

1. Command Data

- a. Name of your command or organization: USS COLE
- b. Unit identification code: N21941
- c. Name and rank of commander, commanding officer or officer in charge: CDR James Quaresimo
- d. Last/first/middle initial: Q/J/A
- e. Rank: O-5
- f. Date assumed command: 2015-01-21
- g. Mission, command employment, or area of operation: Multi mission including but not limited to anti-submarine, anti-air, and anti-surface.
- h. Permanent location: Norfolk, VA
- i. Immediate superior in command: Commander Destroyer Squadron 22
- j. Operational superior in command: Commander Destroyer Squadron 22
- k. Administrative superior in command: Commander Destroyer Squadron 22
- l. Identify your assigned task force: CTF 80 (CTF 65 26AUG14-08MAR15)
- m. Name of forces under your operational control: N/A
- n. Type and number of aircraft assigned: N/A
- o. Commands deployed on board of stationed aboard: N/A
- p. Number of personnel assigned: 268
- q. Officers, enlisted, or civilian: 37 officers, 28 chief petty officers, 203 enlisted
- r. Command point of contact:
 - i) Name: ENS ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

- ii) Job Title: Electrical Officer
- iii) Email: [REDACTED]
- iv) Phone number: [REDACTED]
- v) Command mailing address: USS COLE (DDG-67)
FPO AE 09566-1285

2. Commander's Assessment

An *Arleigh Burke*-class guided missile destroyer enhanced for Ballistic Missile Defense, COLE is capable of conducting missions in a wide number of warfare areas in support of U.S. national interests. During calendar year 2014, COLE completed her training cycle to prepare for deployment, as well as executing her mission on station in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Black Sea while deployed from August 2014 to March 2015. COLE's deployment was a marked shift from her 2012-2013 deployment to the Mediterranean. In contrast to long, solitary patrols far offshore, the 2014-2015 deployment saw an increased focus on interoperability with allies and partner nations through passing exercises and military-to-military engagement. COLE participated in named operations Operation Sharp Sentry, Operation Atlantic Sentry, and NATO Operation Active Endeavour. Additionally, COLE made two patrols to the Black Sea, an area with active hostilities on the Crimea Peninsula. COLE became a Black Sea operations expert - literally writing the handbook for such operations for Commander, Task Force SIX FIVE.

From the training cycle, inspection, assessments, and through deployment, COLE has stressed excellence as the standard. Team COLE completed every evolution well and on time during the basic phase of the training cycle, allowing COLE to build time in her schedule to support port calls for the crew, additional priority one tasking from Fleet Forces Command, and preserve a pre-deployment leave period. Arriving on station in Mediterranean Sea, COLE leveraged her "excellence is the standard" to master the operational environment in the Eastern Mediterranean and Black Sea. From thoughtful tactical and operational discussions supporting the Operational Commander, aggressive pursuit of logistics support to keep COLE battle ready, and an internal drive to be mission ready - such as being on the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Port Hueneme SPY Honor Roll every single month deployed are testimonials to the hard work and consistent effort of the entire crew. COLE Sailors lived as examples of excellence - demonstrated by having zero liberty incidents they set the standard as positive ambassadors of the U.S. Navy. Sailors on COLE are the most impressive team - aggressive to meet the

mission and maintain their gear, proud of their ship and the lasting COLE legacy we all honor, and compassionate and caring for their fellow shipmates.

3. Chronology

2014

01-16JAN- INPORT NORFOLK
01-10JAN CMAV (Continuous Maintenance Availability)
06-10JAN- BMD 2.2D (Ballistic Missile Defense)
06-10JAN AWT 3 (Advanced Warfare Training)
06-8JAN- VBSS 2.3 (Visit Board Search and Seize)
07-10JAN- SMC 1.4 (Supply Management Certification)
08-10JAN- FSO-M 1.3 (Fleet Service Operations-Medical)
13-17JAN- BMD 2.4
15-16JAN- CSICP Phase I (Computer Security Inspection and Compliance Program)
17-26JAN- USW 2.3 (Undersea Warfare)
17-18JAN- DEPART NORFOLK, VA, U/W AUTECH (Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center)
17-24 TYT 2.3B (Type Training)
19-22JAN INPORT OUTER MOLE, KEY WEST, FL
23-27 U/W AUTECH
27JAN- ARRIVE YORKTOWN, VA
27-31JAN AMMO ONLOAD
1FEB- DEPART YORKTOWN, VA AND ARRIVE NORFOLK, VA
1-9FEB- INPORT NORFOLK
3-7FEB- IDCERTEX (Independent Deployer Certification Exercise)
3-6FEB- STW 2.3 (Strike Warfare)
3-5FEB- VBSS 2.3
6-7FEB- VBSS 2.4A
7FEB- STW 2.4A
10FEB- VBSS 2.4B
10FEB- DEPART NORFOLK, VA, U/W VACAPES 2.4
10-14FEB- STW 2.4 NSFS (Naval Surface Fire Support)
10-14FEB- USW 2.4
13FEB- RAS W/MEV (Replenishment at Sea), (USNS Medgar Evers)
14-27FEB- IDCERTEX
17-28FEB- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
19FEB- RAS W/KAN (USNS KANAWHA)
23FEB- RAS W/KAN
25-28FEB INPORT NORFOLK, VA
26-28FEB- RE6
1-13MAR- INPORT NORFOLK
1-3MAR- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
3-7MAR- BMDEX 14-6

