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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

To: Director of Naval History

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY 1991

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) CROMMELIN 1990 Command History (Composition, Chronology, Narrative)

(2) Commanding Officers' Photo/Biography

(3) Supporting Documents for Taiwan Navy Visit

(4) Supporting Documents for ASWOP 91-3

(5) Supporting Documents for ASWOP 92-1

(6) Supporting Documents for COMPTUEX 92-1

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are submitted for calendar year 1991.

V. J. Lobue
V. J. LOBUE

COMMAND COMPOSITION

SHIP'S MISSION USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) is the thirty-first ship of the Oliver Hazard Perry Class of Guided Missile Frigates. CROMMELIN's mission is to provide anti-air, anti-submarine, and anti-surface protection for underway replenishment groups, convoys, amphibious forces, and other military and merchant shipping. In recent years, many ships of the FFG-7 class (including CROMMELIN) have been specifically tasked with providing escort and monitor services to U.S. and Allied-flagged merchant shipping in the Persian Gulf. CROMMELIN's most recent tasking has included operations in Follow-On Counternarcotics operations off the coast of Central America.

In order to ensure a homogeneous class of capable yet relatively inexpensive ships, many innovative concepts were incorporated into her design. These innovations include modular construction techniques, the use of numerous labor-saving devices, automatic control and monitoring systems, and shore-based maintenance support. The ship boasts some of the most comfortable living accommodations ever provided for the crew of a naval combatant. Habitability improvements include attractive living complexes (each with its own lounge), dressing, sleeping and sanitary areas.

Success in the warfare environment of the 1990's and beyond will require through evaluation, rapid decision making, and almost instantaneous response to any postulated threat. The systems aboard CROMMELIN have been designed to meet these demanding and dynamic prerequisites and to do so with minimum human interface. Her weapons include surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, a 76mm gun, a Close In Weapon System, and anti-submarine torpedoes. The Lamps Mark III/Video Data Link system brings state-of-the-art computer technology to the anti-submarine warfare arena as well as integrating sensors and weapons to provide a total offensive and defensive weapons system.

In addition, computers control and monitor the gas turbine engines and ship's service diesel generators. Digital electronic logic circuits and remotely operated valves are monitored in a central control station which can initiate engine start and attain a "Ready to Go" status in less than ten minutes, as compared to eight or more hours for conventional steam power propulsion plants. The real heart of the ship, however, is her crew. High technology systems demand skilled technicians and professional leadership. The concept of "minimum manning" means,

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simply, that with professional sailors CROMMELIN can meet the challenges of modern naval warfare with approximately half the crew found on older ships of comparable size and capability. Freedoms Finest Guardian, USS CROMMELIN, proudly lives up to her motto, "Munus Bene Facit," that is, "Duty Well Done."

CROMMELIN has four departments, Combat Systems, Operations, Engineering, and Supply. Working for the Combat Systems Officer are the Ordnance Officer (GMGs, GMMs, FCs), the Electronics Readiness Officer (ETs, EWs, DSs) and the Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer (TMs, STs). Working for the Operations Officer are the CIC Officer (OSs), the Communications Officer (RMs, QMs, SMs), and the First LT (BMs). Working for the Engineering Officer are the Auxiliaries Officer (ENs), the Damage Control Assistant (HTs, EMs, DCs), and the Main Propulsion Assistant (GSs). Working for the Supply Officer is the Disbursing Officer (SKs, SHs, DKs, YNs, PNs, MAs).

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SHIP'S HISTORY

USS CROMMELIN'S keel was laid on 30 May 1980 at Todd Pacific Shipyard, Seattle Division. She was christened and launched on 2 July 1981. Commissioned on 18 June 1983, CROMMELIN was assigned to Destroyer Squadron 9 and reached her homeport of Long Beach, California in August 1983.

Upon completion of an extensive post commissioning shakedown in January 1984, CROMMELIN was assigned to Surface Squadron 1 and began a six month availability at Todd Pacific Shipyard, San Pedro, California. On 1 September 1984, CROMMELIN became a member of Destroyer Squadron 17.

From 21 February to 24 August 1985, CROMMELIN was assigned to the CONSTELLATION Battle Group and deployed to the Western Pacific/Indian Oceans. During this deployment, CROMMELIN was the first FFG 7/36 class ship to successfully engage a high-speed, maneuvering target with missiles. She was also the first ship to complete an operational deployment with the Lamps Mk III Weapon System. In June 1986, CROMMELIN became the first recipient of the CNO Lamps Mk III Safety Award.

