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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS KLAKRING (FFG 42)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS KLAKRING (FFG 42)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard, Washington,
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Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS KLAKRING History
(2) USS KLAKRING Command Narrative

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted.


L. J. CARTER

COMMAND HISTORY OF USS KLAKRING (FFG 42)
FROM 1 JANUARY 1990 TO 31 DECEMBER 1990

I. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION:

USS KLAKRING, CDR Larry J. Carter commanding, the thirty-second Oliver Hazard Perry class guided missile frigate built for U.S. Navy service, and the first of its class homeported in Charleston, SC, performs an extremely wide range of missions. Her varied complement of weapons and sensors, the embarked Lamps MK III helicopter, and the Tactical Towed Array Sonar System give her the widest mission applicability of any ship her size. The mission of the FFG 7 is to provide Anti-Air Warfare (AAW), Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW), and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) self-defense and to effectively provide local area protection to underway replenishment groups (URGs), amphibious groups, and other military shipping against subsurface, air, and surface threats.

KLAKRING is attached to Commander Destroyer Squadron Six, Charleston's active destroyer squadron of Perry class frigates and one Spruance class destroyer, one of two squadrons belonging to Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Two.

After completing a very successful Mediterranean Deployment in 1989, KLAKRING experienced a large crew turnover and spent 1990 participating in training exercises, conducting inspections and qualifying trials, and undergoing a five month Shipyard Overhaul Period.

II. CHRONOLOGY:

- 1 Jan: Finds USS KLAKRING in port Charleston, SC enjoying the holiday standdown period.
- 5 Jan: Conducted a fast cruise for training in Sea and Anchor and UNREP stationing.
- 8 Jan: Underway for Jacksonville OPAREA and Port Everglades, Florida.
- 9 Jan: Conducted 76mm and MK 15 CIWS PAC fire and Lear jet tracking exercise.
- 10 Jan: Returned to Charleston Harbor to pick up COMDESRON SIX Combat Systems Assessment (CSA) Team. CSA was successfully completed in one day with outstanding overall results.
- 11 Jan: Conducted Burial at Sea ceremony.
- 12 Jan: Conducted a refueling at sea with USNS PAWCATUCK

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- 13 Jan: Arrived Port Everglades, FL.
- 17 Jan: Underway for Charleston, SC.
- 18 Jan: Encountered extremely heavy seas and weather, which would force KLA KRING to return to homeport early and engage in a difficult sea detail in which she would successfully navigate in darkness up the Cooper River.
- 19 Jan: Arrived homeport Charleston, SC.
- 29 Jan: Underway for Charleston OPAREA to conduct Basic Engineering Casualty Control Exercises (BECCES).
- 31 Jan: Returned to homeport Charleston, SC.
- 5 Feb: Underway for Charleston OPAREA, Commenced Periodic Engineering Mobile Assessment Team visit.
- 8 Feb: Returned to homeport Charleston, SC.
- 9 Feb: Engineering Mobile Assessment Team departed. KLA KRING received very high marks in the majority of all graded categories.
- 12 Feb: Underway for Jacksonville OPAREA to conduct deck landing qualifications with Helicopter Anti-submarine Light Squadron FORTY SIX.
- 14 Feb: Returned to homeport Charleston, SC.
- 15 Feb: Onloaded two surface to air exercise missiles at Charleston Naval Weapons Station.
- 20 Feb: Underway for Type Commanders Core Training (TCCT) 2-90 in Puerto Rico OPAREA.
- 22 Feb: Rendezvous with USS TRUETT and USS SAN JUAN east of the Bahamas.
- 25 Feb: MS1(SW) Randy Long was named USS KLA KRING's Sailor of the Year for 1989.
- 26 Feb: Arrived Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico and conducted onload of exercise torpedoes.

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- 27 Feb: Underway Puerto Rico OPAREA, conducted refueling at sea with USNS NEOSHO.
- 1 Mar: GM1(SW) Alden Hatcher named KLA KRING Sailor of the Quarter.
- 2 Mar: Conducted highline transfer with USS WILLIAM V. PRATT.
- 3 Mar: Fired two surface to air exercise missiles, with one successfully engaging the target. Conducted refueling at sea evolution with USNS NEOSHO and detached TCCT 2-90 with a crew picnic on the flight deck.
- 7 Mar: Returned to homeport Charleston, SC.
- 17 Mar: KLA KRING chosen as host ship for track supervisor school.
- 18 Mar: Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, and ship's Midshipmen Training Officer were guest speakers for Citadel NROTCU.
- 22-23 Mar: Conducted Propulsion Examination Board Operational Propulsion Plant Examination, once again receiving high marks in all graded categories.
- 24 Mar: Citadel midshipmen visit.
- 28 Mar: Underway for day steam in the Charleston OPAREA with prospective Commanding Officer.
- 30 Mar: Change of Command, CDR Larry J. Carter relieved CDR Dennis J. Van Buskirk as the fourth Commanding Officer of USS KLA KRING.
- 3 Apr: ET2 Alan Hornek chosen as KLA KRING Sailor of the Quarter.
- 5 Apr: Underway to Charleston Naval Weapons Station for weapons/ammunition offload in preparation for a complex Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA).
- 6 Apr: Returned to Charleston Naval Station.
- 13 Apr: Ship's picnic held at base picnic ground.
- 16 Apr: Commenced Pre-Dry Docking Selective Restricted Availability (DSRA) Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV).

