

STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE

FEBRUARY 1986

ISSUE 13



STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE

EDITOR'S CORNER

This issue of the STARFLEET Communique is respectfully dedicated in memory of the men and women of the U.S. Space Shuttle Challenger, Francis R. Scobee, Michael J. Smith, Christa McAuliffe, Judith A. Resnik, Ronald E. McNair, Ellison S. Onizuka and Gregory B. Jarvis.

You now hold in your hands Issue 13 of the STARFLEET Communique. A lot of work went behind the construction of this issue. The articles and artwork created by the myriad of talented people in our organization is greatly appreciated. Thanks go to Captain Steven D. Stein, Captain Jennifer P. Yates and Admiral Larry Marcheshi, Jr. for their insightful and well written articles. Also, a thank you to Admiral Christopher L. Smith for the Fleet Reports. A very special benediction goes to my Communique Staff of Captain Timothy L. Gillespie and his 30 gallon drum on spent typewriter cartridges, and Captain Thomas H. Wilson, the mast of Rubber Cement. I am especially grateful for their many hours of dedication and enthusiasm. Last and certainly not least, a Big Thank You to the man who made all this possible, our new Commander-in-Chief, Fleet Admiral Steven L. Smith, for all his guidance and confidence.

Starting with this issue, the STARFLEET Communique will be published bi-monthly. Communique will be sent out before or by the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Therefore, any submission intended for a particular month of publication should be sent to the Chief of Communications no later than the 1st of the previous month. Remember, the Communique is what YOU, the STARFLEET Member, makes it to be. I am always in need of good articles and artwork as the Communique is a portfolio of the best of what there is in STARFLEET.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RATES

United States	\$ 8.00
Overseas, Canada & Mexico	\$12.00
STARFLEET, P.O. Box 843 / Newton, IA 50208-0843 / U.S.A.	

Along with the new administration comes new Membership rates. Renewing members take note of the price change. Some items were dropped from the new membership kits since the rates were lowered and because the Communique now comes out bi-monthly. However, The kit has been completely re-designed. We have a newly revised Membership Handbook, new certificates, membership cards and memo pads. Hopefully, we'll increase the size of the kit as things settle down here at HQ. Watch for future Official STARFLEET Merchandise this summer such as enameled pins, patches, bumper stickers and the like.

Admiral Christopher Lotito, Director of STARFLEET Academy and commanding the USS EXPLORER, has informed me that "Due to a lack of participation, the BBS, sponsored by the USS EXPLORER has been discontinued. Please do not call the number [listed in the November Communique], the BBS will not be available". I hope everyone enjoys this issue as much as I had putting it together!

The Adventure Continues. . .

Buck Krause

William "Buck" Krause, Admiral
The Chief of STARFLEET Communications
Editor, Communique



FROM THE FLEET ADMIRAL

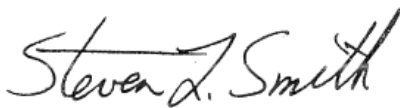
First off, I'd like to thank everyone for nominating me for the position of president. Thanks for the support! Working together, we will make 1986 the best year STARFLEET has ever seen!

Please make special note of the new addresses of the Executive Committee members and their offices. Regional and Sector reports should now be sent to ADM Chris Smith and articles for the Communique should be sent to ADM Bill Krause. Inquires about membership status can be sent to ADM Smith as well, as membership kits will be mailed from his office. If you haven't received your kit [be it initial membership or renewal], send a copy of your cancelled check (BOTH SIDES) or your money order stub to the Operations Office and you will be sent your packet. The check or money order must be dated in 1985.

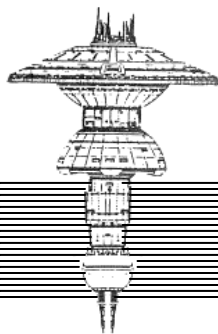
The mass recruitment drive will start on March 1st and run through the opening of STAR TREK IV. Club membership is currently 1300+, including overseas. I'd like to get that count up to 4 to 5000 [even more if possible]! working together we can reach that goal!

Also, I plan to work closely with the Star Trek III Official Fan Club. The possibility stands of us being recognized by Paramount as another approved club to join! I will carry on Fran Booth's work in this area.

Once again, thanks to everyone in and deeply involved in this organization! If anyone has any questions and/or ideas, feel free to write as I am here to help and listen.



Fleet Admiral Steven L. Smith
Commanding Admiral - STARFLEET



STARFLEET

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FLEET REPORT

FEBRUARY '86

BY ADMIRAL CHRISTOPHER L. SMITH

This issue's reports will be rather limited due to the short time between the first batch of reports arrived to me and the deadline for this Communique. Next time will be more complete.



Region 01 - RADM Susan Bolick, Commanding

Flagship USS ALARIC NCC-503 [NC]

Capt. Jeannette Maddox - Commanding

Congratulations are extended to RADM Susan Bolick upon being named the new Regional Coordinator. Susan will be stationed aboard the ALARIC and it shall serve as her Flagship, but she has handed command over to Capt. Jeanette Maddox [congratulations also]. Currently, RADM Bollick is looking for a new CO for the Region 01 Outpost due to Flt. Capt. Hunley's retirement.

USS HEIMDAL NCC-1793 [VA]

Comm. Linda Neighbors - Commanding

Recently, Comm. Neighbors was chosen to be the new Vice-Fleet Commander for Region 01. With this new office Linda will be administering the Regional Division Program. Linda has also accepted a seat on the board of RoVaCon 11, the location of Region 01's annual conference. She will also continue to act as a liaison between STARFLEET and the convention whose profits go toward scholarships. The HEIMDAL crew raised money during the year and this Christmas, sponsored a welfare child with the aid of Social Services. It is this type of dedication to the Trek philosophy that was able to give a child a merry Christmas.

