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9 Apr 03

From: Commanding Officer, USS MILIUS (DDG 69)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard,
805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: USS MILIUS (DDG 69) COMMAND HISTORY 2001/2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) USS MILIUS COMMAND HISTORY 2001/2002 disk

1. As per references (a) and (b), the following information is submitted.

2. Command Composition and Organization.

a. Command short title: USS MILIUS (DDG 69)

b. Unit Identification Code (UIC): 21943

c. Mission: To operate offensively as a unit of a Carrier Battle Group and a Surface Action Group, and in support of underway replenishment groups and the marine amphibious force in multi-threat environments that include air, surface, and sub-surface threats.

d. Organizational Structure:

Immediate Superior in Command (ISIC): Destroyer Squadron Seven

Units under MILIUS control: None

e. Name of Commander: CDR Thomas S. Rowden (01Jan01 - 11May01)
CDR Jeffrey A. Harley (11May01 - 31Dec02)

f. Permanent Duty Station: 32nd Street Naval Station, San Diego,
CA

g. Aircraft assigned: None

3. Chronology:

JANUARY 2001

Inport San Diego for post-deployment/ Holiday Leave and Upkeep.

Fast Cruise.

Underway en route Seal Beach.

1-29

24-25

30-31

Following a successful Western Pacific Deployment in 2000, MILIUS began 2001 in the post-deployment leave and upkeep period.

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FEBRUARY 2001

Inport Seal Beach for ammunition offload.	1-2
Underway en route San Diego.	2
Inport San Diego.	3-4
Underway en route Cabo San Lucas.	5-7
Inport Cabo San Lucas.	7-11
Underway en route San Diego.	11-13
Inport San Diego.	13-28
Selected Restricted Availability at Continental Maritime.	13-28

While in the shipyard, the ship received various equipment upgrades and installs, including a second INMARSAT antenna, Direct to Sailor TV, Navigation Sensor and System Integrated (NAVSSI), WSN-7 gyro compass, and the Improved Chemical Point Detection System, to name a few. MILIUS also left the shipyard with a remodeled wardroom, new PRC decks throughout the ship, and clean fuel and sewage tanks.

MARCH 2001

Inport San Diego (Continental Maritime).	1-31
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APRIL 2001

Inport San Diego (Continental Maritime).	1-19
Fast Cruise.	19
Underway SOCAL for Sea Trials.	19-20
Inport San Diego.	20-29
Refueling.	23-26
Underway SOCAL.	30

Upon leaving the shipyard MILIUS successfully completed her sea trials and refueled in San Diego, afterward returning to Naval Station San Diego.

MAY 2001

Underway SOCAL.	1-4
CDR Jeffrey A. Harley reports aboard for CO turnover.	2
Inport San Diego.	4-13
Change of Command.	11
Underway en route Seal Beach.	14-15
Inport Seal Beach for ammunition onload.	15-18
Underway en route San Diego.	18-19
Inport San Diego (Broadway Pier).	19-22
Underway SOCAL.	22-25
Burial at Sea.	23
UNREP.	23
Inport San Diego.	25-31

On May 11 MILIUS received her fourth Commanding Officer when Commander Jeffrey A. Harley relieved Command Thomas S. Rowden. Additionally, MILIUS hosted over one thousand guests during a visit to San Diego's Broadway Pier.

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JUNE 2001

Inport San Diego.	1-5
Optimal Manning Conference.	1-5
Underway SOCAL.	6-13
JTFEX Opposing Force (OPFOR) for CARL VINSON BG.	6-11
PASEX with Japanese Maritime Defense Force.	12-13
Inport San Diego.	14-19
Underway SOCAL.	20-22
Inport San Diego.	23-25
Underway SOCAL (Engineering Training with ATRCD).	26-29
CMDCM (SW) Hetland relieves CMDCM (SW) Rivera as CMC.	27
Inport San Diego.	30

In June MILIUS was tasked as one of two ships to participate in the Chief of Naval Operations' Optimal Manning Experiment. Officers and crew alike embarked on innovative methods to reduce the number of personnel assigned to the ship without significantly increasing workload or decreasing quality of life for sailors. Throughout most of the summer, MILIUS continued to train for the upcoming training cycle as well as begin to implement new ideas for the Optimal Manning Experiment.

