



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDING OFFICER
USS FIREBOLT (PC-10)
FPO AE 09569-1969

1000
SER 045
16 JUL 04

From: Commanding Officer, USS THUNDERBOLT (PC 12)
To: Naval Historical Center (Ships' Histories)

Subj: ACTIONS OF THE USS THUNDERBOLT CREW (IN USS
FIREBOLT) DURING THE 24 APRIL 2004 ATTACKS ON IRAQI
OIL PLATFORMS IN THE NORTHERN ARABIAN GULF

Encl: (1) Report of HMAS STUART dtd 07 May 03
(2) Copy of FIREBOLT Deck Log from 24 April
(3) THUNDERBOLT Crew Listing
(4) USCG LEDET 403 Listing

1. The following account is provided for historical purposes concerning events on 24 April 2004 in the Northern Arabian Gulf. The crew of USS THUNDERBOLT (PC 12, UIC 22146) was assigned to USS FIREBOLT (PC 10) operating in FIFTH FLEET Area of Responsibility. The THUNDERBOLT crew had assumed custody of FIREBOLT in January 2004, and was the third crew to operate FIREBOLT since the beginning of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM as part of a crew rotation plan to keep the hull in theater.

2. On 24 April 2004, FIREBOLT was operating in the Northern Arabian Gulf under CTF 55 Operational Control in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. The Commanding Officer, HMAS STUART, was assigned scene of action commander for maritime security operations with tactical control of FIREBOLT. FIREBOLT's responsibilities included enforcing a 4000 yd security zone around the Khor Al Amaya offshore oil terminal. The FIREBOLT Rigid-Hull Inflatable Boat (RHIB), crewed by three personnel, was launched with a four-man boarding team from U.S. Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment 403 and ship's company at 1730C (local time), and they began their patrol to clear the multiple fishing dhows that were operating in the restricted area around the oil terminal. The procedure included maneuvering the RHIB between the trespassing vessel and the oil terminal, using hand gestures and loud hailer to ward the vessel off, and coming alongside to show the fisherman a laminated chart depicting the security zone. When approached, one vessel in violation of the security zone made an abrupt maneuver toward the FIREBOLT RHIB and exploded at 1816C inflicting serious casualties to

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 14 Nov 2005

all members onboard. Sixteen minutes later, two other boats exploded in the vicinity of the nearby Al Basra Oil Terminal, causing analysts to believe that the vessel at Khor Al Amaya was part of a larger simultaneous and coordinated terrorist attack on Iraq's offshore infrastructure.

FIREBOLT was 400 yards from the RHIB when the explosion occurred. The ship was stopped, and the rescue swimmer (EN2 [REDACTED]) and corpsman (HM1 [REDACTED]) prepared to recover casualties. The Commanding Officer arrived on the bridge and did not depart until all casualties were recovered and evacuated. Upon hearing the first explosion and FIREBOLT's request for assistance, HMAS STUART directed her embarked S-70B helicopter to the scene and began to close FIREBOLT's position. FIREBOLT deployed the rescue swimmer at 1822C; three additional crewmembers entered the water on their own volition to assist in recovery (LTJG [REDACTED], EM1 [REDACTED] of Maintenance Support Team FOUR, and DC2 [REDACTED] of LEDET 403). While enroute, STUART deployed her small boat with emergency medical technicians. Over the course of the next 45 minutes, the crew of FIREBOLT and the embarked Law Enforcement team, assisted by rescue and medical personnel from STUART, retrieved the wounded boarding team and boat crew, provided first aid, and conducted medical evacuations to STUART. The following casualties were sustained:

BM1(SW) Michael Pernaselli, USN, Security Team Member,
Killed in Action
DC3 Nathan Bruckenthal, USCG, Boarding Team Leader, Killed
in Action
SM2(SW) Christopher Watts, USN, Security Team Member,
Killed in Action
OS1(SW) [REDACTED], USN, Boat Coxswain, Wounded in Action
CTT2 [REDACTED], USN, Boat Coxswain, Wounded in Action
EN3 [REDACTED], USN, Boat Engineer, Wounded in Action
BM3 [REDACTED], USCG, Boarding Team Member, Wounded in
Action

Upon completion of the medical evacuations at 1932C, FIREBOLT resumed her patrol of Khor Al Amaya oil terminal, joining STUART and the other units in CTF 55 in the continued defense of the offshore Iraqi infrastructure. She remained on patrol until returning to Bahrain on 27 April for resupply and reconstitution. As a result of the attacks and the fleet commander's request for additional patrol forces in theater, FIREBOLT's scheduled 09 June

departure and transit to homeport in Little Creek, Virginia, was cancelled. The THUNDERBOLT crew returned to action in FIREBOLT on 02 May and continued Maritime Security Operations under CTF 55 operational control until a relief crew from USS WHIRLWIND arrived on 17 July 2004.

