



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66)
FPO AE 09570-1284

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From: Commanding Officer, USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66)

To: Director of Naval History, Washington, DC 20374

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY

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Encl: (1) USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) Command History/Major Events 01 January 2002 to 31 December 2002
(2) Command History 3 1/2" Disk
(3) Change of Command Pamphlet (13DEC02)
(4) USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) Photograph

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted in accordance with reference (a).


KARL J. VAN DEUSEN

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**COMMAND HISTORY
USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66)
01 JANUARY 2002 TO 31 DECEMBER 2002**

1. Command History and Organization

The mission of USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) is to conduct prompt, sustained combat operations at sea in support of U.S. National Policy. GONZALEZ is equipped to operate in a high density, multi-threat environment as an integral member of a Carrier Strike Group, Expeditionary Strike Group, Surface Action Group, or underway replenishment group. GONZALEZ' combat systems provide capabilities in Air Warfare (AW), Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), and Surface Warfare (SUW), projecting power throughout all spectrums of maritime operations.

USS GONZALEZ (DDG 66) is home-ported in Norfolk, Virginia and assigned to Destroyer Squadron Eighteen, with Unit Identification Code V21833. CDR Karl J. Van Deusen is the Commanding Officer. LCDR Bruce A. Apgar, Jr. is the Executive Officer.

2. Chronology of Major Events

01-07 JAN	Inport, Norfolk, Holiday/Upkeep Period
08-11 JAN	Underway, enroute Newport, Rhode Island
10-11 JAN	ASW Services, Narragansett Operating Area
12-13 JAN	Inport, Newport, Rhode Island
14-17 JAN	Underway, enroute Norfolk
18-20 JAN	Inport, Norfolk
21-25 JAN	Underway, Cherry Point Operating Area (CPOA)
26 JAN-06FEB	Inport, Norfolk
07-14 FEB	Underway, Virginia Capes Operating Area (VCOA), Opposition Forces (OPFOR) Exercises in support of JTFEX 02-1
15-28 FEB	Inport, Norfolk, ATWCS (Advanced Tomahawk Weapons Control System) Hardware Installation (19FEB-26MAR)
01-31 MAR	Inport, Norfolk, ATWCS Install, ATWCS Hardware Testing (26MAR – 19APR), Fleet Maintenance Availability (FMAV), Hosted Canadian Frigate (FFH) – HMCS FREDERICTON (19-25 MAR), Underwater Hull Cleaning (25-29 MAR)
01-30 APR	Inport, Norfolk, FMAV, ATWCS Hardware Testing, FMAV, Deck Re-surfacing
01-27 MAY	Inport, Norfolk, ATWCS Training, Light-off Assessment (LOA) Preparations, Intermediate Assessment (IA) Preparations
28-30 MAY	Underway, VCOA, Light-off Assessment
31 MAY-02 JUN	Inport, Norfolk
03-07 JUN	Underway, VCOA, Afloat Training Group (ATG) Visit, Midshipman Cruise
08-23 JUN	Inport, Norfolk, ATWCS Certification, Aviation Certification, Navy Food Management Assist Visit
24-27 JUN	Underway, VCOA, ATG Visit, Midshipman Cruise

