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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GARY (FFG 51)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96666-1505

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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10 Oct 89

From: Commanding Officer, USS GARY (FFG 51)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV REPORT 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command History for 1988
(2) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(3) CO's Picture and Biography
(4) Ship's Picture
(5) Familygram
(6) Cruisebook

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are forwarded.

G. W. SCHNURRPUSCH

USS GARY (FFG-51)
COMMAND HISTORY 1988
SHIP'S ORGANIZATION

Homeported in Long Beach, CA, USS GARY (FFG-51) is the forty-fifth ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry class of guided missile frigates. Her mission is to provide anti-air, anti-submarine, and anti-surface protection for military and merchant shipping, amphibious task forces, underway logistics groups, and carrier battle groups.

The Commanding Officer has the ultimate authority, responsibility, and accountability for the performance of the ship and the crew. The Executive Officer, as second in command, is responsible for the implementation of Navy policies and regulations as applicable to the ship. Each Department Head reports to the Commanding Officer via the Executive Officer.

USS GARY was under the administrative command of Commander, Destroyer Squadron NINE throughout 1988. Destroyer Squadron NINE is homeported in Long Beach, CA.

SHIP ORGANIZATION FOR 1988:

COMMANDING OFFICER: CDR W. Dallas Bethea

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: CDR Robert L. Moon
(relieved May 20 by LCDR John A. Schaefer)

DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION:

SHIP CONTROL OFFICER: LT Mark A. Statler
(relieved May 10 by LT Thomas S. Wetherald)

ASSISTANT NAVIGATOR (CPO) / SC-1 Division
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER / SC-2 Division
FIRST LIEUTENANT (SCPO) / SC-3 Division

COMBAT SYSTEMS OFFICER: LT John W. Peterson

COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER OFFICER / CS-1 Division
ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OFFICER / CS-2 Division
ORDNANCE OFFICER / CS-3 Division
ELECTRONIC READINESS OFFICER / CS-4 Division

ENGINEERING OFFICER: LT Michael E. Melvin

MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT / E-1 Division
DAMAGE CONTROL ASSISTANT / E-2 Division
AUXILIARIES OFFICER / E-3 Division

SUPPLY OFFICER: LT James L. Lepse

STOREKEEPERS (CPO) / S-1 Division
FOOD SERVICES (PO1)/ S-2 Division
DISBURSING OFFICER / S-3 Division
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (SCPO) / X-Division

OIC HELO DETACHMENT: LCDR Mark Burgunder (27 Jan-02 Jul)
(Relieved by LCDR James J. Davis, 02-27 Jul)

OPERATIONS OFFICER
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MAINTENANCE OFFICER
Maintenance and Aircrew Personnel

SENIOR CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COMMAND: BMCS Thomas R. Vigil

In keeping with her motto "Freedom's Foremost Guardian," USS GARY participated in various fleet exercises and independent operations, and conducted an arduous deployment to the Persian Gulf. GARY logged her first actual combat experience on 18 April, as a participant in Operation Praying Mantis, the United States retaliation against Iran for the mining attack on the USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG-58).

1988 Air Detachment: Helicopter Anti Submarine Squadron Light Four Three Detachment Thirteen embarked for the entirety of the 1988 deployment, 27 Jan-27 Jul. The detachment operated two SH-60 aircraft, OCEANLORD 21 and OCEANLORD 22, and was comprised of six pilots, three aircrewmen, and eleven enlisted maintenance technicians.

The primary mission of the air detachment during 1988 was to support Persian Gulf surveillance operations, with a lesser emphasis on logistical requirements. The aircraft effectively and securely extended the eyes of the ship, through utilization of the LAMPS SRQ-4 data link. They patrolled areas in the vicinity of the ship on the lookout for mines, as well as for friendly, Soviet and Iranian shipping activity. They correlated contacts visually, and through radar and ESM.

Noteworthy for Det-13 and GARY's flight deck and other support personnel was the successful completion of over 270 operational missions. They logged over 1200 flight hours during twelve weeks of Middle East Force operations, which is a MIDEASTFOR record.

USS GARY (FFG-51)
COMMAND HISTORY 1988
HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

1988 Milestones: The following are the most significant events of the year.

15 Jan	Completed Interim Refresher Training
27 Jan	Departed Long Beach CA for Persian Gulf deployment
10 Feb	Chop from Third Fleet to Seventh Fleet
04 Mar	Chop from Seventh Fleet to CMEF
05 Mar	Notification of Battle "E" awarded for competitive cycle ending 31 Dec 87.
31 Mar	Awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
18 Apr	Participated in Operation Praying Mantis
27 Apr	Awarded the second Sea Service Ribbon
08 Jun	Chop from CMEF to Seventh Fleet
16 Jul	Chop from Seventh Fleet to Third Fleet; Conducted Rescue at Sea
27 Jul	Arrived in Long Beach, completed second deployment and Tiger Cruise
26 Aug	Weapons Offload at Seal Beach, CA
02 Sep	Completed operations with USCG Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET)
05 Oct	Completed Command Inspection by CDS-9
26 Oct	Completed IERA
04 Nov	Completed INSURV
08 Dec	Weapons Onload, Concord, CA
16 Dec	Completed MEF-EX, Orange Force

At the beginning of 1988, GARY completed a short leave and stand-down period, and plunged right into Interim Refresher Training, completing a trying eight-day syllabus designed to prepare the crew for the upcoming deployment. Within two weeks after the completion of REFTRA, during which last-minute repairs were completed, and some procedural briefings for senior personnel on Arabian Gulf operations were conducted, the ship departed Long Beach for the transit across the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and into the Persian Gulf.

