

1989



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

HELICOPTER MINE COUNTERMEASURES SQUADRON FOURTEEN (HM-14)  
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From: Commanding Officer, Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14  
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Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1988 COMMAND HISTORY

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Encl: (1) 1988 Command History for HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)  
(2) Narrative Summary  
(3) Awards

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

*W. G. Arnold*  
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*Issued  
CDS*

## 1988 COMMAND HISTORY FOR HELMINERON FOURTEEN (HM-14)

HM-14 is assigned to Helicopter Tactical Wing ONE at Naval Air Station, Norfolk, VA. The "VANGUARD" is capable of rapid deployment and can operate from either aviation capable vessels or shore bases to carry out its primary mission of Airborne Mine Countermeasures (AMCM). CDR W. D. Stewart was the Commanding Officer for the year 1988. HM-14 is based at NAS Norfolk, VA and was assigned 10 Sikorsky RH-53D helicopters.

### 01 JANUARY - 21 MARCH

HM-14 operated in the Persian Gulf in support of operation "Earnest Will."

### MAY

- 04-05 - Supported COMINELWARCOM in Charleston, SC with a static display.
- 11 - Supported COMDESRON TWO in Norfolk, VA with a static display.

### JUNE

- 03-08 - Participated in FLEETEX 2-88 in Norfolk, VA.

### JULY

- 06-07 - Supported COMINELWARCOM in Charleston, SC with a static display.
- 08-17 - Supported Midshipman Indoc Program in Norfolk and Oceana, VA.
- 21-22 - Supported COMINELWARCOM in Charleston, SC with a static display.

### AUGUST

- 03-11 - Detachment to Panama City for Precise Navigation System Testing.
- 19-28 - Participated in TEAMWORK 88 in Norfolk, VA.

### OCTOBER

- 02-07 - Conducted MK-106 operations aboard USS PONCE (LPD-15).
- 06-09 - Static Display for Chennault Industrial Airpark, Lake Charles, LA.
- 27-31 - Participated in FLEETEX 1-89 in Charleston, SC.

### NOVEMBER

- 01-08 - Participated in FLEETEX 1-89 in Charleston, SC.
- 08-30 - AN/ALQ-141 Training Detachment in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

### DECEMBER

- 01-03 - AN/ALQ-141 Training Detachment in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
- 03-10 - MK-106 operations aboard USS INCHON (LPH-12).

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

### JANUARY - MARCH

Beginning in August of 1987, HM-14 executed a rapid deployment directive to the Persian Gulf. These efforts continued into 1988 while half of the squadron rotated back to CONUS in January and the other half took its place onboard USS OKINAWA (LPH-3) sustaining AMCM operations on an unprecedented scale until March of 1988. HM-14 enjoyed a week of well deserved liberty in Spain before its return to Norfolk, VA.

### APRIL

Upon return to CONUS, HM-14 commenced a retraining program to account for all the mission areas that they were unable to practice while committed to actual mechanical sweeping operations during operation "Earnest Will."

### MAY

The squadron began preparation for its first ISIC inspection in three years and also for its first Mine Warfare Readiness Certification Inspections in three years. Successfully passed NATOPS evaluation.

### JUNE

In support of FLEETEX 2-88, HM-14 conducted MK-105 and AQS-14 operations from Ft. Story Virginia Beach, Virginia. HM-14 also passed an Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC) Inspection.

### JULY

Conducted various training and awareness programs for Mine Warfare School in Charleston, SC.

### AUGUST

Launched a one plane detachment to Panama City, FL for weapon systems testing. With much initiative, this detachment helped to integrate the Precise Navigation System that was not yet fleet approved. This enhanced our mine sweeping efforts with better navigation procedures and squadron training was provided upon their return to Norfolk, VA.

### SEPTEMBER

Prepared for operations aboard USS PONCE (LPD-15) and AN/ALQ-141 training for Ft. Lauderdale det because the squadron was scheduled to go directly from FLEETEX 1-89 to Ft. Lauderdale.

### OCTOBER

Conducted operations aboard USS PONCE (LPD-15). HM-14 spent the last five days

of October in Charleston, South Carolina in support of FLEETEX 1-89. AN/AQS-14 mine hunting operations, conducted with the Precise Navigational System, were integrated with surface mine countermeasure operations.

#### NOVEMBER

FLEETEX 1-89 continued in November and MK-106 mine sweeping operations were conducted throughout the second half of the exercise. HM-14 spent most of November in FT. Lauderdale on a rotational basis qualifying 100% of pilots and aircrew on the AN/ALQ-141 weapon system.

#### DECEMBER

The squadron wrapped up operations in Florida and finished up the year training with the MK-105 aboard USS INCHON (LPH-12).

AWARDS

Navy Unit Commendation (30 July 1987 - 23 February 1988)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (30 July 1987 - 23 February 1988)

Order of Daedalians Award presented by Langley AFB Chapter in November 1988, for outstanding achievement in the field of aviation. The first helicopter squadron to ever receive that award.