



**UNCLASSIFIED**  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDER THIRD FLEET  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96801-6001

664

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**FILE COPY**

5750  
Ser 011/7S257  
9 April 1987

SECRET - NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS - Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (2)

From: Commander THIRD Fleet  
To: Director, Naval History (OP-09BH), Bldg. 57, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20003

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY OF THE COMMANDER THIRD FLEET (OPNAV REPORT 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) COMTHIRDFLT CY 1986 Command History  
(2) COMTHIRDFLT CY 1986 Command History Classified Enclosure

1. Subject report covering calendar year 1986 is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

*R. W. Hechtman*  
R. W. HECHTMAN  
Chief of Staff

Copy to:  
CINCPACFLT

release under FOIA  
request by 3201 EA,  
Oct 2, 1987, FOIA 277

**UNCLASSIFIED**  
SECRET NOFORN

**COMMANDER THIRD FLEET**

**COMMAND HISTORY**

**CALENDAR YEAR 1986**

ENCLOSURE (1)

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**  
**ENCLOSURE (1)**

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page</u>
THIRD Fleet Mission	1
Staff Organization	2
Commander THIRD Fleet	6
Public Affairs	7
Kahoolawe Project	9
Administration	10
C <sup>2</sup> and Tactical Development	12

## THIRD FLEET MISSION

1. THIRD Fleet Mission. THIRD Fleet's mission is one of deterrence. But in the event of general war, THIRD Fleet's mission would be to conduct prompt and sustained combat operations at sea in order to carry out the CINCPACFLT strategy in the theater. Such operations would be carried out well forward, and early in a conflict, in order to defend the western sea approaches to the United States, including, of course, Alaska and the Aleutian Islands.

In peacetime, THIRD Fleet forces devote most of their efforts to realistic training in fleet operations designed to exercise every facet of the capabilities needed in wartime. Naval forces trained by the THIRD Fleet commander are on a normal rotation for duty with the SEVENTH Fleet commander in his area of responsibility.

Specifically, the Commander-in-Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet has assigned the following duties to the THIRD Fleet:

- a. Protect and defend the Western sea approaches to the United States.
- b. Develop and improve fleet tactics.
- c. Conduct anti-submarine warfare operations.
- d. Organize and schedule ship movements and port visits.
- e. Provide emergency search and rescue assistance.
- f. Supervise the control and protection of merchant shipping.

2. To carry out its mission, the THIRD Fleet is organized into the following task forces:

- a. Ready Task Force
- b. Carrier Strike Force
- c. Amphibious Assault Force
- d. Logistic Support Force
- e. Submarine Force
- f. Surface Action Force
- g. Mine Countermeasures Force

## STAFF ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

### 1. General Staff Information

a. The THIRD Fleet Commander, a three-star admiral, reports directly to the Commander-in-Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor. Admiral Diego E. Hernandez has a staff of approximately 50 officers and 125 enlisted personnel. At any given time, there are approximately 90 ships, 150 aircraft and 77,000 sailors and Marines under THIRD Fleet's operational control.

Until recently, THIRD Fleet was located ashore on historic Ford Island, located in the middle of Pearl Harbor. In November 1986, the Commander THIRD Fleet and his staff moved aboard the flagship CORONADO, and became a seagoing command again for the first time since World War II.

b. Commander THIRD Fleet is organized into three personal staff members, nine divisions and 15 special assistants as shown below:

#### (1) Personal Staff

01 Chief of Staff  
001 Flag Lieutenant  
002 Flag Secretary

#### (2) Division Directors

N1 Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration  
N2 Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence  
N3 Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations  
N4 Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics  
N5 Assistant Chief of Staff for Communications  
N6 Assistant Chief of Staff for ASW/Recon  
N7 Assistant Chief of Staff for Tactical  
Development and Evaluation  
N8 Assistant Chief of Staff for Naval Control of  
Shipping (Reserves)

#### (3) Special Assistants

\*0041 Command Career Counselor  
\*005 Security Manager  
\*006 Command Senior/Master Chief  
\*007 Security Officer  
011 Public Affairs Officer  
012 Operation Evaluation Group Representative  
013 Budget and Accounting Analyst (Comptroller)  
014 First Lieutenant

015 Assistant Chief of Staff for Supply  
(ADDU from COMOCEANSYSPAC)  
016 Management Analyst  
017 Staff Judge Advocate  
01T Science Advisor  
01K Special Assistant for Kahoolawe  
\*Collateral

c. To assist in allied planning and operations, COMTHIRDFLT has three allied exchange naval officers assigned to his staff representing the navies of Australia, Great Britain, and Canada, as well as a Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force Liaison Officer.

d. In addition, the staff includes a senior United States Marine Corps officer assigned to advise on amphibious operations and other Fleet Marine matters, and a senior U.S. Coast Guard assigned to provide liaison and advise on maritime defense zone matters.

e. The four shore activities which come under the operational and administrative control of COMTHIRDFLT are: Fleet Area Control and Surveillance Facility, San Diego, California; Commander Oceanographic System Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Fleet Tactical Deception Group Pacific, San Diego, California; and U.S. Naval Support Force Antarctica, homeported in Port Hueneme, California.

