



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS KLAKRING (FFG 42)

FLEET POST OFFICE

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From: Commanding Officer, USS KLAKRING (FFG 42)  
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAV Instruction 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History on USS KLAKRING (FFG 42) for 1995  
(2) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are submitted.

*D. C. Beam*  
D. C. BEAM

## COMMAND HISTORY OF USS KLAKRING FFG 42 FOR 1995

### I. Command Composition and Organization

USS KLAKRING, CDR David C. Beam, USN commanding, the thirty-second Oliver Hazard Perry class guided missile frigate built for U. S. Navy service, performs an extremely wide range of missions. The ship's homeport is Norfolk, Virginia and is under the direct command of Destroyer Squadron Twenty. Her varied complement of weapons and sensors, the embarked LAMPS MK III helicopters from the HSL 42 Detachment stationed in Mayport Florida, and the Tactical Towed Array Sonar System give her the widest mission applicability of any ship her size. The mission of the FFG-7 class is to provide anti-air warfare (AAW), anti-surface (ASUW), and anti-submarine (ASW) self defense and to effectively provide local area protection to underway replenishment groups, amphibious groups, and other military shipping against subsurface, surface, and air threats.

KLAKRING's employment during the year was dominated by five major events: deployment in the Mediterranean with the Eisenhower Battle Group (CTG 95.1), Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV), Homeport shift/Change of Command, Drydock Selected Restricted Availability, Tailored Ship Training Availabilities, and finally Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).

### II. Chronology

Jan 1-3 Inport Civitavecchia, Italy / Holiday Routine

Jan 2 Ship's Morale Welfare and Recreation tour of Vatican

Jan 3 Depart Civitavecchia, Italy

Jan 4 Transit through the Straits of Messina

Jan 5 Enter Adriatic west of Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean

Jan 7 Proud Warrior Penguin Upload / Darken ship evolution with USS NASSAU (LHA-4) & USS PONCE (LPD-15)

Jan 8 76mm/CIWS Pre-action calibration fire

Jan 9 Detect to engage with AV-88 Harriers / COMDESRON 32 Combat Systems Officer Visit / USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44) departs Venice to join amphibious exercise landing.

Jan 10 Refuel with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) / Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions / Vertical Replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (TAFS-4) / depart enroute Adriatic Sea, Spanish amphibious exercise landing.

Jan 12 Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions / Commanding Officer luncheon with CTF-61 on USS NASSAU (LHA-4) / stream Nixie

Jan 13 CIWS Pre-action fire / deceptive lighting drill

Jan 14 USMC Force Reconnaissance embarks / refuel with USNS KANAWHA (TAO-196)

Jan 15 Transfer charts with SPS VIGIA (P-73) off Sierra Del Retnin Spain / Transit through Straits of Gibraltar / Anchor overnight / launch two USMC assault teams

Jan 16 Recover two USMC Assault teams / Pre-amphibious assault with USS NASSAU (LHA-4), USS PONCE (LPD-15), USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44), and SPS HERNANDO CORTEZ

Jan 17 Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions / Overall Combat Systems Operability Test / "Half-way through the deployment" Festivities / Detach Spanish Amphibious Exercise

Jan 18 Inport Rota Naval Air Station, Spain: Refuel ship and allow crew an opportunity to shop at the Navy Exchange

Jan 19 Underway: Transit through the Straits of Gibraltar

Jan 21 KLAKRING's Morale, Welfare, & Recreation (MWR) fundraising event

Jan 22 Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean Training

Jan 24 Turkish Navy Passing Exercise / Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions / Overall Combat Systems Operability Test / Surface Exercise / Anti-Surface ship warfare exercise

Jan 25 Inport Soudha Bay, Crete / Turnover with USS ROBERT G BRADLEY (FFG-49) / Incho Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean

Jan 26 Depart Soudha Bay, Crete / Air Defense Exercise with Greek Air Force

Jan 27-Feb 2 Operational Area Digger One

Jan 27 Surface Defense Exercise / Area Familiarization & Certification for Operational Area Digger One / Commodore Van Der Lugt (Dutch Navy) & staff briefly embark  
 Jan 28 Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Jan 30 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / General Quarters  
 Feb 1 Refuel with SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11)  
 Feb 2 Engineering Training Group Preparations / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Feb 3 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main Space Fire Drill  
 Feb 6 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main Space Fire Drill / Relieved by HMCS MONTREAL (FFH-336)  
 Feb 7-13 Inport Trieste, Italy  
 Feb 11 Visit ship  
 Feb 13 Refuel with USNS KANAWHA (TAO-196)  
 Feb 14-18 Operational Area Digger One  
 Feb 14 Relieve HMCS MONTREAL (FFH-336) / Vertical Replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (TAFS-4) (72 pallets) / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Procedures  
 Feb 15 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Feb 16 Engineering Training Group transferred from USS KIDD (DDG 993)  
 Feb 17 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Feb 18 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main Space Fire Drill  
 Feb 19 Greek Surface Exercise / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Relieved by FGS KOELN (F-211)  
 Feb 20-23 Inport Soudha Bay, Crete / Command Inspection  
 Feb 20 Service Dress Blues Uniform Inspection / Sexual Harassment Workshop

