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EXCEL/011  
7 Mar 06

From: Commanding Officer, MHC CREW EXCEL  
To: Naval Historical Center

SUBJ: ANNUAL COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT CY 2005 FOR MHC  
CREW EXCEL

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12J

**1. Command Data:**

Name of Command: MHC CREW EXCEL embarked in USS PELICAN  
(MHC 53)

Unit Identification Code (UIC):  
Crew UIC (MHC CREW EXCEL): 40182  
Ship UIC (USS PELICAN (MHC 53)): 21865

Commanding Officer (During the reporting period):  
Hollingshead, Thomas P., LCDR  
Date Assumed Command: 2004-06-15  
Date Relieved: 2006-02-10

Mission: To clear harbor, coastal, and ocean water of  
acoustic, magnetic, pressure and contact-type mines,  
utilizing reconnaissance, classification, and  
neutralization tactics.

Permanent Location (Homeport): Naval Station Ingleside  
(NSI), Texas

Immediate Superior In Command (ISIC):  
Operational: Commander Mine Countermeasures Squadron Three  
Administrative: Commander Mine Countermeasures Squadron  
Two

Assigned Task Force: CTF 21

Number of Personnel Assigned: (As of 2006-02-28)  
Officers: 9 Enlisted: 45 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact:

LCDR Jong M. Kim  
Executive Officer  
Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Command Mailing Address:

Commanding Officer  
MHC CREW EXCEL  
FPO AE 09501-5103

## **2. Commander's Assessment**

MHC CREW EXCEL was the permanent crew of USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) homeported in Bahrain within the 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet AOR. In July 2004, in accordance with Commander Mine Warfare Command Crew Swap Initiative, the crew of the CARDINAL was detached from the ship and designated as MHC CREW JULIET. In August 2004, in accordance with the MHC/MCM crew rotation plan, CREW JULIET disembarked from the CARDINAL and arrived in Naval Station Ingleside (NSI), Texas. In November 2004, CREW JULIET embarked aboard USS PELICAN (MHC 53) homeported in NSI, TX. In January 2005, the crew's name was permanently changed and designated as MHC CREW EXCEL. Originally, MHC CREW EXCEL was scheduled to go through the Inter-deployment Training Cycle (IDTC) and rotate back to deployment in 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet AOR in year 2006. However, in October 2005, CREW EXCEL's IDTC was cancelled in support of Department of Defense's phased out plan to decommission all MHC 51 class ships commencing in March 2006 to completion in October 2008. Currently, MHC CREW EXCEL is embarked in USS PELICAN indefinitely, conducting Unit Level Training in support of Commander Mine Warfare Command's mission to provide combat ready Mine Warfare naval forces until receipt of USS PELICAN's decommissioning date.

## **3. Chronology and Narrative**

2005-01-01 to 2005-01-10: Inport NSI, TX; Holiday Stand-down

2005-01-11 to 2005-02-10: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-02-11: Berth Shift, Inport NSI TX

2005-02-12 to 2005-02-22: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-02-23: Search and Rescue ATG Administrative Limited Training Team visit

2005-02-24 to 2005-02-27: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-02-28: Search and Rescue ATG Limited Training Team visit

2005-02-28 to 2005-03-11: Annual Shipboard Instrumentation and Systems Calibration (SISCAL)

2005-03-12 to 2005-03-15: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-03-16 to 2005-03-18: Radar Navigation (RADNAV) Team Training and Certification

2005-03-19 to 2005-03-20: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-03-21: Search and Rescue ATG Limited Training Team visit II

2005-03-22 to 2005-04-03: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-04-04 to 2005-04-22: Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) 5A1; Diesel Engine Inspection on Nr1 Main Propulsion Diesel Engine (MPDE) and Nr 1A and Nr 2S Ship Service Diesel Generators (SSDGs)

2005-04-05 to 2005-04-07: Crew Certification Phase I

2005-04-23 to 2005-05-03: Light-off Assessment (LOA) Preparations, Upkeep, Unit Level Training