COMMANDER'S EXECUTIVE STAFF AND SPECIAL ASSISTANTS

00

COMTHIRDFLT

001

FLAG LT

01

CHIEF OF STAFF

002

FLAG SECRETARY

C M/C

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

005

SECURITY MANAGER

011

PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
OFFICER

01K

SPECIAL ASSISTANT  
FOR KAHOO LAWE

012

OEG REP  
(CIV)

013

FLEET  
COMPTROLLER  
(CIV)

014

FIRST LIEUTENANT

015

SUPPLY OFFICER  
(ADDU FM COSP)

01T

SCIENCE  
ADVISOR

N1

ACOS  
ADMINISTRATION

N2

ACOS  
INTELLIGENCE

N3

ACOS  
OPERATIONS

N4

ACOS  
LOGISTICS

N5

ACOS  
COMMUNICATIONS

N6

ACOS  
ASW/RECON

N7

ACOS  
TAC D & E

N8

ACOS  
NCS

**COMMANDER THIRD FLEET  
SUBORDINATE COMMANDS**

**COMTHIRDFLT**

**COMNAVSUPPPORANTARCTICA  
PORT HUENEME**

**FACSFAC  
SAN DIEGO**

**FLTDECGRUPAC  
SAN DIEGO**

**COMOCEANSYSPAC  
PEARL HARBOR**



**VICE ADMIRAL DIEGO E. HERNANDEZ, USN  
COMMANDER THIRD FLEET**

Vice Admiral Diego E. Hernandez was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico on March 25th, 1934, son of Diego I., and Dolores (Sanfeliz) Hernandez. He attended the Illinois Institute of Technology under the NROTC Scholarship Program and in June 1955 was graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree and commissioned an Ensign. He was designated a Naval Aviator in August 1956.

He has served at sea in a variety of assignments including duty with VF-43, VF-11, VF-103, VF-21, and as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander Carrier Division 14. He has commanded VF-84, Carrier Air Wing SEVEN, USS TRUCKEE (AO-147), the aircraft carrier USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67) and most recently Carrier Group SIX. Vice Admiral Hernandez assumed command as Commander THIRD Fleet in August 1986.

Ashore, Vice Admiral Hernandez has served in VF-174; as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander Alaskan Sea Frontier; as a member of the Faculty, Naval Command Course, Naval War College; as Officer-in-Charge, VF-101 Detachment Key West, Florida; as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Air Warfare) in the Pentagon; as Chief of Staff for Commander Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, Virginia, and as Commander U.S. Naval Forces Caribbean/Commander Fleet Air Caribbean in Puerto Rico.

Vice Admiral Hernandez is a graduate of the Command and Staff Course at the Naval War College and holds a Master of Science Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University.

His personal decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, ten Air Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and two Gold Stars, and the Venezuelan Naval Order of Merit.

Vice Admiral Hernandez is married to the former Sherrill (Sherry) Perkins of Keota, Oklahoma.

###

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS-011

### 1. Significant Events

A. Jan-Feb 86. COMTHIRDFLT PAO assists COMNAVCRUITCOM in production of series of television commercials in support of CNO retention program. Utilized USS ROBERT E. PEARY and USS HAROLD E. HOLT and PMRF Barking Sands.

B. 11 Feb 86. COMTHIRDFLT PAO holds news conference at Halawa Landing following collision at sea of USS JASON and USS WILLAMETTE.

C. 18 May-30 Jun 86. RIMPAC 86 PAO events:  
--Guidance staffed and promulgated.  
--New USNR PAO began ACDUTRA each week.  
--Kick-off news conference held onboard USS CARL VINSON.  
--Media embark aboard USS NEW JERSEY.  
--U.S. media embark in VINSON, VINCENNES.  
--Japanese media embark in USS CARL VINSON.