3-7MAR- SESI (Ship's Explosive Safety Inspection)
 10-13MAR- FST-U (Fleet Synthetic Training-Unit)
 14-26MAR- U/W JW141
 27-31MAR- INPORT FASLANE, UK
 1-11APR- U/W JW141
 12-18APR- INPORT PLYMOUTH, UK
 19-25APR- U/W JW141
 26-31APR- INPORT NORFOLK
 1-18MAY- INPORT NORFOLK
 1-20MAY- NAVCERT (Navigation Certification)
 5-9MAY- IDAT (Independent Deployer Advanced Training)
 5-15MAY- HURREX CITADEL GALE (Hurricane Exercise)
 5-16MAY- GTRR (Gas Turbine Readiness Review)
 5-16MAY- ELMAT (Electrical Maintenance Assistance Team)
 5-19MAY- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
 5-16MAY- CCAT (Corrosion Control Assistance Team)
 5-16MAY- TSRA 1/5 (Total Ship's Readiness Assessment)
 6-8MAY- FPEX (Force Protection Exercise)
 5-9MAY- ERAT (Engineering Readiness Assessment Team)
 12-16MAY- 3M 1.4 (Maintenance Material Management)
 12-15MAY- CSICP Phase II
 12-14MAY- FSO-M 1.3
 19-20MAY- U/W ENR NYC
 21-27MAY- FLEET WEEK NYC
 27-31MAY- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
 28-29MAY- U/W ENR NORFOLK
 28MAY- RAS W/KAN
 30-31MAY- INPORT NORFOLK
 1JUN- INPORT NORFOLK
 1-30JUN- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
 2-6JUN- U/W VACAPES, MI REHEARSAL (Material Inspection)
 2-6JUN- TYT VCOA/PROTRAMID WK2 (Vacapes Operating
 Area/Professional Training for Midshipmen)
 7-15JUN INPORT NORFOLK
 9-11JUN- FSO-M 1.4
 9-13JUN- RHIBMAT (Rigid-hulled Inflatable Boat Maintenance
 Assistance Team)
 16-18JUN- U/W VACAPES, TYCOM MI
 19-30JUN- INPORT VACAPES
 23-30JUN- CMAV/BMDRA (BMD Readiness Assessment)
 1-31JUL- INPORT NORFOLK
 1-14JUL- NOBLE EAGLE READY DUTY SHIP
 7-10JUL- NFMT (Navy Food Management Team)
 7-18JUL- GLMAT (Galley Laundry Maintenance Assistance Team)
 14-18JUL- BMDEX 14-10
 14-18JUL- Cyber Security Inspection
 14-18JUL- CSICP Phase III