Feb 21 Working Uniform Inspection / Navy Rights and Responsibilities Workshop / Helicopter Aircraft Commander Board / Titivate ship

Feb 22 Navy Rights and Responsibilities / Ship-wide zone inspection

Feb 24-Mar 7 Operational Area Digger One

Feb 24 Relieve FGS KOELN (F-211) / Refuel with SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11) / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions

Feb 25 Admiral Di Agistini, Italian Navy, (CTF 440.01) visits ship

Feb 26 Surface Combat Air Patrol Exercises

Feb 27 Helicopter Aircraft Commander Aboard

Feb 28 Refuel with SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11) / Alcohol Awareness training

Mar 2 Rear Admiral Murphy, USN, (COMIKEBATGRU) visits ship / Alcohol Awareness Training for Supervisor's Role

Mar 3 Alcohol Awareness / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions

Mar 4 Rear Admiral Stark USN (CTF 440.01) visits ship via Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat Transfer with HMCS MONTREAL (F-211) / Refuel with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (TAO-195)

Mar 5 Escort FGS SPESSART (A-1442)

Mar 6 Alcohol Awareness Standdown / 76mm/CIWS Pre-Action Calibration Fire / Sheepfold Exercise (Rules of Engagement Drill) / Boarding Exercise / Relieved by Turkish Naval Warship TRAKYA (F-254)

Mar 8-13 Anchor off of Corfu, Greece

Mar 14 Underway, transit to Operational Area Sybil / Commodore Van Der Lugt (Dutch Navy) and staff briefly Operational Area Two

Mar 15-20 Relieve FGS LUBECK (F-214) / Patrol Operational Area Two Sybil

Mar 20 Outchop Sybil Oparea / Refuel with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (TAO-195) / Transit to Patras, Greece

Mar 21-25 Inport Patras, Greece

Mar 22-23 KLAKRING's Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) tour to Athens.

Mar 25 Depart Patras, Greece / enroute Operational Area Digger off Montenegro.

Mar 26-31 Sub-Oparea Digger

Mar 27 Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist training stand-down

Mar 28 Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean visits for luncheon / Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions

Mar 29 Refuel with HMCS PRESERVER (AOR-510)

Mar 31 Out-chop Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions

Apr 1 Pre-action calibration fire / Vote for Food Service Attendant of the Day (MWR Fundraiser). Winners are LCDR [REDACTED] (Air Boss) and Lt Wade [REDACTED] (Chief Engineer)

Apr 2 Brief refuelling stop Augusta Bay, Sicily / Suffer shaft brake casualty in Main Engine Room upon departure of Augusta Bay.

Apr 3 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions

Apr 4 76mm/CIWS Pre-action calibration fire / Stream TACTAS / Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions

Apr 5 Standing Naval Forces turn-over with USS HAWES (FFG-53) / THEODOORE ROOSEVELT Battlegroup turn-over / Outchop to COMSECFLT / transit Straits of Gibraltar / Commence Trans-Atlantic Rowing (on rowing machine)

Apr 6 Refuel with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) / Charleston Reunion Team arrives

Apr 7 CIWS Pre-action calibration fire / Flight Deck Crew Safety Award ceremony

Apr 8 Refuel with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) / OS2 [REDACTED] re-enlists / Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions

Apr 10 Refuel with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) / COMIKEBATGRU visits

Apr 11 Combat Systems Casualty Control Evolutions

Apr 12 Captain Parker, USN (CDS32) visits  
 Apr 13 Refuel with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) / Detach EISENHOWER Battlegroup / Hot & Cold checks  
 Apr 14 KLAKRING's Helicopter Detachment departs / Crew Awards ceremony  
 Apr 15 Arrive Charleston, SC Naval Base pierside P-1A  
 Apr 15-28 Section One Stand-down  
 Apr 22-23 KLAKRING open for tours to public  
 Apr 24-28 COMDESRON Four Ship's Service Diesel inspection  
 Apr 25 Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps visit  
 Apr 27 Safety Survey  
 Apr 28 Hot & Cold checks / Hail and Farewell: LT [REDACTED], USN, (Departing Admin Officer), LTJG [REDACTED], USN, (Departing Electronic Warfare Officer), and CW02 [REDACTED], USN, (Prospective Electronic Readiness Officer)  
 Apr 28-May 12 Section Two Stand-down  
 May 2 60 Air-Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps visit  
 May 12 Post-deployment stand-down ends  
 May 17-21 Inport Downtown Charleston, SC for Armed Forces Day  
 May 19 OS1(SW) [REDACTED], USN, re-enlists  
 May 22 Underway: COMDESRON Four Material Inspection / Stream TACTAS / Light-off Counter-Measure Washdown System / Full power trials and high speed maneuvers  
 May 23 Laundry Assist visit  
 May 25 Dry-dock Integrated Logistics Officer (ILO) Conference  
 May 26 Executive Officer's shipwide Hazardous Material Inspection  
 May 27 Boy Scout visit  
 Jun 2 Dead stick move to pier P2A / Hail & Farewell: LCDR [REDACTED], USN, (Outgoing Operations Officer) - LT [REDACTED], USN, (Prospective Operations Officer)

Jun 5-9 Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV)

Jun 7 Underway: Full Power Trials & High speed maneuvers / Detect-to-Engage / Countermeasure Washdown / Anchor drop test

