



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DE WERT (FFG 45) ✓

FLEET POST OFFICE

MIAMI 34090-1499

**DECLASSIFIED**

5750  
Ser 00135  
12 Sep 87

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

From: Commanding Officer, USS DE WERT (FFG 45)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH),  
Washington, DC 20374

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1986 (REPORT OPNAV 5750-1);  
SUBMISSION OF

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) USS DE WERT (FFG 45) Command History for Calendar Year 1986  
(2) Biography, CDR Walter F. Doran, USN  
(3) Photograph, CDR Walter F. Doran, USN  
(4) Photograph, USS DE WERT (FFG 45)  
(5) Welcome Aboard Brochure, USS DE WERT (FFG 45)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded.

  
W. F. DORAN

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)  
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES  
DATE: Nov 2005

DECLASSIFIED

USS DE WERT (FFG 45) COMMAND HISTORY FOR  
CALENDAR YEAR 1986

- A. Command Composition and Organization Mission: Primary mission is ASW with secondary missions in the area of AAW, ASUW, ELW, and Command and Control

Commanding Officer: CDR Douglas M. Armstrong, USN,  
relieved on 16 February 1986 by CDR Walter F. DORAN,  
USN,

IUC: Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX  
Homeport: Charleston, SC

Aircraft: Embarked two SH60B LAMPS MK III Helicopters from  
HSL 42, Detachment 4, Mayport, FL

B. Chronology

1 Jan	18 May	Deployed Mediterranean 1-86
1-10 Jan		IMAV Naples, IT
12 Jan	8 May	SIXTH Fleet OPS
30 Jan	2 Feb	Freedom of Navigation Operations in the vicinity of Libya (Phase I)
9-14 Feb		Freedom of Navigation Operations in the vicinity of Libya (Phase II)
16 Feb		CDR Walter F. Doran relieved CDR Douglas M. Armstrong
24 Mar		Freedom of Navigation Operations in the vicinity of Libya (Phase III)
15 Apr		Participated in Libyan Air Strike Operations
8 May		Chop SIXTHFLT to SECONDFLT
9-18 May		Transit
19 May		Return to Homeport
19 May	28 Jul	IMAV
26 Aug		PVST to Port Everglades to repair damaged sonar dome rubber window
22-29 Aug		Underway for Engineering Training
6 Sep		SML Missile Firing
7-13 Sep		Acoustic Trials/ASW Training at North Tongue of the Ocean, Bahamas
23 Sep		Operational Propulsion Plant Examination
3-7 Oct		Underway for missile, gun, and torpedo shoots
8-13 Oct		Port Visit Tampa, FL for USN Birthday
5 Nov	3 Dec	Law Enforcement Operations in the Caribbean

C. Narrative

USS DE WERT was inport Naples, Italy for Intermediate Maintenance Availability with USS YELLOWSTONE (AD 41) on 1 January 1986. The ship remained inport until 12 January when she got underway to join USS CORAL SEA'S

Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

Battle Group in the Central Mediterranean. USS DE WERT and USS RICHMOND K. TURNER were detached as a SAG to explore the capabilities of the LAMPS MK III against a real world target of opportunity. A Soviet Slava class cruiser was located more than 300 miles away from DE WERT and TURNER who maintained strict EMCON through the exercise. After rejoining the Coral Sea Battle Group, DE WERT was to be part of dual battle group operations as USS SARATOGA and her battle group joined USS CORAL SEA. Both battle groups moved south to the Gulf of Sidra for freedom of navigation operations in the vicinity of Libya, (OVL) Phase I. This went quietly with some air activity and close Soviet observation but no surface ship reaction from the Libyan Navy. On departing the Gulf the CORAL SEA Battle Group made port visits in the Adriatic Sea. USS DE WERT and USS CORAL SEA were inport Trieste, Italy from 2-6 February. During this period DE WERT was commended for her role in the MEDEVAC of a seriously ill sailor from CORAL SEA.

DE WERT was underway from 7 to 17 February with USS CORAL SEA and USS SARATOGA for OVL Phase II. This five day long (9-14 February) exercise of Freedom of Navigation rights was notable because of the many sorties flown by the Libyan Air Force with aggressive air combat maneuvering against the F-14's and F-18's. The Libyan Naval Forces did not move out to sea. DE WERT's role involved heavy continuous flight of the LAMPS III for surface radar surveillance. To allow for greater flexibility a second SH60B was flown from Mayport to Sigonella, Sicily by C-5A and met DE WERT off the coast of Sicily. Two additional pilots, an aircrewman and several technicians augmented DE WERT's detachment of four pilots, two aircrewman, and 8 technicians. This was the first instance of a ship deployed with 2 LAMPS III's. While underway in the straits of Sicily on 16 February, CDR Walter F. Doran relieved CDR Douglas M. Armstrong as Commanding Officer. The ship made a port visit to Palma Mallorca, Spain from 18 to 28 February. Underway in the Western Mediterranean from 27 February to 7 March, DE WERT conducted ASW operations against a Soviet Tango class submarine and for several hours maintained contact on two submarines simultaneously. The ship traveled east for a port visit in Alexandria, Egypt from 8-13 March and to Antalya, Turkey from 14-19 March.

