



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DAVIDSON (FF 1045)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96663

DECLASSIFIED"

IN REPLY REFER TO:
FF1045/01:kjr
5750
Ser 071-83
02 MAR 83

[REDACTED] - (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures (1) and (2))

From: Commanding Officer, USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045) Command History (OPNAV 5750-1) (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Chronological Highlights (U)
(2) Historical Narrative (U)
(3) Roster of Officers and Enlisted Personnel (U)

1982

1. (U) In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

F. C. Ferdon
F. C. FERDON

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC PAO

CLASSIFIED BY: OPNAVINST S5513.9A
DECLASSIFY ON: 31 December 1989

DECLASSIFIED"

"DECLASSIFIED"

USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045)

Command History

January - 31 December 1982

"DECLASSIFIED"

CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

4 JAN	Refresher Training commences.
8 JAN	Training Battle Problem.
11 - 15 JAN	Underway for Refresher Training.
11 JAN	Astern refueling with USNS TALUGA.
16 JAN	Naval Reservists, NRC Wichita, KS. reported aboard.
18 - 22 JAN	Underway for Refresher Training.
22 JAN	MIDTERM Battle Problem.
25 - 29 JAN	Underway for Refresher Training.
27 JAN	NGFS at Kahoolawe.
29 JAN	Final Battle Problem. Reserve Unit detaches.
2 - 5 FEB	Underway for Pre-INSURV checks. COM- DESRON 25 embarked.
8 - 12 FEB	INSURV Board embarked.
9 FEB	Underway for testing at Pacific Missile Range (PMRF) and full power run.
16 FEB	MIDPAC Boiler Inspection.
22 - 23 FEB	Fleet Training Group (FTG) 14A2 ASW Trainer exercises.
8 - 12 MAR	Combat Systems Readiness Tests (CSRT).
11 MAR	Underway for CSRT/ULM-4 Range testing.
15 MAR	Naval Reservists, NRC Wichita, KS. reported aboard.

Enclosure (1)

"DECLASSIFIED"

USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045)
Command History
January - 31 December 1982

DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

22 - 26 MAR	Underway for COMPTUEX 5-82.
25 MAR	Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) Exercise at San Clemente Island.
26 MAR - 7 APR	Inport San Diego for upkeep. Reserve Unit detaches.
7 - 27 APR	Underway for RIMPAC-82.
27 - 29 APR	DAVIDSON hosts HMCS Terra Nova.
10 MAY	Japanese press tours DAVIDSON.
11 MAY	Gen. Moon Sun Min, ROKA, visits DAVIDSON.
22 MAY	Midshipmen arrive for Summer Cruise Training.
25 - 28 MAY	Small Arms Training at Puuloa.
7 - 11 JUN	Underway for "Hollywood" PCO OPS/Engineering Casualty Control (ECC) drills.
14 - 18 JUN	Underway for local OPS and REFTRA services.
17 JUN	Tow-and-be-towed with HMNZS Waikato.
23 JUN	DAVIDSON hosts USS JOSEPH STRAUSS's return to Pearl; Ship tours for Civil Air Patrol Cadets, Girl Scouts, and National Science Scholars.
24 - 25 JUN	Underway for full power run and high-line transfer with USS RICHARD S. EDWARDS. AAW Exercise.
2 - 5 JUL	Maui Dependent's Cruise.
5 - 7 JUL	FTG 14A2 ASW Trainer.

DECLASSIFIED

"DECLASSIFIED"

USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045)
Command History
1 January - 31 December 1982

CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

7 - 9 JUL Helo Firefighting School.

19 JUL Ammo onload at LuaLuaLei, HI.

20 - 22 JUL HSL-35 Detachment 9 cross decks from
USS STEIN to DAVIDSON.

23 JUL DAVIDSON underway for TRANSITEX 13-82.
DESRON 25 Chaplain Clifford conducts
blessing on fantail.

23 - 31 JUL DAVIDSON participates in TRANSITEX
13-82.

24 JUL Burial at Sea.

27 JUL Critical repair parts airlifted to
DAVIDSON.

1 - 6 AUG DAVIDSON participates in FLEXEX 1-82.

