



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS McCLUSKY (FFG 41)
FPO AP 96672-1496

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DECLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL

From: Commanding Officer, USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (NO9BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) USS MCCLUSKY Command History 1999

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

2. Unclassified after removal of Confidential supporting documents included in enclosure (1).

(NOT RETAINED)

J. N. Christenson
J. N. CHRISTENSON

SHIP'S HISTORY 1999

1. Command Composition and Organization.

a. USS MCCLUSKY (FFG 41) is a third flight Oliver Hazard Perry Class Guided Missile Frigate, named after Rear Admiral Wade McClusky, a hero of the Battle of Midway. Her primary mission is general escort duty of convoys, amphibious task forces, underway replenishment groups, and carrier battle groups, defending these high value units against subsurface, surface and low level air threats. With her embarked air detachment (two SH-60B helicopters), the LAMPS MK III team provides formidable capabilities in over-the-horizon surface detection, surveillance, and engagement of hostile warships and submarines.

b. MCCLUSKY is a member of Destroyer Squadron SEVEN, commanded by Captain Richard R. Arnold.

c. MCCLUSKY's Commanding Officer is Commander John N. Christenson, U.S. Navy.

d. USS MCCLUSKY deployed with HSL 47 Det 6 from 01 Jan – 02 May (Arabian Gulf) as part of CARL VINSON Battle Group (CVINBG).

2. Chronology

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event/Evolution</u>
01 Jan – 02 May	Arabian Gulf Deployment
19 Feb – 03 Mar	NEON FALCON '99 Exercise
01 Mar – 05 Mar	CART I
10 Mar – 11 Mar	PCO Arrives Arabian Gulf
16 Mar – 16 Mar	Change-of-Command/En Route SOH
17 Mar – 17 Mar	Transit Strait of Hormuz
19 Mar – 19 Mar	Underway Replenishment (USS RAINER)
20 Mar – 20 Mar	Outchop C5F/Inchop C7F
24 Mar – 24 Mar	Underway Replenishment (USS RAINER)
24 Mar – 24 Mar	Detach from Carl Vinson Battle Group
26 Mar – 28 Mar	Mid-Cycle Assessment (MCA)
29 Mar – 29 Mar	Integrated Training Team Scenario
31 Mar – 04 Apr	Inport Darwin, Australia
05 Apr – 08 Apr	En Route Townsville, Australia
09 Apr – 14 Apr	Inport Townsville, Australia
19 Apr – 19 Apr	Underway Replenishment (USS CARL VINSON)
20 Apr – 20 Apr	Outchop C7F/Inchop C3F/Crossing the Line Ceremony
21 Apr – 21 Apr	Underway Replenishment (USNS JOHN ERICSON)
24 Apr – 24 Apr	Arrive Pearl Harbor, HI
24 Apr – 25 Apr	Inport Pearl Harbor, HI
26 Apr – 26 Apr	Departed Pearl Harbor, HI
26 Apr – 26 Apr	Underway Replenishment (USS RAINER)
27 Apr – 01 May	En Route San Diego, CA
02 May – 02 May	Arrive San Diego, CA
02 May – 31 May	POM Standdown
17 May – 21 May	XO Turnover
01 Jun – 01 Jun	DSRA Arrival Conference
01 Jun – 02 Jun	PUK Offload
02 Jun – 02 Jun	Dock Trials
03 Jun – 03 Jun	Fast Cruise
04 Jun – 09 Jun	Underway SOCAL Ops
04 Jun – 09 Jun	Embark Helo Det Squadrons
04 Jun – 04 Jun	Underway Replenishment (USNS GUADALUPE)
07 Jun – 07 Jun	Detect-to-Engage Exercise