In the Summer of 1986, CROMMELIN was awarded every departmental and divisional excellence award and won her first Navy "E" award from Destroyer Squadron 17. On 1 January 1987, CROMMELIN left Destroyer Squadron 17 and was assigned to Destroyer Squadron 13. In April 1987, she began an accelerated deployment with the CONSTELLATION Battle Group, becoming the first FFG-7/36 class ship to deploy extensively with two LAMPS MK III helicopters embarked. CROMMELIN was assigned to Commander, Middle East Force from 1 July to 25 August 1987, earning a Meritorious Unit Commendation for her convoy escort of the first five reflagged Kuwaiti tankers.

On 1 January 1988, CROMMELIN was reassigned to Destroyer Squadron 9, and on 6 March 1988, she received a second consecutive Navy "E." Upon completion of her second availability period at Todd Pacific Shipyard, CROMMELIN departed on a six month deployment to the Arabian Gulf from March to September 1989. From 9 November 1990 to 28 February 1991, CROMMELIN was deployed in support of Joint Service, Follow-on Counter-Narcotics Operations in the Central/South American/Caribbean theater. CROMMELIN was awarded the Joint Services Meritorious Unit Award for her performance during this deployment. In 1991, CROMMELIN received her fifth consecutive warfare excellence awards for Anti-Air Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Navigation/Seamanship, Damage Control, Engineering, Communications and again received the Navy "E" from Destroyer Squadron Nine. On 01 September 1991, CROMMELIN shifted homeports to Pearl Harbor, HI and joined Destroyer Squadron Thirty One.

SHIPS CHARACTERISTICS

Displacement

4100 Tons

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Dimensions Length, 453 feet; Beam 45 feet
Compliment 15 Officers; 188 Enlisted
Propulsion Two General Electric LM2500 Gas Turbines
41,000 Total Shaft Horsepower
Two 325 Horsepower Electric Drive Auxiliary Propulsion Units
One Controllable Reversible Pitch Propeller
Four 1000KW Ship's Service Diesel Generators

Max Speed 28+ Knots

Aircraft Two SH-60B LAMPS MK III Helicopters

Armament Mk 13 Mod 4 Guided Missile Launcher
Mk76 75mm Rapid Firing Gun
Two Triple Tube MK 32 ASW Torpedo Mounts
Mk 15 Mod 1 Close In Weapons System(CIWS)

Combat Systems AN/SQS-56 Digital Sonar
AN/SQQ-28 Sonobuoy Signal Processor
AN/SLQ-32 Countermeasures Receiving Set
Mk 92 Mod 2 Fire Control System
3 UYK-7 Computers which integrate all weapons and sensors

ISIC: COMMANDER, DESTROYER SQUADRON NINE (UNTIL 01SEP91)
COMMANDER, DESTROYER SQUADRON THIRTY ONE (FROM 01SEP91)
COMMANDING OFFICER: CDR COLEMAN A. LANDERS, USN (UNTIL 09NOV91)
CDR JAMES J. LOBUE, USN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER: LCDR SCOTT BERG.
HOMEPORT: LONG BEACH, CA (UNTIL 01AUG91)
PEARL HARBOR, HI (FROM 12AUG91)

HSLs EMBARKED: HSL 43 DET 12 (01JAN91-27FEB91)
HSL 43 DET 04 (AUG 1-12)
HSL 43 DET 04 (OCT 08-26)
HSL 43 DET 04 (DEC 10-15)

STATISTICAL DATA:

NUMBER OF 76MM ROUNDS FIRED: 164
NUMBER OF CHAFF ROUNDS FIRED: 4
NUMBER OF SM-1 MISSILES FIRED: 1 TLM MISSILE
NUMBER OF CIWS ROUNDS FIRED: 500

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CHRONOLOGY

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37) HISTORY FOR 1991

01 JAN 1991: INPORT, PIER TWO SOUTH, NAVAL STATION PANAMA CANAL
RODMAN, PM.

03 JAN 1991:
1307 UNDERWAY FROM RODMAN, PM FOR DESIGNATED AREAS OFF
OF PANAMA. CROMMELIN PART OF TG 4.1 CONDUCTING
COUNTER NARCOTICS PATROL.

