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EXEC

From: Commanding Officer, USS COLE (DDG 67)  
To: Naval Historical Center, 805 Kidder Breese Street SE,  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Subj: USS COLE (DDG 67) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) USS COLE (DDG 67) Command History for 2002  
(2) Photo and Biography of Commanding Officer  
(3) USS COLE (DDG 67) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet  
(4) 8X10 Photo of USS COLE (DDG 67)  
(5) 3½" Floppy Disk with USS COLE (DDG 67) Command  
History File

1. Per reference (a), the calendar year 2002 Command History for USS COLE (DDG 67), UIC 21941, is submitted.

ROBERT CEPEK  
By direction

COMMAND HISTORY 2002  
USS COLE (DDG 67)

Homeport: Norfolk, VA  
Commissioned: 08 June 1996  
UIC: 21941

Command Composition and Organization

Immediate Superior:

Commander, Destroyer Squadron EIGHTEEN  
Captain Daniel Holloway, USN  
01 JAN 02 – 31 DEC 02

Commanding Officer:

CDR Kevin M. Sweeney, USN  
01 JAN 02 – 31 DEC 02

Executive Officer:

CDR Logan Jones, USN  
01 JAN 02 – 08 NOV 02

LCDR Robert Cepek  
08 NOV 02 – 31 DEC 02

Combat Systems Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 02 – 31 DEC 02

Weapons Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 02 – 31 DEC 02

Operations Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 02 – 22 OCT 02

LT [REDACTED], USN  
22 OCT 02 – 31 DEC 02

Chief Engineer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 02 – 22 AUG 02

LT [REDACTED]  
22 AUG 02 – 31 DEC 02

Supply Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 02 – 28 JAN 02

LT [REDACTED], USN  
28 JAN 02 – 31 DEC 02

Navigator:

LTJG [REDACTED], USNR  
01 JAN 02 – 06 OCT 02

LTJG [REDACTED], USNR  
06 OCT 02 – 31 DEC 02

JANUARY 2002

07 JAN CAPTAIN'S CALL WITH E-4 AND BELOW  
08 JAN 75% REVIEW CONFERENCE  
09 JAN FC1 ██████████ ESCORTED REMAINS OF  
ITSN MCDANIELS  
09 JAN CAPTAIN'S CALL WITH E-5 AND E-6's  
10 JAN CAPTAIN'S CALL WITH WARDROOM  
14-18 JAN FIREFIGHTING TEAM TRAINER  
14-25 JAN COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER (CIC) TEAM  
TRAINER  
16 JAN ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY  
16 JAN MSC ██████████ ESCORTED REMAINS OF MSSN  
FRANCIS  
17 JAN ADM NATTER VISIT  
17 JAN FLEET CMC VISIT  
28 JAN RADM FOLEY VISIT  
28 JAN TRANSITIONED TO 3-SECTION DUTY  
29 JAN IT1 ██████████'S REENLISTMENT  
30 JAN RDML MORGAN VISIT  
30 JAN HONORABLE JOHN YOUNG VISIT

The New Year began with several Captain's Calls. They were the Captain's first opportunity since the beginning of the Holiday leave period to speak with large groups of COLE Sailors. He talked to Sailors about the upcoming schedule and fielded questions regarding COLE's return to Norfolk.

On 8 Jan, CDR Sweeney, along with representatives from Northrop Grumman Ship Systems Ingalls Shipbuilding, SUPSHIP Pascagoula, and PEO-TSC, attended

the 75% Review Conference in Pascagoula, MS. The meeting addressed shipyard progress toward the goal of having COLE ready to sail away in April 2002.

January held tremendous training opportunities. Hose Teams from Repair Lockers 2, 3, and 5, and the "Crash and Smash" team traveled to Mayport, FL, for invaluable training at the firefighting team trainer. Sailors and Officers from Combat Systems, Weapons, and Operations Departments attended the Aegis CIC Team Trainer in Wallops Island, VA.

On 16 January, three COLE Sailors advanced in rate. STG3 [REDACTED] advanced to Third Class following "A" school, GSE1 [REDACTED] became a First Class Petty Officer following the September exam cycle, and by besting a strong field of candidates, PN2 [REDACTED] was selected for "capping" to Second Class Petty Officer.

ADM Robert J. Natter, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and Master Chief Thomas Hefty, Fleet Master Chief, visited COLE on 17 Jan. Their visit included a tour of the ship and a question and answer session with Sailors. The highlight of ADM Natter's visit was a ceremony on the forecastle during which he administered the oath of reenlistment to IT1 (SW) [REDACTED].

28 Jan marked COLE's transition from an arduous "port and starboard" rotation to a three duty section rotation. The transition to three sections was possible because enough Sailors had returned from remote training locations and enough new crewmembers had reported to give COLE her first muster of over 250 personnel.

The month of January ended with several VIP tours. RADM Jay Foley III, Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, presented awards to COLE Sailors, and Force Master Chief, William Slingerland, met and spoke with COLE Sailors. RADM John Morgan, Commander, ENTERPRISE Battle Group visited COLE

on 30 Jan. RADM Morgan welcomed everyone to the ENTERPRISE Battle Group and answered questions concerning the upcoming deployment schedule.

