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From: Commanding Officer, USS GUARDIAN (MCM-5)
Unit 21406
FPO, AP 96666-1925

To: Director of Naval History, 901 M Street, SE
Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: CY 2004 USS GUARDIAN (MCM-5) COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: OPNAVINST 5750.12G

1. Command Composition and Organization. USS GUARDIAN (MCM-5) UIC 21406

Mission: To conduct minehunting, minesweeping and mine neutralization operations against moored and bottom mines of contact, magnetic influence, acoustic influence and combination influence varieties.

Organizational Structure: GUARDIAN's Immediate Superior in Command is
COMMANDER, MINE COUNTERMEASURES DIVISION ELEVEN
Sasebo, Japan.

Name of Commanding Officer: LCDR Stanley O. Keeve (01 JAN-26 MAY)
LCDR Delbert Yordy (26 MAY-31 DEC)

Units under GUARDIAN's operational/administrative command: None.

GUARDIAN is home-ported at Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo (CFAS), in Sasebo, Japan.

2. Chronology.

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| *01JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. New years day luncheon. |
| *02JAN-08JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. |
| *09JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. CTF 76 SOY Banquet |
| *10JAN-12JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. |
| *13JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Fast Cruise, STT Drills, ETT Drills. |
| *14JAN: | U/W SASEBO OPAREA. STT Drills, Sweep 5-A |
| *15JAN: | U/W SASEBO OPAREA. CPO Exam, ETT Drills, Ammo onload. |
| *16JAN: | U/W SASEBO OPAREA. Double 'O Sweep, MSFD |
| *17JAN-20JAN: | IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. |

*21JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. OCSOT
 *22JAN-26JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *27JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Divers
 *28JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Gun Shoot
 *29JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *30JAN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. EOD detailer CDR Beck visits ship.
 *31JAN-02FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *03FEB: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. STT Drills, At Sea Fire Party Drill, Mine Hunting, CBR Drill
 *04FEB: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. Mine Hunting, Q-route, MNV Operations.
 *05FEB: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. EMCON, Mine Hunting, ETT Drills, Explosive Shock Survey.
 *06FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. HM1 Bishop retires, OCSOT
 *07FEB-08FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *09FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MMC (SW) Manalo Reenlistment.
 *10FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MP Build ups. EOD onload
 *11FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Awards ceremony, Black History Month Presentation.
 *12FEB: ENR SHIMONOSEKI, JAPAN. Embark EOD Det 51, LT Takayuki Kita, JMSDF
 *13FEB: IPT SHIMONOSEKI, JAPAN. Single 'O' Sweep.
 *14FEB: IPT SHIMONOSEKI, JAPAN.
 *15FEB-18FEB: U/W SUO NADA BAY. MINEX/EODEX'04.
 *19FEB: U/W SUO NADA BAY. MINEX/EODEX'04. Refueling Tokuyama Bay, LTJG Kehoe embarks JDS NOTOJIMA.
 *20FEB: U/W SUO NADA BAY. MINEX/EODEX'04. MINEX Phase II start.
 *21-24FEB: U/W SUO NADA BAY. MINEX/EODEX'04.
 *24FEB: 6 night MNV missions, MP-1 shot, Lead-through exercise of JDS BUNGO, LT Spence lost 1st digit of right ring finger into 2 SSDG right bank turbo charger while conducting repairs, MEDEVAC to JDS BUNGO, flown to MCAS Iwakuni. Disembark LT Takayuki Kita, JMSDF.
 *25FEB: IPT SHIMONOSEKI, JAPAN. Refueling, Disembark EOD Det 51.
 *26FEB: ENR SASEBO, JAPAN. (late night anchor ahead of high seas)
 *27FEB: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MNC(SW) Williams reports onbd as Senior Enlisted Advisor.
 *28FEB-02MAR: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.

