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TURBULENT TOURS THE WORLD 14.09.04 10:28

One of the highlights of naval careers tends to be the deployment to far-off lands, calling in at exotic ports and seeing some of the classic tourist attractions.

This sort of deployment – vital for maintaining British diplomatic and commercial interests around the globe – sometimes falls to a carrier, but more often to a frigate or destroyer.

So the chance for a submarine to undertake such a trip, to Australia and back, was generally greeted with enthusiasm by those on board HMS Turbulent.

Turbulent was the second of the Trafalgar-class boats built at Barrow-in-Furness, and was launched in December 1982.

As a nuclear-powered attack submarine, she is designed to move swiftly and silently underwater for weeks on end, her only limitation being the needs of the crew. She displaces more than 5,200 tons when dived.

When Turbulent's Commanding Officer, Cdr Andy Coles, took his boat out of Devonport in January, it reinforced the pace at which the Navy's attack submarine fleet operates.

Turbulent had been at sea for ten months of the previous year, including operations off Iraq, and Christmas was a busy period as the boat and her crew prepared for this major deployment.

Part of January was spent proving to the Flag Officer Sea Training (FOST) organisation that the boat was in good shape. One task given to Turbulent was to sneak up on a task group exercising off Cornwall without revealing the boat's presence.

The deployment proper got off to an inauspicious start when the planned transfer of personnel off Plymouth was cancelled because of gale-force winds, which also resulted in minor damage to Turbulent's mooring bollards.

So the submarine headed south, where the bollards were repaired in the calm waters of Gibraltar Bay by the boat's marine engineers, and the delayed transfer of personnel could be completed.

Warm-weather trials ended with a visit to Toulon in France, when families flew out to see their loved ones, and some of the crew headed along the coast to Marseille, Nice, Monaco and St Tropez, soaking up the atmosphere of the Cote d'Azur.

But for others it was business as usual, with maintenance and run-of-the-mill repairs to be carried out before heading east of Suez.

The approach to the Suez Canal was more like the Bay of Biscay than the Mediterranean, with driving wind and rough seas, but Turbulent queue-jumped a convoy of 14 large merchantmen, which were waiting for better weather, and she sailed through the canal in splendid isolation with destroyer HMS Newcastle providing protection.

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ANNEXES 4 et 5: Les messages du Turbulent les 15 et 18 janvier.
Voir à leur sujet la page 3 du PDF de la Note.

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PARQUET QUIMPER

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Annexe 4: 2-~~62~~ . D1511

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FM CTF 311
TO ZEN/HMS TURBULENT
ZEN/POST DEVONPORT
ZEN/CTG 317.01
INFO ZEN/UKSUBCAMS
ZEN/MSS KINLOSS
ZEN/NAS CULDROSE
ZEN/COMDEVFLOT SM
ZEN/JMF ST MARGAN
ZEN/NBC PORTSMOUTH
ZEN/NBC DEVONPORT
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ZEN/CMSA UK
AIG 5656
ZEN/MSS NORTHWOOD
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Annexe 5.

ANNEXE 4: u- [signature]

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LISTE DE DIFFUSION POUR L'AUTORITE CECLANT
REN 6533 (ATTRIBUTAIRE PRINCIPAL)
DEPARTC 2468 MODREN 5814 SYCOM 4772



VZCZCSWK3644
PP RFFKZH RFFABDCT RFFIC RFFIM RFFISYC RFFJC RFFLC RFFLO RFFLR
RFFMBCF RFFUEAA RFFUHR RFFVB RFFVL RFFXOC RFGZ RFLICF RFLICO (FTJC
RFTJCF RFLIGM RFFLAAN RFFLA RFFUAF RFFVET RFFKOPS
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ZNY CCCCC
P 151844Z JAN 04
FM CECLANT
TO AIG 1943
RFFLA/ALFAN
INFO RFFUAF/AIR AUBRAC EVREUX
RFFVET/AIR DIVREC METZ
RFFKOPS/CENTOPSPFSM
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NON PROTEGE OTAN

Message déclassifié sur
ordre de l'émetteur le 09/01/07
par message 0374--0901-

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SIC UAJ
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