

1 Mar 11

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

Subj: USS COLE (DDG 67) COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR  
YEAR 2010

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12J

Encl: (1) USS COLE 2010 Command Operations Report  
(2) Commander's Assessment 2010  
(3) USS COLE (DDG 67) Chronology and Narrative for  
2010  
(4) Photo and Biography of Commanding Officer  
(5) Photo of USS COLE (DDG 67) during Operation Ocean  
Shield  
(6) Photo of USS COLE (DDG 67) Crew during Operation  
Ocean Shield

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are  
submitted for COLE's Command History for calendar year 2010  
(UIC 21941).

AILEEN P. MATTSON  
By Direction

## **Commander's Assessment, 2010**

2010 was a productive year for COLE. COLE spent most of the year on a seven-month deployment from the beginning of February through September 1. The deployment provided an incredible opportunity for COLE to demonstrate her capabilities while protecting the world's merchant ships from piracy in the Gulf of Aden and Somali Basin. While patrolling, COLE honed her skills in all other warfare areas by continuously conducting drills to maintain proficiency. Deployment also provided a wonderful opportunity for COLE Sailors to experience life at sea and obtain qualifications. Junior officers learned how to drive the ship to earn their Officer of the Deck and Surface Warfare Officer qualifications, and dozens of enlisted Sailors took advantage of the opportunity to earn their Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualification. COLE visited some beautiful overseas ports, and had to race a hurricane to make it back to Norfolk on time to reunite with much missed family and friends.

After a post deployment leave period in September, COLE crewmembers participated in a solemn remembrance ceremony marking the 10 year anniversary of the October 12, 2000 attack in Aden harbor, Yemen. The ceremony was hosted by ADM John Harvey, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces, and attended by families of the victims, former crewmembers, and military and civilian personnel involved with the ship.

COLE's crew was hard at work throughout October and November preparing for ULTRA-S. Playing Opposing Force for the USS ENTERPRISE Strike Group and for the Canadian Navy allowed time underway to make final preparations so that when the inspection rolled around after Thanksgiving, COLE was ready. After passing ULTRA-S,

COLE participated in a final exercise, Operation Bold Alligator, before beginning a holiday stand-down leave period.

COMMAND HISTORY 2010  
USS COLE (DDG 67)

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

Command Composition and Organization

Immediate Superior:

Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO TWO  
CAPT Richard A. Rogers, USN  
01 JAN 10- 06 JAN 10

Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO EIGHT  
CAPT Wade F. Wilkenson, USN  
07 JAN 10- 31 DEC 10

Commanding Officer:

CDR Edward W. Devinney II, USN  
01 JAN 10 - 15 JUL 10

CDR Andrew C. Ehlers, USN  
16 JUL 10 - 31 DEC 10

Executive Officer:

CDR Jason W. Schwantes, USN  
01 JAN 10 - 31 DEC 10

Combat Systems Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10 - 10 JUN 10

LT [REDACTED], USN  
11 JUN 10 - 31 AUG 10

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 SEP 10 - 31 DEC 10

Weapons Officer:

LT [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10- 31 DEC 10

Operations Officer:

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10 - 10 DEC 10

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
11 DEC 10 - 31 DEC 10

Chief Engineer:

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10 - 21 DEC 10

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
22 DEC 10 - 31 DEC 10

Supply Officer:

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10 - 31 DEC 10

Navigator:

LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
01 JAN 10 - 13 MAY 10

LTJG [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
14 MAY 10 - 31 DEC 10

Chaplain:

LT [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN  
01 JAN 10 - 23 APR 10

January 2010

1-11 January	Holiday Stand-down
4-8 January	NSFS Team trainer
5 January	ISIC Turnover brief Deployers Maintenance Brief ATFP Drills
7 January	Commander Strike Group Two visit and lunch GSM2 ██████ reenlistment
8 January	DESRON TWO TWO Zone inbrief and inspection Deputy Commodore EKMS inspection
12 January	ET1 ██████ reenlistment Deployment photos
14-19 January	STRIKE Complex Scenarios
14 January	Golden Anchor ISIC assessment Pre-deployment brief
15 January	Dental Ceremony: RDML Kiser and RDML Stocks present award
19 January	Complex AW Scenario
20 January	Fast Cruise General Quarters drill Abandon ship drill
21 January	CPO Exams AW Complex Scenario
25-26 January	Underway VACAPES OPAREA
25 January	Helo Crash and Salvage Drill Flight Quarters Man Overboard Drills 5" PACFIRE Stream NIXIE/TACTAS
26 January	AW Falcon Fire Scenario Precision Anchorage
27 January	Visit / Tour: Director of Analysis, Qinetiq- North America LTJG ██████ SWO Board
28 January	Department Head Leadership Lunch LTJG ██████ SWO Board