FEBRUARY 2002

01 FEB	EWCS [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
01 FEB	LTJG [REDACTED]' PROMOTION TO LIEUTENANT
02 FEB	CO'S CALL WITH CPO'S AND OFFICERS
03 FEB	SUPER BOWL XXXVI IN NEW ORLEANS
06 FEB	CO'S CALL WITH THE WARDROOM
07 FEB	AWARDS CEREMONY
08 FEB	STG2 B [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
11-18 FEB	OHSAT
12 FEB	NAVAL SAFETY CENTER VISIT
19 FEB	FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP MEETING
21 FEB	CO'S CALL WITH FIRST CLASS PETTY OFFICERS
22-28 FEB	SEMAT I
26-27 FEB	COMMODORE HOLLOWAY VISIT
26-27 FEB	CREW CERTIFICATION (CREWCERT) PHASE I

EWCS (SW) [REDACTED] and STG2 [REDACTED] reenlisted in the month of February. Congratulations to both Sailors for their decisions to continue their Naval careers!

COLE Sailors had the unique opportunity of performing colors in the New Orleans Super Dome for Super Bowl XXXVI, pairing the New England Patriots versus the St. Louis Rams. Many will remember the game's unexpected ending, as New England shocked St. Louis, but for IT1 [REDACTED], STG2 [REDACTED], IT3 [REDACTED], and SA [REDACTED], the highlight of the Super Bowl was the pre-game. These COLE Sailors proudly represented USS COLE and the Navy with their flawless execution of colors for the crowd of over 80,000 and a home viewing audience in the millions.

On 7 Feb, COLE Sailors of the Year were announced. Following an extremely competitive selection process, OS2 [REDACTED] and TM1 [REDACTED] were chosen as the Junior and Senior Sailors of the Year, respectively.

On 19 Feb, the Captain and CMDCM Moore attended the Family Support Group meeting in Norfolk, VA. The meeting served as another opportunity for family and friends of COLE Sailors to gather for a question-and-answer session with COLE's leadership. Some of the topics discussed at the meeting included the status of repairs, COLE's homecoming, and the ship's schedule for the upcoming months.

From 26-27 Feb, Captain Daniel Holloway, Commander, Destroyer Squadron EIGHTEEN, visited COLE. During his tour of the ship, CAPT Holloway focused his attention on Engineering spaces and had the opportunity to observe a main space fire drill. During his visit, the Commodore also conducted Crew Certification Phase I for the ship. This initial phase of Crew Certification was an opportunity to review ship's instructions, Underway Watchbills, and Watchbill Replacement Plans.

MARCH 2002

01 MAR	SAILOR OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION CEREMONY
01 MAR	CO'S CALL WITH ALL HANDS
04-08 MAR	LTT
08 MAR	MOVE ABOARD AND FIRST MEAL ON BOARD
12-14 MAR	AVIATION CERTIFICATION
13 MAR	UNDERWAY FOR BERTHSHIFT
18-22 MAR	PRE LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT ASSIST VISIT
18 MAR	YN2 [REDACTED] AND GM1 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
18 MAR	DISBURSING OFFICER DFC REQUEST
19 MAR	COMMODORE HOLLOWAY VISIT
27-28 MAR	MOCK LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT
27 MAR	CMS ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE VISIT
28 MAR	MASTER CHIEF RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The month opened with a recognition ceremony for COLE's Senior Sailor of the Year, TM1 [REDACTED], and Junior Sailor of the Year, OS2 [REDACTED]. In keeping with an annual tradition, the Broward County Navy Days from Ft. Lauderdale, FL, were present at the ceremony to honor these Sailors. Mid-month, YN2 [REDACTED] and GM1 [REDACTED] both chose to reenlist and continue their Naval careers. The month closed with Commander Sweeney's announcement that two of COLE's Senior Chiefs were selected for the rank of Master Chief Petty Officer. Congratulations to BMCM (SW) [REDACTED] and FCCM (SW) [REDACTED]!

The first week of March was spent making final preparations for the crew's move aboard. On 08 March, berthing spaces, the galley, the Ship's Store, and other ship's services re-opened and were ready to support the crew.

Several assist teams and inspection teams visited throughout the month to ensure COLE would be ready to sail in April. The Aviation Certification team inspected the material readiness of the flight deck and the qualifications of those personnel assigned to the flight deck crew. COLE was deemed ready to safely execute flight operations. A CMS assist team visited to review accountability procedures and COLE's maintenance of COMSEC

material. The CMS assist team also provided valuable training to personnel who are responsible for handling COMSEC material.

The primary focus for the month of March was on the upcoming Light of Assessment (LOA). The Engineers worked tirelessly in preparing their spaces and equipment for underway operations. Sailors outside of the Engineering Department also got involved by assuming important roles in repair lockers and by participating in field days of engineering spaces. Personnel from the Afloat Training Group visited to assist in the identification and correction of discrepancies. During a “mock LOA,” a group of inspectors from DESRON EIGHTEEN spent two days going through cold checks, reviewing Engineering programs, and critiquing a Main Space Fire Drill. After weeks of perseverance and training, the Engineers were deemed ready to conduct Light Off Assessment early next month.

