



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8)
FLEET POST OFFICE
AA 34092-1486

Rec'd 4/4/97

5750
Ser FFG8/036-97
1 March 1997

From: Commanding Officer, USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8)
To: Directory of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy
Yard, 901 M Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060
Subj: 1996 Command History
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E CH-1

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted for the purpose of preserving significant information concerning the activities conducted by the officers and crew of USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8) during the 1996 calendar year.

2. Command composition and organization.

a. Mission: Primary missions are Anti-Submarine Warfare (AN/SQQ-89 Suite, LAMPS MK III), Anti-Air Warfare (SM-1, 76mm), and Anti-Surface Warfare (Harpoon, 76mm). MCINERNEY has a secondary mission of convoy escort and has also been tasked with maritime interdiction operations.

b. Effective command structure as of 31 December 1996:

CDR Dirk P. Deverill	Commanding Officer
LCDR Michael W. Dahlin	Executive Officer
LT Mark K. Fields	Combat Systems Officer
LT John T. Myers	Chief Engineer
LT John W. Chandler	Operations Officer
LT Joseph T. Sermarini	Supply Officer
LT Michael J. Holder	Damage Control Assistant
LTJG John P. Robinson	Auxiliaries Officer
LTJG Michael W. Fivas	Dispersing Officer
LTJG Aaron D. Miller	Ordinance Officer
LTJG William D. James	Navigation/Administrative Officer
LTJG Albert Angel	Combat Information Center Officer
LTJG Christopher D. Bottorff	First Lieutenant
ENS Leopold D. Kreisel	Main Propulsion Assistant
ENS Christopher D. Haden	Electronics Readiness Officer
ENS Harry C. Bradley	Communications Officer
ENS Robert F. Rulof	Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer
ENS George L. Metcalf	Prospective Damage Control Assistant
CWO2 Leonardo D. Castillo	Assistant Chief Engineer

c. Losses:

- (1) LT Edward J. Messmer: 13 March to Naval Space Command, Washington, D.C.
- (2) Capt(sel) Ronald Y. Heath: 15 March to USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70), Bremerton, WA.
- (3) LT Richard M. Panko: 31 March to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), Mayport, FL.
- (4) LTJG George N. Tsangaris: 03 April to USS HUE CITY (CG 66), Mayport, FL.
- (5) LT Richard W. Douglas: 04 April released from active duty.
- (6) LT Michael A. Steen: 08 May to U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.
- (7) LCDR Robert S. Teufel: 13 June to U.S. Atlantic Command, Norfolk, Va.
- (8) LTJG Ronald J Karun: 17 October to USS GUARDIAN (MCM 5), Kyushu Sasebo, Japan.
- (9) LT D. Marc Gordnier: 15 November to Destroyer Squadron 24, Mayport, FL.
- (10) LT Jason W. Averill: 30 November released from active duty.

d. Gains:

- (1) LTJG Christopher D. Bottorff: 15 January from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (2) CDR Dirk P. Deverill: 08 March from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (3) ENS Christopher D. Haden: 11 March from Fleet Training Center, Norfolk, VA.
- (4) LT Joseph T. Sermarini: 15 March from Naval Supply Corps School, Athens, GA.
- (5) LCDR Michael W. Dahlin: 07 June from Naval War College, Newport, RI.
- (6) ENS Harry C. Bradley: 12 August from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (7) LTJG John P. Robinson: 30 August from USS LEFTWICH (DD 984), Pearl Harbor, HI.

(8) LT Mark K. Fields: 16 September from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

(9) ENS Robert F. Rulof: 27 December from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

(10) ENS George L. Metcalf: 31 December from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

e. (1) Name of ISIC: Commander, Western Hemisphere Group

(2) Permanent Duty Station: Mayport, Florida.

(3) Aircraft Assigned: 1 SH-60B Seahawk with crew
HSL FOUR EIGHT DET TWO
Tailcode: "Venom 500"

f. Chronological Order of Events:

01-28 Jan:	Inport - Mayport, FL
02-12 Jan:	Combat Systems Readiness Review
16-26 Jan:	Tailored Ship's Training Availability, Phase II
29 Jan - 02 Feb:	Underway - Tailored Ships Training Availability, Phase II
03-04 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL
05-09 Feb:	Underway - Tailored Ship's Training Availability, Phase III
10-12 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL
13-16 Feb:	Underway - JAXOPAREA for Final Evaluation Period
17-19 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL Enroute - Puerto Rico OPAREA
20 Feb - 08 Mar	Underway - COMPTUEX
09 Mar - 11 Apr	Inport, Mayport, FL
15 Mar:	Change of Command - CDR Dirk P. Deverill relieves CAPT(sel) Ronald Y. Heath
25 Mar - 11 Apr:	Intermediate Maintenance Availability, Mayport, FL
12 Apr:	Underway - Standing Naval Force, Atlantic (SNFL) '96 Deployment
12-23 Apr:	Enroute - Gibraltar
24-26 Apr:	Inport - Gibraltar, Assigned to Commander Standing Naval Force, Atlantic
27-29 Apr:	Enroute - Adriatic Sea
30 Apr - 04 May:	Operation Sharp Guard - enforcing U.N. sanctions against the former Yugoslavia
05-08 May:	Inport - Venice, Italy
09-11 May:	Enroute - Corfu, Greece
12-14 May:	Inport - Corfu, Greece
15-23 May:	Enroute - Ponta Delgado, Azores
24-25 May:	Inport - Ponta Delgado, Azores
26 May - 02 Jun:	Enroute - St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands
03-05 Jun:	Inport - St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

