



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS COLE (DDG 67)
FPO AE 09566-1285

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

Ser EXEC/072

28 February 1997

From: Commanding Officer, USS COLE (DDG 67)
To: Director of Naval History (OP 09BH), Naval Historical
Center, Washington Navy Yard, 901 M Street SE, Bldg. 57,
Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY, 1993-1996

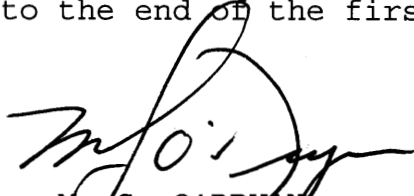
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

1996

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Ports Visited List
(3) Command Summary
(4) Statistical Data
(5) Chronology of Events
(6) Narrative
(7) Design of Coat of Arms
(8) SECNAV NOTICE 5030, Assignment of Names to Guided
Missile Destroyers
(9) Stepping the Mast
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(12) Homeport Administrative Assignment for COLE (DDG 67)
(13) Voice Call Sign and International Call Sign Assignment
(14) Delivery, Acceptance and Commissioning of COLE
(DDG 67)
(15) Contract N00024-90-C-28000 (DDG 67) USS COLE, Request
for Custody Transfer (Preliminary Acceptance)
(16) Contract N00024-90-C-2800, COLE (DDG 67); Transfer of
Custody
(17) DD Form 250, Material Inspection and Receiving Report,
Destroyer, USS COLE (DDG 67)
(18) Designation of COLE (DDG 67) Precommissioning Unit
(19) USS COLE (DDG 67) Reporting for Duty
(20) Sailing Directions
(21) Commanding Officer Biography
(22) Welcome Aboard Book
(23) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(24) Commissioning Book
(25) Ship's photograph
(26) USS COLE Holiday Video 1996
(27) Command History Disk, Microsoft Word format

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY, 1993-1996

1. Enclosures (1) through (27) are submitted in accordance with reference (a) as the USS COLE 1993-1996 Command History. The enclosures cover events from the establishment of a new command through commissioning, to the end of the first year of commissioned service.



M. S. O'BRYAN

USS COLE (DDG 67)

Homeport Norfolk, VA

Commissioned 8 June, 1996

Immediate Superior

Commander, Destroyer Squadron Two Two

Captain Albert C. Meyers 01 Jan 1994 - 17 May 1996

Captain Joseph A. Benkert 17 May 1996 - 05 Nov 1996

Captain Brent B. Gooding 05 Nov 1996 - 31 Dec 1996

Commanding Officer

CDR M. Stewart O'Bryan 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Executive Officer

LCDR Charles J. Berdar 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Combat Systems Officer

LCDR [REDACTED] 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Operations Officer

LT [REDACTED] 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Engineer Officer

LT [REDACTED] 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Supply Officer

LCDR [REDACTED] 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Navigation / Administration

LT [REDACTED] 08 Jun - 31 Dec 1996

Encl (1)

Ports of Call 1996

Pascagoula, MS

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Norfolk, VA

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Roosevelt Roads, PR

Christainstad, St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands

San Juan, PR

Nassau, Bahamas

USS COLE (DDG 67)
1993 - 1996

1993 marked the beginning of construction of hull number 5267. What began as sheets of stock metal in Ingalls Shipbuilding would form a keel February 28, 1994, float free February 10, 1995, christened in honor of Marine Sergeant Darrell Samuel Cole April 8, 1995 and finally commissioned USS COLE (DDG 67) June 8, 1996. This document records the history of a hand picked crew, each with their own expertise and experience, who transformed an 8600 ton mass of metal, oil and electronics into a United States Naval Guided Missile Destroyer.

Following a highly successful commissioning in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, USS COLE set her name in the record books by becoming the first DDG to immediately participate in a major multi-national exercise, SHAREM 116. The enthusiastic Determined Warriors demonstrated their prowess in under-sea warfare operations with the Canadian Navy by localizing the submarine threat consistently through each evolution. One Canadian submarine commander was quoted as saying "We don't understand why we could no longer operate undetected after COLE arrived on the scene!"

The remainder of 1996 was filled with training and exercises, each a step which COLE tackled with determination and planning. During Post Delivery Tests and Trials, USS COLE became the first warship to successfully engage a high altitude, supersonic ARM II threat; and demonstrated the first four missile, dual salvo engagement, of a sea skimming stream raid. During her brief visits to homeport Norfolk, COLE quickly gained a reputation for excellence on the waterfront hosting foreign dignitaries from Germany, Netherlands, South America as well as COMSECONDFLT VADM Clark, COMNAVSURFLANT ADM Katz and even the 1996 NASCAR drivers!