For the transit, GARY rendezvoused with San Diego-based guided missile frigate USS COPELAND (FFG 25), and conducted a fly-on for OCEANLORD 21 and 22 from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light Four Three Detachment Thirteen, homeported at North Island. After a brief stop in Pearl Harbor, HI, the ships sailed for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, for an eight-day maintenance availability. Upon leaving Subic Bay, the next brief stop was for refueling in Colombo, Sri Lanka. On the way the ships dipped down to the equator, south of Singapore, to conduct the traditional "crossing the line" celebration.

Upon arrival to Middle East Force (AOR), GARY and COPELAND conducted a day of exercises with USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) Battle Group "F" on station in the Gulf of Oman, and then rendezvoused with USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41) and USS CHANDLER (DDG 996) for turnover. GARY received several briefings from MCCLUSKY, as well as a large package of Middle East Force turnover items. GARY then detached from COPELAND to conduct independent operations as assigned by CMEF.

The crew had to adjust quickly to the relentless pace of Persian Gulf operations, which included learning the established procedures for communication with Iraqi pilots to prevent the accidental engagement of United States Naval units. By the end of the twelve weeks spent in the Persian Gulf, GARY would maintain contact with Iraqi aircraft during over 100 attack missions against Iranian shipping and land assets. These missions, along with the occasional challenging of Iranian aircraft and other aircraft and surface vessels, tested the capabilities of the crew. To satisfy the immense reporting requirements associated with such operations, the ship posted a 24-hour message writing watch, which was mostly kept busy transcribing conversations recorded on small tape recorders affixed to the CIC loudspeakers.

During three months in the Persian Gulf, GARY distinguished herself by very competently discharging a wide myriad of independent escort, patrol, and surveillance operations. At various times she escorted ships to and from Bahrain, and patrolled various designated regions of the Gulf. Her two-plane SH-60 helicopter detachment assisted in these operations, and invaluable in protecting the Mobile Sea Bases, Hercules and Wimbrown-7, in the Northern Persian Gulf.

The only port visits while in the Persian Gulf were at Al Manama, Bahrain. While at anchor at Sitrah, one third of the crew, or one duty section, was able to go ashore while the other two duty sections remained on board. On two occasions, the ship moored at Mina Sulman marine complex, which afforded liberty for half the crew at a time.

In addition to allowing the crew to get off the ship for a while, the brief stops in Bahrain allowed for the much needed replenishment of fuel and stores, plus the maintenance of her equipment, most of which was in constant use when on station. The limited time in port was the only time available to accomplish routine maintenance which required taking the combat systems equipment down.

Duty in the Gulf also created some unique logistics problems for the transfer of personnel, mail and cargo. To satisfy urgent needs, personnel and cargo were occasionally transferred between a long line of ships on station and ships enroute to station. Such evolutions were often conducted concurrently with operational missions. Scheduling and logistical matters were handled through the COMIDEASTFOR staff on the USS CORONADO (AGF 11), through the Administrative Support Unit (ASU) Bahrain, in Manama, and sometimes through the warfare commanders.

1988 was an extremely volatile period in the Persian Gulf, and saw much activity in the Iran-Iraq war. The crew had to remain alert, as the threats in the region were very real. The biggest threats for Navy units operating there were attacks from Iranian and/or Iraqi aircraft, high speed attack boats, and mines. To counter the mine threat, a mine watch was posted around the clock at the bow of the ship, and during transits the embarked helicopters flew several hundred yards ahead of the track looking for mines. Material Condition "Modified Zebra" was set main deck and below, until GARY outchopped CMEF.

In addition to the forward and aft .50 CAL machine guns mounted port and starboard, the ship carried 40mm grenade launchers on the port and starboard side amidships, and a 25mm bushmaster chain gun on the port side, all to augment the standard armaments. These were manned during Condition IA, as additional protection against the small high-speed surface craft operated in by the Iranian Revolutionary Guard.

Condition IA was set for imminent surface and air action, Iraqi attack missions, and whenever potentially hostile surface and air units were close enough to be a possible threat. During Condition IA, the watch was port and starboard for the entire ship, providing half manning of the repair lockers and manning of other critical stations not normally manned during Condition III.

Occasionally, the ship was close to the war. During the month of March, GARY spent time on station in the southern regions of the Gulf, off the coast of the UAE and Oman. The same area was patrolled frequently by one or more Iranian SAAM-class frigates, and sometimes GARY was tasked to shadow them and report on their actions.

The Iranians were not above attacking any merchant vessel which might be carrying cargo to Iraq. The area off the coast of Dubai, UAE, was a convenient stopping point for merchant vessels headed north, sometimes to destinations such as Kuwait. Wary of the dangers of travelling at night, they would sometimes anchor and resume the transit at dawn, perhaps taking comfort in the relative safety of numbers. Though like a famished wolf quietly stalking through a field of sleeping sheep, the SAAM-class frigate would come into the vicinity of these merchants, and boldly her captain would choose a victim.

Just a few days after OCEANLORD 21 had observed the Iranians attacking a Panamanian oil-tanker, GARY was thirteen miles away when the SAHAND attacked the Singapore Ammonium-Nitrate tanker HAVGLIMT at anchor off Dubai. There had been a heated exchange over the bridge-to-bridge VHF, but when the master of the HAVGLIMT realized he was talking to an Iranian, he gave them the information they asked for. The SAHAND thanked him for his cooperation, told him to have a nice day, then backed off to about four thousand yards and opened fire with her 114mm gun. At the time, the GARY's crew could do nothing but watch.