USS JAMESTOWN NCC-1843 [VA]

RADM Steve Thomas - Commanding

At this year's Region 01 Conference at RoVaCon 10, RADM Thomas announced his decision to retire from the position of Regional Coordinator so that he could get back into running his chapter and working on Trek-based technical information. And he has done just that. The JAMESTOWN will soon be making available various technical information from field equipment to starship classification.

USS LAGRANGE NCC-3916 [OH]

ADM Christopher L. Smith - Commanding

I feel sort of strange writing the fleet report on my own chapter, but we have been up to quite alot. We're starting to line up official activities for this upcoming year including a chapter camping trip and outing to the Dayton Air Museum and several big conventions. The LAGRANGE's First Officer has just purchased a new computer system and will soon be putting out an updated crew directory and will be aiding me on the publication of a Command Assistance Manual for STARFLEET Commanding Officers.

USS PULSAR NCC-3941 [OH]

Flt. Capt. MaryLee Holzheimer - Commanding

The PULSAR crew have been holding a regular stream of parties and celebrations during the past few months and have been securing their treasury by holding several very successful auctions during these events. Also, Flt. Capt. Holzheimer was just recently installed into the Senior Captain's Network and is awaiting her first assignment. Like-wise, First Officer O'Marcus is serving as the region's Chief of Computer Operations and will hopefully be starting a Region 01 computer link-up.

REGION 02 - RADM Linda Taylor, Commander

FLAGSHIP USS COLUMBIA NCC-621 [FL]

RADM Linda Taylor - Commanding

Recruiting is continuing. They hope to have a core group soon so that they can hold monthly meetings.

USS PAEGAN NCC-1755 [FL]

Capt. Peggy Vanguard - Commanding

Captain Vanguard reports that the ship is doing well. Both their newsletter Paegan Writes and their first fanzine STARDUSTER were due to come out in December. A new shuttles, the ISHTAR will be launched soon.

REGION 04 - RADM Pamela DuPuy, Commanding

FLAGSHIP USS ACHERNAR NCC-1732 [CA]

RADM Pamela DuPuy - Commanding

Although there was no meeting held during the month of October, the ACHERNAR's Halloween party was a success. Everyone had a good time. The ship's next get together will be at the Babel Conference during which a chapter meeting will be held. RADM T'Pam hopes to have as many crew as possible in attendance.

USS CARSON NCC-592 [NV]

Capt. Karen Emerson - Commanding

A special Christmas issue of the CARSON's newsletter was published and several Of the crew gathered together to celebrate the holidays with each others company. At this writing, Capt. Emerson will soon be out of the Army [talk about double duty!] and congratulations are extended to her. She has also taken the helm of the ship's newsletter again.

USS DEFIANCE NCC-1717 [CA]

Capt. Janice Moore - Commanding

Congratulations to Capt. Moore who has taken over command of the DEFIANCE as former CO Rob Lerman steps down after commanding the vessel for quite a number of years. Now Commodore Lerman, he has moved on to take over the directorship of the Senior Captain's Network from ADM Bill Krause, the new Chief of Communications. Bet of luck to Rob!

USS VIGILANT NCC-1865 [CA]

Capt. Andrea Wright - Commanding

The VIGILANT's Communications Officer has written up a rank and promotion system that follows official STARFLEET recommendations and it had been distributed to all crew members. In November, the crew was present to welcome DeForest Kelley at Creation Con in San Francisco and to do some heavy recruiting.



REGION 05 - RADM Shiela Glassburn, Commanding

USS SARATOGA NCC-1724 [WA]

Capt. Robert: Hilton - Commanding

Former CO Spararo has left the organization and Capt. Hilton was recently installed as the new Commanding Officer. The ship had an unusual celebration on November 23rd at the quarters of the Regional Fleet Commander. This was the date on which Cyrano Jones was to have all the tribbles off of K-7. One SARATOGA member even impersonated the well-known space trader and even tried to pawn off some [gasp] tribbles.

USS MERRIMAC NCC-1715 [WA]
Capt. Michael Martinez - Commanding

The MERRIMAC is one of STARFLEET's newest starship/chapters under the command of Cap. Martinez, Region 05's former Fleet Commander. Several months ago, the MERRIMAC [formerly a chapter in southern Ohio] was pulled out of moth balls and given a shakedown. A very ambitious group, they are working on a chapter handbook, membership package, a newsletter and a 'zine, as well as several field trips and parties.

Region 06 - ADM Larry Marcheshi, Commanding

Flagship USS LAFAYETTE NCC-1720
ADM Larry Marcheshi - Commanding

ADM Marcheshi has recently been promoted to full admiral and installed as the new Sector Chief for STARFLEET Northwest. The LAFAYETTE has recently purged their ship's records of those chapter members who are not members of STARFLEET. The crew is also planning a Comet/Trekathon party in the spring.

Region 07 - RADM Myron Rumsey, Commanding

USS AVENGER NCC-1860 [NJ]
Comm. Alex Rosenzweig - Commanding

The crew of the Avenger has been doing some very heavy recruiting. They had a STARFLEET table at a large Creation Convention during Thanksgiving in Philadelphia. They also pulled in quite a few new recruits for STARFLEET at the Creation Con in New York City. The AVENGER has also produced a promotional video that was shown at the con during which Robin Curtis accepted an honorary membership with the chapter.

Region 10 - ADM Elizabeth Rose, Commanding

USS RESOLUTION NCC-1877 [CANADA]
Capt. St'lar - Commanding

The RESOLUTION is another relatively new chapter of STARFLEET. Already they have put out a very nice newsletter called Atavachron. The first issue is packed with informative articles and a very interesting, very well researched story about the history of the RESOLUTION [the name dates back to the sea going Frigate built in 1650].

USS SOL NCC-1733 [AK]
Flt. Capt. Trina Anderson - Commanding

Flt. Capt. Anderson has recently gotten back from an extended shore leave and she reports that it was fantastic. She attended two cons and met up with a group who have constructed a working [fictionally] mock up of the ENTERPRISE bridge. Hopefully, we may have photos for a future issue of the Communique [how about it Trina!]. The SOL is also working on a chapter 'zine called Highly Illogical.