Encl 6

1996 Statistical Data

Underway Replenishment		4
Nautical Miles Steamed		18,386
Flight Operations	Takeoffs: 89	Landings: 89
Weapons Expended		
	SM-2	12
	Torpedo (exercise)	14
	SRBOC	99
	5" 54 Cal	510
	CIWS 20mm rounds	2905
	9 mm rounds	9314
	12 gauge shotgun rounds	1336
	M-14 rounds	1320
Officers		25
Chief Petty Officers		26
Crew		278

Pre 1996

COLE's history dates back to 13 March 1993 when Ingalls Shipbuilding began construction on the 17th ARLEIGH BURKE class DDG, hull #5267. 5267 is the Ingalls hull designation, 52 indicates the first DDG built by Ingalls and 67 indicates DDG 67. DDG 67 became known as COLE April 8, 1995 when christened by Mrs. Lee Perry, wife of then Secretary of Defense William J. Perry.

The precommissioning crew had a tough job ahead which would be tackled from a home base in two locations over 1000 miles apart. Precommissioning Unit (PCU) COLE was established April 1, 1995 in Pascagoula, MS on the second floor of Ingalls West Bank Annex in seven offices. The offices provided space for each department, the Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO), Prospective Executive Officer (PXO) and Prospective Command Master Chief. Later they also housed the first quarter-deck and ship's store. The job of the unit was to oversee ship's construction and serve as a focal point for the myriad of instructions and programs which the crew was required to develop. Precommissioning Detachment (PCD) COLE was established April 26, 1995 in Norfolk, VA at Fleet Training Center. PCD COLE served as a training base for the crew as they reported to the ship throughout different phases of construction. Mr. Jesse Castano tracked each individual from the moment they received orders to the ship until they ultimately reported to PCU COLE. He ensured that COLE sailors received all schooling required to properly man the Navy's newest AEGIS guided missile destroyer.

Construction proceeded through 1995 with the AEGIS Weapons system light-off June 30, Engineering Gas Turbine Generator light-off August 7 and main engine light-off September 22. The crew continued to set COLE policy to paper and attend training. During this phase Combat System Team training took place in Moorestown, NJ and Engineering training occurred at the Land Based Training Site in Philadelphia, PA. For the first time PCO COLE and two complete tactical watch teams trained together briefing training scenarios and practicing on the same type of equipment found on the ship. The engineers trained on plant operation maintenance at an operational land based engineering plant.

By December 1995 COLE was ready for time at sea and her first set of trials. A/B trials, or Combined Builders Trials demonstrated every aspect of COLE's engineering and combat systems. The COLE standard was established as the ship became the first DDG to deviate from the standard SM-2 missile demonstration by replacing the second SM-2 event with a more challenging Command All the Way (CAW) event. COLE not only demonstrated the capability of the After Vertical Launching System magazine, but also provide the Navy with critical data used to develop and refine AEGIS weapon's system enhancements. The completion of Combined Builder's Trials December 15, 1996 was delayed only by the thick fog typical of the Mississippi Gulf Coast during the winter months. The demonstrated successes formed a firm foundation on which COLE would be based.

Encl (6)

January 1996

Following the success of builders trials, the focus for 1996 shifted from construction to move aboard. In three months the crew was scheduled to take custody of COLE and prepare her for commissioning in June. Acceptance trials January 21-23 offered COLE for the first time to the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). This was the Supervisor's of Shipbuilding and Repair, and Ingalls' last critical step in demonstrating that COLE was ready for delivery to the Navy. It was time for the crew to demonstrate that they were ready to accept custody. PCD Norfolk was disestablished and with few exceptions the entire crew was in Pascagoula. The initial series of assist visits, combined with Radio Team training, Navigation Team training and emergency team certifications offered little time to rest.

February 1996

As the Mardi Gras season began in full swing on the Gulf Coast, COLE continued to set the standard. A short break was set aside, February 9th, as the first Chief Petty Officer vs. Wardroom softball game was organized at Naval Station Pascagoula. Officers stand victorious. February 12th marked the first day of four section duty. This would begin COLE's transformation from a shore based Precommissioning Unit to a sea based United States Ship. The goal was set to complete Engineering Light Off Assessment in four sections. No small task, for no other DDG had ever attempted more than three sections. Engineering hot checks, inport evolution and casualty training, counterpart training and the first duty section drills continued to convert a green crew into Determined Warriors. The later part of February offered a new challenge to the crew with load out. It was time to outfit the ship with every thing from bar stock metal to hazardous material to frozen food. With the assistance of experienced Ingalls' foremen, ship load out progressed on schedule.