2005-05-04 to 2005-05-06: Light-off Assessment (LOA)

2005-05-07 to 2005-05-15: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-05-16 to 2005-05-22: Diesel Engine Inspection on Nr 2 Main Propulsion Diesel Engine (MPDE) and Nr 2S Ship Service Diesel Generator (SSDG)

2005-05-18: Participated in the Annual Heavy Weather Mooring Exercise, Inport NSI, TX

2005-05-20: Crew Certification Phase II

2005-05-23 to 2005-05-31: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-05-27: Certified on MOB-E for Unit Level Training

2005-06-01: Underway in Corpus Christi Op Area (CCOA) for Unit Level Training

2005-06-02 to 2005-06-08: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-06-09 to 2005-06-10: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-06-11 to 2005-06-20: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-06-21: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-06-22 to 2005-06-29: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-06-27: Certified in Search and Rescue (SAR)

2005-06-30: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-07-01 to 2005-07-04: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-07-05 to 2005-07-17: Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) 5A2; Diesel Engine Inspection on Nr 1B SSDG

2005-07-05 to 2005-07-06: ATG Force Protection Training I

2005-07-18 to 2005-07-22: ATG Ship Board Training Team (SBTT) Briefs

2005-07-23 to 2005-07-25: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-07-26: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-07-27 to 2005-07-29: ATG Force Protection Training II

2005-07-30 to 2005-08-15: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI, TX

2005-08-16 to 2005-08-18: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-08-19 to 2005-08-23: Upkeep and Unit Level Training

2005-08-24 to 2005-08-25: Underway in CCOA in support of Force Protection Certification

2005-08-25: Certified in Force Protection

2005-08-26 to 2005-09-11: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-09-12 to 2005-09-15: Underway in CCOA in support of Burial At Sea and Unit Level Training

2005-09-12: Conducted ISIC Navigation Check Ride

2005-09-16: Berth shift, Inport NSI TX

2005-09-17 to 2005-09-21: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-09-22 to 2005-09-25: Nested for Heavy Weather/Hurricane Moor in NSI TX due to Hurricane RITA. All non-essential personnel have been evacuated from Ingleside/Corpus Christi Area

2005-09-25: De-nested from Heavy Weather/Hurricane Moor; all personnel have been recalled from hurricane evacuation

2005-09-26 to 2005-10-02: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-10-03 to 2005-10-05: Underway in CCOA with USS KINGFISHER (MHC 56) crew embarked in support of USS KINGFISHER's Mine Warfare Tailored Ship Training Availability (TSTA)

2005-10-06 to 2005-11-13: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-11-14: Berth Shift, Inport NSI TX

2005-11-15 to 2005-11-30: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-11-17 to 2005-11-18: Hull Cleaning, Inport NSI TX

2005-11-21 to 2005-11-23: Supply Management Inspection; certified in Supply Management, Inport NSI TX

2005-11-28 to 2005-11-30: 3M Inspection, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-01 to 2005-12-02: Underway in CCOA for Unit Level Training

2005-12-03 to 2005-12-05: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-6: Underway in support of Junior Officer Ship-handler Competition I

2005-12-7 to 2005-12-8: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-9: Underway in support of Junior Officer Ship-handler Competition II

2005-12-10 to 2005-12-11: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-12: Conducted Shipboard Fire Fighting Team Trainer Assessment, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-13 to 2005-12-31: Upkeep and Unit Level Training, Inport NSI TX

2005-12-14: Command Christmas Party held at Ramada Bay Front Inn, Corpus Christi, Texas.

2005-12-17 to 2005-12-31: Holiday Stand-down, Inport NSI TX

#### **4. Supporting Reports**

Nothing to Report

## **5. Published Documents**

Hard Copy of Change of Command brochure last conducted aboard USS PELICAN 23 January, 2004

## **6. Photographs:**

- Attached Electronic file of ship's picture and Coat of Arms

- Picture of LCDR Thomas P. Hollingshead, Commanding Officer, MHC CREW EXCEL (2004-06-15 to 2006-02-10)

D. A. TRINQUE