After leaving Antalya DE WERT rejoined USS CORAL SEA and proceeded to the Gulf of Sidra for OVL phase III. USS AMERICA and her battle group (including USS HALYBURTON and 2 more SH60Bs) joined the battle groups of USS CORAL SEA and USS SARATOGA. During this operation, on 24 March, the Libyans fired SA-5 missiles at US fighter aircraft from a site at Surt, at the south center of the Gulf of Sidra. Carrier aircraft damaged the missile site radars with HARM missiles. Later that night Libyan missile patrol boats underway in the Gulf of Sidra were sunk by Harpoon missiles and Rockeye bombs. DE WERT was at the Southeast corner of the US Battle Force and conducted radar surveillance with USS HALYBURTON using the LAMPS MK III to maintain 24 hour coverage of the Gulf.

After OVL phase III, DE WERT joined USS SHENANDOAH (AD 44) in Augusta Bay, Sicily for a one week upkeep period, 29 March to 6 April. Getting underway from Augusta Bay the ship headed west for outchop on 9 April. This was interrupted on 8 April by an indefinite extension in the Mediterranean. CORAL SEA and AMERICA Battle Groups rendezvoused north of Sicily for a dash down to the Gulf of Sidra for the 15 April air strikes on Tripoli and Benghazi and search and rescue for any downed pilots. DE WERT entered Catania, Sicily for a port visit from 21-25 April. The ship was underway again for the CORAL SEA Battle Group turnover to the ENTERPRISE Battle Group which arrived via the

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**DECLASSIFIED**



Suez Canal. DE WERT turned over to USS ARKANSAS (CGN 41) and began the transit to Rota Spain for a port visit from 7 to 8 May and outchop. DE WERT did not successfully complete her Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) on 8 May. The ship transited the Atlantic from 9-18 May for arrival in Charleston on 19 May. From 19 May to 28 July DE WERT was inport for IMAV and post deployment standdown. Two first class and one third class midshipmen joined DE WERT from 13 July to 9 August. The ship suffered a sonar dome casualty which required a port visit in Port Everglades, Florida for repairs from 29 July to 9 August. DE WERT was inport Charleston 10-26 August followed by engineering training underway from 27-29 August, then was inport Charleston 29 August to 4 September.

DE WERT was underway again 5 September to the Virginia Capes OPAREA to fire an SM-1 missile on 6 September. After the missile shoot, DE WERT headed south to North Tongue of the Ocean in the Bahamas for acoustic trials and ASW training including firing torpedoes at a target and acting as target for a submarine firing torpedoes. The ship was inport Charleston again from 14-22 September. DE WERT passed her Operational Propulsion Plant Examination on 23 September and was inport Charleston from 24-28 September. She was underway for transit to the Puerto Rican OPAREAS for missile, gun, and torpedo shoots followed by a transit to Tampa, Fl from 8 October to 13 October for the Navy's Birthday. The Chief Of Naval Operations came aboard to reenlist crewmembers and present awards while inport. During visit ship more than 5000 people visited in two days.

Underway 14 and 15 October DE WERT visited Key West from 16-19 October, then departed Key West for a transit to Mobile, Alabama. She arrived in Mobile 22 October for a port visit until 25 October during the National Enlisted Reserve Association Convention. She departed 26 October for transit back to Charleston, arriving 29 October. The inport period in Charleston lasted from 29 October until 5 November, when DE WERT departed for Law Enforcement Operations. The ship spent one day inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico for operations briefs and picked up her Coast Guard Tactical Law Enforcement Team, one officer and six enlisted men, and a rigid hull inflatable boat. 10-24 November was spent patrolling the Caribbean as part of Hat Trick III, using the LAMPS MK III for surface surveillance for 5 Navy Ships and 1 Coast Guard Cutter. The operation was successful, resulting in 4 boats and over 50 tons of marijuana seized. She arrived Maracaibo, Venezuela for port visit 25-27 November. DE WERT sailors helped a home for children with maintenance and repair during the visit. Departing 28 November for Charleston, she arrived 3 December at the Naval Weapons Station for ordnance offload. She was underway 15-18 December with other ships from DESRON 4 and 6 for enhanced training including gun and torpedo shoots, ASW and multi-helicopter operations. 19-31 December the ship was inport Charleston for Christmas standdown.

**DECLASSIFIED**

Enclosure (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

Special Topics

1. Commanding Officer: Commander Douglas M. Armstrong, USN, 19 November 1983 to 16 February 1986. Commander Walter F. Doran, USN, 16 February 1986 to present.
2. Ammunition Expended:

CIWS	A675	2074 Rounds
76MM	C062	108 Rounds
Extorps (various)		6
Sml		2
3. Awarded Tophand by CTF 60 for the Battle Group
4. Awarded the Navy Unit Commendation and Navy Expeditionary Medal for operations in the vicinity for Libya.
5. Won the Command/Control/Communications, Supply, Electronic Warfare, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, and Anti-Air Warfare mission area excellence awards.