March 1996

Equipment load out continued to be the focus as COLE pressed on towards ship's custody transfer. March 11, 1996 in a ceremony attended by the Supervisor of Shipbuilding and Repair, Ingalls' president, Mr. Jerry St. Pe' and the officers and crew of COLE, CDR M. S. O'Bryan signed the 1250 that transferred COLE to the Navy. The same day marked the grand opening of the Enlisted Dining Facility, the Cole Diner, and the christening of the ship's boats, Leave and Liberty. The job of move aboard still not complete, the remainder of March brought technical publications, AEGIS and non-AEGIS software, test equipment and entertainment systems. Certifications became the focus as the crew began main space fire drill training for Light Off Assessment, magazine sprinkler certification and preparations for Crew Certification.

April 1996

As each certification was successfully completed, another stood waiting around the corner. April brought Harpoon, Tomahawk and Vertical Launching System Certifications, Crew Certification Phase II and the first phase of Light Off Assessment, Pre-Light Off Training III (PLOT III). The crew continued to prepare COLE for sailaway and commissioning. PLOT III revealed to Engineering Training Group that the ship was ready to demonstrate her engineering and damage control abilities in four sections. The hard work and dedication from the fire parties had paid off, but the real test would come two weeks later in May.

May 1996

May came quickly for the officers and crew of COLE. A majority of the inspections behind them, the greatest hurdle still needed to be crossed before the ship was ready to sail to commissioning. Light-Off Assessment (LOA) occurred May 7-8 and demonstrated the fact that the crew had formed a cohesive unit ready to accept and tackle any challenge. The goal had already been established to complete LOA in four sections, an unprecedented approach that meant four fire parties had to be fully trained and prepared to accept the formidable task of a class B main space fire. During each drill, the number of crew members available to fight the fire would be twenty-five fewer than if three sections had been presented. That meant fewer damage control fire fighting experts, fewer officers and chief petty officers and most importantly fewer fire party reliefs. After the first day all hot and cold checks, all administrative programs and the first main space fire drill had been graded satisfactory. After only one day COLE's crew was granted permission to light off her main engines. The second day completed satisfactory checks on a few remaining administrative programs and two remaining fire drills. Not only was LOA successful, but it had been accomplished in only two days. COLE had set a standard which to this day remains to be surpassed.

With little time set aside to relax, the final accomplishment of final Crew Certification completed the required elements for commissioning. May 24, 1996 COLE was placed in commission, special and CDR M. S. O'Bryan assumed command. May 28th COLE set sail for Ft. Lauderdale and commissioning day.

June 1996

With arrival to Port Everglade, FL June 3rd, COLE shifted gears to prepare for commissioning day. Six underway days had given the crew an opportunity to test out the systems, shoot the guns and learn the feel of the powerful warship COLE. Now in Ft. Lauderdale, the crew had to learn how to present the ship to the people she would represent, friends, family, VIPs, all citizens of the United States. Four days of rehearsals, receptions and presentations later USS COLE (DDG 67) was commissioned June 8, 1996. Mrs. Lee Perry gave the order "Man our ship, and bring her to life!"

Not slowing down for an instant, USS COLE sailed toward Halifax, Nova Scotia stopping only for one afternoon in Norfolk to receive fuel. SHAREM 116 provided the crew their first opportunity to demonstrate to the world that USS COLE was a fleet asset operationally ready at an early stage. June 21st USS COLE sailed into Norfolk, VA for the second time, only this time she was officially home. Her reputation preceding her, USS COLE assumed duties as Destroyer Squadron Two Two Flag Ship June 24th.

July 1996

Commissioning behind her, USS COLE set her sights on preparing for Command Assessment of Readiness and Training - Phase II (CART II) and Post Delivery Tests and Trials (PDT&T). An unexpected interruption July 10-13 allowed USS COLE to test her resolution against the elements when Hurricane Bertha threatened the east coast. CART II came a week later and USS COLE became the first DDG whose notional schedule would allow a complete, uncompressed training cycle prior to her first deployment scheduled in 1998. During this time frame the first deck landing qualifications were completed finalizing the ship's certification as a helicopter landing facility. The inport phase of PDT&T began July 29th, starting a cycle which would bring the ship to the Caribbean, Under-Sea Warfare Weapons System Accuracy Trials and ten additional SM-2 missile firing exercises. To prepare for the challenge that lay ahead, the crew received training in underway replenishment utilizing the dockside UNREP simulator.

