

OPNAVINST 5750.12J
14 Mar 2005

OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1
Command Serial Number:
Date Submitted: 1-Mar-12

Classification (when filled in): UNCLASSIFIED

Command Operations Report

This report is **required** by commands listed in **SNDL Parts 1 & 2** and all operational **Task Forces, Groups and Units** temporarily established to meet operational requirements.

The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. Instructions on submitting this form and the required attachments are at the end.

1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: **USS BAINBRIDGE (DDG 96)**

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: **23153**

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: **SCHUETTE** First: **BRUCE** M.I.: **G** Rank: **CDR**

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): **2011-11-04**

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: **Independent deployment with Standing NATO Maritime Group TWO in the FIFTH Fleet area of responsibility in support of OPERATION OCEAN SHIELD conducting counter-piracy operations in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Somali Basin, and Indian Ocean.**

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): **NORFOLK, VA**

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: **CDS-22**

Administrative: **CDS-22**

She made her first port visit in SIXTH Fleet at the end of January in Palermo, Sicily where sailors enjoyed liberty and MWR sponsored tours.

BAINBRIDGE transited southbound through the Suez Canal and arrived in the FIFTH Fleet area of operation 29 January 2011. After completing the initial southbound transit of the Suez Canal, BAINBRIDGE transited the Red Sea and escorted the French Submarine Amethyste northbound through the Straits of Bab Al Mandeb.

During her Anti-Piracy deployment as part of Standing NATO Maritime Group-2, BAINBRIDGE was responsible for deterring piracy attacks and ensuring the safety and security of vessels in the Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Oman, and Somali Basin. While operating in the Internationally Recognized Transit Corridor (IRTC), BAINBRIDGE patrolled assigned sectors providing security and assurance to transiting merchant vessels. It was during this time that BAINBRIDGE completed 27 successful boardings ensuring the safety of all sea going traffic in the area and showing a strong military presence by deterring piracy in the region. Boardings were conducted by BAINBRIDGE's Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS) team while embarked SH-60B helicopter from HSL-48 Air Detachment provided air cover.

After 53 days underway, BAINBRIDGE's first port visit in FIFTH fleet on 16-20 March 2011 was in Bahrain where the crew was able to accomplish critical material repairs and maintenance. Several sailors from all divisions also lent a hand in top-side preservation and painting.

On 22 March 2011, BAINBRIDGE responded to a distress call from an Iranian fishing vessel claiming to be held hostage by pirates. The efficient and expeditious actions of BAINBRIDGE resulted in the capture of four pirates and the safe release of the crew of the M/V ARMIN.

BAINBRIDGE participated in OPERATION KETTING III from 21 April until 01 June conducting observation and denying freedom of movement to suspected pirate dhows along the Somali coast at the most active pirate camps. While assigned to patrol these camps, BAINBRIDGE was assigned three escort missions to ensure the safe travel of merchant vessels released by pirates.

During her assignment to OPERATION KETTING III, BAINBRIDGE escorted the M/V IRENE SL on 08 April, M/V THOR NEXUS on 12 April, and M/V RENUAR on 24 April. On all three of these occasions, BAINBRIDGE's VBSS team removed all pirate paraphernalia, hazards to the crew, provided engineering, medical, and dietary assistance to the merchant ships that had been held as hostages for ransom. Most of the pirated vessels had been held captive for several months. It was because of the diligent efforts of BAINBRIDGE that these three ships were able to continue safely to the owners and their families and friends.

BAINBRIDGE and her crew were able to twice enjoy the island of Seychelles during her assignment to OPERATION KETTING III. Her first visit on 16-20 April 2011, BAINBRIDGE participated in a Community Relation (COMREL) project. The twenty-five

sailors that participated in the COMREL helped clean litter and conduct some yard work at the Beau Vallon Secondary School. BAINBRIDGE's second visit 02-04 June 2011 with USS HALYBURTON (FFG 40), who was also deployed under Standing NATO Maritime Group-2. Sailors from each ship competed in a friendly match of soccer where BAINBRIDGE won the impromptu match 4-1.

While operating along the coast of Somalia, BAINBRIDGE denied pirate dhows access to and from the sea from their pirate camps thwarting, and frustrating, all piracy attempts from the camps. The diligence of BAINBRIDGE kept these dhows from leaving the anchorage, and during her observation of the pirate camps, no dhows were able to escape.