By late March, GARY had started spending much time on station in the Northern Persian Gulf, escorting the Navy barges Hercules and Wimbrown-7. In addition to providing protection for the barges, the ship provided personnel services such as a disbursing clerk and a barber. The embarked personnel were mostly from special warfare commands, and sometimes they got "FFG liberty," the opportunity to come aboard and use the ship's store.

The mission in the Northern Persian Gulf was to maintain the safety of the approaches to Kuwait. The barges were there for surveillance, and to help counter the mine threat. They carried several aircraft, including Army UH-60's, SEABATS and AHIPS. The SH-60's embarked on the escort ship performed surveillance missions with the SEABATS and AHIPS under control.

On 14 April, GARY received an embarked AHIPS detachment from USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58), who was on a southbound escort mission. She was to be GARY's relief in five days, allowing GARY to proceed to Bahrain for stores. That afternoon, she struck a mine in the Central Persian Gulf which had recently been laid by Iranian forces, and four days later on the first day of Ramadan, the United States retaliated with Operation Praying Mantis. Several Iranian oil platforms were destroyed, and numerous Iranian surface ships were sunk or badly damaged, including the SAHAND.

To support the offensive to the south, GARY was tasked to assist in the transfer of personnel and equipment from the barges. During the tense hours that followed, her presence ensured that the barges would remain secure from Iranian action. Most of the 18th of April was spent at General Quarters, and for several days thereafter the ship remained in an increased alert condition. By the end of April

the threat of Iranian counterattack had lessened, and GARY was eventually relieved on station to replenish stores.

With the non-stop pace Persian Gulf operations, there was still occasionally time to train when it would not limit the readiness of the ship. Training was conducted on all the guns, and when on station in the Northern Persian Gulf, several SEAL and Marine boarding exercises were conducted for units embarked on the barges.

In early June, GARY conducted a Northern Persian Gulf turnover with USS NICHOLAS (FFG 47), briefing the barge operations, and a day later conducted the turnover with USS HALSEY (CG 23), turning over the equipment and Stinger Detachment received from USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41) in March. GARY then rejoined the USS COPELAND (FFG 25) for the transit home.

* * *

After encountering three days of particularly heavy seas in the North Arabian Sea, the transit east began with the brief stop for fuel in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and then on to a four-day port visit to Phuket, Thailand. The ships then proceeded to Subic Bay, Philippines, for a much needed eight-day maintenance availability, the first for the deployment. Coming out of Subic Bay, GARY and COPELAND then paid a nine-day port visit to HONG KONG, moored at HMS TAMAR, the British naval headquarters there.

Upon leaving Hong Kong, the ships began the transit east across the Pacific Ocean. During an alongside refueling with USNS HASSAYAMPA (T-AO145) a few hundred miles off Guam, GARY received tasking to proceed at best speed to MEDEVAC an injured Japanese fisherman from his boat a few hundred miles from Midway Island. GARY proceeded at 30 kts to rendezvous with the EIYOU MARU, and brought the injured man aboard via OCEANLORD 21. The man was treated on board, as the ship proceeded to within helicopter range of Midway where he was ultimately transferred and hospitalized. GARY then proceeded independently to Pearl Harbor, HI.

Transiting east, the ship began its preparations for the upcoming inspections, repair availabilities, and other challenges which would be met during her next operational employment. At Pearl Harbor, GARY embarked 26 relatives and friends of crewmembers, "Tigers", for the one-week journey back to Long Beach. This was the last week of the six-month cruise, which ended 27 July.

Subsequent to the welcome home celebration, and after a leave and stand down period, GARY was again busy with the tasks of training and refitting. In late August GARY received distinction of placing first place for the second year in a row in the annual Long Beach Surface Line Week. The ship also conducted a weapons offload in Seal Beach, CA, in preparation for the upcoming maintenance availabilities.

In the end of August and early September, the ship embarked a Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) to search for drug smugglers operating off the coast of California. The ship stopped and boarded several suspected vessels during the operation, and apprehended on wanted felon. After these operations the crew enjoyed some good liberty in Santa Cruz, CA. and showed the ship to over six thousand visitors.

In addition to the restricted availability in September and October, the post-deployment period also re-acquainted the crew with the long list of inspections. The Command Inspection was conducted by Commander, Destroyer Squadron NINE in early October, and by the end of that month the ship was preparing for INSURV, which was conducted by the Commander, Board of Inspection and Survey, Pacific, the first week of November. In addition to a grueling in port phase, INSURV also involved two long and strenuous one-day underway periods.

In mid-November, GARY conducted a major bomb explosion, disaster and mass conflagration drill inport in conjunction with the Naval Station fire department, as well as the Long Beach and Los Angeles municipal fire departments. This exercise was beneficial for, and helped officials evaluate the effectiveness of, all those who participated in it.

By early December following a weapons onload in Concord, CA., a short port-visit was then made in San Francisco, during which the ship gave tours for several hundred visitors. Before commencing the holiday leave and stand down period, GARY used some of her recent MIDEASTFOR experience playing Orange-force flagship for a Mideast Force exercise (MEF-EX), this time training units preparing for imminent deployments there.