6 AUG USS STEIN, USS GEORGE PHILLIP, and
DAVIDSON detach for transit to Sea of
Okhotsk.

8 AUG Kurile Islands sighted; Soviet Riga
Class FFL takes formation.

9 AUG Two Soviet Natyas Class MSF's replace
Riga as "Tattle Tale".

10 AUG Soviet Krivak Class FFG replaces Natyas
as "Tattle Tale".

11 - 16 AUG DAVIDSON joins ASWEX 12U-82.

14 AUG Formation over flown by Soviet Badger
"D" aircraft.

18 - 20 AUG Inport Maizuru, Japan (Liberty Port).

"DECLASSIFIED"

"DECLASSIFIED"

USS DAVIDSON (FF-1045)
Command History
1 January - 31 December 1982

CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

20 - 27 AUG	ASWEX 3AJ-82. DAVIDSON joins JMSDF and other U.S. Naval Units.
27 AUG	"Hot Wash-Up"; Post ASWEX 3AJ-82 briefings.
28 - 29 AUG	DAVIDSON transits from Maizuru to Sasebo, Japan.
29 AUG - 30 SEP	Inport Sasebo, Japan for upkeep.
1 SEP	Captain's Call; Awards ceremony.
13 SEP	Asahi Press tour and lunch on DAVIDSON.
24 SEP	Underway for Sea Trials; Return Sasebo in P.M.
1 OCT	Underway with USS STEIN for transit to Pusan, ROK; Arrive in P.M.
2 - 7 OCT	Visit Pusan.
7 OCT	Change of Command.
8 - 11 OCT	Group Sail to Subic Bay with USS STEIN.
12 - 16 OCT	Inport Subic Bay for upkeep.
12 OCT	Visit by VADM Schrader, COMNAVSURFPAC.
17 - 18 OCT	Enroute Tacloban, RP.
19 - 21 OCT	Visit Tacloban.
20 OCT	DAVIDSON participates in 38TH Leyte Landing Parade. SN Ronald R. Rademacher is fatally shot, off duty, in Tacloban, RP.
22 - 23 OCT	Enroute Subic Bay.

"DECLASSIFIED"

DECLASSIFIED **DAVIDSON (FF-1045)**

Command History
1 January - 31 December 1982

CHRONOLOGICAL HIGHLIGHTS

23 OCT	Refuel inport Subic.
24 - 29 OCT	Outchop TG75.1, inchop TU70.1; Group sail South China Sea with USS STEIN and USS SHASTA to Sattahip, Thailand.
27 OCT	DAVIDSON's LAMPS Helo crashes into the South China Sea.
28 OCT	Rendezvous with USS MIDWAY Battle Group (TU70.1).
30 OCT - 3 NOV	Visit Sattahip, Thailand.
4 - 9 NOV	Enroute Subic Bay, East China Sea with MIDWAY Battle Group.
10 - 25 NOV	Inport Subic for upkeep.
25 NOV	Ready for Sea, Subic. HSL-35 Det. 9 detaches.
27 NOV	NGFS Tabones Range.
28 NOV	Rendezvous with MIDWAY Battle Group; Plane Guard duties.
29 NOV - 3 DEC	Visit Hong Kong.
4 - 7 DEC	OPS South China Sea.
8 - 9 DEC	OPS East China Sea. Outchop TU70.1, inchop TG75.1.
10 - 13 DEC	Exercise East China Sea/Sea of Japan; Battle Week 83-1, PHASE II.
14 - 31 DEC	Inport Sasebo for upkeep.
23 DEC	Captain's Call; Frocking and Command Inspection.
31 DEC	Christmas/New Year's Party, Sasebo.