As Pre-Overseas Movement (POM) leave came to an end, COLE continued her preparations for deployment. The STRIKE team and NSFS teams held special training weeks, COLE ran a FAST cruise and went underway for two days to maintain proficiency and finalize watchbills. COLE's Medical Team was recognized for maintaining 100% dental readiness, and LTJG [REDACTED] and LTJG [REDACTED] earned their Surface Warfare Officer (SWO) pins. COLE's crew and their families attended pre-deployment briefs and enjoyed some special days off before leaving their family and friends for a seven month deployment.

February 2010

2 February	Joel Osteen visit
3 February	CO / Family Readiness Group meeting
5 February	COLE deployment delayed due to snow
8 February	COLE gets underway for deployment Man overboard drills General Quarters drills
8-18 February	TRANSLANT
10 February	CS3 ██████ reenlistment
11 February	Officer and Chief Petty Officer counter-piracy and detainee training Chaplain briefing
12 February	Flying squad drill February birthday lunch
13 February	Pizza night (officers)
15-17 February	Stream TACTAS / Nixie
15 February	Swim Call
17 February	HT3 ██████ reenlistment Integrated Training Team Scenarios
18-19 February	Inport Las Palmas, Canary Islands
20 February	Strait of Gibraltar transit
21-22 February	TRANSMED
23-26 February	Inport Naples, Italy
23 February	MWR Wine Tasting Tour
24 February	MWR Pompeii / Almalfi Coast tour
25 February	VADM Harris and RADM Cordy breakfast visit MWR Rome tour Ship visit with NCIS and Carabinieri agents
26 February	Burial at Sea
27 February	VBSS Drills and Detainee Ops Training Piracy Scenario Walkthrough
28 February	Moor Souda Bay, Greece



After being delayed more than once, COLE finally left for her 2010 deployment. The television minister Joel Osteen kindly came aboard to pray with the crew and wish them a safe voyage. COLE's TRANSLANT was a busy one, as her crew ran countless General Quarters, Man overboard, Strike Warfare, Surface Warfare, Anti-Air warfare, and Damage Control drills. Her Officers and Chiefs received training on counter-piracy, which was COLE's main mission for deployment. The increasingly warmer weather enabled the Fitness Enhancement Program (FEP) to get off the ground, and NCPace courses also started. The crew had some fun with a swim call and pizza night hosted by the Wardroom. After fueling up in Las Palmas, COLE made her way to Naples, Italy where the crew enjoyed sightseeing and a short break. On the way to Souda Bay, Greece, the Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) began to ramp up their training in preparation for operations off the Somali Coast.