1-17AUG- INPORT NORFOLK
18-19AUG- U/W VACAPES, TYT VCOA
20-21AUG- INPORT NORFOLK
22-31AUG- U/W DEPLOYMENT
27AUG- CHOP C6F
30AUG- BSF AZORES (Brief Stop for Fuel)
1-3SEP- U/W DEPLOYMENT
1SEP- STROG TRANSIT
4-7SEP- INPORT AUGUSTA BAY, ITA, MISSILE SWAP W/VLG
8-13SEP- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
13SEP- RAS W/LRG (USNS Leroy Grumman)
14-18SEP- INPORT HAIFA, ISR, RELENTLESS SHIELD
19-30SEP- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
19SEP- RAS W/LRG
24SEP- RAS W/LRG
1-19OCT- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
4OCT- RAS W/LRG
7OCT- RAS W/LRG
10OCT- TURKISH STRAITS TRANSIT
16-17OCT- TURKISH PASSEX
20-23OCT- INPORT CONSTANTA, ROM
25-26OCT- ROMANIAN PASSEX
31OCT- TURKISH STRAITS TRANSIT
31OCT- RAS W/LRG
1-4NOV- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
5-9NOV- INPORT AKSAZ, TUR
5-14NOV- MAVI BALINA
9-12NOV U/W MAVI BALINA
13-14NOV- ANCHORED ANTALYA, TUR
15-24NOV- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
16NOV- RAS W/LRG
20-21NOV- IPOE TRANSIT (Intelligence Preparation of the Environment)
23NOV- RAS W/LRG
25-31NOV- INPORT SOUDA BAY, GRC, VMAV
1-4DEC- INPORT SOUDA BAY, GRC, VMAV
5DEC- RAS W/KAN
5-7DEC- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
8-11DEC- INPORT AUGUSTA BAY, ITA
12-22DEC- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
14DEC- RAS W/KAN
23-26DEC- INPORT HAIFA, ISR
27-31DEC- U/W DEPLOYMENT, SHARP SENTRY
29-30DEC- PASSEX W/ French Ship DUCUING
31DEC- RAS W/KAN
1-18JAN- U/W DEPLOYMENT
4-5JAN- FRENCH PASSEX

9JAN- RAS W/KAN
10-13JAN- IPOE TRANSIT
16JAN- RAS W/KAN
19-22JAN- INPORT PIRAEUS, GRC
21JAN- CHANGE OF COMMAND
22-31JAN- U/W DEPLOYMENT
22JAN- RAS W/KAN
23-24JAN- FRENCH PASSEX
29JAN- RAS W/MAR, RAS W/KAN
30-31JAN- IPOE TRANSIT
1-8FEB- U/W DEPLOYMENT
1-2FEB- IPOE TRANSIT
6FEB- RAS W/JLN (USNS JOHN LENTHALL)
8FEB- TURKISH STRAITS TRANSIT
9-12FEB- INPORT CONSTANTA, ROM
12-19FEB- U/W DEPLOYMENT
12-13FEB- ROMANIAN AND UKRANIAN PASSEX
20FEB- BSF VARNA, BUL
20-24FEB- U/W DEPLOYMENT
20FEB- BULGARIAN PASSEX
22FEB- TURKISH STRAITS TRANSIT
25FEB- INPORT AUGUSTA BAY, ITA
26-28- U/W DEPLOYMENT
1MAR- U/W DEPLOYMENT
2MAR- STROG TRANSIT
2-5MAR- INPORT ROTA, SP
6-13 U/W DEPLOYMENT
8FEB- CHOP OUT C6F
13MAR- INPORT NORFOLK, VA

4. Narrative

COLE started 2014 conducting a Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) completing major training events, such as the Theory and Fundamentals (2.2) stage of Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) evaluation. Other events include Advanced Warfare Tactics (AWT), Visit Board Search Seize (VBSS) Individual and Team Training (2.3) and Supply Management Certification (SMC) Assessment (1.4). Other events included Fleet Support

Operations-Medical (FSO-M) Individual and Team Training, BMD Assessment, Computer Security Inspection and Compliance Program (CSICP) Phase I, and Undersea Warfare 2.3.

In February COLE completed her ammunition resupply and returned to homeport for a short break before conducting Independent Deployer Certification Exercise (IDCERTEX). Before departing Norfolk for said event, COLE accomplished Strike Warfare (STW) 2.3 and 2.4, along with VBSS 2.3 and 2.4. Once out to sea in the Virginia Capes (VACAPES) Operating Area, completed another STW assessment for specifically Naval Surface Fire Support, as well as one for Undersea Warfare. COLE conducted a Replenishment at Sea (RAS) with USNS Medgar Evers (MEV) once, and USNS KANAWHA (KAN) twice, as well as maintaining status as Noble Eagle Ready Duty Ship the entire time. Upon completion of IDCERTEX COLE returned to port and completed Readiness Evaluation 6.

During March 2014 COLE maintained Noble Eagle Ready Duty Ship status and further prepared for deployment with BMDEX, SESI (Ship's Explosive Safety Inspection), FST-U (Fleet Synthetic Training-Unit), and a far more advanced exercise, Joint Warrior 14. Joint Warrior is a United Kingdom-led exercise involving several different countries' navies to engage in the many different areas of naval warfare. COLE departed Norfolk and conducted a Trans-Atlantic Voyage, culminating in COLE pulling

into Faslane, United Kingdom to refuel and to offer Sailors a uniquely Scottish experience.

