



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CANOPUS AS 34
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CANOPUS (AS-34)
To: Director, Naval History (Op-09B9)

Subj: Command History of USS CANOPUS (AS-34), 1980; Report Symbol 5750-1

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Basic History
(2) List of VIP's and Visitors
(3) List of Ships Tended

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted as the Command History for USS CANOPUS (AS-34) for calendar year 1980.


H. E. MARXER

COMMAND ORGANIZATION

USS CANOPUS (AS-34), while under the operational control of Submarine Squadron EIGHTEEN was commanded by Captain D. O. GRIFFITH, USN from 1 January to 10 July and Captain H. E. MARXER, USN from 11 July to 31 December. Commander Submarine Squadron EIGHTEEN was Captain C. H. BRICKELL, Jr., USN during the entire year of 1980. The Executive Officer, Commander G. Q. GEIST, USN relieved Captain R. K. SLAVEN, Jr., USN on 31 May 1980. Other key personnel changes occurring during the past year are indicated as follows:

BILLET

Personnel Officer
Legal Officer
Medical Officer
Administrative Officer
Career Counselor
Ship's Secretary
Human Goals Officer

DATES

16 May 1980
11 June 1980
12 July 1980
19 September 1980
1 October 1980
15 November 1980
31 December 1980

1980 CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

January 21-23	Underway, Charleston, local operations
January 23-26	Board of Inspection & Survey (INSURV)
March 14-15	Underway, visit Port Canaveral
March 18-20	Underway, visit Port Canaveral
March 24-28	Quality Assurance Audit/PARE Inspection
April 6-10	Supply Management Inspection (SMI)
June 26-27	Underway, Charleston, local operations
June 30	COMSUBLANT RCPE
July 1	COMSUBLANT RCPE
July 7-11	3M Inspection
July 11	Change of Command
August 13-14	COMSUBRON EIGHTEEN Command
	Inspection by COMSUBGRU SIX
September 9-11	COMSUBLANT Tactical Weapons Capability Review
September 22-25	COMSUBLANT Weapons Quality Assurance
September 29-30	Command Inspection by COMSUBRON EIGHTEEN
October 1-3	Command Inspection by COMSUBRON EIGHTEEN
October 26-29	Underway, Charleston, local operations
November 19-20	Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI)
December 1	Annual Disbursing Audit
December 2-4	Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection (NWAII)
December 18-21	Underway, Charleston, local operations

NARRATIVE

USS CANOPUS remained moored and homeported at FBM Replenishment Site IV, Charleston, South Carolina.

During 1980 the Repair Department expended over 622,211 manhours completing 18 SSBN refits, 4 SSBN extended refits and 1 SSN upkeep. In addition, services and repairs were provided to various surface units including 2 refits for the ARDM and 3 for the TWR-682. Several special tasks were completed such as a resin discharge utilizing a new discharge procedure and rate, 69 effluent tank hook-ups and two steam generator eddy

current inspections. Each steam generator inspection was accomplished by a 60-man team of highly specialized technicians and five officers. Team members were required to work in 12-hour shifts for five weeks. The Hull Repair Division completely refurbished and overhauled a diving boat, including the installation and certification of a complete air system. The Valve Shop rebuilt and refurbished thousands of subsafe and level-one valves and repaired over 25 hydraulic accumulators. The Outside Machine Shop replaced or overhauled several garbage disposal units and seats and poppets on several main engine turbine throttles. The Fleet Electronics Calibration Laboratory calibrated over 3,000 pieces of test equipment, removed, overhauled and recertified three AN/BRA-15 Radomes, a job normally accomplished by a shipyard. In addition, they completed certification on over 30 AN/BRA-8 buoys and repaired three major antenna systems away from Site IV. Radiological Controls received 265 radioactive transfers consisting of over 3,100 items from tended units while the Nuclear Repair Division accomplished over 58 repair procedures on 13 different submarines and replaced 16 nuclear valves.