March 2010

28 February - 05 March Inport Souda Bay, Greece

1-3 March VBSS Team training

2 March CTG 432.01 Staff embark

3 March LTJG █████ OOD / SWO Board  
Wardroom dinner in Chania

4 March E6 Exam  
St. Patrick's Day party on the pier

6 March Smallpox vaccinations  
SNMG-2 Commanding Officer Briefing  
Burial at Sea

7 March Underway replenishment with FGS Spessart  
Set COND II AS

8 March Suez Canal Transit

10 March Boat transfer of NATO passengers  
VBSS Drills with SNMG-2  
Photo-ex

11 March E-5 Exams  
Replenishment at Sea with USNS Robert E. Peary  
Small boat transfer

12 March Bab Al Mandeb (BAM) Transit

14 March Dhow boarding

16 March Small arms shoot

17 March UNREP with USNS Robert E. Peary

18 March E-4 Advancement Exam

19 March March birthday lunch

21 March Steel Beach picnic  
Dhow boarding

22 March Stream TACTAS

24 March UNREP with USNS Patuxent  
Women's History Month celebration

26-28 March Inport Djibouti

26 March CNO Visit  
US Embassy / AU Tour

28 March Steel Beach picnic

29 March Pax transfer to HMS CHATHAM  
UNREP with USNS Patuxent

31 March CIWS and 5" PACFIRE  
Stream TACTAS

March began on the beautiful Greek island of Crete in the port of Souda Bay. Unfortunately, COLE could only enjoy this paradise after working hours, since she had much work to prepare for her impending chop into Fifth Fleet. While inport, COLE met up with Standing NATO Maritime Group 2 (SNMG-2), to which she would be assigned for counter-piracy operations, and the VBSS team trained with them on a practice ship in the bay. The Wardroom enjoyed an evening out in the town of Chania where they said farewell to LTJG [REDACTED]. COLE celebrated St. Patrick's Day early with a party on the pier, for which the Culinary Specialists (CS) made an Irish feast and a beautiful cake, and the Chief's Mess provided green beer.

As they began the transit south toward the Suez Canal and Bab al Mandeb, COLE met some excitement when her Sonar Team found a submarine in the Mediterranean. The team immediately exercised their pre-planned responses and set Condition II AS, and determined the submarine to be a friendly Greek ally. COLE then met up with the HMS CHATHAM, Greek ship LIMNOS, and Turkish ship GELIBOLU, also assigned to SNMG-2. Together they practiced DIVTACs, organized a photo session, and conducted many VBSS drills. COLE entered her area of operations in mid-March, and exercised her training the very next day when the VBSS team boarded the first of many suspicious dhows. COLE would collect evidence to be used to locate and deter piracy in the Internationally Recognized Transit Corridor (IRTC).

COLE took advantage of the summer weather to prepare for the Chief of Naval Operations's visit at the end of the month, spending

hours topside preserving and painting the ship. The weather also provided the opportunity to start COLE's Command PT program, with sessions 4 times per week. Her crew continued to train tirelessly, focusing on Damage Control drills and training, ESWS Universtiy, and Junior Officer SWO training.

COLE pulled into Djibouti for a short break toward the end of the month, during which time the CNO visited, toured the ship, and spoke to the crew. COLE took this opportunity to organize a passenger transfer with the HMS CHATHAM for a few days, and to enjoy beer on the pier for a few nights before heading out to the IRTC to patrol.

April 2010

1 April                   ENS ████████ OOD Board  
Flight Quarters

2 April                   DC Olympics

4 April                   UNREP with USNS Patuxent  
Steel Beach picnic

5 April                   Flight Quarters

6 April                   M16 Gun shoot  
Piracy Intelligence Briefing  
Dhow boarding

8 April                   Coxswain training: nighttime small boat attack

9 April                   UNREP with USNS Patuxent

10 April                  Burial at Sea  
Spades tournament

11 April                  Steel Beach picnic  
Officer dinner on foc'sle

12 April                  CDRE Chick visit via HMS CHATHAM RHIB  
UNREP with Saudi tanker YUNBOU  
Swim call

13 April                  Crew served weapons live fire exercise  
Dhow boarding

14 April                  UNREP with USNS Patuxent  
Ensign / Midshipmen passenger swap

15 April                  JO Shiphandling training  
Dhow boarding  
Coxwain training: night small boat attack

16 April                  Skiff boarding: refugees  
Flight ops with LIMNOS AB212 "ORION"

17 April                  STG2 ████████ reenlistment  
UNREP with USNS Rappahanock

19 April                  Drag race with USS CARNEY  
Boarded dhow

21 April                  Flight Quarters

22 April                  UNREP with USNS Rappahanock

23 April                  Condition II drill build up to TSSE  
Somali Basin tasking

24 April                  Shoebox auction / karaoke night

25 April	Skiff boarding Officer dinner on foc'sle
27-29 April	Inport Port Victoria, Seychelles Islands
30 April	Condition III drill build up to TSSE Dhow boarding (PAG 41)

As COLE transitioned into her third month of deployment, her counter-piracy mission became much more intense! She boarded 7 dhows and skiffs, took information from various merchants regarding suspicious activity, and used her presence in the IRTC to deter piracy daily. One small skiff COLE helped was carrying 46 refugees, mostly women and children, on the three-day voyage from Somalia to Yemen. COLE provided them with enough food and water to last the rest of the journey, including treats that the children loved.