*03MAR: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Main Space, GQ.
 *04MAR: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. E-6 Exam, Defueling,
 Ammo Offload
 *05MAR-08MAR: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *09MAR: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. Moor Akasaki Pier,
 Defuel.
 *10MAR-21MAY: IPT SSK DRY DOCK #2, SASEBO JAPAN.
 DSRA.
 *22MAY-23MAY: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *24MAY: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. RON ONE ship tour.
 *25-27MAY: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *28MAY: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. DOCK TRIALS.
 *29MAY-31MAY: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *01JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. LTJG Wilcox earns SWO
 pin.
 *02JUN-06JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *07JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. Full Power Run, ASFP
 Toxic Gas Drill. Man overboard, STT drills,
 Torpedo evasion drill.
 *08JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA.
 *09JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *10JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. Industrial Hygiene
 Survey
 *11JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. MSFD, GQ, STT drills,
 Abandon Ship Drill,
 *12JUN-13JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *14JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. DC Olympics.
 *15JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. MSFD, GQ, INT drills,
 COMMs Drills.
 *16JUN: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. MSFD, GQ, EMCON.
 *17JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Refuel.
 *18-20JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *19JUN-24JUN: U/W SASEBO FACDAR RANGE.
 *25JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. EOSS Validation.
 *26-29JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *30JUN: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Berth shift I-9W
 *01JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *02JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Alcohol Training. Awards
 ceremony.
 *03JUL-05JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. STT, ETT, FP Drills
 *06JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA.
 *07JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. Small arms shoot.
 *08JUL-9JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA.
 *10-12JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *13JUL-14JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. ETT Drills
 *15JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.

*16JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Refueling, Safety Survey
 Out Brief.
 *17JUL-20JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN
 *21JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. TTY, MO-Board,
 Semaphore Drills
 *22JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. IA Inbrief.
 *23JUL: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. ETT Drills.
 *24JUL-28JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN..
 *29JUL: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Weapons Training.
 OCSOT, FP Hose TM Training, 3M review.
 *30JUL-02AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *03AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. 3M LTT. SKC
 Reenlistment.
 *04AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. OCSOT, FP Drills.
 *05AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. FP Drills, MSFD, OCSOT.
 *06AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. 3M LTT Outbrief.
 *07AUG: U/W OKINAWA, JAPAN. Engineering
 Evolutions, Mine-Hunting.
 *08AUG: U/W OKINAWA, JAPAN. Swim Call, Fish Call.
 *09AUG: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. MIW Hunting, ETT
 Evolutions and drills.
 *10AUG: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN Combo Sweep, Main Space
 Drill, Anchor Drop Test, Man Overboard.
 *11AUG: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN IIMH (Port), Mine
 Hunting, Moored SASEBO JAPAN.
 *12AUG-18AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *19AUG-20AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. FP-2
 *21AUG-24AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *25AUG: U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. STT drills, Rule of the
 Road exam, At Sea Fire Party, Precision
 Anchorage.
 *26AUG: U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. Double 'O' Sweep, Intel
 Drill, ETT Drill, Moor to a buoy.
 *27AUG-28AUG: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *29AUG-30AUG: BERTH SHIFT TO DRYDOCK. Storm avoidance
 *31AUG: UNDOCK, IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *01SEP: U/W SASEBO OPAREA. ETT, MSFD.
 *02SEP: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. CMWC Arrives and
 completes ship tour.
 *03SEP: U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. 99 Island Family Day
 Cruise.
 *04SEP-06SEP: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
 *07SEP: U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. ETT Drills, Small Boat
 Attack Drill.
 *08SEP-13SEP: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN
 *14SEP: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Refueling

