



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS FITZGERALD  
FPO AP 96665-1280

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
5750  
Ser DDG 62/

**295**

**APR 21 2005**

From: Commanding Officer, USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)

To: Director of Naval History, Washington, DC

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) USS FITZGERALD Command History 1 January 2004 to  
31 December 2004

(2) Command History 3½" Disk

(3) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

(4) USS FITZGERALD Photograph

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted.

  
B. SMITH

Copy to:  
COMDESRON FIFTEEN  
COMNAVSURFPAC  
COMPACFLT

**COMMAND HISTORY**  
**USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62)**  
**1 JANUARY 2004 TO 31 DECEMBER 2004**

1. Command composition and Organization

Commissioned 14 October 1995, the mission of the USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62) is to conduct prompt, sustained, combat operations at sea in support of U.S. National Policy. FITZGERALD has been a member of BATTLE FORCE SEVENTH FLEET, forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, since July 2004. Equipped with a state-of-the-art combat systems suite, she can operate offensively either independently or as an integral part of the KITTY HAWK STRIKE GROUP. FITZGERALD's combat systems provide capabilities in Anti-Air Warfare (AAW), Undersea Warfare (USW) and Anti-surface Warfare (SUW), projecting power throughout all spectrums of maritime operations.

USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62) is forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and assigned to Destroyer Squadron Fifteen, with Unit Identification Code 21824. Commander Bradley J. Smith is the Commanding Officer.

2. Chronology

1 JAN-10MAR	Inport, San Diego, Holiday Upkeep, Medical Inspection, Selected Restricted Availability, Disbursing Examination
11-12 MAR	Underway, Southern California Operating Area (SOCAL OPAREA), Navy Computer Emergency Response Team, Sea Trials
13-17MAR	Inport San Diego, Ammo Onload, Search and Rescue Evaluation (Inport)
18-19MAR	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA), Search and Rescue Evaluation (Underway)
20-21MAR	Inport, San Diego
22-26MAR	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Surface Ship Radiated Noise Measurements
27-28MAR	Inport, San Diego
29-31MAR	Underway, Enroute Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
1-4APR	Inport , Port Visit, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
5-8APR	Underway, Enroute San Diego.
9APR-4MAY	Inport, San Diego, Upkeep, Combat Systems, Command, Control, Communications and Computer Readiness Assessment, Navy Junior

	Reserve Officer Training Corps Visit, Deratization Certification
5MAY	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Board of Inspection Survey Preparations (INSURV)
6-9MAY	Inport, San Diego, Link Long Look
10-14MAY	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, INSURV Preparations, High Speed Maneuvering Surface Target Exercise
15-25MAY	Inport, San Diego, Upkeep, INSURV Preparations, Tactical Tomahawk Weapons Control System Certification
26MAY	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA
27MAY-17JUN	Inport, San Diego, 60% Crew Swap with USS O'BRIEN (DD 985), Standard Implementation Standards Install, Tomahawk Material Certification Board of Survey
18JUN	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA
19-20JUN	Inport, San Diego
21-24JUN	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Precision Anchoring, Burial at Sea
25-28JUN	Inport, San Diego
29JUN-2JUL	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Command Assessment of Readiness and Training Phase II
3-11JUL	Inport, San Diego.
12-16JUL	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Main Space/Firefighting Certification, Midshipmen Cruise
17-18JUL	Inport, San Diego
19-23JUL	Underway, Fleet Activities Hot (FLETAHOT), Naval Surface Fire Support 5" Qualification
24-25JUL	Inport, San Diego
26-28JUL	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Anchoring, Visit Board Search and Seizure, Seamanship Certification
29JUL	Homeport Change Effective, Forward Deployed
30JUL	Inport, San Diego
31JUL	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Family Day Cruise
1-8AUG	Inport, San Diego, Strike, Initial Entry Training Scenarios
9-13AUG	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Chemical/Biological/Radiological Certification, Towing Exercise
14-15AUG	Inport, San Diego
16AUG	Underway, Enroute Seal Beach
17-18AUG	Inport, Seal Beach, Ammunition Onload
19-20AUG	Underway, Enroute San Diego