COLE also continued with her various training programs, focusing on Main Space fire drills, small boat attack avoidance, and flight quarters training with LONE WOLF 46. Perhaps her most exciting evening came when COLE found a skiff that had escaped when the HMS CHATHAM apprehended their mothership dhow. COLE took the four pirates aboard, transferred them to the CHATHAM, and blew up their skiff. A few days later, COLE found Pirate Action Group 41, and ensured they would not harass anyone any time soon by confiscating their pirate paraphernalia and sending them back to Somalia.

COLE had some fun during this hectic, work-filled month, too. The Captain authorized one beer per day to be put in the vending machines, which was thoroughly enjoyed by many COLE Sailors! The Wardroom enjoyed a couple of nice dinners on the foc'sle watching beautiful sunsets, and a shoe box auction toward the end of the month brought in \$7500 for COLE's Family Readiness Group. When COLE happened upon the USS CARNEY, she challenged her to a drag race, which she of

course won. The highlight of the month was a brief stop in the tropical Seychelles Islands, where the crew enjoyed swimming, dancing, and some much deserved relaxation on the beach!

May 2010

3-8 May	Inport Port Victoria, Seychelles Islands
5 May	Community relations project: Seychelles retirement home
6 May	Officer's beach picnic / Hail and Farewell
8 May	Tour swap with INS TRISHUL
9-13 May	Escorted motor vessels EMDEN 1 and HIBISCUS
13 May	Turnover escort duty to F-710 LAFEYETTE Captain tour and dinner on LAFEYETTE
15-17 May	Inport Port Victoria, Seychelles Islands
18 May	WOG Talent Show
20 May	Crossing the Line Ceremony
21 May	UNREP with USNS Patuxent VETREP with USNS Robert E. Peary
22 May	FC3 ██████ reenlistment Hump Day celebration and Steel Beach picnic
25 May	Asian / Pacific Heritage dinner
26 May	Stream TACTAS / NIXIE
27 May	UNREP with USNS Robert E. Peary

May was a fun and exciting month for COLE as she approached mid-deployment. She returned to Port Victoria in the Seychelles Islands for five days of well-deserved rest and relaxation. While there, some Sailors participated in a Community Relations project at a local retirement home. The Wardroom hosted a Hail and Farewell on the beach for the outgoing and incoming Navigators, and did a small tour-swap with officers of the Indian Ship INS TRISHUL. COLE left for a few days to escort merchants through the dangerous area, and while turning them over to the French ship LAFEYETTE, the Captain and some of his officers enjoyed a wonderful tour and dinner aboard. COLE returned to Port Victoria for two short days, during which the Chief's Mess and Wardroom



held a picnic on the beach together, before getting back to her counter-piracy mission.

As COLE left Port Victoria for the last time, her Wogs prepared for the Crossing the Line ceremony by performing a talent show for the Shellbacks. King Neptune declared all slimy Wog participants worthy of the title of Shellback at the end of the ceremony, just in time for COLE to celebrate "Hump Day"—the midpoint of deployment. The CS's made a beautiful cake depicting COLE's travels around the world, and MWR hosted games, contests, and a Steel Beach picnic.

May was not all fun and games, though. The COLE Initiative began, in which Sailors volunteered to teach other Sailors on the topics of Spanish and computer lab training. COLE's junior officers spent much time practicing their ship handling in hopes of earning their Officer of the Deck letters, Sailors continued to work toward their ESWS pins, and warfare area and damage control drills continued. Although it was extremely hot, COLE continued her Command PT program and worked tirelessly at topside preservation to fight the elements and keep the ship in top condition.

June 2010

1 June LTJG ██████ CDO Board

2 June Motor vessel Dubai pirated

3 June LTJG ██████ SWO Board

4 June UNREP with USNS Patuxent  
FC2 ██████ reenlistment  
GSEC ██████ reenlistment

5 June FC1 ██████ reenlistment  
Awards ceremony

6 June ENS ██████ OOD Board

7 June Strait of Hormuz transit

9-14 June Inport Mina Salman, Bahrain

10 June RDML Davidson (COMCARSTRKGRU EIGHT) Visit  
VADM Gortney (COMFIFTHFLT) Visit  
Commodore Wilkenson (COMDESRON TWO EIGHT) Visit