Region 11 - RADM Leanne Jackson, Commanding

USS SOUTHERN CROSS NCC-1886 [Australia]
Capt. Jennifer A. Yates - Commanding

The SOUTHERN CROSS is making great strides to keep communication going between the down under members and STARFLEET HQ here in the U.S. Along with the flagship N'DELE, they are concentrating their science teams on the study of Halley's Comet. Of course, they are in a perfect location to see the event.

REGION 12 - RADM Lee Schmidt, Commanding

Flagship USS JUPITER NCC-1734 [MO]
RADM Lee Schmidt - Commanding

After several months of silence, it was established that Region 12 HQ was subject of a violent Romulan attack. RADM Michael Weisert was reported as one of the casualties. Following this event, Lee Schmidt took over as Fleet Commander. JUPITER membership now stands at 42 and three new shuttles have been launched. The shuttles RIGEL, TITAN, and one more, as yet unnamed.



USS ATLANTIS NCC-1379 [IL]
Capt. R. FIELDER - Commanding

A joint party is to be held between the crews of the ATLANTIS and the JUPITER. Plans for this year's activities are underway.

USS CORVUS NCC-620 [IL]
Capt. David Hirsch - Commanding

CORVUS membership is at 25, with a very active presence on the campus of Northwestern University, Chicago, IL. The chapter newsletter, Hailing Frequencies will have a NEW look, and a NEW editor for the NEW year.

USS TUCANA NCC-619 [OK]
Comm. Rick Carlson - Commanding

TUCANA reports numerous activities for both their ship and shuttle APOLLO.

USS VOYAGER NCC-1977 [IL]
Capt. T. Hermann - Commanding

Membership on the VOYAGER now stands at 21, with numerous activities planned for the next year. Communications have been established with survivors of the USS POLARIS. Rescue operations are underway.

Region 17 - RADM Charles Brown, Commanding

USS TULAN NCC-1777 [AZ]
Flt. Capt. Tracy Ann Murray - Commanding

The ship's meeting was held during the chapter's Christmas party held at the captain's quarters. With new lights in the corridor outside, no one was required to bring a flashlight. The TULAN had a recruiting table at TusCon and Gained three new members.

STARSHIP INSIGNIAS



STARSHIP FILE

CHAPTER PROFILE
SERIES No. 21



CLASSIFIED

U.S.S.
SOUTHERN
CROSS

REGION II
SYDNEY
AUSTRALIA

Region XI has officially been described as Australia. all the islands of the Pacific [excluding Hawaii] and New Zealand. One look at a map will tell you that that statement covers a lot of planet.

Consider for a moment. Australia. besides being known for its Koalas, Kangaroos and Cup-winning yachts, it is also the site of the Regional Headquarters for Region XI.

Australia is a country of anachronisms:

- the smallest continent covering only 7686848 square kilometers
- a coastline of just less than 3700 kilometers in length [almost the circumference of Earth.
- the lowest continent with an average elevation of only 300 kilometers
- the largest island nation having one homogenous political unit
- its total populations is just in excess of 15 million persons [compare That to New York City with just over 7.5 millions or the State of Texas With 15.75 million persons]

Statistics aside, Australia is big, beautiful, and diverse. It is also home to two active chapters of STARFLEET. The USS N'DELE - Flagship of the Region under the command of Admiral Leanne Jackson [Regional Co-ordinator] is a heavy cruiser, whilst the USS SOUTHERN CROSS, currently under my command, is a "Reliant Class" research vessel.

I have been asked by Admiral Kraus to supply you with some background on Star Trek in general and STARFLEET in particular in this country. That is one very tall order Admiral, for like Australia, Star Trek in this country is as diverse as the people who participate in fandom. STARFLEET, although "small time" when compared to our North American associated, is equally complex.

STARFLEET has been active in Australia since the USS N'DELE was first commissioned. Despite problems of communication from time to time with Headquarters, due no doubt to distance, STARFLEET in Australia is growing at a modest but encouraging rate. It is exemplified by its enthusiasms and simple tenacity in the face of all odds.

Recently I had the opportunity to beam aboard the N'DELE which is based in Adelaide [South Australia] some 1422 kilometers by road from Sydney [New South Wales] where SOUTHERN CROSS is centered. During the short time which I spent aboard that ship, I had the opportunity to meet with a number of members of her crew and attend a theatrical presentation which the ship was staging as part of their on-going efforts to raise funds for various charities.

But the ship which I know best is of course the USS SOUTHERN CROSS.

SOUTHERN CROSS was commissioned in late April 1983 and since it's humble beginnings, has grown to be rather well-known in Australian fandom. Nick-named the ALL AUSTRALIAN STARSHIP by her crew, SOUTHERN CROSS would never be looked upon as being provincial because of that title, rather we hope that it somehow reflects this ship's diverse cultural background and her crew's commitment to the free spirited, democratically inspired principals upon which our country was founded.



SOUTHERN CROSS is primarily a research support vessel and therefore not heavily armed. But our "research" here in the outlying regions has taken us into some unexplored and potentially hostile zones so we do have the capacity to defend ourselves when and if it becomes necessary. However, discretion has always been the better part of our valor.

COMMUNIQUE

We have a number of on-going projects including a number of publications such as our:

- General Information Handbook
- Know Your Field Equipment
- Know Your Space Handbook
- Scuttlebutt - the ship's bi-monthly newsletter

We are working with the N'DELE on a Region XI newsletter which will come out in alternate months to Scuttlebutt.



The ship has a number of logos, possible the best known of which accompanies this article. We also have Southern Cross stationary and Southern Cross T-Shirts. Plans are well underway for a ship's flag but until it is completed the UFP symbol is displayed at all our functions.

The SOUTHERN CROSS also has a Latin Motto "renum cognoscere causas" which reflects the curiosity and diverse interests of the crew. Yes, we do have a ship's mascot, but no, but no it is not a Koala or a Kangaroo, but a rare variety of Tribble which answers to the name of Tessa and holds the honorary rank of Ensign aboard the SOUTHERN CROSS.