COLE continued underway for Joint Warrior in the vicinity of the British Isles and pulled into another British port, Plymouth. Here COLE further engaged in foreign relations by hosting a number of local officials and foreign naval officers for a reception on board. When Joint Warrior concluded, COLE set sail for homeport and arrived before the end of the month.

COLE also departed for Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Center (AUTEK) based around Andros Island. During this exercise COLE Sailors got a chance to prove their capability and efficiency in Anti-Submarine Warfare, while also enjoying a short port visit in Key West. Upon departing COLE finished the exercise and arrived in Yorktown, VA to take on ammunition.

While COLE remained in port for the first part of May 2014, it was by no means a quiet period, with such major events as Navigation Certification (NAVCERT), Independent Deployer Advanced Training (IDAT), Hurricane Exercise (HURREX) Citadel Gale, Gas Turbine Readiness Review (GTRR), Electrical Maintenance Assistance Team (EMAT), Corrosion Control Assistance Team (CCAT), Total Ships Readiness Assessment (TSRA) 1/5, a Force Protection Exercise (FPEX), Maintenance Material

Management (3M) 1.4, CSICP Phase II, and FSO-M 1.3, all while maintaining her status as Noble Eagle Ready Duty Ship.

The later part of May 2014 was dominated by COLE's trip to New York City for Fleet Week, where COLE capitalized on the chance to display her excellence, giving tours to over 10,000 people while moored in Staten Island. COLE also maintained her strong bond with New Yorkers, that of suffering a terrible blow to terrorism and rising up stronger and more determined than ever before. This was especially true with New York Fire Department firefighters, a number of whom accompanied the ship during her transit back to Norfolk.

Upon returning to Norfolk COLE maintained her position as Noble Eagle Duty Ship, while also completing a Material Inspection (MI) Rehearsal, a Type VACAPES Operating Area (VCOA), and Professional Training of Midshipmen (PROTRAMID) Week 2. COLE also conducted the FSO-M Assessment and hosted a Rigid-Hulled Inflatable Boat Material Assistance Team (RHIBMAT) to assist in the maintenance of COLE's two small boats. COLE concluded the month with another CMAV along with a BMD Readiness Assessment (BMDRA).

July 2014 saw COLE continue the prepared position of Noble Eagle Ready Duty Ship, along with the visitation of the Navy Food Management Team (NFMT), and Galley and Laundry Maintenance Assistance Team (GLMAT). COLE also had the Ballistic Missile

Defence Exercise (BMDEX) 14-10, Cyber Security Inspection, and CSICP Phase III. Done with the majority of her pre-deployment training and maintenance, COLE settled in to give Sailors leave before leaving on deployment.

Pre-deployment leave followed into August 2014, and concluded with a short underway for TYT VCOA, and then home again for a few days before departing for deployment on 22 August. COLE was sent off in a glorious fashion, with Sailors' families coming onboard for an extensive breakfast before all COLE Sailors manned the rails in dress white uniforms while the hundreds of families watched COLE leave to do her duty. After crossing the Atlantic, COLE came under the operational control of 6th Fleet and stopped for a Brief Stop for Fuel (BSF) in Ponta Delgada in the Azores.

COLE continued the beginning of deployment by entering the Mediterranean through the Strait of Gibraltar (STROG), before stopping in Augusta Bay, Italy to swap out those essential missiles necessary for a BMD deployment and conducting a turnover with the outgoing ship USS VELLA GULF (CG-72). After departing Augusta Bay, COLE assumed the role of the primary BMD unit in Operation Sharp Sentry (OSS). COLE conducted a RAS with the USNS LEROY GRUMMAN before pulling into Haifa, Israel, and participated in BMD scenario Relentless Shield and the international force protection exercise LOCAL HERO with the

Israeli Navy. While inport, COLE Sailors also had the opportunity to briefly experience different parts of Israel, including Jerusalem. After departing Haifa COLE conducted two RAS with LEROY GRUMMAN.