Jun 9 INSURV debrief and departure / COMDESRON Four Debrief

Jun 12-16 Surface Warfare Training Week - Charleston Naval Base

Jun 12 Retirement ceremony: DCC [REDACTED], USN, and GSCS(SW) [REDACTED], USN

Jun 13 Awards ceremony

Jun 14 Go to Charleston Naval Weapons Station for weapons off-load / CDR David C Beam, USN, (Prospective Commanding Officer) arrives / Hail and Farewell: CDR Steve Hill, USN (Departing CO), LTJG [REDACTED], USN, (Departing Administrative Officer), and CDR David C Beam, USN (Prospective CO)

Jun 15 Complete Charleston Naval Weapons Station Offload / return to Charleston Naval Base

Jun 16 KLAKRING participates in Damage Control Olympics held for all ships at Charleston Naval Base

Jun 19-20 Homeport shift to Norfolk Naval Base / Tiger Cruise

Jun 19 Depart Charleston Naval Base / General Quarters during Sea & Anchor: Major Lube Oil Leak on Hydraulic Power Module in Main Engine Room / CIWS & 76mm Pre-action calibration fire

Jun 20 Change of Command, CDR David C Beam, USN, relieves CDR Steve Hill, USN, as Commanding Officer / Arrive Norfolk Naval Base

Jun 21-22 Preparations for Drydock Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA): defuel & deballast

Jun 23 Dead-stick maneuver to Colonna's Shipyard, Norfolk, VA for DSRA / Fire equipment safety walk-through

Jun 23-26 Crew moves to Norfolk Naval Station Barracks / Duty section berthed aboard barge

Jun 27-28 Secure ship's firemain and plumbing system

Jun 29 Dry-dock conference / Norfolk Naval Base Public Affairs Officer interviews crewmembers



Jun 30-Aug 18 KLA KRING in drydock  
 Jul 01-Aug 12 COMDESRON Twenty embarks  
 Jul 05-06 Petty Officer Indoctrination conducted  
 Jul 07 DC1(SW) [REDACTED], USN, re-enlists  
 Jul 10-14 Surface Warfare Training Week(SWTW)- Norfolk Naval Base  
 Jul 11 KLA KRING participates in Damage Control Olympics held for all ships at Norfolk Naval Base  
 Jul 12 KLA KRING participates in Seamanship Olympics held for all ships at Norfolk Naval Base  
 Jul 14 Personnel Inspection / SWTW Awards Ceremony at Pier Point Park (1st place Seamanship Olympics)  
 Jul 17-19 Successful Disbursing Audit  
 Jul 17 COMDESRON Twenty visits ship / Frocking Ceremony  
 Jul 21 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out  
 Jul 24 PCMS Assist Visit  
 Jul 25 PCMS Assist Visit  
 Jul 27 PN1(SW) [REDACTED], USN, reenlists  
 Jul 28 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out / Hail and Farewell: CDR Joe D. Banker, USN, (Outgoing Executive Officer) - LCDR Mike McCarthy, USN, (Prospective Executive Officer)  
 Aug 4 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out (Supply Department sponsored)  
 Aug 8 COMENTBATGRU RADM Bill, USN, visits / Sonar Pressurization  
 Aug 9 50% Conference Meeting  
 Aug 11 Personnel Inspection  
 Aug 15 Undocking Conference  
 Aug 16 Unsuccessful attempt to undock KLA KRING / Hurricane Felix preps  
 Aug 18 Undocking Conference / Undock KLA KRING

Aug 20 Underwater Hull Inspection  
 Aug 24-Sep 21 COMDESRON Twenty embarks  
 Aug 24 Safety Stand-down / Postal Assist Visit  
 KLAKRING awarded Humanitarian Service Award  
 Aug 25 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out (Operations Department sponsored)  
 Aug 30 Crewmembers requal.45 pistol in Dam Neck, VA  
 Sep 01 Auxiliary Machinery Room #3 turn-over / Chop to COMDESERON Twenty  
 Sep 03 Magazine sprinkler flush  
 Sep 06 Re-activate ship's firemain system  
 Sep 07 Refuelling / Re-activate ship's plumbing / E-4 Exams  
 Sep 08 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out (Chief Petty Officers sponsored)  
 Sep 11 Main Engine Room turn-over  
 Sep 12-14 Crew move aboard  
 Sep 12 E-5 Exams  
 Sep 14 All hands field day / Auxiliary Machinery Room #1 turn-over / E-6 Exams  
 Sep 15 Personnel Inspection / Cook-out (Officers sponsored) / Helicopter Rescue & Salvage team training  
 Sep 16 Chief Petty Officer Initiation & Pinning Ceremony:  
 FCC(SW) [REDACTED] USN, EMC(SW) [REDACTED] USN,  
 ENC(SW) [REDACTED] USN, OSC(SW) [REDACTED] USN  
 Sep 20 Auxiliary Machinery Room #2 turn-over  
 Sep 23 OMBUDSMAN Pinning Ceremony: Mrs. [REDACTED]  
 Sep 25 Light-off Gas Turbine Engines and Ship's Service Diesels / Engineering Hot & Cold checks / Dock Trials  
 Sep 26 Fast Cruise / KLAKRING awarded Meritorious Unit Commendation / All hands field day  
 Sep 27 Depart Colonna's Shipyard / Sea trials / TACAN Certification / Abandon ship drill / Return to Norfolk

