



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS OSPREY (MHC 51)
FPO AA 34092-1950

Rec'd 3/19/96

5757
MHC/51-186
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From: Commanding Officer, USS OSPREY (MHC 51)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)
Washington Navy Yard, 901 M Street SE,
Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following package is submitted.

2. Mission. The mission of the Osprey Class Mine Hunters is to complement the MCM 1 Avenger Class Ships in littoral waters, harbors, and bays. The Osprey will detect, classify, and neutralize all known and projected types of influence and contact mines. It will provide navigational assistance to other MCM units in conjunction with coordinated operations with airborne and other mine countermeasures forces. Secondary missions include route surveys, channel conditioning, underwater search and rescue, and the collection of hydrographic/oceanographic data.

3. Organizational Structure.

- a. Immediate Senior: Commander, Mine Warfare Command,
Corpus Christi, TX 78419-5032
- b. Commanding Officer: LCDR Joel T. Griner, Jr., USN
- c. Homeport: Charleston, SC

4. Ship's Characteristics:

- a. Combat System Equipment:
 - AN/SPS 64 SURFACE SEARCH RADAR WITH IFF
 - AN/SPA 25G DIGITAL RADAR DISPLAY
 - AN/WSN2 GYROCOMPASS
 - AN/WQC2 UNDERWATER COMMUNICATIONS
 - AN/UNQ4 FATHOMETER
- b. Navigation:
 - AN/SYQ-13 NAVIGATION COMMAND CONTROL SYSTEM
 - SSQ-109 SHIP'S MACHINERY CONTROL SYSTEM
- c. Mine hunting/neutralization:
 - SQQ-32 VARIABLE DEPTH SONAR
 - SLQ-48 MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEM
 - .50 CAL MACHINE GUNS (2)

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d. Propulsion:
MAIN ENGINES (2) ISOTTA-FRANCHINI DIESEL (800 HP)
CYCLOIDAL PROPELLERS (2)

e. Auxilliaries:
ISOTTA-FRANCHINI DIESEL GENERATORS (3) (300 KW)

5. Command History: (CY 95 Chronology)

01 JAN - 28 FEB	PSA I - SAVANNAH GA
01 JAN - 04 JAN	HOLIDAY LEAVE PERIOD
09 JAN - 13 JAN	ETG/EA VISIT
06 FEB - 10 FEB	ETG VISIT
21 FEB - 23 FEB	LIGHT OFF EXAMINATION
24 FEB	DOCK TRIALS
28 FEB	SEA TRIALS/ENROUTE CHARLESTON SC
01 MAR - 22 MAR	INPORT CHARLESTON SC
10 MAR	SAFETY STANDOWN
23 MAR - 26 MAR	ENROUTE KEY WEST FL
27 MAR - 28 MAR	PORT VISIT KEY WEST FL
29 MAR - 02 APR	ENROUTE INGLESIDE TX
03 APR - 12 APR	OPPE PREPS INGLESIDE TX/GOMEX
13 APR - 14 APR	CRAT INGLESIDE TX
14 APR	NAV CHECKRIDE IPT INGLESIDE TX
18 APR - 20 APR	OPPE INGLESIDE TX
21 APR - 25 APR	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
26 APR - 30 APR	ENROUTE KEY WEST FL
01 MAY	BSF KEY WEST FL
02 MAY - 03 MAY	ENROUTE CHARLESTONS SC
04 MAY - 04 JUL	INPORT/IMAV/SHOCK TRIAL PREPS CHARLESTON SC
19 MAY	SAFETY STANDOWN
22 MAY - 26 MAY	UNDERWATER HULL CLEANING
05 JUN - 07 JUN	SOSMRC SCHOOL SHIP
28 JUN	SECURITY STANDOWN
29 JUN	FAST CRUISE
05 JUL	ENROUTE SAVANNAH GA
06 JUL - 23 JUL	SHOCK TRIAL PREPS SAVANNAH GA
06 JUL - 18 JUL	MICRO SNAP HARDWARE LOAD
10 JUL - 21 JUL	MICRO SNAP SOFTWARE LOAD
24 JUL - 26 JUL	ENROUTE NORFOLK VA
27 JUL - 06 AUG	DRYDOCK: PLACED SHIP ONTO CRADLE AND BARGE
07 AUG	TOWED TO ABERDEEN MD
07 AUG	COMMAND ASSESSMENT
08 AUG - 15 AUG	XFER FROM BARGE TO SHOCK POND AT ABERDEEN MD
16 AUG - 29 SEP	SHOCK TRIALS
22 AUG	SHOT 1
24 AUG	SAFETY STANDOWN
26 AUG	SHOT 2
30 AUG	SHOT 3
05 SEP	SHOT 4
25 SEP	SHOT 5
28 SEP	NRR WORKSHOP

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

5. Command History: (CY 94 Chronology - Cont)

30 SEP - 16 OCT	XFER FROM SHOCK POND TO BARGE
17 OCT	TOWED TO NORFOLK
18 OCT - 19 OCT	UNDOCK SHIP FROM CRADLE AND BARGE
20 OCT - 22 OCT	ENROUTE CHARLESTON SC
23 OCT - 10 DEC	INPORT CHARLESTON SC
12 NOV	SAFETY STANDOWN
20 NOV	NRR WORKSHOP
21 NOV	CCC-27-SF COMPREHENSIVE COMM ASSESSMENT
28 NOV - 30 NOV	HOMEPORT SHIFT SEMINAR
05 DEC - 07 DEC	LMA ASSIST VISIT
11 DEC - 13 DEC	U/W TYT CHARLESTON OPAREA
14 DEC - 31 DEC	INPORT CHARLESTON SC
20 DEC - 31 DEC	HOLIDAY LEAVE PERIOD

6. Narrative. As the first ship of the class, and the primary test platform for the entire class, Osprey again spent a great part of the past year preparing for and participating in tests and trials. OSPREY successfully completed Shock Trials, a major milestone for the lead ship in the class. During the trials, the ship was transported over land via a marine railway into the Army's Aberdeen Test Facility pond, a first for a U. S. Navy ship. This highly successful endeavor reflected positively on the Army - Navy teams ability to work together.

OSPREY also accomplished many other significant events to including a Light Off Exam and an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination. In April, the ship made a port visit to its eventual homeport of Ingleside, TX. OSPREY will shift homeports during the late summer of 1996.

OSPREY is currently in a Post Shakedown Availability and expects to complete all tests and trials prior to the end of next year.


J. T. GRINER