



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS ARDENT (MCM12)
FPO AA 34090-1932

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IN REPLY REFER TO:
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19 Apr 01

From: Commanding Officer, USS ARDENT (MCM 12)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Ship photo
(3) Diskette

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted as USS ARDENT (MCM 12) Command History for calendar year 2000.

M. S. MANFREDI

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USS ARDENT (MCM 12) CALENDAR YEAR 2000 COMMAND HISTORY

1. Command Composition and Organization.

- a. Short Title: USS ARDENT
- b. Unit Identification Code: 21900
- c. Mission: Mine Warfare Operations
- d. Organizational Structure:

(1) Immediate Senior in Command: Commander, Mine Counter Measures Division THIRTY-ONE, Commander B. Shanahan.

(2) Commanding Officer: CDR Rodelio Laco

(3) Permanent Duty Station: Manama, Bahrain.

2. Chronology.

JANUARY

01-03 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
03-12 U/W MCM OPS ENR DUBAI, UAE
12-16 PVST DUBAI, UAE
16-22 U/W MCM OPS ENR DOHA, QATAR
22-23 PVST DOHA, QATAR
23-24 U/W ENR BAHRAIN
24-25 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
25-31 U/W MCM OPS

FEBRUARY

01 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
01-03 U/W ENR ABU DHABI, UAE
03-06 PVST ABU DHABI, UAE
06-08 U/W MCM OPS/GUNEX ENR BAHRAIN
08-16 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
17 C5F VISIT
18 MCMROTCREW CHARLIE RELIEVED MCMROTCREW HOTEL
19 FAST CRUISE MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
20-25 U/W MCM OPS (MCM OPAREA)
26-29 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

MARCH

01 ARDENT PERMANENTLY HOMEPORTED IN BAHRAIN
01-12 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
12-15 U/W MCM OPS (MCM OPAREA) ISO GULFEX 2000
16-18 PVST DUBAI, UAE
19-20 U/W MCM OPS (MCM OPAREA)
21-28 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
29 U/W MCM OPS
30-31 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

APRIL

01-03 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
04-10 U/W ISO ARABIAN GAUNTLET 2000
10-24 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
25 U/W ENR AL JUBAYL, KSA
26-28 PVST AL JUBAYL, KSA
28-29 U/W MCM OPS/FAMFIRE ENR BAHRAIN
30 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

MAY

01-06 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
07 U/W MCM OPS ENR DOHA, QATAR
08-10 PVST DOHA, QATAR
10 U/W ENR BAHRAIN
11-16 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
16 MCPON VISIT
16-19 U/W MCM OPS ENR ABU DHABI, UAE
20-22 PVST ABU DHABI, UAE
23-24 U/W ENR BAHRAIN
25-31 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

JUNE

01-03 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
04-05 U/W MCM OPS ENR AL JUBAYL, KSA
06-07 PVST AL JUBAYL, KSA
07-10 U/W MCM OPS ENR BAHRAIN ISO NAUTICAL SWIMMER 2000
11-30 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

JULY

01-25 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
25-27 U/W MCM OPS (MCM OPAREA)
27-31 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

AUGUST

01-07 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
08-10 U/W MCM OPS ENR DUBAI, UAE
11-14 PVST DUBAI, UAE
14-19 U/W MCM/ENG TRNG (MCM OPAREA)
19-31 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN (ENG TRNG)

SEPTEMBER

01-09 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN (ENG TRNG)
10-13 U/W SEARCH OPS FOR AN/AQS-14 SONAR
14-21 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
22-29 U/W ISO MIO SURGE 00-7
30 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

OCTOBER

01-02 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
03-04 U/W MCM OPS
05-11 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
12-31 THREATCON SORTIE

NOVEMBER

01-12 THREATCON SORTIE
12-30 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN

DECEMBER

01-09 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
10-13 U/W MCM OPS (MCM OPAREA)
14-17 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
17-31 IPT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN (HOLIDAY STANDDOWN)

3. Narrative. USS ARDENT (manned by MCMROTCREW HOTEL) entered the New Year inport Manama, Bahrain. On 03 Jan, ARDENT departed Bahrain to conduct mine warfare proficiency training enroute Dubai, UAE. ARDENT conducted underway replenishments with RFA Orangeleaf during this underway on 06 and 10 Jan. On 12 Jan, the ship entered Dubai for her first port visit of the year. On 16 Jan, the ship departed Dubai, UAE to conduct mine warfare proficiency training enroute Doha, Qatar. After a two-day port visit, ARDENT left Doha for Bahrain. Conducting an underway replenishment with USNS Yukon along the way, on 20 Jan, ARDENT arrived in Bahrain on 24 Jan. After a brief stop in Bahrain, ARDENT was underway again conducting mine warfare proficiency training in the MCM Oparea located in the Central Arabian Gulf.

