



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8) ✓

FLEET POST OFFICE
MIAMI 34092-1466

5750
Ser/214-88
FFG 8/00/01.1R
01 Mar 88

From: Commanding Officer, USS MCINERNEY (FFG-8)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington, D.C. 20374
Subj: 1987 COMMAND HISTORY REPORT (OPNAV 5750-1)
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted for the purpose of preserving significant information concerning the activities conducted by the officers and crew of the USS MCINERNEY (FFG-8) during the 1987 calendar year.

2. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

a. Mission: With the newly installed AN/SQQ-89(v)2 ASW suite, MCINERNEY's primary mission area is ASW. With a defense-in-depth AAW capability, MCINERNEY has a secondary primary role of convoy escort.

b. Organizational structure as of 31 December 1987:

CDR Charles J. Rafter	COMMANDING OFFICER
LCDR Gary M. McKinley	EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LCDR [REDACTED]	SHIP CONTROL OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	ENGINEER OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	SUPPLY OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	COMBAT SYSTEMS OFFICER
LT [REDACTED]	DAMAGE CONTROL ASSISTANT
LT [REDACTED]	MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT
LT [REDACTED]	ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
LTJG [REDACTED]	ORDNANCE OFFICER
ENS [REDACTED]	AUXILIARIES OFFICER
ENS [REDACTED]	DISBURSING OFFICER
ENS [REDACTED]	COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER OFFICER

c. Losses:

- (1) LT [REDACTED]: 28FEB87 transferred to SWOSCOLCOM Newport, RI, DCA school.
- (2) LT [REDACTED]: 10JUL87 discharged from active duty
- (3) LT [REDACTED]: 29JUL87 discharged from active duty
- (4) LTJG [REDACTED]: 20SEP87 discharged from active duty
- (5) LTJG [REDACTED]: 01OCT87 transferred to Naval Station Mayport, FL
- (6) CDR [REDACTED]: 10NOV87 transferred to COMDESRON 24 Mayport, FL

d. Gains:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| (1) ENS [REDACTED]: | Date reported 01APR87 from SWOSCOLCOM
Newport, RI |
| (2) LT [REDACTED]: | Date reported 24JUN87 from U.S. Navy
Resale Activity, U.S. Naval Facility
Argentia, Newfoundland, Canada |
| (3) LT [REDACTED]: | Date reported 06JUL87 from SWOSCOLCOM
Newport, RI |
| (4) ENS [REDACTED]: | Date reported 04AUG87 from SWOSCOLCOM
Newport, RI |
| (5) LCDR Gary M. McKinley | Date reported 06NOV87 from U.S. Naval
Academy, Annapolis, Md |

3. CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF EVENTS

- 01 Jan - Undergoing EDSRA at East Boston, MA, General Ship Corporation main yard facilities.
- 11 Feb - COMDESRON EIGHT, Captain Gabriel, arrives.
- 12 Feb - EDSRA 75% conference held at the Barnes Building, SUPSHIP Boston main office.
- 13 Feb - COMDESRON EIGHT departs for Mayport, FL.
- 24 Feb - CNO Officially approves MCINERNEY'S change of homeport from Boston, MA to Mayport, FL to be effective 01 Apr 87.
- 14 Mar - Crew move aboard from the berthing barge.
- 18 Mar - Technical manuals arrive aboard ship from the ILO site, New London, CT.
- 23 Mar - Commenced 3-section duty in preparation for Engineering Light-Off Examination (LOE).
- 30 Mar - Awarded the CNO Surface Ship Safety Award (frigate category) Atlantic Fleet for the period April 85 - Sept 86.
- 13 Apr - Commenced AN/SQQ-89 Navy Test Team Installation Checkout (INCO).
- 16 Apr - Commenced ILO backload of spare parts from New London, CT.
- 20 Apr - Berth shift from East Boston to South Boston GSC shipyard facilities.
- 22 Apr - Continued backload of ILO spare parts.
- 27 Apr - Continued backload of ILO spare parts.
- 30 Apr-01 May - Underwent successful Light-Off Examination (LOE).
- 07 May - Commenced Combat Systems/System Integrated Testing (CS/SIT).
- 01-04 Jun - Conducted sea trials underway phase.
- 16 Jun - Underway from Boston, MA.
- 19 Jun - Arrived Solomon's Island Annex, NAS Patuxent River, MD for systems testing by the Naval Air Test Center (NATC) Pax River.

