

1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: MHC CREW ENDURANCE

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: 40183

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

Last: Carlson First: Andrew M.I.: F Rank: LCDR

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2006-08-04

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: Mine Warfare Support to NMAWC and Commander, 5th Fleet.

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): Ingleside, TX

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: COMCMRON TWO; COMCMRON THREE; COMCMDIV THREE ONE

Administrative: COMCMRON TWO

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable):

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable):

CTF 21

CTF 152 Operation Cooperative Khaliji

CTF 55 Operation Enduring Freedom

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable: N/A

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable): N/A

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 7 Enlisted: 45 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LTJG [REDACTED]

Job Title/Office Code: Operations Officer

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available): [REDACTED]

Phone number(s): [REDACTED]

Command Mailing Address: Operations Officer

MHC CREW ENDURANCE

FPO AE 09501

2. Commander's Assessment

The calendar year 2006 began with MHC CREW ENDURANCE, embarked in USS HERON (MHC 52) completing the final phases of the Fleet Response Plan. During the early months of the year CREW ENDURANCE participated in its final engineering tailored ships training availabilities culminating in its MOB-E certification in April. Due to equipment casualties experienced on HERON late in 2005, HERON's Combat Systems team was faced with completing its portion of the FRP with minimal underway training time. This was mitigated with participation in COMCMRON TWO sponsored inport training events, and use of HERON's SSQ-94 trainer. Despite the hindrances to MIW training, CREW ENDURANCE excelled during its combat systems training availabilities. After receiving all warfighting certifications CREW ENDURANCE went on to complete its Final Exercise Problem.

To complete the advanced level exercise requirement, CREW ENDURANCE was awarded the opportunity to participate in the multi-national FA PANAMAX 2006 exercise. This proved to be a very significant exercise due to the fact that Ingleside based units rarely get the chance to operate with other units, and the long transit to and from the Panama Canal Zone. During PANAMAX CREW ENDURANCE worked in unison with the other 2 legs of the MCM triad as well as navies from several South American countries, Russia, and Canada. While operating, MIW decision makers were challenged with a realistic intel based scenario even though MIW units were segregated from the majority of maritime operations. After returning to Ingleside, MHC CREW ENDURANCE turned over USS HERON to MHC CREW BOLD.

MHC CREW ENDURANCE next deployed to 5th Fleet under the operational command of Mine Countermeasures Division Three One. Upon taking command of USS CARDINAL, MHC CREW ENDURANCE got underway to perform a shakedown and accomplish unit level training events. While underway, 5th Fleet planners received credible intelligence pertaining to a terrorist threat to oil infrastructure in the Central Arabian Gulf. USS CARDINAL was then placed under task force 152 led by an admiral of the Italian Navy and CTF 55. While attached to Task Force 152, USS CARDINAL was charged to patrol various sectors while mapping and reporting shipping density patterns. Despite the fact that few crewmembers had experience in maritime security operations, CREW ENDURANCE again performed superbly. Once detached from TF 152, CARDINAL participated in a MCM demo for COMCDIV THREE ONE. During the MCM demonstration, CARDINAL worked in conjunction with USS ARDENT, USS SAIPAN, and HM-15. The demonstration was observed by dignitaries from several Gulf Cooperation Countries. After one final underway in support of CTF 152 led MSO operations, CREW ENDURANCE returned to Mina Salman, to begin its FMS availability and standown. During this standown, members of CREW ENDURANCE were obligated to correct all C-3 and higher casreps as well as remove all equipment determined to be non-releasable to the Egyptian Navy. After arriving from Ingleside an Egyptian Navy crew worked in unison with CREW ENDURANCE to get an accurate material history of USS CARDINAL and to become familiar with any differences between CARDINAL and the MHCs they trained on while in Ingleside. However, once they arrived the Egyptian crew desired additional MIW and communications training. MHC CREW ENDURANCE went to sea twice with the Egyptian Crew. On the second underway members of CREW ENDURANCE acted mainly as advisers to the Egyptian crew. After nearly a month of interaction, CREW ENDURANCE turned over USS CARDINAL to the Egyptian Navy on January 7th 2007.

3. Chronology and Narrative

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| 2006-01-23 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-01-30 | Damage Control Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-02-06 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-02-20 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-03-06 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-03-14 | Engineering Underway Demonstration |
| 2006-03-20 | Integrated Combat Systems/Damage Control Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-03-27 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-04-03 | Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-04-10 | Engineering Underway Demonstration |
| 2006-04-11 | Damage Control Tailored Ships Training Availability |
| 2006-04-17 | Electromagnetic Roll Facility Ranging |
| 2006-04-19 | Integrated Combat Systems Training Availability |
| 2006-04-24 | Integrated Combat Systems Training Availability |
| 2006-05-01 | Integrated Combat Systems Training Availability |
| 2006-05-08 | Integrated Combat Systems Training Availability |
| 2006-05-15 | Integrated Combat Systems Training Availability |
| 2006-05-23 | FEP Inport Portion |
| 2006-05-25 | FEP Certification |
| 2006-07-17 | Underway Unit Level Training |
| 2006-08-02 | U/W Corpus Christi Channel |
| 2006-08-10 | Transit Gulf of Mexico |
| 2006-08-16 | BSF Belize |

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| 2006-08-17 | Transit Caribbean Sea |
| 2006-08-21 | Port Visit, Colon |
| 2006-08-24 | FA PANAMAX 2006 commences |
| 2006-09-06 | Port Visit, Belize City |
| 2006-09-09 | Transit Gulf of Mexico |
| 2006-09-29 | USS HERON hull turnover to MHC CREW BOLD |
| 2006-10-22 | MHC CREW ENDURANCE assumes command of CARDINAL |
| 2006-10-25 | Maritime Security Operations |
| 2006-11-04 | Underway MCM demonstration |
| 2006-11-13 | Maritime Security Operations |
| 2006-11-17 | FMS industrial availability |

4. Supporting Reports

Battle E and Command Excellence Award submissions.

5. Published Documents

Commanding Officer's biography, change of command brochure, USS CARDINAL decommissioning brochure.

6. Photographs

USS CARDINAL and USS RAVEN decommissioning ceremony DVD.