***15SEP-16SEP:** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. U/D, Small Boat Attack Drill.
***17SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MATT, OCSOT.
***18SEP-19SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MATT
***20SEP:** U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. INSURV PREP: DTE, Full PWR Test, 6H Sweep, Anchor Drop Test.
***21SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Japanese Visitors tour ship, OCSOT.
***22SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. FP-3
***23SEP:** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. FP-3, Small Boat Attack Drill.
***24SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Reenlist BM1 Marreco T. Clay. 2M Certification.
***25SEP-27SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
***28SEP:** U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. CART II Preps, Mongolian BBQ in the Galley.
***29SEP:** U/W SASEBO, OPAREA. CART II Preps.
***30SEP:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Supply Closed End of Fiscal Year
***01OCT-03OCT:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
***04OCT:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. CART II
***05OCT-06OCT:** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN CART II
***07OCT:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. SSOQ JSOQ Awards.
***08OCT-12OCT:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.
***13OCT:** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN ENROUTE YOKOSUKA for TRAV, Comms Drills, BECCES's Man Overboard, INSURV D-60 VTC Brief
***14OCT:** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN ENROUTE YOKOSUKA for TRAV, Gun Shoot, Main Space Walk Through, BECCES, DIVTACS
***15OCT:** ENR YOKOSUKA, JAPAN, 6H Sweep, ASFP Drill, Comms Drills.
***16OCT-21OCT:** IPT YOKOSUKA, JAPAN. TRAV.
***22OCT:** IPT YOKOSUKA, JAPAN. TRAV. berth shift.
***23OCT-31OCT:** IPT YOKOSUKA, JAPAN. TRAV
***1NOV** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN SESEF Range, INSURV checks and BECCES
***2NOV** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN Single O Sweep INSURV checks and BECCES
***3NOV** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN 6H/TB27 Mine Sweep Anchor Drop Test, BECCES
***4NOV** U/W SASEBO, JAPAN MSFD, STT Drills, 2MH/ DTE, Moored I-9 East
***5NOV** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. Refueling, MINEX MTG
***6NOV-7NOV:** IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.

*8NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. C5RA/HMERA In-brief, CO MTG w/CTF 76, PAO ship tour.

*9NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. C5RA/HMERA, CTF76 visit (RDML Guillory)

*10NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. C5RA/HMERA, MNCS (SW) Pipkin RE-Enlisted.

*11NOV-19NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. C5RA/HMERA

*20NOV-22NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. MATT INSPECTION, COMCMRON ONE visit,

*22NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN.

*23NOV: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. MATT

*24NOV: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. GMT All-Hands.

*25NOV-4DEC: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. INSURV Preps

*5DEC-6DEC: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN, MOCK INSURV.

*7DEC-14DEC: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. INSURV Preps

*15DEC: U/W SASEBO, JAPAN. INSURV

*16DEC: IPT SASEBO, JAPAN. INSURV.

*17DEC: IPT SASEBO, CHRISTMAS PARTY.

*18DEC-31DEC: IPT SASEBO, HOLIDAY STANDDOWN.

3. Narrative.

01 January to 31 January

1 January 2004 00-04 deck log entry writer is unknown. "ASSUMED THE WATCH MOORED AS BEFORE. TIS THE START OF A NEW YEAR ON MCM-5. WE'VE SURVIVED ANOTHER YEAR, THANK GOD WE'RE ALIVE. SECTION 2 OF 3 STALWARTLY MANS THE SHIP'S SPACES. WHILE THE REST OF THE CREW SLEEPS IN MORE INTERESTING PLACES. WE'RE MOORED PORT SIDE AT EAST INDIA 9. SECURELY LASHED FORE AND AFT BY DOUBLED LINES. VARIOUS UNITS OF THE US SEVENTH FLEET STAND BY AND MORE JMSDF OUTSIDE DO LIE. OOD IS ALERT, SOUNDING AND SECURITY SET. ALL IS SECURE YOU CAN SAFELY BET. AT TIMES OUR WATER MAY BE HARD TO SWALLOW, YET AT PRESENT THE PLEASANT PLANT STATUS IS AS FOLLOWS. THE IRON IS COLD, THE CONSOLES ARE BLACK. IN THE GALLEY NO MOLD, NO SMOKE FROM THE STACK. WHILE MN2 PARTIES AND EN3 FLIRTS. CURRENT FLOWS THROUGH #1 400 HZ. WHILE QM1 JOGS, CHENG KICKS BACK WITH A BEER, AND GUARDIAN RECEIVES FIREMAIN AND WATER FROM THE PIER. ONLINE #2 A/C AND #1 FRIDGE, CHILLING AND BEGGING A KEG OR A SMIDGE OF TODAYS SCRUMPTIOUS CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES TO ICE. THE IMPACT OF #1 MPAC IS NICE. OF CHT HEREIN WE'LL MAKE A SMALL MENTION. THE BASIN TELLS FULLY ITS FISH FOOD AND STENCHN. THE EDO ENSURE NO DEPARTMENTS FORGETS THE CLOSURE OF LOG TO SIGN, MODIFIED ZEBRA TO SET. ASHORE THE CO IS SNUGGLED ALL WARM IN HIS BED WHILE VISIONS OF ZIDL'S DANCE IN HIS HEAD. IF OUT OF THE FOC'SLE SHOULD ARISE ANY CLATER, CDO LTJG WILCOX WILL SEE WHAT IS THE MATTER. CAPT VAN