August 1996

August 1996 was a month of intensive training and extensive operations. COLE embarked on her first lengthy underway period into the Caribbean Sea for Post Delivery Tests and Trials. After a brief stop in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to renew the ties with our Commissioning Family, which included several Navy Leagues, COLE voyaged into the Bahamas for testing on her combat and weapons' control systems. The first phase of PDT&T focused on Under Sea Warfare systems. The Ship's Self Radiated Noise Measurement tested the skill of COLE's bridge team by requiring the ship to pass within hundreds of yards of the measuring buoy at all speeds. COLE's USW team heartily met the final USW challenge with six successful exercise torpedo firings which included two tests of the Navy's newest USW weapon, the MK-50. COLE demonstrated her underway replenishment abilities with the USNS LARAMIE and USNS HAYES, and crew members experienced life on a submarine by crossdecking with the USS HAMPTON. COLE made her first requisite port call on the Caribbean Naval Base of Roosevelt Roads, PR to end a busy month. With the end of USW trials, air, surface and guns faced a busy month in September.

September 1996

Following the working visit to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, COLE began preparations for an extensive battery of gunnery and missile exercises. Five Air Warfare exercises involving seven targets and nine missiles would test the capabilities of the weapon system as well as the abilities of the crew. The missile exercises selected for PDT&T would prove to be challenging and demonstrate more "firsts" to the U. S. Navy. The first successful high altitude, supersonic, ARM II intercept and the first dual missile, dual salvo stream raid engagement added COLE's name to the record books within her first seven months of commission. Nine empty SM-2 canisters, a spectacular F-4 aircraft flyby and COLE celebrated her successes right into Naval Surface Fire Support qualifications.

It was time for COLE to show her stuff on the gunnery range of Vieques Island. Following a three day weather delay, the final score tallied COLE had shot a 102.9. This score tied COLE for second place for the 1996 James F. Chezak Memorial Gunnery Award.

COLE's ability to fight the ship was tested in every warfare area: air, surface, undersea, electronic, and strike. September included advancements exams for E-4, E-5, and E-6. COLE selected two of her sailors to be advanced automatically on merit as a part of the Command Advancement Program. A photograph exercise and passenger transfer with a second U.S. submarine, USS ATLANTA, as well as numerous exercises and transfers with USS YORKTOWN kept the Flight Quarters and Underway Replenishment watch details quite busy. COLE traveled throughout the Caribbean Sea, with brief stops in St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands; Roosevelt Roads and San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Nassau, Bahamas. By the end of the month, operations complete, the officers and crew focused on the trip home and began preparations for VANDELEX missile firing in October.

October 1996

October marked the end of Post Delivery Tests and Trials and the beginning of a seventeen day maintenance availability. After over two months away from Norfolk, the crew was ready to come back home. The majority of the next three months would be spent inport Norfolk, a welcome relief for those who barely had time to settle their family in the new homeport.

Vandalex offered COLE an opportunity to demonstrate to the fleet her grace in missile engagement. The exercise, conducted just off Virginia's Eastern Shore, would consist of a low altitude, supersonic cruise missile allowing the ship only seconds to fire. This time COLE was joined by LEYTE GULF, VICKSBURG, RAMAGE, HAWES, CARR, ELROD and HALYBURTON, each working to detect and engage the threat. Once again the crew demonstrated their prowess and chalked up another SM-2 success.

The end of October found COLE underway another five days for engineering training. A critical evolution, this would ensure everyone was prepared for Engineering Certification in November.

November 1996

With Engineering Certification approaching mid November, COLE focused on ensuring all engineering programs were in order and watchstander proficiency was at its peak. In addition to certification preparations, COLE's reputation for excellence was developed through several high visibility visits from foreign dignitaries. Whether called upon for a luncheon with VADM Clark, COMSECONDFLT and Chief Defense Staff Netherlands, a tour for twenty Korean businessmen or a demonstration for Commandant, German Armed Forces Staff College, COLE consistently met the mark with excellence. Engineering Certification was completed November 19-21st and once again Propulsion Examining Board was astounded with COLE's operator expertise, material condition and professionalism. The month ended with an opportunity for family and friends of COLE to visit the ship and find out what kept the crew so busy.