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- 17 Apr: Ammunition offload to USS FAHRION.
- 20 Apr: Ship's Awards Ceremony held on the flight deck.
- 27 Apr: Held ship tour for AFJROTC from Rockhill, SC High School.
- 7 May: Conducted Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Type I visit. All administrative and training programs once again received high marks.
- 7-11 May: Participated in Charleston Naval Base security exercise.
- 8-10 May: Simultaneous Command and Supply Management Inspections (SMI) conducted by Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX and the SMI Team.
- 10 May: Command/Supply Management Inspections debrief, KLAKRING had outstanding results from a full week of shipwide inspections, including becoming eligible for the Supply Excellence Award.
- 11 May: Completed Pre-DSRA IMAV.
- 14 May: Underway, enroute Mayport, FL.
- 15 May: Arrived Mayport, FL. to prepare for Dry-Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA).
- 16 May: Conducted Integrated Logistics Overhaul offload.
- 20 May: Conducted PQS standdown.
- 23 May: Underway, enroute Atlantic Dry Dock, dead stick. The ship was dry-docked upon arrival. Ships crew moved into the Airport Days Inn Motel.
- 4 Jul: Held ship's Fourth of July pool party.
- 6 Jul: Awards Ceremony held at Atlantic Drydock facility. DK2 Taylor was command advanced to Petty Officer First Class.
- 9 Jul: Commenced Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Type II visit.

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- 11 Jul: Undocked ship, KLAKRING was back "In the Water" after 51 days in drydock and 13 days ahead of schedule.
- 13 Jul: Completed a very successful Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Type II visit.
- 20 Jul: HM3 Delmar Fitzgerald named KLAKRING Sailor of the Quarter.
- 23 Jul: Commenced ships service diesel generator testing/alignment.
- 30 Jul: Commenced Combat Systems testing.
- 6 Aug: Ship's crew moved out of the Days Inn motel and returned to shipboard living.
- 13 Aug: Began installation of SQQ-89 Tactical Towed Sonar Array System.
- 20-21 Aug: Conducted weapons systems battery alignment.
- 23 Aug: Engineering spaces turned over from shipyard; accepted and remanned by ship's force.
- 27 Aug: SQR-19 Tactical Towed Array Sonar System onload. Commenced Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Type III visit.
- 31 Aug: Completed Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Type III visit in exemplary fashion.
- 4 Sep: Conducted Electrical Safety Standdown.
- 4-7 Sep: Conducted ship weight testing and incline experiment.
- 10-12 Sep: Conducted Propulsion Examination Board Light-Off Examination. Ships engineering plant "certified to steam."
- 12 Sep: Conducted weapon radars columnation alignment.
- 14-17 Sep: Underway for Post-DSRA sea trials in the Jacksonville OPAREA.
- 15 Sep: Conducted Burial at Sea Ceremony.
- 17 Sep: USS KLAKRING delivered, shipyard overhaul complete thirty-one days ahead of schedule and under budget.

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- 17 Sep: Returned to Mayport Naval Station to commence Post-DSRA Intermediate Maintenance Availability.
- 21 Sep: Completed a full ILO backload. Entire crew participated in "restocking" the supply shelves of KLAKRING.
- 16 Oct: EN3 Luther Foster named KLAKRING's Sailor of the Quarter.
- 17 Oct: Conducted a small arms ammo onload from USS MONTEREY.
- 25 Oct: Underway for Charleston, SC.
- 26 Oct: Arrived Charleston, SC after being away from homeport for five months. Welcome home party held onboard with dependents, friends, and family.
- 7 Nov: Underway for Charleston Naval Shipyard, drydocked upon arrival for hull sandblasting and painting after an unidentified failure in the DSRA applied hull coating.
- 9 Nov: Shipwide 3M standdown.
- 21 Nov: Undocked ship without complication and returned to Charleston Naval Station.
- 27 Nov: Conducted a very successful Aviation Certification.
- 3 Dec: Conducted Harpoon Tactical Qualification (Part I).
- 4 Dec: Underway for Charleston Naval Weapons Station. An aggressive shipwide effort enabled KLAKRING to onload a full weapons/ammunition loadout in a single day.
- 5 Dec: Completed a very successful, unassisted, Harpoon Tactical Qualification certification. Underway for "Operation Greyhound" DESRON SIX Type Training. Embarked HSL-48, Detachment 5, the ship's assigned Lamps MK III aircraft and crew.
- 7 Dec: Detached "Operation Greyhound" to proceed to Boston OPAREA to conduct MK50 Torpedo evaluation.
- 19 Dec: Returned to homeport Charleston, SC., debarked HSL-48, Det 5.

