



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) ✓

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO 96682-1492

5750

Ser PAO/ 95A

MAR 01 1986

From: Commanding Officer, USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: OPNAV Report 5750-1; Command History 1985

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) Command History for 1985

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) Command History for Calendar Year 1985 is submitted.

*T. C. J. McGinlay*  
T. C. J. MCGINLAY

Copy to:  
COMNAVSURFPAC  
COMDESRON SEVENTEEN

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985

01 JAN - 07 JAN Inport Long Beach, CA.

08 JAN Underway, transit to deperming pier San Diego, CA.

10 JAN Wrap ship for deperming, deperm ship.

11 JAN Unwrap ship.

14 JAN Underway from San Diego for READIEX 85-1, the second major fleet exercise for LAMPS MK III, Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light, Four Three, Detachment ONE embarked USS CROMMELIN. At sea commander of Battle Group DELTA, Rear Admiral Leon A EDNEY, USN, Commander Carrier Group ONE, embarked aboard USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64).

25 JAN Completed READIEX 85-1, moor Naval Station, Long Beach.

28 JAN - 01 FEB Commenced LAMPS MK III Coordinated Team Training on board.

09 FEB Ship visited by Turkish CNO. Conducted tour and hosted luncheon. Received "Well Done" from COMNAVSURFPAC Representative, Long Beach - CAPT TREIBER.

13 FEB Underway from Long Beach for CIWS firing (Pre Action Calibration), MK-75 gun shoot, missile exercise. Ship visited by Rear Admiral HOWE, USN, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group THREE. Missile exercise was cancelled.

16 FEB Moor Naval Station Long Beach.

16 - 21 FEB Inport Naval Station Long Beach

20 FEB HSL-43, Det 1 embarked, SH-60B Helicopter (Ocean Lord 20) fly on.

21 FEB Underway from Long Beach to join Battle Group DELTA for TRANSITEX 85.

22 FEB Missile exercise off Pacific Missile Testing Center, PT MUGU, CA. Successfully engaged high altitude, high speed target (VANDAL). First successful Vandal engagement by a FFG-7/36 Class Ship.

23 FEB Transit to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Battle Group exercises conducted during transit.

01 MAR Commence AIREM/SHAREM B-L-85P off Barking Sands underwater range Kauai, Hawaii. Successful airdrop of 2 exercise torpedoes from SH-60B. Received "Well Done" from COMASWINGSPAC.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

03 MAR Commence BGAREM for Battle Group DELTA.

04 MAR Detached from BGAREM due to casualty to Ocean Lord 20. Rotor blade punctured by blade crutch in high seas (sea state 6). Returned to Pearl Harbor to effect repairs.

05 - 11 MAR Inport Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

11 MAR Underway from Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii enroute to Subic Bay, R.P.

12 MAR TORPEX Barking Sands Range Hawaii. Event cancelled due to high sea state.

13 MAR OCE for coordinated ASW exercise and air tracking exercise.

14 MAR OCE for coordinated ASW exercise.

15 MAR OCE for coordinated ASW exercise.

18 MAR OCE for LAMPS MK III data link detection exercise.

21 MAR INCHOP to Seventh Fleet.

27 MAR Missile exercise at Poro Point Range, P.I. Successful engagement.

28 MAR Moor Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P.

02 APR Underway from Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P. Battle Group DELTA photo exercise. LAMPS MK III data link detection exercise. Embarked Mr. Lawrence Lowell, PACE instructor. Enroute Singapore.

04 APR OCE for electronic warfare publication exercise.

07 APR Transit Johore Straits. Moor outboard USS FANNING at Sembawang Piers Singapore.

10 APR Underway from Singapore. Commence transit Straits of Malacca.

15 APR OCE for SRBOC exercise.

19 APR Arrive on station North Arabian Sea.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

27 APR Moor outboard USS CALLAGHAN (DDG 994) at Masira Anchorage for USO Show - Kris Kristofferson. Return to station in North Arabian Sea.

01 MAY Detach from station in North Arabian Sea to proceed to Port Victoria, Seychelles.

04 MAY Crossing the Line Ceremony.

05 MAY SK1 [REDACTED] selected as Destroyer Squadron SEVENTEEN Sailor of the Quarter for Second Quarter FY 85.

06 MAY Anchored Port Victoria, Seychelles for port visit.

06 - 10 MAY Inport Port Victoria, Seychelles

10 MAY Underway enroute to North Arabian Sea.

14 MAY Rejoin Battle Group DELTA in the North Arabian Sea.

17 MAY Depart North Arabian Sea enroute Mombassa, Kenya. OCE for structured ASW exercise.

18 MAY OCE for structured ASW exercise.

21 MAY Arrive Mombassa harbor. Moor outboard USS WORDEN (CG 18).

21 - 26 MAY Port visit Mombassa, Kenya.