Naval Base

- Sep 28 Command Assessment Readiness Training II (CART II)
- Sep 30-Oct 1 Visit Ship (WWII Destroyer Escort Reunion)
- Oct 4 Underway Yorktown Naval Weapons Station / Weapons On-load
- Oct 5 Complete Weapons Onload / Underway Morehead City, NC / Main Space Fire Drill
- Oct 6 Arrive Morehead City, NC / Seafood Festival 95' Visit Ship
- Oct 8 Hail & Farewell: LT [REDACTED], USN, (Departing Disbursing Officer) and ENS [REDACTED], USN, (Prospective Disbursing Officer) / Seafood Festival Cook-out
- Oct 9 Underway: Norfolk Naval Base / Main Space Fire Drill
- Oct 10 Arrive Norfolk Naval Base / Engineering Training Group embarks / Hot & Cold checks / Total Ship Training Availability I
- Oct 12 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with ETG embarked / Refuel with USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) / Main Space Fire Drill
- Oct 13 Conducted Division Tactical Maneuvers w/USN BRISCOE (DD-977) / Arrive Norfolk Naval Base
- Oct 14-15 Visit Ship
- Oct 16-20 Surface Warfare Training Week at Norfolk Naval Base / Engineering Training Group / Combat Systems Training Group
- Oct 18 Main Space Fire Drill / COMDESRON Twenty visit
- Oct 19 Main Space Fire Drill
- Oct 20 Personnel Inspection
- Oct 23-27 Fleet Training Group (FTG)
- Oct 24 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with FTG embarked / Precision Anchorage / Swept channel / General Quarters (GQ) Battle Problem / Total Ship Training Availability II

Oct 25 76mm gun shoot / GQ Battle Problem  
 Oct 26 GQ Battle Problem / Man Overboard Drill / Refuel with  
 USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) / Basic Engineering Casualty  
 Control Evolutions  
 Oct 27 Return to Norfolk Naval Base / Precision Anchorage /  
 Swept Channel Exercise  
 Oct 30-Nov 3 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with FTG  
 embarked  
 Oct 30 Precision Anchorage & Swept Channel Exercise  
 Oct 31 GQ Chemical hit battle problem  
 Nov 1 Abandon ship drill / GQ Battle Problem  
 Nov 2 Refuel with USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) / GQ Battle Problem  
 Nov 3 Return Norfolk Naval Base / Precision Anchorage /  
 MSC(SW) [REDACTED], USN, retirement ceremony  
 Nov 4 Hail & Farewell: LCDR [REDACTED] USN & LT [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED], USN, (Departing Combat Systems Officers) and LT  
 [REDACTED], USN, (Prospective Combat Systems Officer)  
 Nov 6-9 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with Engineering  
 Training Group / Stream Tactical Towed Array Sonar Tail  
 Nov 7 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main  
 Space Fire Drill  
 Nov 8 CIWS/76mm Pre-action Calibration Fire / Basic  
 Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main Space  
 Fire Drill  
 Nov 9 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Return  
 to Nauticus Maritime Museum in downtown Norfolk, VA  
 Nov 10-12 Inport downtown Norfolk, VA at Nauticus Maritime Museum  
 / Open to public in honor of Veteran's Day  
 Nov 13-Dec 10 Intermediate Maintenance Availability  
 Nov 13 Berth shift from Nauticus to Norfolk Naval Base  
 Nov 17 Refuelling / Ship-wide Zone Inspection  
 Nov 20 Personnel Qualification System Assist Visit /  
 Engineering Training Group / Physical Readiness Test

Nov 21 Physical Readiness Test  
 Nov 22 BM2(SW) [REDACTED], USN, re-enlists  
 Nov 27-30 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with Readiness Support Group - Practice Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE)  
 Nov 27 Engineering Hot & Cold Checks  
 Nov 28 Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Nov 29 Full Power Trials / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions  
 Nov 30 Return Norfolk Naval Base / Annual Electrical Safety Training  
 Dec 1 Frocking Ceremony / Captains Call  
 Dec 4-8 Successful Aviation Readiness Evaluation (ARE) and Aviation Certification (AVCERT)  
 Dec 6 Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Visit  
 Dec 8 Adult Christmas Party at Norfolk Live on Norfolk Naval Base  
 Dec 10 Ship's Children Christmas Party  
 Dec 11 Type Commanders Exercise  
 Dec 12-14 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with Readiness Support Group embarked - Practice Operational Propulsion Plant Examination / Hot & Cold checks  
 Dec 13 Refuel with USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) / Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions / Main Space Fire Drill  
 Dec 14 Four Burial-At-Sea Ceremonies / Return Norfolk Naval Base / CAPT Paul Danks (Prospective COMDESRON Twenty) visits  
 Dec 15 Successful NATO Secret Inspection  
 Dec 19-20 Underway Virginia Capes Operating Area with Propulsion Examination Board (PEB) embarked: Successful Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) conducted  
 Dec 22-Jan 8 Holiday Leave and Upkeep