APRIL 2002

02-04 APR	LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT
05 APR	REHEARSAL FAST CRUISE
06 APR	ORDNANCE ONLOAD
07 APR	REHEARSAL FAST CRUISE
08 APR	CREW CERTIFICATION PHASE II ADMIN REVIEW
08 APR	SHIP INSPECTION BY COMMODORE HOLLOWAY
09 APR	CREW CERTIFICATION PHASE II FAST CRUISE
10 APR	UNDERWAY TO CONDUCT DOCK TRIALS
11 APR	SAFETY STANDOWN

12-13 APR	UNDERWAY FOR SEA TRIALS
14 APR	SHIP'S PICNIC
17-18 APR	PERSONAL VEHICLES SHIPPED TO NORFOLK
18 APR	AWARDS CEREMONY
18 APR	VIP, MEDIA, AND COLE FAMILY TOURS
19 APR	SAIL AWAY CEREMONY
19-25 APR	UNDERWAY ENROUTE NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
20 APR	CIWS AND 5" GUN PACFIRE
21 APR	9MM AND SHOTGUN FAMFIRE
21 APR	FLIGHT DECK PICNIC
21 APR	SPY RADAR TRACKING EXERCISE
22 APR	GENERAL QUARTERS FOR MAJOR LUBE OIL LEAK
22 APR	AWARDS CEREMONY
22 APR	SESEF RANGE TACAN CERT AND RADAR CAL
22 APR	FLIGHT OPERATIONS
22-24 APR	INDOCTRINATION FOR NEW CREW MEMBERS
23 APR	BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL IN MAYPORT, FLORIDA
23 APR	PRECISION ANCHORAGE
23 APR	HTC ██████' REENLISTMENT
23 APR	FC2 ██████'S REENLISTMENT
23 APR	FLIGHT SERVICES FOR TRACKING EXERCISE
24 APR	NIXIE AND TACTAS OPERATIONS
25 APR	HOMECOMING CEREMONY NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
25 APR	TRANSITION TO FOUR SECTION DUTY
26-30 APR	INPORT FOR MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY

Before COLE could return to sea and to the fleet, the ship and crew had to prove they were ready. SURFLANT's Light Off Assessment inspection team spent three days examining COLE's engineering plant and the

Engineering Department's administrative and safety programs. They deemed COLE's engineering plant ready for operations. With the Light Off Assessment complete, attention shifted to Phase II of Crew Certification. Commodore Holloway and members of his staff inspected the entire ship and reviewed COLE's watchbills and instructions. During the Fast Cruise portion of Crew Certification, the Combat Systems and Seamanship Training Teams executed drill packages that demonstrated Bridge and Combat watchstanders' proficiency.

On 12 April, for the first time in eighteen months, COLE returned to sea under her own power. The two-day Sea Trials period was the first true test of the engineering plant and several of COLE's combat systems. The ship performed exceptionally well. In celebration of the successful completion of Sea Trials, the City of Pascagoula hosted a picnic for the crew.

The crew spent the next week making final preparations for the transit back to Norfolk, Virginia. CDR Sweeney presented Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals to LCDR [REDACTED] and CWO2 [REDACTED] for their dedication to COLE, and he thanked other key members of the Ingalls team by appointing them "Honorary Determined Warriors." On the 18<sup>th</sup>, the ship opened the brow to VIP's including Mississippi legislators, family members of SGT Cole, and members of the press. The ship's Sail Away Ceremony took place on the pier the following day, 19 April. Guest speakers included: Retired RADM Philip Durr, President of Northrop Grumman Ship Systems; RADM John Morgan, Commander ENTERPRISE Battlegroup; the Honorable John J. Young, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy (RDA); and CDR Sweeney. Mr. Young awarded LCDR [REDACTED] and CWO2 [REDACTED] Meritorious Service Medals signed by President Bush.

The week-long transit back to Norfolk, Virginia, afforded the crew a chance to operate and test several combat and weapons systems including the SPY Radar, SLQ-32, TACAN, NIXIE, and TACTAS. COLE conducted flight operations with an SH-60B and performed a precision anchorage. CDR Sweeney awarded GSM2 [REDACTED], DC3 [REDACTED], DCFN [REDACTED], and FN [REDACTED] Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals for their rapid response to a major lube oil leak in Main Engine Room Number Two that occurred in the early hours of 22 April.

Sailors manned the rails as COLE arrived at Norfolk Naval Station on the rainy morning of 25 April. Family members of the Sailors who were killed in Yemen were present on the pier and came aboard for a private tour. For COLE's current crewmembers, separated from their families for months, the homecoming was joyous.

COLE had rejoined the Atlantic Fleet and immediately began a typical training schedule. The final days of April commenced COLE's six-week maintenance availability, including SEMAT II and C5RA inspections, and the ship commenced in earnest preparations for June's INSURV and August's CSSQT.

MAY 2002

01 MAY	ORDNANCE ONLOAD
01-10 MAY	SEMAT II/C5RA
06-08 MAY	LEPS
06-24 MAY	FMAV
06-24 MAY	SISCAL
06 MAY	FC3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
06 MAY	FC3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
06 MAY	COMMODORE VISIT FOR INSURV MEETING
07 MAY	COLE LICENSE PLATE CEREMONY
09 MAY	100% AWARDS BOARD VTC
10 MAY	SPOUSE APPRECIATION LUNCH
10 MAY	PC3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
13 MAY	NORFOLK COLLEGIATE 6TH GRADE TOUR OF SHIP
13-18 MAY	DEGAUSSING GROOM
14 MAY	SAFETY ASSIST
14 MAY	FC3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
15 MAY	GM2 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
15 MAY	COMDESRON EIGHTEEN EKMS INSPECTION
15-17 MAY	CSSQT HM&E
20-23 MAY	ENV HEALTH ASSIST/IH SURVEY
21 MAY	REFUELING
22-24 MAY	OHSAT
23-24 MAY	ATG MATT
25 MAY	CITY OF NORFOLK MEMORIAL DEDICATION
29 MAY	NIGHT FLIGHT OPERATIONS
30 MAY	SESEF RANGE

30 MAY

INPORT NORFOLK

Five sailors reenlisted in the month of May. Congratulations to FC3 [REDACTED], FC3 [REDACTED], PC3 [REDACTED], FC3 [REDACTED], and GM2 [REDACTED] for staying Navy!