December 1996

The final month of 1996 would be spent in preparation for 1997 and Post Shakedown Availability back in Pascagoula, MS. The weapons were offloaded at Yorktown Naval Weapons Station, for the ship would depart Norfolk in January immediately following holiday standown. The Navy's Board of Inspection and Survey was back on board to review the ship's programs and material condition. Due to the crew's documented performance thus far, the trials were reduced in scope and completed in less than three days. To complete a successful year, the ship was informed that they were COMNAVSURFLANT's nominee for the CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor award, a prestigious award for excellence in retention which the ship would receive in January. It was a time for the Determined Warriors of USS COLE to relax and reflect back on 1996. There was much to be proud of.

Pre 1996

8 Aug 1991 COLE approved as name for DDG 67.

13 Mar 1993 Construction started Ingalls Shipbuilding Hull 5267.

28 Feb 1994 Keel Laid.

7 Feb 1995 Coat of Arms selected.

10 Feb 1995 Float Off.

1 Apr 1995 Precommissioning Unit (PCU) COLE, Pascagoula, MS established.
ENS [REDACTED] OIC, FCC [REDACTED]

7 Apr 1995 Stepping the Mast.

8 Apr 1995 Christening.
Mrs. Lee Perry, Ship's Sponsor, COLE (DDG 67).

26 Apr 1995 Precommissioning Detachment (PCD) COLE, Norfolk, VA established.
CWO2 [REDACTED] OIC, SKC [REDACTED] GSE3 [REDACTED]

30 Jun 1995 AEGIS Weapons System light off.

2 Aug 1995 Homeport Norfolk, VA established, CNO WASHINGTON DC 021848Z AUG 95

4 Aug 1995 Voice Call Sign and International Call Sign assignment.
Voice Call Sign: "DETERMINED WARRIOR"
International Call Sign: "NDDG"

7 Aug 1995 Gas Turbine Generator light off.

16 Sep 1995 Precommissioning Unit Command Picnic, Lakeside Navy Annex.

22 Sep 1995 Main Engine light off.

26 Sep 1995 COLE's First Baby, [REDACTED], born to OS2 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

11 Oct 1995 COLE's first Ombudsmen selected.
Cathy Vasquez - Norfolk, Barbara Waite - Pascagoula.

16 Oct 1995 First Plan of the Day.

30 Oct - 9 Nov 1995 Combat Systems Engineering Development Site training - Moorestown, NJ,
Land Based Engineering Systems (LBES) training - Philadelphia, PA.

14 Nov 1995 COLE Family Support Group established.

14-16 Nov 1995 Command Physical Readiness Test.

15 Nov 1995 Precommissioning Detachment Awards Ceremony.

8 Dec 1995 Ship's Christmas Party, Lakeside Navy Annex, Pascagoula.

Pre 1996 (continued)

9 Dec 1995 Children's Christmas Party, Norfolk.
A/B Trial weapons on load.

13 Dec 1995 First Day Underway.

13-15 Dec 1995 A/B Trails. COLE's first 5" 54cal, Close in Weapons System, MK 36
Decoy Launching System and SM-2 missile live exercise firings. First full power run.
Navy's first Command All the Way SM-2 missile test during sea trials.

14 Dec 1995 Precommissioning Detachment, Norfolk Christmas party.

18 Dec 1995 Crew Certification Phase I.

19 Dec 1995 Precommissioning Unit Family Support Group bake sale.

20 Dec 1995 Precommissioning Unit Awards Ceremony.
ENS [REDACTED] receives COLE's first Navy Achievement Medal.
Commence leave period I.

29 Dec 1995 Commence leave period II.

January 1996

8 Jan	Leave period II ends.
16-19 Jan	Engineering Training Group (ETG) Phase I Visit.
17 Jan	CDS 6 Medical Quality Assurance Visit.
21-23 Jan	Acceptance Trials.
23 Jan	Family Support Group Bake Sale, Norfolk.
24-26 Jan	Radar Navigation Team Training, Norfolk.
29 Jan - 16 Feb	Radio Team Training - St. Indigoes, MD.
24 Jan - 4 Feb	Inport Emergency Team, Repair Locker and Helicopter Crash & Salvage team certifications.
30 Jan	██████████ born to GMM3 ██████████ and his wife. COLE's First Baby 1996.