1447 SET FLIGHT QUARTERS FOR 617, 128TH ARMY AIR
SQUADRON DECK LANDING QUALS.
1800 SECURED FROM FLIGHT QUARTERS

05 JAN 1991:
1843 CONDUCTED SEARCH OF MV SUCRE-NEGATIVE CONTRABAND,
NEGATIVE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

11 JAN 1991:
0710 ANCHORED OFF THE ENTRANCE TO PANAMA CANAL/NAVAL
STATION PANAMA CANAL.
0929 UNDERWAY FOR RODMAN NAVAL STATION
UNABLE TO MOOR DUE TO HIGH WINDS AND ONE TUG,
PROCEEDED BACK TO ANCHORAGE
1221 ANCHORED OFF THE ENTRANCE TO PANAMA CANAL
1310 UNDERWAY FOR RODMAN NAVAL STATION
1322 PIERSIDE RODMAN NAVAL STATION
1835 UNDERWAY FROM RODMAN FOR DESIGNATED AREAS OFF OF
PANAMA AS PART OF TG 4.1

18 JAN 1991:
0627 COMMENCED APPROACH ALONGSIDE HMCS PROVIDER FOR
UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT.
0745 COMPLETED UNREP WITH HMCS PROVIDER.

21 JAN 1991:
0847 COMMENCED APPROACH ALONGSIDE USS MISSISSINEWA
(TAO-144) FOR UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT.
1007 COMPLETED UNREP WITH USS MISSISSINEWA
1025 COMMENCED SMALL BOAT PERSONNEL TRANSFER WITH USS
MISSISSINEWA.
1113 COMPLETED SMALL BOAT TRANSFER, CONTINUING PATROL.

1511 BOARDED MV KNOT TO WORRY-NEGATIVE CONTRABAND,
NEGATIVE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

28 JAN 1991:

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1138 MOORED PIER TWO, RODMAN NAVAL STATION, PANAMA.

29 JAN 1991:
0729 UNDERWAY FOR TRANSIT/PANAMA CANAL/EMBARKED SHIP
RIDERS-US MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES
0827 ENTERED MIRA FLORES LOCK
0934 ENTERED PEDRO MIGEL LOCK
1223 ANCHORED IN GATUN LAKE/DISEMBARKED SHIP RIDERS
1655 UNDERWAY FOR GATUN LOCKS
1753 ENTERED GATUN LOCKS
1945 CLEARED CHRISTOBAL BREAKWATER-ENROUTE MONTEGO BAY
JAMAICA

01 FEB 1991
0851 ANCHORED AT MONTEGO BAY JAMAICA

03 FEB 1991
0840 UNDERWAY TO PUMP CHT
0953 ANCHORED AT MONTEGO BAY JAMAICA

06 FEB 1991
0957 UNDERWAY FOR PANAMA CANAL

08 FEB 1991
0343 ANCHORED IN CRISTOBAL HARBOR
1811 UNDERWAY FOR PANAMA CANAL TRANSIT
1912 ENTERED GATUN LOCK
2250 ENTERED PEDRO MIGEL LOCK
2338 ENTERED MIA FLORES LOCK

09 FEB 1991
0103 MOORED RODMAN PANAMA
1942 UNDERWAY PANAMA PATROL AREAS

15 FEB 1991
1300 UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENT WITH USNS LEROY GRUMMAN
1403 COMPLETED UNREP, SECURED UNREP DETAIL

21 FEB 1991
0859 MOORED PUERTO QUETZAL, GT
1738 UNDERWAY FOR TRANSIT TO LONG BEACH, CA

27 FEB 1991
1339 OCEANLORD 30 DEPARTS FOR NAS NORTH ISLAND, CA
CONDUCTED NIGHT UNREP WITH USNS NAVASOTA

28 FEB 1991
0906 MOORED, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA

25 MAR 1991
1535 UNDERWAY FOR LOCAL OPERATIONS

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26 MAR 1991
1536
1931
COMMENCED DLQ'S FOR HSL-10
SECURED FROM FLIGHT QUARTERS