The community was just as excited as the crew to have COLE back in Norfolk. The citizens of Virginia signed a petition to create a state license plate dedicated to the memory of the Sailors who were killed in Yemen. On 07 May, the Governor Mark Warner of Virginia toured the ship before attending the “COLE License Plate” ceremony at the COLE Memorial. At the Spouse Appreciation Lunch on 10 May, the Commanding Officer expressed his gratitude for the support and dedication of the spouses of COLE Sailors. On 13 May, sixth grade students from Norfolk Collegiate toured COLE.

The month of May was devoted to making preparations for COLE’s 10-14 June INSURV. All hands worked tirelessly to ensure that the material condition of the ship and its equipment would meet the standards of the Board of Inspection and Survey. SIMA Norfolk worked with COLE during the ship’s Fleet Maintenance Availability (FMAV) from 06-24 May. Numerous inspections and assist visits aided COLE in her preparations. SEMAT II technical representatives from FTSC/LANT Norfolk assessed COLE’s material readiness and provided assistance in correcting discrepancies. The C5RA team came aboard to inspect and groom COLE’s combat systems suite. Industrial Hygiene and Environmental Health inspectors also came aboard to review and critique COLE’s training and compliance with NAVOSH, medical and environmental protection programs.

On 23 and 24 May, the Maintenance Assessment Training Team from Afloat Training Group Norfolk conducted an inspection that mimicked and rehearsed the requirements of INSURV. The ATG team got underway with COLE 28-30 May to rehearse INSURV’s underway requirements: a full-power demonstration of the Engineering plant, a “detect-to-engage” exercise in the anti-air Warfare area, an operational demonstration of the ship’s anti-submarine capabilities, an anchor drop test, and tests and calibrations of the ship’s communications systems.

On Memorial Day, The City of Norfolk held a ceremony at Harbor Park in downtown Norfolk. The City unveiled a Lone Sailor replica statue that was a gift from the Navy Memorial Foundation in Washington, DC, and they also unveiled individual plaques memorializing Navy tragedies that touched the Hampton Roads Area. CDR

Sweeney and CMDCM Moore unveiled the COLE plaque that was included as part of the memorial, and the same COLE color guard that trained for February's Super Bowl appearance performed at this ceremony as well.

JUNE 2002

04 JUN	DESRON 18 NAVIGATION CHECK RIDE
04-05 JUN	UNDERWAY INSURV REHEARSAL
06 JUN	QMC [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
07 JUN	INSURV COLD CHECKS REHEARSAL
07 JUN	ALL HANDS CALL
08 JUN	CO'S SHIP-WIDE ZONE INSPECTION
10-14 JUN	INSURV
12 JUN	UNDERWAY DEMONSTRATIONS FOR INSURV
17 JUN	CAPTAIN'S MAST
18-20 JUN	UNDERWAY FOR MIDSHIPMEN TRAINING
21 JUN	FROCKING CEREMONY
22 JUN	COLE FAMILY DAY CRUISE
24 JUN	AMMUNITION ONLOAD
24 JUN-19 JUL	PHASE II MIDSHIPMAN TRAINING
25-26 JUN	INPORT UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT
26 JUN	PN2 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
27 JUN	CREMAINS TURNOVER CEREMONY
28-30 JUN	UNDERWAY FOR TRAINING
28 JUN	FAS/CONREP WITH USNS LEROY GRUMMAN
29 JUN	BURIAL AT SEA
30 JUN	STEEL BEACH PICNIC

Congratulations to QMC [REDACTED] and PN2 [REDACTED] for reenlisting in the month of June! Bravo Zulu to the Sailors whose advancement in rate was made official during a frocking ceremony held on 21 June:

DC3 [REDACTED]

DC3 [REDACTED]

IT1 [REDACTED]  
OS3 [REDACTED]  
FC2 [REDACTED]  
OS3 [REDACTED]  
FC2 [REDACTED]  
GSM3 [REDACTED]  
BM1 [REDACTED]  
GM1 [REDACTED]  
STG2 [REDACTED]  
EN3 [REDACTED]  
DC3 [REDACTED]  
EW2 [REDACTED]  
IT3 [REDACTED]

June was a successful month for COLE. On 04 Jun, COMDESRON EIGHTEEN embarked with a team of inspectors to evaluate the navigation team's performance during Sea and Anchor Detail. COLE passed this Navigational Check Ride with flying colors. The ship used the remainder of the underway period to polish the underway demonstrations required by INSURV. When the Board of Inspection and Survey arrived on 10 June, COLE was ready. The INSURV team was impressed with the ship's material condition, and after a series of successful inport system checks, the Board of Inspection and Survey deemed COLE ready for the underway portion of the inspection. On 12 June, the ship spent a long day at sea demonstrating the operability of her engineering plant and combat systems.

On 18 Jun, COLE and other ships from the waterfront took Third Class Midshipmen from the Naval Academy and Navy ROTC Units to sea. The schedule of events for the three day underway period included: DIVTACS, a Greyhound Race, ship handling drills, UNREP approaches, SRBOC firing, 5" and CIWS PACFIRE, and small arms FAMFIRE. The Midshipmen went away with an appreciation of ship driving and the capabilities of the Surface Navy. Later in the month, COLE hosted 5 Second Class Midshipman for their summer training cruise.

The Family Day Cruise was an opportunity for over 350 friends and family members of COLE Sailors to spend a day underway on the ship. The day's events included tours, static displays, F-14 fly-by's, and a steel beach

picnic. Crewmembers' children spent part of the day learning about different ship systems and were rewarded with "Tiger" Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist pins.

