

Command Operations Report 2008

1. Command Data:

Name of Command: USS CARNEY (DDG 64)

UIC: 21923

Name and Rank of Commanding Officer:

Last: McLane **First:** Brendan **MI:** R **Rank:** CDR

Date Assumed Command: 05 November 2008

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: CENTCOM AOR

Permanent Location: Mayport, FL

Immediate Superior in Command:

Operational: Destroyer Squadron Two Six

Administrative: Destroyer Squadron Two Four

Task Force/ Group/ Unit name and Mission:

JAN 08 – MAY 08: CTF 50 / CTF 54 / CTF 150 / CSG 10

Names of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned: NTR

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned: NTR

Commands, Detachments of Units deployed on board: NTR

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 27 **Enlisted:** 248 **Civilians:** 0

Command Point of Contact:

Name: LTJG [REDACTED]

Job Title: Navigator

E-mail: [REDACTED]

Phone Number: [REDACTED]

Command Mailing Address:

USS CARNEY (DDG 64)

FPO AA 34090-1282

2. Commander's Assessment:

CARNEY began the new year in the third month of her C5F deployment. Her first tasking of the new year was to escort the submarine USS NORFOLK through the Suez Canal. In between the 22 hour transits, CARNEY took in a brief stop for fuel and parts in Souda Bay, Crete. This overnight stop served as CARNEY's only port call during the month of January.

In early February CARNEY received urgent tasking from C5F to respond to an act of piracy off the coast of Somalia as Merchant Vessel Svitzer Korsakov was boarded by pirates and the crew and ship held for ransom. For over three weeks CARNEY shadowed the pirated vessel less than 2 nautical miles off the Somali coast, negotiating with the hostage takers and firing warning shots with the main battery in order to prevent resupply. CARNEY's role in the saga led to the eventual release of the tug with all crew members in good health. After departing the Somali coast, CARNEY shifted tasking to anti-human smuggling operations from Africa to the Arabian

Peninsula in partnership with the Yemen Coast Guard as well as Canadian and Royal Navy. It was a successful mission that resulted in arrests at sea and valuable intelligence. Members of CARNEY's Visit, Board, Search and Seizure team were involved in the biggest drug bust in the northern Arabian Gulf area of operations since 2005. Around 4.3 tons of hashish were discovered and recovered from a Pakistan-registered fishing dhow by members of CARNEY's boarding team. Also in February CARNEY learned that she had been awarded the 2007 BATTLE EFFECTIVENESS AWARD for Destroyer Squadron 24. CARNEY also earned a clean sweep of all six department awards; one of only four ships in the Navy to earn all 7 awards and the only ship in the Atlantic Fleet to do so.

In the opening days of March, CARNEY was assigned to be in tactical command of Exercise Eagle Salute with the Egyptian Navy. The exercise involved DIVTACS, VBSS boardings, and a live fire event. At the conclusion of the event, a reception was held on board CARNEY with Egyptian Flag Officers and Commanding Officers. While in Safaga, Egypt over 150 Sailors were able to experience ancient Egypt with a tour of Luxor and the Valley of the Kings. Immediately after setting sail from Egypt, CARNEY crossed the Red Sea to pick up Commander, Destroy Squadron 26, Captain Michael Strano, in order to begin another exercise with the Saudi Arabian Navy. This exercise involved many of the same events performed with the Egyptian Navy and included a brief stop in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

April saw CARNEY receive some much needed time to relax with a port call to the island nation of Seychelles. Enroute to Seychelles, CARNEY crossed the equator and in keeping with the traditions of the sea, conducted a Crossing the Line ceremony to cleanse the "Pollywogs". While in Seychelles, it was announced that CARNEY was selected as the 2007 winner of the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund award, chosen every 4 years among all Atlantic Fleet Cruisers, Destroyers, and Frigates. In late April CARNEY once again embarked the Commodore and participated in Operation Arabian Shark, a multinational Anti-Submarine Warfare exercise conducted in close proximity to the Strait of Hormuz. CARNEY once again shone through as the DESRON Flagship and performed admirably during this tactical exercise.