28 MAR 1991
1401
MOORED, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA

01 APRIL 1991
COMMENCE MTT PHASE ONE
COMMENCE LMTTU

05 APRIL 1991
MTT/LMTTU OUTBRIEFS

17 APRIL 1991
CONDUCTED BATTERY Alignment ON MK 13 GMLS, MK92
CAS AND MK75 76MM GUN

29 APRIL 1991
0915
UNDERWAY FOR SOCIAL OPAREAS

02 MAY 1991
1640
MOORED, PIER 9 BERTH 14, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA

07 MAY 1991
COMMENCED MTT PHASE THREE

08 MAY 1991
0807
UNDERWAY SOCIAL OPAREAS

09 MAY 1991
1636
MOORED, PIER 16, BERTH 4, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA

13 MAY 1991
0614
UNDERWAYAY SOCIAL OPAREAS

17 MAY 1991
1601
MOORED, PIER 16, BERTH 4, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA

21 MAY 1991
DESRON NINE PRESENTS CROMMELIN WITH BATTLE "E"
PLAQUE

31 MAY 1991
TAIWANESE VIP SHIP VISIT/TOUR

3-6 JUNE 1991
20B5 VAN TRAINING FOR COMBAT SYSTEMS/CIC

18 JUNE 1991

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1006 CLASS B FIRE NR 1B GAS TURBINE ENGINE
 1013 FIRE OUT

20 JUNE 1991
 1540 BREASTED OUT FOR USS LEWIS B PULLER

24 JUNE 1991
 1347 BREASTED OUT FOR USS LEWIS B PULLER UNDERWAY

25 JUNE 1991
 1806 BREASTED OUT FOR USS LEWIS B PULLER RETURN TO PORT

02 JULY 1991
 1633 UNDERWAY FOR SOCIAL OPAREA

05 JULY 1991
 1219 MOORED OUTBOARD USS LEWIS B PULLER, PIER 16 BERTH
 4, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA.

09 JULY 1991 COMMENCED OPERATIONAL PROPULSION PLANT EXAMINATION

10 JULY 1991
 1220 UNDERWAY FOR SOCIAL OPAREA

11 JULY 1991
 1728 MOORED OUTBOARD USS LEWIS B PULLER, PIER 16 BERTH
 4, NAVSTA LONG BEACH, CA.
 OPPE COMPLETED/ OVERALL EVALUATION SAT

12 JULY 1991
 0856 UNDERWAY FOR BERTH SHIFT TO PIER 6 BERTH 1
 0944 MOORED PIER 6 BERTH 1 NAVSTA LB CA

01 AUG 1991
 0908 UNDERWAY FOR ASWOP 91-3 AND HOMEPORT SHIFT TO
 PEARL HARBOR, HI

12 AUG 1991
 0938 MOORED M PIER, PEARL HARBOR HI

01 SEP 1991 CROMMELIN WAS TRANSFERRED FROM DESTROYER SQUADRON
 NINE, UNDER COMNAVSURFGRU LONG BEACH, TO DESRON
 THREE ONE, UNDER COMNAVSURFGRU MIDDLE PACIFIC

24-26 SEP 1991 SESI (SHIPBOARD EXPLOSIVE SAFETY INSPECTION)
 OVERALL EVALUATION SAT

25 SEP 1991
 0934 UNDERWAY BERTH SHIFT TO PIER B BERTH 23 PHBR HI
 1006 MOORED B-23 PHBR HI OUTBOARD USS CUSHING (DD-985)

01 OCT 1991

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0939 BREASTED OUT FOR USS CUSHING UNDERWAY
1402 UNDERWAY FOR ASWOP 92-1

08 OCT 1991
0905 MOORED PIER A2 ESQUIMALT BRITISH COLUMBIA

12 OCT 1991
0903 UNDERWAY FOR ASWOP 92-1

26 OCT 1991
0958 MOORED B24 NAVSTA PEARL HARBOR HI

09 NOV 1991
1040 CDR JAMES J. LOBUE RELIEVED CDR COLEMAN A. LANDERS
AS COMMANDING OFFICER, USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

18-20 NOV 1991 COMMAND INSPECTION CONDUCTED BY COMDESRON 31
STAFF. OVERALL EVALUATION SAT.