DECLASSIFIED 5

Enclosure (1)

"DECLASSIFIED"

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

USS DAVIDSON was only four days into the New Year when she commenced a four week Refresher Training (REFTRA) on 4 January. The first week involved inport lectures and evening anchorages at the Ammunition Anchorage north of Ford Island. Friday, 8 January, the ship went through her Training Battle Problem (TBP) in the morning. Deficiencies pointed out in the TBP were addressed in the next two weeks, in preparation for the Midterm Battle Problem (MBP). The week of 11 January, DAVIDSON scored well on an astern refueling exercise with the USNS TALUGA, after taps fire drills, a day/night underway replenishment with USNS ASHTABULA, and a surface gunnery exercise with the USS RECLAIMER. On 16 January, fourteen naval reservists from Wichita, Kansas arrived aboard for two weeks of training with LCDR Adams as Officer in Charge. The third week saw additional night steaming, a night underway replenishment, various anti-submarine, anti-surface and anti-air warfare drills and numerous air services; all culminating in the MBP on 22 January. The ship's cumulative score was unusually high and received praise from the Fleet Training Group (FTG) instructors. Highlights of the last week of January included an anchoring at the Ammunition Anchorage off Ford Island, NGFS off Kahoolawe range, and the Final Battle Problem on Friday, 29 January. COMDESRON 25, Commodore Clark, rode the ship during the last battle problem, and on DAVIDSON's return to port commended the entire ship's company for their exceptionally high final scores. The Wichita reservists disembarked that afternoon, having made a significant contribution to the ship's successful REFTRA.

On 2 February, DAVIDSON got underway with DESRON 25 and his staff onboard for three days of steaming in the local OPAREAS for Pre-INSURV preparations and guidance from the Squadron. Commodore Clark disembarked on 5 February, as the INSURV Board embarked. A week of inspection followed from 8-12 February with one day underway for testing at the ULM-4 range and a full power run. Critiques began on the afternoon of the eleventh and extended into Friday, the twelfth. In the final review there were few mission degrading deficiencies, a fact for which the ship could be proud.

DAVIDSON had demonstrated a high state of operational and motivational readiness. Now all that was left was to sharpen and finely tune her operational skills. The last two weeks of February saw DAVIDSON's Combat Information Center personnel busy with inport communication and maneuvering drills. ASW training was held at the 14A2 trainer at Fleet Training Group on Ford Island, and visual communication drills were conducted inport. On 16 February, the MIDPAC Boiler Inspection Team came aboard and gave the engineering plant a seal of approval.

The second week of March DAVIDSON commenced her Combat Systems Readiness Tests (CSRT). Thursday, 11 March, was an underway day for CSRT involving ULM-4 testing, sonar noise tests, IFF and TACAN testing, and surface gunnery exercises. Upon completion of the CSRT, DAVIDSON had a much clearer picture of her electronics and weapon systems accuracy and readiness.

Enclosure (2)

"DECLASSIFIED"

DECLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

tracking and firing, then a return to port. The midshipmen departed on 26 June. June was concluded with the FTG Revere Trainer, in which the DAVIDSON CIC personnel scored an overall high of 96.

A welcome break in these predeployment work-ups came on 2 July when the DAVIDSON got underway with two hundred and eighteen dependents and guests for a Fourth of July weekend in Maui. The trip was blessed with ideal weather and was a total success.

Additional training was scheduled into the last two weeks before deploying to WESTPAC. ASW training at the 14A2 trainer and Helo Firefighting School were attended the week of 5-9 July. Ammunition was unloaded at LuaLuaLei on 19 July; 605 projectiles and 975 powders. HSL-35 LAMPS Helicopter Detachment 9 was cross-decked from the USS STEIN the next day.

On 23 July the DAVIDSON prepared to get underway for her WESTPAC deployment with a blessing from COMDESRON 25's Chaplain, LTJG George Clifford. In attendance were COMDESRON 25 and the hundreds of DAVIDSON's dependents and friends who came to see her off.

As the ship left her home waters heading Northwest with the USS STEIN (COMDESRON 23 embarked) and the USS GEORGE PHILLIP, General Quarters was set and the remainder of the day was filled with helo OPS, an abandon ship drill, and other exercises to get the crew back on an operational footing. TRANSITEX 13-82, from 23-31 July, was a fully scheduled movement that included daily helo OPS, surface gunnery vulnerability drills, formation tactical maneuvering, night underway replenishments, deceptive lighting, and many other evolutions. On 24 July the DAVIDSON held a burial at sea for RD2 Calvin Guy Orvis, USN. On 27 July critical helo and ESM repair parts were air lifted to the DAVIDSON from Barbers Point Naval Air Facility. They were dropped by parachute and retrieved by the ship's small boat. The weather grew cold as the ship approached MODLOC and the Kurile Islands. The cold soon gave way to fog.