25 Jun - Underway for Yorktown, VA Naval Weapons Station; conducted ammo onload.

26 Jun - Underway for Mayport, FL.

28 Jun - Arrived Naval Station Mayport, FL.

13-31 Jul - Inport for IMAV by SIMA Mayport, FL.

20 Jul-07 Aug - AN/SQQ-89 Certification Team Visit.

05 Aug - Host ship for USS STARK (FFG-31) return from MEF deployment.

10-14 Aug - Underway JAX OPAREA for RLQ's/gunshoots/ship handling drills.

18 Aug - Underway for Yorktown, VA.

20-24 Aug - Ammo onload at Naval Weapons Station-Yorktown, VA.

24 Aug - Underway for Mayport, FL.

26 Aug - Arrive Mayport, FL.

27-28 Aug - Underway JAX OPAREA for Combat Systems Alignment Test (CSAT)/BECCE drills.

31 Aug-01 Sep - Training Readiness Evaluation (TRE).

31 Aug - Commenced Combat Systems Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT).

03 Sep - Conducted Shipwide physical readiness test (PRT).

14-21 Sep - Conducted Ship Inclining Survey.

15-16 Sep - Underway JAX OPAREA for CSSQT.

01-02 Oct - Underway JAX OPAREA for CSSQT.

05-06 Oct - Underway JAX OPAREA for CSSQT.

13 Oct - Underway for Port Everglades.

14-16 Oct - Inport Port Everglades - Weapons Systems Accuracy Trials (WSAT) Phase I.

16 Oct - Underway for Andros Island, Bahamas.

17 Oct - Conducted FCRACS testing off Andros Island.

18 Oct - Fired two extorps and successfully completed WSAT.

18-19 Oct - Participated in advanced ASW assist ship ops with USS TAYLOR (FFG-50).

- 20-21 Oct - Conducted Surface Ship Radiated Noise Measurements (SSRNM) with *W* Deer Island (YAG-62).
- 21 Oct - Arrived Nassau, The Bahamas for re-fueling.
- 22 Oct - Underway from Nassau.
- 21-24 Oct - Conducted Week One Work-ups (WOWU) with HSL-44 Det 8 attached.
- 25 Oct - Arrived Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.
- 26-29 Oct - Underway daily from Roosevelt Roads, in South Puerto Rican OPAREA/AFWTF range for CSSQT.
- 27 Oct - Fired two successful SM-1 missiles on the AFWTF range.
- 29 Oct - Successfully completed CSSQT. Underway from Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.
- 30 Oct-02 Nov - Port visit Saint Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.
- 02 Nov - Underway from Saint Thomas.
- 04 Nov - Arrived Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- 04 Nov-08 Dec - Conducted Refresher Training in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- 19-22 - Coordinated ASW OPS in GIMD OPAREA with USS KING (DDG-41), USS BIDDLE (CG-34) and USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG-49).
- 26 Nov - Country and western singing group "The JUDDS" visits MCINERNEY for Thanksgiving Day.
- 07 Dec - Satisfactorily completed Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).
- 08 Dec - Underway from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.
- 10-13 Dec - Underway for RLQ's JAX OPAREA.
- 14 Dec - Arrived Mayport, FL.
- 15 Dec - ET1 Thomas Roske died aboard MCINERNEY of apparent heart attack.
- 17 Dec - Commenced holiday leave and upkeep period.

4. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

MCINERNEY STARTED 1987 BERTHED AT THE GENERAL SHIP CORPORATION MAIN SHIPYARD FACILITIES LOCATED IN EAST BOSTON, MA. THE CREW MOVE ABOARD ON 14 MARCH FROM THE BERTHING BARGE, WHICH HAD BEEN OCCUPIED FOR TEN MONTHS, MARKED A MAJOR MILESTONE FOR THE SHIP IN THE COMPLETION OF THE AVAILABILITY. ON 20 APRIL, MCINERNEY SHIFTED BERTHS ACROSS BOSTON HARBOR TO THE GENERAL SHIPYARD FACILITIES IN SOUTH BOSTON, MA, IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE SH-60 TESTING PHASE OF THE COMBAT SYSTEMS INTEGRATED TESTING PROGRAM (CSITP), AND MAKE FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE ENGINEERING LIGHT-OFF EXAMINATION (LOE) ON 30 APRIL - 1 MAY. MCINERNEY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE SEA TRIALS UNDERWAY PHASE FROM 1-4 JUNE, AND DEPARTED BOSTON ON 16 JUNE, OFFICIALLY TERMINATING THE THIRTEEN MONTH EDSRA AND COMMENCING THE NINETY-DAY SHIPYARD GUARANTEE PERIOD. THE MAJOR MODERNIZATION OVERHAUL INCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF THE AN/SQR-19 (V) 2 TACTICAL TOWED ARRAY SONAR AND AN/SQQ-28 SONOBUOY SIGNAL PROCESSING SYSTEM (COMBINING TO MAKE THE AN/SQQ-89 (V) 2 ASW SUITE), THE RE-INSTALLATION OF THE RECOVERY, ASSIST, SECURING, AND TRAVERSING (RAST) SYSTEM FOR LAMPS MK III OPERATIONS, AND INSTALLATION OF FIN STABILIZERS WITH THE SINGLE AUDIO SYSTEM (SAS) COMMUNICATIONS SUITE. THE EDSRA ALSO INCLUDED OVERHAUL OF NEARLY ALL SHIPBOARD EQUIPMENT, AND MAJOR UPGRADE OF SHIPBOARD FIREFIGHTING SYSTEMS INCLUDING HALON 1301 AND AFFF.

FOLLOWING DEPARTURE FROM BOSTON, MCINERNEY PROCEEDED TO THE NAVAL AIR TEST CENTER (NATC) NAS PATUXENT RIVER, MD FOR SIX DAYS OF AN/SLQ-32 (V) 2 AND AN/SQQ-28 SONOBUOY SIGNAL PROCESSING SYSTEM TESTING. FOLLOWING AN AMMO ONLOAD, THE SHIP ARRIVED AT NAVAL STATION MAYPORT, FLORIDA FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY FOURTEEN MONTHS.

THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR SAW MCINERNEY CONDUCTING NUMEROUS TESTS AND INSPECTIONS INCLUDING COMBAT SYSTEMS/SYSTEMS INTEGRATED TESTING (CS/SIT), COMBAT SYSTEMS ALIGNMENT TEST (CSAT), SHIP INCLINING SURVEY, COMBAT SYSTEMS SHIP QUALIFICATION TRIALS (CSSQT) INCLUDING THE SUCCESSFUL FIRING OF TWO SM-1 (MR) MISSILES. ALSO CONDUCTED WERE WEAPON SYSTEMS ACCURACY TRIALS (WSAT) INCLUDING THE SUCCESSFUL FIRING OF TWO EXERCISE TORPEDOES, AND A TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION (TRE). THESE CULMINATED IN REFRESHER TRAINING AT GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA FROM 4 NOVEMBER - 8 DECEMBER. MCINERNEY AGAIN SET MAJOR MILESTONES FOR THE FLEET IN LAMPS MK III OPERATIONS AS THE FIRST SHIP TO UNDERGO REFTRA WITH A LAMPS III DETACHMENT EMBARKED, AND WAS ALSO THE LAST SHIP TO UNDERGO OPERATIONAL PROPULSION PLANT EXAMINATION (OPPE) IN CONJUNCTION WITH REFTRA AT GUANTANAMO BAY.

AFTER SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF REFTRA, MCINERNEY CONDUCTED RAST LANDING QUALIFICATIONS (RLQ'S) FOR FOUR DAYS IN THE JAX OPAREA BEFORE RETURNING TO MAYPORT ON 14 DECEMBER.

AT APPROXIMATELY 0630, 15 DECEMBER, ET1 THOMAS ROSKE COLLAPSED ON THE MESS DECKS, AND DESPITE NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS, COULD NOT BE REVIVED. HE WAS MEDICALLY EVACUATED FROM MCINERNEY'S FLIGHT DECK TO UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL JACKSONVILLE, FL WHERE HE WAS PRONOUNCED DEAD AT APPROXIMATELY 0830. AN AUTOPSY REVEALED THAT HE HAD DIED FROM A MASSIVE HEART ATTACK.

THE HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD COMMENCED ON 17 DECEMBER, AND THE END OF THE YEAR FOUND MCINERNEY PIERSIDE AT NAVAL STATION MAYPORT, FLORIDA.


C. J. RAFTER