



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DOYLE (FFG 39)

FLEET POST OFFICE

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From: Commanding Officer, USS DOYLE (FFG 39)

To: Director, Naval History

Subj: SUBMISSION OF 1995 COMMAND HISTORY

Encl: (1) USS DOYLE 1995 Command History

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted as USS DOYLE's 1995 Command History.

  
L. R. HERING

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COMWESTHEMGRU

# USS DOYLE 1995 Command History

## Chronology

12 January	Depart Mayport for Charleston, SC
13 January	Ammo Offload, NAVWEPSTA Charleston, SC
14 January	Arrive Mayport, FL
30 January - 3 February	Space Shuttle Support Operations, Jacksonville OpArea
15 February	Depart Mayport, FL for Charleston, SC
16 February	Arrive Detyen's Shipyards, Charleston, SC
16 February - 15 June	Docking Selected Restricted Availability, Detyen's Shipyards
6-9 June	Light-Off Assessment
15-16 June	Sea Trials, Charleston OpArea
16 June	Inport Naval Station, Charleston, SC
21 June	Inport Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, SC (Weapons Onload)
22-23 June	Transit Charleston, SC to Mayport, FL
23 June	Arrive Mayport, FL
7 July	CDR Leendert R. Hering, USN, relieves CDR R. Cameron Ingram, USN as CO
1 August	Mayport Basin Sortie to avoid Hurricane Erin
3 August	Inport Mayport, FL
4 August-15 September	Counter-Drug Operations Caribbean
4 August	Depart Mayport, FL
6 August	Inport Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Cuba
15 August	Inport Curacao Dutch Netherlands Antilles

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24-27 August	Inport Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
25 August	LCDR Kenneth J. Oukrop, USN, relieves LCDR James R. McMillan, USN as XO
31 August	Southbound Panama Canal Transit
31 August	Inport Rodman, Panama
4 September	Equator Crossing
6 September	Inport Rodman, Panama
7 September	Northbound Panama Canal Transit
16 September	Inport Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
18 September	Arrive Mayport, FL
6 November	Underway Mayport Operating Area for TSTA II
11 November	United States Navy/Federal German Navy MISSILEX
17 November	Arrive Mayport, FL
24 November	Underway for Puerto Rico OPAREA for United States Navy MISSILEX
28 November	Arrive Naval Station Roosevelt Roads
3 December	Arrive Mayport, FL
12 December	INSURV

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## Command Composition and Organization

### Mission:

To provide a combat ready ship and crew. Prepared to fight and win and battle. Fully capable of meeting or exceeding all Fleet and Type Commander requirements.

### Organizational Structure:

Immediate superior in command:

Commander, Western Hemisphere Group

Commanding Officer:

CDR L. R. Hering, USN

Homeport:

Mayport, FL

Aircraft assigned:

HSL-44 Det 9

Departments:

Operations

Combat Systems

Engineering

Supply

Air

## Narrative

USS DOYLE began 1995 by preparing for a maintenance period with a departure for Charleston, SC on 12 January to offload ammunition. After a complete offload of all ammunition, DOYLE departed Charleston and returned to Mayport on 14 January. On the 30 January DOYLE was tasked to support Space Shuttle Support Operations and remained in the Jacksonville OpArea until 3 February.

On 15 February DOYLE arrived at Detyen's Shipyards, Charleston, South Carolina to commence a four-month Docking Selected Restricted Availability. During this three-million dollar maintenance availability, DOYLE's crew in conjunction with shipyard workers actively repaired, overhauled, replaced, and

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installed numerous systems onboard their warship. Crewmembers also kept their sights on requirements following the availability.

Following DSRA in June, DOYLE was ready to undergo the stringent engineering systems and damage control inspection of Light-Off Assessment. DOYLE's rigorous damage control and training schedule at the end of each work day throughout May had prepared her for her upcoming examination. Inspectors walked aboard on June 6th, and in typical DOYLE fashion, the Valiant Mariner successfully completed the inspection.

Following the completion of DSRA and LOA, DOYLE departed Detyen's Shipyards for a sea trials period to test all systems. Midway through the month of June, DOYLE was once again inport Naval Weapons Station, Charleston for a complete onload of weapons. After a transit from South Carolina to Florida, DOYLE arrived at Mayport on June 23rd.