BAINBRIDGE responded to a distress call on 03 May 2011 from fishing vessel Al Saadi that was in need of assistance. The investigation by VBSS teams led to the discovery of four pirates on board and their subsequent surrender. The master of the Al Saadi claimed they were preparing to pirate another vessel when they had been disrupted by the BAINBRIDGE. BAINBRIDGE detained the four pirates onboard and released the crew.

On 16 May 2011, BAINBRIDGE was directed to pursue M/V MSC AYALA who claimed to have successfully escaped an attempted pirate attack. BAINBRIDGE quickly closed the M/V AYALA, investigated the area and, continued to search for the suspected pirate dhow. BAINBRIDGE was able to locate the pirate dhow. Further query revealed the pirates were using the dhow, Safina Al Shams, as a mother ship and were holding the crew hostage. The pirates onboard admitted to have been using the Safina Al Shams as a mother ship for several months and were responsible for the failed attack against the MSC AYALA. BAINBRIDGE instructed the pirates to debark and release the Safina Al Shams. BAINBRIDGE detained the six pirates onboard preventing them from future piracy attempts.

It is because of the diligence of the crew of BAINBRIDGE that 38 mariners were saved, 14 pirates were detained, 3 formerly pirated vessels were safely released, several weapons used to conduct acts of piracy were disposed of, and countless future attacks were prevented and disrupted.

BAINBRIDGE made her last port visit in FIFTH fleet on 03-07 July 2011 in Aqaba, Jordan. While in port, all hands helped paint the ship to return BAINBRIDGE to top condition. Several sailors were able to visit the city of Petra on a MWR tour and enjoy the local culture.

After 165 days in FIFTH fleet, BAINBRIDGE made her northbound transit on 09 July 2011 through the Suez Canal, into SIXTH fleet area of operation. One day later, BAINBRIDGE moored in Haifa, Israel from 10-14 July 2011. While in Haifa, sailors toured the city of Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, and other well-known historical areas. The Mexican Tall ship CUAUHTEMOC, also in Haifa for a brief port visit, invited Commanding Officer D. Sunvold and Command Master Chief A. Barnes for an evening reception. Twenty sailors participated in BAINBRIDGE's second COMREL cleaning a

local park and school. The local community was very impressed and appreciative of the sailors.

BAINBRIDGE made her final stop of the deployment in Rota, Spain on 21 July 2011 allowing the crew one last chance to enjoy a European port call. After the final liberty visit, BAINBRIDGE began the transit across the Atlantic Ocean.

BAINBRIDGE safely returned to her homeport of Norfolk, Virginia on 05 August 2011.

Shortly after returning home, BAINBRIDGE entered an intensive CMAV to prepare her for the 2012 DSRA. On August 25th, BAINBRIDGE sortied with all other warships in the east coast in order to evade Hurricane Irene.

BAINBRIDGE completed DLQs with four HSC squadrons from 12-23 September.

On November 4th, CDR Sunvold was relieved by CDR Schuette as Commanding Officer of BAINBRIDGE.

From November through summer of 2012, BAINBRIDGE will be in a Dry Dock Selective Restrictive Availability.

3. Chronology and Narrative

Chronology should include dates of movements; local operations and training; exercises and operations (define acronyms and purpose of exercise or operation); installation of new weapons systems or changes; major physical changes to facilities, ship or aircraft; Class A or B mishaps; port visits; unit awards received; reserve augmentation; and other significant operational or administrative events.

2011-01-04 - 2011-08-05

BAINBRIDGE was deployed in support of Operation OCEAN SHIELD with STANDING NATO MARITIME GROUP TWO.

2011-09-15 - 2011-09-24

BAINBRIDGE entered CMAV in preparation for 2012 Dry Dock overhaul.

2011-08-25 - 2011-09-01

BAINBRIDGE sortied with over thirty warships due to Hurricane Irene.

2011-09-12 - 2011-09-23

BAINBRIDGE completed Landing Deck Qualifications with HSC S-168, HSC S-169, HSC S-170, HSC S-171.