USS GARY (FFG 51)
COMMAND HISTORY 1988
CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

01-02 Jan	Holiday Leave and Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
01 Jan	Observed New Year's Day. Holiday Routine.
03-06 Jan	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
04-06 Jan	Conducted Combat Systems Readiness Test.
04-22 Jan	"S" Availability with SIMA NRMF Long Beach, CA.
05 Jan	HSL-43 Det 13 arrived aboard.
06 Jan	Conducted Battle Problem and Mass Conflagration drill inport.
07-15 Jan	Underway for Interim Refresher Training.
10 Jan	Conducted 76mm and .50 CAL gun firing exercises.
14 Jan	Refueling at Sea and CONREP with USNS KAWISHIWI (T-AO 146). Conducted LAMPS helicopter torpedo firing exercise.
16-26 Jan	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA
19 Jan	Mideast Force Intelligence brief presented to senior personnel at NAVSTA San Diego.
20-22 Jan	Field Change Installation Program (FCIP) conducted.
22 Jan	Arabian Gulf brief, Stinger operations brief, and Sister-Ship conference with USS JARRETT (FFG 33) held on board.
26 Jan	Junior Officer Detailer visit.
27 Jan	Underway for deployment. Rendezvous with USS COPELAND (FFG 25). Embarked OCEANLORD 21 and 22 from HSL-43.
27 Jan- 1 Feb	Enroute from Long Beach, CA to Pearl Harbor, HI in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
01 Feb	Conducted M-60 famfire.
01-02 Feb	Upkeep period, Naval Station Pearl Harbor HI.
02 Feb	Following briefings attended by ship's personnel: OPREP-3, current intelligence, intelligence support documents, medical/dental, communications, command communications, postal, NIS, UNITREP/MOVEREP, meteorology, JINTACCS, oceanography, photo intel, public affairs, maintenance, AFRTS. CO made courtesy call on Commander, US Naval Forces Central Command.

03-15 Feb	Enroute from Pearl Harbor, HI to Subic Bay, RP in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
8 Feb	Conducted 76mm and CIWS quickdraw gun firing exercise, and M-60 and .45 CAL pistol famfires.
10 Feb	Inchopped to Commander Seventh Fleet. UNREP (RAS) with USNS PONCHATOULA (T-AO 148).
13 Feb	Conducted 76mm, CIWS, and .50 CAL quickdraw gun firing exercise.
14 Feb	Transitted the San Bernadino Straits.
15 Feb	OCEANLORD 21 and 22 flew ashore to NAS Cubi Point. Anchored briefly at anchorage G-4 for ammunition transfer.
15-21 Feb	Upkeep period, Naval Station Subic Bay, RP. Moored at Boton Wharf.
17 Feb	Fleet Liaison Officer Action Team visit. FOSIF WESTPAC brief attended on base by officers and message writers.
22 Feb	Underway. Conducted Ammunition VERTREP and recovery of OCEANLORD 21 and 22.
22-29 Feb	Enroute from Subic Bay, RP to Columbo, Sri Lanka in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
23 Feb	Conducted QUICKDRAW 76mm/CIWS gun firing exercise.
25 Feb	Crossed the equator and cleansed the ship of slimey pollywogs. Commenced transit of the Strait of Malacca.
27 Feb	Conducted QUICKDRAW 76mm/CIWS gun firing exercise.
29 Feb	Brief stop for fuel, Columbo, Sri Lanka.
29 Feb-04 Mar	Enroute from Columbo, Sri Lanka to Gulf of Oman in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
04 Mar	Chop from Commander Seventh Fleet to Commander Middle East Force. Conducted various Silkworm, terrorist aircraft, boarding/search/seizure, and attack aircraft control exercises with USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) Battlegroup "F." CO made a call on COMDESRON NINE aboard USS ENTERPRISE.
04-07 Mar	Transitted Gulf of Oman enroute to Arabian Gulf in company with USS SAN JOSE (AFS 7), Motor Vessel (M/V) L. H. GIANELLA, and USS COPELAND (FFG 25).

06 Mar	Conducted turnover with USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41) and USS CHANDLER (DDG 996). Received turnover items including Bushmaster 25mm chain gun, Stinger missiles, Stinger detachment, sandbags, flak jackets, ammunition, rubber ducks, rubber duck launchers, chaff and torch rounds. Word arrives via message that GARY is awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" award for Destroyer Squadron NINE.
07 Mar	Transitted the Strait of Hormuz escorting USS SAN JOSE (AFS 7) and M/V GIANELLA. Passed various French, British, Italian, Russian, and United States warships, including USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28), USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG 57) and USS JOHN A. MOORE (FFG 19). Iranian P-3 aircraft passed within 20 miles. Briefly embarked COMDESRON TWENTY-TWO ("Gulf Sierra").
08 Mar	Transited to Bahrain Bell. Passed within 12 miles of oil platform destroyed in October 1985; it was still burning. Anchored at Sitrah anchorage off Bahrain, liberty call for one third of the crew.
09 Mar	Command Orientation Brief conducted on board by several members of the staff of Commander Middle East Force. Provided AAW protection for CMEF flagship, USS CORONADO (AGF 11), and conducted first deconfliction of Iraqi aircraft. Detached for rendezvous with USS CONQUEST (MSO 488).
10 Mar	Escorted USS CONQUEST (MSO 488) from the Northern Persian Gulf to Sitrah anchorage in Bahrain. Proceeded to take station in the Central Persian Gulf (East) operating area. Air department flies 20 hours.
11 Mar	Relieved USS JOHN A. MOORE (FFG 19) as Southern Link Control Ship, controlling the NTDS link which includes nearby US ships as well as British, French, and Italian naval units. Air department flying 16-20 hours per day looking for mines and surface ships; Iranian SAAM-class frigate is reportedly in the area.
12 Mar	Departed Central Persian Gulf for Bahrain. Rendezvous at Bahrain Bell with M/V COURIER to commence escort to the Strait of Hormuz.
13 Mar	Visited by the Captain and two officers of a French warship, who were enroute to visit CMEF in Bahrain. Continued escort of M/V COURIER.
14 Mar	Escorted M/V COURIER to rendezvous with USS COPELAND (FFG 25) near the Strait of Hormuz. Returned to patrol in the Central Persian Gulf operating area.
15-23 Mar	Patrol operations in the Central Persian Gulf operating area. Air department flying 12-20 hours a day in search of mines and surface ships.

