



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
 USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8)  
 FLEET POST OFFICE  
 AA 34092-1486

*Rec'd 4/4/97*

5750  
 Ser FFG8/036-97  
 1 March 1997

From: Commanding Officer, USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8)  
 To: Directory of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy  
 Yard, 901 M Street SE, Washington, D.C. 20374-5060  
 Subj: 1996 Command History  
 Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E CH-1

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 USS MCINERNEY (FFG 8) during the 1996 calendar year.

2. Command composition and organization.

a. Mission: Primary missions are Anti-Submarine Warfare (AN/SQQ-89 Suite, LAMPS MK III), Anti-Air Warfare (SM-1, 76mm), and Anti-Surface Warfare (Harpoon, 76mm). MCINERNEY has a secondary mission of convoy escort and has also been tasked with maritime interdiction operations.

b. Effective command structure as of 31 December 1996:

CDR Dirk P. Deverill	Commanding Officer
LCDR Michael W. Dahlin	Executive Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Combat Systems Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Chief Engineer
LT [REDACTED]	Operations Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Supply Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Damage Control Assistant
LTJG [REDACTED]	Auxiliaries Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Dispersing Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Ordinance Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Navigation/Administrative Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Combat Information Center Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	First Lieutenant
ENS [REDACTED]	Main Propulsion Assistant
ENS [REDACTED]	Electronics Readiness Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	Communications Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	Prospective Damage Control Assistant
CWO2 [REDACTED]	Assistant Chief Engineer

c. Losses:

- (1) LT [REDACTED]: 13 March to Naval Space Command, Washington, D.C.
- (2) Capt(sel) Ronald Y. Heath: 15 March to USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70), Bremerton, WA.
- (3) LT [REDACTED]: 31 March to USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV 67), Mayport, FL.
- (4) LTJG [REDACTED]: 03 April to USS HUE CITY (CG 66), Mayport, FL.
- (5) LT [REDACTED]: 04 April released from active duty.
- (6) LT [REDACTED]: 08 May to U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.
- (7) LCDR [REDACTED]: 13 June to U.S. Atlantic Command, Norfolk, Va.
- (8) LTJG [REDACTED]: 17 October to USS GUARDIAN (MCM 5), Kyushu Sasebo, Japan.
- (9) LT [REDACTED]: 15 November to Destroyer Squadron 24, Mayport, FL.
- (10) LT [REDACTED]: 30 November released from active duty.

d. Gains:

- (1) LTJG [REDACTED]: 15 January from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (2) CDR Dirk P. Deverill: 08 March from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (3) ENS [REDACTED]: 11 March from Fleet Training Center, Norfolk, VA.
- (4) LT [REDACTED]: 15 March from Naval Supply Corps School, Athens, GA.
- (5) LCDR Michael W. Dahlin: 07 June from Naval War College, Newport, RI.
- (6) ENS [REDACTED]: 12 August from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.
- (7) LTJG [REDACTED]: 30 August from USS LEFTWICH (DD 984), Pearl Harbor, HI.

(8) LT [REDACTED]: 16 September from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

(9) ENS [REDACTED]: 27 December from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

(10) ENS [REDACTED]: 31 December from Surface Warfare Officer School Command, Newport, RI.

e. (1) Name of ISIC: Commander, Western Hemisphere Group

(2) Permanent Duty Station: Mayport, Florida.

(3) Aircraft Assigned: 1 SH-60B Seahawk with crew  
HSL FOUR EIGHT DET TWO  
Tailcode: "Venom 500"

f. Chronological Order of Events:

01-28 Jan:	Inport - Mayport, FL
02-12 Jan:	Combat Systems Readiness Review
16-26 Jan:	Tailored Ship's Training Availability, Phase II
29 Jan - 02 Feb:	Underway - Tailored Ships Training Availability, Phase II
03-04 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL
05-09 Feb:	Underway - Tailored Ship's Training Availability, Phase III
10-12 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL
13-16 Feb:	Underway - JAXOPAREA for Final Evaluation Period
17-19 Feb:	Inport - Mayport, FL Enroute - Puerto Rico OPAREA
20 Feb - 08 Mar	Underway - COMPTUEX
09 Mar - 11 Apr	Inport, Mayport, FL
15 Mar:	Change of Command - CDR Dirk P. Deverill relieves CAPT(sel) Ronald Y. Heath
25 Mar - 11 Apr:	Intermediate Maintenance Availability, Mayport, FL
12 Apr:	Underway - Standing Naval Force, Atlantic (SNFL) '96 Deployment
12-23 Apr:	Enroute - Gibraltar
24-26 Apr:	Inport - Gibraltar, Assigned to Commander Standing Naval Force, Atlantic
27-29 Apr:	Enroute - Adriatic Sea
30 Apr - 04 May:	Operation Sharp Guard - enforcing U.N. sanctions against the former Yugoslavia
05-08 May:	Inport - Venice, Italy
09-11 May:	Enroute - Corfu, Greece
12-14 May:	Inport - Corfu, Greece
15-23 May:	Enroute - Ponta Delgado, Azores
24-25 May:	Inport - Ponta Delgado, Azores
26 May - 02 Jun:	Enroute - St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands
03-05 Jun:	Inport - St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands

06 Jun: Enroute - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico  
 07-11 Jun: Inport - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico  
 12-21 Jun: Underway - Puerto Rico OPAREA  
 12-13 Jun: SNFL coordinated AAW exercises  
 14 Jun: SNFL coordinated USW exercises  
 16-18 Jun: SNFL coordinated ASUW exercises  
 21 Jun: SNFL multi-threat battle exercises  
 22-23 Jun: Enroute - Curacao, Netherlands Antillies,  
 Counter Drug Operations  
 24-27 Jun: Inport - Curacao, Netherlands Antillies  
 27-30 Jun: Enroute - Caracas, Venezuela  
 1-4 Jul: Inport - Caracas, Venezuela  
 5-21 Jul: Enroute - Norfolk, VA  
 8 Jul: Disaster relief exercise  
 9 Jul: Ammunition onload - Roosevelt Roads, Puerto  
 Rico  
 9-10 Jul: Search and Rescue operations in the wake of  
 Hurricane Bertha  
 15-18 Jul: UNITAS '96, Phase Zero  
 15 Jul: Puerto Rico OPAREA for Harpoon missile  
 exercise  
 22 Jul - 04 Aug: Inport - Norfolk, VA, Intermediate  
 Maintenance Availability  
 23 Aug: SNFL international reception  
 05-06 Aug: Enroute - Boston, Massachusetts  
 07-11 Aug: Inport - Boston, Massachusetts  
 12 Aug: Enroute - Halifax, Canada  
 13-15 Aug: Inport - Halifax, Canada  
 16-21 Aug: Enroute - Reykjavik, Iceland  
 22-23 Aug: Inport - Reykjavik, Iceland  
 24-26 Aug: Enroute - Bergen, Norway  
 27 Aug - 01 Sep: Inport - Bergen, Norway  
 02-12 Sep: Underway - Operation Northern Light/Bright  
 Horizon  
 09 Sep: HSL 48 Det 2 SH-60B, "Venom 500," aircraft  
 mishap  
 13-17 Sep: Inport - Portsmouth, England  
 18 Sep: Underway - Transit to Mayport, FL with USS  
 MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20) Battle Group,  
 Enroute - Mayport, FL  
 18-28 Sep: Enroute - Mayport, FL  
 29 Sep - 07 Nov: Inport - Mayport, FL  
 29 Sep - 20 Oct: Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep period  
 21 Oct: Safety Survey  
 28 Oct - 01 Nov: Logistics Management Assessment Assist  
 07-08 Nov: Underway - JAXOPAREA for INSURV preparations  
 03-04 Dec: Underway - JAXOPAREA for INSURV preparations  
 07-13 Dec: Completed Board of Inspection and Survey  
 16-20 Dec: Logistics Management Assessment  
 21-31 Dec: Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period

### 3. Historical Narrative.

MCINERNEY began 1996 by completing the work-ups for her upcoming deployment. After successfully completing TSTA II and III, FEP, and COMPTUEX, MCINERNEY returned to Mayport to make final preparations for the deployment.

Shortly after returning, Capt(sel) Ronald Y. Heath was relieved by CDR Dirk P. Deverill as the Commanding Officer.

In early April MCINERNEY began what would be a challenging deployment as the U.S. representative in the NATO battle group, Standing Naval Force, Atlantic (SNFL). The battle group was composed of representatives from the various NATO navies, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Denmark, and the Netherlands. MCINERNEY relieved USS SIMPSON (FFG 56) at Gibraltar and then reported to the Adriatic Sea where SNFL was engaged in Operation Sharp Guard, enforcing U.N. sanctions against the former Yugoslavia.

After several days of interrogating and tracking countless contacts, MCINERNEY enjoyed some liberty in historic Venice, Italy and Corfu, Greece. Here she began an exchange program with the other ships of SNFL that would last throughout the deployment, a plan in which crew members were given the opportunity to spend time on another ship and learn how our NATO allies operate.

MCINERNEY departed the Mediterranean for the Caribbean, while conducting exercises with SNFL as she crossed the Atlantic. The crossing ended with a visit to the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.

Utilizing the assets available at Puerto Rico, SNFL then conducted intensive exercises in all warfare areas. With her warfighting skills honed, MCINERNEY lead the ships of SNFL in counter drug operations as the group transited south for Curacao and Venezuela.

In July Hurricane Bertha swept through the Caribbean as she made her way toward the U.S., leaving a path of destruction in her wake. MCINERNEY followed the storm to search for vessels in danger and provide assistance. SNFL then joined up with the South American ships of UNITAS for a wide range of multi-national exercises, which included a missile shoot for MCINERNEY.

The next stop was Norfolk, which provided opportunities to conduct maintenance and visit with family and friends. Also, MCINERNEY sponsored an elaborate reception welcoming the NATO force to the U.S. for the first time in several years.

MCINERNEY then transited the north Atlantic, stopping in Boston, Halifax, Reykjavik, and Bergen, and concluding with participation in Operation Northern Light/Bright Horizon. At the

conclusion of this NATO exercise, MCINERNEY went to Portsmouth to detach from SNFL and join up with Second Fleet Flagship USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20) for the trip home.

The return to home port gave MCINERNEY the time to conduct extensive maintenance and preparation, which allowed her to successfully complete the Board of Inspection and Survey and Logistics Management Assessment. With this inspection cycle behind her, MCINERNEY closed out the year with a well deserved holiday stand down.



D. P. DEVERILL