

**USS JARRETT (FFG-33)  
Command History 2002**

The crew of the USS JARRETT (FFG-33) celebrated New Year's Day 2002 in Bahrain. As part of Destroyer Squadron 21, JARRETT had been deployed with the JOHN C. STENNIS Battle Group since November 12, 2001, and it started the New Year in the southern Arabian Gulf in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

In January 2002, JARRETT began working with the BANS SABHA (FFG-90); the Bahraini had not operated outside the Gulf in over six years. The ship needed a refresher course in general operations, and JARRETT provided training periodically over the next three months. In early February, JARRETT pulled back into Bahrain, giving the crew a few days of much needed liberty.

After departing Bahrain, JARRETT participated in a professional exchange with patrol craft off the coast of Qatar, followed by a two-day visit to Doha. While in port, the crew of the JARRETT was honored to receive the U.S. Ambassador to Qatar on board for lunch and a tour of the ship. That same night, JARRETT welcomed several Qatari dignitaries and military officials for a reception with the ship's officers and chief petty officers.

Over the course of the deployment, JARRETT was frequently assigned to patrol areas in the northern Arabian Sea off the coast of Pakistan, during which it participated in one Leadership Interdiction Operation (LIO) boarding of a suspect vessel. JARRETT also participated in Maritime Interception Operations (MIO) with its two Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) teams. JARRETT was involved in three MIO missions in the northern Arabian Gulf, most notably a non-compliant boarding of the motor vessel LINA who was discovered to be smuggling oil. Because the LINA had sabotaged itself, the JARRETT was forced to tow the LINA for two days until it could be turned over to authorities in Dubai.

Another one of JARRETT's primary missions in the Gulf was to provide protection for the PELELIU (LHA-5) Amphibious Ready Group (ARG). JARRETT accompanied PELELIU, as well as various Army transport ships and commercial oil tankers, through the Strait of Hormuz 18 times.

On 30 March, JARRETT made an emergency stop in Bahrain to change out one of its LM2500 Gas Turbine Engines (GTE's) that was damaged when it stalled unexpectedly. The engineering department worked long hours getting 1A GTE back online so the ship would be ready to get underway on April 1.

After completing its missions in the Gulf, JARRETT sailed down to the liberty port of Bali, arriving April 26 and departing May 1. From there, the ship sailed to Cairns, Australia, remaining in port from May 7-12. CDR R. S Hospodar relieved CDR C.B. Kyker on 09 May during the port visit. On May 18, while transiting from Australia to Hawaii, JARRETT crossed the Equator at 180 degrees longitude where it held the traditional Golden Shellback ceremony to initiate nearly half of the crewmembers who were "crossing the line" for the first time.

JARRETT arrived in Hawaii on May 19 and stayed for two days, just long enough to celebrate the return to U.S. soil and pick up 25 family members who would make the Tiger Cruise back to San Diego. Finally, the ship returned to its homeport on May 28 to be greeted by a crowd of friends and family members eager to see their Sailors for the first time in more than seven months.

Back in port, JARRETT was in stand down until June 28, after which the crew got back to work preparing the ship to go into the yard. On July 15, JARRETT got underway and spent one week in the Southern California Operations Area (SOCAL OPAREA) acting as an opposing force (OPFOR) for the CONSTELLATION Battle Group's COMPTUEX. Upon completion of its tasking, JARRETT cruised up the coast to San Francisco where the crew spent five days enjoying the Fleet Week celebration. On the way back to San Diego, JARRETT stopped in Seal Beach for one night to offload its weapons.

After JARRETT returned to San Diego, it relocated from Pier 5 to the Southwest Maritime shipyards and spent two months from the end of August until the end of October in its Selective Repair Availability

(SRA). The ship underwent one day of sea trials on Halloween, returning pierside early enough for crewmembers to enjoy the evening's activities with their children.

On November 18, JARRETT sailed back up to Seal Beach to load weapons for three days, and returned to San Diego on November 22. The ship got underway on December 2 for ten days of training in the SOCAL OPAREA. Back in port, the ship began its Christmas stand down on December 13, giving crew members the opportunity they did not have a year earlier to spend the holidays at home with their families.