17 Mar	OCEANLORD-21 observes burning Panamanian oil tanker anchored 7 miles off the coast of Dubai, UAE, and circles for 45 minutes observing flames and billowing smoke; meanwhile two other oil tankers, one Norwegian and one from Singapore, are attacked in the Strait of Hormuz. All three apparently attacked by Iranian surface craft. Most of the day spent shadowing an Iranian SAAM-class frigate within radar range.
19 Mar	Refueled at anchor off the coast of Dubai from a refueling barge.
20 Mar	Conducted flight deck cookout, enjoying a "Modified holiday routine." USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG 57) reports an overhead dog fight between Iraqi F-1's and Iranian F-4's.
22 Mar	Witnessed Iranian SAAM-class frigate SAHAND attack Singapore Ammonium-Nitrate tanker HAVGLIMT at anchor off Dubai, from a vantage of about 13 miles. The Iranians first challenged the tanker over the bridge-to-bridge radio, and then backed off to about 4,000 yards and started engaging with the 114mm gun. Shadowed SAHAND for several hours.
23 Mar	Enroute to Bahrain. Conducted famfires on M-14 rifles, M-60 machine guns, .45 CAL pistols, 25mm chain gun, and 40mm grenade launcher, on MK 58 targets dropped by helo.
24-26 Mar	Inport, Al Manama, Bahrain, moored at Mina Sulman outboard of USS CORONADO (AGF 11).
27 Mar	Underway for the Northern Persian Gulf operating area.
28-30 Mar	On station in Northern Persian Gulf, as escort ship for Navy barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7. Typical evolutions include deconflictions of Iraqi aircraft and shouldering shipping traffic away from the barges.
28 Mar	Relieved USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG 57) as barge escort ship. Commanding Officer and Department Heads attended a turnover brief aboard USS REUBEN JAMES.
29 Mar	Tracked a total of 21 Iraqi aircraft, along with several Iranian aircraft. Visited by about 50 personnel from the barges to shop at the ship's store.
30 Mar	Relieved on station by USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG 57). Enroute to Bahrain Bell for rendezvous with USS BAGLEY (FF 1069).
31 Mar	Conducted VERTREP with USS SIMPSON (FFG 56), and USS BAGLEY (FF 1069), formed AAW screen around USS CORONADO (AGF 11) during transit to Central Persian Gulf patrol area.

1-3 Apr	On station in Central Persian Gulf.
04 Apr	Enroute from Central Persian Gulf to Bahrain, conducted 25mm and 76mm gun firing exercises.
05 Apr	Received personnel and mail by helo from USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28). Anchored at Sitrah anchorage.
06 Apr	Early underway for a high-speed run to rendezvous with M/V GUS DARNELL in the Central Persian Gulf to escort her back to Bahrain Bell.
07 Apr	Left M/V GUS DARNELL at Bahrain Bell, and proceeded to the Radar Picket Station, just northeast of Bahrain, to relieve USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28). Received Army AHIPS (Advanced Helicopter Improvement Program) aircraft and personnel from USS WAINWRIGHT for further transfer to USS JOHN A. MOORE (FFG 19). Conducted night VERTREP of nine pallets of equipment and supplies. Technical representative on board to work on 25mm Bushmaster Chain Gun.
08 Apr	Conducted numerous deconflictions of Iraqi F-1 and Badger fighters. Relieved by USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28) at Radar Picket Station. Enroute to Northern Persian Gulf.
09-27 Apr	On station as Northern Persian Gulf acting as escort ship for barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7. Daily duties include deconflictions of Iraqi aircraft, shouldering neutral shipping from the barges, and conducting coordinated surveillance operations with embarked LAMPS MK III aircraft and various U.S. Army aircraft and patrol boats from the barges. In addition, provided services for barge personnel including check-cashing, barber, and shopping at the ship's store.
09 Apr	Relieved USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG 57) as barge escort ship. Visited by the Commanding Officers of the barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7, as well as the SEAL team commander. Conducted emergency landing for OCEANLORD-21 following a blown hydraulic seal.
12 Apr	Conducted qualifications and pac fires on CIWS, pistols, rifles, 40mm grenade launcher.
14 Apr	Received embarked AHIP's detachment from USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58). Continued the patrol in Northern Persian Gulf keeping a close watch for mines. SAMUEL B. ROBERTS is severely damaged this afternoon by hitting a mine during an escort mission in the Central Persian Gulf.
17 Apr	Conducted VERTREP with USS SIDES (FFG 14), transferring AHIP detachment, their equipment, and other cargo.

