

UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNICATION STATION
UNITED KINGDOM

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY



9th July 1985

THE CEREMONY

The Change of Command Ceremony is a time-honored tradition which formally restates to the officers and enlisted personnel of the command the continuity of the authority of command. It is a formal ritual conducted before the assembled company of the command. It is a transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another individual.

CHANGE OF COMMAND PROGRAM

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OFFICIAL PARTY ARRIVAL

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NATIONAL ANTHEMS OF THE
UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES

INVOCATION

The Reverend Ronald Johnstone

REMARKS

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Caithness
The Right Honorable Viscount Thurso of Ulbster

REMARKS

Captain Robert Knowles Slaven, Jr.
United States Navy
Commander
United States Naval Activities, United Kingdom

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

Commander John Clinton Sadler
United States Navy

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

Commander Phillip Monroe Balisle
United States Navy

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BENEDICTION

The Reverend Ronald Johnstone

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OFFICIAL PARTY DEPARTURE

RECEPTION

* Please Stand

COMMANDER JOHN C. SADLER
Commanding Officer

Commander John C. Sadler, USN, a native of Edwight, West Virginia, entered the Navy via Officer Candidate School in January 1966. Upon graduation and commissioning Ensign Sadler was assigned in August 1966 to the Communications Department of USS TICONDEROGA (CVA-14).

In October 1968, Lieutenant Junior Grade Sadler reported to Naval Air Station, Jacksonville Florida, where he was promoted to Lieutenant and served as the Message Center Officer until March 1970.

After a short period of inactive duty, Lieutenant Sadler reported in May 1971 to the USS LASALLE (LPD-3, later designated AGF-3), where he served as both Communications Officer and Navigator. In May 1973, he was assigned to Department Head School and was subsequently assigned in December 1973 to duty as Operations Officer aboard the USS PYRO (AE-24).

In January 1976, Lieutenant Commander Sadler was assigned to Naval Communication Station, Philippines, where he served as Officer in Charge of Naval Telecommunications Centers Subic and Cubi Point.

In February 1978 Lieutenant Commander Sadler was ordered to duty in USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64), where he was promoted to Commander and served until August 1980 as Communications Officer.

From October 1980 until April 1983, Commander Sadler served as Executive Officer of Naval Communication Station, San Diego, and he has served as Commanding Officer of Naval Communication Station, United Kingdom, since June 1983.

His awards include Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation (two awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Vietnam Service Medal.

Commander Sadler is married to the former Lieutenant Junior Grade Catherine Sciarrotta of Newport, Rhode Island. They have two daughters, Katie and Jane.

Commander Sadler's next assignment will be with the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C.





COMMANDER PHILLIP M. BALISLE
Relieving Officer

Commander Phillip M. Balisle, USN, was born in DeQueen, Arkansas, on 13 February 1948. He graduated from Gray High School in Idabel, Oklahoma, in 1966 and Oklahoma State University in 1970.

Commander Balisle's initial duty station was USS HARWOOD (DD-861), where he served as First Lieutenant and Gunnery Officer. In January 1972, he reported to COMDESRON FOUR as Communications and Electronic Warfare Officer.

Commander Balisle spent his first shore tour attending the Naval Postgraduate School where he graduated with distinction in 1975, receiving the Chief of Naval Operations Award for Academic Achievement. Subsequently, he served from October 1976 to March 1978 as Operations Officer on USS BROOKE (FFG-1), where he received the 1977 PACFLT Shiphandler Award. He next served from April 1978 to October 1979 as First Lieutenant on USS DENVER (LPD-9).

In December 1979, Commander Balisle reported to Director, Command and Control, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, where he was assigned as Budget and Programming Officer for Navy Satellite Communications Programs. In November 1981, he returned to sea duty as Communications Officer on USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67). From there he reported to USS KING (DDG-41), where he served as Executive Officer from 26 July 1983 to 20 May 1985.

Commander Balisle's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star and the Navy Achievement Medal with two gold stars.

He holds the academic degrees of Bachelor of Science in Physical Science and Master of Science in Management.

Commander Balisle is married to the former Patricia Elaine Gregg of Midwest City, Oklahoma. Their children, Jennifer and Jeffrey, will be accompanying them throughout their tour in Thurso, Scotland.

HISTORY AND MISSION

UNITED STATES NAVAL COMMUNICATION STATION UNITED KINGDOM

Begun in 1962 and commissioned on 3 January 1964, the construction of NAVRADSTA Thurso was undertaken to meet a longstanding need for improvement in communications services to U.S., U.K. and NATO forces operating in the North Atlantic and North Sea.

Initially established as a component of NAVCOMMSTA Londonderry, Northern Ireland, NAVRADSTA Thurso rapidly developed its own personality and identity as a professional, fleet-oriented organization. Providing support to ships, aircraft and submarines, Thurso filled in coverage gaps and provided capabilities not available elsewhere. It provides vital command and control communications facilities.

Reflecting the growing importance of its contribution to naval communications, the Naval Radio Station was given its own Commanding Officer on 1 October 1973, ending its dependence upon NAVCOMMSTA Londonderry for support. On 1 March 1976 its name was changed to Naval Communication Unit, Thurso. Recognizing the full range of services and capabilities now in place and under construction, NAVCOMMU Thurso was redesignated Naval Communication Station, United Kingdom, effective 1 October 1977.

As an activity of the Naval Telecommunications System, the mission of NAVCOMMSTA UK is to operate, maintain and manage those facilities, equipments and systems necessary to provide requisite communications for the command, control, and administration of the Naval Establishment and Defense Communications System. In performing this mission, the station provides a wide range of voice, radiotypewritten data, and satellite services. These services support not only US naval ships, aircraft and submarines in the North Atlantic and North Sea areas, but also Royal Navy and NATO units as well. It stands as a vital link in communications for defense of the free world.

U.S. NAVAL RADIO STATION

Officers in Charge

LCDR F. C. WATERLOO	JAN 1964	JUL 1964
LCDR F. J. GODFREY	JUL 1964	AUG 1966
LCDR L. H. MARCOUX	AUG 1966	SEP 1968
LCDR S. CLEAVER	SEP 1968	AUG 1970
LCDR H. L. GOTTFRIED	AUG 1970	AUG 1973
LCDR J. I. CONVERSE	AUG 1973	SEP 1973

Commanding Officer

LCDR J. I. CONVERSE	OCT 1973	MAR 1976
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U.S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION UNIT

Commanding Officer

LCDR W. E. KEARNS	MAR 1976	SEP 1977
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U.S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION STATION

Commanding Officer

LCDR W. E. KEARNS	OCT 1977	OCT 1977
CAPT T. J. MCKEOWN	OCT 1977	JUN 1978
CDR P. LEWIS, JR.	JUN 1978	JUL 1981
CDR K. H. KILLAM	JUL 1981	JUN 1983
CDR J. C. SADLER	JUN 1983	JUL 1985