The Weapons Repair Department completed a significant number of complex evolutions involving interface with other departments and commands. For instance, the Torpedo Repair Division transferred, received or handled a total of 780 warshot and exercise torpedoes while completing a total of 130 system and deck checks. Ninety MK-53 torpedo batteries were overhauled, 20 torpedo tube inspections accomplished and one torpedo ejection pump inspection performed. The Fire Control Repair Division completed optical alignment checks on 18 units and Bdaim Gradient Verifications and Adjustments on 18 units. Eighteen submarines received PEAC alignments and 17 SSBN's received SPALT conversions to their equipment. BST/countermeasure work was extensive, including 5 annual inspections and 60 quarterly inspections. Additionally, 49 CSA's and gas generators were installed. There was a total of 5,122 manhours expended in Buoy Sect Transmitter/Countermeasure Sound Acoustic (BST/CSA) support. The Nuclear Weapons Repair Division assisted with the transfer of 40 Poseidon missiles and receipted 33 Poseidon missiles from SSBN's. Maintenance within the division included performing processing inspection and the mating of 150 tactical reentry vehicles to the Poseidon missile and demating of 148 reentry vehicles. There was a total of 90 reentry vehicles transferred to/from the FBM resupply ships (T(AK's)). The division participated in two Poseidon operational tests which included receiving and processing 88 inert REB's, mating 8 replacement missiles and shipping 40 inert REB's. The NWRD supported the SLT and LLCE programs utilizing the H3520 transfer unit demating 6 REB's and mating an equal number in their place. In support of the Stockpile Administration the division prepared, assembled and caused to be transmitted 78 Operational Change Reports (OCR's) for the CANOPUS and 50 OCR's for tended units. A total of 48 Unsatisfactory Reports (UR's) were generated to identify major and minor discrepancies annotated with the nuclear weapons program. The Poseidon Missile Repair Division coordinated and performed 125 Poseidon missile transfers to/from SSBN's and T(AK's). A total of 101 missile receipt and transfer inspections were completed. They safely handled and transferred a total of 204 missile guidance and electronic system assemblies and offloaded/onloaded 247 selected missile components between CANOPUS and tended units. The Navigation Repair Shop performed refit/technical assist routines on 36 SSBN's. A total of 479 submarine repair jobs were completed requiring a total manhour expenditure of 27,333 hours. The Weapons Repair Quality Assurance Division provided coverage for 9,860 inspections of which 903 were rejected. There were 2,311 publication changes issued and checked, 207 SPALT kits inspected and issued, and 35 corrective action requests issued. In support of safety requirements for weight/weapons handling equipment, 1,126 weight test certifications were conducted and only 51 items rejected. There were approximately 3,463 rounds of various pyrotechnics and 256,211 rounds of small arms ammunition transferred to/from the ship without a single mishap.

The Communications Department processed over 120,000 narrative, card and visual messages resulting in excess of 1,000,000 message copies being reproduced, distributed and accounted for, resulting in a daily average of approximately 320 messages and 3,500 copies being processed. There were 15 radio and landline circuits and broadcast channels maintained during the course of the year. In addition to CANOPUS' own maintenance requirements, 24 SSBN's were tended resulting in 24 crypto and teletype inspections accomplished and 72 pieces of crypto equipment as well as 168 pieces of teletype equipment being overhauled or repaired. The Communications Department, acting as the communications center for COMSUBRON EIGHTEEN, was tasked with Quality Control Monitoring of both the NSUB/OSUB broadcasts. The first rekeying of the submarine broadcast from an at-sea platform was conducted with complete success. They are currently participating in the TACAMO monitoring program.

The Operations Department received a grade of outstanding on the CMS inspection administered by COMSUBRON EIGHTEEN in the areas of CMS, ARFCOS and SAS. They also handled 1,293 articles of ARFCOS material as well as 133 CMS and 79 two-man control transactions. The Electronics Division replaced the landline system which feeds into the DCT 9000 and the AUTOSEVOCOM. This specific project involved over 600 manhours being expended thus upgrading the efficiency and reliability of those systems.

The Engineering Department steamed continuously without a significant cold iron period until October providing service to tended units. Shore power temporary service steam and pure water became available in October. Additionally, the Engineering Department supplied services to 43 tended units including the delivery of 127,316 gallons of diesel fuel marine (DFM), 3,945 gallons of 2190 lube oil, and 1,246 gallons of 9250 lube oil. A total of 13 nitrogen charges and 592 air charges were also provided.

The CANOPUS Supply Department processed over 96,000 requisitions, served over 792,000 meals, washed over 132,000 pounds of laundry, sold over \$500,000 worth of merchandise and disbursed over \$13,000,000. They consistently maintained over 95% net and 90% gross supply effectiveness. Established controls of Mandatory Turn-in Repairable (MTR) items resulted in less than 10 delinquent MTR's at any given time, and an effective Maintenance Data Collection (MDC) system resulted in less than 3% in unmatched transactions. An extensive material renovation and upgrade program increased equipment reliability and better service to both ship's company and assigned units. To overcome a continuous hardware problem, the Automated Data Processing Division instigated a major replacement/overhaul program during which new keypunch machines, central processing unit and card reader-punch were obtained. All necessary arrangements have been completed to purchase a refurbished FASTRAND Drum. Despite the severe hardware problems that necessitated equipment upgrade, critical repair and supply data processing support was supported.

