



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

LCS CREW 101
3325 SENN RD, STE 7
SAN DIEGO, CA 92136

5750
Ser LCS101/013
17 Feb 15

From: Commanding Officer, Littoral Combat Ship Crew 101
To: Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12K

Encl: (1) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

1. Command Data

- a. Command: Littoral Combat Ship Crew 101
- b. Unit Identification Code (UIC): 40511
- c. Commanding Officer: CDR Heinken, Roger D.
- d. Date Assumed Command: 15 December 2013
- e. Mission: USS FREEDOM (LCS 1) Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Mission Package Testing
- f. Homeport: San Diego, CA
- g. Immediate Superior In Command (ISIC):
 - (1) Operational: Commander, Littoral Combat Ship Squadron ONE
 - (2) Administrative: Commander, Littoral Combat Ship Squadron ONE
- h. Assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name and mission: N/A
- i. Type and number of Aircraft Assigned: N/A
- j. Detachments onboard: ASW Mission Detachment ONE Gold
- k. Number of Personnel Assigned: 46 Core Crew, 15 ASW DET ONE Gold
 - (1) Officers: 12

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(2) Enlisted: 49

1. Command Point of Contact:

(1) Name: LTJG [REDACTED]

(2) Job Title: Navigator

(3) E-mail: [REDACTED]

(4) Phone number(s): [REDACTED]

(5) Command Mailing Address: LCS Crew 101
3325 Senn Rd, Ste 7
San Diego, CA 92136

2. Commander's Assessment

USS FREEDOM (LCS 1), with Littoral Combat Ship (LCS) Crew 101 embarked, was tasked with first-in-class installation and operational testing of the LCS ASW Mission Module within the Southern California Operating Area. The crew enthusiastically embraced the challenge by dividing the embarkation, testing and debarkation phases into separate tasks, yet approaching them from a holistic perspective.

The crew performed particularly well in ensuring the installation and embarkation phase was well-managed, safe, and completed in a timely manner to support the at-sea phase of the test plan. Proactively engaging with the ASW detachment, ISIC and program office well before taking the hull, LCS Crew 101 set the standard for crew participation in mission package installations.

The development of the at-sea test plan was also tackled well before taking the hull. LCS Crew 101 was able to inform the test director of the specific hull limitations of the FREEDOM-variant LCS and the estimated fuel burn rates at different engineering plant states. This information influenced the test plan run times and speeds, which proved critical to successful testing. LCS Crew 101 then admirably demonstrated the capability of the crew and the embarked ASW Mission Detachment to overcome obstacles that come with integration into a completely new platform and combat system.

Finally, Crew 101 handled the debarkation phase with aplomb, which followed a tiring two weeks at sea, while simultaneously

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supporting LCS Crew 102, LCS Crew 103 certifications and installation of the Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program (SEWIP) Lite test equipment. LCS Crew 101 set the example for all future LCS Crews to follow.

3. Chronology:

a. Narrative:

LCS Crew 101 began 2014 embarked in USS FREEDOM (LCS 1) along with SUW Mission Detachment TWO, having just finished FREEDOM's maiden deployment to the SEVENTH Fleet Area of Responsibility. LCS Crews 101 and 102 conducted an Exchange of Command aboard FREEDOM in San Diego, California on 10 Jan 2014. After Exchange of Command, LCS Crew 101 spent the next month taking a well-deserved Post Overseas Movement (POM) leave period. Following POM, LCS Crew 101 was assigned ASW Detachment ONE Gold and transitioned fully into the Off-Hull Training Plan (OHTP) to prepare for the next on-hull period aboard FREEDOM starting in May 2014.

Starting off the OHTP on a high note, the crew conducted a successful Mobility-Navigation Rapid Refresh from 03-21 March 2014 in the Littoral Combat Ship Training Facility (LTF). The crew completed the standard five week Rapid Refresh curriculum in a compressed three week period, due to upgrade and maintenance restraints at the LTF. Despite this, LCS Crew 101 certified all three watch teams in all assessed areas. Building on this momentum, LCS Crew 101 successfully completed all Tier 1 and Tier 2 certifications during the months of April and May. These certifications included successful MOB-E, MOB-N, and MOB-A, and Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection assessments.

LCS Crews 101 and 102 once again conducted an Exchange of Command aboard USS FREEDOM (LCS 1) in San Diego, California on 22 May 2014, this time with LCS Crew 101 assuming command of FREEDOM. To prepare for the Exchange of Command, the entire crew worked with LCS Crew 102 on turning over material condition, allowable equipment lists, and any information pertinent for maintaining FREEDOM at her peak condition. Following turnover, LCS Crew 101 immediately prepared and executed incline testing on 27 May 2014 in conjunction with the Naval Surface Warfare Center to determine FREEDOM's weight and stability margins prior to installation of the ASW Mission Module.

