



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GLADIATOR (MCM-11)  
FPO AA 34091-1931

*Rec 11/24/00*

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5700  
Ser 00/058  
25 OCT 00

From: Commanding Officer, USS GLADIATOR (MCM-11)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History for Calendar Year 1999.

1. A copy of the command history was sent 30 March 2000.
2. Rotational Crew ALFA was embarked on USS GLADIATOR (MCM-11) from 01 October 1999 to 30 September 2000. Rotational Crew ALFA became permanent ship's company effective 01 October 2000.
3. Enclosure (1) is forwarded as Rotational Crew ALFA's input for USS GLADIATOR (MCM-11) command history for CY99.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "L. Rincon".

L. RINCON  
By direction



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS GLADIATOR (MCM-11)  
FPO AA 34091-1931

OPS Copy

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750  
Ser00/  
30 Mar 00

From: Commanding Officer, MCM Rotational Crew ALFA  
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Copy of Command's History for Calendar Year 1999.  
(2) Disk Copy of Command's History for Calendar Year 1999.  
(3) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet.  
(4) Previous Commanding Officer's Photo and Biography.

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.

  
D. DeSCISCIOLO

• COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

1. Command Title: MCM Rotational Crew ALFA
2. UIC: 39459
3. Mission: MCM Rotational Crew ALFA is one of eight crews that rotate between Mine Countermeasure (MCM) ships homported in Ingleside, Texas and forward deployed to the Arabian Gulf in Bahrain. These ships are designed to locate and destroy mines; principally in coastal waters, choke points, and critical overseas areas.
4. ISIC: Commander, Mine Countermeasures Squadron THREE
5. Units under ALFA'S control:
  - A. USS DEXTROUS (MCM 13) January 1, 1999 through June 2, 1999. Manama, Bahrain.
  - B. USS GLADIATOR (MCM 11) October 1, 1999 through December 31, 1999. Ingleside, Texas.
6. Unit Commander: LCDR Brian J. Shanahan, USN
7. Permanent Duty Station: Naval Station Ingleside (Texas)
8. 1999 Sailor of the year: EM1(SW) [REDACTED]
9. 1999 Junior Sailor of the Year: SK2(SW) [REDACTED]

## CHRONOLOGY

01 JAN		INPORT MANAMA BAHRAIN, 'USS DEXTROUS (MCM 13)
02 JAN	- 05 JAN	UNDERWAY CENTRAL ARABIAN GULF
06 JAN	- 31 JAN	INPORT MANAMA BAHRAIN, PREPS FOR DRYDOCKING SELECTIVE RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY (DSRA)
01 FEB		BERTH SHIFT FROM MANAMA PIER TO BASREC SHIPYARD PIER
02 FEB		ENTERED DRYDOCK AT BASREC SHIPYARD, BAHRAIN
03 FEB	- 02 APR	SHIP IN DRYDOCK
03 APR		SHIP DEPARTS DRYDOCK, REMAINS AT BASREC PIER, BAHRAIN
04 APR	- 20 APR	CONTINUED DSRA MAINTENANCE AT BASREC PIER, BAHRAIN
21 APR		BERTH SHIFT FROM BASREC SHIPYARD TO MANAMA PIER, BAHRAIN
22 APR	- 25 APR	CONTINUED DSRA MAINTENANCE AT MANAMA PIER, BAHRAIN
26 APR	- 27 APR	LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT (LOA)
28 APR	- 18 MAY	CONTINUED DSRA MAINTENANCE AT MANAMA PIER, BAHRAIN
19 MAY		SEA TRIALS
20 MAY	- 24 MAY	CONTINUED DSRA MAINTENANCE AT MANAMA PIER, BAHRAIN
25 MAY		DRYDOCKING SELECTIVE RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY COMPLETED
26 MAY	- 01 JUN	CREW TURNOVER WITH MCM ROTATIONAL CREW DELTA
02 JUN		DEPARTED MANAMA, BAHRAIN
03 JUN		RETURNED TO INGLESIDE, TEXAS
04 JUN	- 26 SEP	CREW TRAINING AVAILABILITY & STAND DOWN PERIOD
27 SEP	- 30 SEP	CREW TURNOVER OF USS GLADIATOR WITH CREW FOXTROT
01 OCT		EMBARKED USS GLADIATOR (MCM 11), INGLESIDE, TX
02 OCT	- 05 OCT	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
06 OCT	- 07 OCT	UNDERWAY GULF OF MEXICO FOR CREW TRAINING
08 OCT	- 11 OCT	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
12 OCT	- 13 OCT	UNDERWAY GULF OF MEXICO FOR CREW TRAINING
14 OCT	- 18 OCT	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
19 OCT	- 21 OCT	UNDERWAY GULF OF MEXICO FOR CREW TRAINING
22 OCT	- 07 NOV	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
08 NOV	- 10 NOV	UNDERWAY GULF OF MEXICO FOR CREW TRAINING
11 NOV	- 15 NOV	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
16 NOV	- 17 NOV	UNDERWAY GULF OF MEXICO FOR CREW TRAINING
18 NOV	- 22 NOV	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
23 NOV	- 26 NOV	UNDERWAY TO TOW NAVAL VESSEL IN DISTRESS
27 NOV	- 12 DEC	INPORT INGLESIDE, TX
13 DEC	- 17 DEC	COMMAND ASSESSMENT OF READINESS AND TRAINING (CART II)
18 DEC	- 31 DEC	HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD

## NARRATIVE

The first of the year saw MCMROTCREW ALFA embarked on USS DEXTROUS (MCM 13). After a short underway period, the ship made preparations for a rigorous DSRA.

The DSRA for USS DEXTROUS (MCM 13) was the first to be completed in the FIFTH FLEET AOR by an MCM class ship. This unprecedented event was met head on by all parties involved, saving the Federal Government millions of dollars. The following departments assisted shipyard workers in accomplishing various contracted work packages as noted below:

### DECK DEPARTMENT

- Removed anchor chain from the ship to sandblast and repaint the chain.
- Repainted the ship's chain locker.
- Completely repainted all of the crew living spaces, while replacing all linen, mattresses and curtains.
- Replaced all non-skid on the exterior decks of the ship.
- Replaced nearly all of the interior PRC decks.
- Totally repainted the exterior of the ship.

### ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

- Installed the Integrated Ship's Control System (ISCS).
- Repaired 1A SSDG 1R cylinder.
- Replaced refrigerant in A/C's with R-134a.
- Installed shaft seals.
- Installed modifications to the magnetic particle detector for the main engines.
- Installed flexible fuel oil return lines to main engines.
- Replaced #2 Medium Pressure Air Compressor.

### SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

- Refurbished messdecks and galley equipment and spaces.

### OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

- Repainted and restored the Combat Information Center.
- Refurbished hull locks on AN/SQQ-32(V)2 sonar.

- Refurbished and repaired starboard rudder drive on AN/SQQ-32(V)2 sonar, saving the Navy almost 100,000 dollars.
- Changed out Mine Neutralization Vehicle (MNV).
- Cleaned all hull mounted transducers.
- Replaced one HF whip antenna and cleaned remaining two.
- Refurbished mast including painting, non-skid, and antenna cleaning and replacement.
- Replaced sea chest valves for hull mounted transducers.

At the end of May, ALFA CREW turned over USS DEXTROUS to MCMROTCREW DELTA. On the second of June the men left Bahrain and proceeded back to Ingleside, Texas for some well deserved rest and time with their families.

From the fourth of June to the 26<sup>th</sup> of September, much training was accomplished as the crew was assigned to the trailers. This training time was used to send sailors to school and other ships for hands-on experience.

The 27<sup>th</sup> of September saw MCMROTCREW ALFA begin the process of assuming the reins of USS GLADIATOR (MCM 11). This was an important time for ALFA CREW as they were slated to be the permanent crew of GLADIATOR. On the first of October, the GLADIATOR became the permanent home for the crew.

Most of October and November saw GLADIATOR and ALFA CREW using the weekdays to train for the interdeployment training cycle (IDTC).

On 23 November, ALFA CREW executed a complete recall of the ships crew to assist the USS SHRIKE (MHC 63). SHRIKE had experienced engine difficulties and was adrift approximately 150 miles northeast of Ingleside, Texas. It was ALFA CREW who saved the day. With sixty-five percent of the crew onboard, GLADIATOR sailed out of Naval Station Ingleside into the 10-12 foot seas of the Gulf of Mexico and succeeded in bringing the SHRIKE back to safety.

GLADIATOR's first hurdle in the IDTC was CART II. On 13-17 December this hurdle was surpassed and the ship and MCMROTCREW ALFA were able to settle into a holiday leave and upkeep period for the remainder of the year.