



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS OSPREY (MHC 51)
FPO AA 34092-1950

5757
Ser MHC51/066
19 Mar 99

From: Commanding Officer, USS OSPREY (MHC 51)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Naval Historical
Center, Washington Navy Yard, 901 M Street SE,
Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

1998

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following package is submitted for calendar year 1998.

2. Mission. The mission of the OSPREY Class Mine Hunter is to detect, classify, and neutralize numerous types of influence and contact mines in littoral waters, harbors and bays. It will provide navigational assistance to MCM units in conjunction with coordinated operations with airborne and other mine countermeasures forces. Secondary mission includes route surveys, channel conditioning, underwater search and rescue and the collection of hydrographic and oceanographic data.

3. Organizational Structure.

a. Immediate Superior
Commander

Mine Countermeasures Squadron ONE
120 Coral Sea Road, Suite W200
Ingleside, TX 78362-5000

b. Commanding Officer: LCDR Robert B. Stewart, USN

Executive Officer: LT Joseph Polanin, USN

Chief Engineer: LT [REDACTED], USN

Operations Officer: LTJG [REDACTED], USN

First LT: ENS [REDACTED], USNR

Supply Officer: ENS [REDACTED] USNR

c. Homeport: Ingleside, TX

4. Ship's Characteristics.

a. Combat Systems Equipment

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AN/SPS 64 SURFACE SEARCH RADAR WITH IFF
AN/SPA 25G DIGITAL RADAR DISPLAY
AN/WSN 2 GYROCOMPASS
AN/WQC 2 UNDERWATER COMMUNICATIONS
AN/UQN 4 FATHOMETER

b. Navigation:

AN/SYQ 13 NAVIGATION COMMAND CONTROL SYSTEM
SSQ-109 SHIP'S MACHINERY CONTROL SYSTEM

c. Mine Hunting/Neutralization:

SQQ-32 VARIABLE DEPTH SONAR
SLQ-48 MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEM
.50 CAL MACHINE GUNS (2)

d. Propulsion:

MAIN ENGINES (2) ISOTTA-FRASCHINI DIESEL (800 HP)
CYCLOIDAL PROPELLERS (2)

e. Auxiliaries

ISOTTA FRASCHINI DIESEL GENERATORS (3) (300KW)

5. Command History: (CY 98 Chronology)

01 JAN - 05 JAN	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
06 JAN - 07 JAN	TSTA III/FEP CORPUS CHRISTI OPAREA (CCOA)
08 JAN - 20 JAN	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
21 JAN	ENGINEERING SEA TRIALS
22 JAN - 22 MAR	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
30 JAN	CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY
23 MAR - 25 MAR	MIW U/W TRAINING
26 MAR - 12 APR	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
13 APR - 24 APR	JTFEX 98-1
25 APR - 05 MAY	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
06 MAY - 08 MAY	RONEX 98-2 CCOA
09 MAY- 10 MAY	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
11 MAY- 15 MAY	RONEX 98-2 CCOA
16 MAY- 31 MAY	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
01 JUN - 04 JUN	ENR PANAMA CITY FL
05 JUN - 07 JUN	INPORT PANAMA CITY FL

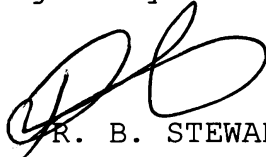
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08 JUN - 12 JUN	MCMTNG SHALLOW PANAMA CITY OPERATING AREA (PCOA)
13 JUN - 14 JUN	INPORT PENSACOLA FL
15 JUN- 17 JUN	MCM TRAINING DEEP PCOA
18 JUN	ENR PASCAGUOLA
19 JUN - 25 JUN	INPORT PASCAGUOLA MS
26 JUN - 28 JUN	ENR INGLESIDE TX
29 JUN - 06 JUL	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
07 JUL - 11 JUL	GOMEX/MERCURY 98-2 CCOA
12 JUL	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
13 JUL - 17 JUL	GOMEX/MERCURY 98-2 CCOA
18 JUL - 02 SEP	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
03 SEP	NAVIGATION CHECKRIDE
04 SEP - 27 SEP	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
28 SEP - 02 OCT	ENTERPRISE FLEETEX
03 OCT - 06 OCT	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
07 OCT	ENR BEAUMONT TX
08 OCT - 11 OCT	INPORT BEAUMONT TX
12 OCT - 16 OCT	ENR COZUMEL MX
17 OCT - 19 OCT	INPORT COZUMEL MX
20 OCT - 22 OCT	ENR MONTEGO BAY JAMAICA
23 OCT	INPORT JAMAICA
23 OCT - 26 OCT	ENR GUANTANAMO BAY CUBA
27 OCT - 29 OCT	INPORT GUANTANAMO BAY CUBA
30 OCT - 01 NOV	ENR ROOSEVELT ROADS PUERTO RICO
02 OCT - 05 NOV	INPORT ROOSEVELT ROADS PUERTO RICO
06 NOV - 11 NOV	ENR KEY WEST FL
12 NOV - 15 NOV	INPORT KEY WEST FL
16 NOV - 19 NOV	ENR INGLESIDE TX
20 NOV - 07 DEC	INPORT INGLESIDE TX
08 DEC - 10 DEC	MCM TRAINING CCOA

6. In 1998, OSPREY continued to set the standard for excellence in all areas from early validation of her Final Evaluation Problem (FEP) during TSTA III, to CINCLANTFLT Ney Award runner-up. OSPREY started the year with a highly successful FEP and proceeded into aggressive intermediate, advanced, and deployment phases of the Interdeployment Training Cycle. In addition to the associated administrative/operational inspections, OSPREY completed four fast paced exercises in the Corpus Christi Operating Area. These exercises included two JTFEXs -- 1 PAC and 1 LANT -- and two out of area exercises (1 in the Panama City Operating Area and the other in the Caribbean.) Throughout all aspects of her schedule, OSPREY racked up impressive results as follows: an impressive 97 percent on Navigation Certification

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-- the highest of COMCMRON ONE's six Texas based MHCs, the Silver Anchor Award for command level retention, and a highly successful three ship exercise to Panama City Operating Area. This multi-ship task group, commanded by OSPREY, was the first attempt to operate three SMCMS out of Panama City, FL. As Task Group Commander, OSPREY coordinated over 5000 nautical miles of safe transit through high shipping areas and Hurricane Mitch during her first Caribbean exercise. OSPREY was awarded the Battle "E" for combat excellence in 1998, and Mission Area "E"s for Engineering, Supply and Logistics, Command and Control, and Maritime Excellence. OSPREY was the first MHC to win the COMNAVSURFLANT Safety award in two consecutive years. OSPREY had an interesting and eventful journey this past year.



R. B. STEWART