14 June ENS ██████ OOD Board  
Strait of Hormuz transit

15 June UNREP with USNS Supply

17 June Hospital Corpsman Birthday celebration  
Food Service Attendant Appreciation dinner

19 June UNREP with USNS Laramie

20 June Father's Day meal

21 June GM2 ██████ reenlistment  
HMS CHATHAM Cross-pollination transfer  
5-Inch, CIWS, and SCAT shoot

22 June Commander Task Force 508 visit

24 June ENS ██████ OOD Board

26 June Flight Quarters  
UNREP with USNS Laramie  
VERTREP with USNS Robert E. Peary

29 June June birthday meal  
25mm Gun shoot

30 June Flight Quarters  
LTJG ██████t EOOB Board

June was off to a bang when COLE found the motor vessel DUBAI which, unfortunately, had already been pirated by the time she got there. SNMG-2 worked with the Somali army, who boarded the vessel and apprehended the pirates. Fortunately COLE was standing by to render medical assistance to the resulting gunshot victims on the DUBAI.

COLE Sailors' studying and hard work began to show definite results as more Junior Officers earned their OOD letters and SWO pins, and enlisted Sailors began to earn their ESWS pins en masse. Sailors also earned many additional qualifications such as EOOW, CSOOW, CICWO, SWO Engineering, and damage control watches. Midmonth, the crew enjoyed some liberty in Bahrain while the ship received some minor repairs.

COLE also began early preparations for her upcoming ULTRA-S and INSURV inspections, focusing on "Divisions in the Spotlight" weekly and holding TSSE drills every Friday morning. She continued other daily training such as 3M, lookout training, and damage control. COLE had some fun exchanging some Sailors with the CHATHAM for a few days, during which she showed our British counterparts demonstrations with the 5-inch gun, CIWS, and SCAT teams.

July 2010

2 July	UNREP with RAF Bayleaf
2-5 July	Holiday routine
4 July	Steel Beach picnic
6 July	Flight Quarters UNREP with USNS Robert E. Peary and RAF Bayleaf ENS ██████ SWO Board
8 July	Crew photo Wardroom formal dinner ENS ██████ SWO Board
9 July	Wardroom photo LTJG ██████ TAO Board Wardroom movie night
10 July	DC2 ██████ reenlistment Award ceremony ENS ██████ SWO Board
11 July	LTJG ██████ OOD Board ENS ██████ OOD Board
12 July	Small boat transfer: CDR Ehlers (P-CO) UNREP with USNS Big Horn CO / P-CO / XO / CMC Dinner
13 July	Strait of Hormuz transit
13-17 July	Inport Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates
14 July	CPO Mess Hail and Farewell for P-CO and CO
15 July	Wardroom Hail and Farewell for P-CO and CO
16 July	Change of Command Ceremony and reception
17 July	Strait of Hormuz transit
20 July	UNREP with USNS LENTHALL
22 July	July birthday meal
26 July	UNREP with USNS RAPPAHANNOCK
29 July	STG2 ██████ reenlistment
31 July	UNREP with USNS RAPPAHANNOCK

COLE celebrated the Fourth of July with four days of holiday routine. Many Sailors used this break to catch up on their sleep,

study for a final push at qualifications, and prepare for the Change-of-Command ceremony mid-month. COLE's new Captain, CDR Drew Ehlers, arrived via small boat the day before she pulled into Jebel Ali, UAE. The outgoing and incoming Captains had a Hail and Farewell with both the Chiefs Mess and Wardroom before officially turning over July 17.

COLE continued to run drills and training, patrol the IRTC, and prepare for ULTRA-S and INSURV as her counter-piracy neared its end. The ATFP Training Team held numerous 9mm and M-16 requalification shoots to ensure COLE would be able to maintain inport watch standers through the rest of deployment and into the first POM period upon return.

