



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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From: Commanding Officer, USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Photo of Ship
(4) Photos of Commanding Officers
(5) Commanding Officer's Biography
(6) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(7) Year in Review Narrative

1. Command History for USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59) is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).

J. A. Kunert
J. A. KUNERT

Copy to:
COMDESRON TWO

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

MISSION:

The mission of the FFG-7 Class ship is to provide local area protection to underway replenishment groups, amphibious groups, and other military shipping against subsurface, air, and surface threats, as well as air warfare (AW), surface warfare (SUW), and undersea warfare (USW) self-defense. FFG-7 class ships can also contribute to Carrier Battle Group (CVBG) operations and defense.

The addition of the SQQ-89 system to Flight Four FFG-7 class ships, like KAUFFMAN, gives the ship a state of the art advantage to be used against the undersea threat. The twelve Mk 92 Mod 6 fire control system FFG-7's also have a significant air warfare upgrade that extends their useful combat life well in to the 21st century.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:

Immediate Senior In Command (ISIC):

Commander, Destroyer Squadron TWO (JAN 94 - PRESENT)

Aircraft Assigned: RENEGADE 421 (HSL 42) (JUL 96 - AUG 96)
SCALPER 435 (HSL 42) (DEC 96 - PRESENT)

Commanding Officer: CDR David F. Britt, USN (SEP 94 - SEP 96)
CDR John A. Kunert, USN (SEP 96 - PRESENT)

Permanent Home Port: Norfolk, VA (MAR 94 - PRESENT)

Executive Officer: LCDR Dennis P. Danko, USN (JAN 95 - APR 96)
LCDR Brian D. Neuenfeldt, USN (APR 96 - PRESENT)

Combat Systems Officer: LCDR [REDACTED], USN (JUN 94 - DEC 96)
LTjg [REDACTED], USN (DEC 96 - PRESENT)

Chief Engineer: LT [REDACTED], USN (OCT 95 - PRESENT)

Operations Officer: LT [REDACTED], USN (NOV 94 - APR 96)
LT [REDACTED], USNR (APR 96 - PRESENT)

Support Officer: LT [REDACTED], SC, USN (AUG 95 - PRESENT)

Navigator: CWO2 [REDACTED] (JUL 94 - PRESENT)

Combat Information Center Officer:

LT [REDACTED] (MAR 95 - APR 96)

LTjg [REDACTED] (APR 96 - DEC 96)

ENS [REDACTED] (DEC 96 - PRESENT)

Communications Officer: LTjg [REDACTED] (DEC 95 - APR 96)
ENS [REDACTED] (DEC 96 - PRESENT)

First Lieutenant: ENS [REDACTED] (APR 95 - APR 96)
ENS [REDACTED] (APR 96 - DEC 96)

Main Propulsion Assistant: LTjg [REDACTED] (MAY 94 - MAR 96)
CWO2 [REDACTED] (MAR 96 - PRESENT)

Auxiliaries Officer: LTjg [REDACTED] (AUG 95 - JUN 96)
LT [REDACTED] (JUN 96 - PRESENT)

Damage Control Assistant: ENS [REDACTED] (AUG 95 - PRESENT)

Electronic Maint. Officer: LT [REDACTED] (OCT 93 - JAN 96)
ENS [REDACTED] (FEB 96 - PRESENT)

Ordnance Officer: ENS [REDACTED] (MAR 95 - MAR 96)
ENS [REDACTED] (MAR 96 - PRESENT)

Undersea Warfare Officer: ENS [REDACTED] (AUG 96 - PRESENT)

Disbursing Officer: LTjg [REDACTED] (SEP 93 - JUN 96)
ENS [REDACTED] (JUN 96 - PRESENT)

Encl (1)

USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59)
COMMAND HISTORY 1996

01 JAN - 10 APR: IN PORT, ESRA, NORSHIPCO, NORFOLK, VA
12 JAN - 16 JAN: ENG TRNG GROUP INDUSTRIAL VISIT, NORSHIPCO
22 JAN - 26 JAN: ENG TRNG GROUP ADMIN VISIT, NORSHIPCO
01 APR - 03 APR: LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT, NORSHIPCO
03 APR : MAIN ENGINE LIGHT OFF, NORSHIPCO
04 APR - 10 APR: DOCK TRIALS/FAST CRUISE, NORSHIPCO
09 APR : VADM KATZ, COMNAVSURFLANT, VISIT
11 APR - 22 APR: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
22 APR - 24 APR: SEA TRIALS, VIRGINIA CAPES OPERATING AREA
24 APR - 26 APR: WEAPONS ONLOAD, WPNSTA YORKTOWN, VA
26 APR : FAMILY DAY CRUISE, WPNSTA YKTN TO NS NORFOLK
26 APR - 20 MAY: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
29 APR - 04 JUN: COMBAT SYSTEMS SHIP QUALIFICATION TRIALS,
CSSQT, FOR MK 92 MOD 6 FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM
06 MAY - 10 MAY: LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT ASSIST VISIT, NORFOLK
20 MAY - 24 MAY: CSSQT UNDERWAY, VIRGINIA CAPES OPAREA
25 MAY - 27 MAY: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
28 MAY - 29 MAY: CSSQT UNDERWAY, VIRGINIA CAPES OPAREA (VCOA)
29 MAY - 01 JUN: TRANSIT TO PUERTO RICAN OPAREA
01 JUN - 02 JUN: IN PORT, ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO
03 JUN - 04 JUN: CSSQT UNDERWAY, PUERTO RICAN OPAREA (AFWTF)
05 JUN - 09 JUN: IN PORT, ST JOHN, USVI
09 JUN - 12 JUN: TRANSIT TO NORFOLK, VA
12 JUN - 18 JUN: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
18 JUN - 21 JUN: UNDERWAY, MIDSHIPMAN OPERATIONS, VCOA
22 JUN - 08 JUL: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
08 JUL - 24 AUG: COUNTER DRUG OPERATIONS, CARIBBEAN SEA
08 JUL : EMBARK HELICOPTER DETACHMENT (HSL 42 DET 9)
08 JUL - 12 JUL: TRANSIT TO PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI
08 JUL : BURIAL AT SEA CEREMONY, ENROUTE HAITI
12 JUL : COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROJECT, PORT-AU-PRINCE
12 JUL - 13 JUL: TRANSIT TO GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
13 JUL : EMBARK USCG DETACHMENT, GTMO BAY, CUBA
14 JUL - 20 AUG: COUNTER NARCOTICS OPERATIONS, CARIBBEAN SEA
23 JUL - 24 JUL: BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA
25 JUL - 26 JUL: UNDERWAY, SOUTH CARIBBEAN, ENROUTE COLON
26 JUL : BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, COLON, PANAMA
26 JUL - 01 AUG: UNDERWAY, CENTRAL CARIBBEAN
01 AUG - 05 AUG: PORT VISIT, ARUBA, NETHERLAND ANTILLES
05 AUG - 12 AUG: UNDERWAY, SOUTH CARIBBEAN
12 AUG : BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, COLON, PANAMA
12 AUG - 20 AUG: UNDERWAY, CENTRAL CARIBBEAN
20 AUG : BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
20 AUG - 22 AUG: UNDERWAY, ENROUTE NAVAL STATION MAYPORT, FL
22 AUG : BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, DEBARK HSL 42 DETACHMENT
22 AUG - 24 AUG: TIGER CRUISE ENROUTE NORFOLK, VA

24 AUG - 01 OCT: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 27 AUG - 30 AUG: COMBAT SYSTEMS TRAINING GROUP VISIT, NORFOLK
 09 SEP - 10 SEP: COMBAT SYSTEMS TRAINING GROUP VISIT, NORFOLK
 11 SEP - 12 SEP: CRUISE MISSILE TACTICAL QUALIFICATION,
 NORFOLK
 20 SEP : CHANGE OF COMMAND, NORFOLK, VA
 01 OCT - 03 OCT: UNDERWAY ENG TRNG GROUP SPECIAL VISIT,
 VACAPES
 04 OCT - 09 OCT: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 09 OCT - 10 OCT: UNDERWAY, VACAPES OPAREA, DECK LANDING QUALS
 10 OCT - 11 OCT: IN PORT, NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD, VA
 11 OCT : PARADE OF SHIPS, FLEET WEEK, NORFOLK, VA
 11 OCT - 22 OCT: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 15 OCT - 18 OCT: LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT, NORFOLK, VA
 22 OCT - 23 OCT: UNDERWAY, INSURV REHEARSAL, VACAPES OPAREA
 23 OCT - 29 OCT: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 28 OCT - 01 NOV: BOARD OF INSPECTION AND SURVEY, NORFOLK, VA
 29 OCT : UNDERWAY, VACAPES OPAREA, INSURV UMI
 29 OCT - 13 NOV: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 05 NOV : ESTONIAN NAVY VISIT
 13 NOV - 15 NOV: MID-CYCLE ASSESSMENT, NORFOLK, VA
 13 NOV - 14 NOV: UNDERWAY, VACAPES OPAREA, MID-CYCLE
 ASSESSMENT
 14 NOV - 10 DEC: IN PORT, NORFOLK, VA
 10 DEC - 31 DEC: OPERATION CARIB SHIELD, COUNTER DRUG OPS
 10 DEC - 12 DEC: UNDERWAY, ENROUTE NAVSTA MAYPORT FL
 12 DEC : BRIEF STOP, MAYPORT, EMBARK HELO (HSL 42)
 12 DEC : BURIAL AT SEA CEREMONY, ENROUTE GTMO, CU
 12 DEC - 14 DEC: UNDERWAY, ENROUTE NAVSTA GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
 14 DEC - 15 DEC: BRIEF STOP, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
 15 DEC - 23 DEC: UNDERWAY, SOUTH CARIBBEAN, ENROUTE GTMO
 23 DEC - 24 DEC: BRIEF STOP FOR FUEL, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
 24 DEC - 28 DEC: UNDERWAY, CENTRAL CARIBBEAN
 28 DEC - 31 DEC: IN PORT, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
 31 DEC : UNDERWAY, CENTRAL CARIBBEAN