COLE spent the last week of June loading ammunition for August's CSSQT and training to conduct replenishment at sea evolutions. Rig teams trained inport by sending rigs across the pier to USNS Leroy Grumman. COLE got underway on 28 June and successfully completed her first underway replenishment. The underway period also provided an opportunity to exercise engineering casualty drills, train combat systems teams, and perform a precision anchorage.

On 27 June, in a ceremony on COLE's flight deck, the ship accepted the remains of EN2 Marc Ian Nieto, one of the Sailors killed in Yemen in October 2000. Petty Officer Nieto's family was onboard for the ceremony. His mother, Mrs. Sharon Priepke spoke to the crew, thanking them for honoring her son's memory and for their determination in bringing COLE back to the fleet. Petty Officer Nieto's Burial at Sea was performed off of the coast of Norfolk on 29 June, at 1832 hours.

JULY 2002

01 JUL	RETURN FROM UNDERWAY
07-10 JUL	SOLID CURTAIN, SIMPLE SHIELD FORCE PROTECTION EXERCISE
09-12 JUL	CSSQT DOCKSIDE TESTING AND TRAINING
12 JUL	WELCOME RECEPTION FOR JAPANESE SHIPS
12 JUL	WARDROOM LUNCH ON JDS SHIMAYUKI
12 JUL	BERTHSHIFT IN NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
12 JUL	RECEPTION ON JDS KASHIMA
13 JUL	SHIP TOURS FOR JAPANESE SAILORS
15-19 JUL	CSSQT DOCKSIDE TRAINING
15 JUL	HOST CO OF SHIMAYUKI FOR LUNCH
16-17 JUL	CSSQT AMMUNITION ONLOAD
18 JUL	VFW ADOPTION CEREMONY AND TOURS
22 JUL	LTJG ██████████' PROMOTION CEREMONY
22 JUL-13 AUG	PHASE III MIDSHIPMAN SUMMER TRAINING
23 JUL	UNDERWAY FOR CSSQT
25 JUL	BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL IN PORT CANAVERAL
25-28 JUL	SHIFT TO TRIDENT WHARF FOR PORT CANAVERAL PORT VISIT
26-27 JUL	HULL CLEANING
26 JUL	REXTORP FIRING
28 JUL	UNDERWAY ENROUTE AUTEK ANDROS ISLAND
28 JUL	REXTORP FIRING
28 JUL	FLIGHT DECK MOVIE
30 JUL	FORACS TESTING ON AUTEK RANGE
30 JUL	LAMPS HELO MLE EVENT

31 JUL

LAMPS AND OVER-THE-SIDE TORPEDO FIRINGS

COLE Sailors earned numerous awards and promotions throughout the month of July. Commander Sweeney called the crew together to thank Sailors for their service during COLE's time in Pascagoula, Mississippi, and awarded a host of Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, Letters of Commendation, and Letters of Appreciation to deserving personnel. Also in July, IC1 [REDACTED], DK2 [REDACTED], and SKSN [REDACTED] were named Senior, Junior, and Bluejacket Sailors of the Quarter, respectively. Further, YN3 [REDACTED] was capped to E5, and ENS [REDACTED] was promoted to LTJG. Congratulations to all!

After a well-earned holiday weekend for the Fourth of July, COLE focused on final preparations for her Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT). The week of 08 July was dedicated to system checks and grooms, overseen by a team of CSSQT technicians. The following week's focus was on training COLE's watch teams to execute the planned CSSQT live firing events.

Three ships from the Japanese Defense Force made a port call in Norfolk on 12 July, and COLE had the opportunity to host one of the ships. Members of COLE's wardroom attended lunch on JDS SHIMAYUKI and toured the ship. The Commanding Officer of SHIMAYUKI had lunch aboard COLE, and many Japanese Sailors also toured the ship.

On 18 July, the Junior Vice Commander of the Veterans of Foreign War, Mr. Ed Banas, visited COLE. As part of the VFW's "Adopt a Unit" program, Mr. Banas presented an adoption certificate to COLE from the VFW's National Headquarters. As a side note, the VFW Headquarters, using money donated to the COLE Memorial Fund, memorializes 13 of the 17 Sailors killed in Yemen by providing floral arrangements at each Sailor's gravesite on the anniversary of the terrorist attack.

The COLE crew, CSSQT representatives, and twelve Second Class Midshipmen departed from Norfolk on 23 July and headed south for CSSQT. The first stop was in Port Canaveral, Florida where COLE received a warm-water hull cleaning and inspection and fired Recoverable Exercise Torpedoes into the Trident Wharf Basin to kick-off the undersea warfare portion of CSSQT.

On 29 July, COLE departed Port Canaveral for the AUTEK range off the coast of Andros Island, Bahamas. On the range, COLE's SONAR team performed System Accuracy Tests on the ship's SONAR Suite. An SH-60 helicopter flew down from Mayport, Florida to assist in submarine prosecution exercises that included sonobuoy

drops and a ship-controlled torpedo firing from the LAMPS helicopter. Other scenarios culminated in COLE firing three over-the-side Exercise Torpedoes.