28-30 JUN	Inport, Norfolk
01-02 JUL	Underway, enroute Eastport, Maine
03-08 JUL	Port Visit, Eastport, ME, 4 th of July Celebration
09-10 JUL	Underway, enroute Norfolk
11-21 JUL	Inport, Norfolk, Enterprise Battle Group (ENTBATGRU) Manning Review, Battle Group Inport Exercise
22-24 JUL	Underway, VCOA, Initial Assessment
25JUL-06 AUG	Inport, Norfolk
07-09 AUG	Underway, VCOA, Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) II
10-11 AUG	Inport, Norfolk
12-13 AUG	Port Visit to Nauticus Museum, Norfolk, VA
14-15 AUG	Inport, Norfolk
16 AUG	Family Day Cruise
17-25 AUG	Inport, Norfolk
26-29 AUG	Underway, enroute Bahamas, Tailored-Ship's Training Availability Alpha (TSTA A), ATG Visit
30 AUG-03 SEP	Inport, Nassau, Bahamas
04-06 SEP	Underway, enroute Norfolk, TSTA A, ATG Visit
07-11 SEP	Inport, Norfolk, Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) Preparations
12 SEP	Underway, VCOA, INSURV Rehearsal
13-15 SEP	Inport, Norfolk
16-17 SEP	Underway, Weapons Onload, Yorktown, VA
18SEP-02OCT	Inport, Norfolk, INSURV Preparations, Hull Cleaning & Inspection (30SEP-02 OCT)
03-04 OCT	Underway, VCOA, INSURV Rehearsal
05-08 OCT	Inport, Norfolk, INSURV (07-11 OCT)
09-10 OCT	Underway, VCOA, INSURV
11-14 OCT	Inport, Norfolk
15-17 OCT	Underway, enroute Mayport, FLA, TSTA B, ATG Visit
18-21 OCT	Inport, Mayport, FLA
22-25 OCT	Underway, enroute Norfolk, TSTA B, ATG Visit
26 OCT-13 NOV	Inport, Norfolk, Supply Material Inspection (SMI), Maintenance-Material-Management (3M) Inspection
14-15 NOV	Underway, VCOA, ENTBATGRU Underway
16 NOV-02DEC	Inport, Norfolk, Underway Demonstration (U/W Demo) Preparations, Final Evaluation Problem (FEP) Preparations
03-06 DEC	Underway, VCOA, U/W Demo, FEP
07-31 DEC	Inport, Norfolk, Aegis Baseline Upgrade, Ammo Onload, Holiday/Upkeep Period (16DEC-05JAN)

3. Summary of Events for 2002.

At the start of 2002, GONZALEZ participated in Anti-Submarine Warfare exercises in the Narragansett Bay. This useful training marked the beginning of the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC).

February through April 2002 was dedicated to intensive maintenance to materially prepare the ship for deployment in 2003. In February, hardware was installed to upgrade the combat system capability, including the Advanced Tomahawk Weapons Control System. During March, GONZALEZ entered a Restricted Availability maintenance period. During this availability, GONZALEZ Sailors completed a comprehensive industrial package without contractor support.

In May, preparations began in earnest for the upcoming Light-off Assessment (LOA) and Initial Assessment (IA). This preparation culminated in a successful LOA at the end of May. The month of June was focused more intensively on preparations for IA. GONZALEZ served as a training platform for Midshipmen from both the Naval Academy, and various Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) units during June. Midshipmen were introduced to life at sea as a Surface Warfare Officer. Also in June, GONZALEZ successfully certified the Advanced Tomahawk Weapons System and aviation facilities, and had a successful Navy Food Management Assist.

July began with a visit to Eastport, Maine. A long tradition exists of Navy Ships visiting Eastport for Independence Day celebrations dating to the 19th Century. July culminated in a successful Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, and a successful IA.

August began with a two-day visit to the National Maritime Museum (Nauticus) in downtown Norfolk, Virginia. GONZALEZ conducted "Family Day Cruise" in August, allowing Crewmembers' families to get underway for a day and experience life as their loved ones experience it in service to their country. The crew continued preparations in August and September for the upcoming Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) visit. This inspection has been mandated by the United States Congress, and occurs aboard Naval Ships approximately every five years. GONZALEZ conducted a Tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA) while enroute Nassau, Bahamas. TSTA honed watchstanders' warfighting and damage control skills while transiting to this exotic port of call.

The first two weeks of October were spent preparing for and executing a successful INSURV inspection. After the assessment, GONZALEZ sailed to Mayport, FL conducting TSTA B. GONZALEZ was honored by a visit from RADM Stavridis, Commander of ENTERPRISE Battle Group.

November and December were consumed largely by inport inspections and intensive preparations for Underway Demonstration (U/W Demo) and the Final Evaluation Problem (FEP). In November, GONZALEZ completed a successful Supply Management Inspection (SMI) and a Maintenance-Material-Management (3M) Inspection. Then, following a brief break for the Thanksgiving Holiday, GONZALEZ completed U/W Demo and FEP. The FEP certifies a ship as ready to proceed to advanced training.

On December 13, 2002, CDR Karl J. Van Deusen relieved CDR Andrew A. King as Commanding Officer, and the crew transitioned to a Holiday Leave Period.