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USS GREENFISH  
(59-351)

Obtained by Hans M. Kristensen  
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1971 ✓

COMMAND HISTORY ANNUAL UPDATE

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The USS GREENFISH (SS351) commenced 1971 with a restricted availability in Philadelphia Naval Shipyard for the structural repair of a Normal Lube Oil Tank. Departing the shipyard in late February, GREENFISH entered a period of intensive work-up interspersed with short upkeep periods in preparation for extended deployment to the Eastern Atlantic, Northern Europe and Mediterranean areas.

Mid-April found the ship and crew underway as a unit of Anti-Submarine Warfare Group FOUR conducting various Hunter-Killer Group operations en route to the first port visit in Lisbon, Portugal. After a week of pre-exercise conferences and briefings in Lisbon, the Task Group departed for participation in the NATO exercise, "RUSTY RAZOR", conducted in the Eastern Atlantic. Post exercise reconstruction and analysis were accomplished in Plymouth, England where GREENFISH moored for a period of four days in mid-May.

GREENFISH was then attached to Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY and proceeded to exercise areas off the coast of Portugal to conduct operations with units of the Spanish and Portuguese Navies. This was followed by a nine day stopover in Rota, Spain for briefings, fuel and liberty prior to assignment with the SIXTH Fleet.

The Straits of Gibraltar were transited on 31 May 1971 and after entering the Mediterranean, a four day operation was conducted with SIXTH Fleet Ready Forces. Naples, Italy became the next port of call where GREENFISH received a four day upkeep before departing for "Operation Constellation 71".

"Constellation 71" provided the opportunity of participating in an exercise involving a major portion of the entire SIXTH Fleet and the area of participation afforded a short transit to Riviera ports upon completion. GREENFISH visited Nice, France for five days of rest and liberty and then sailed to provide target services for new sonar evaluation.

Before leaving the Mediterranean on 7 July one more port visit was made to Palma, Spain where the crew enjoyed another five days of rest over Independence Day weekend. En route to Rotterdam, Netherlands, which had previously been scheduled as the last port of call prior to return home, it was learned that the relieving submarine had been delayed and the GREENFISH deployment was to be extended approximately two weeks. After one week in Rotterdam, surface transit was made to Aarhus, Denmark where a five day relieving process was culminated on 26 July and GREENFISH commenced her return trip to the home port of Groton, Connecticut. The

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success of the deployment was evidenced by commendatory recognition from numerous seniors in the chain of command. For the crew - successful operations, material excellence and visits to eight ports in seven different countries while transiting over 17,000 miles at sea, in itself provided sufficient recognition and enjoyment.

Arriving on 5 August, the ship received a warm welcome from relatives, friends and the local Navy Band. Equally appreciated was the 45 day stand down period when the crew enjoyed maximum liberty and leave before setting to sea once again and conducting a week of operations in late September.

The next three weeks found a series of inspections being conducted which kept the GREENFISH crew exceptionally busy. A Technical Standardization Inspection, INSURV, and Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection were all completed in this small time frame with outstanding results and praise for the performance, attitude and morale of the crew. ✓ ✓ ✓

Following this cycle, GREENFISH was underway again for a 31 day period. Operations included the opportunity to oppose a CV task force in evaluation of this new concept for aircraft carriers and also participation in a joint Canadian/U.S. exercise. Port visits during the trip were made to Norfolk, Virginia and Halifax, Nova Scotia. Upon return in late November, GREENFISH commenced a 19 day interim docking period for mid-operating cycle inspections and repair.

The remainder of 1971 was spent in holiday leave and upkeep and preparations were begun for a change of command on 4 January 1972 when Commander Kent B. LAWRENCE, USN will relieve Commander Karl L. PETERSON, USN as Commanding Officer.

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CHRONOLOGY 1971

- 11 JANUARY - Depart Groton, Connecticut
- 12 JANUARY - Arrive Philadelphia Naval Shipyard ✓
- 24 FEBRUARY - Depart Philadelphia Naval Shipyard
- 27 FEBRUARY - Arrive Groton, Connecticut ✓
- 01 MARCH - Depart Groton, Connecticut for deployment work-up
- 05 MARCH - Arrive Groton, Connecticut
- 08 MARCH - Depart Groton, Connecticut for weekly deployment work-up
- 13 MARCH - Arrive Groton, Connecticut for upkeep period
- 28 MARCH - Depart Groton, Connecticut for deployment work-up
- 02 APRIL - Arrive Groton, Connecticut
- 16 APRIL - Depart Groton, Connecticut for extended deployment in the Mediterranean and Northern Europe as a unit under COMASWGRU FOUR ✓
- 29 April - Arrive Lisbon, Portugal ✓
- 02 MAY - Depart Lisbon, Portugal for exercise "RUSTY RAZOR"
- 12 MAY - Arrive Plymouth, England ✓
- 14 MAY - Depart Plymouth, England for joint operations with Portugese and Spanish navies
- 21 MAY - Arrive Rota, Spain
- 30 MAY - Depart Rota, Spain for Mediterranean operations
- 07 JUNE - Arrive Naples, Italy
- 11 JUNE - Depart Naples, Italy for "CONSTELLATION 71" ✓
- 19 JUNE - Arrive Nice, France
- 24 JUNE - Depart Nice, France for sonar evaluation exercises

30 JUNE - Arrive Palma, Spain  
 07 JULY - Depart Palma, Spain  
 12 JULY - Arrive Rotterdam, Netherlands  
 19 JULY - Depart Rotterdam, Netherlands  
 22 JULY - Arrive Aarhus, Denmark for turnover and relief ✓  
 26 JULY - Depart Aarhus, Denmark for CONUS  
 05 AUGUST - Arrive Groton, Connecticut ✓  
 20 SEPTEMBER - Depart Groton, Connecticut for weekly operations  
 24 SEPTEMBER - Arrive Groton, Connecticut  
 27 SEPTEMBER - Commence inspection cycle *TSI / NTRI*  
 15 OCTOBER - Completed inspection cycle  
 19 OCTOBER - Depart Groton, Connecticut for CV evaluation  
 28 OCTOBER - Arrive Norfolk, Virginia  
 02 NOVEMBER - Depart Norfolk, Virginia for CANUS exercise  
 12 NOVEMBER - Arrive Halifax, Nova Scotia  
 15 NOVEMBER - Depart Halifax, Nova Scotia  
 18 NOVEMBER - Arrive Groton, Connecticut  
 22 NOVEMBER - Enter ARD-7 Groton, Connecticut ✓  
 10 DECEMBER - Undock from ARD-7 - Commence Christmas Holiday  
 Leave and Upkeep period  
 04 JANUARY 72 - CDR K. L. PETERSON is relieved as Commanding  
 Officer of USS GREENFISH (SS351) by CDR K. B.  
 LAWRENCE