



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

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From: Commanding Officer, USS CROMMELIN (FFG 37)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY 1998

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(5) Change of Command Pamphlet

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted.

2. Late submission of 1998 Command History is due to an administrative oversight. This process deficiency has been corrected, and the upcoming 1999 Command History will be submitted on time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. S. Kleint", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

C. S. KLEINT

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

a. **Mission.** USS CROMMELIN's mission is to provide air, surface and undersea protection for underway replenishment groups, convoys, amphibious forces and other military and merchant shipping. In recent years, the United States has tasked many ships of the FFG 7 class (including USS CROMMELIN) to provide escort and monitor services to U.S. and Allied flagged merchant shipping in the Arabian Gulf and to enforce the United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

b. **Organizational Structure.**

1. Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC): Commander, Destroyer Squadron Three One.

2. Units under operational/administrative control: None.

c. **Commanding Officer.** Craig S. Kleint, Commander, United States Navy.

d. **Permanent Duty Station.** Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, United States of America.

e. **Type and Number of Aircraft Assigned.** Two SH-60B were embarked during the following periods:

1. January 14, 1998 to January 20, 1998 for MEFEX Phase II.
2. February 20, 1998 to August 20, 1998 for PACMEF 98-1.

January 1998

- 01-12 - Moored, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.
- 01-04 - Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period.
- 05 - Secure from Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period.
- 05-08 - MEFEX Phase I.
- 05-14 - Combat Systems Readiness Review
- 12 - Underway from Naval Station Pearl Harbor for CSRR.
- 12 - Moored, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.
- 14-21 - Underway from Naval Station Pearl Harbor for MEFEX Phase II.
- 14-20 - Embark (2) SH-60B from HSL-37 for MEFEX Phase II.
- 21 - Moored, Naval Magazine Lualualei for weapons onload.
- 21 - Secure from weapons onload, shift berths to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.
- 22-30 - Port fin stabilizer replacement.

February 1998

- 02-20 - Pre-deployment Stand down.
- 09-10 - Hull cleaning.
- 11 - Underway from Naval Station Pearl Harbor to test fin stabilizers.
- 12 - Moored, Naval Magazine Lualualei for weapons onload.
- 12-13 - Weapons Onload.
- 13 - Berth Shift to Naval Station Pearl Harbor.
- 20 - Underway from Naval Station Pearl Harbor for PACMEF 98-1, enroute Guam.
- 20 - Embark (2) SH-60B from HSL-37. (Easy Rider 61/Easy Rider 65)
- 20-28 - MEFEX Phase III.

24 - Day lost due to crossing International Date Line.

March 1998

01-02 - MEFEX Phase III.

03 - Moored, Naval Base Guam for fuel.

04 - Underway from Naval Base Guam, enroute Surabaya, Indonesia.

10 - Moored, Surabaya, Indonesia.

10-14 - Inport, Surabaya, Indonesia.

11 - Host flight deck reception for Indonesian military personnel and Surabaya government officials.

14 - Underway from Surabaya, Indonesia, enroute Phuket, Thailand.

16 - Navigated Strait of Malacca.

17-22 - Anchored, Phuket, Thailand.

22 - Underway from Phuket, Thailand, enroute Bahrain.

27 - Chopped to Fifth Fleet.

30 - Navigated Strait of Hormuz.

31 - Moored, Bahrain for turnover with USS REUBEN JAMES (FFG-57).

April 1998

01-04 - Moored, Bahrain.

04 - Underway from Bahrain.

04-13 - Maritime Interception Operations.

07 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Alikrator*.

10 - Boarded and cleared vessel *J. Jessica*.

13 - Moored, Bahrain.

13-21 - Exercise Neon Spark (Bahrainian Navy).

19 - Underway from Bahrain for Exercise Neon Spark.

21-23 - Moored, Bahrain.

- 23 - Underway from Bahrain, enroute Jebel Ali, UAE.
- 24-31 - Moored Jebel Ali, UAE.
- 24-31 - 1A GTE repair.

May 1998

- 01 - Underway from Jebel Ali, UAE, enroute Northern Arabian Gulf.
- 02-14 - Maritime Interception Operations.
- 02 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Ayubia*. Conducted health and comfort inspections on vessels *Minamare* and *Al Hounan*.
- 04 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Nasseri*. Conducted health and comfort inspections on vessels *Minamare*, *Al Hounan*, and *Sama*. Escorted vessel *Sama* to Fenway.
- 05 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Zenat Al Khaleej* containing 2489 MT oil. Conducted non-cooperative boarding and release of a cargo dhow carrying dates. Conducted health and comfort of vessel *Saravan*.
- 06 - Escorted vessel *Al Hounan* to Kuwait.
- 07 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Mrinal* containing 544 MT oil. Conducted health and comfort inspections on vessels *Zenat Al Khaleej*, *Sama*, *Minamare*, and *Mrinal*.
- 09 - Boarded and cleared vessels *Ibn Younis* and *Probo Gull*. Conducted health and comfort inspections on vessels *Sea Star I*, *Zenat Al Khaleej*, *Mrinal*, *Minamare*, and *Sama*.
- 13 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Abydos*.
- 14 - Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Sea Star I* and *Minamare*.
- 15-21 - Inport Jebel Ali, UAE.
- 18-21 - Maintenance availability with USS SIMON LAKE (AS-33).
- 21 - Underway from Jebel Ali, UAE enroute Doha, Qatar.

