



Rec'd 3/27/91

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CANOPUS AS-34
FPO MIAMI, FL. 34087-2595

5750
Ser 01A/ 0865
19 MAR 91

From: Commanding Officer, USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1990

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) 1990 Command History of USS CANOPUS (AS-34)
(2) Biography of Captain Bennie L. Fletcher III, USN
(3) Photograph of Captain Bennie L. Fletcher III, USN

1. Enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted in accordance with reference (a).

W. J. Mead
W. J. MEAD
By direction

1990 COMMAND HISTORY OF USS CANOPUS (AS-34)

1. Command Composition and Organization

USS CANOPUS, homeported in Kings Bay, Georgia, is assigned to the operational control of Commander, Submarine Squadron 16. USS CANOPUS was commanded by Captain Frederick A. Adams, U. S. Navy, from 1 January to 7 July 1990, and by Captain Bennie L. Fletcher III, U. S. Navy, from 7 July to 31 December 1990. The ship's mission is the repair and resupply of nine FBM submarines at Refit Site VI, Kings Bay, Georgia.

2. Chronology

- 01 JAN - 14 FEB - Continued Drydocking Restricted Availability (DSRA) at Bethlehem Steel, Sparrows Point Marine Division, Baltimore, MD
 - 15 JAN - Received new motor whaleboat (S/N #26MW8567)
- 15 - 21 FEB - Underway enroute to homeport, Kings Bay, GA
 - 23 FEB - Passed Full Power Run
 - 27 FEB - FZ Security Alarm Recertification
- 11 - 15 MAR - Medical Readiness Inspection (MRI)
 - 12 MAR - MOSS Validation
- 20 - 22 MAR - Radiological Controls Practices Evaluation (RCPE)
- 28 MAR - 04 APR - EMTT onboard for evaluation
- 29 MAR - 04 APR - Underway in local operating area conducting OPPE training
 - 09 APR - Explosive Safety Review
 - 14 APR - Magazine Sprinkler Inspection
 - 15 APR - Received new 40 ft utility boat (S/N #40UB8610)
 - 24 APR - Tactical Weapons Capability Review (TWCR)
- 29 APR - 04 MAY - EMTT onboard for evaluation
- 30 APR - 04 MAY - Underway in local operating area conducting OPPE training
 - MAY - Supply Management Inspection (SMI)
 - 15 MAY - Received new motor whaleboat (S/N #26MW8573), new 40 ft utility boat (S/N #40UB7019), and new 33 ft personnel boat (S/N #33PE8702)
- 25 MAY - 01 JUN - Underway in local operating area conducting OPPE training
 - 04 JUN - Weapons Repair Quality Assurance Inspection
- 11 - 20 JUN - Underway in local operating area for Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE)
 - 07 JUL - Change of Command: Captain F. A. Adams, USN, relieved by Captain B. L. Fletcher III, USN
 - JUL - Installed 3 Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) onboard
- 30 JUL - 03 AUG - RFI/EMI Survey
 - 06 - 10 AUG - Maintenance Management Inspection (MMI) and Quality Assurance Audit
 - 13 - 15 AUG - Communications Readiness Evaluation (CRE)
 - 27 - 31 AUG - Electronic System Review
 - 28 AUG - Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI)
- 11 - 16 SEP - Underway enroute to St. Thomas, VI
- 16 - 19 SEP - Port visit at St. Thomas, VI
- 19 - 24 SEP - Underway enroute to Kings Bay, GA
 - 01 OCT - Received Supply Blue "E" (Fifth Consecutive Award) and Medical Yellow "M" as FY-90 Battle Efficiency Awards
- 02 - 05 OCT - Calibration Capabilities Audit
- 18 - 19 DEC - Radiation Hazard Survey

3. Narrative

a. Successfully completed a five-and-one-half month Drydocking Restricted Availability (DSRA) out of homeport at Bethlehem Steel, Sparrows Point Marine Division, Baltimore, Maryland, on 14 February 1990.

b. Successfully passed all inspections and evaluations during 1990, including:

- Full Power Run
- FZ Security Alarm Recertification
- Medical Readiness Inspection (MRI)
- MOSS Validation
- Radiological Controls Practices Evaluation (RCPE)
- Explosive Safety Review
- Magazine Sprinkler Inspection
- Tactical Weapons Capability Review (TWCR)
- Supply Management Inspection (SMI)
- Weapons Repair Quality Assurance Inspection
- Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE)
- RFI/EMI Survey
- Maintenance Management Inspection (MMI)
- Quality Assurance Audit
- Communications Readiness Evaluation (CRE)
- Electronic System Review
- Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI)
- Calibration Capabilities Audit
- Radiation Hazard Survey

c. Became the first submarine tender to receive a fifth consecutive Supply Blue "E" in Battle Efficiency competition. Formally recognized by Vice Admiral Bacon, Commander, Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet, on 19 October 1990 when he personally painted a Gold "E" on the ship.