3. Request this record become part of the official ship's history for USS THUNDERBOLT (PC 12) and USS FIREBOLT (PC 10).



M. A. OLSON

Copy to:
COMDESRON FIFTY
COMPHIBGRU TWO

COVER1

DECLASSIFIED

5750
00/385
25 JUN 05

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - Unclassified upon removal of Enclosures
(3) and (4)

From: Commanding Officer, PC Crew Golf
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY 2004

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted to document PC Crew Golf's command history for 2004.

M J Manor

Copy to:
PC Crew Golf

cmd comp

PC Crew Golf
Command History 2004
Command Composition and Organization

Mission: Provide maritime support, intelligence collection, Coastal Patrol and Interdiction (CP&I) and OPLAT Security operations in the Northern Arabian Gulf.

Organizational Structure: Assigned to Commander, regional support organization.

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Michael J. Manor, U.S. Navy.

Permanent Duty Station: Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia.
Enclosure (1)

chron

PC CREW GOLF'S COMMAND HISTORY
Command History 2004
Chronology

01JAN-02 FEB: FWD DEPLOYED NORTHER ARABIAN GULF
03FEB-02 MAR: POM
03MAR-15MAY: HOME LAND SECURITY PATROLS DISTRICT 5
15MAY: INPORT NAB LITTLE CREEK
20MAY-18JUN: UNDERWAY(DAYS ONLY) FOR TRAINING
27JUN-3JUL: FLEET WEEK
5JUL: RETURN TO NAB LITTLE CREEK
18JUL-6SEPT: GOMEX DEPLOYMENT
7SEPT-05OCT: TURN OVER OF USS SHAMAL TO COAST GUARD.
06-08 OCT: MOVED ON TO THUDERBOLT HAUL
11 OCT: START BASIC PHASE TRAINING CYCLE
11-15 OCT: SBTT WITH ATG
18-22 OCT: SAR PHASE ONE
20-24 OCT: AFTP PHASE ONE
25-28 OCT: U/W FOR NAVE CHECK RIDE AND IA PREPS AND CART II
01-05 NOV: SAR PHASE II
08-10 NOV: MOB-S U/W
11 NOV: IA
15-19 NOV: AFTP PHASE II
22-26 NOV: ENG TSTA I
29NOV-03DEC: SAR TSTA
06 DEC: U/W FOR GUN SHOOT
07-10 DEC: ENG TSTA II
13-17 DEC: SAR PHASE II AND CHANGE OF COMMAND PREPS
15 DEC: CHANGE OF COMMAND
18-31 DEC: HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UP-KEEP

Enclosure (2)

Revised2004

USS FIREBOLT (PC 10)
Command History 2000
Narrative

The year 2004 proved to be an invigorating year for the officers and crew of PC Crew Golf maintained a high operational tempo throughout the year with a Northern Arabian Gulf deployment and a basic and advance Training Cycle.

January and February consisted of Operation Iraqi Freedom. During that time PC Crew Golf Spent time inport Bahrain and Kuwait Naval base. Where the crew received rest and time for maintenance to ensure USS Firebolt was operating at 100%. USS Firebolt never missed a mission out of a six month deployment.

Post-deployment stand down was conducted throughout February and March to be followed by Home Land Security Operations in district 5. From April to June who consisted of US naval ship escorts and US submarines from sea to pier side at Norfolk Naval Base. Working with the US Coast Guard to ensure Hampton Roads was a secure place.

July consisted of Fleet Week in New York City where the crew enjoyed maximum liberty in one of the most prestigious ports on the Eastern Seaboard. After returning fro Fleet Week the ship was preparing for GOMEX. Gulf of Mexico Deployment consisted of Home Land Security Operations with the US Coast Guard unit in Galveston Texas.

July-September consisted of Home Land Security Operations in the Gulf of Mexico. Conducting random security boarding's of all International and local shipping traffic into Galveston and Houston Texas. Ensuring the most used ports in the world were secure and stayed operational.

September-October PC Crew Golf Prepared Uss Shamal for turnover to the Coast Guard. On October 1st USS Shamal became USCG Shamal.

October- December Consisted of Basic Training Phase and Advance Training Phase to prepare PC Grew Golf for a Northern Arabian Gulf deployment



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDING OFFICER
PATROL COASTAL CREW I
FPO AE 09501-1918

5750
Ser 05010
27 January 2004


From: Commanding Officer, Patrol Coastal Crew India
To: Director Of Naval History (OP-09BH)
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: Command History 2004

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12 (Series)

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents (Restricted, mailed separately)
(5) Commanding Officer's Photograph

RMKS. 1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted to document Patrol Coastal Crew India's command history for calendar year 2004.


