



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS BLACK HAWK (MHC-58)
FPO AA 34091-1955

IN REPLY REFER TO

5750

2 Mar 99

From: Commanding Officer, USS BLACK HAWK (MHC 58)
To: Director of Naval History

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) USS BLACK HAWK Command History **1998**

1. Pursuant to reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


B. SMITH

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3/8/99
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COMMAND HISTORY USS BLACK HAWK (MHC 58)

BLACK HAWK (MHC 58) is the eighth ship in the U. S. Navy's OSPREY Class Coastal Minehunter Program and the third U. S. Navy ship to bear the name. BLACK HAWK's keel was laid on September 3, 1992, and her christening and launching took place on August 27, 1994. MHC 51 Class ships are the world's largest Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) ships and the first U. S. Navy ships designed solely for mine hunting, the technique of locating mines with sonar and neutralizing them with a remotely controlled underwater vehicle. The ship's mission is to clear harbor, coastal and ocean waters of acoustic, magnetic and pressure/contact type mines, utilizing reconnaissance, classification and neutralization tactics. The MHC 51 Class design integrates modern mine countermeasures technology into a uniquely designed platform. The ship is protected during mine hunting operations with an exceptionally low magnetic and acoustic signature.

01-06 JANUARY 1997 *1998 port*

BLACK HAWK continued a traditional holiday stand down period.

01 JANUARY-20 MARCH

BLACK HAWK continued Post Shakedown Availability at South Texas Ship Repair Facility in Aransas Pass Texas.

17-18 JANUARY

BLACK HAWK completed inport reserve training weekend.

19-23 JANUARY

BLACK HAWK completed engineering assist visit conducted by Afloat Training Group Ingleside.

07-08 FEBRUARY

BLACK HAWK completed inport reserve training weekend.

17-20 FEBRUARY

BLACK HAWK completed engineering assist visit conducted by Afloat Training Group Ingleside.

25-27 FEBRUARY

BLACK HAWK completed a Light Off Assessment conducted by Afloat Training Group Ingleside. Thirteen of thirteen engineering programs evaluated as "Effective".

06 MARCH

BLACK HAWK completed sea trials for Post Shakedown Availability. BLACK HAWK returned to Naval Station Ingleside.

07-08 MARCH

BLACK HAWK completed inport reserve training weekend.

19-20 MARCH

BLACK HAWK completed sea trials for an upgrade to the SSQ-109 Machinery Control System.

21-30 MARCH

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

24 MARCH

ENS [REDACTED] reported aboard. He is assigned duties as Supply Officer and First Lieutenant.

24 MARCH

BLACK HAWK completed an ammunition onload.

26 MARCH

Captain Dowd, USN, PERS 412 visited BLACK HAWK.

31 MARCH-02 APRIL

BLACK HAWK underway in Corpus Christi Texas Oparea (CCOA) for mine warfare training.

03-13 APRIL

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

09 APRIL

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for minelaying services.

14-15 APRIL

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for seamanship and navigation training.

16-24 APRIL

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

25 APRIL

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for reserve training weekend.

26 APRIL

BLACK HAWK completed inport reserve training weekend.

27 APRIL-10 MAY

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

11-20 MAY

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for GOMEX 98-1. During the exercise BLACK HAWK completed all assigned tasking. Additionally, BLACK HAWK with the assistance of divers recovered AN/SQQ-14 jettisoned earlier in the exercise by a MH-53E from HM-15. The recovery was conducted without heavy lift bags using the boat crane.

16-17 MAY

BLACK HAWK conducted reserve training weekend to coincide with GOMEX 98-1.

21 MAY-18 JUNE

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

28 MAY

BLACK HAWK completed ammunition offload for modification to the bomblet handling system.

07-08 JUNE

BLACK HAWK conducted inport reserve training weekend.

09 JUNE

Colonel Mohammed, United Arab Emirates Navy visited BLACK HAWK.

16 JUNE

ENS [REDACTED] USNR arrived onboard. He is assigned duties as First Lieutenant.

18 JUNE

BLACK HAWK completed ammunition onload in preparation for mini-deployment to Panama City and St Petersburg Florida.

19 JUNE-23 JUNE

BLACK HAWK enroute with ORIOLE and SENTRY to Panama City Florida for HUNTEX.

24-26 JUNE

BLACK HAWK underway in Panama City Florida Oparea (PCOA) for HUNTEX. During the exercise BLACK HAWK completed all assigned tasking. Additionally, BLACK HAWK completed over forty mine neutralization vehicle missions including eighteen in a twenty four hour period

27-28 JUNE

BLACK HAWK inport Panama City Florida.

29 JUNE-01 JULY

BLACK HAWK continued underway in PCOA for HUNTEX.

02 JULY

BLACK HAWK enroute with ORIOLE and SENTRY to St Petersburg Florida for a port visit.

03-05 JULY

BLACK HAWK conducted port visit in St. Petersburg Florida. During port visit, BLACK HAWK held a reception for over fifty people including the mayor of the city. Additionally, BLACK HAWK conducted general public ship tours for over five hundred people.

06-09 JULY

BLACK HAWK enroute with ORIOLE and SENTRY to Naval Station Ingleside.

10 JULY

BLACK HAWK arrived at Naval Station Ingleside.

11 JULY-02 AUGUST

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

20-24 JULY

BLACK HAWK completed Shipboard Based Training Team Seminar in preparation for start of Basic Phase Training Cycle.

22 JULY

BLACK HAWK conducted heavy weather mooring exercise in Naval Station Ingleside Basin.

03-07 AUGUST

BLACK HAWK underway in Corpus Christi TX Oparea for mine hunting training.

08-30 AUGUST

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

20 AUGUST

BLACK HAWK conducted ammunition offload in preparation for restricted availability.

22-23 AUGUST

BLACK HAWK conducted inport reserve training weekend.

01 SEPTEMBER-06 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK conducted restricted availability for modification to shafting system. Gulf Copper Ship Repair completed the work.

04 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK completed sea trials for restricted availability.

07-08 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for reserve weekend training.

09 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK inport Naval Station Ingleside.

10-12 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK underway in CCOA for RONEX 99-1. During the exercise BLACK HAWK completed all assigned tasking.

13-20 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK conducted AIT maintenance availability.

13 NOVEMBER

LT [REDACTED] relieved LT [REDACTED] as Chief Engineer.

21-29 NOVEMBER

BLACK HAWK conducted maintenance upkeep period.

30 NOVEMBER-04 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK completed Command Assessment of Readiness and Training Phase 2 (CART2) in preparation for upcoming Basic Phase Training Cycle. All areas went "Effective or Partially Effective".

02 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK successfully completed Communication Material Security Inspection.

05-06 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK inport Naval Station Ingleside.

07-18 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK conducted AIT maintenance availability.

07 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK successfully completed Shipboard Explosive Safety Inspection.

19-31 DECEMBER

BLACK HAWK conducted traditional holiday leave and upkeep period.