



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS BOONE (FFG-28)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS BOONE (FFG 28)  
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY SUBMISSION

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) BOONE Command History

1. Enclosure (1) is the command history as mandated by reference (a). Included are descriptions of the command composition and organization, the 1995 command chronology with narrative, and a biography of the Commanding Officer.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Douglas Hughes", written over a horizontal line.

R. DOUGLAS HUGHES

USS BOONE (FFG 28) COMMAND HISTORY  
COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS BOONE (FFG 28) is a member of the Oliver Hazard Perry class of Guided Missile Frigates. Her mission is to provide local area protection to battle groups underway, replenishment groups, amphibious forces, military and mercantile shipping and to conduct ASW operations in conjunction with other sea control forces to ensure use of essential sea lanes of communications.

Along with sister ships of her class, BOONE represents a break with tradition in many ways; a gas turbine powered propulsion plant with variable pitch propellers, austere manning accompanied by a high degree of computerized automation, a fully integrated combat system, two SH-60B helicopter hangars, auxiliary propulsion units (placed to maximize maneuverability) and a ship control console that provides steering and speed control directly from the bridge via a single Helmsman/Lee Helmsman.

The assets that BOONE has to call upon to accomplish her mission include a missile launcher capable of firing both anti aircraft and anti ship missiles; the rapid fire, dual purpose 76mm gun; a Close-In Weapons System, 20mm 6 barrel gattling gun, capable of firing 3000 rounds per minute at an incoming air target; anti submarine torpedo tubes; and two SH-60 Light Airborne Multi-Purpose System (LAMPS) MK III helicopters.

USS BOONE is a member of the Western Hemisphere Group based at Mayport Naval Station, Mayport, Florida. Her Commanding Officer is R. Douglas Hughes, CDR, USN of Spartanburg, South Carolina.

USS BOONE (FFG 28) COMMAND HISTORY 1995

Having just completed her third Tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA III), in the month of December, 1994, BOONE began 1995 inport Mayport, Florida. During January and part of February, BOONE's crew exerted maximum effort preparing the ship for a very successful Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE). Upon completion of OPPE, on 16 February 1995, BOONE received confirmation she had won the Battle Excellence award for calendar year 1994. On February 27 and 28 BOONE successfully completed a Logistics Management Assessment and HARPOON Combat Systems Limited Team Trainer (CSLTT).

In early March BOONE was underway enroute the Puerto Rico Operations Area. During the transit, she participated in a PASSEX with the French Warship JEAN D'ARC. BOONE also took part in ASW exercises with USS MITSCHER and USS ARCHERFISH concluding on March 16. BOONE returned to Mayport on March 20. From late March until early April BOONE participated in various training events, including Cruise Missile Tactical Qualifications, Naval Gun Fire Support Mobile Training Team, Combat Systems Readiness Review, and Target Motion Analysis Team Trainer for ST's and OS's. On April 13, BOONE had the honor of hosting a visit from the Saudi Arabian Chief of Naval Operation.

On April 21 Commander R. Douglas Hughes, United States Navy relieved Captain William A. Walsh as Commanding Officer of USS BOONE.

From April 24 to May 24 BOONE embarked HSL-42 DET 10 and joined the USS AMERICA Battle Group in the Puerto Rico Operations Area for COMPTUEX. During COMPTUEX, BOONE completed her live firing exercises with a successful SM-1 surface to air missile shot as well as successful MK-46 torpedo air drops and over the side shots. BOONE participated in Battle group work-up activities including a fueling at sea exercise and formation steaming. COMPTUEX was ended with a port visit from 12 - 16 May in Saint Martin, Netherlands Antilles.

In June, BOONE was underway in preparation for their upcoming deployment with the USS AMERICA Battle Group and USS WASP Amphibious Ready Group. During the week of June 6th through the 13th, BOONE conducted support operations for the WASP ARG and ended with a visit from Commander Destroyer Squadron 14, Captain Marc Hegelson. At the end of the month BOONE got underway for its culminating battle group work-up with the USS AMERICA Battle Group. On 4 July, BOONE had the honor of providing the colorguard and attending festivities in celebration of Independence Day in sponsor city Boone, North Carolina. July 6th-23rd was spent in the Virginia Capes OPAREA operating in a simulated Adriatic arena, conducting operations similar to those anticipated during deployment. In early August, the ship participated in an Intermediate Maintenance Availability at SIMA

Mayport, and enjoying much deserved time with friends and family before departing for the six month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.

On August 28 BOONE departed Mayport for MED 95-3 and on September 07, during a brief Port Visit in Gibraltar, Spain, relieved USS KAUFFMAN and joined the United States Navy's SIXTH FLEET to perform SHARP GUARD operations. Enroute to the Adriatic sea, two Battle Group units were already on station launching Tomahawk strikes into the Former Republic of Yugoslavia and setting the stage for upcoming United Nations embargo enforcement operations. On September 12th BOONE entered the Adriatic Sea and reported for duty to the Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean Commander, Rear Admiral Frank Ropers, German Navy, to patrol its assigned operations areas off the Southwestern coast of former Yugoslavia. While on station in the Adriatic BOONE queried over 700 vessels in support of United Nations sanctions. Operation SHARP GUARD was punctuated by several successful port visits. BOONE enjoyed a port visit in Corfu, Greece on 21-24 September. BOONE also visited Trieste, Italy and while there crewmembers enjoyed tours to Venice, Rome, and Salzburg, Austria. While inport Trieste, BOONE received word that the Chief of Naval Operations had recognized its Partnership in Excellence Program with Woodland Acres Elementary School as the best for an afloat command for 1995.