Dec 30      Holiday Leave Section Turn-over

III.    USS KLAKRING    COMMAND NARRATIVE FOR 1995

The ship remained in Civitavecchia Italy until 03 January and many of the crew members enjoyed the New Year's celebration in Rome, an hour and a half train ride away. Following the departure from Civitavecchia, the ship proceeded south through the Straits of Messina (between Italy and Sicily) and into the Adriatic. The ship was on station west of Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean Forces on 05 January with USS NASSAU (LHA-4) and USS PONCE (LPD-15). For the next several days, the three ships trained in Combat Systems with events including a detect to engage with AV-88 Harrier jets and an Over-the-Horizon exercise with USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44) which was joining the Amphibious Readiness Group from Venice. On 10 January, KLAKRING refuelled from USS DETROIT (AOE-4) and conducted a vertical replenishment from USNS SIRIUS (TAFS-4). Afterwards, KLAKRING and the amphibious group departed the Adriatic Sea and proceeded to a Spanish exercise off the Andalucian coast.

While enroute, KLAKRING streamed Nixie, conducted deceptive lighting drills, embarked two USMC Reconnaissance Teams, and refuelled from the USNS KANAWHA (TAO-196) on 14 January. The following day, the ship rendezvoused with the SPS VIGIA (P-73) and received Spanish charts of the Sierra Del Retnin area. KLAKRING transitted through the Straits of Gibraltar and arrived off Sierra Del Retnin on 15 January. The boat crew launched the

USMC assault reconnaissance rafts for a pre-assault attack. KLA KRING anchored for the night. On 16 January, the boat crew recovered the two assault teams, got underway, and participated in a pre-amphibious assault of Sierra Del Retnin with USS NASSAU (LHA-4), USS PONCE (LPD-15), USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44), and the Spanish amphibious ship SPS HERNANDO CORTES. KLA KRING briefly anchored in the evening, and was underway again awaiting actual amphibious assault on Sierra Del Retnin. In the early morning of 17 January, KLA KRING patrolled the outer flanks of the amphibious assault group and provided protection for the amphibious ships. In the evening, the ship celebrated half-way night, or "Hump Day" with various activities including: talent show, hot dog eating contest, lip sync contest, basketball free throw contest, and a pseudo-wrestling match. The events were followed by an ice cream and birthday cake social for crewmembers who had a birthday in December or January. KLA KRING detached from the Spanish amphibious exercise and proceeded to Rota, Spain.

KLA KRING arrived at Rota Naval Air Station, Spain, on the morning of 18 January and moored. Throughout the day, the crew enjoyed shopping at the Naval Exchange while the ship refuelled. The next day KLA KRING was underway, proceeded through the Straits of Gibraltar, and continued east to attend a one day exercise with the Turkish Navy. While enroute to the exercise, KLA KRING's crew were busy preparing for the inchoop to Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean. This training included various topics: rules of engagement, querying procedures, practice boardings, and

responding to unknown air and surface contacts.

On 24 January, USS KLA KRING (FFG-42) enjoyed an opportunity to work with the Turkish Navy for the day. The exercises started in the early hours of the morning with an over-the-horizon targeting exercise. KLA KRING was required to reach a pre-determined destination before being located by either the MEKO class Turkish destroyer, TGC YAVUZ (F240), or two DOGAN fast patrol craft vessels: POYRAZ and RUZGAR. The intense exercise was completed after three hours of skillful tactical maneuvering. USS KLA KRING's helo, Proud Warrior 421, eventually located the Turkish vessels by employing over-the-horizon search techniques honed over many hours on deployment. Following this encounter exercise, USS KLA KRING and TGC YAVUZ exchanged personnel for an opportunity to compare the operations of each other's navy. KLA KRING hosted two Turkish engineering officers and two combat systems officers in return for sending KLA KRING's Communications Officer, Master-At-Arms Petty Officer, Auxiliaries Officer, and a Helo pilot. Other exercises completed included maneuvering and communications drills, electronic warfare exercises, and detecting/tracking exercises. The Turkish-US Navy Joint Exercises concluded with an anti-submarine warfare exercise hunting the Turkish submarine SALDIRAY.

On 25 January, KLA KRING relieved USS ROBERT G BRADLEY (FFG-49) during a one day turn-over in Soudha Bay, Crete. Aboard ROBERT G BRADLEY, the officers and chiefs met with their counterparts and discussed past experiences and future



expectations for Operation Sharp Guard, while aboard KLA KRING, the Coast Guard detachment were getting adjusted to their new assignment. KLA KRING departed Soudha Bay in the early morning hours and steamed towards the Adriatic under Combined Task Group 440.03. While enroute Yugoslavia, training was conducted with the Greek Navy and Air Force. Commodore Van Der Lugt (Dutch Navy) and staff embarked KLA KRING on 27 January for official Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean certification. The commodore was aboard for one day and briefed the crew, toured spaces, observed crew readiness, and attended a luncheon. By the end of the day, KLA KRING assumed a patrolling station fifteen miles off the coastline of Montenegro, Yugoslavia. KLA KRING's patrol box was called Operational Area Digger . The primary mission was to ensure no merchant traffic entered Yugoslavian waters, record the number of cigarette speed boats transitting to and from Yugoslavia, and enforce the United Nations embargo on the country. KLA KRING encountered no merchant violators, but checked on several suspicious vessels. The ship refuelled from the Spanish oiler SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11) on 01 February. On 06 February, KLA KRING was relieved by the Canadian frigate HMCS MONTREAL (FFH-336) and transitted north in foggy conditions to Trieste, Italy. The ship arrived in the morning of 07 February and moored at a pier located downtown. The crew enjoyed the next six days participating in ship's sponsored tours of Venice or downhill ski trips at local ski resorts. On 11 February, the ship sponsored a tour for local residents and

