



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG-49)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
AE 09565-1503

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From: Commanding Officer, USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49)  
FPO AA 34090-1503

To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1997

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command History  
(2) 1997 Welcome Aboard Pamphlet  
(3) Commanding Officer's Biography  
(4) Commanding Officer's Photograph  
(5) Change of Command Ceremony Pamphlet  
(6) Photograph of ship

1. Enclosures (1) through (6) are forwarded as required by ref (a).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. W. Bump".

R. W. BUMP

1. Command Composition and Organization. The mission of USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY is to provide local area protection to underway replenishment groups, amphibious groups, and other military shipping against subsurface, air, and surface threats, as well as AAW, ASUW, and ASW self defense actions. ROBERT G. BRADLEY can also contribute to carrier battle group or SAG defense. Immediate senior command from 01 Jan to 31 Mar 97 was Commander Destroyer Squadron TWO ZERO. From 01 Apr to 31 Dec 97, immediate senior command was Commander, Western Hemisphere Group. Commanding Officer from 01 Jan to 19 Sep 97 was Commander Mark A. Stearns. From 19 Sep to 31 Dec 97, Commanding Officer was Commander Richard W. Bump. ROBERT G. BRADLEY's homeport from 01 Jan to 31 Jul 97 was Norfolk, VA. Homeport from 01 Aug to 31 Dec 97 was Mayport, FL.

2. 1997 Chronology.

01-26 Jan	Inport Norfolk Post Deployment leave and Stand-down
27-30 Jan	U/W VACAPES OPAREA
30 Jan-10 Feb	Inport Norfolk
10 Feb	U/W Yorktown Naval Weapons Station
10 - 12 Feb	Weapons Offload Naval Weapons Station Yorktown
13 Feb-14 May	Inport Norfolk Intermediate Availability Period
27 May-29 May	Sea Trials VACAPES OPAREA
10 Jun	INSURV completed
23 Jun	U/W Yorktown Naval Weapons Station
24-25 Jun	Weapons Onload and Operations in VACAPES
30 Jun-02 Jul	U/W to Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island
02 Jul	Anchored Bristol, Rhode Island
02-07 Jul	Bristol, RI 4th of July celebration
07-11 Jul	School/Visit Ship NETC Newport, RI
12 Jul	Inport Norfolk, VA
30 Jul	U/W for Mayport, FL
01 Aug	Homeport Shift from Norfolk, VA to Mayport, FL
01 Aug-03 Sep	Inport Mayport for Restricted Availability
03-05 Sep	U/W JAX OPAREA Training Period
07-12 Sep	U/W JAX OPAREA Training Period
19 Sep	Change of Command Ceremony
30 Sep-03 Oct	U/W JAX OPAREA
08-10 Oct	U/W JAX OPAREA Training Period
22-23 Oct	U/W JAX OPAREA Training Period
24 Oct-06 Nov	Inport Mayport, FL
06-13 Nov	U/W to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
13 Nov	Inport Roosevelt Roads
14-24 Nov	U/W Puerto Rican OPAREA conducted INDEX
24 Nov	Return to Mayport, FL
01-05 Dec	U/W Pre-deployment training period
06-31 Dec	Pre-deployment/Holiday Leave Period

### 3. Narrative.

For the crew of USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49), most of January 1997 was the last half of holiday stand-down period following the completion of a six month deployment on 20 Dec 1996. The first underway period of the year, 27-30 January, was a training period. In February, ROBERT G. BRADLEY conducted a complete weapons offload at Yorktown Naval Weapons Station in preparation for an Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV). This IMAV was conducted from 13 Feb to 14 May. Major work on the Engineering Plant included inspection of all 4 diesel generators. A complete Combat Systems alignment was also conducted. During the IMAV, BRADLEY's immediate senior command was transferred from Destroyer Squadron 20 to Western Hemisphere Group. On completion of the IMAV, a Light Off Assessment was successfully passed and BRADLEY conducted sea trials to test the recent modifications and refresh the crew in damage control and seamanship.

A major inspection in the training cycle, INSURV, was completed successfully on 10 June. BRADLEY went back to Yorktown Naval Weapons Station 23 June to complete a full weapons onload. On 30 June, BRADLEY was underway for Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island. The ship was in Bristol, Rhode Island to participate in the oldest Fourth of July celebration in the United States. From 07 to 11 July, BRADLEY moved down to Newport, RI to serve as school ship for Surface Warfare Officer Training and Department Head Schools located at the Naval Education and Training Center. BRADLEY returned to Norfolk on 12 July. On 01 August, BRADLEY shifted homeports from Norfolk, VA to Mayport, FL to complete the transfer to the Western Hemisphere Group. On arrival, the ship spent August in a minor availability period at Mayport Naval Station. The first half of September included two underway periods for the beginning of a compressed training cycle in preparation for a major deployment January 1998.

19 September was BRADLEY's change of command ceremony. Commander Mark A. Stearns was relieved by Commander Richard W. Bump as Commanding Officer, USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY. Late September through October included three underway periods as the ship continued its training cycle/workups for deployment. From 06 - 24 November, BRADLEY sailed in the Puerto Rican OPAREA to complete INDEX 98-1, a major exercise of the ship's anti-submarine and anti-air warfare capabilities. The exercise included an exercise torpedo shot and a live missile shoot. BRADLEY completed most of the objectives covered in INDEX 98-1. December saw one underway training period and then holiday leave and stand down. During the stand down period, preparations continued for a 06 January 1998 departure on a six month Standing Naval Forces Atlantic deployment.

ROBERT G. BRADLEY was awarded the blue and red "E" for Supply and Engineering excellence in 1997. Additionally, BRADLEY was awarded the COMNAVSURFLANT 1997 Safety award for completing a calendar year with no major mishaps or accidents.