August 2010

3 August Stream TACTAS/NIXIE

4 August Turnover with USS KAUFMANN

5 August BAM transit  
UNREP with USNS RAPPAHANNOCK

7 August FC1 ██████ reenlistment  
FC2 ██████ reenlistment  
ET2 ██████ reenlistment  
ET3 ██████ reenlistment

9 August EM1 ██████ EOW Board

11 August Suez Canal transit

12 August Swim call

14-19 August Inport Augusta Bay, Sicily

15 August Wardroom Hail and Farewell

22 August Straits of Gibraltar transit

23 August CS2 ██████ reenlistment  
YN2 ██████ reenlistment  
ENS ██████ OOD Board

24 August GM2 ██████ reenlistment  
August birthday meal  
LTJG ██████ SWO Board

25 August Inport Ponta Delgada, Portugal

28 August LTJG ██████ SWO Board

30 August ENS ██████ OOD Board

31 August Second Fleet recall

COLE finally turned over with the USS KAUFFMAN at the beginning of August. Deployment was still not over, though, until she was safely moored in Norfolk. After transiting through the Suez Canal and into Sixth Fleet, she participated in OPERATION SCIMITAR SEAGULL, identifying suspicious vessels in the Mediterranean and Red Seas. Mid-month, COLE enjoyed liberty in the beautiful port of Augusta Bay, Sicily. The Wardroom held a Hail and Farewell in Catania for her new

Ensigns and for LT [REDACTED], LTJG [REDACTED], and LTJG [REDACTED], who would be leaving after deployment.

Sailors' studying and training continued to yield results as more ESWS pins, SWO pins, and OOD letters were earned. And the end of counter-piracy certainly did not mean the end of drills—COLE used her extra time to push even harder with ULTRA-S and INSURV preparations. Weather once again foiled COLE's TRANSLANT plans as Hurricanes Danielle and Earl threatened to delay her return. Instead, after stopping briefly for fuel in Ponta Delgada, COLE raced the hurricane back to the United States, where family and friends were waiting at Naval Weapons Station in Earle, NJ to board COLE on a Tiger Cruise and ride her back to Norfolk. Unfortunately, COLE had to turn around at the pier in NJ to race back to Norfolk, leaving the Tigers behind. They and all COLE Sailors hoped that COLE would make it into homeport ahead of the hurricanes to avoid delay.

September 2010

1 September	UNREP with USNS KANAWHA Moored Norfolk, VA
1-16 September	First POM Period
2 September	E6 Navywide advancement exam
9 September	E5 Navywide advancement exam
14 September	CPO Induction Day
16 September	E4 Navywide advancement exam CPO Pinning- CTTC Shawgo
17 September	POM turnover day
18 SEP-3 OCT	Second POM Period
21 September	USAF Tour group
23 September	JROTC Tour group Hampton Roads OMBUDSMAN Appreciation Banquet
29 September	Virginia Pilot COLE Photo shoot

COLE arrived in homeport ahead of the hurricanes and two days ahead of schedule on September 1. Most of the crew was able to take either the first or second POM leave periods to spend time and catch up with their families and friends. Some Chief Petty Offices, though, sacrificed their time to help run CPO Induction season. COLE's Chief's Mess welcomed CTTC Shawgo on September 16. The crew left onboard enjoyed some relatively quiet weeks, recovering from deployment and preparing for the busy few months ahead of her.



October 2010

4 October	End POM FC1 ██████ reenlistment OS1 ██████ reenlistment
5 October	STG2 ██████ reenlistment ATFP Focus groups
6 October	QM2 ██████ reenlistment
8 October	Berth shift to Pier 14 MA1 ██████ reenlistment
12 October	United States Fleet Forces Command USS COLE 10 Year Remembrance Ceremony
13-22 October	Underway VACAPES / JAX Opareas
14 October	UNREP with USNS ARCTIC
16 October	Maritime Interdiction drill Live fire event
18 October	LTJG ██████ SWSO Board
20 October	Degaussing range, Mayport Basin EM1 ██████ OOD Board EWTX
21 October	ET2 ██████ reenlistment GSM2 ██████ reenlistment UNREP with USNS KANAWHA Flight quarters- DLQs
22 October	I-365 pre-briefing to CDRE Wilkenson CMDCM Timmons reenlistment
26 October	October Birthday meal
27-29 October	Underway VACAPES OPAREA- ULTRA and INSURV Preps
27 October	Messing and berthing inspection with Deputy Commodore
28 October	Stream TACTAS / Nixie Condition II AS drill with EMATT
29 October	SESEF Range

As October began, COLE's crew returned from POM leave and returned to their daily routines, continuing the ULTRA-S and INSURV preparations. COLE shifted to Pier 14 to be closer to the COLE

Memorial, the site of COLE's ten-year remembrance ceremony to commemorate the bombing on October 12, 2000 and the seventeen COLE Sailors who died that day.

