

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61) FPO AP 96668-1515

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5750 FFG-61/Ser 072 26 MAR 97

From: Commanding Officer, USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61)

To: Director of Naval History (NO9BH) Washington Navy

Yard, 901 M. Street, SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61) COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61) Command History for 1996

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

G. J. FULLERTON

USS INGRAHAM began 1996 with a drydocking selective restricted availability (DSRA), or maintenance period, at Cascade General Shipyard in Portland, OR. The choice of Cascade over Todd shipyard in Seattle was made late in 1995. INGRAHAM had recently returned from a six month deployment to the Persian Gulf in October of 1995. As a result, INGRAHAM had the highest OPTEMPO (operational tempo, the percentage of time spent out of home port) of any ship in the Pacific Fleet.

While drydocked in Portland, the officers and crew were put up in a Travel Lodge motel on Sandy Blvd, near Portland International Airport. In an attempt to improve the crew's quality of life, the command requested two important concessions, namely refrigerators in each room and four day work weeks with busses taking the crew home on Thursday afternoon and returning Sunday night. Enlisted personnel were berthed two to a room, chief petty officers and officers individually.

The DSRA accomplished extensive work on the hull, propeller, decking, and some combat systems. Crewmembers from Combat Systems and Operations departments formed "Tiger Teams" to assist Engineering Department in cleaning and refurbishing the main engineering spaces. Due to drydocking, the ship was uninhabitable, and the duty sections remained on a barge docked just astern of the ship, maintaining only a quarterdeck watch. The duty section was challenged during February, when a combination of flooding and ice storms stranded crewmembers on liberty and almost set the drydock adrift. The cold and rainy weather also caused significant delays in repainting the hull, as this could only proceed on dry days. There were no deaths, though one shipyard worker was injured when he was electrocuted by a live circuit.

In addition to normal yard work, INGRAHAM established a program to combat ship board corrosion by using thermoplastic coatings. To support this, the ship procured a sand-blaster, dipping tank, and oven to prepare, coat, and bake small items such as machine gun mounts, valve handwheels, and stanchions. Ultimately, this represented a significant savings in man hours previously devoted to chipping and painting to prevent corrosion. The Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) has since officially implemented the use of thermoplastic coatings for corrosion control, largely due to INGRAHAM's vociferous support and extensive self-help program.

After DSRA, INGRAHAM began the work-up and training cycle in preparation for her Persian Gulf deployment February, 1997. The training consisted of a Commander's Assessment of Readiness and Training (CART II), three phases of Tailored Ship's Training Availability (TSTA I-III), and a Final Evaluation Process (FEP). In addition, engineering completed a Light Off Assessment (LOA) and Engineering Certification (ECERT) to certify the plant as ready for unrestricted operations.

While the ultimate deciding authority for a ship's readiness for deployment rests with her immediate superior, in this case Commander, Destroyer Squadron NINE (COMDESRON NINE), training was conducted by Afloat Training Group, Pacific (ATGPAC), which flew assessors up from San Diego to observe ship's company during drills. The TSTA process differed from previous Refresher Training (REFTRA) in that the emphasis was placed on evaluating a ship's ability to train itself by conducting realistic drills and scenarios. INGRAHAM scheduled Coast Guard instructors to train boarding teams from INGRAHAM, PAUL F. FOSTER, and HMCS REGINA, all of whom are scheduled to deploy together in early 1997 as members of the Middle East Force (MEF) who will enforce United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Also during the workup cycle, engineering prepared for strenuous drills and material condition checks received during ECERT, while supply department was nominated for the Ney Award as a result of a highly successful Logistics Management Assessment (LMA) in late 1995. In September, the ship completed ECERT with high praises from the senior Propulsion Examining Board (PEB) members.

In August, Commander George Jeffrey Fullerton relieved Commander Peter Randall Daspit as Commanding Officer. Lieutenant Commander David Matawitz had relieved Commander Jonathan Sharpe as Executive Officer in February. Three of the four department heads turned over during the summer of 1996. This was typical of most ships, which experience a high turnover rate after deployment and during the work-up cycle.

Interspersed with the training cycle, INGRAHAM visited various ports for liberty, including Portland, OR during the Rose Festival, Bellingham, WA for the Ski to Sea race, Kodiak, AK for the 4th of July, and Victoria, BC to visit our Canadian sister frigate HMCS REGINA. During the Bellingham port visit, a team from INGRAHAM participated in the Ski to Sea race, a seven leg relay race from the slopes of Mt. Baker to Bellingham harbor, and including cross country skiing, downhill skiing, running, road biking, canoeing, mountain biking, and sea kayak legs. While the team did not place, they did finish in the top half.

