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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ELROD (FFG 55)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS ELROD (FFG 55)  
To: Commanding Officer, Naval Historical Center, Bldg. 57,  
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY, USS ELROD (FFG 55)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Chronology of 1990  
(3) Narrative Summary of Years Operations  
(4) ELROD Coat of Arms  
(5) Commanding Officer Picture/Biography  
(6) Announcement of Daily Point of Light Recognition  
(7) Letter From President George Bush  
(8) Trees for Charleston Photographs  
(9) Safety Belt Award News Release

1. In accordance with reference (a), the command history of USS ELROD (FFG 55) for 1990 is forwarded. The attached enclosures highlight the year experienced by ELROD's officers and crew.

  
BRUCE R. LINDER

## COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS ELROD (FFG-55) is an Oliver Hazard Perry class guided missile frigate with multiple missions. Her primary mission is Anti-Submarine Warfare and she possesses capabilities in Anti-Air Warfare and Anti-Surface Warfare. USS ELROD is configured with anti-submarine torpedoes, surface to surface harpoon missiles, surface to air standard missiles, a 76mm MK 75 rapid fire gun, a fully automatic 20mm Vulcan Phalanx Close In Weapon System (CIWS), an AN/SQR 19 Towed Array Sonar, as well as radars, electronic warfare systems and communication systems required to be a viable force at sea. USS ELROD is homeported in Charleston, South Carolina and is under the command of Commander Bruce R. Linder. ELROD's immediate senior command is Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX.

ENCLOSURE 1

CHRONOLOGY FOR 1990

01 Jan - 15 Jan Inport Charleston, South Carolina.  
16 Jan - 19 Jan Underway for local ops.  
20 Jan - 22 Jan Port visit Nassau, Bahamas.  
24 Jan - 07 Feb Inport Charleston.  
08 Feb - 09 Feb Weapons off load, Charleston Naval Weapons Station.  
10 Feb - 04 Mar Inport Charleston.  
05 Mar - 17 May Selected Restricted Availability, Charleston Naval Shipyard.  
18 May Underway for sea trials.  
19 May - 29 May Inport Charleston.  
30 May - 31 May Underway for local ops.  
01 Jun - 10 Jun Inport Charleston.  
11 Jun - 13 Jun Underway for local ops.  
14 Jun Weapons on load, Charleston Naval Weapons Station.  
15 Jun - 08 Jul Inport Charleston.  
09 Jul - 11 Jul Underway for local ops.  
12 Jul - 15 Jul Inport Charleston.  
16 Jul - 18 Jul Underway for local ops.  
19 Jul - 22 Jul Inport Charleston.  
23 Jul - 27 Jul Underway for local ops.  
28 Jul - 14 Aug Inport Charleston.  
15 Aug Underway for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.  
16 Aug - 30 Aug Refresher Training at Guantanamo Bay.  
31 Aug - 03 Sep Port Visit Montego Bay, Jamaica.  
04 Sep - 19 Sep Completion of Refresher Training at Guantanamo Bay.  
20 Sep - 21 Sep Underway for Charleston.  
22 Sep - 02 Oct Inport Charleston.  
03 Oct - 09 Oct Underway for local ops.  
10 Oct - 17 Oct Inport Charleston.  
18 Oct - 19 Oct Underway for local ops.  
20 Oct - 21 Oct Inport Charleston.  
22 Oct - 24 Oct Underway for local ops.  
25 Oct - 07 Nov Inport Charleston.  
08 Nov - 09 Nov Underway for local ops.  
10 Nov - 12 Nov Inport Charleston.  
13 Nov Underway for local ops.  
14 Nov - 25 Nov Inport Charleston.  
26 Nov - 29 Nov Underway for local ops.  
30 Nov - 02 Dec Inport Charleston.  
03 Dec - 07 Dec COMNAVSURFLANT Combat Systems Assessment.  
08 Dec - 13 Dec Inport Charleston.  
14 Dec Underway for Port Canaveral, Florida.  
15 Dec - 17 Dec Port Visit Port Canaveral, Florida.  
18 Dec Underway for Charleston.  
19 Dec - 31 Dec Inport Charleston.

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY FOR 1990

The USS ELROD spent the majority of 1990 undergoing intensive training and inspections in preparation for an upcoming deployment. In January Elrod crew members enjoyed a port visit to Nassau, the capital of the Bahamas. ELROD sailors partook of the diverse entertainment and recreational opportunities available to them in this spectacular port. The remainder of January and February found the ship in Charleston where her crew made preparations for entering the shipyard. The crew also continued their unique community service project, "Trees for Charleston." The devastation left by Hurricane Hugo which ELROD sailors faced upon their return from the Persian Gulf in 1989 sparked interest in this effort. The crew wanted to make a significant contribution to the restoration of their homeport. By the end of 1990 over 72,000 trees would have been planted or distributed by the men of ELROD.

In March the USS ELROD began a three month Selected Restricted Availability period with Charleston Naval Shipyard. Following the shipyard period, the Readiness Support Group conducted a Supply Management Inspection. The supply department did exceptionally well and qualified for a fourth consecutive Blue "E" for supply excellence. The remainder of the summer months were spent in local operations and in preparing for Refresher Training. ELROD arrived in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO) in mid-August for the month-long training program. ELROD crew members preformed exceptionally well under an intensive schedule at GTMO. ELROD was rated satisfactory in all areas graded during Refresher Training while earning special praise in ASW, damage control, gunnery, deck evolutions and engineering. A break from the rigors of GTMO was found by all in a port visit to Montego Bay, Jamaica. ELROD sailors enjoyed the numerous offerings of this Caribbean port before returning to Cuba for the completion of Refresher Training.

ELROD arrived in Charleston on 22 September and began preparations for yet another important inspection, the Operational Propulsion Plant Examination. The lessons learned in Cuba were evident as the ship easily passed this exam while earning an "Above Average" mark in material readiness. In November ELROD was named as one of President Bush's "Thousand Points of Light" for their "Trees for Charleston" project. She became the first ship ever to achieve this honor. During early December ELROD successfully completed a comprehensive COMNAVSURFLANT Combat Systems Assessment. ELROD was also awarded the Captain James Piner Cooper River Piloting Award for navigation excellence for first quarter FY 91. Another significant accomplishment came with the selection of ELROD's enlisted dining facility as the representative from Charleston for the annual NEY award to be held in the spring of 1991. In December ELROD's crew received recognition from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for their outstanding commitment to safety belt use.

The men of ELROD ended the year on a high note with a visit to Port Canaveral, Florida. Trips to Walt Disney World, Epcot Center, and Kennedy Space Center provided the crew with an excellent opportunity to relax and enjoy one of the world's premier tourist attractions. The preparations made during 1990 will allow the USS ELROD to effectively complete her missions during the next deployment. Furthermore, the performance of ELROD crew members over the past year exemplify their dedication to duty and ability to excel in any assigned task.