After the ceremony and reception, COLE got underway to play opposing force (OPFOR) in preparation for the USS ENTERPRISE Strike Group's deployment. COLE took advantage of the underway time to conduct practice INSURV demonstrations and various warfare area drills to keep proficient. COLE got underway again a few days after returning, specifically to prepare for ULTRA-S and INSURV, but returned in time for the crew to be able to spend Halloween at home with their friends and children.

November 2010

1 November	I-360 Zone Inspection and INSURV Demos SURFLANT Inspector Caucus
3 November	Inport fueling
4 November	CDS-28 3M Mid-cycle Assessment
5-10 November	Underway VACAPES OPAREA
5 November	RCS Range
8-9 November	Encounter Exercise with Canadian Navy
15-19 November	Inport Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA
15 November	CDRE Wilkenson observes Navigation Brief
17 November	Captain Marks, Commanding Officer NWS Yorktown visit
19 November	Friends and Family Day Cruise
22-24 November	ASW LTT with ATG
23 November	SURFLANT Legal Assist visit
25-28 November	Thanksgiving holiday
29-30 November	ULTRA-S Inport phase

After a brief stay in home port, COLE headed north to help the Canadian Navy prepare for their upcoming deployment, and also to conduct more ULTRA-S and INSURV preparations. The winter storms in the North Atlantic interfered, though, and COLE returned to home port a few days early.

Mid-month, COLE transited to Naval Weapons Station Yorktown to offload her weapons in preparation for the ship yards in 2011. This provided the perfect opportunity to host a Friends and Family Day Cruise, especially since the Tiger Cruise at the end of deployment was cancelled. Crew members' guests enjoyed one day aboard COLE during which they got to tour, experience high speed maneuvers, and witness a live gun shoot.

As November drew to a close, COLE made her final preparations for ULTRA-S, and her crew was able to spend the Thanksgiving holiday home with families before the busy week ahead of them.

December 2010

1-3 December	Underway VACAPES OPAREA for ULTRA-S
1 December	Flight deck fire drill ATFP drills
2 December	Combat Systems COND III scenario Man overboard drills Total Shipboard Survivability Exercise Stream TACTAS / Nixie; Big Bird maneuver
3 December	Flight deck crash drill VBSS hook and pole ATFP drills
6-16 December	Exercise Bold Alligator
8 December	LTJG ██████ CDO Board
10 December	ATFP Certification Wardroom Hail / Farewell
11 December	Bold Alligator Phase 2 begins
13 December	3M Mid-cycle assessment
15 December	COLE Christmas party
17 December	ULTRA-S TSSE
18-28 December	First Holiday leave period
29 December	POM turnover day ENS ██████ OOD Board
30 DEC - 9 JAN	Second Holiday leave period

December began as COLE got underway for the second phase of ULTRA-S. Unfortunately, COLE's Battle Force Team Trainer (BFTT) suffered a casualty while out to sea, so she was only able to complete a portion of the certification. COLE ran what she could of her TSSE drill, and all other drills that she could without the trainer, before pulling back into home port.

COLE was unable to retry her ULTRA-S certification during the next few weeks due to her participation in Operation Bold Alligator—a base-wide integrated training evolution for all warfare areas. COLE

completed and passed her 3M Mid-cycle assessment and finally finished her complete TSSE for ULTRA-S right before holiday stand down began.

Although back at home port, COLE still had fun together off the ship. The Wardroom had a Hail and Farewell to welcome several new officers, and to say good bye to LCDR ██████████, LT ██████████, LT ██████████, ENS ██████████, ENS ██████████, and ENS ██████████. MWR hosted a beautiful Christmas party at Vista Point on base, at which Sailors were awarded prizes and souvenirs. It was at this party that the Captain announced NC1 ██████████ as Sailor of the Year, STG2 ██████████ as Junior Sailor of the Year, and SN ██████████ as Bluejacket of the Year. CDR Ehlers also awarded a Command Advancement Program (CAP) to IC3 ██████████, advancing his rank from E4 to E5. The Christmas party was a wonderful end to an extremely busy and productive 2010!