AUGUST 2002

01 AUG	TRANSIT FROM ANDROS ISLAND
01 AUG	CDR JONES' PROMOTION CEREMONY
02-03 AUG	NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO
04 AUG	UNDERWAY FOR ST. CROIX RANGE
05-06 AUG	ACOUSTIC TRIALS OFF COAST OF ST. CROIX
05 AUG	FLIGHT DECK ENTERTAINMENT AND MOVIE
05 AUG	RESCUE AT SEA
07 AUG	VERTICAL LAUNCH ASROC FIRING
07-09 AUG	CSSQT AIR DEFENSE EVENTS
08 AUG	FC1 ████████ REENLISTMENT
10-12 AUG	PORT VISIT ST. JOHN, USVI
13-16 AUG	ENGINEERING LTT
13 AUG	REFUELING PUERTO RICO
14-15 AUG	CSSQT AIR DEFENSE EVENTS
14 AUG	MAIN SPACE FIRE DRILL GENERAL QUARTERS
16 AUG	REFUELING PUERTO RICO
16 AUG	CSSQT SPONSORED SHIP PICNIC
17-23 AUG	CSSQT AIR AND SURFACE WARFARE EVENTS
18 AUG	FLIGHT DECK ENTERTAINMENT AND MOVIE
23 AUG	AIR DEFENSE TEAM AWARDS CEREMONY
24-25 AUG	TRANSIT NORTH
25 AUG	BURIALS AT SEA
26 AUG	VANDAL EXERCISE REHEARSAL
27 AUG	VANDAL EXERCISE
28-31 AUG	INPORT NORFOLK

29 AUG

SKC ██████████'S REENLISTMENT

Congratulations to the seven COLE Sailors who were selected for Chief Petty Officer: YNC (Sel) ██████████, GMC (Sel) ██████████, ITC (Sel) ██████████, FCC (Sel) ██████████, EMC (Sel) ██████████, FCC(Sel) ██████████, and SMC (Sel) ██████████. Also, congratulations to the Executive Officer, CDR Jones, on his promotion to Commander and to FC1 ██████████ and SKC ██████████ for reenlisting and staying Navy! Welcome to LT ██████████ who, on 22 August, relieved LT ██████████ as COLE's Chief Engineer.

After departing the Andros Island range, COLE headed toward Puerto Rican waters for the remainder of her CSSQT events. On 07 August, the Anti-Submarine Warfare team successfully shot a MK 46 Vertical Launch ASROC at a live target on the Underwater Tracking Range off of St. Croix. This firing completed the re-certification of COLE's ASW Suite.

Next, the Surface Warfare Team completed numerous events to validate COLE's gun systems. During air defense and surface warfare calibration and tactical exercises, they fired over 200 rounds from the 5" Gun and thousands of rounds from the CIWS guns. Additionally, the EW's had the opportunity to launch over 100 rounds of MK 214 and MK 216 Chaff, and the Air Defense Team successfully fired eight SM2's. On 18 August, the Air Defense Team fired its first missile against a low, slow-flying target. On 22 August, the team shot an SM-2 at an ARM profile target. Finally, on 23 August, the Air Defense team fired two SM-2's against low, slow-flying targets in a jamming environment and four SM-2's during a STREAM raid. COLE validated all of the Combat Systems repairs made during the shipyard period and gained valuable training in the process.

On 05 August, COLE took a break from CSSQT events to respond to a distress call from Wahconda, a 37-foot wooden sailing vessel taking on water between Salt River, St. Croix, and Coral Bay Marina, St. John. COLE conducted a 30-knot radar search, located the vessel, and launched her RHIBs to render assistance. The rescue detail, led by ENS ██████████ and DCC ██████████, pumped 3 feet of water out of the main cabin and located and patched a ruptured bilge pipe. They marked the vessel with a Distress Marker Light so that it could be seen by other vessels

at night, and COLE delivered the vessel's captain, Mr. Michael Casstal of Dayton, Ohio, to a National Park Service boat just south of Lameshur Bay, St. John.

During another break in the CSSQT action, COLE Sailors made a three day port visit in St. John, USVI. The crew enjoyed the hard earned time-off by relaxing in the sun, participating in water sports and tours organized by MWR, and visiting the island's bars and restaurants.

Before returning to homeport, COLE rendezvoused with ships from the HARRY S. TRUMAN Battle Group off the coast of Virginia. The warships participated in a Vandalex, an exercise in which each ship launched a Standard Missile at a low-altitude, high-speed Vandal target. On 27 August, COLE returned to Norfolk for a maintenance availability.

SEPTEMBER 2002

05 SEP	MEMORIAL LICENSE PLATE CEREMONY
05-16 SEP	FMAV
06 SEP	ATFP CONFERENCE
06 SEP	WARDROOM HAIL AND FAREWELL
09-11 SEP	ATG TRAINING TEAM CONFERENCES
09 SEP	DCC [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
10 SEP	COMDESRON EIGHTEEN VISIT
11 SEP	1 <sup>ST</sup> NAVY JACK FLOWN ON ALL U.S. SHIPS
13 SEP	TAIWAN NAVY'S VICE CINC VISIT
16 SEP	CHIEF PETTY OFFICER PINNING CEREMONY
17-19 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR IA AND CART II PREPARATIONS
17 SEP	CAPTAIN'S CALL
20 SEP	GSE1 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
24-26 SEP	UNDERWAY FOR IA AND CART II PREPARATIONS
24 SEP	RESPONSE TO VESSEL IN DISTRESS

Congratulations to COLE's newest Chief Petty Officers, who after weeks of training and initiation in the Chief's Mess, donned their khakis for the first time on 16 September. Also, congratulations to DCC [REDACTED] and GSE1 [REDACTED] for reenlisting in the month of September! On 5 September, Mr. John Clodfelter, the father of HT2 Kenneth Clodfelter, one of the Sailors killed in Yemen, was on board to present COLE with the first printing of a Virginia license plate designed to commemorate the heroism and lives lost on October 12, 2000.