COLE continued her vigilant watch as primary BMD unit protecting Israel in OSS, while doing so replenished twice with LEROY GRUMMAN. COLE transited through the Turkish Straits of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, on either side of the Sea of Marmara, to finally make it through into the Black Sea. In addition to working alongside USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20), COLE conducted a Passing Exercise (PASSEX) with Turkish Naval Forces before pulling into Constanta, Romania. Here COLE Sailors again got the rare chance to briefly experience Romania's landmark Hohenzollern and Dracula castles. After departing Constanta, COLE continued to maintain close relations with the Romanians through a PASSEX. At the end of October COLE departed the Black Sea and conducted a RAS with LEROY GRUMMAN.

COLE continued her BMD role and entered Aksaz, Turkey to begin an intense exercise called MAVI BALINA 2014. While in port COLE attended several different conferences and events engaged in the exercise, while COLE Sailors also were given the chance to see historic landmarks in the vicinity. The next few days underway were a hallmark of multi-national cooperation, with forces from several different nations (including U.S., Turkey,

Germany, Spain, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom) engaging in a largely Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) exercise, but also included a variety of other areas. Upon successful completion, COLE anchored outside of Antalya, Turkey to debrief the exercise with the different nations involved.

After getting underway again, COLE conducted a RAS with LEROY GRUMMAN and then after thorough preparation proceeded into International Waters just bordering the Syrian coastline. After this risky, but well thought-out transit COLE again conducted a RAS with LEROY GRUMMAN and continued on to Souda Bay, Greece where COLE would conduct her 10-day Voyage Maintenance Availability (VMAV).

COLE continued her time in Souda Bay to complete work needed at the half-way point of deployment, and COLE Sailors were given the opportunity to spend time on leave with visiting family as well as tour the area. COLE conducted a RAS with the KANAWHA and continued on deployment. After stopping briefly in Augusta Bay, COLE continued on deployment, ending up in Haifa, Israel, where Sailors were afforded the rare option of spending the holidays in the Holy Land. After departing COLE conducted a PASSEX with the French warship DUCUING and then completed a RAS with KANAWHA.

COLE continued in her vigilant deployment through the New Year, conducting another French PASSEX, RAS with USNS KANAWHA,

and a cautious transit through waters bordering Syria. After this transit COLE completed a RAS with USNS KANAWHA yet again and pulled into Piraeus, Greece, where COLE performed her change of command, with CDR Dennis Farrell, USN being relieved by CDR James Quaresimo, USN. After this ceremony COLE Sailors were again afforded a rare opportunity: to experience the legendary nearby city of Athens. Once out of Piraeus COLE again conducted a French PASSEX and conducted a RAS with the French oiler MARNE and then the KANAWHA.

COLE continued her deployment into February 2015, conducting another watchful transit through waters border Syria, replenishing with her new partner-oiler USNS JOHN LENTHALL. After again proceeding again through the Turkish Straits into the Black Sea, COLE again pulled into Constanta, Romania. After pulling out, COLE conducting a PASSEX with both Romanian and Ukrainian naval forces. At this point COLE spent several days in close proximity to Crimea while maintaining the utmost awareness of the situation there.

COLE then made a BSF into Varna, Bulgaria, completed a Bulgarian PASSEX, and proceeded back through the Turkish Straits into the Mediterranean. COLE stopped briefly in Augusta Bay before continuing on her way to the Strait of Gibraltar. COLE conducted a careful transit through the STROG and entered Rota, Spain, where COLE turned over duties and missiles with USS

LABOON (DDG 58). On 8 Mar COLE chopped out of 6th Fleet on her way across the Atlantic and on 13 March COLE returned home to Norfolk, Virginia to a hero's welcome.

5. Supporting Reports.

Enclosure (1) Battle E Cover Page

Enclosure (2) Battle E Maritime Warfare

Enclosure (3) Battle E Engineering/Survivability

Enclosure (4) Battle E Command and Control

Enclosure (5) Battle E Logistics Management

Enclosure (6) Battle E Ship Safety

Enclosure (7) to Enclosure (81) Operation Active Endeavor Reports

6. Published Documents

Enclosure (01) Ship's Website

<http://www.cole.navy.mil/>

Enclosure (02) Change of Command Pamphlet

Enclosure (03) USS COLE Press Releases

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=78662

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=78714

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=80332

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=81152

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=81240
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=82901
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=83280
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=83782
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=83835
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=83833
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=85286
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=85524
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=85662
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=85698
http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=86031

7. Photographs

Enclosure (01) CO's Photograph

Enclosure (02) XO's Photograph

Enclosure (03) CMC's Photograph

Enclosure (04) Cole Picture

Enclosure (05) to Enclosure (39) Deployment Pictures

Enclosure (40) Return Home Photograph