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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG-48)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO 96682-1502

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From: Commanding Officer, USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 48)
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C.

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5790.12C

1988

Encl: (1) Command History for USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 48) (U)

1. (U) Enclosure (1) is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).


CHRISTOPHER M. JOHNSON

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OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: Oct 2604

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COMMAND HISTORY

Part I

The mission of USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 48) is anti-air, anti-surface, and anti-submarine warfare as well as escorting merchant and amphibious groups. From 1 January 1988 through 31 December 1988, VANDEGRIFT was under Commander Destroyer Squadron Nine, under Commander Naval Surface Group Long Beach, CA. VANDEGRIFT is commanded by CDR Thomas Eric Utegaard and homeported in Long Beach, CA. The LAMPS MK III SH-60 Seahawk helicopters assigned to VANDEGRIFT are of HSL-43 and HSL-45 squadrons homeported at NAS North Island, CA.

Part II

The following events, exercises, and operations were conducted this year. Dates not listed were spent inport Long Beach, CA conducting routine maintenance and administration.

1-3 Jan	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
4-8 Jan	U/W SOCAL - training
9-10 Jan	IPT Long Beach, CA
11-23 Jan	REFTRA
16-18 Jan	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
25-29 Jan	COMNAVSURFPAC 3M Inspection
1-5 Feb	CSRT Long Beach (1 day U/W - 4 Feb)
6 Feb-16 Mar	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
29 Feb-3 Mar	Conducted STAV with MOTU 11
17-18 Mar	U/W enroute Treasure Island, CA
19-27 Mar	IPT Treasure Island - TRAV
28-29 Mar	U/W enroute Long Beach, CA
30-31 Mar	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
1-17 Apr	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
18-20 Apr	U/W SOCAL - training
21-24 Apr	IPT San Diego, CA - upkeep
25-27 Apr	U/W SOCAL - training
27 Apr-1 May	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
2-5 May	U/W SOCAL - MEFEX
6-11 May	IPT Long Beach, CA - upkeep
12 May	U/W dependents cruise
12 May-15 Jun	IPT Long Beach, CA - POM
16 Jun	U/W commence deployment Persian Gulf
16-20 Jun	Enroute Pearl Harbor, HI
21-22 Jun	Port visit Pearl Harbor, HI
23 Jun-4 Jul	Enroute Subic Bay, R.P.
5-10 Jul	Port visit Subic Bay, R.P.
11-18 Jul	Enroute Columbo, Sri Lanka
14 Jul	Crossed Equator - conducted over-the-line ceremony
19 Jul	IPT Columbo, Sri Lanka - BSF
19-24 Jul	Enroute Gulf of Oman
25 Jul	Arrive Gulf of Oman, conducted turnover with USS SIDES, MIDEASTFORCE

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25-26 Jul Enroute Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain
27-28 Jul Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
29 Jul-13 Aug U/W Persian Gulf operations
14-15 Aug IPT Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
16 Aug-7 Sep U/W Persian Gulf operations
8-10 Sep Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
11-16 Sep U/W Persian Gulf operations
17-19 Sep Port visit Ras Al Khaimah
20-29 Sep U/W Persian Gulf operations
30 Sep-1 Oct Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
2-7 Oct U/W Persian Gulf operations
7-8 Oct Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
9-10 Oct Enroute Ras Al Hadd for TAV with USS PRAIRIE
11-17 Oct TAV with USS PRAIRIE - Ras Al Hadd, Oman
18-19 Oct Enroute Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain
19-20 Oct Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
21-27 Oct U/W Persian Gulf operations
28-29 Oct Arrive Sitrah anchorage, Bahrain - BSF
30-31 Oct Enroute Gulf of Oman
1 Nov Arrive Gulf of Oman - conducted turnover with
USS REID, MIDEASTFORCE
2-10 Nov Enroute Pattaya Beach, Thailand
11-15 Nov Arrive Pattaya Beach, Thailand
16-19 Nov Enroute Subic Bay, R.P.
20 Nov Arrive Subic Bay, R.P.
21-22 Nov Enroute Hong Kong - conducted ASW training
23-27 Nov Arrive Hong Kong
28 Nov-8 Dec Enroute Pearl Harbor, HI
9-10 Dec Arrive Pearl Harbor, HI
11-15 Dec Enroute Long Beach, CA
16-31 Dec Return homeport Long Beach, CA from Persian Gulf
deployment - commence stand-down

Part III

29 Apr: Medical Readiness evaluation conducted resulting in an excellent grade.

2-5 May: MEFEX conducted with simulated terrorist aircraft, USS FORD, and HSL-45 DET 5 in preparation for Persian Gulf deployment.

16 Jun: Departed for Middle East Force deployment with HSL-45 DET 5.

22 Jul: Conducted WASEX with CVW-6 squadron off the coast of the Philippine Islands. This exercise encompassed various types of air attack profiles in preparation for entering the Persian Gulf.

19 Aug: Discovered and assisted in destroying a mine in the Northern Persian Gulf.

6-7 Sep: Conducted operation "Take Down" with seal team from Barge Hercules in the Northern Persian Gulf. This was a boarding exercise with the tug John H. and HSL-45 DET 5.

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22-24 Sep: Conducted "Earnest Will" mission #88066 escorting the MV's BRIDGETON, OCEAN CITY, and OCEAN WIZARD from Kuwait to the Gulf of Oman.

24-26 Sep: Conducted "Earnest Will" mission #88067 escorting the MV's TOWNSEND and OVERSEAS VALDEZ from the Gulf of Oman to Kuwait.

27-29 Sep: Conducted "Earnest Will" mission #88068 escorting the MV Surf City from the Gulf of Oman to Kuwait.

26 Oct: Conducted "Earnest Will" mission #88077 escorting MV OCEAN WIZARD from the vicinity of Harquis Island in the Northern Persian Gulf to the "Hand Over" PT in which the USS REEVES assumed escort duty.

LAMPS MK III SH-60B Seahawk flight statistics for deployment 16 Jun-16 Dec 1988 with HSL-45:

Flight Evolutions - Days 121/ Nights 193
Flight Hours - Days 458/ Nights 718
Landings - Days 153/ Nights 219
UNREPS (Fuel/CONREPS) - 1

Part IV:

The following photos and documents are enclosed as part of VANDEGRIFT's Command History 1988:

- CO photograph and biography
- Letter from COMNAVSURFOR - Medical Inspection - well done
- Top financial performer awards - unclassified
- Post deployment maintenance issues - unclassified
- Ship helicopter safety award from COMDESRON Nine - unclassified
- Commanding Officer Narrative Reports (CONAR) (U)
 - ~~Confidential~~ report for each quarter of calendar year 1988
- USS VANDEGRIFT (FFG 48) Combat Systems Readiness Test (CSRT) message

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