By order of the Secretary of the Navy, all U.S. Navy ships began flying the First Navy Jack, in lieu of the Union Jack, on 11 September. The First Navy Jack, with its "Don't Tread on Me" motto, was first flown in the fall of 1775 as Commodore Esek Hopkins readied the Continental Navy in the Delaware River. U.S. Navy ships will continue to fly this symbolic Jack throughout the Global War on Terrorism.

On 18 September, the Vice Commander in Chief of the Taiwan Navy visited Norfolk to discuss purchasing AEGIS technology from the United States. COLE was selected to host the guests and show them the consoles and displays used by AEGIS.

COLE spent the first half of September in port for a maintenance availability during which significant preservation efforts and equipment repairs were completed around the ship.

During the second half of the month, focus quickly shifted to the ship's Initial Assessment (IA) and the CART II Inspection. COLE made use of a couple of three-day underway training opportunities to exercise all of her training teams. The Engineering Training Team rehearsed evolutions and casualty control procedures. The Damage Control Training Team drilled the crew with Main Space Fire Drills. The Seamanship Training Team trained bridge and deck watchstanders by running anchorage, loss of steering, low visibility, and man overboard drills. The Combat Systems Training Team ran computer-driven scenarios designed to test Air, Surface, and Subsurface Warfare watchstanders. While participating in this training, Supply Department was also busy getting their programs ready for review during their upcoming Supply Management Assist.

On 24 September, underway 40 miles off the coast of Currituck, North Carolina, COLE received a distress call. The call came from Mr. Richard Bartlett of Yorktown, Virginia, captain of the 35-foot Bertram fishing boat that was taking on water. COLE increased speed and located the fishing boat while the SH-60 helicopter, "Charger 61," refueled on the deck of WINSTON CHURCHILL. COLE and Charger 61 worked together to ensure Mr. Bartlett was returned safely to land.

After much training and preparation, COLE Sailors were ready for the many inspections (IA, SMA, 3M, and CART II) that they would face in October.

OCTOBER 2002

01-03 OCT	INITIAL ASSESSMENT
07-11 OCT	3M BASELINE ASSESSMENT
07-11 OCT	SUPPLY MANAGEMENT ASSIST
10 OCT	GSE3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
12 OCT	ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY AT COLE MEMORIAL
15 OCT	FC2 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
16-17 OCT	UNDERWAY CART II PREPARATIONS
18 OCT	FCCM [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
21-25 OCT	CART II INSPECTION
21 OCT	CCDG12 VISIT AND TOUR
23-24 OCT	UNDERWAY FOR CART II
23 OCT	COMDESRON EIGHTEEN NAVIGATION CHECK RIDE
25 OCT	ET3 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
26 OCT	BOY SCOUT TOUR
27 OCT	BAPTISM OF [REDACTED]
28-31 OCT	ATFP TRAINING
28 OCT	DC1 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
29 OCT	MR2 [REDACTED]'S REENLISTMENT
31 OCT	MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR EW1 MARSH

Five COLE sailors reenlisted in the month of October. Congratulations to GSE3 [REDACTED], FC2 [REDACTED], FCCM [REDACTED], DC1 [REDACTED], and MR2 [REDACTED] for staying Navy! Welcome to LT [REDACTED] who, on 22 October, relieved LT [REDACTED] as COLE's Operations Officer. Congratulations to CDR Jones whose son, [REDACTED], was baptized in the ship's bell at 1000 on 27 October.

On 12 October, members of the crew gathered at the COLE Memorial for a ceremony that marked the second anniversary of the attack in Yemen. CDR Jones read aloud the names sailors who were killed while ITC

██████████ and FC2 ██████████ processed a wreath that was laid at the site by CDR Sweeney and CMDCM Moore. Many friends, family members, and former COLE crewmembers were in attendance. Following the ceremony, family members of deceased sailors were invited on board the ship for a guided tour or some private time, whichever they desired.

RDML Jim Stavridis, CCDG 12, visited and toured COLE and the COLE Memorial on 21 October. He spoke to the wardroom about the Surface Warfare Community and about what the future could hold for ships in the ENTERPRISE Battle Group and the SAIPAN Expeditionary Strike Group.

The long days and countless hours of preparation paid off during COLE's October inspections. The ship's engineering plant and watchstanders performed extremely well during Engineering Initial Assessment (IA). The 01-03 October IA was the best in DESRON EIGHTEEN this year, and COLE's material readiness earned high praise from the ATG N43 Senior Assessor. During the ship's 3M Baseline Assessment 07-11 October, inspectors were impressed enough with COLE's maintenance programs, practices, and documentation to upgrade the assessment to a 3M Certification. Additionally, during the ship's Supply Management Assist 07-11 October, Supply Department enjoyed spectacular success as all areas inspected by ATG met criteria for certification. This extraordinary result allowed COLE to validate the Supply Management Inspection that had been scheduled for December.

When teams from Afloat Training Group (ATG) and DESRON EIGHTEEN came aboard for COLE's CART II Inspection 21-25 October, they determined that the ship's Training Teams were able to conduct effective training during the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. COLE's final CART II report lauded the ship's professionalism, preparedness, and organization.

Sadly, on the last day of the month the crew gathered on the flight deck to memorialize EW1 Errol Marsh, who was found dead in his apartment on 28 October. The Ensign flew at half-mast while Chaplain ██████████, LTJG ██████████, and CDR Sweeney each spoke at the service. Petty Officer Marsh is survived by his wife, his 2-year-old daughter, and his 1-year-old son.