February 1996

1 Feb	First Day Underway photo published on the cover of Naval Institute Proceedings.
7 Feb	Precommissioning Unit Awards Ceremony
8 Feb	Admiral's Call with VADM Katz Pascagoula Surface Warfare Officer Dining Out, Keesler AFB Officer's Club
9 Feb	First Chief Petty Officer vs. Wardroom softball game.
12 Feb	Inport four section duty implemented. PMS implemented. Load out Safety Stand Down.
12-16 Feb	Engineering Operational Sequencing System hot checks.
12-26 Feb	Inport watch evolution / casualty training.
13-14 Feb	Repair Locker turnover.
15 Feb	Bar stock load.
15-16 Feb	Crew Certification
16-20 Feb	Engineering department load out.
17 Feb	COLE participates in Pascagoula Mardi Gras parade.
20 Feb - 1 Mar	Ingalls Counterpart training.
21 Feb	Supply department load out.
22 Feb	Combat Systems department load out.
23 Feb	Operations department load out.
26 Feb	Dry provisions load out.
26 Feb - 7 Mar	Duty section drills.
27 Feb	Hazmat load out.
28 Feb	Deck division load out.
29 Feb	Pilferable material - A validation / load out.
29 Feb	Frozen provisions load out.

March 1996

1 Mar	Pilferable B load out.
4 Mar	Chilled provisions load out. AEGIS re-light Off
5 Mar	Ship's store/soda load out. 3rd Class examinations. Shipboard habitability inspection. Underway, sonar self-noise trial.
6 Mar	Crew berthing load out. Family Support Group bake sale.
7 Mar	Maintenance Assist Module load out. 2nd Class examinations.
8 Mar	Chief of Naval Operations authorized the AEGIS Program Manager to place COLE (DDG 67) "IN SERVICE, SPECIAL" upon delivery. Milk and bread load out.
11 Mar	Ship's Custody Transfer. LT [REDACTED] is first Command Duty Officer. 1000 First watch set. 1030 Mess decks ribbon cutting ceremony. Entertainment equipment load out.
12 Mar	1st Class examinations. Technical publication load out.
12-14 Mar	Non-AWS program delivery and distribution.
13 Mar	Test equipment load out. First main space fire drill.
14 Mar	CNSL Chief of Staff, CAPT Gurke visit.
15 Mar	SNAP software installation.
18-22 Mar	Magazine sprinkler certification.
18-26 Mar	Engineering Training Group Phase II visit
20 Mar	COLE (DDG 67) PRECOMMISSIONING UNIT designated a separate and detached command, CDR M. S. O'BRYAN designated Officer In Charge.
21 Mar	MARCOT 1-96 brief.
25 Mar	First menu review board.
25-29 Mar	Physical Readiness Test screening.
26 Mar	Sailor of the Quarter selection.

March 1996 (continued)

27-29 Mar AEGIS Weapon System program delivery.

30 Mar Ship's picnic - Naval Station Pascagoula.

April 1996

1-5 Apr	AEGIS Technical Support Group cold checks. PRT
1-2 Apr	Harpoon, Tomahawk, and VLS Certification
3 Apr	RHIB compass swing checks.
15 Apr	Exterior paint out.
16 Apr	Berth shift
17-18 Apr	Crew Certification Phase II
19 Apr	Berth shift to berth 5.
22-26 Apr	Engineering Training Group - PLOT III.

May 1996

1-2 May	AVCERT
6 May	Family Support Group Lei presentation.
7-8 May	Light-off Assessment (LOA). DESRON 22 visits COLE
10 May	Awards Ceremony
11 May	Ammunition on load
15 May	Fast Cruise Ship's picnic - Lakeside Naval Annex.
16-17 May	AEGIS Light-off
17 May	Fast Cruise
21 May	Fast Cruise
22 May	Awards Ceremony
23-24 May	Crew Certification and Fast Cruise DESRON 22 visits COLE
24 May	COLE placed in commission, special CDR M. S. O'Bryan assumes command DESRON 22 visits COLE
28 May	COLE underway for commissioning in Ft. Lauderdale. 0805 Sea & Anchor Detail set. 0900 Underway
29-30 May	Man Overboard Drills
30-31 May	General Quarters for training. 5", CIWS PAC Fire.