All this research and on-going programmes should not give the impression the the USS SOUTHERN CROSS is a "strictly business" ship. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our crew enjoys a variety of social activities including Star Trek Trivia evenings, parties, "shore leave" and the famous institution of the Australian Bar-B-Que.

Here aboard SOUTHERN CROSS we would welcome the opportunity to communicate with any interested ships or STARFLEET personnel. Newsletter exchanges would also be appreciated.

STARFLEET is alive and well in Australia and we look forward to working as closely as possible with other ships and Regions to ensure that STARFLEET is ALWAYS just one big happy fleet.

Captain Jennifer A. Yates
Commanding Officer
USS SOUTHERN CROSS
NCC-1886



REPORT

HOW OLD WAS THE ENTERPRISE REALLY?

by
Captain
Steven Stein
First Officer, U.S.S. Lagrange

"I'm sorry...but there will be no refit."
"Admiral, I don't understand. The ENTERPRISE is not..."
"Jim, the ENTERPRISE is twenty years old. We feel her day is over."

--Commanding Admiral Morrow to
Admiral James Kirk,
"Star Trek III--The Search for Spock"

When Admiral Morrow spoke those words, I immediately thought, "He had to be wrong! The ENTERPRISE has to be older than that!" In the following article, I plan to prove that he was wrong. Using various sources of information, I believe that I have determined how old the famous Starship ENTERPRISE was at the time of her destruction, and some possible reasons as to why Admiral Morrow said what he did. While some sources (such as the STAR TREK Spaceflight Chronology) may contradict my calculations, I feel that the only authoritative sources of information on STAR TREK are the actual episodes and movies. Where there was no direct evidence, I used indirect evidence, deductive reasoning, logic, and a bit of imagination.

To begin, near the middle of STAR TREK's first season the episode "The Menagerie" aired (it could also be called the middle of year one of the five year mission. I am assuming throughout this article that each season represented one year, in sequence, of the five year mission). We find Spock being court-martialed for trying to take his former commander to the one forbidden world on the books, TALOS IV. The events of the ENTERPRISE's first voyage to TALOS IV are played on the viewscreen. As it begins, we hear Spock state:

"This is thirteen years ago..."

So we know that the ENTERPRISE is at least thirteen years old by this time.

Even though we do not see all five years of the five year mission, during the Television series, it is generally accepted (and stated in the novelization of STAR TREK--The Motion Picture/page 7, paragraph 2) that the five year mission was completed. If we take the year that pass from the first voyage to TALOS IV, to the time of "The Menagerie", we have thirteen years. As to this the time passing until the end of the five year mission (4.5 years), and we have a total of 17.5 years.

At this point I want to regress and try to determine exactly when the ENTERPRISE was built. The evidence I am about to present may not sit well with some fans. I, too have some reservation in taking it as STAR TREK "gospel", and, perhaps, someone will be able to assist me with this point.

STAR TREK did, in fact, air for five years on network television. There were the three seasons from 1966-1969 [years 1-3 of the five year mission], and two seasons of the animated episodes from 1973-1974 [years 4 and 5 of the five year mission]. Some fans of STAR TREK prefer to consider the animateds as not being part of the "official" STAR TREK lore. But nowhere is it etched in castrondinium that they are not, so I must go on the assumption that they do represent voyage years four and five.

The very last animated episode aired was called "The Counter-Clock Incident". The events of this episode are irrelevant to this discussion. What is important is that the ENTERPRISE was carrying a very special passenger-- Commodore Robert M. April, first Captain of the ENTERPRISE. [All of my information on this episode came from STAR TREK LOG 7, by Alan Dean Foster, as I do not have access to the animated episodes. Can someone let me know if the animated agrees, conflicts, or otherwise, with the novelizations?], Robert M. April was the original name for the ENTERPRISE's commander, as stated in the first draft of the STAR TREK writers guide [dated March 11, 1964], and he is described as being about 34 years old [this will be relevant later on]. Since this is the last episode made that takes place during the period of the five year-mission, I am assuming that it takes place at, or near, the end of the five year voyage.

In the novelization of "The Counter-Clock Incident" Foster writes:

"Head-on, the tiny projectile struck the completed cruise, exploded, and burst into a small but rapidly expanding ball of brilliance... The [voice of the] Federation president...sounded from a chamber on the moon...'I christen thee ENTERPRISE!'
"Ahead warp-factor three Lieutenant Nobis"
It was four decades, forty long years since he had given that first order..."

According to this episode, the ENTERPRISE is 40 years old around the time of the end of the five year mission. There is additional evidence that this is indeed, correct.

As stated in the writer's guide, April is about 34 years old and, for the sake of argument, we will assume he was this age at the time he took command. The novelization of "The Counter-Clock Incident" states that April is 75 years old [p. 11, para. 5]. If we took his age at the time the ENTERPRISE was commissioned [34] and add the 40 years up to the time of "The Counter-Clock Incident" we come up with 74 years of age, which is just about right!

To determine the final age of the ENTERPRISE, we move on to the STAR TREK films. It is stated in the novelization of STAR TREK--The Motion Picture [ST-TMP] that Kirk became Chief of Operations shortly after he returned from the five year mission. Gene Roddenberry writes:

"What Kirk did not realize was that the decision to accept Admiral's stars had already been made for him by STARFLEET's Commanding Admiral. On bringing the ENTERPRISE back safely from it's historic mission, Kirk had become simply too valuable to be allowed to accept another deep space command."

There is no mystery as to how much time elapsed from the time the ENTERPRISE returned to Earth, to the time of her refit to CONSTITUTION Class II status. Kirk and Scotty are travelling to the refitted ENTERPRISE via a travel pod. Scotty is trying to explain that they aren't ready to take on an emergency mission. Systems haven't been tested AND they have an untried Captain in Captain Decker. Kirk tells Scotty that he got command of her back by replying:

"Two and a half years as Chief of STARFLEET Operations may have made me a little stale, but I wouldn't exactly consider myself untried..."