JULY 2001

Inport San Diego.	1-23
Force Protection Stand Down.	5
Education Fair at RSO.	12
MILIUS Warfighting University.	16-20
Surface Line Week (1 st Place for Lathe Operation & Cake Decorating).	16-20
Fire fighting team trainer.	23
Embark PACTRAMID III.	23
Underway SOCAL.	24-25
Deck Landing Qualifications.	24
Inport San Diego.	25
Underway SOCAL.	25-26
UNREP.	27
Underway en route Everett, WA.	27-31
Inport Everett, WA.	31

July was spent between underway preparation for the training cycle and inport events like the Education Fair and Surface Line Week. At the end of the month MILIUS departed for the Pacific Northwest to participate in the Seattle Sea Fair.

AUGUST 2001

Underway en route Seattle, WA.	1
Inport Seattle (Seattle Sea Fair).	2-5
Underway en route San Diego.	6-9
UNREP.	9
Inport San Diego.	10-14
Underway SOCAL (scientists to sea).	15-17
Ammunition onload, Bravo pier, Naval Air Station North Island (NASNI).	15
PACFIRE Leer/TDU shoot.	16

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Debark PACTRAMID III.	17
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Inport San Diego.	18-31
Advancement preparation week.	20-24
LCDR Jim Houck relieves LCDR Daniel Redmond as Executive Officer.	24
MILIUS Warfighting University.	27-31
Engineering Training with ATRCD.	27-31

Two events dominated the month of August: the Seattle Sea Fair and the arrival of the new Executive Officer. Other events included continued preparation for the training cycle and ammunition onload.

SEPTEMBER 2001

Inport San Diego.	1-14
CIC team trainer.	4-7
MILIUS Warfighting University.	10-14
FPCON Delta. Liberty Secured.	11-12
Liberty granted, 4-hour ready-for-sea requirement.	13-14
Operation Noble Eagle.	15-13
Underway en route Pacific Northwest.	15-18
5in/CIWS PACFIRE.	17
Arrive Pacific Northwest (PACNORWEST).	19-20
Inport Everett, WA.	21-27
Underway en route San Diego.	28-30
5in/CIWS PACFIRE.	30

Following the September Eleventh attacks, MILIUS was tasked to participate in Operation Noble Eagle, getting underway unexpectedly for Homeland Defense. The ship spent three weeks on station in the Pacific Northwest, and was the first ship tasked with air defense for Seattle.

OCTOBER 2001

Underway en route San Diego.	1-3
Commenced Optimal Manning Experiment.	1
Operation Noble Eagle turnover with USS VALLEY FORGE.	1
Inport San Diego.	4-12
Underway en route Everett, WA for Operation Noble Eagle.	13-18
Burial at Sea.	13
Operation Noble Eagle turnover with USS VALLEY FORGE.	15
Escort USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) en route Everett.	17-18
Inport Everett.	19-23
Inport refueling.	19
Underway PACNORWEST.	24-25
Escort USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) through Straits of Juan de Fuca.	24-25
Inport Everett.	26-30
Memorial Service for Ensign Carrie D. Shoemaker.	30
Underway en route Esquimalt, British Columbia.	31

After a week in homeport, MILIUS returned to the Pacific Northwest, and was the first ship tasked with air defense for Seattle. After another week in homeport, MILIUS returned to the Pacific Northwest to continue Operation Noble Eagle. Prior to entering the Straits of Juan

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de Fuca, MILIUS rendezvoused with the aircraft carrier USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) in order to escort her safely to her homeport of Everett, WA. MILIUS maintained station no more than 2000 yards in

front of the carrier for over eighteen hours, shielding her from merchant traffic. Additionally, the first day of the month marked the official beginning of the CNO's Optimal Manning Experiment. As part of the first step, all eliminated billets were moved ashore.

NOVEMBER 2001

Underway en route Esquimalt, British Columbia.	1
Inport Esquimalt.	2-4
Underway en route San Diego.	5-8
Operation Noble Eagle turnover with USS FITZGERALD.	5
5in/CIWS PACFIRE.	8
Inport San Diego.	9-18
RSC Training with ATRCD.	13-16
Tomahawk and Harpoon Limited Team Trainer.	13-16
Underway SOCAL for Leaders to Sea.	19-21
5in PACFIRE.	20
Inport San Diego.	22-30
MILIUS 5 th Birthday Celebration.	23
Cooling water system training with ATRCD.	26-27
Aviation Fire Fighting Team Trainer.	30
Command Holiday Party.	30

While in the Pacific Northwest, MILIUS became the first ship to visit a foreign port after September Eleventh when she stopped in Esquimalt, Canada, for three days. Also, during the month of November, MILIUS executed the Optimal Manning Experiment. Over thirty sailors were sent ashore as part of the experiment to perform maintenance on the ship's equipment, perform duties as part of the MILIUS Personnel and Pay Ashore (PAPA) Detachment, or to stand by in case their skills were needed aboard the ship in the coming months. Capping the month, MILIUS celebrated her fifth anniversary by inviting Captain MILIUS' old shipmates from VO-67 to a special ceremony held aboard the ship. The squadron was presented with a ship's bell from MILIUS crewmembers, and new MILIUS shields were unveiled for the aft stacks featuring the red lion from the ship's crest. Operationally, MILIUS continued to train for the upcoming Inter-deployment Training Cycle with her reduced manning.

