



rec'd 4/2/90
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS MOBILE BAY (CG 53)

FLEET POST OFFICE

MIAMI, FLORIDA 34092-1173

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

Ser CG 53-PAO/

From: COMMANDING OFFICER, USS MOBILE BAY (CG-53)
To: DIRECTOR NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER, BUILDING 57, WASHINGTON
NAVY YARD, WASHINGTON D.C.

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY 1989

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Chronology of Events
(2) Narrative of Events
(3) Cruise Summary
(4) Familygrams
(5) Cruise Book

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1. In accordance with ref (a), encl (1) through (5) submitted.

D.S. Bill III

D. S. BILL III
Captain, U.S. Navy

UNCLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES (1), (2), (4) AND (5) MAY BE REMOVED.

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COMMAND HISTORY 1989

CHRONOLOGY

BATTLE FORCE INPORT TRAINING(BFIT): 9 - 27 JANUARY
FLEET EXERCISE (ADVANCED) 2-89: 8 - 27 FEBRUARY
NUCLEAR TECHNICAL PROFICIENCY INSPECTION (NTPI): 6 - 7 MARCH
COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW(CSRR) PHASE I: 13 - 17 MARCH
AVIATION CERTIFICATION(AVCERT): 13 - 17 MARCH
AVIATION READINESS EXAM(ARE): 13 - 17 MARCH
COMMAND INSPECTION: 13 - 17 MARCH
NAVAL SAFETY CENTER SURVEY: 13 - 17 MARCH
MOBILE BAY EARNED SECNAV ENERGY CONSERVATION AWARD: 1 APRIL
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT INSPECTION: 10 - 21 APRIL
3M INSPECTION: 10 - 21 APRIL
COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW(CSRR) PHASE II: 10 - 21 APRIL
MEDITERRANEAN/INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT 11 MAY - 30 SEPTEMBER
PORT VISIT MALAGA, SPAIN: 24 - 29 MAY
PORT VISIT BENIDORM, SPAIN: 3 - 8 JUNE
EMBARK COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWENTY-TWO: 6 JUNE
NATIONAL WEEK EXERCISE: 9 - 14 JUNE
PORT VISIT HAIFA, ISRAEL: 19 - 23 JUNE
DEBARK COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWENTY-TWO: 21 JUNE
TRANSIT OF SUEZ CANAL: 24 JUNE
TRANSIT OF GULF OF ADEN/RED SEA: 25 - 29 JUNE
OPERATIONS IN GULF OF OMAN: 25 JUNE - 9 JULY
TRANSIT OF INDIAN OCEAN SOUTHWARD TO DIEGO GARCIA: 9 - 18 JULY
EMBARK COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWENTY-TWO: 9 JULY

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BATTLE GROUP WEAPONS WEEK EXERCISES: 11 - 17 JULY
MOBILE BAY'S FIRST CROSSING OF THE EQUATOR: 12 JULY
PORT VISIT DIEGO GARCIA: 18 - 21 JULY
DEBARK COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWENTY-TWO: 19 JULY
TRANSIT OF INDIAN OCEAN NORTHWARD ENROUTE THAILAND: 21 - 27 JULY
PORT VISIT PHUKET, THAILAND; 27 JULY - 1 AUGUST
TRANSIT INDIAN OCEAN WESTWARD ENROUTE NORTH ARABIAN SEA: 1 - 8 AUGUST
OPERATIONS NORTH ARABIAN SEA: 8 - 17 AUGUST
(MOBILE BAY RECEIVED THE ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY MEDAL FOR
OPERATIONS CONDUCTED WHILE IN THE NORTH ARABIAN SEA. MEDAL
AUTHORIZED 1 JAN 90
MOBILE BAY EARNS SEA SERVICE DEPLOYMENT RIBBON: 11 AUG
PORT VISIT MUSCAT, OMAN: 14 - 17 AUGUST
TRANSIT SOUTHWARD TO RED SEA: 17 - 31 AUGUST
PASSEX WITH OMANI NAVY: 19 - 23 AUGUST
TRANSIT NORTHWARD THROUGH RED SEA: 1 - 5 SEPTEMBER
PASSEX WITH ROYAL NAVY: 2 - 4 SEPTEMBER
TRANSIT THROUGH SUEZ CANAL: 5 SEPTEMBER
ASSISTANCE IN EVACUATION OF AMERICAN EMBASSY IN LEBANON: 6 SEPTEMBER
TRANSIT TO WESTMED ENROUTE PALMA, SPAIN: 6 - 9 SEPTEMBER
PORT VISIT PALMA, SPAIN: 9 - 12 SEPTEMBER
PORT VISIT NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND: 22 - 25 SEPTEMBER
OPERATIONAL PROPULSION PLANT EXAMINATION (OPPE): 25 - 27 SEPTEMBER
ARRIVE MAYPORT, FLORIDA: 30 SEPTEMBER
PORT VISIT HOUSTON, TEXAS: 12 - 18 NOVEMBER
PORT VISIT BARBADOS: 2 - 5 DECEMBER
NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT (NGFS): 6 - 8 DECEMBER