08 Jun – 08 Jun	SCORE Range (USW Training)
09 Jun – 09 Jun	Debark Helo Det Squadrons
10 Jun – 10 Jun	Arrive Seal Beach, CA
10 Jun – 11 Jun	Inport Seal Beach for Ammo Offload
11 Jun – 11 Jun	Depart Seal Beach/Arrive San Diego, CA
12 Jun – 01 Sep	Inport San Diego, CA
14 Jun – 14 Jun	Defuel/Docking Conference
14 Jun – 15 Jun	Barge Move-on Preps
15 Jun – 16 Jun	Ballast/Hull Cleaning/Crew Move-Off
17 Jun – 17 Jun	Entered Drydock
17 Jun – 28 Jun	Drydock
21 Jun – 25 Jun	ASIR Assist Visit (AAV)
28 Jun – 30 Jun	Radar Navigation CIC Team Trainer
29 Jun – 29 Jun	SRA99 Preps/Undocking
29 Jun – 01 Sep	IMAV/SRA99
20 Jul – 22 Jul	ATG SBTT/LTT
26 Jul – 30 Jul	ATG LTTIPT (PLOT 1 & 2)
09 Aug – 13 Aug	PRE-ASIR
17 Aug – 20 Aug	ATG LTTIPT (PLOT 3)
18 Aug – 18 Aug	Aviation Pre-Look (AVPL)
23 Aug – 25 Aug	MSI
30 Aug – 31 Aug	Dock Trials
01 Sep – 01 Sep	Fast Cruise
02 Sep – 02 Sep	Sea Trials
03 Sep – 12 Sep	Inport San Diego, CA
13 Sep – 13 Sep	Underway en route Seal Beach for Ammo Onload
13 Sep – 14 Sep	Underway SOCAL Ops
15 Sep – 15 Sep	Underway Replenishment (USNS PECOS)
15 Sep – 15 Sep	Arrive Seal Beach, CA
15 Sep – 16 Sep	Inport Sea Beach for Ammo Onload
17 Sep – 17 Sep	Depart Seal Beach en route San Diego, CA
17 Sep – 17 Sep	Arrive San Diego, CA
18 Sep – 23 Sep	Inport San Diego, CA
20 Sep – 24 Sep	ASIR
22 Sep – 22 Sep	Aviation Assist Visit (AAV)
22 Sep – 22 Sep	Aviation Readiness Evaluation (ARE)
24 Sep – 26 Sep	Underway SOCAL Ops for DLQ's
27 Sep – 27 Sep	Arrive Port Hueneme, CA for CBS Groom
27 Sep – 01 Oct	Inport Port Hueneme, CA
27 Sep – 01 Oct	CART II Preps
01 Oct – 01 Oct	Departed Port Hueneme en route San Diego, CA
02 Oct – 02 Oct	Arrive San Diego, CA
02 Oct – 04 Oct	Inport San Diego, CA
04 Oct – 04 Oct	CART II Inport
05 Oct – 08 Oct	CART II Underway SOCAL
08 Oct – 08 Oct	Arrive San Diego, CA

09 Oct – 25 Oct	Inport San Diego, CA
13 Oct – 13 Oct	Visit Ship (Navy's Birthday)
18 Oct – 22 Oct	TSTA A Inport/CMTQT Inport
23 Oct – 24 Oct	Visit Ship
25 Oct – 25 Oct	TSTA A Inport
26 Oct – 29 Oct	TSTA A Underway SOCAL
27 Oct – 27 Oct	Underway Replenishment (USNS GUADALUPE)
29 Oct – 29 Oct	Arrive San Diego, CA
30 Oct – 01 Nov	Inport San Diego, CA
01 Nov – 01 Nov	TSTA A Inport
02 Nov – 05 Nov	TSTA A Underway SOCAL
04 Nov – 04 Nov	Underway Replenishment (USNS PECOS)
05 Nov – 05 Nov	Arrive San Diego, CA
06 Nov – 08 Nov	Inport San Diego, CA
09 Nov – 10 Nov	Underway SOCAL Ops
11 Nov – 28 Nov	Inport San Diego, CA
11 Nov – 03 Dec	Corrosion Control Availability (SIMA)
12 Nov – 12 Nov	Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification (CMTQ)
15 Nov – 26 Nov	SIMA IMAV
15 Nov – 19 Nov	Underwater Hull Cleaning
22 Nov – 24 Nov	SMA (Upgraded to SMI)
29 Nov – 03 Dec	TSTA B Underway SOCAL
30 Nov – 30 Nov	Underway Replenishment (USNS PECOS)
04 Dec – 06 Dec	Inport San Diego, CA
07 Dec – 07 Dec	Engineering Quals (EQUAL) Underway
08 Dec – 12 Dec	Inport San Diego, CA
13 Dec – 16 Dec	TSTA B Underway SOCAL
14 Dec – 14 Dec	Underway Replenishment (USNS PECOS)
14 Dec – 14 Dec	REWS Range (EW Training)
15 Dec – 15 Dec	SOAR Range (USW Training)
Dec – 31 Dec	Christmas Leave Period