d. Successfully completed Purification Media Replacement on three tended submarines. Noteworthy because the Intermediate Maintenance Activity (IMA) of this command had not accomplished this complex evolution for over two years. Each time this command performs this task rather than a Naval shipyard, the government saves approximately \$500,000.

e. USS CANOPUS' Fleet Electronic Calibration Laboratory and Meter Calibration Facility were evaluated as the "Best in the Fleet" of all those evaluated during 1990.

f. During underway period from 11 to 16 September, enroute to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, USS CANOPUS conducted a personnel transfer by helicopter to render medical assistance to USS TRIPPE (FF-1075).

g. Significant weapons events:

(1) Reloaded more than 55,000 ordnance items via TAK and truck after completion of DSRA.

(2) Transferred more than 600 MK48 torpedoes and MOSS units in less than 6 months to support SSBN mission requirements.

(3) The Fire Control Repair Division completed 9 major Extended Operating Cycle Inspections, 27 follow-up inspections, and 15 major Optical Alignment Group evolutions.

(4) The Special Weapons Repair Division conducted 411 Special Weapons operations.

(5) The Missile/Launcher Repair Division performed 223 Missile/Liner transfers; conducted 74 Electronic Assembly, 88 Nose Cap, and 49 Electronic Assembly and Battery Installation/Removals; accomplished 33 Missile Acceptance and Fuse Set Tests; conducted 118 Receipt/Transfer Inspections; performed 21 Missile/Guidance repairs; and conducted 37 Battery Repairs/X-Rays and two H3520 operations - a 33% increase in workload over the previous year.

(6) The Navigation Repair Division performed 94 FBM Navigation System repairs, installed 12 major system SPALTS, conducted 105 alignments (both optical and mechanical), performed 3 ESGM Nitrogen purges, 17 tender aided IFS calibrations, and 357 preventive maintenance procedures and 2 AN/BQN-3 cable replacements.

(7) The Weapons Repair Quality Assurance Division received and processed 62 SPALTS and conducted 5,481 Quality Assurance Inspections. The Weight Test Center performed 759 weight test evolutions while monitoring the weight test program of 35 CANOPUS workcenters, 9 FBM submarines and an ARDM.

h. Received a fifth consecutive Silver Anchor Award for excellence in the command's enlisted personnel retention program.

BIOGRAPHY OF
CAPTAIN BENNIE L. FLETCHER III
UNITED STATES NAVY

Captain Bennie L. Fletcher III was born in Arlington, Virginia. He graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy with merit and was commissioned in 1967, having earned a Bachelor of Science (Mechanical Engineering) degree with a major in Naval Architecture. He has since received a Master of Arts degree in Personnel Management.

After commissioning, Captain Fletcher attended naval nuclear power training followed by Submarine School in New London, Connecticut. He graduated with distinction from Submarine School and reported to his first ship, USS ALEXANDER HAMILTON (SSBN 617) in January 1969.

In 1970 Captain Fletcher reported to USS DRUM (SSN 677) under construction at Mare Island, California, and served through 1972. He then served as Navigator on USS CON STEUBEN (SSBN 632) through 1975. Captain Fletcher was Executive Officer on USS GRAYLING (SSN 646) from 1978 to 1981.

From 1984 until 1987, Captain Fletcher commanded USS LEWIS and CLARK (SSBN 644). During his tour, his ship twice won the Battle "E", was named the Most Outstanding Atlantic Fleet FBM, and was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

In addition to his shipboard tours, Captain Fletcher has served as the Submarine Placement Officer at the Enlisted Personnel Management Center, as Deputy Commander Submarine Squadron 18, and as Senior Member of the Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board.

Captain Fletcher assumed command of USS CANOPUS (AS-34) on 7 July 1990.

Captain Fletcher has been awarded the Legion of Merit with one Gold Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with one Gold Star, the Navy Commendation Medal with three Gold Stars, the Navy Achievement Medal, and the FBM Strategic Deterrent Patrol Insignia.

Captain Fletcher is married to the former Marcia Jon Finlator of Arlington, Virginia. They have two children, Bryan and Tad.