TOL HELL REPORT. TO THE SOPA AFLOAT, A QUITE SENIOR MAN ON A MUCH BIGGER BOAT. HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL AND AS THE OLD YEAR ENDS, THE OFFGOING OOD HIS HEARTFELT BEST WISHES SENDS.

EN3 Brazon Groves also departed on this day. On 13 January 2004 GUARDIAN began its annual fast cruise. LTjg Pajak took the deck as the OOD and MN1 Montero assumed all responsibilities as the conning officer. At 1536 GUARDIAN began a number of engineering drills to include a class Charlie fire in the #2 fire pump in AMR, loss of lube oil pressure in the gas turbine generator, and a nonmetallic noise on the starboard shaft. On 14 January 2004 the ship got underway for the first time in the 2004. The underway featured a toxic gas drill on the reefer decks, followed by a mine sweep, which began at 1125. This event was topped off with an abandon ship and ships G.Q. The ship anchored at 1522 and EN3 Menelas injured his leg two minutes later. On 15 January the ship was underway at 1530 and placed in a training environment at 1636. At 1640 a high temp summary in 400HZ was reported followed by a man overboard at 1644. The man overboard was identified as MN1 Marlars and the SAR swimmers were deployed. At 2048 BECCES began. On 16 January 2004 the GUARDIAN put out another sweep beginning at 0844. At 1001 2A main was tagged out for repairs. At 1704 a lube oil leak was reported in 1A main. At 1853 the GUARDIAN moored portside to I-9 Sasebo, Japan. LTjg Wilcox assumed duties as CDO. On 25 January 2004 white smoke was reported in the P-way. Fire boundaries were set, and white smoke appeared to be coming from lagging in CPO head. Lagging was removed, and no fire was present. On 30 January 2004 CDR Beck the EOD detailer visited to talk to all interested personnel. A class Charlie fire in AMR began at 1345 and was secured 5 minutes later. The following individuals checked onboard in January: HM1(FMF) Douglas W. Steinmetz, EN3 (SW) Joseph Mccauley,

01 February to 29 February

GUARDIAN is underway at 0910 on 3 February 2004. Loss of fuel oil pressure on 2B main, 2B main E-stopped at 0925. At 0034 on 4 February LTjg Kehoe takes the Conn in CIC as the evaluator. At time 1000 MOP level 3 is set throughout the ship. Ship anchored at 1434 Anchorage Sasebo JA. On 5 February the ship is underway at 1515. The ship moored at 1625 conned in by perhaps one of the Navy's finest ship drivers of all time, LT. Posey. His flawless execution astounded the entire crew. On 6 February, HM1 (SW) Doc Gregory Bishops departed GUARDIAN for the last time at 1414. He is currently bathing himself in the joys of retirement. On 12 February Guardian goes underway at 1325 with the following EOD riders: LT R.J. Bedner, BMC M.N. Maloy, ABH1 J.N. Blea, OS2 D.T. Ward and MN1 D. Stringfellow. On 13 February GUARDIAN continued its journey from Sasebo to Shimonoseki JA. A sweep was deployed at 0855. At 1415 R. Hosokawa boarded at the pilot to take GUARDIAN through the Shimonoseki straights. LTjg Kehoe had the CONN for this challenging evolution. At 1547 GUARDIAN moored in Shimonoseki Japan. Both the PATRIOT and the GUARDIAN moored next to one another. Conex boxes were strategically placed around the ships to further enforce the protection of the ship. Several Japanese spectators were politely asked not to photograph the ships. After a quick bit of liberty, the GUARDIAN went underway again on the 15 February at 0823. The pilot disembarked at 0905. 2MH was set at 0935 at 1340. LTjg Pajak assumed the CONN as Evaluator and