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ADVANCED ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE (ASW) EXERCISES: 9 - 12 DECEMBER

ARRIVE MAYPORT: 15 DECEMBER

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NARRATIVE

On 9 January 1989, while inport Mayport, FL., MOBILE BAY in conjunction with USS AMERICA, Carrier Air Wing ONE, USS DALE, USS LAWRENCE, USS COMTE DE GRASSE, USS JOSEPH HEWES, and USS SEATTLE, scheduled deployers for Mediterranean/Indian Ocean Deployment 2-89, participated in Battle Force Inport Training (BFIT), an exercise designed to train the Battle Group for underway operations while still in respective homeports. The training was conducted during working hours for nearly three weeks and was concluded on 27 January.

Throughout most of February the Med/IO units, now designated Battle Group Golf under the tactical command of Commander, Cruiser Destroyer Group TWO, participated in Fleet Exercise (Advanced) 2-89, conducted in the Puerto Rican Operating Areas. MOBILE BAY functioned as the Anti-Air Warfare Commander and coordinated a Mobile Sea Range Missile Exercise which included a Remote Target Launch On Search (RTLOS) live missile firing with USS DALE.

MOBILE BAY successfully passed her second Naval Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) on 6-7 March with no major discrepancies. During the week of 13 March MOBILE BAY passed six additional inspections: Aviation Certification (AVCERT), Aviation Readiness Exam (ARE), Combat Systems Readiness Review (CSRR) Phase I, a NAVAL SAFETY CENTER survey, and a Command Inspection conducted by COMCRUDESGRU TWELVE, RADM R. G. Guilbault. All inspections were successfully completed with no major discrepancies. During the week of 10 April the series of Pre-Deployment Inspections continued as MOBILE BAY passed a Supply Management Inspection (SMI), CSRR Phase II, and a COMNAVSURFLANT 3M inspection. Having completed all Plan of Overseas Movement (POM)
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requirements, MOBILE BAY was ready in all respects to conduct her first deployment.

On the morning of 11 May, MOBILE BAY, with HSL 44 Detachment 7 embarked, departed Mayport, Florida for her maiden deployment to the Mediterranean/Indian Ocean. After rendezvous with the other units of the USS AMERICA Battle Group, MOBILE BAY assumed duties as Force Anti-Air Warfare Commander as the Battle Group transited the Atlantic Ocean. Following inchoption to the Mediterranean and the operational command of Commander, SIXTH Fleet, MOBILE BAY arrived in Malaga, Spain for a four day port visit. After a week of Western Med Operations, MOBILE BAY visited Benidorm, Spain for six days during which Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-TWO embarked MOBILE BAY as the Battle Group Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Commander.

Following the port visits in Spain, AMERICA's Battle Group participated in "National Week," an exercise involving three Carrier Battle Groups operating in the Central Mediterranean. The first portion of the deployment was completed with a port visit to Haifa, Israel during which Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-TWO debarked MOBILE BAY.