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- 20-21 Dec: Completed Training Readiness Evaluation in preparation for Interim Refresher Training.
- 21 Dec: KLAKRING's Children Christmas Party held onboard. A surprise visit by Santa brightened the hearts of many children.
- 31 Dec: The USS KLAKRING closes out 1990 inport Charleston, SC, enjoying the holiday standdown period and preparing for its Departure Material Status Review (DMSR) prior to Interim Refresher Training.

USS KLAKRING COMMAND NARRATIVE FOR 1990

USS KLAKRING began 1990 inport Charleston, SC after returning from a Mediterranean cruise in November. The year will find KLAKRING conducting training exercises, inspections and qualifications, and a five month Dry-Docking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA).

In January, the USS KLAKRING spent most of its time in the Charleston and Jacksonville OPAREA's conducting exercises. After completing an outstanding Combat Systems Assessment on January 10th, the ship arrived in Port Everglades, Florida on January 13th for an enjoyable five day port visit. While transiting back to Charleston, the ship encountered extremely rough weather with high winds and heavy seas. The Commanding Officer made the decision to enter port at night due to heavy weather, and the crew successfully conducted a difficult navigation detail in the Cooper River and returned KLAKRING to homeport during the stormy night. The remainder of the month was employed preparing for a periodic Engineering Mobile Assessment Team (EMAT) visit, in which the ship received high marks in the majority of all graded categories.

The last two weeks of February were spent preparing for Type Commander's Core Training (TCCT) 2-90 and conducting deck landing qualifications with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light FORTY SIX in the Jacksonville OPAREA. On the 22nd of February, the ship rendezvoused with USS TRUETT and USS SAN JUAN just east of the Bahamas. KLAKRING arrived in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico on the 26th, unloaded exercise torpedoes, and was underway to the Puerto Rico OPAREA to begin TCCT 2-90.

During TCCT 2-90, the ship participated in numerous tracking and gunnery exercises, underway refuelings, highline transfers, and anti-submarine warfare evolutions. In addition, KLAKRING was selected to conduct two live missile firings along with USS MISSISSIPPI (CGN-39). Only one of the two missiles engaged the target due to a Missile failure on the first missile fired. The event was significant in providing critical data needed in the performance evaluation of one of the Navy's primary weapons. On March 3rd, KLAKRING departed TCCT 2-90 with a sunny crew picnic on the ship's flight deck and began its transit back home to Charleston.

The month of March consisted of long, busy days as the ship prepared for two very important events: an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) and a Change of Command Ceremony. The two day engineering inspection was very successfully completed on March 23rd with KLAKRING displaying another "always ready" performance. Every department on the ship put forth a tireless effort in preparation for the Change of Command. The extensive turnover went smoothly and on the 30th of March, CDR Larry J. Carter relieved CDR Dennis J. Van Buskirk as the fourth Commanding Officer of USS KLAKRING in an admirable ceremony conducted on the ship's flight deck.

Enclosure (2)

USS KLAKRING COMMAND NARRATIVE FOR 1990

On April 5th, the ship began its preliminary preparations for its scheduled Dry-Docking Selective Restricted Availability (DSRA) with an offload of ammunitions and weapons at the Charleston Naval Weapons Station. KLAKRING coordinated with Destroyer Squadron Six to ensure maximum efficiency of available ammunition, and completed the removal of its non-essential ammunition with an offload to the USS FAHRION(FFG-22) at the Charleston Naval Station.

With the ammunition offload complete, the officers and crew of USS KLAKRING set their sights on what would be the most demanding of months throughout 1990. In conjunction with a high tempo, 25 day Pre-DSRA Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV), KLAKRING would have to prepare for and conduct an Engineering Mobile Assessment Team Visit, Command Inspection, Supply Management Inspection (SMI), and participate in a Base security exercise, while preparing its families for a five month, 250 mile separation.