2011-10-03 - 2011-10-07

BAINBRIDGE offloaded weapons compliment from her 2011 deployment in Yorktown, VA.

2011-10-10 - 2011-11-08

BAINBRIDGE entered CMAV in preparation for 2012 Dry Dock overhaul.

2011-10-21

Commander David J. Pearson relieved Commander Bruce G. Schuette as Executive Officer, USS BAINBRIDGE (DDG 96).

2011-11-04

Commander Daniel D. Sunvold was relieved by Commander Bruce G. Schuette as Commanding Officer, USS BAINBRIDGE (DDG 96).

2011-11-09 - 2011-12-31

BAINBRIDGE entered Dry Dock Selective Restrictive Availability.

The short narrative should amplify chronology entries (such as objectives and results of exercises/operations; commander's evaluation of exercises/operations, etc). Entries may refer to an enclosure of this report without additional description if the enclosure sufficiently reports the incident/event. For all other entries, give the date or period in YYYY-MM-DD format and provide a brief narrative. All significant events during the reporting period are to be included.

4. Supporting Reports

Supporting Reports are those reports required by other instructions that provide significant data about the command during the calendar year. These reports may be submitted "as is," eliminating the need to duplicate information for this report that is already contained in reports prepared in response to other instructions and requirements. Examples include battle efficiency, safety and other award submissions, major staff or command studies, and end of cruise reports or briefs. For units engaged in or directly supporting combat, significant wartime or peacetime operations (named operations, non-combat evacuation operations, disaster relief or other humanitarian operations, etc.) or major exercises, enclosures may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Situation Reports
- b. Intentions Messages
- c. Operational Reports
- d. Operations Orders/Deployment Orders
- e. Operational Plans
- f. Personal For Messages
- g. After Action Reports
- h. Significant Electronic Message Traffic (outgoing/e-mail/chat)
- i. Battle Damage Assessments
- j. Casualty Reports
- k. End-of-Cruise/Deployment Reports
- l. Intelligence Summaries
- m. Major Exercise Reports

List below the items submitted, indicating the classification of each. Electronic reports should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF, or plain text. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. Submit electronic reports via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. Enclosures that do not exist in electronic format should be listed below and submitted in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM.

5. Published Documents

List below the published documents being submitted in either electronic or paper format, indicating the classification of each item. Documents to be submitted include cruise books, change of command programs, commissioning/decommissioning brochures, establishment/disestablishment/deactivation brochures, copy of command's web site, news releases, biography of commander, welcome aboard brochures, newspaper articles, command studies, statistical data, etc.

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6. Photographs

List below official photographs and any other command-generated media being submitted in either electronic or paper format. Photographs to be submitted include: official photo of commanding officer; recent photo of ship, aircraft, or facility; and photos of historic events associated with the command. Photographs submitted electronically should be in JPG, TIFF or GIF format. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. Photographs in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained below. Enclosures that do not exist in electronic format should be listed below and submitted in the same manner as the CD-ROM. Also include any photographs covering operational strikes, battle damage (especially that sustained by own ship, aircraft, facilities or equipment), or other relevant photos relating to combat or deployment operations.

Submit this Command Operations Report as follows:

Via e-mail, to one of the three e-mail addresses:

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All other commands: archives@navy.mil

Place any attachments too large for transmission via e-mail on CD-ROM and send by an approved commercial courier, such as FEDEX or UPS. Check CDs for readability before submission to guard against corruption. Forward paper records included as attachments in the same manner. **Do not forward Command Operations Reports via U.S. mail, as all mail addressed to the Naval Historical Center is irradiated and will result in destruction of discs and damage to paper enclosures.** Address all shipments to:

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The inner wrapper should read: ONI Historian, ONI-ODB EXT 2975

Telephone numbers for the ONI Historian are DSN 659-4488/5901, Commercial (301) 669-4488/5901.

* The attention line should read **Ships History** for all ships, **Aviation History** for all air/aviation commands, and **Operational Archives** for all other commands. Telephone numbers for these branches are as follows: Ships History Branch, DSN 288-6802, Commercial (202) 433-6802; Aviation History Branch, DSN 288-2321, Commercial (202) 433-2321; Operational Archives Branch, DSN 288-3224, Commercial (202) 433-3224.