INGRAHAM completed her training cycle with flying colors. Comments from ATGPAC assessors included the following: "The best USW and Harpoon watch teams I have ever seen," and the "The Total Ship's Survivability Exercise (TSSE, the culminating drill of FEP) was the most difficult ever successfully run by a Guided Missile Frigate (FFG) in the Pacific Fleet." In addition, COMDESRON NINE was greatly impressed by INGRAHAM's navigation teams, giving them a grade of "Satisfactory" on their navigation check-ride, along with personal compliments. After the high OPTEMPO of TSTA and FEP, INGRAHAM settled down for a well-deserved stand-down period over the winter holidays, before deploying to the Persian Gulf in February 1997.

Command Composition and Organization (USS INGRAHAM FFG-61)

Commanding Officer
Executive Officer

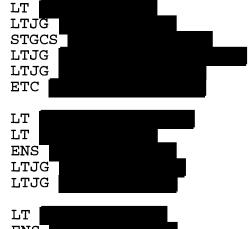
CDR George Jeffrey Fullerton LCDR David Matawitz

Combat Systems Officer
Ordnance Officer
Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer
Combat Information Center Officer
Systems Test Officer
Electronics Repair Officer

Chief Engineer
Auxiliaries Officer
Damage Control Officer
Main Propulsion Assistant
Ship's Material Maint. Officer

Operations Officer
Communications Officer
Navigator
First Lieutenant

Supply Officer
Disbursing Officer





USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61) Chronology for 1996

SOH: STRAITS OF HORMUZ

ECERT: ENGINEERING CERTIFICATION STT: SEAMANSHIP TRAINING TEAM DRILLS

DCTT: DAMAGE CONTROL TRAINING TEAM DRILLS ECTT: ENGINEERING CASUALTY TRAINING TEAM

GO: GENERAL OUARTERS

MODLOC: CIRCULAR PATROL AREA

IPT: INPORT U/W: UNDERWAY

TSTA: TAILORED SHIP TRAINING AVAILABILITY

FEP: FINAL EVALUATION PROCESS, END OF THE TRAINING CYCLE

OPAREA "WG": WNW OF VANCOUVER, CANADA - EAST OF NANOOSE HARBOR HEIN BANK: OPAREA LOCATED ESE OF VICTORIA ON U.S. SIDE OF BORDER

JANUARY

- IPT: EVERETT STANDOWN 1
- 2 IPT: EVERETT STANDOWN
- 3 U/W: FROM EVERETT TO NEPAC
- U/W: NEPAC TO ASTORIA, OR 4
- U/W: FROM ASTORIA, OR TO PORTLAND, OR; ARRIVE PORTLAND, OR. 5 AT CASCADE GENERAL, SWAN ISLAND
- 6 IPT: PORTLAND; MOVE-IN BERTHING BARGE
- 7 IPT: PORTLAND
- 8 IPT: PORTLAND; COMMENCE SRA 96; MOVE-IN TRAVELODGE AT I-205 & SANDY BLVD
- 9 IPT: PORTLAND
- 10 IPT: PORTLAND; DRYDOCKING
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 11
- 12 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 13
- 14 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- 15 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 16
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 17
- 18 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
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- 22 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 23
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 24
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- 26 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- 27 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 28
- 29 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- 30 DRYDOCK: PORTLAND
- DRYDOCK: PORTLAND 31

FEBRUARY

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1		PORTLAND			
2	DRYDOCK:				
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6		PORTLAND			
7		PORTLAND; COMDESRON NINE VISITS			
8	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND; HEAVY LOCAL FLOODING IN WILLAMETTE AND			
		COLUMBIA			
9	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND; FLOODING SPREADS THROUGH SW WASHINGTON;			
		I-5, I-84, AND MULTIPLE STATE ROUTES CLOSED DUE TO			
		FLOODING AND MUD SLIDES; LOSS OF PHONE SERVICE AND			
		HOT WATER ON BARGE			
10	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND; RAIN STOPS			
11	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND; I-5, I-84 REOPEN; MULTIPLE COUNTIES IN			
		WASHINGTON AND OREGON DECLARED DISASTER AREAS			
12	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND			
13	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND			
14	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND; RADM CENTER VISITS			
15	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND			
16	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND			
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29	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND			

MARCH

1	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
2	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
3	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
4	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
5	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
6	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND	
7	DRYDOCK:	PORTLAND;	FLOATED
8	IPT: PORT	LAND	
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April

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     U/W: PORTLAND TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
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May

- 1 IPT: EVERETT
- 2 IPT: EVERETT
- 3 IPT: EVERETT
- 4 IPT: EVERETT
- 5 IPT: EVERETT
- 6 U/W: EVERETT TO INDIAN ISLAND FOR AMMO ONLOAD, ARRIVE INDIAN ISLAND
- 7 U/W: INDIAN ISLAND TO NEPAC
- 8 U/W: NEPAC TO HEIN BANK, ANCHORED 48 16.9N, 123 15.8W
- 9 U/W: HEIN BANK TO MANCHESTER FOR FUELING, U/W MANCHESTER TO INDIAN ISLAND, ARRIVE INDIAN ISLAND
- 10 U/W: INDIAN ISLAND TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
- 11 IPT: EVERETT
- 12 IPT: EVERETT
- 13 IPT: EVERETT, ADM JOSE DE FREITAS RIBEIRO PACHECO, CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, PORTUGUESE NAVY, ONBOARD ACCOMPANIED BY RADM HERRERA, USN
- 14 IPT: EVERETT
- 15 IPT: EVERETT
- 16 IPT: EVERETT
- 17 IPT: EVERETT
- 18 IPT: EVERETT
- 19 IPT: EVERETT
- 20 IPT: EVERETT
- 21 IPT: EVERETT
- 22 IPT: EVERETT, VADM VIKTOR PATRUSHEV, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, RUSSIAN FEDERATION NAVY, ONBOARD ACCOMPANIED BY RADM WRIGHT, USN
- 23 IPT: EVERETT
- 24 U/W: EVERETT TO BELLINGHAM FOR SKI TO SEA RACE, ARRIVE BELLINGHAM
- 25 IPT: BELLINGHAM
- 26 IPT: BELLINGHAM
- 27 IPT: BELLINGHAM
- 28 U/W: BELLINGHAM TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
- 29 IPT: EVERETT
- 30 IPT: EVERETT

June

- 1 IPT: EVERETT
- 2 IPT: EVERETT
- 3 U/W: EVERETT TO LONGVIEW, WA
- 4 U/W: EVERETT TO LONGVIEW, WA, ARRIVE LONGVIEW
- 5 U/W: LONGVIEW, WA TO PORTLAND, OR FOR THE ROSE FESTIVAL, ARRIVE PORTLAND, OR
- 6 IPT: PORTLAND
- 7 IPT: PORTLAND
- 8 IPT: PORTLAND
- 9 IPT: PORTLAND
- 10 U/W: PORTLAND TO LONGVIEW, ARRIVE LONGVIEW, U/W LONGVIEW TO EVERETT
- 11 U/W: LONGVIEW TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
- 12 IPT: EVERETT
- 13 IPT: EVERETT
- 14 IPT: EVERETT
- 15 IPT: EVERETT
- 16 IPT: EVERETT
- 17 U/W: EVERETT TO MANCHESTER FOR FUELING, ARRIVE MANCHESTER, U/W MANCHESTER TO HEIN BANK
- 18 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 19 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 20 U/W: HEIN BANK TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
- 21 IPT: EVERETT
- 22 IPT: EVERETT
- 23 IPT: EVERETT
- 24 U/W: EVERETT TO INDIAN ISLAND, ARRIVE INDIAN ISLAND, U/W INDIAN ISLAND TO HEIN BANK
- 25 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 26 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 27 U/W: HEIN BANK TO MANCHESTER FOR FUELING, ARRIVE MANCHESTER, U/W MANCHESTER TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
- 27 IPT: EVERETT
- 28 IPT: EVERETT
- 29 IPT: EVERETT
- 30 IPT: EVERETT

July

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1
     U/W: EVERETT TO KODIAK, AK
     U/W: EVERETT TO KODIAK, AK
3
     U/W: EVERETT TO KODIAK, AK; ARRIVE KODIAK
     IPT: KODIAK, AK
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     IPT: KODIAK, AK
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     IPT: KODIAK, AK;
7
     U/W: KODIAK, AK TO EVERETT
     U/W: KODIAK, AK TO EVERETT
8
     U/W: KODIAK, AK TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
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     IPT: EVERETT; SHIFTED BERTHS DUE TO ARRIVAL OF USS
31
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CONSTELLATION

August

- 1 IPT: EVERETT 2 IPT: EVERETT
- 3 IPT: EVERETT
- 4 IPT: EVERETT
- 5 U/W: EVERETT TO HEIN BANK
- 6 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 7 U/W: HEIN BANK
- 8 U/W: HEIN BANK TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
- 9 IPT: EVERETT; CDR G. J. FULLERTON PROPERLY RELIEVED CDR P.R. DASPIT AS COMMANDING OFFICER, USS INGRAHAM
- 10 IPT: EVERETT
- 11 IPT: EVERETT
- 12 U/W: EVERETT TO NANOOSE FOR TORPEDO EXERCISE
- 13 U/W: EVERETT TO NANOOSE; ARRIVE NANOOSE; ANCHORED NANOOSE
- 14 U/W: GEORGIA STRAIT; FIRED FOUR MK46 EXERCISE TORPEDOS
- 15 U/W: NANOOSE TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
- 16 IPT: EVERETT
- 17 IPT: EVERETT
- 18 IPT: EVERETT
- 19 U/W: EVERETT TO MANCHESTER FOR FUELING, U/W MANCHESTER TO NEPAC
- 20 U/W: NEPAC
- 21 U/W: NEPAC TO PORT ANGELES FOR MEDEVAC OF CREW MEMBER
- 22 U/W: NEPAC TO HEIN BANK
- 23 U/W: HEIN BANK TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
- 24 IPT: EVERETT
- 25 IPT: EVERETT
- 26 IPT: EVERETT
- 27 IPT: EVERETT
- 28 IPT: EVERETT
- 29 IPT: EVERETT
- 30 IPT: EVERETT
- 31 IPT: EVERETT

September

29 IPT: EVERETT 30 IPT: EVERETT

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11 IPT: EVERETT
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   U/W: EVERETT TO HEIN BANK
13
   U/W: HEIN BANK
14
15 U/W: HEIN BANK
16
   U/W: HEIN BANK
   U/W: HEIN BANK; TRANSIT TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
17
18 IPT: EVERETT
19 U/W: EVERETT TO HEIN BANK FOR ECERT
  U/W: HEIN BANK; TRANSIT TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
20
   IPT: EVERETT
21
   IPT: EVERETT
22
    IPT: EVERETT
23
    U/W: EVERETT TO NEPAC
24
    U/W: NEPAC; COMMITTED SIX CREMAINS TO THE DEEP AT 47 01.3N,
25
    125 02.4W
    U/W: NEPAC; TRANSIT TO EVERETT; ARRIVE EVERETT
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27
    IPT: EVERETT
28 IPT: EVERETT
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October

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IPT: EVERETT
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     U/W: EVERETT TO HEIN BANK
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    U/W: HEIN BANK
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    U/W: HEIN BANK
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November

30 IPT: EVERETT

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    U/W: EVERETT TO NEPAC FOR FEP
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    U/W: NEPAC TO HEIN BANK, U/W HEIN BANK TO EVERETT
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    IPT: EVERETT
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    IPT: EVERETT
10 IPT: EVERETT
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13 IPT: EVERETT
14 IPT: EVERETT
15 IPT: EVERETT
16 IPT: EVERETT
17 IPT: EVERETT
18 U/W: EVERETT TO HEIN BANK
19 U/W: HEIN BANK TO VICTORIA, BC, ARRIVE VICTORIA
20 IPT: VICTORIA
21 IPT: VICTORIA
22 U/W: VICTORIA TO EVERETT, ARRIVE EVERETT
23 IPT: EVERETT
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December

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24
     IPT: EVERETT
     IPT: EVERETT, HEAVY SNOW CLOSES SEATTLE-TACOMA AIRPORT,
25
          NAVAL STATION EVERETT, AND PASSES LEADING TO EASTERN
          WASHINGTON
26
     IPT: EVERETT, HEAVY SNOWS CONTINUE
     IPT: EVERETT, SNOW AND RAIN, SEVERAL BUILDINGS, CARPORTS,
27
          AND BOAT SHELTERS IN WESTERN WASHINGTON COLLAPSE UNDER
          WEIGHT OF SNOW
28
     IPT: EVERETT
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     IPT: EVERETT
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