06 Jun: Enroute - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
 07-11 Jun: Inport - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
 12-21 Jun: Underway - Puerto Rico OPAREA
 12-13 Jun: SNFL coordinated AAW exercises
 14 Jun: SNFL coordinated USW exercises
 16-18 Jun: SNFL coordinated ASUW exercises
 21 Jun: SNFL multi-threat battle exercises
 22-23 Jun: Enroute - Curacao, Netherlands Antillies,
 Counter Drug Operations
 24-27 Jun: Inport - Curacao, Netherlands Antillies
 27-30 Jun: Enroute - Caracas, Venezuela
 1-4 Jul: Inport - Caracas, Venezuela
 5-21 Jul: Enroute - Norfolk, VA
 8 Jul: Disaster relief exercise
 9 Jul: Ammunition onload - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto
 Rico
 9-10 Jul: Search and Rescue operations in the wake of
 Hurricane Bertha
 15-18 Jul: UNITAS '96, Phase Zero
 15 Jul: Puerto Rico OPAREA for Harpoon missile
 exercise
 22 Jul - 04 Aug: Inport - Norfolk, VA, Intermediate
 Maintenance Availability
 23 Aug: SNFL international reception
 05-06 Aug: Enroute - Boston, Massachusetts
 07-11 Aug: Inport - Boston, Massachusetts
 12 Aug: Enroute - Halifax, Canada
 13-15 Aug: Inport - Halifax, Canada
 16-21 Aug: Enroute - Reykjavik, Iceland
 22-23 Aug: Inport - Reykjavik, Iceland
 24-26 Aug: Enroute - Bergen, Norway
 27 Aug - 01 Sep: Inport - Bergen, Norway
 02-12 Sep: Underway - Operation Northern Light/Bright
 Horizon
 09 Sep: HSL 48 Det 2 SH-60B, "Venom 500," aircraft
 mishap
 13-17 Sep: Inport - Portsmouth, England
 18 Sep: Underway - Transit to Mayport, FL with USS
 MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20) Battle Group,
 Enroute - Mayport, FL
 18-28 Sep: Enroute - Mayport, FL
 29 Sep - 07 Nov: Inport - Mayport, FL
 29 Sep - 20 Oct: Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep period
 21 Oct: Safety Survey
 28 Oct - 01 Nov: Logistics Management Assessment Assist
 07-08 Nov: Underway - JAXOPAREA for INSURV preparations
 03-04 Dec: Underway - JAXOPAREA for INSURV preparations
 07-13 Dec: Completed Board of Inspection and Survey
 16-20 Dec: Logistics Management Assessment
 21-31 Dec: Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period

3. Historical Narrative.

MCINERNEY began 1996 by completing the work-ups for her upcoming deployment. After successfully completing TSTA II and III, FEP, and COMPTUEX, MCINERNEY returned to Mayport to make final preparations for the deployment.

Shortly after returning, Capt(sel) Ronald Y. Heath was relieved by CDR Dirk P. Deverill as the Commanding Officer.

In early April MCINERNEY began what would be a challenging deployment as the U.S. representative in the NATO battle group, Standing Naval Force, Atlantic (SNFL). The battle group was composed of representatives from the various NATO navies, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands. MCINERNEY relieved USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) at Gibraltar and then reported to the Adriatic Sea where SNFL was engaged in Operation Sharp Guard, enforcing U.N. sanctions against the former Yugoslavia.

After several days of interrogating and tracking countless contacts, MCINERNEY enjoyed some liberty in historic Venice, Italy and Corfu, Greece. Here she began an exchange program with the other ships of SNFL that would last throughout the deployment, a plan in which crew members were given the opportunity to spend time on another ship and learn how our NATO allies operate.

MCINERNEY departed the Mediterranean for the Caribbean, while conducting exercises with SNFL as she crossed the Atlantic. The crossing ended with a visit to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Utilizing the assets available at Puerto Rico, SNFL then conducted intensive exercises in all warfare areas. With her warfighting skills honed, MCINERNEY lead the ships of SNFL in counter drug operations as the group transited south for Curacao and Venezuela.

In July Hurricane Bertha swept through the Caribbean as she made her way toward the U.S., leaving a path of destruction in her wake. MCINERNEY followed the storm to search for vessels in danger and provide assistance. SNFL then joined up with the South American ships of UNITAS for a wide range of multi-national exercises, which included a missile shoot for MCINERNEY.

The next stop was Norfolk, which provided opportunities to conduct maintenance and visit with family and friends. Also, MCINERNEY sponsored an elaborate reception welcoming the NATO force to the U.S. for the first time in several years.

MCINERNEY then transited the north Atlantic, stopping in Boston, Halifax, Reykjavik, and Bergen, and concluding with participation in Operation Northern Light/Bright Horizon. At the

conclusion of this NATO exercise, MCINERNEY went to Portsmouth to detach from SNFL and join up with Second Fleet Flagship USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20) for the trip home.

The return to home port gave MCINERNEY the time to conduct extensive maintenance and preparation, which allowed her to successfully complete the Board of Inspection and Survey and Logistics Management Assessment. With this inspection cycle behind her, MCINERNEY closed out the year with a well deserved holiday stand down.



D. P. DEVERILL