DECEMBER 2001

Inport San Diego.	1-3
3M/PMS stand down.	3
Underway SOCAL.	4-11
Holiday Safety Stand Down.	11
BMTT Link Training with ATRCD.	4-7
Deck landing qualifications.	10
Holiday Safety Stand Down.	11

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Inport San Diego.	12-31
Holiday Stand Down.	12-31
San Diego Ready Picket Ship.	13-23
San Francisco Ready Picket Ship.	28-31

The month of December was spent, after one short underway period of training, in Holiday Stand Down. During that time she filled the role of standby picket ship for San Diego and San Francisco areas. MILIUS proved her warfighting prowess during 2001 by receiving the Engineering, Maritime Warfare, Command and Control, and Logistics Management Es; the Surface Warfare Officer and Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist Pennants; and the Safety Award. She also received the CNO Environmental Excellence Award and the Command Retention Excellence Award.

JANUARY 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-6
Third Leave Period.	1-6
Underway SOCAL.	7-11
CART II Rehearsal.	7-11
Main Space Fire Drill. ACTS Scenario. ITT Scenario.	8
Main Space Fire Drill. ACTS Scenario. ITT Scenario.	9
Main Space Fire Drill. ITT Scenario.	10
Inport San Diego.	12-14
CART II (inport)	14
CART II (underway)	15-18
Underway SOCAL.	15-18
Main Space Fire Drill. Precision Anchorage. ITT Scenarios.	16
UNREP with USNS TIPPECANOE (2). ITT Scenario.	17
Inport San Diego.	19-31
USW Rumblex.	24
CMTQT Harpoon.	25
CMTQT Strike/Harpoon.	28-31
TSTA ENG/DC.	28-31
Force Protection Exercise.	30-31

The first week of January wrapped up our three weeks of Holiday Routine. The first week notwithstanding, the primary event of the month was CART II. Considerable time was spent on final preparations as well as post-inspection grooming. The CNO's Optimal Manning Experiment continued on schedule with all personnel in excess of MILIUS billets authorized transferred ashore.

FEBRUARY 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-3
Harpoon & Strike Scenarios. Force Protection Exercise.	1
Underway SOCAL for TSTA-A (engineering).	4-6
Man Overboard Drill (day).	4
Man Overboard Drill (night). Main Space Fire Drill.	5
Moored to buoy.	6

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Inport San Diego.	7-24
TSTA-A (engineering).	7-8
TSTA-A (CMTQT(THAWK)/damage control/INTEL).	11-14
Force Protection Exercise. SLAMEX.	11-12
Small arms qualifications.	13
Snoopy Drill.	14
MILIUS Advancement Exam Prep.	15-18
President's Day (full dress ship).	18
Berth shift.	19
TSTA-A (CMTQ (Harpoon qual/THAWK qual)/DC).	19-22
General Quarters Drill.	20
Underway SOCAL for TSTA (engineering).	25-28
San Francisco Alert Ship (96 hr RFS).	25-28
Helo Day.	26
UNREP.	28

Most of February was spent inport, but the crew was extremely busy nonetheless. The focus was on combat systems and engineering, and involved numerous exercises as part of the training cycle. A highlight of our underway time was our mooring to a buoy accomplished on the sixth, an evolution that occurred safely and professionally.

MARCH 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-3
Underway en route Port Hueneme.	4-5
Inport Port Hueneme. PVST.	5-12
First Annual MILIUS Luau.	8
TSTA (engineering, USW).	11-15
Underway SOCAL.	13-15
UNREP with USNS GUADALUPE. USW & ITT Scenarios. Precision Anchorage.	14
Towing Exercise.	15
Inport San Diego.	16-24
TSTA B (EW, VBSS).	18-22
RSO PIG Initial Assessment (engineering).	18
SLAMEX.	21
Underway SOCAL.	25-28
TSTA (USW, EW, DC).	25-29
TORPEX. ATG Helo Day.	26
Flying Squad Drill. ITT Scenario. UNREP with USNS GUADALUPE. EWEX.	27
DC Scenarios. OTTO Fuel Spill Drill.	28
Inport San Diego.	29-31

The highlight of March was our port visit to Port Hueneme, which encompassed the first half of the month. The second half was spent inport as well as underway conducting engineering, combat systems, and damage control exercises.

