

**2003**  
**COMMAND HISTORY**

*for*

**USS HALYBURTON**  
**(FFG-40)**

**PREPARED BY USS HALYBURTON (FFG-40) PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER**

## **COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2003**

### **1. UNIT MISSION**

USS HALYBURTON's (UIC: 21107) mission is to provide multi-role combat support in hostile areas. Primary mission areas include air warfare (AW), surface warfare (SUW), undersea warfare (USW) and Command/Communications Warfare (C2W). For AW and SUW, HALYBURTON uses the MK-92 fire control radar to target air and surface contacts for engagement with either the standard missile or MK-75 76mm gun. The ship also carries the harpoon anti-ship cruise missile. The Phalanx Close-In Weapons System (CIWS) provides defense against short-range missile threats. For USW, HALYBURTON utilizes the SQQ-89 sonar suite, which includes the AN/SQR-19 Tactical Towed Sonar Array (TACTAS), and AN/SQS-56 hull mounted sonar. MK-46 and MK-50 torpedoes, both helicopter dropped and fired over-the-side, provide USW defense and attack capabilities. C2W support is provided by the AN/SLQ-32 (V) 5 Electronic Warfare (EW) platform, with SW threat detection, correlation and jamming capabilities. In addition to HALYBURTON's built-in war-fighting features, SUW and USW capabilities are enhanced by an embarked SH-60B LAMPS III helicopter detachment. The LAMPS platform provides radar coverage with its AN/APS-124 Surface Search Radar, ESM support via AN/ALQ-142 Threat Receiver, and sonar information through sonobouy deployment. These systems interface with the ship's built-in systems via HAWK-Link, a line-of-sight digital radio link. This capability extends HALYBURTON's effective sensor range well beyond the visible horizon without alerting foreign forces of her position. USS HALYBURTON, commanded through September by CDR William C. McQuilkin and later by CDR Herbert M. Hadley, is a member of Destroyer Squadron FOURTEEN. She was forward deployed as part of Standing Naval Force Atlantic (SNFL) deployment for the first half of calendar year 2003, while homeported for the second half in Mayport, FL. The ship regularly embarks a LAMPS MKIII helicopter detachment from Helicopter Anti-Submarine Light (HSL) 44, Detachment 4, Naval Station Mayport, Florida.

### **2. CHORNOLOGY**

01-09 JAN:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
01-06 JAN:	POM Stand down
10 JAN:	Commenced Standing Naval Force Atlantic Deployment (SNFL)
10 JAN:	Embarked HSL-44 Detachment 4 and Magnum 455
10-21 JAN:	U/W Transit across Atlantic Ocean
13 JAN:	UNREP (FAS) with USNS JOHN LENTHALL
17 JAN:	UNREP (FAS) with UNSN JOHN LENTHALL
21 JAN:	BSF Rota, Spain
21-24 JAN:	U/W Transit to Netherlands
25-26 JAN:	IN PORT Rotterdam, Netherlands
27-30 JAN:	U/W Transit to Poland
27 JAN:	UNREP (FAS) with HMNLS ZUDEKRUIS
31 JAN:	IN PORT Gdynia, Poland
01-02 FEB:	IN PORT Gdynia, Poland
02 FEB:	Force Reception onboard SPS VICTORIA
03-08 FEB:	U/W Polish PASSEX
09 FEB:	BSF Kiel, Germany
10-12 FEB:	U/W Transit to United Kingdom

13-14 FEB: IN PORT Portsmouth, England, United Kingdom  
14 FEB: Force Reception onboard SPS VICTORIA  
15-18 FEB: U/W Transit to Spain  
19-23 FEB: IN PORT Rota, Spain  
24-28 FEB: U/W INSTREX 01-03

01-03 MAR: IN PORT Rota, Spain  
04-11 MAR: U/W GRUFLEX 01-03  
12-13 MAR: IN PORT Rota, Spain  
14-17 MAR: U/W STROG Operations  
18-25 MAR: IN PORT Rota, Spain  
21 MAR: STANAVFORLANT Change of Command  
26-28 MAR: U/W Transit to Italy  
26 MAR: STROG Transit  
27 MAR: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
29-31 MAR: IN PORT Gaeta, Italy