began the MINEX/ EODEX. At 2025 GUARDIAN anchored. On 16 February the ship went underway at an early 0415 and 2MH port at set at 0507. LT Posey had control in combat as the ship entered the tasking area at 0649. At 1121 the ship anchored. At 1236 the embarked EOD team departed on their small boat. At 1551 the ship was U/W again. At 1802 the ship anchored. At 1820 a Japanese fast break Zodiac came along side for PAX Transfer. LTjg Kehoe boarded the Zodiac for his exchange on a Japanese minesweeper, while a fellow junior officer of the Japanese Navy boarded GUARDIAN. The EOD boat once again embarked the ship at 1930. On 17 February the ship went underway at 0452. 1M was set at 0522. At 0700 the ship entered the tasking area. At 1749 IIMH Port was set. At 1847 LTjg Pajak assumed the CONN in Combat. The ship anchored at 1929 on the 18 February. The ship goes underway again at 0255 on the 19 February. At 0614 the Pilot embarked Y. Iwata. At 0711 the ship anchored in Tokuyama Bay. At 1247 the same day the ship again goes underway. At 1634 the ship set IIMH Port, and LTjg Pajak took over as the Evaluator in Combat. At 1816 the ship anchored. At 0918 the following day, the ship once again pulls its crew together and goes underway. At 1625 the ship anchored. On 21 February the ship goes underway at 0358. At 0548 LTjg Pajak again assumed control as Evaluator and entered the tasking area. On 22 February the ship deployed the MNV with the Mission Package I at time 0608. At 0635 the MNV was recovered and put back on the deck. At 1026 1B SSDG had to be shut down due to a Magnetic Particle detector. The ship was placed on single generator operations. At 1632 a class Charlie Fire erupted in the DC Switchboard. At 1638 the fire was declared officially 'out'. On 23 February the Chief Engineer (LT Spence) took the CONN at 0657. This was an amazing circumstance considering the man always lives in the Main Space down below. On 24 February at 0257 the MNV was launched. LTjg Pajak had control as Evaluator. The following entry was taken directly from the deck log. 1650 ON THE 24TH PERSONNEL INJURY TO LT TIMOTHY SPENCE, CHIEF ENGINEER, SSN ###-##-####, PRELIMINARY REPORT IS SEVERED RING FINGER AT THE 1ST DIGIT IN MMR. LOST IN 2SSDG RIGHT BANK TURBO CHARGER. EN1 (SW) VAUGHN, EN2 JULIAN IN THE SPACE AT THE TIME. 1651 HM1 (FMF) STEINMETZ ON THE SCENE. It was later reported that while CHENG was being lowered into the EOD boat to be transferred to the JDS BUNGO asked for his Jacket. Someone asked if he was cold and he said, "Nope, I just need my Copenhagen." At 1710 the Executive Officer, LCDR Tabaka, sent a voice report to CTF 76 SDO. AT 2000 LT Spence was transferred by helicopter from JDS BUNGO to MCAS Iwakuni Medical Clinic for further treatment. At 2007 GUARDIAN is anchored. At 0630 on the 25th MCM Division eleven arrived on GUARDIAN. At 0634 GUARDIAN is underway. At 0711 the following individuals boarded LCDR Tom Murphy, LT Jesse Jiminez, LTjg Cindy Posey, MN1 (SW) Timothy Hamm, MN1 Thomas Hernandez, OS1 (SW) Diaz Ruben, MNC (SW) Jeffery Hernandez, and LTjg Adrienne Beaudoin. AT 0959 the ship moored Shimonseki Japan. All riders disembarked. Material condition Modified Zebra is set throughout the ship. USS PATRIOT is moored to our port side. COMCMDIV 11 is embarked. LCDR Keeve, CO USS GUARDIAN is SOPA and on board. The CDO is LTjg Alley. At 0912 on the 26th the GUARDIAN was underway and on its return route to Sasebo Japan. On 1055 LTjg Kehoe assumes the Deck for the first time shortly following him LTjg Alley assumed the Deck for his first time as well. At 2310 on the 26th the ship is anchored at anchorage 26

