



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS INGRAHAM (FFG-61)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1999

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61) Command History for 1999  
(2) CDR Fitzpatrick Biography  
(3) CDR Croy Biography  
(4) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet  
(5) 1999 Command History Disk

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted.

*S. J. Dinobile*  
S. J. DINOBILE

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1. Command Composition and Organization:

USS INGRAHAM (FFG 61)

UIC: 21430

Mission: To escort and protect carrier battle groups, amphibious landing groups, and underway replenishment groups.

Commander: George P. Croy III (12DEC97-24JUL99), Richard D. Fitzpatrick (24JUL99-31DEC99)

Permanent Duty Station: Everett, WA

Type/Number of Aircraft assigned with tailcode: SH-60B LAMPS III HSL 43 Detachment (16FEB99-12MAR99), Battlecat 22/32, HSL 43 Detachment 5 (04DEC99-12DEC99) Red Scorpion 107.

2. Chronology:

Middle East Force Exercise 99FEB12 - 99MAR12

Middle East Force 99-2 - 99APR16-99OCT04

Exercise PASSEX RAN/USN 99SEP01 - 99SEP08

U/W Training Southern California 99NOV29 - 99DEC16

Received 1999 Battle "E" Award

3. Narrative: Extensive warfare training, unbending material standards, and tremendous personnel programs led INGRAHAM to consistently maintain the highest state of battle readiness. Success achieved during pre-deployment work-ups and the Arabian Gulf deployment are clear illustrations of INGRAHAM's sustained superior performance. Accomplishments include:

a. Air Defense. Conducted first successful Dual Stream Raid engagement by Pacific Fleet FFG. Advance preps highlighted hardware and software limitations in the FFG CDS. Innovative approach to overcoming these shortcomings initiated changes to improve defensive capabilities of all FFG's. During another Anti-Air Warfare Exercise, Close In Weapons System destroyed the Towed Drone Unit (TDU) on first firing run.

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b. Surface Warfare. Tactical excellence demonstrated by achieving first Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) qualification by a Perry Class FFG. Self-taught NSFS team put more rounds on target faster than any other ship on range, prompting the range spotter to state that "INGRAHAM could come shoot fire support for him anytime". Most effective gunnery platform in Middle East Force Exercise 99-2 Phase II during multi-ship towed sled gunnery exercises and during CDS 9 imposed quick reaction exercises, scoring 100percent in all gunnery evolutions.

c. Maritime Interdiction Operations. Standout performance during Middle East Force Exercise 99-2 highlighted during a "right of assistance entry" rescue of a downed airman in territorial waters. Located and rescued the downed airman in record time in a cluttered surface environment while being aggressively challenged by the hostile nation.

d. Undersea Warfare. Only days into the deployment, Undersea Warfare team observed a radar sinker and immediately began a textbook USW prosecution. Located, tracked, and constructively killed a previously unlocated, non-US submarine for more than six hours before being ordered to disengage. During exercise Nautical Swimmer, the only ship in the Arabian Gulf to locate, track, and constructively kill a simulated diesel submarine.

e. Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence. For seven days INGRAHAM was the only multi-national vessel underway in the Arabian Gulf. Provided COMFIFTHFLT a complete and uninterrupted tactical picture in all warfare areas, a task rarely performed by an FFG. Professionalism earned praise and reputation as NAVCENT's "go-to" ship.

f. Visit, Board, Search and Seize. Aggressive management of boarding teams and helicopter assets enabled INGRAHAM to conduct nearly half of all boarding performed by seven multi-national ships on station. Chosen as Officer in Tactical Command (OTC) coordinating two ships and two squads of Special Forces in successful covert tracking and hostile takedown of a UN sanctions violator.

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g. Material. Pro-active maintenance manifested by the absence of material casualties, coupled with the ability to fix the problems once they occurred. Deployed Casualty Report (CASREP) free. Engineering Department remained CASREP free until after out chop. Single emergent material casualty to Main Reduction Gear and Synchronous Self-Shifting clutch required critical depot level repairs which were made by Ship's Force in record time.

h. Logistics. Achieved force-wide recognition by maintaining a zero Depot Level Repairable (DLR) carcass charge balance. Extensive use of the Consolidated Residual Asset Management Screening Information (CRAMSI) system to expeditiously obtain repair parts at no cost freed Operational Target (OPTAR) dollars for purchasing more warfighting equipment.

i. Personnel. Fostered an environment that emphasized personal and professional growth. More than 100 credit hours of college course work completed during deployment. Dedication of structured study time advancement rates higher than fleet average. One hundred percent Surface Warfare Officer and Surface Warfare Supply Corps Officer (SWSCO) qualification during deployment.

4. In 1999, INGRAHAM sustained the commitment to warfighting excellence she has demonstrated since her commissioning ten years ago. In Maritime Warfare, she blazed new paths and answered the call for fire when others could not; in Engineering and Survivability she maintained an unprecedented record of reliability in the most arduous operating environment in the world; in Command and Control, she shouldered the burden alone on station with limited resources and personnel for extended periods of time; in Logistics Management, innovation, attention to detail, teamwork, customer support, and commitment to high standards were cornerstones upon which success in all other warfare areas was built.