Enroute to patrol in the Adriatic, BOONE participated in air and surface exercises with Italian Naval Forces and remained on station until October 06. On October 12 BOONE conducted boarding of motor vessel LINK, the first boarding for a Navy unit participating in SHARP GUARD, due to limitations placed on US units operating in the area by the Nunn-Mitchell Agreement. BOONE subsequently escorted the vessel to Bari, Italy and turned over custody to Italian Coast Guard officials. BOONE again visited Corfu, Greece on 16-21 October.

While on the patrol in the Southern Adriatic Sea, BOONE rendered assistance to motor vessel FLORIDA, which had a engine casualty, and turned over custody to Albanian authorities. October 31st was spent transiting the Strait of Messina enroute a port visit in Naples, Italy from October 31 - November 02. After departing Naples and a transit of the Strait of Messina, BOONE arrived in Augusta Bay, Sicily on November 02. There BOONE underwent a ten day maintenance availability period alongside USS SIMON LAKE (AS 33).

On 13 November BOONE returned for duty to patrol OPAREAS in Adriatic Sea. On 17 November BOONE set emergency flight quarters to facilitate emergency landing of Greek Helicopter LILLY. On 26 November, BOONE arrived in Trieste, Italy for port visit. BOONE turned over its SHARP GUARD duties with USS DE WERT on November 29 and got underway 07 December enroute to a historic port visit in Koper, Slovenia on December 08. The port visit marked the

second time in history that a US Navy unit was invited to this small city on the Adriatic. BOONE hosted a reception on board for US Embassy Charge' officials, local dignitaries from the city of Koper, and national Slovenian government officials.

BOONE departed Koper under some of the worst weather conditions the ship had seen since arriving in the Mediterranean Sea some three months earlier. 13 December marked BOONE's return to the USS AMERICA Battle Group after three months of operations under NATO operational control. On 18 December BOONE was honored with the visit from United States Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michael J. Boorda. BOONE's crew had an excellent opportunity to ask questions and communicate concerns to the Chief. Soon thereafter news of the signing of the Dayton Peace Accords became public and United Nations Peace Implementation Forces were stood up. As a result of the historic agreement, BOONE was tasked to remain on station in the Adriatic along with the thousands of other America Battle Group sailors and marines. BOONE spent Christmas at sea. BOONE arrived for a port visit in Bari, Italy, on 28 December and began the new year departing Bari on 05 January 1996.

On 31 December 1995, BOONE receive confirmation she has been awarded the NATO service medal for operations accomplished with NATO forces in the Mediterranean Sea.

USS BOONE (FFG 28) COMMAND HISTORY 1995  
CHRONOLOGY

01 JAN-13 FEB	Inport Mayport, Florida
14 FEB-16 FEB	Operational Propulsion Plant Examination
17 FEB-26 FEB	Inport Mayport, Florida
27 FEB-03 MAR	HARPOON CSLTT
04 MAR-08 MAR	Inport Mayport, Florida
09 MAR	Underway enroute Puerto Rico Operations Area
10 MAR-20 MAR	Underway Puerto Rico Operations Area
21 MAR-23 APR	Inport Mayport, Florida
13 APR	Saudi Chief of Naval Operations visits BOONE
21 APR	Change of Command
24 APR-24 MAY (COMPTUEX)	Underway Puerto Rico Operations Area
12 MAY-16 MAY	Port Visit Saint Martin
25 MAY-05 JUN	Inport Mayport, Florida
06 JUN-13 JUN	Underway w/AMERICA Battle Group (COMPTUEX Phase II)
14 JUN-05 JUL	Inport Mayport, Florida
06 JUL-23 JUL	Underway Virginia Capes Operations Area
24 JUL-27 AUG	Inport Mayport, Florida
28 AUG	Underway enroute Mediterranean Sea for MED 95-3
07 SEP	Commence Operations in SIXTH FLEET

07 SEP-10 SEP	Port visit Gibraltar (Great Britain)
11 SEP	Underway enroute Adriatic Sea
3 SEP-20 SEP	Underway Montenegro Operations Area
21 SEP-24 SEP	Port Visit Corfu, Greece
24 SEP-29 SEP	Underway Otranto Operations Area
30 SEP	Enroute Trieste, Italy
01 OCT-04 OCT	Port Visit Trieste, Italy
05 OCT-15 OCT	Underway Montenegro Operations Area
16 OCT-21 OCT	Port Visit Corfu, Greece
22 OCT-29 OCT	Underway Montenegro Operations Area
30 OCT	Transit Strait of Messina, Enroute Naples, Italy
31 OCT-01 NOV	Port visit Naples, Italy
02 NOV	Transit Strait of Messina, Arrive Augusta Bay, Sicily
02 NOV-12 NOV	IMAV with USS SIMON LAKE in Augusta Bay, Sicily
13 NOV- 25 NOV	Underway Montenegro Operations Area
25 NOV	Enroute Trieste, Italy
26 NOV-07 DEC	Inport Trieste, Italy
29 NOV	Turnover SHARP GUARD duties with USS DE WERT
08 DEC	Enroute Koper Slovenia
09 DEC-12 DEC	Port Visit Koper, Slovenia
13 DEC-27 DEC	Underway off the coast of Bosnia

18 DEC

Visit by Chief of Naval Operations,  
Admiral Michael J. Boorda

28 DEC-31 DEC

Inport, Port visit Bari, Italy