01 APR: Commenced patrol duties for Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR (OAE)  
01-03 APR: U/W Transit to operating area for OAE  
03 APR: Crossed the 39<sup>th</sup> Parallel  
04-09 APR: U/W Patrol operations for OAE  
04 APR: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
08 APR: UNREP (FAS) with ITS VESUVIO  
10-14 APR: IN PORT Aksaz, Turkey  
15-23 APR: U/W Patrol Operations for OAE  
16 APR: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
20 APR: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
24-28 APR: IN PORT Souda Bay, Crete  
29-30 APR: U/W Patrol Operations for OAE  
30 APR: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART

01-08 MAY: U/W Patrol Operations for OAE  
04 MAY: UNREP (RAS) with USNS BIG HORN  
08 MAY: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
09-12 MAY: IN PORT Souda Bay, Crete  
13-20 MAY: U/W Patrol Operations for OAE  
13 MAY: Embarked COMSTANAVFORLANT  
14 MAY: Disembarked COMSTANAVFORLANT  
15 MAY: UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART  
17 MAY: VERTREP with HC-4  
18 MAY: Crossed the 39<sup>th</sup> Parallel  
19 MAY: UNREP (FAS) with USNS Kanawha

21-27 MAY:	IN PORT Aksaz, Turkey
21 MAY:	SNFL Reception
28-30 MAY:	U/W Patrol Operations for OAE
29 MAY:	UNREP (RAS) with USNS BIG HORN
01-05 JUN:	U/W Patrol Operations for OAE
01 JUN:	UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART
05 JUN:	HURD BANK Patrol Operations
06-09 JUN:	IN PORT La Valletta, Malta
06 JUN:	Force Reception on board HMS CORNWALL
10-19 JUN:	U/W Patrol Operations for OAE
11 JUN:	Crossed the 39 <sup>th</sup> Parallel
15 JUN:	UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART
19 JUN:	UNREP (FAS) with FGS SPESSART
19 JUN:	Sail Past with COMNAVSTAFORLANT
21 JUN:	UNREP (FAS/ VERTREP) with USNS SIRIUS
24 JUN:	HURD BANK Patrol Operations
26-30 JUN:	IN PORT Palma de Mallorca, Spain
01-02 JUL:	U/W Transit to Rota, Spain
02 JUL:	STROG Transit
03 JUL:	IN PORT Rota, Spain
04 -07 JUL:	U/W Transit to Dakar, Senegal, Africa
08 JUL:	President of the United States (POTUS) OPERATIONS
08-09 JUL:	U/W Transit to Canary Islands, Spain
10-11 JUL:	IN PORT Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain
12-20 JUL:	U/W Transit to Mayport
18 JUL:	UNREP (FAS) with USNS JOHN LENTHALL
21 JUL:	Debarked HSL-44 Detachment 4 and Magnum 455
21 JUL:	Completed Standing Naval Force Atlantic Deployment
21-31 JUL:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
21-31 JUL:	POM Leave
01-30 AUG:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
01-19 AUG:	POM Leave
13 AUG:	Commander's Conference
21 AUG:	CNO's Visit to NS Mayport
28 AUG:	COMNAVSURFGRU 2 Visit
01-07 SEP:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
03 SEP:	Fast Cruise
04 SEP:	COMMANDER, SECOND FLEET Visit

05 SEP:	COMDESRON 14 Change of Command
08-09 SEP:	U/W Transit to Yorktown, VA
10-11 SEP:	IN PORT Yorktown, VA; Ammo Offload;0
11-13 SEP:	U/W Transit to Mayport, FL
13-30 SEP:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
15 SEP:	Change of Command
15-16 SEP:	Defueling Operations
16 SEP:	CPO Pinning Ceremony
17-30 SEP:	SRA
17 SEP:	SRA Inbrief
23 SEP:	Removal of #2 Ship Service Diesel Generator (SSDG)
01-31 OCT:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
01-31 OCT:	SRA
13 OCT:	Removal of Separate Tracking Illuminating Radar (STIR)
24 OCT:	Removal of MK 13 Missile/ Harpoon Launcher
01-30 NOV:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
01-19 NOV:	SRA
14 NOV:	Refueling Operations
15 NOV:	Commenced CDS 14 Flagship duties
25 NOV:	Installation of Caterpillar Diesel and Support Systems Complete
01-15 DEC:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
3-4 DEC:	Removal/ Replacement of Electronic Warfare Antenna's
11 DEC:	Ammunition Onload
15 DEC:	Fast Cruise
16 DEC:	Concluded CDS 14 Flagship duties
16 -19 DEC:	U/W JAX OPAREA, Sea Trials
19-31 DEC:	IN PORT Mayport, FL
19-31 DEC:	Holiday Stand Down