18 Apr	Participated in operation PRAYING MANTIS, the retaliation against Iran for the mining attack on USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58). Most of the day spent at general quarters; protected the barges, and expended several rounds of 76mm ammunition and SRBOC upon indications of inbound Silkworm missiles.
19 Apr	Assumed intensified defensive posture in anticipation of possible Iranian counterattack. Received food stores via CMEF helicopter to help tide us over for a prolonged stay on station. Supplies consisted of soda pop, potato chips and underwear.
20 Apr	Joined by USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) to help protect the barges. Movement of Iranian KAMAN-class patrol boats near Farsi Island, 30 miles away, gives some concern of possible attack but nothing materializes.
21 Apr	Iranian naval activity decreasing, Iraqi fighters are observed making attack runs on Farsi Island, and GARY's fire control radars are able to detect missile launches from the fighters. One of the Iraqi fighters is hit while attacking Farsi Island and was able to fly to neutral territory for landing. More substantial food stores brought via CMEF Helicopter. Moored briefly alongside barge HERCULES to take on fuel.
22 Apr	USS GARY is protecting barge HERCULES, while USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) arrives on station to provide protection for barge WIMBROWN-7 several miles to the south.
24 Apr	Conducted 40mm grenade launcher firing exercises.
27 Apr	Relieved on station by USS SIDES (FFG 14). Conducted 20 kt transit to anchor at Sitrah, Bahrain, to take on stores and conduct routine maintenance. Embarked aircraft flew several hundred yards ahead looking for mines during transit.
28 Apr	Commanding Officer made a call on COMDESRON TWENTY-TWO onboard USS WAINWRIGHT (CG 28), and Executive Officer paid courtesy call on CMEF. Conducted UNREP (RAS) with USS TRENTON (LPD 14), and VERTREP with USS MERRILL (DD 976). Enroute to Northern Persian Gulf, with stores to deliver to USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) and USS SIDES (FFG 14).
29 Apr	On station in Northern Persian Gulf as barge escort ship. Units present include barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7, USS SIDES (FFG 14), USS SIMPSON (FFG 56), USS TRENTON (LPD 14), and minesweepers USS CONQUEST (MSO 488), USS INFLICT (MSO 456), USS FEARLESS (MSO 442), and USS ENHANCE (MSO 437).

29 Apr	Relieved USS SIDES (FFG 14) on station. Conducted VERTREP with USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) and USS SIDES (FFG 14). OCEANLORD 21 and 22 flying in support of "Earnest Will" tanker escort mission.
30 Apr	Providing AAW coverage for USS TRENTON (LPD 14) and the minesweepers, while USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) is protecting barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7. Conducted first part of a Marine training exercise onboard. Air department breaks monthly flight hour record for a LAMPS detachment, with 446.8 hours for the month of April.
01 May	Concluded Marine training exercise.
02 May	Providing protection for barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7. USS GARY is controlling the LAMPS DET from USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (FFG 58), now operating from USS TRENTON (LPD 14).
03 May	A USS GARY crewmember is flown to USS TRENTON (LPD-14) on MEDEVAC for a possible heart attack. Final prognosis was anxiety attack. Conducted 76mm/CIWS/40mm grenade launcher firing exercise.
05 May	Relieved on station by USS SIMPSON (FFG-56). Transited to Bahrain, and completed 20-pallet VERTREP with USS SAN JOSE (AFS-7). Conducted brief surveillance operation to the east of Bahrain with embarked aircraft, prior to proceeding into anchorage at Sitrah.
06-09 May	Inport at Al Manama, Bahrain, moored at Mina Sulman. Joined outboard by USS SIDES (FFG 14).
06 May	Refueled DFM from a barge and JP-5 from the M/V WESTGATE. Proceeded from Sitrah anchorage into Mina Sulman.
09 May	Visited by Pacific Fleet Master Chief, YNCM(SW) Allchin.
10 May	Underway for the Northern Persian Gulf. Conducted personnel transfer via motor whaleboat with USS JOSEPH STRAUSS (DDG 16) and relieved USS COPELAND (FFG 25) on station.

11 May	On station in Northern Persian Gulf, now called Mobile Sea Bases (MSB) Operational Area. Units present include barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7, USS TRENTON (LSD 14), and minesweepers USS CONQUEST (MSO 488), USS INFLICT (MSO 456), USS FEARLESS (MSO 442), and USS ENHANCE (MSO 437). Daily duties include providing air and surface cover to units present, deconflictions of Iraqi aircraft, shouldering neutral shipping away from the barges, and conducting coordinated surveillance operations with embarked LAMPS MK III aircraft with various aircraft and patrol boats from the other units present. In addition, provided services for barge personnel including check-cashing, barber, and shopping at the ship's store.
14 May	Numerous deconflictions of Iraqi aircraft, including one attack mission composed of 14 Iraqi F-1 and Badger aircraft.
16 May	Relieved on station by USS SIMPSON (FFG 56). Proceeded to Bahrain and anchored at Sitrah anchorage for refueling.
17 May	On station in the northeastern portion of the Central Persian Gulf providing protection to vessels conducting salvage operations under U.S. Government contract to recover the Cobra helicopter lost during operation PRAYING MANTIS.
19 May	Air department flew eight hours in support of "Earnest Will" tanker escort operations. Conducted 40mm grenade launcher firing exercise.
20 May	Relieved at salvage site by USS STUMP (DD 978). Proceeded to station in Central Persian Gulf for patrol operations. Conducted .50 CAL machine gun training for forecastle and fantail crews. LCDR John A. Schaefer relieved CDR Robert L. Moon as Executive Officer.
21 May	On patrol in Central Persian Gulf.
22 May	USS GARY designated as COMNAVSURFPAC Self-Sufficient Ship of the Week 16-22 May for the speed and resourcefulness displayed in the repairs on the Recovery Assist, Securing and Traversing (RAST) system in late April. Proceeded to anchorage from Central Persian Gulf.
22-23 May	Inport Al Manama, Bahrain, anchored at Sitrah anchorage.
23 May	Visited by COMDESRON TWENTY-FIVE, who relieved COMDESRON TWENTY-TWO as Persian Gulf ASUW Commander.