(5 shots on deck). And at 1220 on the 27th the GUARDIAN is moored port side to I-9. The following individuals checked onboard in February: The Senior Enlisted Advisor MNC (SW) Greg Williams, ET3 Kevin P. Kral and ITC (SW) Joseph S. Lafayette the new communications officer.

01 March to 31 March

ENC Reece Sheeler departed GUARDIAN on the 1st. On the 2nd at 1145 the first preparations for Dry Dock began and GUARDIAN started the defueling process. On the 4th the ship was underway at 1145 headed to Anchorage #39 to have all ammunition removed. At 1230 GUARDIAN anchored. At 1557 GUARDIAN secured from ammo offload and moored at 1711. On the 9th K. Okapa the pilot boarded GUARDIAN. He drove the ship in a dead stick formation to Akasaki Pier. Ship was underway at 0759 and moored Akasaki at 0830. At 1231 GUARDIAN secured from defueling. The following is the entry from 10 March at 0001. "ASSUMED THE WATCH. MOORED AS BEFORE TO AKASAKI PIER SASEBO JAPAN. WITH FOUR STANDARD MOORING LINES AND ONE STORM LINE. RECEIVING MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES FROM THE PIER." At 0835 Goji Ogue Pilot and K. Kawahara Dock Master board GUARDIAN. At 0853 Underway IAW C7F ship dead stick enroute to Dry Dock No. 2 The pilot has control of all ships movements. 0957 GUARDIAN is moored Dry Dock No. 2. At the 1328 divers entered the water to ensure the Dry Dock was ready to have the water removed and GUARDIAN would sit correctly on the blocks below her. On the 19th the ship is placed in a training environment. The ship is sent to General Quarters due to a class bravo fire in AMR. DC3 Jeremiah Brown departed GUARDIAN on the 15th. MN1 Robert Marler departed GUARDIAN on the 20th. At 0446 on the 26th the DSRA Pier Shack sprung a leak and was isolated by HT1 (SW) Kyle Simmons. At 0645 A main space fire drill and General Quarters were conducted. The rest of March was quite as GUARDIAN continued her DSRA period. The following people checked in on March: MNSA Cody J. Stone, and IT1(SW) Jimmy V. Gipson.

01 April to 30 April

LTjg Andrew Pajak departed GUARDIAN on 01 April he is now going through EOD training in Florida. At 1644 on the 2nd of April LCDR Tabaka, Paul J checked out on leave. LT Spence assumed duties as the Executive Officer. On the 9th at 0345 LT Posey assumed duties as Executive Officer when LT Spence checked out on leave. On the 10th at 1758 LCDR Tabaka checked in off leave and assumed his position as Executive Officer. LT Posey unhappily became the operations officer again after his moment of glory. On the 3rd of April MN2 Michael Taylor departed GUARDIAN he is headed for the Gulf. On the 21st At 0015 the ship went into a security alert the following entry is from the deck log: "MN2 PATTON LEFT THE SHIP AND ASKED WHO WAS THE PIER SENTRY, I WALKED OUT ON THE BROW AND LOOKED AND THERE WAS NO PIER SENTRY, I HAD MN2 PATTON LOOK IN THE HEADS CLOSEST TO THE SHIP AND HE WASN'T THERE, AT THE SAME TIME I SAW A TAXI LEAVE THE PIER, I CALLED AWAY SECURITY ALERT ONCE PERSONEL SHOWED THEY SEARCHED THE PIER AND STILL NO PIER SENTRY. MN2 PATTON WENT TO BERTHING AND FOUND THE PIER SENTRY?" Needless to say this particular pier sentry is no longer a member of the GUARDIAN team. He was found

guilty at captains mass and was later administratively separated. On the 23rd the ship went through numerous drills to include a crank case explosion and class bravo fire in 1B SSDG. This entire month was spent in Dry Dock. There was nothing extremely exciting to report.

