



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS GRIDLEY (DDG 101)

UNIT 100206 BOX 1

FPO AP 96666

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1 Mar 18

From: Commanding Officer, USS GRIDLEY (DDG 101)

To: Director, Naval History and Heritage Command (OP-09BH)

Subj: USS GRIDLEY (DDG 101) COMMAND OPERATIONAL REPORT FOR 2017

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12 (Series) Annual Command Operations Report

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization

(2) Commanding Officer's Assessment

(3) Chronology

(4) Narrative

(5) Media from 2017

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted as USS Gridley's 2017 command operational report. Enclosure (5) will be sent separately by mail due to email size restrictions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. G. Mortensen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

M. G. MORTENSEN

**COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION**

Name of your Command or Organization: USS GRIDLEY

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: N23151

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: Mortensen First: Michael M.I.: G Rank: CDR

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2017-01-27

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: Gridley's primary mission is to provide air defense in a carrier strike group. Gridley can also coordinate and execute operations in anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, maritime interdiction, strike warfare, and a variety of other warfare areas. Gridley has the capability to embark two MH-60R Seahawk helicopters. The crew trains underway primarily in the Pacific Northwest area. When deployed, Gridley operates in the THIRD, SEVENTH, and FIFTH Fleet areas of operation.

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): Everett, WA  
Immediate Superior in Command:

Operational: Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY ONE

Administrative: Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWENTY ONE

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable):

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable):

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable:

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable):

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 39 Enlisted: 263 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LT [REDACTED]  
Job Title/Office Code: Navigator

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available):

Phone number(s):

Command Mailing Address: USS GRIDLEY (DDG 101) UNIT 100206 BOX 1 FPO AP  
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## CO'S ASSESSMENT

For the crew of USS Gridley (DDG 101), 2017 proved to be a challenging year due to continuous delays caused by shipyard repairs not completed on time while in dry dock. This resulted in Gridley spending 100% of 2017 in an extended dry Docking Ship Restricted Availability (DSRA) or pier side in two consecutive continuous maintenance availability (CMAV) periods. Due to the delays, contractor sea trials (KTR Sea Trials) were shifted from September of 2017 to February of 2018.

Gridley spent January 1, 2017 – July 28, 2017 in dry dock located at Vigor Shipyard in Seattle, WA. Original undocking date was delayed three times from April 20, 2017, to final undocking on July 28, 2017. In the meantime, Gridley focused on bringing systems out of lay-up in preparation for operations at sea, and on training and to gain proficiency on operating systems as they came out of lay-up.

Gridley's undocking on July 28, 2017, went very smoothly. After being in dry dock since October 2016, it was very exciting to finally see Gridley back in the water, as she was towed up to Naval Station Everett. The long commute for the crew from Everett to Seattle was finally over and Gridley was able to focus efforts on getting remaining maintenance completed pier side at Naval Station Everett.

Due to delays and scheduling conflicts, Gridley finished her DSRA on Friday, October 6, 2018, and started 8A1 CMAV the following Monday. Once 8A1 was completed, Gridley's Repair Division went through DCMA, the first step in certifying the engineering plant for operation. Immediately after finishing 8A1, Gridley started her second CMAV, 8A2, 04 December 2017 – her second since completing the DSRA.

During both CMAVs, Gridley's crew started training for the engineering and damage control certification events, conducting three main space fire drills per week. December ended with Gridley being in holiday stand down from December 15 through the remaining of the year.

## Chronology 2017

### January

01JAN2017 Celebrated New Years in dry dock at Vigor Shipyards in Seattle, WA  
28JAN2017 CDR Michael Mortensen relieved CDR Marc Crawford as Commanding Officer of USS Gridley.

### February

10FEB2017 Celebrated Gridley's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday in dry dock at Vigor Shipyards in Seattle, WA

### March – NSTR

### April - NSTR

### May - NSTR

### June - NSTR

### July

14JUL2017 Crew move aboard.  
28JUL2017 Exited dry dock, U/W with tugs (dead stick) to Everett, WA.

### August

01AUG2017 Aegis Light Off  
22AUG2017 Congressman Rick Larson (WA02) visits Gridley.

### September

18SEP2017 Staff Delegates Brent Robinson, Pat Thompson, and Cassie Roper visit Gridley.  
21SEP2017 Production Completion Date.  
27SEP2017 RDML Michael Wettlaufer, Carrier Strike Group 3, visits Gridley.  
30SEP2017 USS Catamount reunion tour.

### October

06OCT2017 Ended FY17 CNO Dry-docking Selective Restrictive Availability.  
19OCT2017 VADM Thomas Rowden, Commander Naval Surface Forces, visits Gridley.  
31OCT2017 CIWS 1.B NG and AEGIS 7.2A Baseline upgrades complete.

### November

15NOV2017 ADM John Richardson, Chief of Naval Operations, visits Gridley.

### December

07DEC2016 Command Holiday Party at Xfinity Arena.

## Narrative

USS Gridley celebrated the New Year in Vigor Shipyard Dry Dock, three months into an extended DSRA that began in October 2016. Gridley spent the next seven months in dry dock at Vigor as repairs were conducted on her rudders, propellers, shafts, tanks, sonar dome, and hull. On January 27<sup>th</sup>, CDR Michael Mortensen relieved CDR Marc Crawford as Commanding Officer of USS Gridley in a ceremony conducted in the Grand Vista Ballroom at The Commons on Naval Station Everett.

In May, Gridley's shafts and propellers were re-installed, and her hull painting and preservation was completed. She received a CANES computer upgrade, and the crew was able to slowly start moving back into their work spaces. Crew move aboard was completed mid-July, shortly before the dead stick back to Everett.

At long last, Gridley exited Vigor Dry Dock on July 28<sup>th</sup> and was towed back up to NAVSTA Everett to finish the extended CNO Avail. Despite successfully exiting the dry dock, there was still major work on her SLAD, sliding pad-eyes, and bilges left to be completed pier side Naval Station Everett.

Gridley was visited by Congressman Rick Larson (WA02) in August, and Staff Delegates Brent Robinson, Pat Thompson and Cassie Roper in September. They visited Gridley to further their knowledge on how Gridley conducts business and general information related to Gridley's war fighting capabilities. Gridley also hosted a reunion tour for veterans from USS Catamount in late September.

Production Completion Date (PCD) was called on September 21<sup>st</sup>, however, not all contracted maintenance was completed, and Gridley's extended DSRA did not officially end until October 6<sup>th</sup>. Due to delays and scheduling conflicts, Gridley postponed KTR Sea Trials until February 2018, and instead started 8A1 CMAV the following week so major repairs could be conducted on both MRGs. Commander, Naval Surface Forces, VADM Thomas Rowden visited USS Gridley later in October to discuss the comprehensive review and circadian rhythm. During his visit, he sat down with the officers and discussed a new SWO qualification pipeline and what improvements could be made to the process.

In November, Chief of Naval Operations, ADM John Richardson visited Gridley along with DESRON 21, CAPT Adams. During his focus group with Gridley officers, LT [REDACTED] Weapons Officer, brought up the requirement to re-certify OC spray every three years and was able to easily convince ADM Richardson to cancel the navy wide requirement.

On December 7<sup>th</sup>, Gridley command holiday party was celebrated at Xfinity Arena in Everett, WA. Later that month, Gridley successfully completed Damage Control Material Assessment, DCMA, which enabled her to proceed forward in certifying her engineering plant and crew for Light-Off Assessment and KTR Sea Trials. Following DCMA, Gridley started her second CMAV since finishing the extended DSRA.