Encl (2)

1996 YEAR IN REVIEW
USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59)

USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59) spent the first four months of 1996 at Pier 5 in Norfolk Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Norfolk, Virginia. From September 1995 to April 1996, Mod 6 to the Mk 92 Fire Control System was installed, making KAUFFMAN the last of twelve frigates to receive this upgrade. Mod 6 enhances the ship's self-defense capabilities against the low-flying cruise missile threat, as well as increasing her overall air warfare effectiveness with improved sensitivities in the air radar systems. The concurrent addition of the SYS II automatic tracking program greatly reduces the time required to engage a contact by updating contact history with computer systems and evaluating threats based on contact patterns.

In addition to the combat systems upgrades, KAUFFMAN participated in the Commander, Naval Surface Forces, Atlantic (COMNAVSURFLANT) Self-Help project to significantly upgrade two berthing compartments. KAUFFMAN provided the labor, some funding, and motivation, and COMNAVSURFLANT provided the remaining funding and technical assistance. Vice Admiral Katz, COMNAVSURFLANT, visited the ship 9 April 1996 to cut the ribbon reopening the berthing compartments.

After completing a successful Light Off Assessment 3 April 1996 and moving the crew into the renovated berthing, KAUFFMAN returned to Naval Station, Norfolk, 10 April. For nearly two

weeks, the crew cleaned the ship and performed preliminary testing and training on the new electronic systems. Sea trials ran in the Virginia Capes Operating Area (VACAPES OPAREA) from 22 April until 24 April, when KAUFFMAN moored at Weapons Station, Yorktown, Virginia. KAUFFMAN was underway again on 26 April, carrying newly unloaded ordnance and family members for a one day family cruise.

KAUFFMAN spent nearly a month inport, continuing training and maintenance on the new Mk 92 Fire Control System, preparing for the Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT). From 6-10 May 1996, KAUFFMAN completed the Assist visit for the Logistics Management Assessment, preparing for the actual LMA later in the fall. On 20 May, FFG 59 was underway in the VACAPES OPAREA for the first week of CSSQT. KAUFFMAN conducted firings of the Close-In Weapon System (CIWS), the 76MM gun, and numerous long range air search radar detect-to-engage cycles. After a weekend inport, KAUFFMAN was underway again 28 May. Extremely poor visibility and rough seas did not allow the surface targets, required for CSSQT testing, to get underway in the OPAREA, so KAUFFMAN transferred all of the remaining testing to the Puerto Rican OPAREA (PROA) the afternoon of 29 May and headed south. KAUFFMAN completed the testing 1 Jun 1996 and pulled into Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. The final two days of testing started 03 Jun. KAUFFMAN engaged two simulated missile threats on the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Test Facility (AFWTF) range

in the PROA, launching an FFG record four Standard (SM-1) missiles in a single engagement at one of the targets and validating the low-flying target improvements to the system with the other target. The CSSQT was an unqualified success.

KAUFFMAN enjoyed a four day port visit in St. John, U. S. Virgin Islands after completing the CSSQT. The ship returned to Norfolk 12 Jun 1996. After a week of maintenance, KAUFFMAN embarked as many as 40 midshipmen per day supporting summer training operations, exposing the midshipmen to surface warfare operations in the Virginia Capes Operating Area. USS CLARK, USS PENSACOLA, and USS KAUFFMAN performed several maneuvers from 18-21 Jun 1996, including weapons demonstrations and tactical maneuvering.