D. Summer embarkation:  
--VADM Hardisty and mini-staff embark in USS HORNE for exercise Kernel Potlatch 86-2 in NORPAC.  
--Distribute Combat Camera videotape of amphibious landing at Adak to Alaska media during USS HORNE port visit to Anchorage.  
--VADM Hardisty/COS speeches in port visits in Anchorage, Kodiak, Seward, Juneau and Ketchikan. Significant media coverage. Editorial board meetings.  
--Anti-nuclear sailboat collides with USS HORNE during entrance to harbor in Vancouver, B.C. Significant local media coverage. Incident videotaped from deck of HORNE; tape turned over to Vancouver Police Department.

E. Late Aug 86. USS CARL VINSON NORPAC OPS.  
--Wide coverage of release about rescue of seven sailors washed overboard of USS CARL VINSON enroute to Bering Sea ops.  
--National coverage of first CVBG to operate in Bering Sea since end of WWII; stories also address Soviet Bear surveillance.

F. 30 Jun 86. OTL-20 Coverage.  
--DOD release of COMTHIRDFLT-prepared material re successful launch of Tomahawk cruise missile from USS LONG BEACH, just west of Attu Island.

G. 19 Sep 86. USS MISSOURI with guests and media recreate the Great White Fleet's historic salute to Kalaupapa, Molokai. Australian press aboard in anticipation of MISSOURI's pending visit to that country while circumnavigating the globe.

I. USS CONSTELLATION visit to Anchorage, AK.  
--Wide local coverage of first CV visit to Alaska ever.  
--Significant on-scene assistance by C3F PAO.  
--VADM Hernandez visits Anchorage during port visit to address downtown Rotary.

I. USS LONG BEACH visit to Anchorage, AK.  
--Also significant interest.  
--On-scene assist by C3F Asst. PAO.

J. 26 Nov 86. Coverage of flagship embarkation.  
--Wire service/local television coverage of embarkation ceremony.

K. Assist local television station in feature program about former residents of Kahoolawe.

## KAHOOLAWE PROJECT DIVISION-01K

### 1. Summary of Kahoolawe Project Operations.

A. Commander THIRD Fleet retained the responsibility for all Kahoolawe and Kaula matters. On 1 January 1987 this responsibility was transferred to Commander Naval Base Pearl Harbor, Operations. Kahoolawe is the only combined arms training area in the mid-Pacific and is used extensively by Marine, Navy, Air Force, Army and Coast Guard Units. Training Operations were similar to prior years and continued at a normal pace.

### 2. Summary of Major Events/Special Projects.

A. Kahoolawe environmental programs in 1986, as in previous years, exceeded the requirements of the consent decree. Efforts were concentrated on reforestation, soil conservation, goat eradication, and surface ordnance clearance projects. In the area of reforestation, in excess of 10,000 holes were blown to facilitate the State of Hawaii Tree Planting Program. Additionally, the Navy worked closely with Native Hawaiian Plant Society in planting in excess of 15,000 plants of different varieties. Goat eradication efforts included employment of Hughes 500 helicopter equipped with forward looking infrared, which produced excellent results. Progress has been made in the surface ordnance clearance project. The required 10,000 acres were completed in June and a resweep of the area was started. In addition to their normal duties of target maintenance, soil conservation and vehicle maintenance, the Seabee detachment constructed nine 20 X 48 pre-engineered metal buildings to be used as berthing and galley/messing facilities.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION-N1

### 1. Significant Events

- A. 10 Mar 86--YN1 Melanie St. Moritz selected as Staff, Commander THIRD Fleet Sailor of the Year.
- B. 13 Mar 86--OTAl Charles Van Seelen, NAVOCEANPROFAC, Ford Island, selected as THIRD Fleet Sailor of the Year.
- C. 20 Jun 86--Vice Admiral Kendall E. Moranville, U.S. Navy, was relieved by Vice Admiral Huntington Hardisty, U.S. Navy, as Commander THIRD Fleet.
- D. 30 Jun 86--Commander THIRD Fleet embarked in USS HORNE (CG-30) at Adak, Alaska. The flagship then participated in Kernel Potlatch 86-1 and made port visits at Anchorage, Kodiak and Juneau in Alaska, as well as Esquimalt and Vancouver in British Columbia, Canada. The commander debarked from the flagship and returned to his headquarters at Ford Island on 28 Jul 86.
- E. 15 Jul 86--The staff organization was realigned in preparation for embarkation in a permanent flagship later in the year. The new organization consolidated the old Training and Readiness Department (N4) into the Operations Department (N3). The Plans Department (N6) assumed the additional responsibility of fleet logistics and renamed Logistics and Plans (N4). A new department was created to remain ashore to perform strategic antisubmarine warfare, and was titled Antisubmarine Warfare and Reconnaissance (N6).
- F. 19 Aug 86--Vice Admiral Huntington Hardisty, U.S. Navy, was relieved by Vice Admiral Diego E. Hernandez, U.S. Navy, as Commander THIRD Fleet.
- G. 27 Oct 86--Commander THIRD Fleet embarked in USS CORONADO (AGF-11) for her arrival in Pearl Harbor.
- H. 19 Nov 86--Naval Facility Adak, Alaska selected as the THIRD Fleet Golden Anchor award winner.

