



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS BOONE (FFG-28)  
FPO AA 34093-1484

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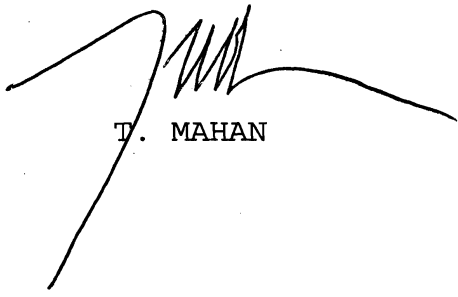
From: Commanding Officer, USS BOONE (FFG 28)  
To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY SUBMISSION

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

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 2003 command chronology with narrative, and a biography of the Commanding Officer.



T. MAHAN

**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, replenishment groups, amphibious forces, military and mercantile shipping and to conduct USW operations in conjunction with other sea control forces to ensure use of essential sea lanes of communications.

Along with her sister ships of the 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 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. 2003 was marked by the removal of the MK13 Guided Missile Launching System and MK92 Single Track Illumination Radar as part of a FFG cost saving measure.

USS BOONE is a Naval Reserve Frigate, assigned to Commander, Destroyer Squadron Six and is based in Naval Station Mayport, Florida. Her Commanding Officer was Walter L. Towns, CDR, USN.

USS BOONE (FFG 28) COMMAND HISTORY 2003  
CHRONOLOGY

01JAN-06JAN UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT CARIBBEAN  
07JAN INPORT GUATANAMO BAY, CUBA  
08JAN-16JAN UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT CARIBBEAN  
17JAN INPORT COLON, PANAMA/TRANSIT PANAMA CANAL  
18JAN-24JAN UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT EASTERN PACIFIC  
25JAN-26JAN INPORT PANAMA CITY, PANAMA  
27JAN-11FEB UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT EASTERN PACIFIC  
12FEB INPORT PANAMA CITY, PANAMA  
13FEB UNDERWAY - TRANSIT PANAMA CANAL  
14FEB-16FEB UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT CARIBBEAN  
17FEB-09MAR UNITAS (44-03)  
17FEB-20FEB INPORT ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO  
21FEB-27FEB UNDERWAY - UNITAS CARIBBEAN  
28FEB-04MAR INPORT ST THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS  
05MAR-08MAR UNDERWAY - UNITAS CARIBBEAN  
09MAR-11MAR INPORT ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO  
12MAR-18MAR UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT CARIBBEAN  
19MAR-21MAR INPORT CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA  
22MAR-29MAR UNDERWAY - CD OPS DEPLOYMENT CARIBBEAN  
30MAR INPORT MIAMI, FL TO PICK UP TIGERS  
31MAR UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO MAYPORT  
01APR ARRIVE MAYPORT, FL  
01APR-11MAY INPORT MAYPORT  
11APR-12APR RESERVE WEEKEND  
10MAY-11MAY RESERVE WEEKEND  
12MAY-14MAY UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO NEWPORT, RI  
15MAY-19MAY INPORT NEWPORT, RI (SWOS SCHOOL SHIP)  
20MAY UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO NEW YORK  
21MAY-28MAY INPORT NEW YORK CITY (FLEET WEEK)  
29MAY-30MAY UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO MAYPORT  
31MAY-09JUN INPORT MAYPORT  
07JUN-08JUN RESERVE WEEKEND  
10JUN-12JUN UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO BOSTON, MA  
13JUN-16JUN INPORT BOSTON, MA (BUNKER HILL DAY)  
17JUN-18JUN UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO YORKTOWN, VA  
19JUN-20JUN INPORT YORKTOWN, VA  
21JUN-22JUN UNDERWAY - NBOA ASW/POMCERT  
23JUN-25JUN UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO GLOUCESTER, MA  
26JUN-30JUN INPORT GLOUCESTER, MA (ST PETER FIESTA)  
01JUL-03JUL UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO MAYPORT  
04JUL-13OCT INPORT MAYPORT (SRA 30 JUL - 13 OCT)  
12JUL-13JUL RESERVE WEEKEND  
09AUG-10AUG RESERVE WEEKEND  
13SEP-14SEP RESERVE WEEKEND  
11OCT-12OCT RESERVE WEEKEND  
14OCT-17OCT UNDERWAY - JAX OPAREA  
18OCT-17NOV INPORT MAYPORT  
08NOV-09NOV RESERVE WEEKEND  
18NOV-20NOV UNDERWAY - JAX OPAREA  
21NOV-23NOV INPORT NASSAU BAHAMAS  
24NOV-25NOV UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO MAYPORT  
26NOV-06DEC INPORT MAYPORT (INITIAL ASSESSMENT 5 DEC)  
07DEC UNDERWAY - PEARL HARBOR MEMORIAL CEREMONY  
13DEC-14DEC RESERVE WEEKEND  
08DEC-31DEC INPORT MAYPORT  
18DEC-31DEC HOLIDAY STANDOWN

**USS BOONE (FFG 28) COMMAND HISTORY 2003  
NARRATIVE**

BOONE began 2003 on Counter Drug Operations deployment in the Caribbean Sea and Eastern Pacific Ocean. Ports visited included Gulfito, Costa Rica; Panama City, Panama; Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Cartagena, Colombia. BOONE went through a very successful Counter Drug Operations deployment, conducting over 50 rights of approach inquiries and 10 boardings, seizing 10 narcotics smugglers and confiscating nearly five tons of Cocaine. BOONE rescued 160 migrants found adrift at sea on a sinking fishing vessel on 5 February, successfully repatriating them in Manta, Ecuador. During the final phase of deployment, UNITAS 44-03 naval exercise, BOONE conducted multi-threat warfare and dynamic shiphandling with 5 nations and 12 other ships.

On 1 April BOONE arrived at its homeport of Mayport FL after sixth months of deployment and enjoyed a 30-day Post deployment stand down.

In May, BOONE participated in the 16<sup>th</sup> annual New York City FLEET WEEK from 21-28 May. BOONE Sailors proudly represented the ship in numerous activities such as parades, Color Guard appearances, sporting activities, Good Morning America and provided tours for thousands of people.

In June, BOONE steamed to Boston, MA to participate in the Bunker Hill ceremony. BOONE was underway enroute to Yorktown, VA to conduct a complete weapons off-load in preparation of SRA. BOONE was again underway enroute to Gloucester, MA where the crew enjoyed Saint Peters Fiesta.

Remembering Pearl Harbor Day, BOONE along with the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 290 and numerous other Fleet Reserve Associations went to sea to commemorate the ultimate sacrifices paid by our servicemen 62 years ago at Pearl Harbor. Eight Pearl Harbor survivors along with 152 other guests were on hand for the historical yet solemn occasion. The event was an experience everyone would forever remember.

As BOONE headed into Holiday Leave and stand down period, a memorable Christmas Party held at the Omni hotel, which was an occasion enjoyed by all.

BOONE's accomplishments over the year proved that the ship's greatest asset was the dedication of her crew. Throughout the completion of Counter Drug Operations deployment, BOONE's life blood, her crew, maintained a high state of morale, executed

sharply and professionally, and proudly represented the United States Navy wherever they traveled.