MOBILE BAY conducted the transit of the Suez Canal in company with Battle Group Golf on 24 June. Following the transit, the Battle Group transited the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea enroute the Gulf of Oman for three weeks of operations. Upon completion, the Battle Group transited south to Diego Garcia for an upkeep period and maintenance availability. Enroute, Commander Destroyer Squadron Twenty-Two re-embarked MOBILE BAY. On 12 July MOBILE BAY entered the domain of Neptunus Rex, ruler of the Raging Main, and initiated all Pollywogs into the Ancient Order of
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Shellbacks in order to purify the ship for crossing the Equator, which occurred the same day.

Following arrival in the Diego Garcia Operating Area, the Battle Group conducted a "Weapons Week" which provided numerous missile and gun firing exercises. This training exercise was conducted with units of Maritime Prepositioning Squadron One and included live missile firings for MOBILE BAY, USS DALE, USS LAWRENCE and aircraft from Carrier Air Wing One, for which the Commanding Officer MOBILE BAY was the OCE.

During the short maintenance availability in Diego Garcia, Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-TWO conducted a Surface Warfare Training Week with the overall Championship being won by MOBILE BAY. Before departure, Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-TWO debarked MOBILE BAY for USS DALE.

After a brief underway period and operations in the Eastern Indian Ocean, MOBILE BAY arrived in Phuket, Thailand on 27 July for a 5 day port visit. National Tasking led to an emergency sortie and Battle Group Golf transit back to the North Arabian Sea for Contingency Operations in the Gulf of Oman.

While in the Gulf, MOBILE BAY participated in an PASSEX with units of the Sultanate of Oman's Navy and HMS NOTTINGHAM. The exercise concluded with a brief port visit to Muscat, Oman from 14 to 16 August.

Following two additional weeks in the North Arabian Sea, Battle Group Golf returned to the Red Sea enroute to a 5 September transit of the Suez Canal. During the transit, MOBILE BAY participated in PASSEXes with the Royal Navy and the Royal Saudi Arabian Navy.

Upon inchoption to SIXTHFLT, emergency tasking kept the Battle Group in the Eastern Mediterranean as AMERICA's Battle Group, in company with USS CORAL
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SEA, responded to tasking from Commander Sixth Fleet for direct support of the evacuation of the American Embassy in Beirut, Lebanon on 6 September. Following successful evacuation operations, the Battle Group departed for the Western Mediterranean and MOBILE BAY sailed to Palma, Spain for her last port visit during the deployment. Following departure from Palma, MOBILE BAY detached from AMERICA's Battle Group and rendezvoused with USS CORAL SEA as her escort for transit home from her last deployment. MOBILE BAY transited the Straits of Gibraltar on 13 September and began the Westerly crossing of the Atlantic.

Prior to returning to homeport, MOBILE BAY stopped in Newport, Rhode Island to embark Propulsion Examining Board members for an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) which was successfully completed 25 - 27 September.

MOBILE BAY returned to Mayport on 29 September. Following a one month leave and upkeep period, the ship set sail on 7 November for Houston, Texas where the crew participated in the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Port of Houston. Returning to Mayport on 22 November, the ship completed preparations for upcoming Naval Gunfire Support Qualifications.

On 27 November, MOBILE BAY transited south for a three day port visit to Bridgetown, Barbados as an official representative for the Barbados Independence Celebrations. Following the port visit MOBILE BAY conducted Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) exercises in Vieques, Puerto Rico. MOBILE BAY received an overall grade of 99.4 for the five exercises, with no exercise refirings or misfires. Following NGFS qualifications, the ship participated in Advanced ASW Exercises on the St. Croix Acoustic Range. MOBILE BAY returned to Mayport on 15 December.

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At the year's end, MOBILE BAY looked back over the demanding, and professionally satisfying year with pride. Most of the Plankowners have departed MOBILE BAY as we approach our third birthday, and a new, enthusiastic crew has taken their place. MOBILE BAY is dedicating many hours coordinating a future homeport shift to Yokosuka, Japan, as plans for MOBILE BAY's first Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) are being finalized.

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