APRIL 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-7
Force Protection Exercise.	1-3
TSTA (engineering, OTTO fuel).	1-5
Underway SOCAL.	8-11

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5in/CIWS/25mm PACFIRE. ACTS Scenario. Full power run.	9
Precision Anchorage.	10
Inport San Diego.	12-15
ACTS Scenarios.	15
Underway SOCAL.	16-19
Full power run.	16
Full power run. TORPEX.	17
Surface GUNEX. TDU shoot. VBSS Exercise.	18
5in PACFIRE.	19
Inport San Diego.	20-29
Battle group Inport Exercise.	22-26
FCA Re-certification.	22-26
Fast Cruise.	29
Underway FEP Day One. UNREP.	30

The basic phase of the training cycle was completed in April, a significant milestone in the CNO's Optimal Manning Experiment. Force protection exercises were scattered throughout the month to improve our abilities and ensure we were compatible with the rest of the battle group.

MAY 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-9
BGSIT.	6
Underway Pre-INSURV Rehearsal.	10
Inport San Diego.	11-27
MITT.	20-24
Crash and Salvage Drill.	21
Berth Shift. Tour for Postgraduate School Professors.	24
Underway SOCAL.	28-30
FIREX One.	29-30
Inport San Diego.	31

The goal for the month of May was clear: INSURV preparation. Only three days were spent underway; the rest were in San Diego where every workcenter labored to ensure they were ready for the upcoming inspection.

JUNE 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-4
INSURV.	3-7
Underway for INSURV.	5
Inport San Diego.	6-9
Underway en route Seal Beach.	10
Family Day Cruise.	10
Inport Seal Beach.	13-14
Inport San Diego.	14-18
Underway SOCAL.	19-21
MISSILEX Phase One.	19-21
UNREP with USNS GUADALUPE.	19
PACFIRE.	20

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Inport San Diego.	22-30
La Posta Academy Tour.	27
Command PRT.	28

INSURV was the main event for the month of June. More than a year of preparation paid off as MILIUS received outstanding marks in nearly every area of inspection. However, much to the disbelief of the crew it turned out that there is life after INSURV. This required us to go to Seal Beach for ammo onload. The remainder of the month was spent preparing for COMPTUEX.

JULY 2002

Underway SOCAL.	1-3
SAREX. Port Break In.	3
Inport San Diego.	4-7
Underway SOCAL.	8-24
COMPTUEX.	8-24
Underway Sortie. Chaff LOADEX. Sub FAMEX.	8
VBSS Low Freeboard.	9
TORPEX.	10
No Notice SAREX. UNREP.	11
A/P TRACKEX. MK 46 TORPEX. TLAMEX.	12
HS HSL Split Deck. Plane Guard.	13
Mini Scenario One.	14
Long Term USW SEARCHEX/TRACKEX. Missile EA. SWARMEX.	
TLAM Quickdraw Vulnerability. VBSS Low Non-Compliant.	15
UNREP. Shallow Water ASW. A/P TRACKEX with MK 46 TORPEX.	16
SUW Freeplay. Mini Scenario.	17
VBSS High Comp.	18
A/P TRACKEX/MK 46 TORPEX. Plane Guard. TLAMEX.	19
UNREP. HSL Vertrep/DLQs/HIFR. TLAMEX.	20
Final Battle Problem.	21-23
Inport San Diego.	25-31
COMCRUDESGRU ONE Official Visit.	30

Most of July was spent underway for COMPTUEX. One last week of preparation occurred prior to, and afterward was an extended inport period spent mostly preparing for EASTPAC in August.

AUGUST 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-4
ARQ.	2
Underway SOCAL.	5-7
CORTRAMID embark.	6-7
Inport San Diego.	8-11
Underway transit EASTPAC.	12-14
Inport Mazatlan.	15-18
Underway transit en route Seal Beach.	19-21
Inport Seal Beach for ammo onload.	22-24
CVBG Logistics Conference.	22
Shipboard FF Team Trainer.	23

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Inport San Diego.	26-31
IMAV. Regional Security Program Training CONSTELLATION Battle group.	26-30
Texas Thunder.	27-28

Our visit to Mazatlan gave the crew a rare opportunity to display our professionalism and maturity at work and on liberty. A real morale booster, it was followed by a trip to Seal Beach for further ammo onload. Back in San Diego, the crew was acutely aware of the impending deployment's fast approach, and the rest of the month was spent preparing for its arrival.