The Dental Department rendered a comprehensive dental care program to both ship's company and SUBRON EIGHTEEN personnel providing service exceeding 40,000 individual procedures. In addition to the above treatment, the Dental personnel devoted their off-duty hours providing preventive dentistry to dependents and gave presentations at local elementary and junior high schools during National Children's Dental Health Week.

The most significant event of the year took place on 28 October 1980 while the CANOPUS was steaming independently in the Charleston operating area. During the early morning hours the Chief of the Watch had spotted an orange object floating in the water on the horizon. As the CANOPUS closed in on the contact it was determined that the object was indeed a life raft. At 0800 hours, the life raft was intercepted and Ms. Dereka Dodson of Sussex, United Kingdom was brought aboard. Ms. Dodson later revealed that she and a companion were en route from Newport, Rhode Island to Fort Lauderdale, Florida on 23

October. While en route they sustained heavy wind, rain and high seas thus capsizing the yacht in which they were sailing. Although Ms. Dodson's companion, Mr. Angus Primrose, was drowned in an effort to return their capsized life raft to its upright position, Ms. Dodson had the courage and determination to survive at sea until rescued by CANOPUS. The event was best summed up when the CANOPUS crew broke out in a spontaneous applause as the boat davit lifted Ms. Dodson from the cruel grip of the sea.

The USS CANOPUS continued to demonstrate her proficiency and "CAN DO" spirit in retention. Despite the extraordinary and heavy workload sustained throughout the year, CANOPUS prevailed in her superb retention figures and the 1980 retention statistics are indicative of the effectiveness of her retention efforts with 65% first term, 89% second term and 90% career personnel retained. For the retention support and demonstrated consideration for high priority assets, CANOPUS remained on the Type Commander's retention honor roll throughout the year.

List of VIPs and Visitors to USS CANOPUS during 1980

4 January	RADM D. P. HALL, COMSUBGRU SIX
7 January	RADM R. B. McCLINTON, COMSIX
29 February	RADM SOBEL
26 March	ADM GALATIN (Ret)
15 April	RADM HEYER
21 April	Ambassador EARLE
21 May	VADM T. J. BIGLEY, CJTF 122/COMSECONDFLT
11 July	RADM R. B. McCLINTON, COMSIX RADM D. P. HALL, COMSUBGRU SIX RADM W. J. GILMORE, COMNAVRESREDCOMREGION SEVEN
18 July	VADM S. A. WHITE, COMSUBLANT
7 October	Congressman ERTTEL (D-PA.)
6 November	RADM KEARNS, Inspector General, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

List of Ships and Submarines Tended During 1980

USS ALAMOGORDO	ARDM-2
ERP BARGE	YRBM-4
USS CRAYFISH	TWR-682
USS HOLLAND	AS-32
USS PETREL	ASR-14 SURFACE UNITS TENDED
USS FRANK CABLE	AS-40
USS COMPASS ISLAND	AG-153
USS ORION	AS-18
USS TURNER	CG-20

SUBMARINE REFITS

USS ALEXANDER HAMILTON	SSBN-617
USS JOHN ADAMS	SSBN-620
USS NATHAN HALE	SSBN-623
USS WOODROW WILSON	SSBN-624
USS HENRY CLAY	SSBN-625
USS TECUMSEH	SSBN-628
USS DANIEL BOONE	SSBN-629
USS JOHN C. CALHOUN	SSBN-630
USS CASIMIR PULASKI	SSBN-633
USS STONEWALL JACKSON	SSBN-634
USS SAM RAYBURN	SSBN-635
USS KAMEHAMEHA	SSBN-642
USS GEORGE BANCROFT	SSBN-643

USS JAMES K. POLK	SSBN-645	
USS GEORGE MARSHALL	SSBN-654	
USS HENRY STIMSON	SSBN-655	
USS FRANCIS SCOTT KEY	SSBN-657	
USS MARIANO G. VALLEJO	SSBN-658	
USS WILL ROGERS	SSBN-659	
USS SEAHORSE	SSN-609	
USS STURGEON	SSN-637	
USS GRAYLING	SSN-646	TORPEDO CERTIFICATIONS AND LOADOUTS.
USS RAY	SSN-653	
USS L. MENDEL RIVERS	SSN-686	

Enclosure (3)

SUBMARINE REFITS

USS STONEWALL JACKSON (SSBN-634)

USS NATHANAEL GREENE (SSBN-636)

USS SIMON BOLIVAR (SSBN-641)

USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN-642)

USS LEWIS AND CLARK (SSBN-644)

USS JAMES K. POLK (SSBN-645)

USS GEORGE C. MARSHALL (SSBN-654)

USS HENRY L. STIMSON (SSBN-655)

USS WILL ROGERS (SSBN-659)

USS SEAHORSE (SSN-669)