24 May	On station in Northern Persian Gulf in Mobile Sea Bases (MSB) Operational Area. Units present include barges HERCULES and WIMBROWN-7, USS TRENTON (LSD 14), and minesweepers USS CONQUEST (MSO 488), USS INFLICT (MSO 456), USS FEARLESS (MSO 442), and USS ENHANCE (MSO 437).
24 May	Relieved USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) on station.
25 May	Visited by the Commanding Officer of barge HERCULES.
26 May	Conducted boarding exercise with SEAL teams from the barges. Conducted 76mm gun firing exercise.
29 May	Conducted 3-knot unrep with tug Striker from Houston, TX.
30 May	Conducted small-boat attack training exercise, gun firing exercises and famfires for 76mm, 25mm Bushmaster, 40mm grenade launcher, .50 CAL machine guns and 12 GA shotguns. Observed Soviet convoy of three ships lead by a NATYA-class minesweeper.
03 Jun	Observed Soviet convoy headed by two NATYA-class minesweepers transit through our operational area headed south. One of the minesweepers returned to the area and is anchored nearby.
05 Jun	Relieved on station by USS NICHOLAS (FFG 47), after conducting turnover brief for MSB operations. Transferred several MEF-turnover items via VERTREP, transited to Bahrain and anchored at Sitrah anchorage.
06 Jun	Underway to conduct turnover with USS HALSEY (CG 23), in the vicinity of Bahrain Bell. Commanding Officer and Department Heads from USS HALSEY attend brief on board. Turnover items obtained from USS MCCLUSKY on 6 Mar are transferred to USS HALSEY via VERTREP.
07 Jun	Conducted VERTREP for stores with USNS SPICA (T-AFS 9). Commenced transit east following rendezvous with USS COPELAND (FFG 25). Passed USS VINCENNES (CG 49) in Central Persian Gulf. Commenced transit of Strait of Hormuz.
08-12 Jun	Enroute from Persian Gulf to Columbo, Sri Lanka, in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
08 Jun	Chop from Commander Middle East Force to Commander Seventh Fleet. Transited Gulf of Oman.
10 Jun	Encountered high seas on transit through North Arabian Sea with the port fin stabilizer inoperative, ship took upwards of 30 degree rolls. Conducted ASW training exercise utilizing sonobouys and miniature mobile targets.

12 Jun	Brief stop for fuel at Columbo, Sri Lanka.
12-14 Jun	Enroute from Columbo, Sri Lanka to Phuket, Thailand, in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
15 Jun	Anchored on the east side of the island Ko Phuket. Arrival brief conducted on board USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
19-23 Jun	Enroute from Phuket Thailand to Subic Bay, RP in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
20 Jun	Transitted the Strait of Malacca.
21 Jun	Conducted ASW exercise using sonobouys.
23 Jun	OCEANLORD 21 and 22 sent ashore to NAS Cubi Point.
23-30 Jun	Upkeep period, Naval Station Subic Bay, RP. Moored at Alava Pier.
29 Jun	Communications Security Materials System (CMS) Assist Visit held on board.
30 Jun-01 Jul	Enroute from Subic Bay, RP to Hong Kong in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
02-08 Jul	Port visit, Hong Kong. Moored at HMS TAMAR, British Naval Headquarters, outboard of USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
09-19 Jul	Enroute on from Hong Kong to Pearl Harbor, HI, in company with USS COPELAND (FFG 25).
12 Jul	Conducted CIWS pacfire.
14 Jul	Conducted CIWS pacfire.
15 Jul	During UNREP (FAS) with USNS HASSAYAMPA (T-AO 145), directed to break off and proceed at best speed to intercept Japanese fishing vessel EIYOU MARU to MEDEVAC an injured passenger
15-16 Jul	Enroute at 30 knots to rendezvous with EIYOU MARU.
16 Jul	Chop from Commander Seventh Fleet to Commander Third Fleet. Conducted Personnel transfer of an injured fisherman via OCEANLORD-21 from EIYOU MARU.
17 Jul	Continued at 27 knots to within helicopter range of Midway Island, where fisherman was transferred for further treatment. Continued transit to Pearl Harbor, HI.
18 Jul	Conducted ASW training exercise using miniature mobile targets.

19-21 Jul	Upkeep period, Naval Station Pearl Harbor, HI. USS COPELAND (FFG 25) moored outboard; units present include USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) moored across the pier.
20 Jul	Embarked 26 guests of ships company "Tigers" for remainder of transit back to Long Beach.
23 Jul	Conducted .45 caliber, M-14, M-60 small arms firing, and 76mm pacfire.
24 Jul	Eight rounds of SRBOC launched for demonstration and training.
25 Jul	Conducted 76mm demonstration, .50 caliber and M-60 machine gun firing.
26 Jul	Conducted CIWS pacfire. Conducted awards ceremony on the flight deck, including awards for Tigers.
27 Jul	Detached by USS COPELAND (FFG 25). Detached HSL-43 DET 13, OCEANLORD 21 and 22, while within range of North Island. Moored at Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
27 Jul-23 Aug	Leave and upkeep stand-down, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
16 Aug	Post-deployment topside antenna survey/assist conducted with MOTU ELEVEN.
22-25 Aug	USS GARY competed in the second annual Long Beach SURFACE LINE WEEK, and for the second year in a row USS GARY is the only ship on the Long Beach waterfront to participate in every event taking first place overall.
24-25 Aug	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
24 Aug	Conducted Coast Guard Law Enforcement (LEDET) Detachment brief for upcoming operations.
26 Aug	Underway for Naval Weapon Station, Seal Beach, CA, to conduct ammunition offload.
27-28 Aug	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
29 Aug-02 Sep	Enroute from Long Beach to Santa Cruz, CA. Conducted operations with embarked Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET). Apprehended a wanted felon during Coast Guard inspection of suspected drug smuggler.
02 Sep	Disembarked Coast Guard LEDET personnel. Anchored at Santa Cruz, CA. Visited by Santa Cruz Mayor and several municipal officials.
03-05 Sep	Port visit, Santa Cruz, CA. Conducted ship tours each day, showing USS GARY to over six thousand visitors.
06-08 Sep	Enroute from Santa Cruz, CA to Long Beach CA.