received several hundred curious visitors in the pouring rain. The ship departed Trieste, Italy under foggy conditions on 13 February, refuelled from USNS KANAWHA (TAO-196), and proceeded south to Area Digger One. KLAKRING relieved HMCS MONTREAL (FFH-336) on 14 February, conducted a 72 pallet vertical replenishment with USNS SIRIUS (TAFS-4), and began preparing for an Engineering Training Group visit by conducting Basic Engineering Casualty Control Evolutions, main space fire drills, and reviewing engineering administrative programs. The Engineering Training Group was transferred aboard via small boat from USS KIDD (DDG 993) on 16 February. On 19 February, KLAKRING conducted a brief Greek surface exercise and afterwards was relieved by the German frigate FGS KOELN (F-211). KLAKRING proceeded south to Soudha Bay, Crete and conducted a command inspection while in port February 20-23. The Command Inspection included both Service Dress Blues and working uniform inspections, a sexual harassment workshop, Navy Rights and Responsibilities Workshop, shipwide zone inspection, and a Helicopter Aircraft Commander Board. The ship was underway from Soudha Bay, Crete on 24 February, relieved FGS KOELN (F-211) in Operational Area Digger One, and refuelled from the SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11). Admiral Di Agistini, Italian Navy, (CTF 440.01) visited the ship for a luncheon on 25 February and KLAKRING did a final refuelling from SPS MARQUES DE LA ENSENADA (A-11) on 28 February. The ship conducted alcohol awareness training the first two weeks in March with topics including physiological effects, stress management, alcohol

dependency, and liberty boat safety. On 02 March, Rear Admiral Murphy USN (COMIKEBATGRU) visited the ship for the day. On 04 March, Rear Admiral Stark USN (CTF 440.03) visited the ship for a luncheon via rigid hull inflatable boat transfer from the HMCS MONTREAL (FFH-336). Following the admiral's departure, KLAKRING refuelled from USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (TAO-195) in rough seas. On 06 March, KLAKRING participated in a Sheepfold Exercise in the early morning hours which included a simulated response to a merchant UN violator. The ship conducted a Rules of Engagement Exercise with the Turkish frigate TRAKYA (F-254) and later was relieved by her. KLAKRING steamed to Corfu, Greece and anchored outside the port during the period March 8-14. The crew enjoyed the opportunity to participate in a ship sponsored golf tournament as well as a tour of the Corfu island country-side.

KLAKRING was underway 14 March in the early morning and steamed to a new operational box 'Sybil' for Operation Sharp Guard. Sybil was part of a larger operational area 'two' located at the entrance of the Adriatic Sea in-between Ontranto, Italy and Albania. KLAKRING's mission was to query all vessels entering the Adriatic and relay query information to the flagship also located in Operational Area Two. The flagship, in turn, disseminated the query information to all Operation Sharp Guard participants in the Adriatic and determined whether a vessel needed to be boarded or diverted to an Italian port. Commodore Van Der Lugt (CTG 440.02) and staff briefly embarked KLAKRING on March 14 and provided a brief of the new mission. This would

result in on the average 30-40 vessels per day, with peak challenges of 80-90 vessels occurring on the weekends. KLAKRING relieved the German frigate LUBECK on 15 March and assumed duties in SYBIL until 20 March.

On 20 March, KLAKRING proceeded to Patras, Greece following an underway replenishment from the USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (TAO-195). The crew enjoyed the sights of Athens, Greece while the ship was moored there from March 21-25. After the Patras port stop, KLAKRING steamed to Operational Area Digger for their final patrol in Operation Sharp Guard from March 26-31. Within that period, ship-wide Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist training was conducted 27 March, Commodore Van Der Lugt, Dutch Navy, visited for a luncheon on 28 March, and the ship refuelled from HMCS PRESERVER (AOR-510) on 29 March. On 31 March, KLAKRING proceeded to Augusta Bay, Sicily for refuelling. While enroute, the crew voted in a Morale, Welfare, and Recreation sponsored raffle for the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, and Food Servant Attendant of the Day. Winners included respectively: LTJG [REDACTED] USN (CO), SK3 [REDACTED] USN (XO), and FSA's - LCDR [REDACTED] USN (Air Boss) and LT [REDACTED] USN (Chief Engineer).

On 02 April, KLAKRING moored in Augusta Bay, Sicily for three hours to drop off mail, refuel, and paint the hull. Upon departure the ship reported black smoke in the Main Engine Room. Upon investigation, the engineers discovered the shaft brake engaged and disintegrated due to mechanical failure. The ship

continued west and rendezvoused with the EISENHOWER Battlegroup via the Straits of Gibraltar. On 05 April, the THEODORE ROOSEVELT Battlegroup arrived in the Straits of Gibraltar to relieve the EISENHOWER Battlegroup. KLAKRING's counterpart was USS HAWES (FFG-53) which was enroute to Operation Sharp Guard. The relieving process was completed that afternoon and KLAKRING commenced the Trans-Atlantic Row. This Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) sponsored ship-wide event included having dedicated rowers on KLAKRING's exercise rowing machine 24 hours per day while KLAKRING steamed back to Charleston.