With the month of May came the final phase of the deployment. One last northbound Suez Canal transit effectively marked the end of C5F operations and the in-chop into Sixth Fleet for a few liberty ports. The crew enjoyed liberty in Corfu, Greece; Rijeka, Croatia; and Malaga, Spain. During her time in Rijeka, CARNEY took part in a bilateral MIO exercise with the Croatian Navy entitled Adriatic Shield. Following the westbound Strait of Gibraltar transit, only one final task lay between CARNEY and her return to homeport; ULTRA-S. Assessors representing ATG Norfolk and CDS 26 embarked in Malaga or transferred in from the carrier to conduct the 3 day event. Once again, CARNEY showed her true colors and dominated the assessment which graded all warfare areas from Seamanship to Air Defense to Damage Control. With ULTRA behind her CARNEY steamed west toward Mayport.

CARNEY's homecoming was a joyous June 4th as the crew was reunited with loved ones they had not seen in seven months. As the band played and the ship pulled in, CARNEY proudly displayed her six colored E's and her large Battle E for the first time to the domestic crowd. June was a month of relaxation as CARNEY executed a post deployment stand-down that allowed sailors to take some time away from the ship with their families.

By early July, CARNEY was back at sea enroute to Philadelphia for a 4th of July port visit. On the way to Philadelphia, CARNEY embarked over 40 members of the extended CARNEY family for a 4 day Tiger Cruise. During the Tiger Cruise, fathers, sons, brothers, and friends observed weapons firings, VBSS and Damage Control demonstrations, small boat

operations, and even tried their hand at Conning and steering the ship. After a demanding 8 hour transit up the Delaware River, the City of Brotherly Love rolled out the red carpet for CARNEY. The crew was wined and dined throughout the city with complimentary tickets to museums, shows, and sporting events. CARNEY offered tours to over 5,000 visitors and hosted a formal reception on the final evening in town. On the return trip from Philadelphia CARNEY made a brief three day stop in Yorktown, VA in order to offload the remaining ordnance from deployment and returned to Mayport.

Tasked to support the THEODORE ROOSEVELT Carrier Strike Group by serving as opposition forces, CARNEY was underway again at the end of July. On the way out of Mayport, CARNEY was embarked by CDS 24, Commodore Kersh, in order to conduct an ISIC Navigation Assessment. Again, CARNEY showed why they were the Commodore's Battle E ship, excelling at the assessment and earning their Navigation certification.

Returning from the OPFOR duties, CARNEY moored at the maintenance pier in order to conduct a four month SRA inport period. During this period, a multitude of depot and intermediate level jobs were completed by SERMC and outside contractors, including the overhaul of the 5 inch main battery and SPY array panels, the installation of an updated Tactical Tomahawk launching system, and a new IT suite. The extended inport period also allowed the ship to meet school requirements by sending sailors to schools from Mayport to San Diego. Additionally, the SRA saw a tremendous amount of work on the deckplates to paint the ship from mainmast to keel. The fresh coat of paint had the ship looking beautiful for her Change of Command ceremony on November 5th when CDR Brendan McLane relieved CDR Glenn Kuffel as Commanding Officer, USS CARNEY.

With the SRA completed, CARNEY went to sea for sea trials and shakedown during the last week of November. Part of the focus as well was the upcoming training cycle that awaited CARNEY in January and February of 2009. The at-sea routine during this underway as well as another in early December was arduous as CARNEY pushed herself to train and increase drill proficiency in order to prepare for the ULTRA cycle. The final weeks of the year were very important to CARNEY as the ship was able to take an extended holiday leave period for the first time in 4 years. Underway and training commitments had prevented CARNEY sailors from having a proper holiday in the previous years so this period allowed them a chance to recharge prior to the impending training cycle.