June 1996

3 Jun	Arrive Port Everglades Berth 25.
4 Jun	Ship's reception on flight deck.
4-7 Jun	Commissioning rehearsal.
5 Jun	Wardroom VIP luncheon Ft. Lauderdale Children's Hospital visit.
7 Jun	CO's Commissioning Reception (Ft. Lauderdale DCOTA center).
8 Jun	Commissioning. Secretary of Defense, William J. Perry, Principal Speaker.
9 Jun	Ft. Lauderdale beach picnic.
10 Jun	Underway enroute Norfolk. CSOSS, CSTT training and drill package development.
11 Jun	CSTT/ECC Drills.
13 Jun	Arrive Norfolk, VA brief stop for fuel. Underway for MARCOT 96.
14 Jun	MARCOT 96 / SHAREM 116 brief.
17 Jun	MARCOT CASEX A-5 events 1709, 1725, 1735.
18 Jun	Moor Halifax brief stop for fuel. Underway to rejoin SHAREM 116.
19 Jun	MARCOT CASEX C-2 events 1903, 1907. Detach from SHAREM 116.
20 Jun	5", CIWS PAC fire.
21 Jun	Homecoming, Norfolk, VA. 1000 - Moor NAVSTA Norfolk Berth 25-2.
22 Jun	Determined Warrior Homecoming Picnic - Fleet Recreation Park.
24 Jun	Assume duties as COMDESRON 22 Flag Ship.
25 Jun	Command Assessment Team Visit.
25-26 Jun	Field Calibration Certification.
25-28 Jun	NFMT Visit.
26 Jun	HIFR Certification.

July 1996

1-13 Jul	CART II preparations.
8 Jul	Post Delivery Tests and Trials missile scenario certification.
10-13 Jul	Underway Hurricane Bertha evasion.
16 Jul	CA Division completes first Division in the Spotlight.
17-19 Jul	Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) phase II.
22-26 Jul	Underway Tailored Ship's Training Availability I - Engineering Training Group.
23 Jul	First deck landing qualifications with HC-2 squadron.
29 Jul	Post Delivery Tests and Trials (PDT&T), inport phase, begins.
29 Jul - 2 Aug	Naval Surface Fire Support Team Training.
30 Jul	Pre-deployment brief.
30-31 Jul	Classroom and dockside UNREP simulator training.

August 1996

1 Aug	PSA Planning Conference. Afloat Commanders Conference.
2 Aug	Awards ceremony.
5 Aug	Underway to Yorktown Naval Weapons Station.
5-6 Aug	Ammunition onload.
7 Aug	Underway to Norfolk Naval Station.
8 Aug	Family Support Group bake sale. Inport unrep operations.
9 Aug	Awards ceremony.
12 Aug	Underway for Post Delivery Test & Trials. Rendezvous with USNS LARAMIE. Practice unrep approaches with USNS LARAMIE.
13 Aug	VERTREP, PAX XFER.
14 Aug	Chief Petty Officer indoctrination.
15 Aug	CIWS TRKEX, PACFIRE & FIREX. 5" TRKEX & GUNEX. VERTREP.
16 Aug	Moor Port Everglades in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.
17 Aug	Blood drive.
18 Aug	Plaque presentation / pierside reception with Florida area Navy Leagues.
19 Aug	Underway for transit to AUTEC. Burial at sea. SQR-19 operations.
20 Aug	Arrive AUTEC, commence active sonar testing. General Quarters for training.
21 Aug	WSAT SVTT/LAMPS weapons firing exercise.
22 Aug	Passive USW TRACKEX. SLAMEX 43-96.
23 Aug	Active USW TRACKEX.
24 Aug	USS HAMPTON crossdeck. Duty weekend vote.
26 Aug	USNS HAYES passenger transfer.

August 1996 (continued)

27 Aug	ETT drills.
28 Aug	ADW training. Countermeasure washdown testing. General Quarters for training.
29 Aug	Air Defense training. SUW/STW training. ETT drills.
30 Aug	Moor Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.
31 Aug	Underway, telemetry checks. Civilian DLQs.

September 1996

1 Sep	Moor Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. Strike Warfare scenario - Persian Gulf. Surface and Strike Warfare engineering events.
3 Sep	Underway. Small arms training. Active Undersea Warfare exercise.
4 Sep	Active Undersea Warfare exercises. Passenger transfer with USS ATLANTA. Tactical Towed Array Sonar (TACTAS) streamed.
5 Sep	E-4 exam. Photo exercise and passenger transfer with USS ATLANTA. Command Advancement Program selections: MR1 [REDACTED] and HM3 [REDACTED].
6-7 Sep	ADW training.
9 Sep	General Quarters for training. Naval Surface Fire Support training. EEBD/OBA/Gas Free training.
10 Sep	Air Defense training. Engineering Training Team brief and drills. E-5 exam. Electronic Warfare Exercise with AFWTF.
11 Sep	General Quarters for training.
12 Sep	Helicopter passenger transfer. Rendezvous with USS YORKTOWN. E-6 exam.
13 Sep	Exercises with USS YORKTOWN. Helicopter passenger transfer with USS YORKTOWN. Manned raid exercises, super rapid blooming off-board chaff (SRBOC) firings.
14 Sep	Chief Petty Officer initiation & pinning ceremony. TMC [REDACTED] SHC [REDACTED] GSMC [REDACTED]
15 Sep	Underway for missile exercise.
16 Sep	5" Gun Weapon System (GWS) Mount 51 firings. Helicopter logistics transfer.
17 Sep	Helicopter passenger transfer. Missile firings.