26 MAY Underway from Mombassa enroute Diego Garcia, south west monsoon in full swing - 20-25 foot seas.

31 MAY Visit by Rear Admiral EDNEY, USN, COMCARGRU ONE.

03 JUN 0500 Diego Garcia sighted on radar. Received order to return to North Arabian Sea at best speed.

05 JUN On station North Arabian Sea/Gulf of Oman. Detached to aid stricken Kuwait tanker, Abualkhbir, reported sinking off the coast of Oman. Extensive search with SH-60B revealed debris and oil slick. All crewmen, with the exception of the Master, rescued by other vessels that were involved in the search.

08 JUN Conducted towing exercises with USS FANNING, Gulf of Oman.

23 - 24 JUN Remained dead in the water to conduct topside maintenance, Gulf of Oman.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

28 JUN Visited by Vice Admiral McCARTHY, USN, Commander, Seventh Fleet.

07 JUL Enroute Perth, Western Australia

12 JUL Visited by, CAPT G.L. CHESBROUGH, USN, Commander, Destroyer Squadron SEVENTEEN

18 JUL PCO CDR T.C.J. McGINLAY, USN, arrived on board via helo from USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64).

19 JUL Arrived Fremantle, Australia. Moored outboard USS WORDEN (CG 18).

19 - 24 JUL Port visit Fremantle, Australia.

24 JUL 0900 - Change of Command. CDR T.C.J. McGINLAY, USN, relieved CDR J.W. ORVIS, USN, as Commanding Officer, USS CROMMELIN with Rear Admiral Leon A. EDNEY, USN, COMCARGRU 1, and CAPT G. L. CHESBROUGH, USN, COMDESRON SEVENTEEN in attendance. 1100 - underway enroute Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P. via Lombok Straits.

31 JUL Moored Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P. outboard USS JOHN A. MOORE, (FFG 19).

31 JUL - 03 AUG Inport Subic Bay, R.P.

03 AUG Underway enroute Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Transit San Bernadino Straits.

09 AUG OUTCHOP Seventh Fleet, INCHOP Third Fleet.

09 - 10 AUG Battle Group DELTA verses Battle Group BRAVO encounter exercise.

15 AUG Arrive Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Moor Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Deputy CINCPACFLT, Vice Admiral KINNEBREW, USN, Rear Admiral EDNEY, USN, COMCARGRU 1, CAPT JONES, USN, Chief Staff COMCARGRU 1, and CAPT CHESBROUGH, USN, COMDESRON 17 arrive for luncheon.

17 AUG Embark 25 male dependents of crew for return cruise to Naval Station, Long Beach. Underway enroute Naval Station, Long Beach, California.

20 AUG Conducted real world EASTPAC ASW tasking enroute Long Beach. Received "Well Done" from CINCPACFLT and COMDESRON 17 for actions during ASW operations.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

24 AUG Arrive Long Beach. Moor U.S. Naval Station, Long Beach, California. Commence post deployment leave and upkeep. Inport Long Beach.

09 SEP Commenced IMAV II with USS PRAIRIE (AD 15).

07 - 11 OCT Operational Propulsion Plant Recertification Examination (OPPRE) Mobile Training Team (MTT) Phase I visit from COMNAVSURFPAC.

21 - 25 OCT Underway Southern California Operating Areas for Engineering Casualty Control Drills (ECC), Operational Propulsion Plant Recertification Examination (OPPRE) preps.

25 OCT Moored Naval Station, Long Beach.

28 OCT - 01 NOV MTT Phase II arrives commence safety checks, underway SOCAL ECC Drills.

01 NOV MTT Phase II critique. "Best ship they have seen." Moored Naval Station, Long Beach.

18 NOV Underway enroute San Diego. Commence ECC Drills. Moor U.S. Naval Station, San Diego, CA.

19 NOV Visit by Admiral LIU, Peoples' Republic of China, CNO equivalent. Admiral DAVIS, USN, Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Rear Admiral NYQUIST, USN, Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group FIVE, Rear Admiral RAMSEY, USN, Peoples' Republic of China, Naval Attache included. Received invitation from Admiral LIU to visit China. Underway for Engineering Casualty Control Drills in the Southern California Operating Areas.