### **3. NARRATIVE**

#### **JANUARY**

Upon completion of pre-overseas movement leave periods, the officers and crew of HALYBURTON were ready to begin their Standing Naval Forces Atlantic Deployment. On the morning of January 10, the ship departed the Mayport, Florida basin and her crew commenced the long journey over the Atlantic Ocean. Three days later, a familiar site of a United States Naval Ship appeared on the horizon. HALYBURTON engaged in a refueling at sea evolution with the USNS JOHN LENTHALL on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of January. On January 21<sup>st</sup>, HALYBURTON moored in Rota, Spain, for a Brief Stop for Fuel. Underway once again, the officers and crew began traveling north for their first port visit in Rotterdam, Netherlands. HALYBURTON was honored to host Rear Admiral Manuel Otero, COMSTANAVFORLANT, for a few hours on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Rear Admiral Otero addressed the Wardroom on the purpose and goals of the deployment. In port for two days, the officers and crew were able to relax a bit before continuing their journey north, through the Kattagat and Skattigeratt Straights and into the Baltic Region. On January 27<sup>th</sup>, a refueling at sea was safely conducted with HMNLS ZUDEKRUIS during rough sea conditions. HALYBURTON reached Gdynia, Poland on January 31, 2003.

#### **FEBRUARY**

February began with a Force Reception on the SPS Victoria while in port Gdynia, Poland. Yet, business needed to be taken care of as the ships assigned to SNFL departed Gdynia on the morning of February 3<sup>rd</sup> to begin a rigorous training cycle named Polish Passex. Numerous surface, air and anti-submarine exercises were tasked and completed between the force. Participating units consisted of naval vessels from Germany, Spain and Poland. Extremely cold weather did not inhibit the crew's ability to perform well above standards. Upon completion of the successful passex, HALYBURTON began traversing towards Kiel, Germany for a BSF. Taking another tour through the Skattigeratt and Kattagat, HALYBURTON headed toward Portsmouth, England. On February 14<sup>th</sup>, another Force Reception was held onboard SPS VICTORIA. Our stay in Portsmouth was cut short due to high tempo operations in the Strait of Gibraltar. SNFL returned to Rota, Spain in order to conduct urgent meetings and organize schedules for STROG Operations. With our patrol services not needed immediately as first thought, HALYBURTON along with SNFL participated in a four-day exercise called INSTREX 01-03 conducted off the coast of Portugal.

#### **MARCH**

After a few days of being moored in Rota, Spain, HALYBURTON got underway for their largest exercise since Group Sail of CY 02. HALYBURTON was the only United States ship involved with GRUFLEX 01-03. Conducted off the coast of Spain, other NATO forces involved in the 10-day exercise were from Germany, Spain and Portugal. Numerous surface, air, anti-submarine and amphibious exercises were completed throughout the time period. HALYBURTON enjoyed a couple more days in port Rota, Spain before heading south to the Strait of Gibraltar to conduct STROG Operations. HALYBURTON's mission was to escort and provide security for merchant vessels that were on their way to eastern Mediterranean and Arab countries to deliver military supplies and humanitarian aid. One of the first few ships to arrive Umm Qasr, Iraq with humanitarian relief supplies was escorted through the Strait of Gibraltar by HALYBURTON. The ship was found moored once again in Rota, Spain where the Standing Naval Forces Atlantic Change of Command was held. Rear Admiral Manuel Otero (Spain) was relieved by Commodore Richard J. Ibbotson (Royal Navy) on March 21, 2003. On March 26<sup>th</sup>, HALYBURTON commenced its journey to the eastern Mediterranean to take part in Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR. Commodore Ibbotson (CSNFL) visited HALYBURTON on March 28<sup>th</sup> to address the officers and crew and to enjoy a tour of USS HALYBURTON. A brief stop was held in Gaeta, Italy in order to receive final orders for patrol operations. Numerous members of the crew took advantage of the down time and traveled to Rome, Italy.