On July 7th, CDR Leendert R. Hering, USN, relieved CDR R. Cameron Ingram, USN as Commanding Officer, in the midst of DOYLE's preparations for a rapidly-approaching six-week underway Counter-Drug Operation (CDOPS). Prior to DOYLE's scheduled departure on 04 August, the Valiant Mariner was forced to evacuate the Mayport Basin as part of a sortie to avoid a possible encounter with Hurricane Erin. After the hurricane safely passed, DOYLE returned to port to embark the Coast Guard Legal Detachment and HSL-44 Detachment 9 for Counter-Drug Operations.

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On 4 August DOYLE departed for the Caribbean to begin CDOPS. During the operation DOYLE entered several different ports for fuel throughout the Caribbean. First was Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Cuba; then Curacao Dutch Netherlands Antilles, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, and Rodman, Panama. Two weeks into CDOPS, LCDR James R. McMillan was bid farewell, and LCDR Kenneth J. Oukrop took over as DOYLE's new Executive Officer. The highlight of the CDOPS was DOYLE's capture of a sailing vessel attempting to smuggle 298 lbs. of cocaine with an estimated street value of ten million dollars. DOYLE extended her CDOPS patrol to the Pacific Ocean after a transit through the Panama Canal. During her Eastern Pacific patrol, DOYLE initiated 126 new Shellbacks in an early Labor Day crossing-the-line ceremony as DOYLE proceeded south of the equator. A Northbound transit brought DOYLE back through the Panama Canal and once again into the Caribbean Sea for the remainder of her CDOPS. With the assistance of its embarked U.S. Coast Guard Detachment, DOYLE's boarding teams conducted nearly twenty boardings on vessels ranging from forty feet to four-hundred feet in length. After another brief stop for fuel in GTMO Naval Station, DOYLE returned to Mayport, FL on 18 September.

With little time to relax after six weeks at sea, DOYLE's crew shifted into overdrive to prepare for her next major shipboard evolution, the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).

DOYLE underwent a mock-OPPE from September 27-28. After a night of drills, written exams, oral boards, visual inspections,

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and tiger teams at work, it was evident that DOYLE's preparation and teamwork had paid off and DOYLE was on her way to a successful OPPE.

The OPPE inspection team arrived early on October 11th, and again in DOYLE fashion was ready for the challenge. Confident after the successful mock OPPE, DOYLE's literally set the standard for COMWESTHEMGRU by satisfactory passing the examination with an adjective grade of good. Of five programs inspected, DOYLE scored one EXCELLENT, three GOOD's, and one SATISFACTORY. In the previous year, only two other FFG 7 class ship's on east coast had scored an overall GOOD or better on an OPPE.

DOYLE's pre-deployment training began immediately after OPPE with training teams on board for CART II. In November, quickly following CART II, the first of three Tailored Ships Training Availabilities (TSTA) commenced. The first phase of the training cycle focusing on basic Combat Systems training scenarios in all three warfare areas.

Between training availabilities DOYLE was selected to participate in the U.S. Navy/Federal German Navy Missilex on November 11. In addition, DOYLE was selected by CINCLANTFLT to serve as a testing platform for a new FFG-7 weapon ordnance modification called Commercial Off-the Shelf, Affordable, Near-Term, Deficiency-Correcting Ordalt or "CANDO". Using the new computer software upgrade for DOYLE's Mark 92 fire control system, and the talents of the combat systems team, missile

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shoots at high-speed, low-flying missiles were successfully demonstrated.

DOYLE was on station with ten other ships from four different nations. The day of the MISSILEX was exciting and U. S. Navy's newest and most-advanced warships had the opportunity to "strut their stuff." DOYLE shot four surface-to-air missiles during the event. On two different occasions DOYLE shot twice; each time scoring hits. In the words of the CDR L. R. Hering, Commanding Officer, as his jubilant voice rang through DOYLE's decks and passageways: "Gentlemen, it doesn't get any better than this! Well done." DOYLE departed the missile shoot successfully demonstrating a possible new weapons modification for FFG-7 class ships.

Mid-December saw the last of many inspections with the arrival of the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). In a tight compressed time period DOYLE was able to prepare herself for this valuable inspection that determines the material condition and life expectancy of fleet ships. The inspection went off without a hitch, and DOYLE was praised for her outstanding and above average material condition. Following INSURV the crew took a much deserved Christmas break for the remainder of 1995.