08-11 Sep	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA
12-13 Sep	Underway to conduct Engineering Casualty Control drills off the coast of Southern California.
12 Sep	Conducted calibration of AN/SLQ-32 on the ULM-4 range off San Diego.
14 Sep-21 Oct	Upkeep period and R-Availability, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
14 Sep	Conducted CHINFO Author's tour on board.
16 Sep	Observed POW/MIA Recognition Day.
17 Sep	Conducted Constitution Bicentennial bell-ringing ceremony, and visit ship.
18 Sep	Conducted ship tour for Cub Scout Pack 1248.
19 Sep	Conducted LOGMARS installation and training for the Supply Department. CO and XO attend COMTHIRDFLT luncheon at the Officers Club.
21 Sep	Conducted CHINFO Author's tour on board.
23 Sep	Conducted helicopter operations to remove and replace AN/SPS-49 air search radar antenna pedestal.
26-30 Sep	ASIR; Aviation Technical Assist visit.
28 Sep	Postal Assist Visit.
29 Sep	Conducted tour for local YMCA group.
04-05 Oct	Command Inspection conducted by Commander, Destroyer Squadron NINE.
07 Oct	Conducted command Physical Readiness Test.
11 Oct	Destroyer Squadron NINE Commanding Officer's meeting held on board.
13-14 Oct	Visual TEMPEST Inspection.
17 Oct	Helicopter certification conducted on board.
22 Oct	Underway for one-day Public Affairs Cruise for Los Angeles area educators.
23-24 Oct	Inport, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
25-26 Oct	Underway for ISIC Engineering Readiness Assessment (IERA). Performed Engineering plant demonstrations and Engineering Casualty Control drills.
27 Oct	Underway for one-day INSURV rehearsal.

28-31 Oct	Inport, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
28-30 Oct	Conducted pre-INSURV inport checks.
31 Oct-04 Nov	INSURV. Conducted by Commander, Board of Inspection and Survey, Pacific.
01 Nov	Early underway for INSURV at-sea evaluation. Late return to Long Beach. Rescued civilian fishing party after their vessel broke down.
02-20 Nov	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
12-15 Nov	Host ship for visit of Korean Navy units visiting Naval Station Long Beach.
12 Nov	USS GARY drill team and color guard marches in La Palma Days parade, in the city of La Palma. CO, XO and several members of the wardroom attend reception for Korean Navy on board USS MISSOURI (BB 63).
15 Nov	CO attends luncheon for COMNAVSURFPAC at the Officer's Club.
16 Nov	Conducted bomb explosion disaster/mass conflagration drill involving Naval Station Long Beach fire department, as well as Long Beach and Los Angeles municipal fire departments.
18 Nov	Aviation Assist Visit.
20 Nov	GARY designated as COMNAVSURFPAC Self-Sufficient Ship of the Week 14-20 November for the refurbishment conducted on the AS-2188 IFF antenna by ship's technicians.
21-23 Nov	Underway for SOCAL operations, including ASW training, SH-60 Deck Landing Qualifications and Engineering Casualty Control drills.
24-28 Nov	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA
24 Nov	COMDESRON NINE shifts his flag to USS GARY.
25 Nov	All officers attend annual Seafarer's ball hosted by COMNAVSURFGRU Long Beach.
28 Nov	EATS package installed for upcoming SOCAL operations. COMDESRON NINE shifts his flag to USS FORD (FFG 54).
29-30 Nov	Underway for SOAR range off San Clemente Island, to conduct ASW exercise with COMDESRON THIRTY-ONE. Expended two miniature mobile target
01-04 Dec	Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA

05 Dec	Conducted TACAN Certification at the SESEF range off Seal Beach. Conducted miniature mobile target ASW tracking exercise.
07 Dec	Conducted transit of San Francisco Bay and Sacramento River to Concord Naval Weapons Station.
07-08 Dec	Conducted Ammunition onload at Concord Naval Weapons Station.
08 Dec	Completed onload, transited to San Francisco. Hosted dinner party for local dignitaries in the wardroom.
11-12 Dec	Enroute from San Francisco, CA to Long Beach, CA.
12 Dec	Arrived at Naval Station, Long Beach, CA.
13 Dec	Inport, Naval Station Long Beach, CA. Conducted MEF-EX prebrief and communications checks.
14 Dec	Embarked Commander, Destroyer Squadron NINE.
14-16 Dec	Underway in SOCAL for Mideast Force Exercise (MEF-EX). Participating units from DESRON NINE include USS FORD (FFG 54), USS CROMMELIN (FFG 37) and USS FRANCIS HAMMOND (FF 1067). GARY's duties are Orange forces flagship.
16 Dec	Return to Long Beach.
17-31 Dec	Holiday Leave and Upkeep period, Naval Station Long Beach, CA.
17 Dec	Conducted Children's Christmas party on board.