02-08 MAR - Upkeep Yokosuka, Japan.
- 20-22 MAR - Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 29 MAR - Arrive San Diego after 8 1/2 months deployment.
- 29 MAR
- 12 MAY - Inport/upkeep San Diego.
- 01 MAY - Change of Command Ceremony - CDR E.J. CASH, USN relieved by  
CDR R. B. GIBSON, Jr., USN.
- 01 JUL
- 30 DEC - Regular Overhaul San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Vallejo,  
California.
- 31 DEC - Commenced RFS Period, San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Vallejo,  
California.

Post overhaul sea trials were conducted in the San Francisco Operating Area on 20-22 December. Overhaul completion was at midnight on 30 December, a month later than originally scheduled. VOLADOR then completed 1968 in an RFS status at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California.

3. SPECIAL TOPICS.

a. Operational Statistics:

Miles steamed: 13,863.7  
Number of Dives: 54  
Total hours submerged: 1072  
Torpedoes fired: 7

b. Personnel:

Reenlistments: 8  
Advancements in rate: 37

c. Awards and Nominations:

Vietnam Service Medal with one campaign star while deployed as a unit of the U.S. SEVENTH Fleet.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korean Campaign) for services during February as a unit of the U.S. SEVENTH Fleet.

Meritorious Conduct Ashore Award (Hong Kong) for a blemish-free conduct record for personnel ashore during Hong Kong visit 10-15 January.

BASIC NARRATIVE

1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND RELATIONS:

a. VOLADOR was assigned throughout the year to Submarine Division FIFTY-TWO, a component of Submarine Squadron FIVE. Home-port is San Diego, California.

b. VOLADOR was under the Operational Control of Commanders Submarine Flotilla 7, 5, 1, and Submarine Group San Francisco at different periods of time during 1968.

c. CDR E. J. CASH, USN was relieved by CDR R. B. GIBSON, Jr., USN on 1 May 1968.

d. Personnel assigned as of the end of the year were as follows:

10 Officers.      78 Enlisted.

2. OPERATIONS.

VOLADOR commenced a Western Pacific deployment 24 July 1967. On 1 January 1968 VOLADOR was enroute to Hong Kong, B.C.C. for an R&R period. The ship remained inport, Hong Kong, B.C.C. from 10-15 January with all hands enjoying liberty in this fine port-of-call. On departure Hong Kong, VOLADOR proceeded north-east for a final upkeep at Yokosuka, Japan prior to returning to CONUS. The ship arrived in Yokosuka 24 January 1968 to learn that the ship's deployment was being indefinitely extended because of mobilization response to the capture of U.S.S. PUEBLO (AGR-2) by the North Koreans. VOLADOR departed for sea on 31 January returning to Yokosuka, Japan 31 days later. After a short upkeep in Yokosuka, VOLADOR departed Japan for CONUS with a short stop at Pearl Harbor 21-22 March arriving in San Diego 29 March. The period 30 March thru 12 May was spent in reacquainting the crew with loved ones and conducting a post-deployment upkeep.

On 1 May 1968 CDR E.J. CASH, USN was relieved by CDR R. B. GIBSON, Jr., USN.

The period 13 May thru 27 June was spent conducting local operations in the Southern California Operating Areas and pre-shipyard overhaul upkeep.

VOLADOR departed 27 June for a regular shipyard overhaul at San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California. Prior to entering the shipyard, VOLADOR embarked members of Naval Reserve Submarine Division 12-31 for a day of training at sea off San Francisco. The period 1 July thru 30 December 1968 was spent in overhaul. During the overhaul the ship received extensive repair and improvement including MK 48 Fire Control System installation and various communication and electronic Ship Alts.