21-22AUG	Inport, San Diego
23-27AUG	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Engineering Underway Demonstration
28-30AUG	Inport, San Diego
31AUG-3SEP	Underway, SOCAL OPAREA, Final Evaluation Problem
4-10SEP	Inport, San Diego, Postal Examination
11-17SEP	Underway, Enroute Pearl Harbor, Supply Management Assessment of S-1, S-2, S-3 Divisions
17-20SEP	Inport, Pearl Harbor
20-30SEP	Underway, Enroute Yokosuka
30SEP-6NOV	Inport, Yokosuka, Maintenance Upkeep
7-10NOV	Underway, Tokyo Bay, Shipboard Electronic Systems Evaluation Facility, Ammo Onload
11-21NOV	Inport, Yokosuka, Upkeep, Ballistic Missile Defense Tactical Operations Certification, Supply Management Inspection
22NOV	Underway, Tokyo Bay, Destroyer Squadron FIFTEEN Photo Exercise
23-28NOV	Inport, Yokosuka
29NOV-16DEC	Underway, Sea of Japan, Ballistic Missile Defense Limited Defense Operations
17-19DEC	Inport Visit, Pusan, Republic of Korea
20-22DEC	Underway, Enroute Yokosuka
23-31DEC	Inport Yokosuka, Upkeep

### 3. Narrative

FITZGERALD began 2004 in a demanding nine-week CNO Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) from January to March to update her with the latest Combat Systems suite and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) technology, including Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) capability and Tactical Tomahawk Weapons Control System (TTWCS). Additionally, a ship-wide tiger team attacked significant topside corrosion, repainting over 75 percent of the ship and saving approximately \$50,000 in maintenance funds, helping earn Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO THREE's nomination for Self Sufficient Ship of the Quarter for second quarter of fiscal year 2004. In April 2004, FTSCPAC, San Diego conducted a Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Combat Systems Readiness Assessment (C5RA), and assessed FITZGERALD with a 44 percent fix-to-find ratio, the highest score among DDGs in the past four years. Following SRA, FITZGERALD's crew spent the next six weeks meticulously preparing her for a rigorous visit by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). Immediately following the

successful INSURV inspection in June, sixty percent of the crewmembers from USS O'BRIEN (DD 985), previously forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, swapped over to FITZGERALD in a "Super Sea Swap." Following a two-week transition period, FITZGERALD completed a successful Command Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART) II/Initial Assessment (IA) visit by Afloat Training Group, Pacific (ATGPAC) and rolled into an intensive and compressed nine-week Unit Level Training Phase. Due to the large crew turnover, the ship was required to re-certify in all nineteen SURFORTRAMAN certification areas, achieving Training Level (TL) I proficiency in 17 of 19 certification areas to achieve an overall C2 rating. FITZGERALD completed Final Evaluated Problem on 3 September and transited west, arriving in Yokosuka, Japan on 30 September. Of note, FITZGERALD completed the first Tactical Tomahawk Weapon Control System (TTWCS) Pacific Fleet Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, Tomahawk (CMTQ-T) and CMTQ in two consecutive weeks with her Combat Systems Training Team (CSTT) packages have become the Fleet's standard.

FITZGERALD's Supply Management Inspection (SMI) was completed in November with grades of 92.97% for Stores, 93.71% for Food Services, 95.48% for Retail Operations, OUTSTANDING for Disbursing management, and OUTSTANDING for Postal Management.

At the same time, FITZGERALD was the winner of the Commander, Pacific Fleet Retention Excellence Award for FY04. Commander, Destroyer Squadrons TWO THREE and FIFTEEN recognized FITZGERALD Sailors with two Destroyer Squadron Sailors of the Quarter and two Junior Sailors of the Quarter in 2004.

At the close of November and through 19 December FITZGERALD was the second ship to participate in the national Ballistic Missile Defense Limited Defense Operations (BMD LDO). For weeks FITZGERALD kept vigilant guard and remained undetected while helping refine the Navy's role and experience in BMD LDO.

FITZGERALD continued her fruitful Partnership in Education program with Solana Beach Elementary School while in San Diego, where Sailors spent numerous hours visiting and interacting with the elementary students. In April 2004, over forty-two crewmembers participated in a massive Community Relations project during a port visit to Puerto Vallarta, where the exterior of a two-story elementary school was repainted. In Yokosuka, FITZGERALD Sailors continued to serve their community helping with the clean-up of a local cemetery and donating over 49,000 yen to victims of the recent earthquake in Niigata, Japan. During her recent port visit to Pusan, over thirty FITZGERALD Sailors volunteered to help with the clean up of a local orphanage and visit with the children there. Additionally, the crew donated over \$9,250 to the Navy and Marine Corps Relief

Society and over \$19,000 to the Combined Federal Campaign this year, both figures well in excess of the average for COMNAVSURFPAC small commands. FITZGERALD completed a successful 2004 with 111 days underway.