21 NOV Moor Naval Station, Long Beach.

25 NOV Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Propulsion Examining Board arrives. Commence OPPRE. Underway from Long Beach for at sea portion of the OPPRE. Rear Admiral (Select) G. L. CHESBROUGH, USN, COMDESRON 17 embarked.

26 NOV Moor Long Beach, Naval Station. OPPRE completed in 34 hours - Satisfactory.

26 NOV - 09 DEC Inport Long Beach.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

09 DEC Underway SOCAL OPAREAS, DLQ's HSL-41.  
10 DEC Torpedo Exercise with USS HEPBURN, San Clemente Island  
underwater range.  
11 DEC Sonar Target Vehicle for USS POGHEY. Deck Landing  
Qualifications/HIFR HSL 41.  
12 DEC 76 MM GUN preaction calibration firing.  
13 DEC Moor Long Beach, Naval Station.  
13 DEC - 31 DEC Commence Holiday leave and upkeep period.

2. Special Topics:

(a) CDR T. C. J. McGinlay relieved CDR J. W. Orvis 24 July 1985, Fremantle, Western Australia. CDR Orvis assigned as Surface Operations Officer for Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group Three.

(b) Major command problems faced by the Commanding Officer during the year.

- First deployment of the LAMPS MK III helicopter/Ship system, over 1000 safe flight quarters evolutions occurred involving operations with SH-2 (LAMPS MK I) SH-3, and H-46 helicopters as well as the ships embarked SH-60B (LAMPS MK III). Flight operations were conducted on 132 of the 184 day deployment. The Recovery, Assist, Straightening and Traversing (RAST) system was used in 950 recoveries of the SH-60B. An aggressive Preventive Maintenance System (PMS) developed primarily by USS CROMMELIN experience and feedback enabled the RAST system to withstand 453 hours of operatin in the harsh elements of the North Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. More than half the recoveries occurred at night and many occured with 40 knot winds across the deck in sea states 3-6. The one time when RAST incurred a major casualty Ship's Force effected repairs. This required raising the 2 ton Rapid Securing Device (RSD) off its track at sea. The evolution is normally accomplished only inport by depot level personnel.
- Ship's Force aided the embarked helicopter detachment on several occasions by manufacturing parts needed to restore the SH-60B helicopter to an operational status.
- Despite non-existent parts support, CROMMELIN technicians kept the newly installed fin stabilizers operational throughout the ship's deployment.
- CROMMELIN's highly reliable Navy Tactical Data System (NTDS) Link 11 made her the Battle Group Commander's choice for Net Control Station (NCS) during 80 percent of the deployment.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

- CROMMELIN engineers replaced the rear seals of two of four shipboard diesel service generators at sea during deployment. This corrective maintenance is normally accomplished at the depot level while inport.
- CROMMELIN also maintained an experimental helicopter surveillance closed circuit T.V. System throughout the entire deployment and documented the need for such a system on all helicopter capable ships.
- The maintenance strategy for the FFG 7 class ship requires an outside maintenance availability every six months. CROMMELIN completed the deployment without benefit of any outside dedicated maintenance availability, the only ship to do so. CROMMELIN received no dedicated outside maintenance availability from 14 December 1984 until 9 September 1985.

(c) Significant statistical data. Ammunition expenditures;

MK 75 76mm Gun	HE-IR	167 Rounds
	HE-PD	96 Rounds
	BL&P	57 Rounds
Missiles	SM1 Block V	1
	SM1 Block VI	1
Chaff	EW76	6 Rounds
Exercise Torpedoes	1403 Tube Launch	1
	1407 Helo Launch	2
Small Arms	.5 Cal Linked	1909
	.45 Cal	2030
	12 Ga	2
	M-14 (7.62)	964
	M-14 blanks (7.62)	9
	M-60 MG (7.62)	650
CIWS	20mm	1136
Smoke Floats	MK 58	10
	MK 25	34
Signal Flares (Very)	White	3
	Red	4
SUS		2
40mm Grenades		6

Underway Replenishments/At Sea Evolutions



USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

UNREP	50 (Includes two UNREPS from USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64))
Underway Rearming	2
Astern Refueling	1
Tow/Be Towed	1 (With USS FANNING (FF 1076))
Major VERTREP	14 (Including personnel transfer with Royal Australian Navy)