While crossing westwards on the Atlantic Ocean, KLAKRING refuelled with USS DETROIT (AOE-4) April 6/8/10/13, Commodore Parker (COMDESRON 32) visited the ship, and the helicopter flight deck crew was awarded Flight Deck Safety Appreciation Certificates. A ship-wide awards ceremony was conducted April 14 following the aviation detachment's fly-off and battlegroup detachment. KLAKRING returned to Charleston, SC on the morning of 15 April and ended the Trans-Atlantic row. The next 27 days was a post deployment stand-down. The crew kept busy with a Safety Survey conducted 27 April and preparations for the upcoming Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). Officers LT [REDACTED] USN (Administrative Officer) and LTJG [REDACTED] USN (Electronics Readiness Officer) left the ship with CW02 [REDACTED] arriving as prospective Electronics Readiness Officer.

Following the end of the post deployment stand-down on 12 May, the ship steamed for a short distance to Charleston, SC Port

Terminal, located downtown for visit ship during Armed Forces Day celebration May 17-21. The ship was underway again in the early morning of 22 May and proceeded to the Charleston Operational area with COMDESRON Four staff embarked. The staff conducted an underway material inspection (UMI) which included streaming the tactical towed array sonar, full power trials, high speed maneuvers, light-off of countermeasure wash-down system, and anchor drop test. KLA KRING returned back to Charleston Naval Base late that evening. For the remainder of the month and early part of June, the crew focused on correcting material discrepancies and preparing for the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). LT [REDACTED] USN relieved LCDR [REDACTED] USN as Operations Officer on 02 June.

From June 5-9, KLA KRING received an extensive look by the Congressional mandated Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). The one day underway period was conducted 07 June and the ship performed full power trials, high speed maneuvers, a detect-to-engage sequence, light-off of the counter-measure washdown system, and anchor drop test. The following day an inspection of various pieces of equipment was conducted and on 09 June the Board of Inspection and Survey found KLA KRING in satisfactory material condition. Following INSURV's departure, the Commodore extended a congratulation for completion of a successful INSURV.

The next week included Surface Warfare Training Week, a weapons off-load, change of homeport preparations, and a change of command ceremony. On 12 June, a retirement ceremony was held

for GSCS(SW) [REDACTED] USN and DCC [REDACTED] USN . The next day a ship-wide awards ceremony was held for the key INSURV personnel as well as the newly frocked Petty Officers. KLA KRING was underway 14 June for a weapons off-load at Charleston Weapons Station. That evening a hail and farewell was held for CDR Steve Hill USN (departing CO), CDR David C Beam USN (prospective CO), and LTJG [REDACTED] (departing administrative officer). The offload was completed 15 June and KLA KRING returned to Charleston Naval Base. On Friday, 16 June, KLA KRING participated in the base-wide Damage Control Olympics.

KLA KRING departed Charleston Naval Base on 19 June for the Change of Homeport to Norfolk, VA. A Tiger Cruise was conducted enroute. Upon departure through the Ft Sumter Range, the main engine room suffered a major lube oil leak and immediately the ship went to General Quarters. After isolation and investigation it was discovered the hydraulic gage line broke and spilled hundreds of gallons of lubrication oil into the bilge. The fitting was quickly manufactured in the general workshop and two hours later KLA KRING continued on with their schedule and conducted a 76mm/CIWS pre-action calibration fire. Prior to pulling into KLA KRING's new home, Norfolk Naval Base, the ship conducted a Change of Command Ceremony with CDR David C Beam USN relieving CDR Steve Hill USN as Commanding Officer. The ship arrived in Norfolk Naval Base and spent the next two days preparing for the Drydock Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA) at Colonna's Shipyard in Norfolk, VA. Preparations included

defuelling, deballasting, removing all technical publications for update, and laying down herculite throughout the ship.

KLAKRING conducted a dead-stick move to Colonna's shipyard on 23 June and work immediately began with a fire hazard walk-through and opening of tanks and voids. The drydock preparations included securing ship's firemain and the collection/holding/transfer system (plumbing), and moving the crew to barracks located at Norfolk Naval Shipyard. A drydock conference was held 29 June and KLAKRING crossed the sill on 30 June.

Throughout the period KLAKRING was in drydock, the commanding officer conducted personnel inspections every Friday morning and the crew enjoyed a cook-out conducted atop of the duty personnel barge during lunch. KLAKRING participated in Surface Warfare Training Week at Norfolk Naval Base from July 10-14. This included a First Place recognition by Admiral Katz USN (Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic) for Seamanship Olympics at Pier Point Park on 14 July. The Disbursing Officer underwent a successful Sales Audit from July 17-19 and a frocking ceremony for the newly promoted sailors was held 17 July. On 28 July a hail and farewell was held for the departing and prospective Executive Officers: CDR Joe Banker USN and LCDR Mike McCarthy USN respectively. Rear Admiral Bill USN, Commander of ENTERPRISE Battlegroup visited KLAKRING in drydock on 08 August, and the following day KLAKRING's officers and chiefs attended the 50% conference to review the half way point of work completion.

