



Rec'd 4/4/94
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS DEFENDER (MCM-2)
FPO AA 34090-1922

5750
Ser 01/ 62
23 Mar 94

From: Commanding Officer, USS DEFENDER (MCM 2)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Biography of Commanding Officer
(2) USS DEFENDER Command Composition and Organization
(3) USS DEFENDER Chronology
(4) USS DEFENDER Narrative
(5) USS DEFENDER Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded.

J. J. Muldoon
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USS DEFENDER (MCM 2) COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

CREW COMPLEMENT (BERTHING FOR)

- OFFICERS	06
- CPO'S	05
- ENLISTED	70

DIMENSIONS

- LENGTH	224 FEET
- BEAM	39 FEET
- NAVIGATIONAL DRAFT	11 FEET
- DISPLACEMENT	1250 TONS

MISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Search, detect, and neutralize moored and bottom mines.
- Sweep moored mines.
- Accompany deploying forces overseas.
- Permit breakout of forces from U. S. ports.
- Provide navigational assistance to other Fleet surface units.
- Perform collection of oceanographic and navigational data.

PRIMARY MISSION

The DEFENDER's primary mission is to locate and neutralize underwater mines. These mines range from the classic moored mine of World War II to the ultra sophisticated bottom influence mines of today. DEFENDER is able to locate these threats using the AN/SQQ-30 mine hunting sonar built by General Electric of Syracuse, NY. Once the target has been classified as 'mine-like' the AN/SLQ-48 Mine Neutralization System Vehicle is deployed to identify and destroy bottom mines, or cut the cable of a moored mine. The MNS Vehicle is a small remotely piloted submarine that is controlled by an operator located in the ship's Combat Information Center. The ship is also capable of sweeping mines using a variety of acoustic, magnetic, or mechanical sweep configurations. This equipment is towed behind the ship and destroys mines by simulating the noise and magnetic signatures of steel hulled ships.

USS DEFENDER (MCM 2) CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY

01 - 10 - INPORT INGLESIDE
11 - 11 - UNDERWAY CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
12 - 29 - INPORT INGLESIDE
12 - 14 - LMA
30 - 30 - UNDERWAY CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
31 - 31 - INPORT INGLESIDE

FEBRUARY

01 - 03 - UNDERWAY CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
04 - 07 - INPORT INGLESIDE
08 - 09 - UNDERWAY CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
10 - 16 - INPORT INGLESIDE
16 - 22 - UNDERWAY TO CHARLESTON, SC (20TH STOP FOR FUEL KEY WEST, FL)
23 - 28 - INPORT CHARLESTON (DEGAUSSING CHECKS/LIMITED TEAM TRAINING)

MARCH

01 - 02 - INPORT CHARLESTON
03 - 04 - UNDERWAY ENROUTE LITTLE CREEK, VA
04 - 08 - INPORT NAB LITTLE CREEK (MRCI AND DEPLOYMENT PREPS)
(MINESWEEPING OPS)
08 - 10 - UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA (MINESWEEPING EXERCISES FOR MRCI
AND EXERCISE UNIFIED SPIRIT 93)
10 - 16 - INPORT NAB LITTLE CREEK VA
16 - 19 - UNDERWAY FROM NAB LITTLE CREEK ENROUTE OOSTENDE, BELGIUM
(MCM EURO 93)
19 - 21 - INPORT HMS MALABAR, BERMUDA
21 - 31 - UNDERWAY FROM MALABAR, BERMUDA

APRIL

01 - 08 - UNDERWAY FROM MALABAR, BERMUDA
08 - 15 - INPORT NAVAL STATION OOSTENDE, BELGIUM
15 - 17 - UNDERWAY FROM OOSTENDE, BELGIUM ENROUTE KIEL, GERMANY
17 - 17 - INPORT KIEL, GERMANY FOR REFUELING
17 - 18 - UNDERWAY FROM KIEL, GERMANY ENROUTE AARHUS, DENMARK
18 - 19 - INPORT AARHUS, DENMARK
19 - 22 - UNDERWAY FROM AARHUS, DENMARK
22 - 30 - (EXERCISE BLUE HARRIER 93)

MAY

01 - 05 - UNDERWAY FROM AARHUS, DENMARK ENROUTE BREST, FRANCE
05 - 10 - UNDERWAY FROM BREST, FRANCE (STANAVFORCHAN) ENROUTE LISBON,
PORTUGAL (EXERCISE LINKED SEAS 93)
10 - 19 - UNDERWAY FROM LISBON, PORTUGAL (EXERCISE LINKED SEAS 93)
19 - 31 - INPORT LISNAVE SHIPYARD LISBON, PORTUGAL (POST NATOEX CHANGE
OUT OF 2A MPDE AND 2 SSDG PRIOR TO RETURN CONUS)