Additionally, we discover that Kirk hasn't even seen any star-travel in that Period since his return to Earth, as witnessed in this exchange between Kirk and Decker in ST-TMP:

Additionally, we discover that Kirk hasn't even seen any star-travel in that Period since his return to Earth, as witnessed in this exchange between Kirk and Decker in ST-TMP:

"Permission to speak freely sir?"

"Granted."

"Sir, you haven't logged a single star hour in two and a half years. That, plus your unfamiliarity with the ship's redesign, in my opinion, sir, seriously jeopardizes this mission."

Adding the previously determine 40 years to the 2.5 years that elapsed between returning from Earth after the completed five year mission and the encounter with V'Ger, we have a total of 42.5 years.

How much time elapsed between ST-TMP and STAR TREK II-The Wrath of Khan [ST-TWOK]?

While in the Genesis cave, Kirk and Carol Marcus are talking about the situation and their relationship. Kirk says, in reference to Khan:

"there's a man out there I haven't seen in fifteen years who's trying to kill me."

If Kirk hadn't seen Khan since "Space Seed", which took place late in the first season [end of year one of the five year mission], then we come up with the following numbers: 4 years to the end of the five year mission, plus 2.5 years until the V'Ger mission equals 6.5 years. So for 15 years to be correct, as Kirk states, then 8.5 years has had to have passed between the events in ST-TMP and ST-TWOK. This makes the grand total, adding the 42.5 years from commissioning to the V'Ger mission, to the 8.5 years elapsing from V'Ger to the destruction of the ENTERPRISE, [drum roll please] fifty-one years!

I have now determined, and justified, that the U.S.S. ENTERPRISE was 51 years old at the time of her return from battling Khan [and just a few weeks older at the time of her destruction]. So why did Admiral Morrow say she was twenty years old? Well, we could say that the writers of STAR TREK --The Search For Spock [ST-TSFS] were just plain wrong. But if it was said in an "official" STAR TREK adventure, then we, as fans, have to explain it better than that.

If [as some would like to do] we totally disregard the evidence of the STAR TREK animateds, and assume that the events of the ENTERPRISE's first voyage to TALOS IV is one of it's first voyages after commissioning, then the ENTERPRISE would only be 28.5 years old at the time of her destruction. This would be just about right, albeit really rounded off. Morrow probably should have said she was thirty years old, instead.

Another reason could have been that, since there are so many ships in the Fleet, Morrow couldn't be expected to know the exact age of the ENTERPRISE and simply made a mistake.

I prefer to believe that my facts are correct, my sources accurate and justified, and my assumptions valid, and so I stick by my calculated 51 years. My explanation for Admiral Morrow stating...

"Jim, the ENTERPRISE is twenty years old. We feel her day is over."

...is this: I believe what he meant to say was that the ENTERPRISE was 20 years OUT OF DATE. And that even though she was upgraded less than ten years before, technology has changed so much in those years that another retro-fitting of a 51 yea old vessel would not be cost effective, nor practical. Just think about how much technology has advanced in the previous ten years of our lives. In the 23rd Century, advances must be occurring at least as quickly. Just look at all the new types of starships, represented by RELIANT, GRISSOM, and EXCELSIOR, the improvements in the transporters, weapons, sensing equipment, etc...

Although the ENTERPRISE was destroyed, it was a better and more fitting end than being dismantled and sold for scrap. And though she did die a noble death I've a feeling that we've not seen the last of the [a?] Starship ENTERPRISE...

[Thanks go to Captain Tim Gillespie for his assistance in the preparation of this article, and to Admiral William Krause for recalling a line from STAR TREK II which shortened this article by a full, single spaced, typed page. I welcome any and all comments on this article. Send them to: Capt. S.D. Stein, 11843 Lake Ave. #11, Lakewood, OH 44107-1812. --SOS]

INTERVIEW

NICHOLAS MEYER

BY LARRY MARCHESCHI JR. RADM



Nicholas Meyer, the director of *Star Trek: The Wrath of Khan*. An accomplished novelist, Meyer is best known to SF film fans as the writer/director of *Time after Time*.

What a treat, what a joy, what a jolt of excitement! What I am about to explain are all the details of an exclusive interview with NICHOLAS MEYER, one of the most down-to-earth, warmest and interesting professional people I have ever met.

It began with confirmation that Nick was going to be in Iowa City, Iowa. Then on 8509.20, I tried to contact either him or his management. I received word that I might be able to interview him on Sunday night.

It happened.

Date: 8509.22 Time: approx: 7:15 Place: Hansher Auditorium, Iowa City, IA.

HELLO, AND THANK YOU FOR THIS INTERVIEW...I'D LIKE TO CONCENTRATE ON THE PRODUCTION OF STAR TREK II - THE WRATH OF KHAN, IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT?

Well, all right...it was a very good time and "they" approached me about the project and it seemed interesting...

"THEY" BEING PARAMOUNT AND GENE RODDENBERRY?

Yes, Paramount asked me if I wanted to do the project...and I said yes. Gene Roddenberry was there as a consultant.

PRODUCTION BEGAN ALMOST FOUR YEARS AGO...FROM OCTOBER TO JUNE...HOW DID IT START?

Well, Harve Bennett sat me down and showed me the episode..."Space Seed" I don't like science fiction, I am not a Science Fiction fan, but this script dealt with people and feelings. Real human characters...emotions. I was not really familiar with the insides of Star Trek until I saw the episode with Ricardo Montalban on TV. His character intrigued me.

WHAT WAS RICARDO REALLY LIKE TO WORK WITH?

Fantastic...a really good actor...he really is. You'd never know it or at least you can't really see it on "Fantasy Island". He is a distinguished Broadway actor. A real professional and he has a great personality.

DID YOU SEE THE FIRST MOVIE?

Yes, it was drab...boring. No color or life in the characters. Real dull.