On 15 August, the shipyard held an undocking conference and



attempts were made to undock KLA KRING the following day. The undocking, however, was unsuccessful due to high prevailing winds from Hurricane Felix. While in drydock, KLA KRING weathered Hurricane Felix which came within 150 miles of Virginia Beach and then conducted a successful undocking on 18 August. KLA KRING had a Safety Stand-down and Postal Assist visit on 24 August. The ship was also awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal for their work in rescuing Cuban Refugees a year earlier. From then until 23 September the ship concentrated on concluding the shipyard period with machinery space turn-over, firemain and plumbing re-activation, refuelling, Chief Petty Officer's initiation, and finally crew move aboard. Crewmembers who were aboard KLA KRING throughout the deployment received news that KLA KRING was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Dock trials/machinery light-off was conducted 25 September and the next day the ship conducted a Fast Cruise. KLA KRING departed Colonna's Shipyard for successful sea trials and TACAN recertification on 27 September and returned to Norfolk Naval Base, moored outboard of USS CAPE ST GEORGE (CG-71). On 28 September, the ship conducted CART II (Command Assessment Readiness Training).

After a visit ship weekend with over 900 guests (many from USS NEW JERSEY and a decommissioned WWII destroyer escort), KLA KRING was underway for Yorktown Naval Weapons Station for weapons onload October 4-5. KLA KRING then proceeded to Morehead City, NC for the Seafood Festival. The ship arrived in Morehead

on 06 October and was open to the public October 7 and 8. On October 8 the officers said farewell to LT [REDACTED] USN (Disbursing Officer) and welcomed aboard ENS [REDACTED] USN (Prspective Disbursing Officer). A ship-wide cook-out sponsored by Morehead City was also held in the evening celebrating the success of the Seafood Festival. KLAKRING was underway the next morning and arrived back in Norfolk Naval Base, moored outboard of USS MISSISSIPPI (CGN-40). The Engineering Training Group arrived and began reviewing hot and cold checks. KLAKRING was underway 12 October and refuelled from the USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6). The following day KLAKRING returned to Norfolk Naval Base after conducting multi-ship formation steaming with the USS BRISCOE (DD-977). KLAKRING was again visit ship for the weekend October 14 and 15.

Throughout the week of October 16-20, both the Engineering Training Group and the Combat Systems Training Group were aboard conducting main space fire drills, engineering equipment casualty control evolutions, and ASW/ASUW drills. Surface Warfare Training Week and a COMDESRON TWENTY visit occurred on 18 October.

Fleet Training Group embarked KLAKRING from October 23-27. The ship was underway 24 October with multiple exercises conducted including precision anchorage, swept channel, low visibility, and a General Quarters battle problem. KLAKRING refuelled from USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) on 26 October and returned to Norfolk Naval Base 27 October. KLAKRING conducted another

underway period in the Virginia Capes Operational Area with Fleet Training Group 30 October to 03 November and refuelled from USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) on 02 November. On 03 November while enroute Norfolk Naval Base and while conducting a precision anchorage, the ship's anchor shackle sheared but the 6000 pound anchor was not lost. KLAKRING was immediately moored pierside and replacement of the anchor shackle began. MSC(SW) [REDACTED] USN retirement ceremony occurred on the flight deck on 03 November as well. A Hail and Farewell for LT [REDACTED] USN and LT [REDACTED] USN (both departing Combat Systems Officers) and LT [REDACTED] USN (prospective Combat Systems Officer) was held 04 November. From November 6-9, KLAKRING was underway in the Virginia Capes Operating Area and launched the Tactical Towed Array Sonar to conduct an Anti-submarine exercise with the USS BRISCOE (DD-977). KLAKRING returned to downtown Norfolk and moored at the Nauticus Maritime Museum for Veteran's Day. KLAKRING was visit ship during November 10-12 and returned to Norfolk Naval Base 13 November to begin an Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV). A ship-wide zone inspection and refuelling occurred 17 November. A physical readiness test was conducted November 20-21.

KLAKRING was underway November 27-30 with Norfolk's Readiness Support Group conducting a practice Operational Propulsion Plant Exam (OPPE). During December 4-8 KLAKRING was certified for helicopter operations with both an Aviation Certification and an Aviation Readiness Evaluation. The weekend

of December 8 and 10 was the ship's Christmas Party and children's Christmas Party respectively. Another practice Operational Propulsion Exam was conducted by Norfolk's Readiness Support Group during the underway period December 12-14. The underway period included a refuelling from the USS KALAMAZOO (AOR-6) on 13 December. On 14 December, a Burial-At-Sea ceremony was held for four deceased naval veterans, and after KLA KRING returned to Norfolk Naval Base, Captain Paul Danks (prospective COMDESRON TWENTY) visited the ship. A successful NATO Secret Inspection was conducted 15 December. The Propulsion Examining Board embarked KLA KRING December 19 - 20 and conducted an Operational Propulsion Plant Exam (OPPE). The ship passed the OPPE with a satisfactory score. Upon return to Norfolk, the crew began their Christmas period leave and upkeep through the New Year.