3. Narrative

The new year began as 1999 ended: MCCLUSKY underway in the Northern Arabian Gulf (NAG) enforcing United Nations Maritime Interception Operations (MIO) against Iraq. Throughout the month of **January**, MCCLUSKY established herself as one of the busiest platforms operating in the NAG. Supporting two boarding teams, she accumulated the majority of her 48 boardings during this month. The ship's two SH-60Bs maintained a constant presence in the air, providing support to every U.S. Warship operating in the NAG during MIO operations and day and night surface surveillance missions.

As **February** arrived, the number of ships entering Iraqi ports dwindled, as did the required boardings for such vessels. Nevertheless, MCCLUSKY remained on station in the NAG until tasked to conduct a bilateral exercise with the Bahraini Navy. The joint US/Bahraini NEON FALCON Exercise allowed MCCLUSKY's crew to interact with

members of the BANS SABHA (Bahraini FFG) for a one-week Inport period and 2 days of underway training.

During the Month of **March**, MCCLUSKY maintained its vigil in the NAG, preparing for her upcoming CART I Assessment. It is also during this period that she welcomed aboard her new Commanding Officer, CDR John N. Christenson. Shortly after CDR Christenson's arrival, the ship was once again called upon to demonstrate its tremendous capability. In what turned out to be one of the last boardings of the deployment, MCCLUSKY was credited with saving the life of an Ukrainian sailor who was gravely ill aboard a Merchant Vessel stopped for interrogation by MCCLUSKY's boarding team. After a rapid evaluation by the ship's corpsman, the Ukrainian citizen was flown to USS CARL VINSON for emergent medical care. The life of the Ukrainian citizen was saved as a result of the quick and professional response of the entire MCCLUSKY team. On 16 March, the Change of Command Ceremony was held as the ship headed south for its exit via the Straits of Hormuz. MCCLUSKY said good-bye to her former Commanding Officer, CDR Turner prior to exiting. The next day, MCCLUSKY transited the Straits of Hormuz, accompanied by the USS RAINER close astern.

After departing the Gulf, MCCLUSKY transited the Indian Ocean while conducting numerous General Quarters drills in preparation for her upcoming Mid-Cycle Assessment (MCA) and Integrated Training Team Scenario. Like everything else that MCCLUSKY undertook during this deployment, both of these rigorous assessments were superbly completed with impressive results. In recognition of the crew's outstanding performance, swim call was conducted in the Timor Straits.

As **April** began, MCCLUSKY, along with the USS FITZGERALD, pulled into Darwin, and Townsville, Australia for deserved port visits. After departing Australia and en route Pearl Harbor, HI, MCCLUSKY held a Crossing-the-Line Ceremony granting those aboard their Golden Shellbacks. In Pearl Harbor, several crewmembers were met by family and friends who would accompany the ship on its final leg to San Diego during the ship's much anticipated "Tiger Cruise."