The EMAT Type I visit was conducted on May 7th, as the Engineering Department once again received high praise for its training and administrative programs. The Command Inspection, conducted by Commander, Destroyer Squadron Six, and the Supply Management Inspection were conducted simultaneously from the 8th to the 10th of May. The KLAKRING Team pulled together, and in addition to participating in the base-wide security exercise from May 7th - 11th, the ship made a "clean sweep" of all inspections. The Supply Department received such high marks during the SMI, that KLAKRING was now eligible to receive the "Supply Excellence" Award. The first eligibility since becoming operational in 1985.

On the 14th of May, the ship was underway enroute to Mayport Naval Station, Florida to make final preparations to enter the shipyard. All hands participated in an Integrated Logistics Overhaul offload of all shipboard parts and supplies completed on May 16th, and on the 23rd of May, KLAKRING was dry-docked at Atlantic Dry Dock facility to begin the DSRA.

The entire crew was moved into the Jacksonville Airport Days Inn Motel and would reside there for a period of 74 days. The new shipyard routine was strenuous, with each work day beginning at about 5:30 a.m. with a 16 mile ride to the dry-dock facility. The ship's crew would continue its tireless efforts, tracking the removal, refurbishment or replacement, and reinstallation of hundreds of pieces of equipment, piping and furniture. A much deserved break was taken on July 4th, when the crew and its families enjoyed a KLAKRING pool party at the Days Inn.

USS KLAKRING COMMAND NARRATIVE FOR 1990

On July 9th, the ship commenced an EMAT Type II visit. During the inspection, KLAKRING was undocked and put back "in the water" after being dry-docked for a period of 51 days. The EMAT visit was successfully completed on the 13th of July. The month of July ended with the beginning of an intensive Combat Systems Test package, which called for the successful completion of over 120 electronic, weapon and fire control systems' tests.

In early August, the crew moved out of the Days Inn Motel and returned to shipboard living. On August 27th, installation of the SQR-19 Tactical Towed Array Sonar System began, along with the commencement of yet another very successful EMAT visit.

KLAKRING started the month of September aggressively preparing for the most important of a continued series of inspections: the Propulsion Examination Board Light-Off Examination (LOE). After Eleven days after the completion of EMAT, the LOE commenced on September 10th. KLAKRING was ready, and on September 12th, she was "certified to steam."

The end of the overhaul period was drawing near, and on the 14th of September the ship was underway for the final phase: the post-DSRA sea trials. All systems proved reliable and KLAKRING was delivered on September 17th, thirty-one days ahead of schedule and under budget. The ship would remain at the Mayport Naval Station for another month undergoing an ILO backload and a post-DSRA IMAV.

On October 25th, the ship got underway from Mayport and arrived at homeport Charleston one day later. Upon arrival, there was a Welcome Home Party held onboard for all the families and friends of the crew. It was great to be home.

KLAKRING was scheduled to participate in Caribbean Law Enforcement Operations in November, but a post overhaul hull inspection brought about a change in plans. After careful examination of videos of an underwater hull inspection, it was determined that the ship's hull would have to be repainted. KLAKRING was dry-docked from the 7th to the 21st of November at the Charleston Naval Shipyard to undergo the necessary repairs.

The ship successfully received full aviation certification on November 27th, and began final preparations for a very important Harpoon Missile Tactical Qualification. KLAKRING would once again do the impossible and complete an unassisted Harpoon Tactical Qualification, which was interrupted by an ammunition and weapons onload, with superior results. Few ships achieve cruise missile qualification with no assistance in training or conduct a shipfill onload of ammunition in under eight hours, but KLAKRING did just that.

USS KLAKRING COMMAND NARRATIVE FOR 1990

On December 5th, the ship was underway to embark HSL-48 and Venom 506, our Lamps MK III crew and helicopter to participate in Destroyer Squadron Six "Operation Greyhound" for two days, fine tuning the skills of ship maneuvering and communications. In addition, week one Lamps MK III helo workups were conducted. KLAKRING turned north on December 7th enroute to the Boston OPAREA to conduct at sea evaluations of the Navy's new MK 50 Torpedo. Assisting aircraft were able to fire weapons, but continuously adverse weather conditions prevented KLAKRING and Venom 506 from doing so.

The ship returned to Charleston on December 19th and began another extensive inspection the following day. The ship's Training Readiness Evaluation was completed on the 21st of December and the holiday standdown period began with a children's Christmas party held onboard. A surprise visit from Santa brightened the hearts of everyone as each child received their own special gift.

After a long and very successful year of inspections, qualifications, and a ship overhaul, the crew of USS KLAKRING ended 1990 inport Charleston bringing in the new year with their loved ones.