On 1 August, the helo was grounded due to low visibility and FLEXEX 1-82 commenced. FLEXEX 1-82 had a war-at-sea scenario involving over the horizon targeting of opposing task groups. The low visibility, however, seriously hindered the objectives of this exercise, with neither group able to target the other. An ASW exercise was carried out with the USS NEW YORK CITY on 5 August, as well as a night underway replenishment with the USS WICHITA. A CH-46 helicopter from the WICHITA vertrepped groceries to the DAVIDSON in extremely low visibility. The next day, FLEXEX 1-82 ended and STEIN, GEORGE PHILLIPS, and DAVIDSON detached to transit to the Kurile Islands and the Sea of Okosk.

On 8 August the ship sighted its first land mass in sixteen days, the Soviet Sakalin Peninsula and Kurile Islands. Not too long afterward, a Soviet Riga Class FFL came into view and didn't leave until replaced the next day

DECLASSIFIED

"DECLASSIFIED"

with two Natya Class MSF's. They in turn were replaced by a Krivak Class FFG, who tailed the formation for a week. DAVIDSON conducted reconnaissance with her LAMPS helo as she, STEIN, and GEORGE PHILLIPS steamed through the Kurile Islands.

Great fleets of Japanese fishing vessels were sighted the evening of 10 August, and posed a serious challenge to navigation as the ship transited through the La Perouse Straits into the Sea of Japan.

ASWEX 12U-82 commenced on 11 August as the USS SKATE joined up with DAVIDSON, STEIN, and GEORGE PHILLIPS for four days of ASW exercises. On 14 August the task group was over-flown by Soviet Badger "D" aircraft, and that evening a Soviet Foxtrot class submarine was sighted. LAMPS was launched throughout the evening to conduct reconnaissance.

Holiday routine came on Monday, 16 August, as the ship neared Maizuru, Japan with a cookout on the fantail. Formation photographs were taken by DAVIDSON's LAMPS helo for COMDESRON 23.

DAVIDSON entered Maizuru on 18 August for two days of liberty, and briefings on its next joint exercise with the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Forces (JMSDF), ASWEX 3AJ-82. On 20 August, U.S. Naval and JMSDF ships left Maizuru for a week long ASW exercise, utilizing NATO tactical publications. ASWEX 3AJ-82 was cut short one day due to the proximity of Hurricane "ELLIS". The "Hot Wash-Up" post exercise briefing was held in Maizuru on 27 August. The mutual understanding and objectives gained from the exercise were extremely significant.

On 28 August DAVIDSON left Maizuru for the transit to U.S. Fleet Activities, Sasebo, Japan; arriving there the afternoon of the twenty-ninth. The thirty days in Sasebo were utilized for an availability with the Japanese Ship Repair Facility (SRF). A great deal of work was accomplished during this period from 29 August - 30 September. A Captain's Call was held on 1 September to honor OSC Crotty, AW2 Seaberg and MMC McLane. OSC Crotty was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal, AW2 Seaberg a Good Conduct Medal, and MMC McLane a Special Commendation Award from his previous command. The Commanding Officer, CDR Henry F. Dalton, conducted zone inspections of all departments throughout the month of September. Tours were scheduled by Welfare and Recreation Committee for the crew, including an overnight trip to Mt. ASO, and day trips to Nagasaki and the island of Hirodo. The Asahi Press Western District Main Office of Kokura toured the ship and had lunch with the Commanding Officer on 13 August. The ship went out for Sea Trials on 24 August and departed Sasebo one week later with the USS STEIN for a week stay in Pusan, Korea.

DAVIDSON's crew enjoyed liberty in Pusan while at the same time they prepared for the Change of Command ceremony on 7 October. CDR Frank C. Ferdon relieved CDR Henry F. Dalton as Commanding Officer onboard the DAVIDSON.