On 2 **May** MCCLUSKY returned to San Diego, pulling into Pier 4 after 172 days away from homeport. The return home marked the conclusion of a highly successful Western Pacific/Arabian Gulf Deployment. For the remainder of the month, MCCLUSKY's crew was placed in a well-deserved Post Overseas Movement (POM) leave and standdown period.

June began with MCCLUSKY's final underway before entering her Dry-docking and Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA). During the underway period, the ship conducted several successful Detect-to-Engage Sequences and performed a flawless shipborne torpedo launch on the SCORE range in company with HSL-46. This underway period ended with the offload of all shipboard ammunition at Seal Beach, CA. On 17 June, MCCLUSKY entered the Graving Dock at 32nd Street Naval Base to begin DSRA '99. On 29 June, MCCLUSKY moved from the Graving Dock to Continental Maritime Shipyard for the remainder of the availability. The ship completed her availability on 01 September.

September began with the ship underway for Sea Trials following an arduous SRA, returning to port that same day. On 13 September MCCLUSKY was again underway to conduct operations in the Southern California (SOCAL) OPAREA in

preparation for her upcoming CART II evaluation. Upon completion of local OPAREA training, MCCLUSKY proceeded to Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station to onload ammunition. After returning to San Diego following a highly efficient ammo onload, MCCLUSKY's crew continued to enhance its combat readiness by successfully passing Aviation Readiness Evaluation (ARE) and completing a highly successful Combat Systems Groom at Port Hueneme, CA.

October arrived and MCCLUSKY departed Port Hueneme to finalize her preparations for CART II before returning to San Diego. On 04-08 October, MCCLUSKY commenced CART II under the watchful eye of Afloat Training Group, Pacific. The ship and her crew were evaluated at the highest level for VBSS and Intelligence Collection. On 13 October, MCCLUSKY took part in the Navy's Birthday celebration at Pier 7 with USS TARAWA (LHA 1) and USS PAUL F. FOSTER (DD 964). The remainder of the month was filled with preparations and drills for MCCLUSKY'S Tailored Ship Training Assessment (TSTA A & B) and the ship's Cruise Missile Training Qualification (CMTQ).

Throughout the month of **November** MCCLUSKY continued to enhance its training proficiency by seizing every opportunity to conduct Engineering Casualty Control (ECC) Drills, General Quarters, and CMTQ drills. The consistent hard work and effort of the crew paid off when MCCLUSKY earned its CMTQ three months ahead of schedule. MCCLUSKY also successfully completed its Supply Management Availability (SMA) during this period, which was immediately upgraded to a full inspection. ATG members stated "MCCLUSKY was not only the most improved ship on the waterfront, but also one of the best."

On **07 December**, MCCLUSKY successfully completed its Engineering Qualification (EQUAL), capping an incredible six-months of hard work and preparations. During the remainder of the month, the ship continued the Inter-deployment Training Cycle; conducting TSTA B underway and effectively utilizing the Electronic Warfare services available on the REWS Range. MCCLUSKY also had an excellent training opportunity on the SOAR Range with a SH-60 from HSL-47. This evolution enabled MCCLUSKY to once again demonstrate her high level of combat proficiency by successfully vectoring her organic air asset onto a simulated submarine. After several simulated attacks, MCCLUSKY fired a dummy MK-46 torpedo with extreme accuracy from her torpedo tubes, earning an adjective grade of "Excellent" for weapon placement.

After a fast-paced year of inspections and underway periods, MCCLUSKY stood down for a well-deserved Christmas and New Year's Holiday Leave Period. During this period, she took top honors in the NAVSTA Annual Christmas Lights Decoration Contest (Small-Ship Category), winning First Place for her efforts.

4. Supporting Documents

1. Darwin Port Visit Report from USS FITZGERALD (DDG-62) dtg 090433ZAPR99.
2. Townsville Port Visit Report from USS MCCLUSKY (FFG-41) dtg 150752ZAPRZ99.
3. SRA99 Completion Report from SUPSHIP SAN DIEGO CA dtg 071858ZSEP99.