- I. 26 Nov 86--Commander THIRD Fleet permanently embarked in USS CORONADO (AGF-11).
- J. 05 Dec 86--Hosted Vice Admiral Wang Zuyas, People's Liberation Army (Navy), People's Republic of China, aboard flagship for luncheon, briefings on COMTHIRDFLT and Fleet Training Group Pearl Harbor and a tour of CORONADO. VADM Wang was accompanied by 10 other officers of the PLA(N).

## C<sup>2</sup> AND TACTICAL DIVISION - N7

1. A total restructure of the organization occurred including a name change from Analysis Division to C<sup>2</sup> Tactical Development Division to more accurately describe the mission. In addition to managing the TAC D&E effort for PACFLT, the division was heavily involved in the corollary effort of operational readiness assessment, rapid prototyping of C<sup>2</sup> systems with off the shelf desk top computers, displays, and many required peripherals to make the system work. A large contractor presence formerly dedicated to long term analysis was shelved and replaced by a Tiger Team - Center for Naval Analysis/Active Duty Navy/Navy Lab/Contractors team dedicated to producing reconstruction and analysis of key warfare issues within two months of the event with emphasis on the operational user of the information as opposed to long term analysis to support other analysis.

2. COMTHIRDFLT placed a renewed emphasis on TAC D&E in 1986 resulting in increased active duty Navy personnel involvement in all aspects of TAC D&E and reconstruction/analysis of fleet exercises and operations.

3. As CINCPACFLT's executive agent N7 managed the TAC D&E program in the Pacific which included prioritizing deficiencies to be addressed in the CNO's FY-86/87 TAC D&E program. The following inter-type TACMEMOS/TACNOTES were completed and promulgated by COMTHIRDFLT:

C3F            TM AZ3030-1-86, "Battle Management for Long Range  
Anti-air Warfare (LRAAW)."

C3F/C7F       TM UT0010-1-86, "Pacific Fleet Over-The-Horizon  
Targeting (OTH-T) System  
Operational Concept (SOC)."

C3F            TM UT4012-1-86, "Afloat Correlation Procedures."

C3F            TM SZ5037-1-86, "Countering the Potential Soviet  
Submarine Launched Anti-aircraft  
Missile (SLAM)."

4. Reconstruction and analysis performed included:

A. RIMPAC 86 - (May-June 1986) A major fleet exercise involving two U.S. carrier battle groups as well as ships from four allied countries (Japan, U.K., Australia, Canada). This exercise was conducted in the Eastern Pacific and Hawaiian op areas and included over 60 ships and various aircraft types. Final report published and distributed.

B. FLEETEX 86 - (Sept-Oct 1986) A major fleet exercise conducted in the northern Pacific Ocean involving two CVBG's and a BBBG. Final report (Part I) published and distributed. Part II, Strike Warfare and AAW, to be published in early 1987.

C. Reconstruction and analysis for battle group ASW readiness evaluation measurement (BGAREM) - BGAREM 86-1 conducted for the ENTERPRISE BG in Jan 86 and BGAREM 86-2 for the NEW JERSEY BG in May 86 were completed on Pacific Missile Range Facility and in Hawaiian op areas. Reports were published and promulgated after extensive reconstruction and analysis.

D. Real time reconstruction and analysis were provided to the Pacific Fleet ASW Squadron during four operations against real world target of interest. Final reports were published and promulgated.

4. Reconstruction analysis and lessons learned reports published and promulgated during 1986 were:

A. Lessons learned:

1. SZ5210-1-86, "Soviet Eastpac Operations."
2. FZ5010-1-86, "Cross-BGAREM/TGAREM Analysis of Orange Submarine ASUW Operations and Tactics."
3. SZ5016-1-86, "Lessons Learned in Coordinated Offensive ASW (ASWOPS 85-1 through 85-6)."

B. Operations and exercise reports:

1. BGAREM 86-1, ENTERPRISE BG
2. BGAREM 86-2, NEW JERSEY BG
3. RIMPAC 86, VINSON BG, RANGER BG
4. FLEETEX 86 (VOL I), CONSTELLATION BG, RANGER BG, AND NEW JERSEY BG
5. ASWOPS 86-3, 86-4, and 87-1