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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS BOONE (FFG-28)
FPO MIAMI, FL 34093-1484

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FFG28-PAO
14 Mar 89

From: Commanding Officer, USS BOONE (FFG-28)
To: Director of Naval History (CODE: OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1 JANUARY 1988 THROUGH 31 DECEMBER 1988

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5720.12D

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.


M. W. NEWMAN

USS BOONE (FFG-28) COMMAND HISTORY 1988
CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY

25 REFLOATED FROM DRYDOCK, AVONDALE SHIPYARDS, LA

JULY

21 LIGHT-OFF EXAMINATION

AUGUST

15-19 SEA TRIALS, GULF OF MEXICO
29 DELIVERY DATE FROM AVONDALE SHIPYARDS, LA
29-31 ENROUTE CHARLESTON WEAPONS STATION, SC

SEPTEMBER

1 ARRIVAL CHARLESTON WEAPONS STATION, SC
1-2 AMMUNITION ONLOAD, CHARLESTON WEAPONS STATION, SC
2 ENROUTE MAYPORT
3 ARRIVAL MAYPORT
5-23 IMAV SIMA MAYPORT
23 TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION
26-30 COMMENCE COMBAT SYSTEMS SHIP'S QUALIFICATION TRIALS (CSSQT)

OCTOBER

11-13 CSSQT, JAXOA
18-20 CSSQT, JAXOA
24-25 CSSQT, JAXOA
26 DEPARTURE MATERIAL STATUS REVIEW
28 DEPART MAYPORT FOR NORTHERN PUERTO RICAN OPAREA (NPROA)
31 ARRIVAL NPROA

NOVEMBER

1-4 CSSQT, NPROA/PORT VISIT, ROOSEVELT ROADS, RQ
4 FINISH CSSQT/DEPART RQ FOR GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
7-30 ARRIVAL GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA/BEGIN REFRESHER TRAINING

DECEMBER

1-9 CONTINUE REFRESHER TRAINING
9 DEPART GUANTANAMO BAY FOR PORT EVERGLADES, FL
9-12 ENROUTE PORT EVERGLADES, FL
12-14 PORT VISIT PORT EVERGLADES, FL
14-18 WEAPON SYSTEMS ACCURACY TESTS (WSAT) PORT EVERGLADES, FL
18 ENROUTE AUTEC RANGE BAHAMAS FOR WSAT CONTINUATION
19-20 WSAT AUTEC RANGE
20 FINISH WSAT/ENROUTE MAYPORT
21-31 ARRIVAL MAYPORT/HOLIDAY LEAVE/UPKEEP
27 CHANGE OF COMMAND

Enclosure (2)

USS BOONE (FFG-28) COMMAND HISTORY
COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS BOONE (FFG-28) IS A MEMBER OF THE OLIVER HAZARD PERRY CLASS GUIDED MISSILE FRIGATES. SHE IS DESIGNED TO IMPROVE THE CAPABILITY OF SURFACE COMBATANTS TO DEFEND NON-CARRIER FORCES AND CONDUCT ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER SEA CONTROL FORCES TO ENSURE ESSENTIAL USE OF THE SEA LINES OF COMMUNICATION.

USS BOONE (FFG-28) IS A MEMBER OF DESTROYER SQUADRON EIGHT BASED IN MAYPORT NAVAL STATION, MAYPORT, FL. HER COMMANDING OFFICER IS MICAHAH W. NEWMAN, CDR, USN, OF BRYAN, TX.

ASSIGNED TO USS BOONE IS DETACHMENT THREE OF HELICOPTOR ANTISUBMARINE (LIGHT) SQUADRON LIGHT FORTY SIX, BASED AT MAYPORT NAVAL AIR STATION, MAYPORT, FL. DETACHMENT THREE'S TAILCODE IS HOTEL QUEBEC-FOUR SIX THREE WITH CALL SIGN OF "CUTLASS FOUR SIX THREE".

Enclosure (1)

USS BOONE (FFG-28) COMMAND HISTORY 1988
NARRATIVE

1988 PICKED UP WITH THE BOONE WHERE THE PREVIOUS YEAR LEFT OFF; STILL IN AVONDALE SHIPYARDS AND STILL IN DRYDOCK. IT WASN'T UNTIL JANUARY 25 THAT THE SHIP'S UNDERBELLY REUNITED ITSELF WITH THE REASSURING WATERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI WHICH IT HAD LONG SINCE LEFT FIVE MONTHS PRIOR.

AS THE LONG ARDUOUS DAYS UNDER THE HOT LOUISIANA SUN ROLLED ON AND ON, BOONE CREPT WITH ANTICIPATION TOWARDS COMPLETION DEADLINES WHICH, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, WERE PUSHED BACK TIME AND TIME AGAIN. ALTHOUGH ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO LEAVE THE SHIPYARD ON JULY 8TH, BOONE UNDERWENT MANY SCHEDULE CHANGES WHICH PUSHED HER DEPARTURE DATE BACK A MONTH AND A HALF. BY CHANCE, BOONE HAPPENED TO BE THE FIRST SHIP OF ITS KIND TO BE RECONFIGURED BY THIS SHIPYARD, ONE WHICH WAS ACCUSTOMED TO BUILDING FROM THE GROUND UP RATHER THAN OVERHAULING AN FFG-7. AFTER COMPLETING A LIGHT-OFF EXAMINATION IN THE LAST WEEK OF JULY, BOONE UNDERWENT SEA TRIALS FROM AUGUST 15-19, THEN FINALLY DEPARTED THE SHIPYARDS OF AVONDALE, LA ON AUGUST 29, 387 DAYS AFTER ARRIVING A YEAR BEFORE.