SEPTEMBER 2002

Inport San Diego.	1-6
Underway SOCAL.	7-13
BG Sustained OPS.	8-13
Aviation FF Drill. Plane Guard.	9
TLAMEX.	10
UNREP with USS RAINIER.	11
FPEX.	13-15
MISSILEX.	13
Inport San Diego.	14-30
First POM Period.	16-29
POM Turnover Day.	30
Second POM Period.	31

The first half of September was spent doing Sustained OPS with the CONSTELLATION Battle Group. A combined force protection exercise capped the end of the underway, and its completion marked the beginning of the first POM period. On the thirtieth all hands were on board for a regular workday, turning over all work-in-progress. It was an extraordinarily smooth transition between periods, unmarred by confusion or uncertainty.

OCTOBER 2002

Second POM Period.	1-15
Underway SOCAL.	16-29
JTFEX Phase One.	16-22
Manned Raid MISSILEX. CIWS PACFIRE. TLAMEX.	17
CIWS/5in PACFIRE. UNREP with USS YUKON.	18
ASWEX.	19-22
Helo Crash Drill.	21
UNREP with USS YUKON.	22
JTFEX Phase Two.	23-29
UNREP with USNS TIPPECANOE.	25
UNREP with USS YUKON.	29
Inport San Diego.	30-31

Two events were the fiber of October: the second POM period and JTFEX. The last two days of the month, and the first day of November, were

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the last days for MILIUS sailors to spend with their families. They were structured to allow maximum liberty for all hands, with multi-hour blocks as opposed to two duty sections splitting the load.

NOVEMBER 2002

Inport San Diego.	1
Underway WESTPAC. UNREP with USNS TIPPECANOE.	2
ACTS Scenario.	3
Main Space Fire Drill. ACTS Scenario.	4
Texas Thunder. ACTS scenario.	5
USWEX 03-1.	6-9
UNREP with USNS DIEHL. ACTS Scenario.	6
PACFIRE.	7
Fresh water washdown.	8
Inport Pearl Harbor for approx. five hours for helo removal.	9
UNREP with USS RAINIER. LMRC ribbon cutting ceremony.	10
PACFIRE. Helo Crash Drill.	11
ITT Scenario.	12
CHOP C7F.	13
Live SRBOC Firing. Fortress Raptor Rehearsal.	14
UNREP with USS RAINIER.	15
SCAT Training FAM Fire. EOD Training. GRENADEX.	16
UNREP with USS RAINIER.	17
Fortress Raptor.	18-22
Plane Guard.	19
MILIUS Birthday Celebration. Executive Officer Turnover.	20
Inport Hong Kong.	22-27
Jackie Chan visit.	24
UNREP with USNS PECOS.	29
ITT Training Period. Plane Guard.	30

On the second day of November MILIUS steamed out of San Diego Bay with the CONSTELLATION Battle Group en route the Arabian Gulf. We achieved our overriding objective of readiness by departing with zero Casualty Reports (CASREPS). A near-catastrophic helo accident resulted in an OOC helicopter stranded on the flight deck, forcing us to make an unplanned stop in Pearl Harbor for its removal. Prior to Hong Kong port visit LCDR Chris Barnes relieved LCDR Jim Houck as XO. That port visit went extremely well, the highlight being the visit to the ship by martial artist and actor Jackie Chan. MILIUS led the way once again with zero liberty incidents.

DECEMBER 2002

Inport Singapore.	1-7
Strait of Malacca Transit.	7
Fortress Raptor.	9-11
Flying Squad Drill.	9
UNREP with USS RAINIER. Main Space Fire Drill.	10
Chop C5F.	14
Transit Strait of Hormuz.	17
UNREP with USS RAINIER. Embarked NAG MIO CDR.	18

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Commenced MIO operations.	20
Participated in joint SAR operation, saving nine Iranian mariners.	21
UNREP with USS RAINIER.	24
Embarked LEDET.	28
UNREP with USS RAINIER.	31

Highlights for month of December included transits of Straits of Malacca and Hormuz, both of which passed without incident; Singapore port visit (once again no liberty incidents); embarkation of Australian MIO team, which defined our mission for the next two months; and the SAR on the twenty-first, in which MILIUS played a prominent role as the vectoring and receiving ship. By the end of the month MILIUS had become an integral part of Arabian Gulf naval operations.


J. A. HARLEY

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