- 23 - Moored, Doha, Qatar.
- 23-27 - Exercise Eastern Sailor.
- 25 - Underway from Doha, Qatar.
- 23-27 - Embarked DESRON FIVE ZERO.
- 27 - Disembarked DESRON FIVE ZERO
- 28-31 - Inport, Bahrain.

June 1998

- 01 - Underway from Bahrain.
- 02-17 - Maritime Interception Operations.
- 06 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Kaghan*.
- 07 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Al Batool* containing 2500 MT of oil.
- 08 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Dilma* containing 2605 MT of oil.
- 11 - Boarded and cleared vessel *Sea Rainbow*. Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Al Batool* and *Dilma*.
- 12 - Boarded and cleared vessels *Seri Ibonda*, *Ibn Younis*, and *Floreana*. Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Al Batool* and *Dilma*.
- 13 - Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Al Batool* and *Dilma*.
- 14 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Yasmeen* containing 1500 MT of oil.
- 15 - Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Yasmeen*, *Al Batool*, and *Dilma*.
- 16 - Boarded and cleared vessels *Altair Ss* and *Perma Bridge*. Conducted health and comfort inspections on vessels *Yasmeen*, *Al Batool*, and *Dilma*.

- 17 - Boarded and cleared vessels *Nesa R*, *Shadwan Island*, and *To Lich*. Conducted health and comfort inspection on vessels *Yasmeen*, *Al Batool*, and *Dilma*.
- 19-21 - Anchored near Bahrain due to heightened threat condition.
- 22-23 - Escorted vessel *Dilma* to Kuwait.
- 23-26 - Maritime Interception Operations.
- 24 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert on vessel *Nour Al Hudda* containing 1500 MT of oil.
- 28-31 - Inport Bahrain.

July 1998

- 02-05 - Maritime Interception Operations.
- 02 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Alia* containing 1328 MT of oil.
- 03 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *Bonita* containing 834 MT of oil.
- 04 - Conducted non-cooperative boarding and divert of vessel *East 1* containing 1800 MT of oil.
- 05 - Three Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders celebrate Fourth of July holiday onboard CROMMELIN.
- 07-08 - Inport Bahrain for turnover with USS THACH (FFG-43).
- 07 - DESRON 50 visits CROMMELIN for outstanding performance while conducting Maritime Interception Operations.
- 08 - Awards ceremony conducted on flight deck with Vice Admiral Fargo.
- 09 - Underway from Bahrain enroute Bunbury, Australia.
- 09 - Strait of Hormuz transit.
- 13 - Chopped to Seventh Fleet.
- 18 - Conducted Crossing the Line ceremony.
- 22-26 - Inport Bunbury, Australia. Gave tours to approximately 500 citizens of Bunbury.

- 24 - Flight Deck reception for Bunbury City Officials.
- 27-30 - Underway from Bunbury enroute Geelong, Australia.
- 30-31 - Inport Geelong, Australia.

August 1998

- 01-04 - Inport Geelong, Australia. Gave tours to approximately 5000 citizens of Geelong.
- 02 - Hosted a luncheon attended by the Consul General of Melbourne, Mayor of Geelong, and business leaders of Geelong.
- 05 - Underway from Geelong enroute Sydney, Australia.
- 06-09 - Inport Sydney, Australia.
- 07 - Hosted a luncheon attended by the Consul General of Sydney and business leaders of Sydney.
- 10 - Underway from Sydney, enroute Suva, Fiji.
- 13 - Moored, Suva, Fiji for fuel.
- 13 - Underway from Suva, Fiji enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 14-16 - Mid-Cycle Assessment conducted by DESRON THREE ONE.
- 15 - Chopped to Third Fleet.
- 21 - Moored, Naval Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 21-31 - Post Deployment Leave/Upkeep.

September 1998

- 01-18 - Post Deployment Leave/Upkeep.

October 1998

- 02 - Awarded Navy Unit Commendation in recognition of exceptionally meritorious service while assigned to CTF FIVE ZERO during PACMEF 98-1.
- 09 - Hosted tour for the Vice Minister of Defense of Vietnam.
- 15 - Hosted tour for Defense Orientation Council Association.

- 22 - Fast Cruise.
- 23-26 - Underway from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to Middle Pacific for Encounterex 007-98.
- 26 - Moored, Naval Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 27-31 - Inport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

November 1998

- 03 - Underway from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for independent steaming in the Middle Pacific.
- 03 - Navigation Check Ride
- 03-05 - Junior Officer shiphandling competition.
- 05 - Moored, Naval Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 20 - CDR Chuck Pierce is relieved by CDR Craig S. Kleint at 1400.
- 23 - Underway from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for independent steaming in the Middle Pacific.
- 25 - Moored, Naval Base Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 25-30 - Inport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

December 1998

- 01-07 - Inport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- 08 - Moored, Naval Magazine Lualualei for weapons offload.
- 08-09 - Weapons offload.
- 09 - Moored, Naval Station Pearl Harbor.
- 14 - Holiday Stand down begins.
- 14-31 - Inport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

1998 Narrative

MARITIME INTERCEPTION OPERATIONS. Those three words best describe CROMMELIN's employment in 1998. Early in the year there was preparation for deployment, next the deployment to the Arabian Gulf, and by the end of the year everyone still seemed to be talking about the frigate that conducted 10 hostile boardings and diverted over 15,000 MT of petroleum products during her stint in the Gulf. CROMMELIN leaves 1998 with a new Commanding Officer, Commander Kleint, along with many new officers and crew looking forward to a fast-paced Selected Restricted Availability followed by a counter-narcotics deployment to the Eastern Pacific in August, 1999.