## **APRIL**

HALYBURTON officially commenced patrol duties as a part of Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR on April 1, 2003. Patrol operations were in full force by April 4<sup>th</sup> with the ship on station off the coast of Cypress and ranging over to territorial waters near Syria. Contacts of Interest and Critical Contacts of Interest were the main focus of the patrol operations. Numerous shipping vessels were queried in order to make an assessment of the contents of their cargo and to determine whether the vessel needed to be boarded by HALYBURTON's Visit and Board Search and Seizure Team (VBSS). On April 4<sup>th</sup>, HALYBURTON made a spark in history as being the first frigate to conduct a JP-5 refueling at sea with the German Oilier FGS SPESSART. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, HALYBURTON conducted another refueling at sea with the Italian ship ITS VESUVIO. The officers and crew of HALYBURTON entered the port of Aksaz, Turkey, to take a few days to relax and refocus on their duties as part of the Global War on Terrorism. Once underway again, two more unreps were conducted with FGS SPESSART before arriving the next port of call of Souda Bay, Crete. HALYBURTON ended the month of April with yet another unrep with FGS SPESSART.

## **MAY**

No one predicted the busy schedule that lay ahead for HALYBURTON for the month of May. Before returning to Souda Bay for another port visit, three unreps were conducted. For the first time while on this deployment, HALYBURTON conducted a connected replenishment at sea with the USNS BIG HORN. Prior to departing Souda Bay, Commodore Ibbotson, Commander Standing Naval Forces Atlantic embarked the ship and was involved with a few training exercises. Once out of territorial waters, the weapons department began a gunnery exercise consisting of small arm weaponry. Commodore Ibbotson displayed his marksman skills at each gunnery station and eventually sunk the red barrel target. Later in the morning, a man overboard drill was commenced. Weather conditions allowed for the two SAR swimmers to enter the water and polish their vital skills. For an added training session, Commander Ibbotson, an avid Royal Navy Diver, jumped off of the foc'sle and entered the Mediterranean leaving the crew in awe. Both SAR swimmers had the opportunity to rescue an actual person and performed their procedures with extreme proficiency. Commodore Ibbotson was extremely pleased with the professionalism of each SAR swimmer and with the SAR program onboard HALYBURTON. Another historical day for the HALYBURTON arrived on 17 May when she received two T-700 engines by vertical replenishment from Black Stallion 40 from HC-4 (Sigonella, Sicily). The crew was impressed by the enormous size of the CH-53 helicopter and was thankful for the delivery. HALYBURTON continued to patrol critical areas in the eastern Mediterranean throughout the month of May in support of Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR. Upon returning to Aksaz, Turkey, a force reception was held on the pier, as all the ships in the force were present for the final time of the deployment. Everyone gathered for a sampling of international cuisine and sports challenges. One such sports challenge consisted of a Force Tug of War in which each ship was represented by heavyweight teams. In the end, the USS HALYBURTON team was the last one standing.

## **JUNE**

As the month of June arrived, HALYBURTON continued to patrol the eastern Mediterranean in support of Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR. Stretching patrol operations westward, HALYBURTON patrolled the Hurd Bank before making a port call to La Valletta, Malta. A small nation south of Sicily, Malta was an appealing port visit for the entire crew. While in La Valletta, a formal reception was held onboard HMS CORNWALL, as this was the last time HALYBURTON, HMS CORNWALL and FGS SPESSART would be in port together. After saying final goodbyes, the three ships departed Malta and headed back to the eastern Med. HALYBURTON was given authorization to board a suspicious merchant vessel during patrol operations. The Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) Team was activated and professionally conducted the boarding in a timely manner. A few days later, a night RAS was conducted between FGS SPESSART and HALYBURTON. A full moon graciously aided the evolution, providing the light necessary to carry out the underway refueling at sea. Another boarding was conducted as yet an additional suspected