LAMPS MK III Statistics

- Inclusive dates LAMPS detachment embarked: 14-25 January, 21 February - 24 August 1985.
- Days embarked with LAMPS detachment embarked: 165/2
- Days embarked detachment operated aircraft: 104/5
- Total number of flights by embarked detachment: 255/2
- Total day flight hours by embarked detachment: 493.6/2
- Total night flight hours by embarked detachment: 243.0/9
- Total day landings by all helos made on reporting ship: 497/0
- Total night landings by all helos made on reporting ship: 510/6
- Total simulated instrument hours by embarked detachment: 21.1/4
- Total actual instrument hours by embarked detachment: 100.3/4
- DTG/LTR Serial and subject of contributions submitted during calendar year:

(1) USS CROMMELIN 120115Z Mar 85 -- LAMPS MK III RF Radiation Hazards aboard FFG-7 class ships: First aviation hazard report on the potential dangers of RF energy to personnel/aircraft while working on the flight decks of FFG-7 (Third Flight) ships with HF whip antennas operating. Same problem later noted USS DOYLE and USS UNDERWOOD. This message initiated NAVAIR/NAVSEA testing which resulted in changes to FFG-7 (Third Flight) HF power settings during flight operations and maintenance.

(2) USS CROMMELIN 300530Z Jun 85 -- Second report of RF Radiation Hazard.

(3) USS CROMMELIN 060130Z Mar 85 -- SH-60B Main Rotor Blade Restrainer Set: Identified a faulty design in the SH-60B Main Rotor Blade Fold Pole (Restraining) clamps which fail during heavy seas. Based on this message, NAVPRO issued a community interim rapid action change (NAVPRO stratford CT 231930Z May 85) to technical publications warning of possible failure and created a design change to the present restrainer sets.

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

(4) USS CROMMELIN 231115Z Apr 85 and USS CROMMELIN 132245Z May 85 -- modification to NAVAIRSYSCOM NATOPS change 12: Proposed modification of existing procedures which required releasing the Rapid Securing Device Beams on the SH-60B main RAST probe when helo was placed in hangar. HSL 43 Detachment One/CROMMELIN experiences in heavy seas demonstrated a flaw and potential safety hazard (Aircraft sliding in heavy seas and striking hangar) if the beams are released. Change 12 was modified as a result of these messages.

(5) USS CROMMELIN 270352Z Mar 85 -- Aviation hazard report on SH-60B ground resonance: Identified the SH-60B's susceptibility to unstable main rotor balance when landing with a failed blade damper system. This message assisted aircrews in identifying the problem and landing aircraft safely.

2. During the WESTPAC/Indian Ocean deployment HSL 43 Detachment One personnel were recognized twice by COMNAVSURFPAC as Pro-of-The Week:

a. COMNAVAIRPAC San Diego, CA 112000Z Apr 85: Recognized HSL 43 Detachment One OIC/Co-Pilot as Pro-of-The Week for the safe landing of an SH-60B which experienced heavy ground resonance due to a failed blade damper system.

b. COMNAVAIRPAC San Diego, CA 181900Z Apr 85: Recognized HSL 43 Detachment One Plane Captain AE2 John Burke. During a FOD walk down prior to a night launch AE2 Burke discovered a failed lock nut for the tail hinge lying on the deck.

3. USS CROMMELIN (FFG 37) was the first ship to deploy with a LAMPS MK III detachment embarked. CROMMELIN experienced sea states of 3-4 during 60% of the deployment. Flight operations in the month of June were conducted in sea state 5-6. Winds often reached the upper limits of the SH-60B wind envelopes. Despite these adverse weather conditions and the high percentage of night time operations, CROMMELIN/HSL 43 Detachment One compiled an enviable safety record of zero mishaps.

4. CROMMELIN/HSL 43 Detachment One made numerous inputs for the LAMPS MK III tacman review conference to be hosted by COMASWINGPAC 14 January 1986.

Additional Information:

1. USS CROMMELIN received COMNAVSURFPAC's Battle Efficiency Awards for:

Operations	"E" (Green)
Gunnery	"E" (White)
Missile	"E" (White)
Damage Control	"DC" (Red)
Engineering	"E" (Red)
Antisubmarine Warfare	"A" (White)
Supply	"E" (Blue)
Electronic Warfare	"EW" (White)

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1985 (Continued)

2. LCDR Steve BEAL, USN, (HSL 43, Det 1 Officer in Charge) and LCDR [REDACTED] [REDACTED], USN, (Combat Systems Officer, USS CROMMELIN) presented a comprehensive LAMPS MK III Brief to the Fleet Readiness Board in Sasebo, Japan. Fleet Readiness Board consisted of CINCPAC, CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTH Fleet. Their briefing received personal well done from COMSEVENTH Fleet, CTG 30.4, COMDESRON SEVENTEEN.