"DECLASSIFIED"

"DECLASSIFIED"

The ceremony was conducted on the fantail in the presence of the crew and invited guests: ROKA Commander Kem and USAF Colonel Colin. The next day, 8 October, DAVIDSON sailed for Subic Bay with USS STEIN. The crew went through various underway evolutions, including General Quarters and Abandon Ship in order that the new C.O. could appraise their readiness.

A short four day upkeep period followed the three day transit to Subic. On 12 October VADM Schrader, COMNAVSURFPAC, visited DAVIDSON's Wardroom, and he lead an informal discussion covering a wide range of current topics in naval affairs.

DAVIDSON was selected to be the Navy's representative at the 38th Leyte Landing celebration in Tacloban, Philippines from 19-21 October. A two day transit brought the ship to its anchorage, five miles from the city. President Marcos and his First Lady flew down to join the festivities; prompting even a bigger celebration than normal. What began with a dinner party and dance at the Mayor's residence ended three days later in a magnificent parade in which DAVIDSON fielded a marching unit. A tragic note to the ship's stay in Tacloban was the shooting of a DAVIDSON sailor, SN Ronald R. Rademacher, shot off duty in town on 20 October. He died a month later on 22 November in Tripler Hospital, Honolulu, Hawaii as a result of the gunshot wounds.

DAVIDSON sailed for Subic on 22 October to refuel there on 23 October.

The ship outchopped TG75.1 and inchopped to TU70.1, joining USS STEIN and USS SHASTA for a group sail to Sattahip, Thailand. Three days into the transit, while conducting operations in the South China Sea, DAVIDSON's LAMPS helo crashed into the sea on a routine approach. The crew was recovered in seven minutes by motor whaleboat with no injuries sustained. The helo was a total loss.

DAVIDSON rendezvoused with the USS MIDWAY's Battle Group on 28 October in the Gulf of Thailand and assumed plane guard duties. On 30 October DAVIDSON detached from the battle group and made for Sattahip, Thailand, as the remainder of the force steamed for Pattaya Beach. DAVIDSON was pierside at the Thai Naval Facility in Sattahip from 30 October to 3 November. The proximity to Pattaya Beach and Bangkok afforded the crew excellent liberty opportunities.

DAVIDSON rejoined the battle group on 4 November for flight OPS in the East China Sea. Junior officers were exchanged between DAVIDSON and the MIDWAY. The ship's plane guarding assignment ended on 9 November when MIDWAY and her escorts pulled into Subic Bay.

DAVIDSON had a major availability with SRF Subic that ended on 25 November. Some major jobs were accomplished, including a complete resurfacing of the Flight Deck, the rebuilding of #2 diesel generator, and work on several vent motors. The crew of HSL-35 Det. 9 disembarked from the ship and officially detached on 25 November.

"DECLASSIFIED"

"DECLASSIFIED"

DAVIDSON made ready for sea on 25 November and sailed out of Subic the next day with MIDWAY and her escorts. The ship separated from the battle group on 27 November to conduct NGFS on the Tabones range in the Philippines. DAVIDSON scored well enough to maintain her NGFS qualification, and shot an outstanding counter-battery. The next day she rendezvoused with MIDWAY in the South China Sea for plane guard tasking and steamed into Hong Kong on 29 November.

DAVIDSON was moored out to a buoy while in Hong Kong, and her hull was painted out in the tradition of the port by "Mary-Sue" and her employees.

The battle group got underway from Hong Kong on 4 December for operations in the South and East China Seas. Hurricane "Pamela's" close proximity was evident in the increasingly rough seas. Shortly after leaving port it was discovered that the ship's scoop injection was fouled. DAVIDSON went dead in the water for six hours to open and clean the scoop injection. Once underway the seas became so rough that MIDWAY signalled all in her company to proceed independently at each unit's safest speed. DAVIDSON slowed to ease the beating.

On 8 December DAVIDSON detached from TU70.1 and inched to TG75.1 while in the East China Sea. On that same day the ship carried out a shipwide "safety standdown", taking the entire day, and included Site TV presentations and division workshops.