NOVEMBER 2002

01 NOV LTJG ██████████'S PROMOTION CEREMONY  
05 NOV UNDERWAY FOR YORKTOWN  
05 NOV AMMUNITION ONLOAD  
06-07 NOV UNDERWAY FOR TRAINING  
06-08 NOV SURFACE WARFARE LTT  
08 NOV FROCKING AND AWARDS CEREMONY  
08 NOV WARDROOM HAIL AND FAREWELL  
12 NOV ATG NAVIGATION CHECK RIDE  
12-13 NOV UNDERWAY FOR TRAINING  
13 NOV STG2 ██████████'S REENLISTMENT  
13 NOV RETURN TO PORT FOR MEDICAL EVACUATION  
14-15 NOV UNDERWAY FOR TRAINING  
15 NOV FC3 ██████████' REENLISTMENT  
15 NOV FC3 ██████████' REENLISTMENT  
18-22 NOV CMTQ, DC, AND VBSS LTT'S  
19 NOV OS2 ██████████'S REENLISTMENT  
25-27 NOV CMTQ AND ENGINEERING LTT'S  
25 NOV EN1 ██████████'S REENLISTMENT  
27 NOV DESRON SHIPHANDLER COMPETITION  
27 NOV LTJG ██████████'S PROMOTION CEREMONY  
27 NOV CAPTAIN'S CALL

Congratulations to STG2 ██████████, FC3 ██████████, FC3 ██████████, OS2 ██████████, and EN1 ██████████ for reenlisting in the month of November! Congratulations to LTJG ██████████ and LTJG ██████████ on their promotions! Welcome to LCDR Cepek who, on 08 November,

relieved CDR Jones as COLE's Executive Officer. Congratulations to the following Sailors whose advancement in rate was made official during the 08 November frocking ceremony:

- STG1 [REDACTED]
- DC2 [REDACTED]
- STG1 [REDACTED]
- GSE3 [REDACTED]
- GSM3 [REDACTED]
- ET2 [REDACTED]
- BM3 [REDACTED]
- GSE3 [REDACTED]
- GSM1 [REDACTED]
- GM3 [REDACTED]
- SK3 [REDACTED]
- DC3 [REDACTED]
- OS3 [REDACTED]
- GSE2 [REDACTED]
- IC3 [REDACTED]
- YN3 [REDACTED]
- GSE3 [REDACTED]
- EN2 [REDACTED]
- STG2 [REDACTED]
- MR3 [REDACTED]
- HT3 [REDACTED]
- GSM3 [REDACTED]
- FC2 [REDACTED]
- OS3 [REDACTED]
- ET2 [REDACTED]
- OS3 [REDACTED]

OS3 [REDACTED]  
GSM2 [REDACTED]  
OS3 [REDACTED]  
OS1 [REDACTED]  
ET2 [REDACTED]  
TM2 [REDACTED]  
DC3 [REDACTED]  
GM3 [REDACTED]  
TM2 [REDACTED]  
BM3 [REDACTED]  
GM3 [REDACTED]  
DC1 [REDACTED]  
BM3 [REDACTED]  
STG2 [REDACTED]

COLE got underway on 05 November and proceeded to Naval Weapons Station Yorktown where she unloaded Standard Missiles and other self-defense ammunition. The Weapons Department's safe and efficient unload allowed time for underway training the remainder of the week, 06-08 November. On 12 November, COLE went to sea again and focused on Engineering and Surface Warfare training. On 13 November, when a member of the crew became ill with symptoms of appendicitis, COLE returned to port for the night to ensure the Sailor received medical attention. While at sea 14-15 November, the Combat Systems and Engineering Training Teams ran drills to prepare watchstanders for the upcoming Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification (CMTQ) and Underway Demonstration (UD).

COLE spent the second half of November in port but continued to train. During the week of 18-22 November, ATG Limited Training Teams (LTT) came onboard to support the ship's Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) Team, Strike Team, and Damage Control personnel. On 19 November, VADM Konetzni, Deputy Commander Atlantic Fleet, visited the ship to reenlist OS2 Lindhorst. From 25-27 November, COLE hosted another CMTQ LTT and an Engineering LTT. On 26 November, COLE successfully demonstrated the ability to combat a Main Space Fire to ATG and COMDESRON EIGHTEEN observers.

On 27 November, the Commanding Officer held Captain's Call to thank Sailors for their continuous hard work and to encourage them to have a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday.



Second Class Petty Officer, and announced IC1 [REDACTED] as COLE's Sailor of the Year for 2002. Congratulations also go to GSM1 [REDACTED] on his reenlistment, to ITC [REDACTED] on her retirement, and to OSC [REDACTED] and OS1 [REDACTED] on their commissioning!

On 06 December, COLE's Moral, Welfare, and Recreation Committee hosted a command holiday party at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach. Over 300 crewmembers and their guests attended the celebration for dinner, dancing, and door prizes. The following day, COLE hosted a children's holiday party onboard the ship. The children visited with Santa and made ornaments to hang on the mess decks. Good times were had by all!

During the first week of December, COLE's Strike Team successfully completed their Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, certifying the ship to carry out Tomahawk missions and to fire Harpoons. During the following weeks, two underway periods offered more valuable training opportunities for the upcoming Underway Demonstration and Final Evaluation Problem. The time at sea also afforded COLE the privilege of conducting a Burial at Sea ceremony for the final remains of nine of the Sailors killed in Yemen.

On 20 December, COLE began a holiday stand down period, allowing the crew some well earned time off after what was a truly challenging, exciting, and successful 2002!

