



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61)
FPO AP 96668-1515

5750
FFG61/
05 Apr 04

From: Commanding Officer, USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2003

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61) Command History for 2003
(2) CDR Colby Biography
(3) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

1. Enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted in accordance with reference (a).


M. D. COLBY

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2003

1. Command Composition and Organization:

Command: USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61)

UIC: 21430

Organizational Structure: ISIC; Commander Destroyer Squadron Nine

Mission: To escort and protect carrier strike groups, expeditionary strike groups, and underway replenishment groups.

Commander: John M. Kersh (23NOV01-23AUG03), Mark D. Colby (23AUG03-31DEC03)

Permanent Duty Station: Everett, WA

Type/Number of Aircraft assigned with tailcode: 2 SH-60B LAMPS III HSL 45
Detachment 24 (WESTPAC Deployment 03JAN03-19SEP03), TAILCODES LW43, LW55.

2. Chronology:

Inport Everett	01-09JAN03
Transit to San Diego	09-13JAN03
Inport San Diego	13-15JAN03
Transit Pearl Harbor	15-22JAN03
Inport Pearl Harbor	22-25JAN03
Transit to 7 th Fleet AOR	25-28JAN03
BG Training Guam OPAREA	28JAN03-20FEB03
Transit Yokosuka	20FEB03-23FEB03
Inport Yokosuka	23FEB03-10MAR03
Replacement of 1B GTE	10MAR03
Transit to Singapore	11MAR03-14MAR03
Straits of Malacca Escorts	14MAR03-06APR03
Inport Singapore	14-17MAR03
Inport Singapore	29MAR03
Inport Singapore	03-04APR03
Transit through Philippine Islands	06APR03-13APR03
Ready Tail Ship	13-16APR03
Transit to Okinawa	16-18APR03
Inport Okinawa	18APR03
Transit to Guam	18-20APR03
Inport Guam	20APR03
EXERCISE TANDEM THRUST 2003	21APR03-05MAY03
TT Photo EX	05MAY03
Transit YOKO	06-10MAY03
JMSDF PASSEX	07MAY03
JMSDF Cross Deck	08MAY03
Inport Yokosuka	10-15MAY03
Transit Saipan	15-19MAY03
Inport Saipan	19-25MAY03
Transit Guam	25-28MAY03
Inport Guam	28MAY-01JUN03
BG Training Guam Oparea	01-18JUN03
Transit Singapore	18-26JUN03
Inport Singapore BG	26-30JUN03
Transit to Perth	30JUN-09JUL03
Inport Perth	09-14JUL03
Transit to Okinawa	14-29JUL03
Inport Okinawa	29JUL-01AUG03
Transit to Hong Kong	01-06AUG03
Inport Hong Kong BG	06-10AUG03
Hong Kong Government Flying Service	

Flight Operations	10AUG03
Transit Okinawa OPAREA	10-12AUG03
Strike Group Operations	12-16AUG03
EXERCISE ULCHI FOCUS LENS	18-25AUG03
Change of Command	23AUG03
Inport Kure, JA	27-31AUG03
Inport Yokosuka	01-03SEP03
Transit to 3 rd Fleet	03-15SEP03
Inport San Diego, Helicopter offload	15SEP03
Transit to Everett	15-19SEP03
Arrive Everett	19SEP03
Standdown	19SEP03-19OCT03
Inport Everett Maintenance	19OCT03-03NOV03
Transit San Diego	03-07NOV03
San Diego PVST	07-17NOV03
Pre-INSURV Groom	10-14NOV03
Transit to Everett	17-20NOV03
Inport Everett Maintenance	20NOV03-07DEC03
Underway Unit Training	07DEC03-10DEC03
Inport Everett	11-14DEC03
Nanose Range CNO Project	14-16DEC03
CHRISTMAS STAND DOWN	17-31DEC03

Involved in:

WESTPAC 2003 (CVINSG)
 TANDEM THRUST
 ULCHI FOCUS LENS
 MARITIME ESCORT OPERATIONS (STRAITS OF MALACCA)
 Strike Group Training Guam OPAREA
 Strike Group Training Okinawa OPAREA

Awards:

Supply Management Excellence Award
 Engineering Survivability Excellence Award
 Maritime Warfare Excellence Award
 TYCOM Safety Award
 Health and Wellness Award

3. Narrative: USS INGRAHAM left Everett 9JAN03 and transited to San Diego, CA, to onload HSL 45 Detachment 24 and their two aircraft. After a three-day port visit, INGRAHAM got underway enroute the Hawaiian OPAREA for a two-week period of sustainment training with the CARL VINSON STRIKE GROUP. After completing this training and enjoying a three-day port visit in Pearl Harbor (22-25JAN03), CARL VINSON STRIKE GROUP received deployment orders to SEVENTH FLEET. INGRAHAM departed the Hawaiian OPAREA enroute Guam OPAREA. After spending two weeks in the Guam OPAREA, conducting Strike Group training, the group proceeded north to Yokosuka for a two-week port visit.