JUNE

01 - 07 - INPORT LISNAVE SHIPYARD LISBON, PORTUGAL (POST NATOEX CHANGE
OUT OF 2A MPDE AND 2 SSDG PRIOR TO RETURN CONUS
07 - 11 - UNDERWAY FROM LISNAVE SHIPYARD LISBON, PORTUGAL ENROUTE
COMSTANAVFORCHAN (STANAVFORCHAN OPS)
11 - 14 - INPORT CADIZ, SPAIN
14 - 16 - UNDERWAY CADIZ, SPAIN (STANAVFORCHAN OPS)
16 - 16 - INPORT LISBON, PORTUGAL (OFFLOAD LINKED SEAS EXERCISE MINES)
16 - 18 - UNDERWAY FROM LISBON, PORTUGAL ENROUTE RDVU COMSTANAVFORCHAN
(STANAVFORCHAN OPS)
18 - 21 - INPORT VIGO, SPAIN
21 - 25 - UNDERWAY FROM VIGO, SPAIN (STANAVFORCHAN OPS)
25 - 29 - INPORT LA PALLICE, FRANCE (LA ROCHELLE)
29 - 30 - UNDERWAY FROM LA PALLICE, ENROUTE ROUEN, FRANCE

JULY

01 - 05 - INPORT ROUEN, FRANCE
05 - 10 - UNDERWAY FROM ROUEN, FRANCE ENROUTE GIBRALTAR, UK (IMAV)
10 - 19 - INPORT GIBRALTER, UK (IMAV SUPPORTED BY USS SIMON LAKE)
19 - 31 - TRANSATLANTIC CROSSING ENROUTE HOMEPORT

AUGUST

01 - 07 - TRANSATLANTIC CROSSING ENROUTE HOMEPORT
07 - 09 - INPORT KEY WEST, FL
09 - 13 - ENROUTE INGLESIDE, TX
13 - 31 - STANDDOWN/INPORT INGLESIDE, TX

SEPTEMBER

01 - 30 - STANDDOWN/INPORT INGLESIDE, TX

OCTOBER

01 - 31 - STANDDOWN/INPORT INGLESIDE, TX

NOVEMBER

01 - 01 - TYPE TRAINING - CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
01 - 09 - INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
09 - 09 - TYPE TRAINING - CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
10 - 24 - UPKEEP INGLESIDE, TX
24 - 24 - TYPE TRAINING - CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA
25 - 30 - UPKEEP INGLESIDE, TX
30 - 30 - TYPE TRAINING - CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA

USS DEFENDER (MCM 2) NARRATIVE

USS DEFENDER (MCM 2) is the second Avenger Class Countermeasures Vessel to join the fleet and is the first to bear the name DEFENDER. In terms of both construction and technological advances, USS DEFENDER represents the most capable mine countermeasure platform ever constructed in the United States or the world. The ability of USS DEFENDER to hunt, neutralize, and sweep mines in U. S. waters and overseas areas, including all potential sea lane choke points, provides the U. S. Naval forces with a formidable defense platform.

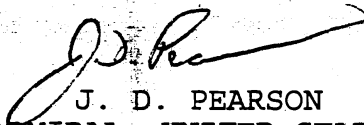
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE COMMAND

THE COMMANDER, MINE WARFARE COMMAND TAKES PLEASURE IN
COMMENDING

USS DEFENDER (MCM 2)

FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING
CITATION:

DURING THE COMPETITIVE CYCLE ENDING 31 DECEMBER 1993, USS DEFENDER (MCM 2) ATTAINED THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF BATTLE READINESS AND WAS SELECTED TO RECEIVE THE BATTLE EFFICIENCY "E" AWARD AND COMMAND EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR MARITIME WARFARE, COMMAND AND CONTROL, ENGINEERING/SURVIVABILITY AND LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT. THIS ACHIEVEMENT REFLECTS THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF TEAMWORK, PROFESSIONALISM, AND DEDICATION. THE OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE OF DUTY BY THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF USS DEFENDER IS IN KEEPING WITH THE HIGHEST TRADITIONS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVAL SERVICE.



J. D. PEARSON
REAR ADMIRAL, UNITED STATES NAVY
COMMANDER, MINE WARFARE COMMAND