From: Commanding Officer, USS MCINERNEY (FFG-8)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington, D.C. 20374

Subj: 1988 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 1988 calendar year.

2. COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

a. Mission: With the Navy's most advanced ASW suite, the AN/SQQ-89(V)2, together with a dual LAMPS MK III detachment, MCINERNEY's primary missions are Anti-Submarine Warfare and Anti-Air Warfare. With a defense-in-depth ASW capability, MCINERNEY has a secondary primary role of convoy escort.

b. Organizational structure as of 31 December 1988:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CDR</td>
<td>Michael O. Borns</td>
<td>COMMANDING OFFICER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LCDR</td>
<td>Gary M. McKinley</td>
<td>EXECUTIVE OFFICER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td></td>
<td>SUPPLY OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td></td>
<td>COMBAT SYSTEMS OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LT</td>
<td></td>
<td>OPERATIONS OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LT</td>
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<td>ENGINEER OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LTJG</td>
<td></td>
<td>ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OFFICER</td>
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<td>LTJG</td>
<td></td>
<td>AUXILIARIES OFFICER</td>
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<td>LTJG</td>
<td></td>
<td>DISBURSING OFFICER</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ELECTRONIC READINESS OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>LTJG</td>
<td></td>
<td>MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENS</td>
<td></td>
<td>COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER OFFICER</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENS</td>
<td></td>
<td>ELECTRONIC WARFARE OFFICER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENS</td>
<td></td>
<td>DAMAGE CONTROL ASSISTANT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Losses:

1. LCDR [redacted] transferred to Joint Cruise Missile Project, Washington, D.C.
2. LT [redacted] transferred to SUPSHIPS, Jacksonville, FL
3. LT [redacted] transferred to DESRON TWELVE, Mayport, FL
4. LT [redacted] transferred to OPNAV, Washington, D.C.
5. LT [redacted] transferred to SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI
6. CDR Charles J. Rafter transferred to DESRON TWELVE, Mayport, FL
d. Gains:

(1) ENS .getDate.cc
Date reported 01FEB88 from SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI

(2) LT .getDate.cc
Date reported 02FEB88 from SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI

(3) ENS .getDate.cc
Date reported 18MAR88 from SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI

(4) LT .getDate.cc
Date reported 29MAR88 from SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI

(5) LT .getDate.cc
Date reported 04APR88 from USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69), Norfolk, VA

(6) LTJG .getDate.cc
Date reported 28JUL88 from SWOSCOLOM, Newport, RI

(7) CDR Michael O. Borns
Date reported 05DEC88 from COMNAVSURFLANT, Norfolk, VA

3. CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF EVENTS

05 Jan - Harpoon Certification

13 Jan - Fast Cruise

17 Jan - Underway for FLEETEX 1-88 and MEF 2-88 workups

22 Jan - Chop to MEF 2-88 workups

31 Jan - Return to Mayport

03 Feb - Training Assessment & Coordination Visit

05 Feb - COMDESRON EIGHT Zone Inspection

08 Feb - Underway for RLQ's

12 Feb - Return to Mayport

16 - 19 Feb - Begin IUC Admin and 3M Inspection

01 - 03 Mar - INSURV

07 Mar - Flight Deck Repair Begins
  - JOETS installations begins
  - URT-23(V) installation begins

10 Mar - RADM Jesberg, COMHELIWINGSFLANT, visit

22 - 27 Mar - TPT 4-88

28 Mar - KW46 installation begins

11 Apr - Underway Ocean Venture/FLEETEX 2-88(advanced)
21 Apr - RADM Dougherty, COMCARGRU EIGHT, visit
23 Apr - SVTT and Air-drop torpedo exercises on AUTEC range
26 Apr - Finish FLEETEX 2-88(basic)
29 Apr - Inport Port Everglades, Florida
02 May - Underway for CNO project 858-1
03 May - RIQ's
   Anchored off coast of St. Augustine, Florida
06 May - Return to Mayport
10 May - TPT 4-88 debrief
11 May - 05 Jun - IMAV
11 May - Commence Ballast Installation
   - Aviation Assist Visit
23 - 24 May - Battle Force Inport Trainer
31 May - 03 Jun - CSRR Phase I
01 Jun - Uruguayan CNO, VALM Largher, tours McInerney
04 Jun - SNS Victoria arrives Mayport; McInerney is host ship
07 Jun - Ammo onload
08 Jun - Underway FLEETEX 2-88(advanced)
14 Jun - Harpoon exercise firing
24 Jun - Return to Mayport
24 Jun - 05 Jul - SIMAS UPGRADE installation
27 Jun - 07 Jul - CSRR phase II
24 Jun - 31 Jul - ROM
31 Jul - QMCM(SW) Garrett A. Schultz, Command Master Chief, retires
02 Aug - Underway Med 3-88
12 Aug - PHOTOEX with all ships is Battlegroup
14 Aug - Transit Strait of Gibraltar
15 Aug - Conduct turnover with USS T.C. Hart (FF-1092) in Alicante, Spain
20 - 27 Aug - Port visit, Augusta Bay, Sicily
30 Aug - 05 Sep - Port visit, Alexandria, Egypt
05 - 07 Sep - Seawind exercise with Egyptian Navy
10 - 12 Sep - ASW operations
13 - 17 Sep - Port visit, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
19 Sep - 12 Oct - ASW operations
14 - 19 Oct - Port visit, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
21 - 24 Oct - Upkeep, Tunis, Tunisia
24 - 26 Oct - Tunisian Passex
27 - 28 Oct - McNerney tows USS VOGE (FF-1047) enroute Augusta Bay after Voig experienced a severe boiler casualty.
29 Oct - 05 Nov - Upkeep, Augusta Bay, Sicily
05 - 07 Nov - ASW Operations
07 Nov - McNerney awarded COMSIXTHFLT "Hook'em" Award for ASW excellence
08 - 11 Nov - Upkeep, Augusta Bay, Sicily
13 - 20 Nov - Upkeep, Catania, Sicily
21 - 30 Nov - Underway, coordinated NATO ASW Operations
01 - 06 Dec - Upkeep, Malaga, Spain
09 - 11 Dec - Upkeep, Cartagena, Spain
13 Dec - Change of Command - Commander Michael O. Borns relieves Commander Charles J. Rafter
13 - 18 Dec - Port visit, Malaga, Spain
21 Dec - McNerney rescues ten crewmen and two Ghanaian stowaways of sinking motor vessel JENNASTAR, southwest of Sardinia in the Mediterranean Sea
23 - 31 Dec - Restricted Availability, Naples, Italy

4. HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

McNerney began 1988 in anticipation of deploying to the Persian Gulf in April. In preparation for this duty, McNerney participated in Middle East Force (MEF) Workups 17-31 January. McNerney completed FLEETEX 2-88/MEF Workup Exercises and provided Fast Landing Qualification Services in the
Jacksonville operating area 8-12 February. The inspection by the Sub-Board of Inspection and Survey, Atlantic, was conducted 29 February to 1 March. In addition to the INSURV Inspection the Gas Turbine Readiness Review, Supply Management Inspection, and Auxiliary System Readiness Review were completed between May and June 1988. In early March, repairs to the Flight Deck were completed and the Joint Operational Tactical System (JOTS) was installed.

Two Burial at Sea ceremonies were conducted. The first was on 25 March for WT2C D.L. Gardner. The next was on 5 May for BN1/C Richard I. Hunt, USN. Both were performed in the Atlantic off the coast of Florida.

In early March, McInerney's deployment schedule was revised to the Mediterranean as part of the MED 3-88 Battle Group. McInerney participated in Ocean Venture and FLEETEX 2-88 (basic) from 11-26 April, which included exercise torpedo shots from both ship and helicopter on the AUTEC range near St. Croix. The crew enjoyed a port visit to Port Everglades, Florida, 29 April - 2 May. Following this port visit CND project 858-1 testing was conducted on 2 May prior to conducting Rast Landing Qualification Services and arriving in Mayport, Florida, on 5 May. McInerney commenced maintenance availability (IMAV) on 11 May and ending 3 June which included a 300 Ton Ballast Installation.

McInerney hosted the Uruguayan Chief of Naval Operations, VADM Largher, on 1 June. His two week tour of U.S. Naval installations was in part motivated by interest in the FFG-7 Class Platform.

FLEETEX 2-88(advance) was conducted 8-24 June. Underway training was conducted in ASW, AAW, ASW, and Amphibious Assault Exercises. Additionally, a Harpoon exercise missile shot was completed recording a direct hit as evaluated by post exercise analysis. Upon return to Mayport, SIMAS UGRAD3E was installed which significantly enhanced the capability of the AN/SQQ-89(V)2 ASW Suite.

On 31 July, QMCM(SW) Garret A. Schultz, McInerney's Command Master Chief, retired after 26 years of Naval Service.

The second of August found McInerney underway for deployment to the Mediterranean. The transit phase involved significant Battle Group training with Real-World coordinated ASW. After transiting the Strait of Gibralter and conducting a turnover with the USS T.C. Hart in Alicante, Spain, McInerney made her first MED 3-88 port visit to Augusta Bay, Sicily.

Enroute to western Mediterranean, McInerney conducted highly successful ASW line operations against a Real-World target of interest.

McInerney conducted a port visit to Palma de Mallorca, 13-17 September. This visit was abbreviated when McInerney was assigned conducting ASW line operations until 12 October recording unprecedented success against this target of interest.

Port calls were then made to Palma de Mallorca, Spain, and Tunis, Tunisia. McInerney conducted exercises with the Tunisian Navy as part of a Tunisian Passex with USS John F. Kennedy. On the evening of 26 October USS VOGE (FF-1042) suffered a severe engineering casualty which required
McInerney to take her in tow on the morning of the 27th until she regained use of her own propulsion on 28 October. Both ships continued in transit to Augusta Bay, Sicily, for upkeep and maintenance.

Augusta Bay upkeep/MAV took place at anchorage with McInerney nested with the repair tender USS YELLOWSTONE (AD-41). The upkeep was interrupted for three days when McInerney was assigned to ASW line operations. After locating and tracking the target of interest for two days McInerney returned to Augusta Bay to complete maintenance and participate in the Battlegroup Surface Warfare Training Week. After an upkeep period in Catania, Sicily, McInerney participated in Joint NATO ASW Operations with HMS Arethusa, a British tactical towed array equipped ship.

After upkeep periods in Malaga and Cartagena, Spain, McInerney conducted a Change of Command at which Commander Charles J. Rafter was relieved by Commander Michael O. Borns. The ceremony was held at anchor in Malaga, Spain.

After a port visit to Malaga, McInerney began the transit to Naples, Italy. Encountering high winds and heavy seas, on the morning of 21 December, McInerney received a distress call from the Maltese-Registered Cement Freighter, Jennastar, located southwest of Sardinia, Italy. She was taking on water and had listed to port by 25 degrees in the severe weather. When McInerney reached the scene, the twelve crewman—ten Polish and two Ghanian—had abandoned ship into a single liferaft. As McInerney approached the liferaft, the Jennastar sank. All twelve men were safely brought aboard the McInerney and were transported to Naples where shipping agents and Italian authorities coordinated their return to their respective countries.

Upon arrival in Naples, McInerney commenced a restricted availability period.

Michael O. Borns