After two weeks in Yokosuka conducting maintenance and changing out 1B Gas Turbine Engine, INGRAHAM received orders to detach from the Strike Group and proceed to Singapore to participate in maritime escort and counter piracy operations in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. From 14-29MAR03, INGRAHAM made three port visits to Sembawang Navy Base and escorted the vessels USNS HENSON, USNS YUKON, MV SYCAMORE and MV GARIBALDI through the Straits of Malacca.

After completing these escort operations, INGRAHAM transited through the Sulu Sea and the Philippine Islands. INGRAHAM was directed to prosecute an out of area foreign submarine 13-16APR03. After successfully collecting data on this submarine, INGRAHAM proceeded to Okinawa for storm avoidance. INGRAHAM then began a three-day transit to the GUAM OPAREA to participate in OPERATION TANDEM THRUST and rejoin the CARL VINSON STRIKE GROUP.

On 06MAY03, INGRAHAM sailed north to Yokosuka, Japan, for a four-day liberty port. After four days experiencing the Greater Tokyo Area in Yokosuka, INGRAHAM got underway and traveled south to the Island of Saipan for another liberty port call. In Saipan, INGRAHAM sailors saw the remains of the fierce fighting that took place there in the closing days of WWII. After seven days in Saipan, INGRAHAM spent four days doing underway training and then made a port call in Guam. After enjoying the tropical weather and scenery in Guam, INGRAHAM got underway with the CARL VINSON STRIKE GROUP and spent two weeks in the Guam OPAREA conducting ASW training.

After this training, INGRAHAM left the Guam OPAREA enroute Singapore. During this transit, CARL VINSON STRIKE GROUP encountered two Russian Udaloy Class destroyers and their embarked Helix helicopters. After a four-day liberty port visit in Singapore, INGRAHAM transited the Indonesian Archipelago enroute Perth/Fremantle, Australia.

INGRAHAM spent five days in Perth/Fremantle, and her sailors enjoyed the hospitality of Western Australia. During this time, INGRAHAM was hosted by the Maritime Museum of Fremantle. She then proceeded north along the West Coast of Australia to participate in training with the Royal Australian Navy.

INGRAHAM then sailed again through the Indonesian Archipelago enroute Okinawa for repairs to the Main Fuel Control on 1A GTE and repairs to the Recovery Assist Secure Traverse (RAST) system. After a three-day port visit in Okinawa, INGRAHAM got underway enroute Hong Kong. INGRAHAM made a rendezvous with CARL VINSON Strike Group in the vicinity of the Straits of Taiwan and then sailed towards Hong Kong with the Strike Group. The CARL VINSON Strike Group spent four days anchored in Hong Kong Harbor enjoying the sights and sounds of the famous port city. During this visit, the American Club of Hong Kong hosted INGRAHAM at a reception. Upon getting underway from Hong Kong, INGRAHAM conducted Flight Operations with the Hong Kong Flight Service.

After leaving Hong Kong, INGRAHAM sailed with the CARL VINSON Strike Group first to the Okinawan OPAREA and then to the coast of South Korea to participate in OPERATION ULCHI FOCUS LENS. INGRAHAM successfully completed her Mid Cycle Assessment (MCA) while conducting this exercise. On 23AUG03, INGRAHAM completed her Change of Command between Commanders John M. Kersh and Mark D. Colby. Soon after taking command, Commander Colby took INGRAHAM through a challenging transit of Japan's Iyo Nada (inland sea) and made a port call in Kure. It was here that INGRAHAM got the news that CARL VINSON Strike Group had received orders to return home. While in Kure, sailors spent time seeing the historic city of Hiroshima, and enjoying Japanese Baseball games.

Before sailing for home, INGRAHAM transited north to Yokosuka to make repairs to 1B Gas Turbine Engine. After repairs were completed, INGRAHAM got underway, completed a rendezvous with the strike group and proceeded with SOA of 21 kts for homeport Everett. After a short stop in San Diego to offload her helicopter detachment, INGRAHAM pulled into Naval Station Everett on 19 September 2003. When she pulled into Everett, INGRAHAM ended her successful 8.5 month deployment.

After a month standdown and two weeks of maintenance, INGRAHAM got underway and sailed to San Diego for a two week Pre-INSURV groom by Regional

Support Organization Southwest and non-skid work on the O2-O3 levels of the ship. After returning to homeport on 20NOV03, INGRAHAM spent two weeks in homeport. During this period, INGRAHAM conducted a Damage Control Assessment and Safety Assessment. The ship got underway and spent four days doing conducting training; including a SESEF range run, and anchoring rehearsal for INSURV. INGRAHAM got underway again on 14DEC03 and sailed through the Haro Strait to the Nanoose ASW Range to participate in a CNO ASW project. After conducting an emergency anchorage in Nanoose Harbor for Storm Avoidance, INGRAHAM got underway, completed the ASW project and returned to homeport 19 December to begin a two-week holiday standdown.

During 2003, INGRAHAM spent over nine and a half months away from homeport. The ship made 19 port calls in both foreign and U.S. ports, participated in three multinational exercises, and prepared for what was to be a successful INSURV inspection in FEB 2004. INGRAHAM's success in 2003 was a direct result of the steadfast resolve and contributions of her crew.