



Eagle from Australia Phase II (Australian Bicentenary)

USCGC Eagle (WIX-327) spent the 1987 - 1988 academic year sailing to Australia and back to help celebrate the Australian Bicentenary. The bicentenary marked 200 years since the British First Fleet arrived in Sydney in 1788. The main event for Eagle was the First Fleet Reenactment Voyage held on Australia Day, January 26. Members of the Class of 1980 played key roles in both phases of the Eagle's cruise.

Semester afloat/Summer Semester

To supplement the Eagle's permanent crew, the ship embarked additional officers, first class cadets (class of 1988) and third class cadets (class of 1990). In order to stay on track academically, the Academy cadets needed to take a semester afloat while aboard Eagle and a semester during the summer of 1987. The first class cadets studied meteorology while the third class cadets studied organizational behavior. Both Phases of cadets and members of the Class of 1980 taught the summer of 1987 and classes were held in Nautical Science and Organizational Behavior to prepare cadets for the underway requirements.

Second phase

The trip to Australia started with a long flight from Connecticut via Honolulu, Hawaii and Vanuatu, to Brisbane Australia and an official phase change of Officers and Cadets. Class of 1980 graduates LT



Starboard Helm, LT Jack Dujmovic, After Port Helm LT Steve How and Far Right 1st row LT Christine Quedens.

Christine Quedens joined second phase as Navigator and LT Nick Dujmovic joined as the Assistant Commandant of Cadets with LT How remaining permanent party. The itinerary was as follows:

Brisbane, Australia → Hobart, Tasmania → TALL SHIP RACE → Sydney, Australia → Pago, Pago, American Samoa, → Domain of Golden Dragon, King Neptune → Honolulu, Hawaii → Seattle Washington → San Francisco, California → Los Angeles, California → Acapulco, Mexico → Rodman, Panama → Miami, Florida, → New London, Connecticut.

The port call in Brisbane had cadets and crew meeting wombats and kangaroos and even hosting the Australian Prime Minister Robert Hawke. Then onward to Hobart Tasmania where we visited Tasmanian Devils and began the Tall ship race to Sydney. 160 entrants started with light winds at 1430, hundreds of onlookers saw us start. We sailed for 2 days but in order to meet engagements in Sydney it was necessary to retire from the Race. We were proud to have represented the United States so well. Arriving in Sydney for the 200th Anniversary of the settlement of Australia had us sailing past the famous Opera House. We attended many receptions aboard the other ships and ashore and explored all of Sydney. We had Olivia Newton John film part of a music video with cadets onboard! As we sailed out we played "Waltzing Matilda" and rendered honors to Prince Charles and Princess Diana onboard HMAS Cook and anchored in Manly Cove to watch the fireworks. Weighing anchor we continued the voyage... Homeward bound. We found ourselves ahead of schedule and held a swim call between the islands of Ofu and Olosega, then weighing anchor again we proceeded to Pago Pago, American Samoa. We again explored the island and were hosted by the Chief to a Luau. Leaving American Samoa we headed north and soon encountered head winds which required us to proceed under power. We crossed paths with the USCGC Polar Sea who graciously transferred some fuel to us as they were proceeding south. Soon we found that we had crossed the Equator and the 140 meridian and entered the domain of King



Neptune and celebrated in becoming Golden Shellbacks. Our arrival in Honolulu saw EAGLE get lei'd and 1/c billet night. Receptions on board included Tony Curtis who took some time to tour the ship. Soon after leaving Honolulu 1/c Cadets were qualifying as Underway OOD. The weather as we continued to Seattle, Washington got cooler and stormier, with EAGLE under power more than sail. Seattle to San Francisco was delayed a day due to weather and contrary winds, but despite the stormy seas we were there for the Coast Guard Foundation Dinner. After sailing under the Golden Gate Bridge we stopped in Los Angeles, California where guests included Lou Gossett Jr, Arte Johnson and Buddy Ebsen. We visited the Queen Mary and Spruce Goose. Leaving Los Angeles we next stopped in Acapulco, Mexico and entertained Mexican Navy personnel, the wardroom tried parasailing and listening to Mexican Mariachi bands. A short stay at Rodman Naval Base Panama Officers put together a Dining In for the 1/c cadets with Nick serving as Mr Vice then began our transit through the canal. We arrived in Miami and were treated to more receptions and after a brief stay started our last leg north. 6 May 1988. USCGC EAGLE Moored at her homeport of United States Coast Guard Academy in New London Connecticut. Thus ending EAGLE's epic Australian Bicentenary Voyage. After 8 months, EAGLE has logged over 30,700 miles in 180 days underway. EAGLE completed here mission; first to train cadets, second to participate in Australia's Bicentenary Celebration. A little piece of EAGLE was left in each of the ports visited and a little piece of the Class of 1980 made that happen.