September 1996 (continued)

18 Sep	Helicopter passenger transfer. Naval Surface Fire Support engineering firing. Engineering evolutions.
19 Sep	Naval Surface Fire Support qualifications.
20 Sep	Surface gunnery exercises. Strike Warfare training. Helicopter passenger transfer.
21 Sep	Moor San Juan, Puerto Rico.
23 Sep	Underway. Engineering evolutions. Full power run.
24 Sep	VANDELEX missile firing rehearsal. Determined Warrior of the Quarter board. Ship's Service Gas Turbine Generator (SSGTG) vibration testing.
25 Sep	Battle Group Multex - Caldonian Sea. Safety council meeting. Engineering training team drills.
26 Sep	Moor Nassau, Bahamas.
29 Sep - 2 Oct	Tailored Ship's Training Availability I - Combat Systems Training Group.
30 Sep	Underway. Tomahawk Land Attack Missile (TLAM) Command & Control lecture. Harpoon Engagement Planning lecture. VANDELEX doctrine review board.

October 1996

1 Oct	General Quarters for training.
2 Oct	Vertical Replenishment (VERTREP) with HC-2. Awards ceremony.
3 Oct	Moor Naval Station Norfolk.
7 Oct	Vandalex safety brief.
11-13 Oct	Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area - Vandalex.
12 Oct	Vandalex missile firing.
15-27 Oct	Intermediate Maintenance Availability.
17 Oct	SLAMEX 3-97.
21-25 Oct	Logistics Management Assist visit. Sonobuoy Plot team training.
22 Oct	Medical Quality Assurance visit.
27 Oct	██████████, son of OS2 ██████████ and ██████████ christened with ship's bell. First baby christened on USS COLE.
28 Oct - 1 Nov	Tailored Ship's Training Availability II - Engineering Training Group.

November 1996

1 Nov	Sherry Carpenter selected as COLE's new OMBUDSMAN.
2-3 Nov	USS COLE Visit Ship, Naval Station Norfolk, VA.
6 Nov	LTGEN Lyles, Director Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, visit. Fast Cruise.
12 Nov	COMSECONDFLT, VADM Clark, Chief Defense Staff Netherlands, GEN Van Den Breeman visit.
13 Nov	NAVSEA NAVOSH survey. Fast Cruise.
14 Nov	SLAMEX Phase II. DERAT certification.
14-15 Nov	Physical Readiness Test.
19-21 Nov	Underway Engineering Certification.
21 Nov	SLAMEX Phase I.
22 Nov	Sherry Carpenter graduates from OMBUDSMAN training. Wardroom Hail and Farewell.
25-27 Nov	Industrial Hygiene Survey.
26 Nov	Communications assessment. Commandant, German Armed Forces Staff College, BGEN Sheffer, visit.
30 Nov	COLE crew and family open house.

December 1996

2 Dec	Underwater hull cleaning.
2-3 Dec	Ammunition Offload - Yorktown Naval Weapons Station.
4 Dec	Safety Center survey.
5 Dec	COMNAVSURFLANT's Surface Warfare Officer Join-up - Chrysler Hall, Norfolk, VA.
9 Dec	Received COMNAVSURFLANT's Silver Anchor award, nominated for CINCLANTFLT Golden Anchor.
10-12 Dec	Reduced Scope Final Contract Trial.
12 Dec	COLE holiday party - Ramada Inn Virginia Beach, VA.
14 Dec	COLE children's holiday party - Portsmouth, VA.
17 Dec	Family Support Group bake sale. 1996 NASCAR drivers visit - Jimmy Hensley, David Green, Mike Wallace, Bobby Allison, Randy LaJoie, Johnny Benson, Jim Yates, Brett Bodine, Ron Hornaday.
18 Dec	Grace Lutheran School tour, (Mrs. Stacia O'Bryan's class).
18-30 Dec	Leave and standown period I.
30 Dec	Commence leave period II.