01 May to 31 May

On the 1st of May IC1 Richard Long departed GUARDIAN. On the 5th of May CS1 (Cruise book Chaos) Manuel Alas departed GUARDIAN. May also marked the change of Command Ceremony. LCDR Stanley Keeve left on the 5th of May for Newport Rhode Island and was replaced by LCDR Bert Yordy. QMSN Harold Hall departed GUARDIAN on the 7th. On 7th of May SN Ford is logged U/A for 7 minutes and EN3 Mccauley is logged UA for 11 minutes. At 0645 the crew performed a full General Quarters for a main space fire. MMC Alfredo Manalo the ships 3MC departed on the 13th of May. On the 21st of May flooding of the Dry Dock commenced at 0810. At 1043 two divers entered the water. At 1200 the Caisson was removed. At 1239 the Firemain was disconnected and electrical power secured. Mr. Kawahara the pilot embarked. At 1304 the dock movers with the help of tugs commenced moving GUARDIAN out of the Dry Dock. At 1317 the bow passed the Sill and the dock master relinquished control to the Commanding Officer. The ship moored at 1352. This marked the first day that GUARDIAN was out of the Dry Dock. CS3 Matthew Cavazos departed GUARDIAN on the 22nd of May.

01 June to 30 June

MN3 Timothy Markham checked onboard 02JUN2002. He arrived from MOMAU 11 in Charleston South Carolina. ICFA Micheal Taylor checked onboard on 16JUN04. He arrived from NTC Great Lakes, Illinois. ENS Matthew Rippee checked in on 23JUN04. He arrived from MWTC Ingleside, Texas. GUARDIAN sent LTjg Kehoe and LTjg Alley to the USS VINCENNES (CG-49) in an effort to increase their SWO knowledge and give them a chance to experience life in the CRUDES world. SEA Trials and Ammo onload were completed bringing the ship back to full operational status. Attention is now focused on the upcoming IA. The long range focus is the upcoming IDTC and the INSURV visit in December. GUARDIAN altered their schedule to allow time for 2B MPDE replacement groom. Putting GUARDIAN in port until 06JUL04. GUARDIAN also installed a new flux gate compass. GUARDIAN was able to achieve magnetic signature levels in the single digit range, a feat only accomplished by a hand full of Avenger-Class ships and well below the required levels during the FACDAR range.

01 July to 31 July

LT Nathan Fugate checked onboard on 02JUL04 from MWTC Ingleside, Texas. OSSN Joshua Eddy checked onboard on 01JUL04 from FCTCLANT Dam Neck, Virginia. CSSR Jericho Valdecantos checked onboard on 26JUN04 from Lackland, AFB, San Antonio, Texas. LT Wilcox departed on 25JUL04. He will work for Seventh Fleet Staff in Yokosuka. The Crew is shocked by the news of a recent death onboard USS PATRIOT (MCM-7). A safety stand-down is held on 02JUL04. An Injury to FDGM Rodney Smith's hand precluded completion of repairs to 2B MPDE. Replacement tech Jeff Freed flew in from Texas to continue the work. GUARDIAN received two new

pieces of gym gear to include an elliptical trainer and a sit down bike. The ship completed IA.

01 August to 31 August

EM3 Gbonah departed on 01AUG04 to attend EM 'A' School in Great Lakes Illinois. EN3 Hurst departs on 12AUG04 to PHIB CB1 in Coronado, CA. SKC Rodgers arrived from Key West Florida, JIATF on 26JUL04. OSSA Hawkins arrived from 'A' School on 04AUG04. LT Posey departed the Navy on 31 August, his wife Cindy is still in the Navy and is the operations officer for Division Eleven. LT Ryan Posey plans on raising their new born child. LTJG Jonathan Kehoe was selected for the EOD Program. EM3 Gbonah and PN1 Soriano earned their ESWOS Pins. LTjg Alley earned his SWO pin. Senior Chief Niemiec from COMCMRON One Ingleside, Texas spent a week underway with the GUARDIAN training in the primary mission area of Mine Warfare. The training included all facets of MCM operation from planning to execution. GUARDIAN participated in the Ship Board Training Team learning the necessary tools to develop robust training scenarios and techniques to take them through FEP. The ship made an attempt to go to Okinawa but was forced to changes it plans due to a tropical cyclone. The crew was still able to participate in a Wood Beach picnic and Swim call. The crew performed well during the FP-2 and LTT-N.

