



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS RAVEN (MHC 61)
FPO AA 34092 - 1960

Rev 2/2/00
W/O disk
IN REPLY REFER TO:
5757
Ser MHC61/0013
25 Jan 00

From: Commanding Officer, USS RAVEN (MHC-61)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy
Yard, Washington DC 20374-0571

Subj: 1999 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Command History Chronology
(3) Command History Narrative
(4) Commanding Officer's biography
(5) Commanding Officer's picture
(6) Welcome Aboard pamphlet
(7) Change of Command pamphlet
(8) Ship's picture

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted.

A. W. Swain
A. W. SWAIN

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

RAVEN'S MISSION:

To clear harbor, coastal, and ocean waters of all types of mines using reconnaissance, classification, and neutralization tactics.

ISIC:

COMCMRON THREE

COMMANDING OFFICER:

Lieutenant Commander Anthony W. Swain, United States Navy

PERMANENT DUTY STATION:

NAVSTA Ingleside, TX

USS RAVEN (MHC-61) COMMAND HISTORY KEY

CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS FOR 1999

01 - 05 Jan Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period

11 Jan Depart, Ingleside, TX enroute to Panama City, FL.

15 Jan Arrive, Panama City, FL.

15 Mar Underway, Gulf of Mexico OPAREA for Crew training.

19 Mar Arrive, Ingleside, TX.

05 - 09 Apr Final Contract Trials: Inport Ingleside, TX.

26 Apr Depart Ingleside, TX enroute to Key West, FL.

26 - 30 Apr Tailored Ship Training Availability (Phase III)

30 Apr Arrive, Key West, FL.

10 May Depart Key West, FL, enroute to Ft. Lauderdale, FL.
Arrive, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

11 - 19 May Acoustic Trials: Underway, Southern Florida OPAREA.

19 May Depart Ft. Lauderdale, FL, enroute to Key West, FL.

20 May Arrive, Key West, FL.

23 May Depart Key West, FL, enroute Cozumel, MX.

25 May Arrive, Cozumel, MX.

29 May Depart Cozumel, MX, enroute to Ingleside, TX.

01 June Arrive, Ingleside, TX.

07 - 11 June Diesel Inspection: Inport Ingleside, TX.

29 June Afloat Training Group, Final Evaluation Period: Underway, Gulf of
Mexico OPAREA.

30 June Afloat Training Group, Final Evaluation Period: Underway, Gulf of Mexico OPAREA.

07 July Depart Ingleside, TX, enroute to South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.
Arrive, South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.

07 July - 22 Oct Post Shakedown Availability, South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.

13 Aug Change of Command, USS RAVEN. LCDR Anthony W. Swain, USN, relieves LCDR Samuel C. Howard, USN.

28 Sep - 01 Oct Pre-Light Off Training (Phase II and III): Inport, South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.

05 Oct Mine Neutralization Vehicle Onload: Inport, South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.

14 Oct Depart South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX, enroute to Ingleside, TX.
Arrive, Ingleside, TX.
Docktrials

19 Oct ISIC Light-Off Assessment: Inport, Ingleside, TX.

20 - 29 Oct Systems Calibration (SISCAL): Inport, Ingleside, TX.

21 Oct Underway Gulf of Mexico OPAREA, Sea Trials

30 Oct Underway Gulf of Mexico OPAREA, Family Day Cruise.

02 Nov Ammo Onload: Inport, Ingleside, TX.

08 Nov Depart Ingleside, TX, enroute to New Orleans, LA.

10 Nov Arrive, New Orleans, LA.

13 Nov Depart New Orleans, LA, enroute to Ingleside, TX.

16 Nov Arrive Ingleside, TX.

17 Nov – 03 Dec Restricted Availability, Gulf Copper, Aransas Pass, TX.

17 Nov Depart Ingleside, TX, enroute to Gulf Copper Dry Dock,

Aransas Pass, TX.
Arrive, Gulf Copper Dry Dock, Aransas Pass, TX.

- 24 - 29 Nov Thanksgiving Leave and Upkeep Period.
- 03 Dec Depart Gulf Copper Dry Dock, Aransas Pass, TX, enroute to
 Ingleside, TX.
 Arrive, Ingleside, TX.
- 10 Dec Sea Trials
- 17 - 31 Dec Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period.

USS RAVEN (MHC-61)
COMMAND HISTORY

For USS RAVEN, the New Year began with a leave and upkeep period in Ingleside, TX, that ended on 05 Jan. Upon returning from leave, RAVEN left for Panama City, FL for CSSQT. From

From 05 – 09 April Raven conducted Final Contract Trials, inport Ingleside, TX, and successfully completed it, becoming the first Mine Hunter to do so. After a two-week upkeep period, RAVEN got underway for Key West, FL. While transiting, RAVEN went through Tailored Ship Training Availability (TSTA) Phase III, conducted by the Afloat Training Group, and the ship passed it without trouble.

RAVEN pulled into Key West, FL on 30 April, and departed on 10 May for Ft. Lauderdale, FL. From 11 – 19 May, RAVEN went through Acoustic Trials in the Southern Florida Operational Area (OPAREA), passing with excellent remarks. On 19 May RAVEN returned to Key West, FL to refuel. On 23 May RAVEN departed Key West, FL for a port visit to Cozumel, Mexico. After enjoying the port visit, RAVEN left Cozumel to return to Ingleside, TX, and arrived on 01 June.

After a week of preparations, the Engineering Department had a successful Diesel Inspection from 07 – 11 June, inport Ingleside, TX. Following a two-week upkeep period, the Afloat Training Group came onboard for the Final Evaluation Period (FEP). On 29 June the ship got underway in the Gulf of Mexico OPAREA RAVEN did not finish the FEP, opting instead to use the underway time for training. The crew prepared for a Post Shakedown Availability (PSA) for one week, then left Ingleside, TX on 07 July and arrived the same day at South Texas Ship Repair, Aransas Pass, TX.

On 13 August, LCDR Anthony W. Swain, USN, relieved LCDR Samuel C. Howard, USN as Commanding Officer of USS RAVEN. The Availability went very well, with most of the jobs focusing on RAVEN's homeport shift to Bahrain in September 2000. From 28 September to 01 October, Ingleside Afloat Training Group conducted Pre-Light Off Training (Phase II and III) for the crew. RAVEN departed South Texas Ship Repair on 14 October, and conducted Dock Trials inport Ingleside, TX.

Commander, Mine Counter Measures Squadron Three, conducted Light Off Assessment for RAVEN on 19 October, and RAVEN passed with high remarks. SIMA Ingleside held SISCAL for nine days starting on 20 October, meticulously going through the ship's gages and calibration program. On 21 October RAVEN got underway in the Gulf of Mexico for Sea Trials, and returned the same day with all systems working well after the Availability. The PSA concluded on 22 October.

The RAVEN crew welcomed aboard about 50 guests and family members for a very enjoyable Family Day Cruise out in the Gulf of Mexico. On 08 November, the ship

departed Ingleside for a port visit to New Orleans, LA. The port visit lasted from 10-13 November, and the crew arrived back in Ingleside on 16 November. The next day, 17 November, Raven left Ingleside and arrived the same day at Gulf Copper, in Aransas Pass, TX. Upon arrival, the ship entered the dry dock to clean the hull and change out the seals in the ship's VSP seals.

From 24-29 November, the RAVEN had a holiday stand down for Thanksgiving. On 03 December, the ship left the drydock and returned to Ingleside, TX. One week later, on 10 December, RAVEN got underway for one day in the Gulf of Mexico for sea trials. On 17 December, the ship commenced its Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period.