20 NOV 1991
0928 UNDERWAY HAWAIIAN OPAREAS

22 NOV 1991
1739 MOORED, B26 NAVSTA PHBR HI

06 DEC 1991
0917 UNDERWAY DEADSTICK MOVE TO K-7 PIER TO ACT AS SAFE
HAVEN FOR POTUS IF NECESSARY.

10 DEC 1991
0745 UNDERWAY COMPTUEX 92-1

16 DEC 1991
0848 MOORED B26, NAVAL STATION PHBR

17 DEC 1991
1252 UNDERWAY DEAD STICK MOVE TO B24 OUTBOARD USS
WORDEN(CG-18)

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NARRATIVE

SUMMARY OF SHIPS EVENTS/TASKING THROUGHOUT 1991

The CROMMELIN began 1991 in the middle of a deployment to the Central/South American/Caribbean areas in support of Joint Follow-On Counter Narcotics operations. The CROMMELIN was directly involved in the tracking of air and surface contacts suspected to be drug smugglers. In addition to tracking and reporting functions, the CROMMELIN had three U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachments embarked. This allowed CROMMELIN to shift to Coast Guard operational control and have the LEDET board and inspect suspicious vessels. Another asset that was critical to the success of the CROMMELIN's mission was the use of a LAMPS Mk III helicopter to conduct Over The Horizon (OTH) radar and visual searches for possible smuggling craft. CROMMELIN spent the majority of her time on the Pacific side of Panama but was able to transit the Panama Canal for a liberty port call in Montego Bay, Jamaica. CROMMELIN was awarded the Joint Services Meritorious Unit Award for her performance during this deployment.

Upon CROMMELIN's return to port in Long Beach, CA, she began preparations for her Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) and her homeport shift to Pearl Harbor HI. CROMMELIN passed OPPE with a SAT evaluation. During this time period the CROMMELIN also hosted several ship visits by Long Beach Schools and organizations. In addition, she was one of the ships examined by a delegation from the Taiwan Navy (see attached). During the month of May, CROMMELIN was presented with the "Battle E" award for the competitive cycle ending December 31, 1990.

In the first half of August, CROMMELIN participated in ASWOP 91-3 with the rest of DESRON 31 and elements of the JDF (Japanese Defense Force) during the transit to Pearl Harbor. The following units participated: USS CUSHING, USS FLETCHER, USS OUELLET, USS CROMMELIN, USS REUBEN JAMES, JDS KURAMA, JDS SETOGIRI, JDS ASAKAZE, and numerous aviation assets from both nations. Upon reaching Pearl Harbor, CROMMELIN and her crew began the process of settling into a new homeport and shifted into Destroyer Squadron Thirty One. In the end of September, CROMMELIN underwent and passed a SESI (Shipboard Explosive Safety Inspection) with flying colors.

The next major evolution for CROMMELIN was to be ASWOP 92-1 with DESRON 31 and several Canadian ships. This ASWOP began after CROMMELIN's port visit to Victoria. The following units participated: USS CUSHING, USS REUBEN JAMES, USS CROMMELIN, USS ALEXANDER HAMILTON, COMASWINGPAC, CPW-10, HMCS HURON, HMCS KOOTENAY, HMCS QUAPPELLE, HMCS RESTIGOUCHE, MP407 SQN, and embarked helo assets.

Upon returning to Pearl Harbor, CROMMELIN underwent a change of command, in which CDR Coleman A. Landers was relieved by CDR James J. LoBue. Closely following the Change of Command was a Command Inspection conducted by COMDESRON 31 Staff. Once again,

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CROMMELIN was evaluated as SAT. The next major tasking for CROMMELIN occurred in early December. CROMMELIN acted as a "safe haven" ship for the President of the United States during his Pearl Harbor "Operation Remembrance" speeches on 07 DEC 1991. CROMMELIN was designated as a "safe haven" for the President in the event he needed protection. As such, CROMMELIN was fully manned, with her propulsion plant in a high state of readiness, enabling the ship to get underway in a matter of moments. From the 10th to the 16th, CROMMELIN participated in COMPTUEX 92-1 off the shores of Hawaii. The following units participated, USS CUSHING, USS CROMMELIN, USS OUELLET, USS HAROLD E. HOLT, COMASWINGPAC, CPW-2, MP 407 SQN, USNS ADVENTUROUS, and USS TAUTOG. While the previous ASWOPS concentrated nearly exclusively on the development and refinement of Anti-Submarine Warfare tactics and systems, the COMPTUEX gave all ships a chance to hone skills in all warfare areas and to complete exercises needed for the Competitive Cycle. By the end of this underway period, all but several of the graded exercises needed for the "Battle E" were completed by CROMMELIN. CROMMELIN closed out the year inport Pearl Harbor with a Christmas standdown period designed to allow the crew maximum time with their families.

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