Returning to port for just a day on 01 Feb to refuel and resupply, ARDENT was underway enroute Abu Dhabi, UAE. Arriving on 03 Feb, the crew spent four days in port, Abu Dhabi, before getting underway on 06 Feb to conduct a fifty-caliber gunnery exercise and mine warfare proficiency training. After the two-day transit, ARDENT arrived in Bahrain to begin her turnover from MCMROTCREW HOTEL to MCMROTCREW CHARLIE. On 17 Feb, Commander Fifth Fleet visited ARDENT to welcome the new rotational crew and bid CREW HOTEL an appreciative farewell. On 18 Feb, MCMROTCREW CHARLIE formally relieved MCMROTCREW HOTEL. ARDENT conducted a fast cruise to acquaint everyone with the status of all equipment on 19 Feb. MCMROTCREW CHARLIE got underway to conduct a shakedown cruise to include helicopter and diver operations, an underwater detonation, mechanical sweeping, mine neutralization vehicle operations, and concluded with an

anchoring evolution on 20 Feb. On 26 Feb, ARDENT returned to Bahrain.

Beginning 01 Mar, ARDENT became permanently home ported in Bahrain with her first permanent crew. ARDENT conducted maintenance for two weeks until getting underway on 12 Mar in support of GULFEX 2000. This multinational exercise placed ARDENT under tactical control of HMS Gloucester, Commander Mine Counter Measures Squadron Two. Other British ships in the squadron included HMS Sir Geraint, HMS Inverness, HMS Atherstone, and HMS Bridgeport. On 16 Mar, ARDENT arrived in Dubai, UAE for another port visit. On 19 Mar, she began her return transit back to Bahrain. ARDENT arrived in Bahrain on 21 Mar. During the week in port, ARDENT began making preps for Arabian Gauntlet 2000. On 29 Mar, ARDENT went underway for one last preparatory underway prior to the exercise. ARDENT was inport Bahrain from 30 Mar to 03 Apr for the inport training phase of Arabian Gauntlet.

ARDENT was underway in company with USS Samuel B. Roberts, HNLMS Schevingen, BNS Crocus and BNS Godetia in support of Arabian Gauntlet on 04 Apr. After a successful exercise, ARDENT returned to Bahrain on 10 Apr. ARDENT was underway again enroute Al Jubayl, KSA, following two weeks of voyage repairs. After the two-day port visit and two day return transit, ARDENT arrived in Bahrain on 30 April.

ARDENT spent a week inport Bahrain then got underway again on 07 May to conduct mine warfare proficiency training enroute Doha, Qatar. ARDENT's crew participated in the "host-a-sailor" program with local US citizens living in Doha. On 10 May, ARDENT was underway again enroute Bahrain arriving on 11 May. After a five-day inport period, ARDENT had the pleasure of having MCPON Jimmie Herdt visit the ship on 16 May and speak with the crew. On the same day, ARDENT got underway to conduct mine warfare proficiency training enroute Abu Dhabi, UAE. Arriving in Abu Dhabi, she spent three days inport from 20 - 22 May then was underway again enroute Bahrain. Arriving on 25 May, ARDENT remained in Bahrain until 03 June.

ARDENT began another underway enroute Al Jubayl, KSA, on 04 Jun. On the 6th of Jun, ARDENT arrived inport Jubayl for a two-day port visit. ARDENT was underway in support of Exercise Nautical Swimmer 2000 beginning 07 Jun. This mine warfare exercise was a joint exercise conducted with Royal Saudi Naval Forces to improve offensive/defensive mine warfare in the vicinity of a major commercial port. On 11 June, ARDENT arrived

back in Bahrain and remained there until 25 July. During this long inport period, ARDENT conducted Weight and Moment Testing, Diesel Engine Inspection on all of her diesel engines, a Supply Management Assist, an Integrated Logistics Offload Removal, AIT install, SEMAT II, and CMS assist visit. On 25 July, ARDENT was underway conducting mine warfare proficiency operations in the MCM OPAREA. ARDENT returned to Bahrain for a ten-day inport period on 27 July.

On 08 August, ARDENT was underway conducting mine warfare proficiency training enroute Dubai, UAE. ARDENT arrived in Dubai on 11 August. After a three day port visit, ARDENT was underway again conducting engineering training in preparation for her ISIC (Immediate Superior In Command) Initial Assessment. On 19 August, ARDENT arrived in Bahrain to continue her preparations for ISIC IA. The ISIC IA lasted from 29 to 31 August. ARDENT next conducted a WQC-2 change out at Arad shipbuilding and repair yard company. On 10 September, ARDENT was underway again conducting search operations in the CAG. After four days of hunting, ARDENT returned to Bahrain on 14 September. The following week, ARDENT conducted her Supply Management Inspection and trained for her first mission as a MIO (Maritime Interdiction Operations) participant. ARDENT was underway on 22 Sep to participate in MIO Surge 00-7. On 29 Sep, ARDENT returned to Bahrain and remained there until 02 Oct, during which time she conducted a NATO Secret inspection.

On 03 Oct, ARDENT went underway to conduct mine warfare proficiency training and returned to Bahrain on 05 Oct. On 12 Oct, ARDENT sortied with all other ships in Bahrain in the wake of the USS COLE bombing. ARDENT remained underway until 12 Nov, during which time five underway replenishments were conducted with USNS WALTER S. DIEHL and USS CAMDEN. On 12 Nov, ARDENT finally returned to Bahrain after her longest continuous underway since her commissioning. From 12 Nov to 09 Dec, ARDENT remained inport conducting maintenance and training. The primary concern for ARDENT during this period was force protection. On 10 Dec, ARDENT was underway again conducting mine warfare proficiency training. ARDENT returned from her final underway of calendar year 2000 on 13 December and commenced holiday stand down on 17 Dec and spent the remainder of the holiday season inport Manama, Bahrain.