AFTER MAKING THE LONG JOURNEY DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, USS BOONE STEAMED EAGERLY ACROSS THE GULF OF MEXICO AND INTO THE FAMILIAR ARMS OF THE GULF STREAM WHICH CARRIED HER NORTH FOR A BRIEF STOP AT THE WEAPONS STATION AT CHARLESTON NAVAL BASE, CHARLESTON, S.C. AFTER UNLOADING WEAPONS ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2, BOONE PULLED INTO MAYPORT NAVAL STATION THE NEXT MORNING WITH A MORE THAN JOYFUL CROWD OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO WELCOME HER HOME.

FOR THREE WEEKS FOLLOWING THE RETURN, USS BOONE REMAINED ALONGSIDE THE PIER AT SIMA WHILE UNDERGOING IMAV. BEGINNING ON SEPTEMBER 26 AND EXTENDING THROUGH ALL OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AND INTO THE FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER, BOONE UNDERWENT SIX WEEKS OF COMBAT SYSTEMS SHIP'S QUALIFICATION TESTS (CSSQT), INVOLVING VARIOUS AAW AND ASUW EXERCISES. DURING THESE TRIALS, BOONE DISPLAYED ITS ABILITY TO REMAIN COMBAT READY IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED AREAS DESPITE A YEAR-LONG OVERHAUL.

THE MONDAY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CSSQT (THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER), BOONE PULLED INTO GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA FOR FOUR AND A HALF WEEKS OF A POST OVERHAUL REFRESHER TRAINING PERIOD. THROUGHOUT THIS TIME, BOONE DEMONSTRATED A HIGHTENED STATE OF DAMAGE CONTROL READINESS. ONE MAJOR EXAMPLE OF WHICH WAS BOONE'S ABILITY TO PASS A MINI-MASS CONFLAGRATION DRILL, A FEAT NOT OFTEN MASTERED BY SHIPS UNDERGOING REFRESHER TRAINING.

ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 9, WITH ITS HEAD HIGH AND ITS ENGINES AT FLANK SPEED USS BOONE ROARED PROUDLY OUT OF GUANTANAMO BAY, AROUND THE SOUTHEASTERN COAST OF CUBA AND STRAIGHT TOWARD A WELL DESERVED AND VERY MUCH NEEDED WEEK LONG LIBERTY CALL AT FT. LAUDERDALE/PT. EVERGLADES, FL. ON MONDAY DECEMBER 12, THE FIRST EVENING IN PORT, BOONE'S CO, CDR PETER R. SMITH, WAS INVITED, ALONG WITH A DOZEN OTHER BOONE SAILORS, BY THE GREATER SOUTH FLORIDA NAVY LEAGUE TO THE NFL MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL GAME AT JOE ROBBIE STADIUM. DURING HALFTIME CDR SMITH WAS CHOSEN TO PRESENT TO JOE ROBBIE HIMSELF A PLAQUE OF APPRECIATION FROM THE NAVY LEAGUE OF GREATER SOUTH FLORIDA. AFTER HALFTIME, MR. ROBBIE INVITED CDR SMITH AND THE BOONE SAILORS UP TO HIS PRIVATE BOOTH FOR THE SECOND HALF.

AFTER CONDUCTING A FEW INPORT TESTS ON THE VARIOUS ASW EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING FIRING EXERCISE TORPEDOES IN THE HARBOR, BOONE LEFT PT. EVERGLADES ON SUNDAY 18 DECEMBER AND HEADED FOR THE AUTECH RANGE OFF ANDROS ISLAND, BAHAMAS. WHILE THERE BOONE CONDUCTED SEVERAL TESTS ON ITS SONAR NOISE LEVEL AIDED BY EMBARKED NUSC TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVES. ON THE EVENING OF TUESDAY THE 20TH, BOONE HEADED FOR HOME EAGERLY AWAITING THE WELL DESERVED LEAVE PERIOD AHEAD.

ON TUESDAY THE 27TH OF DECEMBER, SIX DAYS AFTER ARRIVING IN MAYPORT THE COMMAND OF THE BOONE CHANGED HANDS FOR THE THIRD TIME. CDR PETER R. SMITH, THE SHIP'S CO FOR THE LAST 27 MONTHS, BID HIS CREW FAREWELL FOR THE FINAL TIME. BOONE'S NEW CAPTAIN, CDR MICAHAH W. NEWMAN, A NATIVE OF BRYAN, TEXAS, ACCEPTED THE COMMAND EAGERLY, READY TO CARRY ON BOONE'S FINE TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE.