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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ELROD (FFG 55)

FLEET POST OFFICE

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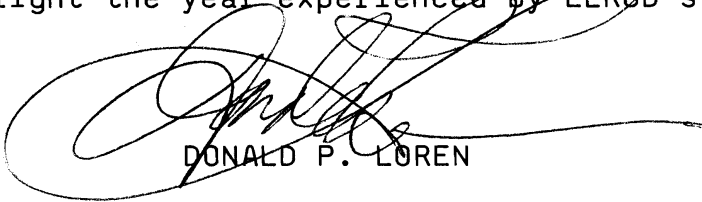
From: Commanding Officer, USS ELROD (FFG 55)
To: Commanding Officer, Naval Historical Center, Bldg. 57,
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Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY, USS ELROD (FFG 55)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology of 1991
(3) Narrative Summary of Years Operations
(4) ELROD Coat of Arms
(5) Commanding Officer Picture/Biography
(6) Change of Command Brochure
(7) Communities USA Award
(8) Thousand Points of Light Photos

1. The command history of USS ELROD (FFG 55) for 1991 is forwarded in accordance with reference (a). The attached enclosures highlight the year experienced by ELROD's officers and crew.


DONALD P. LOREN

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS ELROD (FFG 55) is an Oliver Hazard Perry class guided missile frigate with multiple warfare missions. Her primary mission is Anti-Submarine Warfare with secondary missions of Anti-Air Warfare and Anti-Surface Warfare. USS ELROD is equipped with the AN/SQQ-89(V)2 ASW Suite, including the AN/SQR-19 Tactical Towed Array Sonar System (TACTASS) and the AN/SQQ-28(V) Shipboard Sonobouy Processing System (SSPS). Firepower is provided through MK 46 Mod 5 ASW Torpedoes, SM-1 AAW Missiles, Harpoon ASUW Missiles, a 76mm MK 75 rapid fire gun, and a Vulcan Phalanx Close In Weapons System (CIWS). Radars, electronic warfare systems, communication systems, and two SH-60B Seahawk helicopters make ELROD a formidable fighting ship. USS ELROD is homeported in Charleston, South Carolina, and was under the command of Commander Bruce R. Linder, USN, until 18 July 1991. Commander Donald P. Loren, USN relieved on 18 July 1991. ELROD's parent administrative commander is Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX.

CHRONOLOGY FOR 1991

01 Jan - 13 Jan	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
14 Jan - 15 Jan	Underway for local ops
16 Jan - 03 Feb	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
04 Feb - 05 Feb	Underway for Portsmouth, Virginia
06 Feb - 27 Feb	Drydock Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia
28 Feb - 01 Mar	Underway for Charleston, South Carolina
02 Mar - 18 Mar	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
19 Mar - 29 Mar	Underway for Tail Proficiency Training (TPT)
30 Mar - 05 Apr	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
06 Apr - 11 Apr	Underway for Type Commander's Core Training (TCCT)
12 Apr	Arrive and Depart Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, Puerto Rico
13 Apr - 15 Apr	Underway for Type Commander's Core Training (TCCT)
16 Apr	Arrive and Depart Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, Puerto Rico
17 Apr	Underway for Phillipsburg, Sint Maarten, Dutch Antilles
18 Apr - 20 Apr	Inport Phillipsburg, Sint Maarten, Dutch Antilles
21 Apr - 24 Apr	Underway for Charleston, South Carolina
25 Apr - 08 May	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
09 May	Charleston Naval Weapons Station
10 May - 13 May	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
14 May - 16 May	Underway for Counter-Narcotic Ops
17 May	Arrive and Depart Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
18 May - 24 May	Underway for Counter-Narcotic Ops
25 May	Inport Oranjestad, Aruba
26 May - 11 Jun	Underway for Counter-Narcotic Ops
12 Jun - 13 Jun	Inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
14 Jun - 17 Jun	Underway for Counter-Narcotics Ops
18 Jun - 14 Jul	Inport Charleston South Carolina
15 Jul - 16 Jul	Underway for local ops
17 Jul	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
18 Jul	Change of Command, Charleston, South Carolina
19 Jul - 22 Jul	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
23 Jul - 09 Aug	Underway for FLEET-EX 4-91
10 Aug - 11 Aug	Underway for SOC-EX 4-91
12 Aug - 24 Aug	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
25 Aug - 27 Aug	Underway for local ops
28 Aug - 25 Sep	Inport Charleston, South Carolina
26 Sep - 06 Oct	Transit Atlantic
07 Oct	Transit Strait of Gibraltar
08 Oct - 12 Oct	Transit Mediterranean
13 Oct	Transit Suez Canal (Southbound)
14 Oct - 22 Oct	Transit Red Sea
23 Oct - 29 Oct	Transit Gulf of Aden

CHRONOLOGY FOR 1991
(CONTINUED)

30 Oct		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Northbound)
31 Oct	- 02 Nov	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
03 Nov	- 09 Nov	Inport Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates
10 Nov	- 11 Nov	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
12 Nov		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Southbound)
13 Nov		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Northbound)
14 Nov	- 18 Nov	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
19 Nov	- 24 Nov	Inport Mina Sulman, Bahrain
25 Nov		Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
26 Nov		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Southbound)
27 Nov		Underway for Gulf of Oman Ops
28 Nov	- 29 Nov	Inport Muscat, Oman
30 Nov		Underway for Gulf of Oman Ops
01 Dec		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Northbound)
02 Dec	- 04 Dec	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
05 Dec	- 07 Dec	Inport Mina Sulman, Bahrain
08 Dec	- 14 Dec	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
15 Dec	- 16 Dec	Inport Jubayl, Saudi Arabia
17 Dec	- 19 Dec	Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
20 Dec		Inport Mina Sulman, Bahrain
21 Dec		Underway for Central Arabian Gulf Ops
22 Dec		Transit Strait of Hormuz (Southbound)
23 Dec		Underway for Gulf of Oman Ops
24 Dec	- 31 Dec	Inport Muscat, Oman

NARRATIVE SUMMARY FOR 1991

USS ELROD spent the first months of 1991 preparing for deployment. January saw ELROD through CSRR Phase I, GTRR, SMI assist, and the continuation of the "Trees for Charleston" project. In February, ELROD entered Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to conduct work on the sonar dome and rudder seal. Following successful sea trials, she returned to homeport.

In March, the operational tempo increased. ELROD had a successful Diesel Inspection, SITE Calibration, Medical Readiness Inspection, Aviation Facilities Inspection, and Harpoon Missile Certification while inport Charleston. Underway, ELROD successfully passed Tail Proficiency Training. Also during the underway period, ELROD conducted a burial at sea for the ashes of a former Navy man.

In April, the training became more Battle Group oriented with Type Commander's Core Training (TCCT). ELROD operated with USS DAHLGREN, USS MAHAN, USS TICONDEROGA, USS BAINBRIDGE, USS DOYLE, and USS TRUETT, participating in exercises that tested all warfare areas. Brief stops at Roosevelt Roads Naval Station kept ELROD supplied. A three day port visit in Philipsburg, Sint Maartin allowed the crew to relax and enjoy the hospitality of the Dutch Antilles.

May and June saw ELROD shifting from conventional warfare to the war on drugs. As part of the joint Navy and Coast Guard Counter-Narcotics Operations task force, ELROD conducted over 10 boardings, and seized the MV Nordic, which was found to be carrying over \$10 Million worth of cocaine. While conducting these operations, ELROD was named as a "1991 Notable" by Neighborhoods-USA in recognition for the ship's innovative community service project "Trees for Charleston". ELROD was the first DOD organization to be recognized as a "Notable" in the Neighborhoods-USA's annual competition to find those organizations which have contributed the most to their communities. On June 13, while in Roosevelt Roads, ELROD hosted the COMSQLANT change of command. Upon return to Charleston in mid-June, ELROD immediately entered into a TAV period. Inspections included EMATT, Communications assist, and a 3-M assist. All were successful. Also in June, ELROD was named as the recipient of the FY-90 SECNAV Small Ship Energy Conservation Award.

In July, Commander Donald P. Loren relieved Commander Bruce R. Linder as Commanding Officer during a pier-side Change of Command Ceremony. ELROD then took on missiles, and departed to participate in FLEETEX 4-91, an exercise involving all members of the MED 4-91 Battle Group. FLEETEX gave all members of the battle group an opportunity to work together and to test their systems prior to deployment. Proving her shooting prowess, ELROD scored kills with both Surface to Air and Harpoon missiles.

Following FLEETEX, August and September were spent making preparations to deploy. In addition to the many pre-deployment inspections, CSRR phase II, CSMTT, GTRR, and a Disbursing Assist, ELROD conducted a full Combat Systems Assessment (CSA) while simultaneously undergoing implementation of the Combat Systems Operating Sequencing System (CSOSS). On September 26, ELROD departed Charleston as part of the EISENHOWER CVBG, Med 4-91.

While ELROD was transiting the Atlantic enroute to the Middle East, a representative was sent to a special "Thousand Points of Light" ceremony at Disney World. President Bush presented him with a "Thousand Points of Light" medal for the ship, commemorating it's selection for this title. As ELROD transited the Red Sea in mid-October, it participated in a three day exercise with the Royal Saudi Arabian Navy. This pass-ex was to be the first of several such exercises that ELROD would participate in for the remainder of the year. These exercises allowed US Navy personnel the opportunity to work closely with members of the navies of countries in the Arabian Gulf region. Personnel transfers between the navies increased the training that occurred.

As October ended, ELROD entered the Arabian Gulf. The first week of November was spent in a Tender Availability with the USS L.Y. SPEAR. ELROD's crew spent many of their liberty hours in nearby Dubai, UAE, shopping, and enjoying the night-life. After the TAV, ELROD escorted the USS L.Y. SPEAR safely through the Strait of Hormuz, then continued patrolling the Central Arabian Gulf. A pass-ex with the British ship HMS BIRMINGHAM gave ELROD experience operating with NATO allies. During a port visit to Bahrain, the Mast Mounted Sight system was installed. Ending the month, ELROD spent Thanksgiving in Muscat, Oman, where the crew was warmly welcomed by members of the American community.

In December, ELROD participated in a pass-ex with the Saudi Arabian Eastern Fleet. This exercise was conducted in the Saudi home port of Jubayl, Saudi Arabia, as well as at sea in the Arabian Gulf. A TAV with the USS YOSEMITE in Bahrain enabled ELROD to have some minor repairs completed. A second stop in Bahrain was made to effect repairs to number 4 SSDG. Finally, ELROD returned to Muscat, Oman for Christmas stand-down. The visit was notable for two special events. A Christmas Eve Carols and Lessons service by candlelight, led by DESRON TWENTY's Chaplain and attended by approximately 300 members of the American community, celebrated Christmas in a setting that was reminiscent of the Christmas story. On December 29, a Diplomatic Reception for the US Ambassador and members of the American and Omani diplomatic communities was held on ELROD's flight deck.