IT HAS BEEN QUOTED THAT YOU HAVE SAID YOU WANTED A "UTILITARIAN" LOOK TO THE ENTERPRISE. WHY? WHAT DID YOU MEAN?

The sets were so drab. In fact one of the aspects of the film is that as a director, I didn't have to start from scratch, like "Time After Time". With Star Trek, unlike all my other films, I had everything already there. Paramount wanted to do another one and they said, "Listen, the sets are here, let's use them". So I had going into this production, the sets, the Star Trek people, the TV show, uniforms, equipment, etc. All this was already there. The real challenge was to bring this all to life.

YES, AND YOU DID IT VERY WELL. CHANGES IN UNIFORMS, NO SMOKING SIGNS, A LOT OF DETAIL. WHAT ABOUT THE UNIFORMS.

[Laughs] Well, I designed them. I wanted a more military look to them. I mean, come on...even in the future, the military will probably have uniforms, and they will probably have color.

ANYTHING ELSE?

Well, my movie, unlike Star Trek [TMP] was a story about relationships of best friends and best friends dying, whereas Star Trek III was about resurrection.

DID YOU LIKE STAR TREK III?

Yes, I did. I loved the stealing of the Enterprise. That was great, and although I don't believe in resurrection, I think Leonard Nimoy pulled it off rather well.

MAY I ASK WHAT YOUR WORKING RELATIONSHIP WAS WITH HARVE BENNET?

He was there, basically at the start and end of the project. A lot in the end...at the editing stage. He is a real nice man, in fact he was working on the production "A Woman Called Golda" at the time while Trek was being shot.

HOW ABOUT WILLIAM SHATNER?

He is very professional. He knows his crafts and is always serious when he is doing his work. He always came prepared. He is a good performer, a natural at his craft and a very warm person.



HOW ABOUT LEONARD NIMOY?

He is very quiet and reserved...to himself, but very, very professional. He is very serious in his manner, unlike Shatner. You know, Leonard told me an interesting thing about his character - Spock is a very emotionally filled character who can't let his emotions out. The dilemma of having very strong emotions and not letting them show, a very extreme character with very interesting twists, bottled up. Leonard plays that very well, in fact he had to

because he just walked off the set of "Marco Polo" and onto the set of Star Trek. [Laughs]

WHAT WAS THE 43 DAY SHOOTING SCHEDULE LIKE?

Well, it was more like a 54 day shooting schedule [laughs] Paramount wanted 43 days and I said that there was now way. No way this could have been brought in in less than 50... and it wasn't.

AND PROBLEMS ON THE SET?

Problems. Mmmmm, this was a while you know. I've done three movies since! Let's see, other than the sets being drab and poorly lit. I like to light the sets...it was hard to make them look good, because they were fiberglass. Our portable lights and dollies we had couldn't be taped our wouldn't stick for too long to anything. I wanted the sets to look more alive.

WHEN YOU WERE ON THE SET DID YOU ACTUALLY FEEL LIKE YOU WERE ON THE ENTERPRISE?

Well, you know, everything you saw was only a set for that shot we were shooting...the frame. If you saw what went beyond the frame you would see cables, tape, wires hanging everywhere, bunches of lights...but when the sets were "hot" that's all lit and ready to be shot on, yes, they really did.

ANY SPECIAL PART OF THE SHIP LOOK EXTRA REALISTIC?

The corridors...when they were "hot". It was real fun walking through them. It made you feel like it was part of the Enterprise.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE AT I.L.M.?

I went to meet with them at their studios...

WITH GEORGE LUCAS?

No, I never met Mr. Lucas, but I met with the effects people and discussed what elements of what effects go with that scene, with each effect shown to me one element at a time, so in the dailies we always saw the element for the effects...never the completed shot. Then, after post production was completed and the composite shown, the effects were extraordinary...really very exciting

IN WHAT WAY?

Well for example, the sequence we kept on seeing only one element for was the scene where the Reliant passes over the Enterprise after their first duel. All we saw was the Enterprise, and it was very short. In fact, I even wanted to take it out because it just didn't seem very effective. Then I saw the composite shot and that three or four seconds was fantastic.

YES, I AGREE...WITH THE ENTERPRISE BEING SHADOWED BY THE RELIANT. HOW MUCH OF THE ACTUAL SHIP MOVEMENTS AND SPECIAL EFFECTS WERE YOU IN CHARGE OF OR DID YOU HAVE CONTROL OVER?

We did what the script said. It was all written and the effects were storyboarded before the production began. We followed the script and all shots were defined in it.

WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP DID YOU HAVE WITH JACK B. SCWAROS?

I didn't really meet him until the first screening. A really nice man who worked closely with Harve Bennet, then myself.

WHAT ABOUT GENE RODDENBERRY?

Yes, he was there as a consultant. The sets, the styles and characterizations of Star Trek. He also consulted with Harve Bennet about the script and helped Paramount with the promotion...the publicity.

WHAT ABOUT THE EXTRA FOOTAGE, WHEN THEY AIRED STAR TREK II ON TELEVISION ON ABC-TV?

Yes...for Wrath of Khan. You see, it seems the movie studios seem to give more control to the directors, more freedom to edit his films when it goes on TV because a movie either may run too long or too short. They feel the director is best to "fix it up", unlike theatrical releases where the director is given limited control of what goes in or comes out.

I REALLY DID LIKE THE EXTRA FOOTAGE. ESPECIALLY THE LONGER SEQUENCES.

Well thank you. Yes - expanding upon Scotty's nephew...and it's good that you've seen it. I should have taped it...[laughs].

[Laughs]...I DID...AND STILL ENJOY IT.

The scenes added more flavor, more color to the characters and relationships. It is fun to play with that aspect of the film.

ANY OTHER INTERESTING STORIES OR HAPPENINGS?

No, nothing that stands out. We were on schedule. Technically everything worked out well. I've done three movies since. Did you see the last film?