B. L. Stallings
LCDR USN

PATROL COASTAL CREW INDIA
Command History 2004
Command Composition and Organization

Mission: Provide maritime support to Special Operations Forces, Intelligence collection, Coastal Patrol and Interdiction (CP&I) and Counter-narcotics operations.

Organization Structure: PC CREW INDIA (UIC 40269) Assigned to Commander Amphibious Group Two from 01 January-30 September 2004 and Regional Support Organization Norfolk from 01 October-31 December 2004.

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Commander Brad L. Stallings, U.S. Navy.

Permanent Duty Station: Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

PATROL COASTAL CREW INDIA
Command History 2004
Chronology

- A. January 01-23, THUNDERBOLT Crew ends POM leave prior to deployment.
- B. January 24-27, THUNDERBOLT Crew en route to Bahrain.
- C. January 28-February 01, THUNDERBOLT Crew inport Bahrain.
- D. February 02, THUNDERBOLT Crew underway for Thunder patrol and high power run.
- E. February 03, conduct Main Space Fire Brief and Drill.
- F. February 04, Planning Board for Training.
- G. February 05, Replenishment at Sea with USS Fletcher/ Visit, Boarding, Search and Seizure Ethics training.
- H. February 07-08, Underway Khawr Abd Allah River patrol.
- I. February 09, Gun Exercise/Moored /Security Force Training.
- J. February 10, CO call for First Class Petty Officer/Navigation brief.
- K. February 11, Underway/Pre-fire Brief/Gun Exercise.
- L. February 12, CO meeting with HER MAJESTY SHIP STEWART.
- M. February 13, Grenade training/Replenishment at sea with HER MAJESTY SHIP STEWART/Vessel Boarding Security and Search ethics training.
- N. February 14-15, Khawr Abd Allah Approaches.
- O. February 16, Engineering Training Team/Damage Control Training Team Brief/ Main Space Fire Drill.
- P. February 17, Moored Bahrain.
- Q. February 18-24, Inport Bahrain/Safety stand down.
- R. February 25, Underway/ Engineering Training Team/Damage Control Training Team Brief/Main Space Fire Drill.

- S. February 26-March 02, Gulf Oil Platforms Security.
- T. March 03, Pre-Fire Brief/Gun Exercises/ Engineering Training Team/Damage Control Training Team Brief/Main Space Fire Drill.
- U. March 04-April 8, Moored Bahrain/Main Space Fire Drill De-Brief/E-6 Exam.
- V. March 05, Berth shift.
- W. March 08, Safety Committee.
- X. March 09, Heath Promotion Program Meeting.
- Y. March 13, CO's Call.
- Z. March 14, Class "C" Fire Brief and Drill.
- AA. March 16-17, Smallpox Vaccination/Jagman/Mishap training/Planning Board for Training.
- AB. March 19, CDS 50 Visit/CO's call with all Khaki.
- AC. March 24, Watchbill Review.
- AD. March 28, Berth shift.
- AE. March 31, Planning Board for Training/ Enlisted Surface Warfare Specifications Training.
- AF. April 01, Awards Ceremony/Enlisted Surface Warfare Specifications Training.
- AG. April 02, Enlisted Surface Warfare Specifications Training.
- AH. April 04, Gun Qualifications.
- AI. April 07, Planning Board for Training.
- AJ. April 08, Health Promotion Program Meeting.
- AK. April 09, Underway from Bahrain/Engineering Training Team Brief/Evolutions.
- AL. April 11, Boat Ops.

AM. April 12, Thunder patrol/ Engineering Training Team/Damage Control Training Team Brief.

AN. April 13-April 18, Moored Doha, Qatar.

AO. April 14, Training Seminar/Introductions/Refueling.

AP. April 15, Ship Visits/Communications Checks/Harbor Training.

AQ. April 16, Chemical Holding Tank Truck.

AR. April 19, Underway to the Central Arabian Gulf/Build Common/Small Boat Attack/Divtacs/Transit to Central Arabian Gulf.

AS. April 20, War Games/Visit, Boarding, Search and Seizure Boarding.

AT. April 21-April 23, Inport Bahrain/ Divtacs/Photo-ex.

AU. April 22, DC1 Re-Enlistment.

AV. April 24, Events of this day have been previously submitted.

AW. April 26, Rafting Replenishment with YORKTOWN.

AX. April 27, Inport Bahrain.

AY. April 28-29, Memorial service.

AZ. May 03, Pre-Fire Brief.

BA. May 04-May 07, Conducted Boat Ops.

BB. May 09-May 17, Underway North Arabian Gulf.

BC. May 12-13, Replenishment at Sea with YORKTOWN.

BD. May 13-14, Conducted Training Evolutions.