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LCS Crew 101 set sail on FREEDOM to conduct unit level certifications and crew familiarization on 29 May 2014. Captain Garner, Commander, LCSRON ONE, was aboard for the outbound leg from Naval Base San Diego to the Navy Fuel Facility to conduct a Navigation Check ride. Upon Captain Garner disembarking, Crew 101 was cleared to conduct unrestricted navigation operations. Additional LCSRON training department personnel were aboard to assess the crew during anchoring and man overboard evolutions in support of crew mission area certifications. Also during this underway period, LCS Crew 101 conducted helicopter deck landing qualifications with U.S. Marine Corps UH-1 and AH-1 helicopters, a first for the FREEDOM-variant LCS. Three days later, the ship returned to Naval Base San Diego to begin a two-month maintenance availability as well as the ASW Mission Module installation and embarkation. During this maintenance period, known as Corrective Maintenance Availability 4A3, both Medium Pressure Air Compressors were overhauled, Number 1B Lube Oil Scavenge Pump was replaced, and the Attached Sea Water Pump for Number Two Main Propulsion Diesel Engine was replaced. Additionally, a concurrent maintenance period, known as Preventive Maintenance Availability 4P5, conducted over 1,000 contractor Planned Maintenance System checks. Structural modifications were also made to accommodate the Anti-Submarine Warfare Mission Module install. These included inserting a fairlead through the left buoyancy tank to accommodate the Multi-Frequency Towed Array (MFTA) as well as welding locking mechanisms to the outside of the buoyancy tanks and flight deck to ensure the stern doors could be locked in the open position while towing the Continuous Active Sonar/Variable Depth Sonar (CAS/VDS) portion of the mission module.

FREEDOM next got underway on 23 August 2014 to determine the maximum speed threshold of the stern doors while in the open position with the newly installed locking mechanisms. This was to accommodate streaming of the CAS/VDS. Prior to return, FREEDOM plotted a course through FLETA HOT operations area and fired the MK110 57mm gun for crew proficiency and qualification. Completing the underway, the crew safely navigated the ship back to Naval Base San Diego for the final portion of the ASW Mission Module Embarkation.

On 16 September 2014, FREEDOM got underway to conduct testing of the first ASW Mission Module installed on a Littoral Combat Ship. While the testing did incur some problems with the scheduling of assets, it went off without any major issues. The testing mainly focused on the equipment's ability to track targets passively and actively at various bearings, ranges,

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speeds and courses relative to the target. FREEDOM also took the time to conduct a self-noise measurement at the Surface Ship Radiated Noise Measurement range. The testing was completed successfully followed by the transit of FREEDOM back to Naval Base San Diego.

After the completion of the ASW Mission Module testing, LCS Crew 101 worked hard to coordinate a swift yet efficient debarkation of the ASW Mission Module as well as the embarkation of the SUW Mission Module. Crew 101 conducted an Exchange of Command with LCS Crew 103 on 10 October 2014 after verification that all turnover items were completed.

Following Exchange of Command, LCS Crew 101's focus shifted to preparing for 2015's scheduled deployment aboard USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3). During this period, SUW Mission Detachment SIX integrated with the crew in preparation for deployment. To maintain proficiency on ship's systems, and to support fellow LCS Crews, much of the engineering department spent October through December assisting LCS Crews 103 and 111 with engineering certifications and supporting corrective and preventive maintenance availabilities. To close out the year, the crew executed a much deserved holiday stand down period.

b. Dates of events:

10 Jan: Exchange of Command with LCS Crew 102
03-21 Mar: Mobility Navigation Rapid Refresh
08 Apr: AT 1.4
10 Apr: MOB-N 1.4B
22 Apr: MOB-E 1.4
22 May: Exchange of Command with LCS Crew 102
29 May: Outbound Naval Base San Diego
29 May: MOB-A 1.4B
29 May: MOB-S 1.4
02 Jun: Inbound Naval Base San Diego
23 Aug: Outbound Naval Base San Diego

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24 Aug: Stern Door Testing

26 Aug: Inbound Naval Base San Diego

16 Sep: Outbound Naval Base San Diego

17-29 Sep: Antisubmarine Warfare Mission Module Testing

30 Sep: Inbound Naval Base San Diego

10 Oct: Exchange of Command with LCS Crew 103

4. Supporting Reports:

N/A

5. Published Documents:

a. Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

b. USS FREEDOM Facebook fan page located at:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/USSFreedom>

c. Commander Naval Surface Force, Pacific Fleet Surface Ships, USS FREEDOM:

<http://www.public.navy.mil/surfor/lcs1/Pages/default.aspx>

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6. Photographs:

a. Commanding Officer:



CDR Dale Heinken
December 2013 - Present

b. Executive Officer:



CDR Michael Atwell
December 2013 - Present

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c. Ship Photo:



USS FREEDOM underway in the SOCAL OPAREA
May 2014

R. D. Heinken
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