YES IS DID, AND I LOVED "TIME AFTER TIME" AND "THE DAY AFTER". I DIDN'T SEE "THE SEVEN PERCENT SOLUTION" BUT I DID READ THE BOOK! [laughs]

Good, that's great [gives the thumbs up sign]. Did you see "The Day After" this afternoon?

YES, AND I FORGOT HOW MUCH I ENJOYED IT.

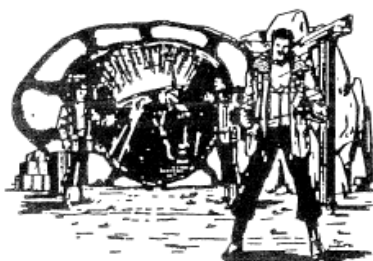
Good to see you there. Too bad they didn't get to sow the European version of it. Well, thanks for the interview and good to talk to you. Good luck.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND I DO APPRECIATE TAKING THIS TIME. GOODBYE.

Goodbye. Remember to turn off your recorder! [Laughs]

You wouldn't believe how nervous I was, but I was told that I pulled it off well! It was wonderful and a real treat. He is a very refined, yet down to earth individual. Throughout the interview he casually and calmly puffed away on his cigar. Thanks to Jan Driggs for the assistance and Lynn Milham and Jerry Ready for the information and ride to Iowa City.

CLASSIFIEDS



The St. Louis chapter of STARFLEET, the USS DISCOVERY, announced the release of their First Annual Calendar. It features 12 months of illustrations on quality heavy cardstock by up and coming comic artist Darren Goodhart. Really nice! Make out check or money order for \$9.50 and mail to USS DISCOVERY, 313 San Juan, St. Charles, MO 63303.



MY GOD!! IT'S FULL OF STARS!!! The Incredible 3rd Anniversary Edition of "Attention, All Hands..." the Award Winning Newsletter of the USS LAGRANGE! Here's your chance to own a STARFLEET legend. This is the infamous "Time Magazine" issue you read about in the last STARFLEET COMMUNIQUE. Full color cover, origin of the LAGRANGE, the Year in Review, Member of the Month, News-letter Exchange, Lagrange Fun Facts and much, much more. 30 pages of fully illustrated laughs and thrills. Don't be left out. Get yours before they're all gone. Only twelve issues remaining. Send check or money order for \$5 to: Bill Krause, 5826 Randy Rd. Bedford Hts. OH 44146.

CONVENTIONS

EQUICON 86 [March 28-30, 1986] Pasadena Hilton Hotel, Pasadena, CA. This is the only fan science fiction & media con, run by John and Bjo Trimble. Cinematic workshops, art show, masquerade, auctions, films. Guests to be announced. Membership: \$25 to 3/20/86, \$30 at the door. Rooms: \$55 single, \$60 double, triple, quad. Info: Equicon 86, P.O. Box 36789, Los Angeles, CA 90036-0789.

COASTCON IC [April 5-7, 1986] Gulf Coast Convention Center, Biloxi, MS. 24-hour movies and gaming, art show, auction, dealers and video room(s). Costume party and contest. Panels and readings by major SF writers, artists and game designers. Admission \$15 until 2/28/86, \$20 at the door. Coastcon, P.O. Box 1423, Biloxi, MS 39533.

PRISM [April 19 and 20, 1986] Hilton Airport Plaza, Kansas City, MO. Guests: Gene and Majel Barrett-Roddenberry, David Prowse, Richard Pini, Jesco Von Puttkamer and more. Demonstrations, panels, costume ball, celebrity breakfast and much, much more! Memberships: \$40 after 1/1/86, \$45 at the door. Celebrity breakfast - \$10. For more information, send SASE to Prism, P.O. Box 4557, Kansas City, MO 64124.

20-YEAR CELEBRATION [April 25-May 4, 1986] Texas Renaissance Festival Site, Houston, TX. 30th anniversary celebration of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. Grand meeting of all members, past & present to hold courts, colleges, mock battles for a week. Admission: \$20 for SCA members, \$30 non-members to 10/1/85. For more information: TYC, P.O. Box 635, Bellaire, TX 77041. TYC Newsletter \$7 sub from John & Bjo Trimble, 696 S. Bronson Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90005.

ALTI-EGOS '86 [May 23-26, 1986] Lakewood, CO. Guests include Jack Williamson, George Barr, Rusty Hevelin. 24 hour con suite and video room, costume competition, folk singing, art show and huckster's room. A library track worth 3 college credits in library science and more. Send SASE for more information to: Alti-Egos, P.O. Box 26100, Lakewood, CO 80225. Make checks payable to Sword and Shield.

USERS' EXPO [July 18-20, 1986] Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena, CA. Guest speaker: Dr. Jerry Pournelle. More than computer trade show: a computer convention for both experienced and novice software users. Bjo Trimble is Chairman. Admission \$25. Info: User's Expo, c/o Workman, 112 Marion Ave. Pasadena, CA 91106.

SPACE TREK IV [June 28, 29 1986] Clarion Hotel, Downtown St. Louis, MO. A Star Trek celebration featuring Leonard Nimoy, DeForrest Kelley and Nichelle Nichols. "20th Anniversary Bash", Dealer's Room, films and videos, costume and writers contests, charity auction and gala banquet. Official STARFLEET CONFERENCE and gathering. Memberships: \$35 until May 31st (\$40 thereafter). Room rates: \$55 single, \$65 double, \$75 triple and \$85 quad. Note: These special rates apply only if you re-serve your room before May 27th. Call the Clarion Toll Free at 1-800-363-6000 and be sure to mention SPACE TREK when making reservations. Send a SASE and write now for more information to: SPACE TREK IV, 5046 37th St., St. Louis, MO 63116.

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LETTERS

TO: ALL SIXTH FLEET/STARFLEET PERSONNEL

I know that many of you are making the new style uniforms for yourselves and your crew. There are many patterns available and I have a lot of things from Bob Fletcher regarding the trim and everything else. I would be happy to assist anyone with any questions about the new uniforms.