01 September to 30 September

CS1 Jojo Campana arrived from Naval Station Pearl Harbor on 28AUG04. QM2 Maynard Sagaya arrived from USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) Bahrain on 03SEP04. SKC (SW) Alexander Dalamphan detached to FISC Pearl Harbor, HI on 28AUG04. CS1 (SW) Arnel Valdez detached to USS Carl Vinson in Bremerton, WA on 01SEP04. MN1 (SW) Cesar Montero detached to MOMAU Ten Okinawa, JA on 05SEP04. MN1 Christopher Corleone detached on the 23rd due to a shoulder injury. GUARDIAN has a family cruise. Family members were exposed to a GUARDIAN sailors daily experience. Family members and guests were present for a navigation brief, DC Demo, Sweep Demo and MNV Demo. They learned about GUARDIAN's equipment and mission. The Ship's Cabinet (MWR Sales) was also opened to allow guests to purchase GUARDIAN gear. GUARDIAN did outstanding during their FP-3 and completed all necessary certification.

01 October to 31 October

Captain Yordy and MNCS (SW) Pipkin attended the CTF76 Chain of Command held in White Beach Okinawa, JA on 01OCT04. ET1 Johnny B. Turner Jr. reported onboard on 24SEP04 from FACSFAC Vacapes Oceana, VA. LT Adam N. Goetz reported onboard GUARDIAN on 30 SEP04 as CHENG. He arrived from Naval Post Graduate School Monterey, CA. The previous CHENG, LT Timothy Spence, detached on 12 OCT for INSURVLANT. ENS Jonathan J. Saburn reported onboard GUARIAN on 30SEP04 to assume the duties of CICO and Legal Officer. ENS Ivan Kanzaki who is fluent in Japanese, Russian, German, and even English reported onboard on the 24th. His previous duty station was Naval Dive Unit, Naval Station Annapolis. BM1 Marrecco T. Clay departs on 12OCT04 to report onboard USS Essex (LHD 2). Guardian completed CART II (4-6OCT). ATG had 20 assessors onboard the ship. The training teams learned how they will be evaluated throughout the training cycle. HM1 Steinmetz, GUARDIAN's

Independent Duty Corpsman did an excellent job and was ranked 'A' in his ability to train the crew. The engineering department was ranked 'B'.

01 November to 30 November

EM1 Fogata checked on board as the new 3MC on the 6th from TSC San Diego. The DFC on MNC Williams was disapproved by COMINWARCOM, but concurred in the interest of ALCON he will not be returning to the ship. GUARDIAN is in the middle of C5RA/HMERA. The crew is preparing for INSURV. FN Mercado and EN3 Mccauley are in Yokosuka attending reverse osmosis as part of MTT for Q1FY05. The Crew is happy to be back in their homeport following TRAV in Yokosuka. The sailors enjoyed the time away from Sasebo and the opportunity to visit CFAY and Tokyo, but are excited to be back with their families. Ships Store will be opened up for a holiday sale to move out old products. On the 22nd ENS Rippee and MN1 (SW) Meyer passed their CICWO boards. On the 23rd GUARDIAN went underway for MATT and conducted the following evolutions: Full power run, anchor drop test, and a DTE.

01 December to 31 December

The big word for December was INSURV. Everything was focused around this massive event. The Christmas Party on the 17th could not come soon enough. The ship enjoyed the food and amazing presentation provided by Senior Chief Pipkin and LTjg Kehoe. LTjg Kehoe also departed the mighty warship GUARDIAN for EOD school.