3. Chronology and Narrative:

JAN 1 – JAN 5	HOA/GOA OPS
JAN 5 – JAN 14	EXERCISE ARGO IDEFIX
JAN 14 – JAN 18	TRANSIT RED SEA
JAN 19	SUEZ CANAL TRANSIT
JAN 20 – JAN 21	BSF SOUDA BAY, CRETE
JAN 22	SUEZ CANAL TRANSIT
JAN 22 – JAN 24	SUBMARINE RED SEA ESCORT
JAN 25 – FEB 2	CTF 150 OPS
FEB 3 – FEB 25	CTF 150 COUNTER PIRACY OPS
FEB 26 – MAR 1	TRANSIT
2 MAR – 6 MAR	EXERCISE EAGLE SALUTE
5 MAR – 6 MAR	PVST SAFAGA, EGYPT
7 MAR – 12 MAR	EXERCISE INDIGO SERPENT

12 MAR	IN PORT JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA
13 MAR – 21 MAR	CTF 150 OPS
22 MAR – 27 MAR	EXERCISE ARGO CANTHOS
24 MAR – 26 MAR	PVST SALALAH, OMAN
28 MAR – 1 APR	TRANSIT
2 APR – 6 APR	PVST VICTORIA, SEYCHELLES
7 APR – 11 APR	TRANSIT
12 APR – 21 APR	EXERCISE ARABIAN SHARK
12 APR – 14 APR	IN PORT FUJAIRAH, UAE
20 APR – 21 APR	IN PORT FUJAIRAH, UAE
22 APR – 3 MAY	TRANSIT
1 MAY	SUEZ CANAL TRANSIT
4 MAY – 9 MAY	PVST CORFU, GREECE
10 MAY – 15 MAY	PVST RIJEKA, CROATIA
12 MAY – 14 MAY	EXERCISE ADRIATIC SHIELD
16 MAY – 20 MAY	TRANSIT
21 MAY – 23 MAY	PVST MALAGA, SPAIN
24 MAY	STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR TRANSIT
24 MAY – 4 JUNE	TRANSIT
25 MAY – 27 MAY	ULTRA-S
4 JUNE	HOMECOMING
5 JUNE – 26 JUNE	POST DEPLOYMENT POM
27 JUNE – 30 JUNE	TIGER CRUISE
30 JUNE – 5 JULY	PVST PHILADELPHIA
5 JULY – 9 JULY	AMMO OFFLOAD, YORKTOWN
10 JULY – 11 JULY	TRANSIT
12 JULY – 20 JULY	UPKEEP
21 JULY	ISIC NAV CHECKRIDE
21 JULY – 1 AUG	THEODORE ROOSEVELT JTFEX OPFOR
2 AUG – 5 AUG	UPKEEP
6 AUG – 19 NOV	SRA
5 NOV	CHANGE OF COMMAND
19 NOV – 25 NOV	SEA TRIALS
26 NOV – 2 DEC	UPKEEP
3 DEC – 7 DEC	USS ALBUQUERQUE POMCERT
8 DEC – 18 DEC	UPKEEP
19 DEC – 31 DEC	HOLIDAY LEAVE PERIOD

4. **Supporting Reports:**

COMNAVSURFOR	281632Z FEB 08	BATTLE E AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT
CNO	280210Z MAY 08	MARJORIE STERRETT BATTLESHIP AWARD
USS CARNEY	242001Z MAY 08	PVST AAR FOR CORFU GREECE
USS CARNEY	242002Z MAY 08	PVST AAR FOR RIJEKA, CROATIA
USS CARNEY	291730Z MAY 08	PVST AAR FOR MALAGA, SPAIN
CDS 26	290944Z MAY 08	ULTRA-S CERTIFICATION
USS CARNEY	032100Z JUN 08	BURIAL AT SEA NOTIFICATION
USS CARNEY	282012Z JUL 08	PVST AAR FOR PHILADELPHIA
CDS 24	212000Z JUL 08	USS CARNEY NAVIGATION ASSESSMENT

5. Published Documents:

1. USS CARNEY Comes Back Home (Mayport Mirror) – 12JUN08
2. USS CARNEY Embarks “Tigers” for Underway (Mayport Mirror) – 17JUL08
3. Tastiest Ship in the Basin (Mayport Mirror) – 18DEC08

6. Photographs:

1. Homecoming
2. Battle E
3. VERTREP
4. CSG PHOTOEX
5. CNY Breakaway
6. UNREP with JDS OUMI
7. CNY Wardroom
8. CNY in Suez Canal