However finding the rank insignia pins, commendation bars and five year service pins has been difficult to say the least. When you do find the pins, they are sometimes made of plastic, and the few that are metal only have one clutch back fastener. I have been communicating with every company I can find who manufactures these pins to find decent ones. Most of the companies only make pins for the rank of Rear Admiral [Kirk], Captain [Spock], Commander [Sulu], and Lieutenant Junior grade [Saavik]. So far it has been impossible to find the rank insignia for Ensign, Lieutenant, Lt. Commander, Commodore, Vice Admiral, Admiral and Fleet Admiral, to say nothing of the enlisted ranks or Fleet Captain.

I have finally found a place which makes the usual rank insignias out of metal and with two clutch back fasteners [except for Lt. j. g. which has one]. I wrote to this gentleman in regards to making the other rank insignia pins, as I did with other companies, and I finally received a positive reply! I was informed that it takes \$80 - \$120 to make the model and another \$20 to make a mold for the insignia pins. But is he can get enough orders, he will manufacture them at a regular price of around \$10 apiece. The Sixth Fleet could do all Star Trek fans a service by scraping up enough orders to get this goal accomplished.

Any persons wishing top place orders for insignia pins for the following ranks should send their pledges to myself. Send no money, so I can in turn send in the orders to see if they are of acceptable quantity to warrant the molds being made for the following ranks: Ensign, Lieutenant, Lt. Commander, Fleet Captain, Commodore, Vice Admiral, Admiral and Fleet Admiral. This company makes an insignia for Petty Officer First Class, so if anyone wishes other enlisted mens , rank insignia pins, please specify which ones and maybe he will do those as well.

This company was making an incorrect insignia for Fleet Admiral, but has gotten the correct insignia designs and will be manufacturing the actual insignias as designed by Robert Fletcher. If we can get enough orders to warrant his making the mold, I will contact everyone who pledged an order and they can, in turn order from the company direct. If we cannot get enough pledged orders together then no one is out anything, except being able to buy and insignia pin for their uniform. For your information, the company I have been talking about is ACME Space Products, Arthur F. Brown, Jr., President, 288 Netick Ave. Warwick, RI 02886. He also makes other items and please do write to him and get a copy of his catalogue! If anyone has any questions about this, please feel free to contact me personally at [402] 564-6110 M-F during business hours - and NO, I Am not getting anything out of this! All I'm getting is a place to buy a Vice Admiral's pin for my uniform without having to pay \$200 for it [if we can get enough orders together to warrant his making the molds]. Thought I would answer that question now.

Sincerely
VADM S. M. Person
Inspector General, Sixth Fleet
22 Lakewood Drive
Columbus, NE 68601

INSIGNIAS:

U.S.S. ARCTURUS



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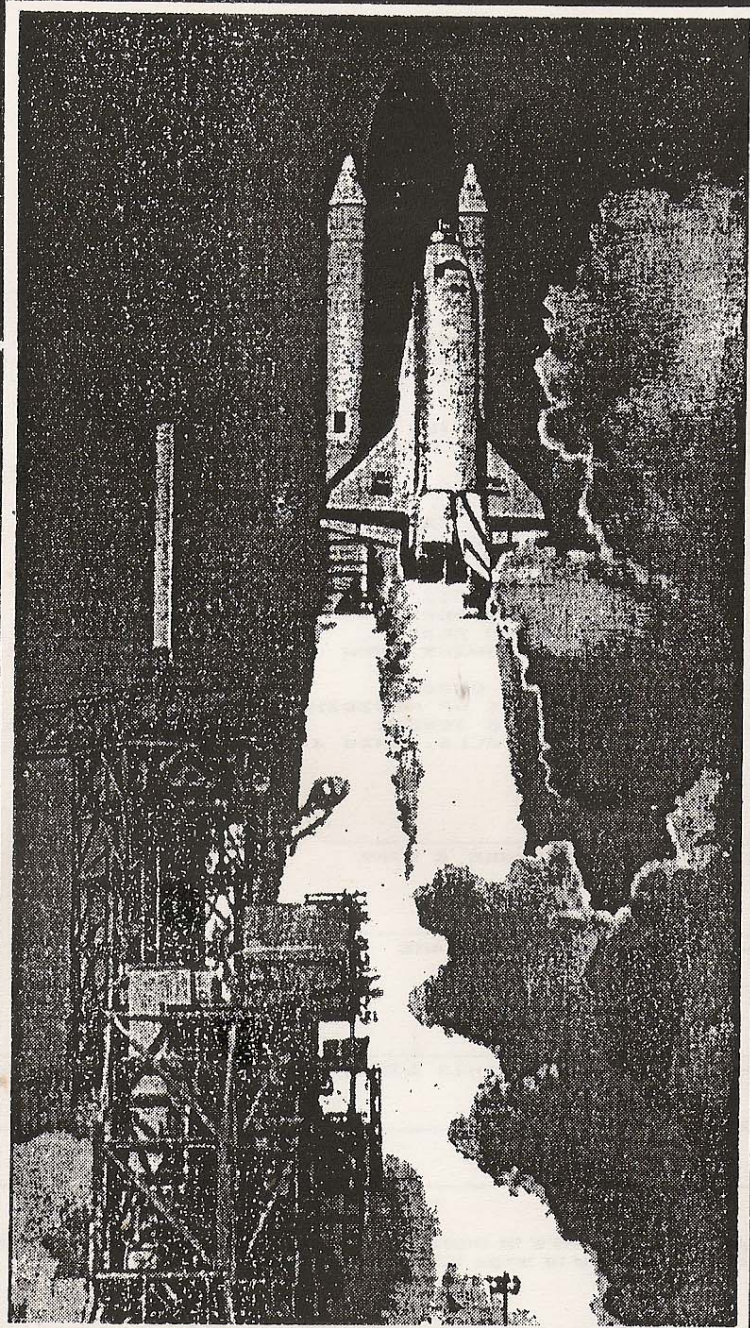
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