BE. May 17-18, Replenishment at Sea with YORKTOWN.

BF. May 19-24, Inport Bahrain.

BG. May 20, Secretary of the Navy Breakfast with the crew.

BH. May 21, Awards Board/Immunizations.

BI. May 25-June 16, Underway North Arabian gulf.

BJ. May 26, Patrol Forces South West Asia Visit.

BK. May 28, Boat Ops/Stinger Training.

BL. June 01, Boat Ops/M 60 Gun Shoot.

BM. June 03, Precision Anchorage/Celestial Navigation Training.

BN. June 07, ESWS training.

BO. June 08, Medical Training.

BP. June 09, Replenishment at Sea with USS LEYTE GULF.

BQ. June 10, Conducted Freshwater Washdown.

BR. June 14, Replenishment at Sea with USS LEYTE GULF.

BS. June 15, Conducted Engineering Training Team Brief and Drills/stretchers bearer training.

BT. June 17-22, Inport Bahrain.

BU. June 18, Conducted Hull Cleaning.

BV. June 22-July 05, Underway From Bahrain to North Arabian Gulf.

BW. June 24, Conducted Rhib M 60 Pacfire.

BX. July 05, Inport Kuwait Naval Base.

BY. July 08-July 16, Underway from Bahrain to North Arabian Gulf.

BZ. July 16, Inport Bahrain.

CA. July 19-22 Conducted Turnover of hull with WHIRLWIND Crew.

CB. July 20, Return and Reunion Brief.

CC. July 23-24 Fly-out from Bahrain to Return to Homeport.

CD. July 24-August 23 Return to Homeport/post-overseas-movement Period.

CE. July 29, Change of Command, LCDR B. L. Stallings takes command.

CF. August 24, Fast Cruise.

CG. September 02-03 THUNDERBOLT Crew Underway Demonstration.

CH. September 07-09 Underway independent steaming exercise.

CI. September 27-28 Immediate Superior in Command Navigation Check Ride.

CJ. September 29, Regional Support Organization Visit.

CK. October 04-08, Turnover with TORNADO crew.

CL. October 13, Shipboard Fire Fighting Team Evaluation.

CM. October 19, Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek.

CN. October 20-22, Anti Terrorism Force Protection Phase II.

CO. October 25-26, Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek.

CP. October 28, Search and Rescue Phase II.

CQ. November 02, Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek.

CR. November 05, Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek.

CS. November 10, Rules of the road exam.

CT. November 12, Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek.

CU. November 16, Robo Ski Demonstration.

CV. November 17-18, Damage Control Team Training.

CW. November 29-30, Main Space Fire Drill Brief and Drill.

CX. December 03, Deck Command Assessment of Readiness Training II.

- CY. December 08-09, Initial Assessment Crew India and Hotel.
- CZ. December 13, Junior Officer ship handling competition/
Underway from Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Commence
holiday stand-down.
- DA. December 14-15, Search and Rescue Exercise/ Plotting
Exercise Afloat Training Group.
- DB. December 17-31 Inport Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek for
maintenance upkeep and holiday stand-down.

End of 2004 CHRONOLOGY

PATROL COASTAL CREW INDIA
Command History 2004
Narrative

2004 was a challenging year for Patrol Coastal Crew INDIA. PC Crew INDIA is the former USS THUNDERBOLT (PC 12) Crew. The year began with a Prior-to-Overseas-Movement (POM) leave period until January 23. INDIA departed on a six-month deployment to Bahrain onboard USS FIREBOLT (PC 10) on 24 January 2004. While in Bahrain, Commanding Officer LCDR Mike Sullivan was relieved by CDR Shayne Byrne, Chief Staff Officer DESRON 50. Two weeks later LCDR Mark Olson assumed command and finished the deployment that ended 24 July 2004.

While INDIA was on the deployment in Bahrain, crew operational tempo was high. While onboard FIREBOLT, the crew conducted surveillance/protection of the oil platforms in the Northern and Central Arabian Gulf. The crew conducted several independent steaming exercises and countless Vessel Boarding's Search and Seizure (VBSS) exercises. On 24 April 2004, the crew experienced an enemy attack (Enclosure (4), mailed separately details the events of that day).

Upon returning home from Bahrain, a change of command was held to relieve LCDR Olson. LCDR Brad Stallings assumed command on 29 July 2004 relieving LCDR Mark Olson. INDIA assumed command of USS WHIRLWIND (PC 11) on 27 July 2004 at Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek and remained embarked until 08 October 2004. INDIA crew-swapped off WHIRLWIND and worked off ship at Commander Amphibious Group Two until 29 November at which time INDIA embarked onboard USS TEMPEST (PC 2) to commence training cycle, enclosure (2) provides detailed day-to-day events.