A personnel transfer and modified housefall rig were carried out in conjunction with a refueling at sea with USS CIMARRON on 10 December. Battle Week 83-1 Phase II also began that day. This exercise was designed to simulate a real world multi-threat war-at-sea confrontation between Soviet and U.S. forces. Over the 11th and 12th of December, DAVIDSON transited into the Sea of Japan. Returning through the Tsushima Straits, she took her assigned exercise station. DAVIDSON unrepmed with the USNS PASSUMPSIC on 12 December amidst high seas and bitter cold. A lube oil purifier casualty forced DAVIDSON out of the exercise and she returned to Sasebo to commence her upkeep on 13 December.

The SRF Sasebo availability was highly productive. One hundred and thirty-six jobs were accomplished, including a new lube oil purifier, the repair of the package conveyor, and several critical weight tests.

The Commanding Officer frocked twenty-six crewmembers on 23 December for their having passed the E-4/E-5 exams. The frocking was preceded by the Commanding Officer's first Command Inspection.

The crew was treated to a Christmas/New Year's Eve party on 31 December sponsored by the ship's Welfare and Recreation Committee and COMFLEFACTS Sasebo.

"DECLASSIFIED"

DECLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

The second reservist unit from the Naval Reserve Center in Wichita, Kansas arrived on 15 March with eight enlisted men under the charge of LCDR Christopher Randall. One week later, on 22 March, DAVIDSON got underway for a transit to San Diego and COMPTUEX 5-82. The high point of this transit was the NGFS exercise off San Clemente Island on 25 March with USS JOHN YOUNG, USS ALBERT DAVID, and USS GEORGE PHILLIP. DAVIDSON shot extremely well, with exceptional accuracy, and a score which maintained DAVIDSON's NGFS qualification. The ship arrived in San Diego on 26 March for a fourteen day availability.

RIMPAC '82 commenced on 7 April, involving a multi-national grouping of forces from Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, and the United States, simulating a war at sea in the Hawaiian areas. DAVIDSON had special deceptive operational tasking as a member of the blue forces for a major duration of the exercise. RIMPAC '82 was overall a successful exercise, providing a realistic test of command and control functions in a modern multi-threat environment; there were many lessons learned.

On 27 April DAVIDSON returned to Pearl Harbor and played host to the HMS Terra Nova.

Three visiting Japanese newsmen, accompanied by the CINCPACFLT Public Affairs Officer, toured the DAVIDSON for an hour on 10 May. The following day, 11 May, the ship was honored by a visit from General Moon Sun Min of the Republic of Korea. Ten midshipmen arrived on 22 May for their thirty day Summer Cruise. The summer training program's goal of furthering their professional development and reinforcing their academic programs was accomplished by involving the midshipmen in the ship's daily routine and in June's forthcoming PCO operations. The last week of May, Small Arms training was held at Puuloa on the M-14 for DAVIDSON's Security Force.

DAVIDSON got underway for "Hollywood" PCO operations on 7 June. This was an ASW exercise with the USS OMAHA and the USS ASPRO in the local Hawaiian waters. It was a highly successful exercise for DAVIDSON, with exercise "KILLS" on both submarines. Engineering Casualty Control (ECC) drills were carried out underway throughout the week of 7-11 June. On the tenth of June the ship had an AAW gunnery exercise with two A-4's trailing sleeves. Friday, the eleventh, DAVIDSON carried out fuel economy trials on her return to Pearl. The third week of June the ship participated in HMNZS Waikato's REFTRA with a tow-and-be-towed evolution on 17 June. This exercise went very well; both crews demonstrated great skill in deck seamanship and ship handling.

It was a public affairs day for DAVIDSON on 23 June, when she hosted the USS JOSEPH STRAUSS' return from WESTPAC, and gave a full day of tours to twenty-seven National Science Scholars in the morning, twenty girl scouts, and seventy-eight Civil Air Patrol Cadets in the afternoon. The next day the ship was underway once more for a full power run and a manila highline transfer with the USS RICHARD S. EDWARDS. AAW followed on Friday, 25 June, with

DECLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]