merchant vessel was intercepted in the Mediterranean. Prior to conducting a sailpast on the 19th, a final RAS was completed with FGS SPESSART. A total of ten underway replenishments were conducted between the German oiler and HALYBURTON on this deployment. Commodore Ibbotson embarked HALYBURTON one more time in order to personally thank the Officers and crew for a superior job while attached to Standing Naval Forces Atlantic. His comments were heartfelt as he expressed that our ship and crew proved to be exceptional in every evolution that was performed while on station in the Med. After an enjoyable luncheon, Commodore Ibbotson visited all the spaces, spoke to nearly everyone onboard and bid his farewell to the Captain and the crew. The time arrived for the Sailpast. HALYBURTON formed behind the force and began the Sailpast by approaching and passing ITS BERSAGLIERE, FGS EMDEN, NRP VASCO DA GAMA, FGS SPESSART and finally, HMS CORNWALL. The Sailpast concluded HALYBURTON's operations with the force, yet the memories will remain with the crew for many years. Upon ceasing patrol operations in the eastern Mediterranean, HALYBURTON conducted an unrep with USNS SIRIUS and another patrol of the Hurd Bank before heading to Palma de Mallorca, Spain. The crew enjoyed a well-earned port visit on the white beaches of the island. Here, we bid farewell to Midshipman 2/C [REDACTED] and hailed Midshipman 2/C [REDACTED] and Midshipman 2/C [REDACTED]. After a "restful" visit inport, the crew prepared up for the last few weeks of deployment.

## JULY

After departing Palma, HALYBURTON began transiting west, as operational commitments in the Mediterranean Sea were complete. An independent transit through the Strait of Gibraltar was made as the ship headed towards Rota, Spain to prepare for further STROG Operations. While inport Rota, news was delivered to HALYBURTON of national tasking. The United States Secret Service requested the services of HALYBURTON off the coast of Dakar, Senegal, Africa while the President of the United States made an official goodwill visit to the country. After extensive planning and coordinating during the south bound transit, HALYBURTON maintained a secure area off the African coast while President George W. Bush visited and addressed the Senegalese. After being released from POTUS duties, HALYBURTON began transiting north to refuel in Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. The entire crew enjoyed a final port visit before beginning the transit across the Atlantic Ocean to Mayport, Florida. The transit proved to be long and lonely as no surface or air contacts were seen for days. Finally, a familiar name was observed as the USNS JOHN LENTHALL provided refueling services midway through the trans-Atlantic journey. At 0730 on July 21<sup>st</sup>, Magnum 455 left the flight deck of HALYBURTON for the final time. At 0845, HALYBURTON arrived at the St. John's Buoy and the Mayport basin pilots boarded the ship as the homeport arrival process began. As HALYBURTON entered the harbor, each ship in the basin welcomed us home by sounding their whistles. Families eagerly awaited our arrival on the pier as HALYBURTON approached the familiar mooring site. "Moored, Shift Colors!" HALYBURTON was home at last. In summary, HALYBURTON spent 51 days in the Atlantic, 12 days in the Baltic, 69 days in the Mediterranean, and 60 days inport during the 192-day Standing Naval Forces Atlantic deployment. Twenty-one underway replenishments were conducted as well as two vertical replenishments. Two hundred thirty force training serials were completed with the entire force. Three hundred and seventy four merchant vessels were queried, two of them which were boarded by the VBSS Team. Finally, ten merchant vessels were safely and expeditiously escorted through the Strait of Gibraltar by HALYBURTON. An extremely successful SNFL deployment goes into the history books for USS HALYBURTON.

## AUGUST

The month of August began with the crew still enjoying post deployment leave. Once everyone returned to the ship, the crew began to work as a team again by performing their daily duties and attending to the operations at hand. Towards the end of the month, the Chief of Naval Operations paid a visit to Naval Station Mayport. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, HALYBURTON hosted Rear Admiral Curtis, Commander, Naval Surface Group Two. Rear Admiral Curtis, escorted by CDS 14, was highly pleased with his tour of the ship and of hearing a thorough summary of HALYBURTON's SNFL deployment.