Upon completion of midshipman operations, KAUFFMAN's crew spent two weeks making preparations for a Caribbean deployment supporting counter-narcotics operations. The ship left Norfolk 8 July with Renegade 421 of HSL 42 Detachment 9 embarked. KAUFFMAN was honored to begin the summer deployment by conducting a burial-at-sea for five former servicemen. The remains were scattered in a ceremony the first afternoon in the Virginia Capes Operating Area.

The first stop was Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. KAUFFMAN sailors volunteered their time with the U.S. Support Group, Haiti, to renovate an orphanage. These sailors applied their rating knowledge to build furniture, wire electric lights, and improve the appearance of the building, then delivered several hundred

books and other school supplies from Project Handclasp to the children. Other sailors assisted the newly formed Haitian Coast Guard in preparing their new base for use by clearing the waterfront and renovating the headquarters building. Finally, Renegade 421 flew photographers over the island to take pictures of roadbeds to assist engineers in the road design. KAUFFMAN's day in Haiti was very productive and recognized by COMNAVSURFLANT, CINCLANTFLT, the U. S. Atlantic Command, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and, most importantly, the children of the orphanage.

KAUFFMAN left Haiti late 12 Jul bound for Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Arriving 13 Jul, KAUFFMAN embarked the Coast Guard Law Enforcement Detachment and took on fuel. FFG 59 left Guantanamo Bay and changed operational control to the Joint Interagency Task Force, East (JIATF-East), officially supporting the war on drugs. Over the course of five weeks, KAUFFMAN boarded five vessels in rough seas and at night, successfully turning one vessel over to local authorities for prosecution. The crew earned a four day port visit to Aruba, Netherlands Antilles, 1-5 Aug 1996. The majority of the deployment was spent avoiding hurricanes and maintaining presence on station. Brief stops for fuel were made in Colon, Panama, and Cartagena, Colombia. KAUFFMAN returned to the operational control of Second Fleet 20 Aug 1996 at Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and arrived in Mayport for helicopter debark 22 Aug. Family members

embarked in Mayport and joined the crew for the trip to Norfolk, where KAUFFMAN arrived 24 Aug 1996.

KAUFFMAN's month inport upon return was very busy. KAUFFMAN recertified its HARPOON firing team 11-12 Sep without the benefit of a training cycle to prepare the team. The Combat Systems Training Team drilled some of the newest sailors onboard into a cohesive unit that received praise for teamwork and effectiveness. Close on the heels of this Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification, CDR John Kunert relieved CDR David Britt as Commanding Officer, USS KAUFFMAN (FFG 59). The ceremony took place onboard KAUFFMAN inport Norfolk, 20 Sep 1996.

KAUFFMAN got underway the first week of October for engineering training. The following week KAUFFMAN provided a platform for Deck Landing Qualifications in the VACAPES OPAREA, moored at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia, and participated in the Parade of Ships in downtown Norfolk to highlight Fleet Week in Norfolk. KAUFFMAN satisfactorily completed the Logistics Management Assessment 15-18 Oct 1996, and leapt into preparations for the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). The crew rehearsed and trained for the detailed inspection underway 22-23 Oct, and the inspectors arrived 28 Oct for a week-long look at KAUFFMAN's material and training status. The board found KAUFFMAN fit for continued naval service.

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KAUFFMAN's final challenge for the fall inspection cycle was Mid-Cycle Assessment. This engineering visit took place 13-15 Nov 1996. KAUFFMAN received another effective assessment and went into a holiday leave and stand down period 15 Nov 1996. This period ended 10 Dec when KAUFFMAN got underway for a second deployment to the Caribbean for counter-narcotics operations, now called Operation Carib Shield. After brief stops in Mayport and Guantanamo Bay to onload helicopter and law enforcement detachments, KAUFFMAN returned to the operational control of JIATF-East 15 Dec 1996. In the first month, KAUFFMAN spent several days in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, conducting a voyage repair for the SPS-49 antenna. This repair included ship's force personnel replacing the heavy pedestal for the system high on the SPS-49 mast. After two boardings and one brief stop for fuel, KAUFFMAN concluded 1996 enroute Cartagena, Colombia, celebrating New Year's Eve underway with an illuminated ball, fireworks at sea, and a very believable Baby New Year.