## **SEPTEMBER**

September began with the presentation of the Post Deployment Brief to CDS 14 and COMNAVSURFGRU TWO. HALYBURTON also held its first Fast Cruise since returning home from deployment. On short notice, the crew dedicated extra long hours preparing the ship for an extremely important visitor. Vice Admiral Roughead, Commander, United States Second Fleet, paid a visit to HALYBURTON on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Escorted by CNSG2, Rear Admiral Curtis, and CDS14, Captain Jackson, VADM Roughead was briefed on HALYBURTON's successful deployment and toured the Combat Information Center and Pilot House. He expressed his gratitude for the hard work the crew entailed while on cruise and was clearly satisfied with the overall outcome of the deployment. A brief underway trip was made to Yorktown, Virginia to offload weaponry. HALYBURTON saw the SM-1 Guided Missiles and Harpoons for the last time as they were craned off the ship, for the MK 13 Launcher was scheduled to be removed during the upcoming Selected Repair Availability. Due to threatening Hurricane Isabel, an abbreviated Change of Command ceremony was held for ship's company on the flight deck. Commander Herbert M. Hadley relieved Commander William C. McQuilkin on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Reflecting on a successful tour on HALYBURTON, Commander McQuilkin departed the ship with great pride after thanking the crew for a victorious training cycle and a captivating deployment. The next day, HALYBURTON held a Pinning Ceremony for four new Chief Petty Officers. With all the scheduled ceremonies complete, HALYBURTON entered the Selective Repair Availability conducted by SUPSHIP Portsmouth and Earl Industries in Mayport. On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the #2 Ship's Service Diesel Generator was removed for the installation of the new Caterpillar Diesel and Support Systems.

## **OCTOBER**

SRA continued to keep the ship at a busy pace during the month of October. Notable ship configurations include the removal of the Separate Tracking Illuminating Radar (STIR) and the MK 13 Missile/Harpoon Launcher.

## **NOVEMBER**

As the ship neared the SRA completion date, refueling operations took place on the 14<sup>th</sup>. The official completion date of the SRA period was the 19<sup>th</sup>. Selected jobs remained in progress as the ship returned to an operational platform. On the 25<sup>th</sup>, the installation of Caterpillar Diesel and Support Systems was complete. Successful installation of the #2 SSDG was an important milestone for both HALYBURTON and the Navy, as it validated the Navy's ability to conduct such installations waterborne, thereby saving dry docking costs. HALYBURTON's flag football team, The Predator's, attended the Southeast Atlantic Regional Sports Flag-Football Tournament in Atlanta, GA and placed an impressive third place. They were the only team present as a one-ship team; all other teams were comprised of multiple units "all-star" teams. The tournament featured other teams from Washington D.C., Virginia, Georgia and Florida. With the third place win, HALYBURTON was invited to attend the East Bay Flag-Football National Championships in New Orleans, LA.

## **DECEMBER**

As the holiday season approached, a gift was delivered to HALYBURTON. The Operations Officer, LT [REDACTED], was called by his detailer to convey the opportunity of a lifetime. LT [REDACTED] had been selected to be the Prospective Commanding Officer of the Littoral Combat Ship, the *X-Craft*. The ship, under construction in Washington State, will be taking the surface Navy into the next generation of multi-mission capability. During a thorough scan of highly qualified candidates, LT [REDACTED] was chosen to be the first to command the vessel and present the next class of combat support ships to the world. HALYBURTON bid LT [REDACTED] fair winds and following seas as he departed for his opportunistic adventure. Meanwhile, December continued on with an extremely busy schedule. Multiple training exercises were combined with continued maintenance throughout the ship. The first week of the month

saw the removal and installation of newly refurbished electronic warfare antennas. HALYBURTON berth shifted to receive a small onload of ammunition. The following week began with a fast cruise to prepare for the upcoming Sea Trial period to test and check numerous systems throughout the ship. Two Midshipmen joined the wardroom as part of their winter cruise requirement. MIDN [REDACTED], representing the Citadel and MIDN [REDACTED], representing University of Wisconsin, arrived to HALYBURTON for their winter cruise just in time for the underway period. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, HALYBURTON departed the Mayport basin for the first time in 3 months. Commander Hadley was excited to finally get his ship underway and see just how well the ship and crew performed as one unit. After successfully completing numerous tests and checks, HALYBURTON returned to Mayport on the 19<sup>th</sup>, moored to the pier and commenced holiday stand down. The year ended with many happy Sailors at home with their families enjoying some down time before returning to work to begin the rigorous readiness cycle of 2004.