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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49)
FLEET POST OFFICE
AA 34090-1503

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Ser FFG/088
28 Aug 01

From: Commanding Officer, USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2000

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Commanding Officer's Biography
(3) Commanding Officer's Photograph
(4) Photograph of ship
(5) 2000 Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(6) 3.5" Disk containing History files

1. Enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded as required by reference (a).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E F Lazarski".

E F LAZARSKI
By direction

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 in command of the ROBERT G BRADLEY is Captain David Weppler, Commander, Destroyer Squadron Fourteen. The Commanding Officer of ROBERT G BRADLEY from 01JAN-15DEC2000 was Commander Mark A. Baulch and the Commanding Officer from 15DEC-31DEC2000 was CDR David K. Wright. The ROBERT G BRADLEY's current homeport is Mayport, FL.

2. 2000 Chronology-

01Jan-03Jan Inport Bridgetown, Barbados
03Jan-12Jan Counter Narcotics Patrol, Southern Caribbean Region
12Jan Brief Stop for Fuel, Curacao, NA
12Jan-16Jan Inport Bonaire, NA
16Jan-21Jan Counter Narcotics Patrol, Southern Caribbean Region
21Jan-24Jan Inport, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for Counter Narcotics Deployment Turnover with USS DOYLE (FFG 39) and USS SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON (FFG 13)
25Jan-28Jan Transit to Miami, FL for Tiger Cruise Passenger Pick-up
31Jan-01Feb Tiger Cruise to Mayport, FL
01Feb Cruise Homecoming, Mayport, FL
01Feb-02Mar Leave and Standdown
03Mar-14Mar Intermediate Maintenance Availability, Mayport, FL
14Mar-19Mar Transit in company with USS HUE CITY (CG 66) and USS ESTOCIN (FFG 15) enroute to Cartagena, Columbia
19Mar-22Mar Inport, Cartagena, Columbia
23Mar-01Apr Participated in Caribbean Phase of UNITAS
01Apr-04Apr Inport, NS Roosevelt Roads, PR
04 Apr-08Apr Participated in final phase of UNITAS in Puerto Rican OPAREA
08 Apr-10Apr Inport, NS Roosevelt Roads, PR
11 Apr-13Apr Transit, to Mayport, FL
13 Apr Arrival, NS Mayport, FL
14 Apr Dependants Day Cruise
14 Apr-26Apr Inport, Mayport, FL
26 Apr-28Apr Transit to Tampa, FL
28 Apr-01May Inport Tampa, FL
02 May-04May Transit to Mayport, FL
04 May-08May Inport Mayport, FL
08 May-11May Mode VIII exercise, Kennedy Space Center
11 May-21May Inport Mayport, FL
22 May-25May Transit to Manhattan, NY
26 May-30May Inport, Manhattan for Memorial Day Celebration
30 May-31May Transit to Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA
31 May-01Jun Ammunition Offload, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA
02 Jun-05Jun Transit to Mayport, FL
05 Jun-28Aug Inport, Mayport, FL, Intermediate Maintenance Availability

16 Aug- 17Aug Light-Off Assessment, Mayport, FL
 21 Aug- 26Aug Aviation Certification/Aviation Readiness Evaluation,
 Mayport, FL
 29 Aug- 01Sep Underway, Jacksonville Op Area
 01 Sep- 15Sep Inport, Mayport, FL
 11 Sep- 15Sep Supply Management Inspection
 15 Sep- 18Sep Transit to Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA
 18 Sep- 19Sep Ammunition Onload, Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA
 20 Sep- 21Sep Transit to Westpoint, NY
 21 Sep- 24Sep Inport, US Military Academy, West Point, NY
 25 Sep- 29Sep Transit to May port, FL
 29 Sep- 02Oct Inport, May port, FL
 02 Oct- 07Oct CART II
 06 Oct Underway for CART II demonstration
 07 Oct- 20Oct Inport, May port, FL
 20 Oct- 23Oct Transit to Newport, RI for School Ship Visit
 23 Oct Underway for Day Sail SWOS DIVO course school ship
 24 Oct Underway for Day Sail SWOS DIVO course school ship
 25 Oct- 29Oct Inport, Newport, RI for School Ship Visit
 29 Oct- 01Nov Transit to Mayport, FL
 01 Nov- 11Nov Inport, Mayport, FL
 06 Nov- 09Nov Engineering Certification
 11 Nov- 14Nov Transit to Virginia Capes for VANDALEX
 14 Nov- 15Nov VANDALEX
 15 Nov- 16Nov Transit to Charleston, SC
 16 Nov- 19Nov Inport, Charleston, SC
 20 Nov Transit to Mayport, FL
 21 Nov- 11Dec Inport, Mayport, FL
 11 Dec- 13Dec Underway Jacksonville Ops Area for PCO Demonstration
 13 Dec- 15Dec Inport, Mayport, FL
 15 Dec Change of Command, Begin Holiday Standdown
 16 Dec- 31Dec Holiday Standdown

3. Narrative-

ROBERT G BRADLEY began the year 2000 in Bridgetown, Barbados, at the tail end of her counter narcotics deployment. The ship was present to provide additional communications support for the embassy in case of any Y2K failures. For the visit, BRADLEY sailors were able to enjoy the exotic tastes and sights of this beautiful island while taking part numerous Millennium celebrations held there. Following the fun-filled four-day visit, BRADLEY got underway to return to her patrol duties in the southern Caribbean. The next stop was Curacao, NA where the ship stayed just long enough for fuel, and then underway to cover the few dozen miles to the small island of Bonaire, NA. This sleepy little tropical paradise provided an ideal place to take a break from the tedium of uneventful patrol and the unusually rough weather seen in the southern Caribbean early in the year. Following the visit, BRADLEY proceeded north, heading for the central Caribbean and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

On 22 January, ROBERT G BRADLEY turned over the watch in the Caribbean to USS DOYLE (FFG 39) and USS SAMUEL ELIOT MORRISON (FFG 13) in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba before heading for home. The ship first entered the US in Miami, FL where the "tigers", friends and family of the crew, were picked-up for a tiger cruise home to Mayport, FL. On the way home, BRADLEY gave the many guests a taste of just what shipboard life is like. Then, on the morning of 01FEB, ROBERT G BRADLEY entered the basin of her homeport of NS MAYPORT and moored to the warm welcomes of the families of crew.

After completing the month-long stand down period during which her crew got to go home after months out of the country, the ship geared up for new challenges and commitments. After a short maintenance availability, the ship returned to South America to participate in the Caribbean Phase of UNITAS in mid-March. She departed Mayport in company with the USS HUE CITY (CG 66) and, later, the USS ESTOCIN (FFG 15) joined the group. The group was under the command of CAPT Debout, Commander Destroyer Squadron Six. The three ships traveled to Cartagena, Columbia to take part in a series of meetings with the Columbian Navy, which was hosting the Caribbean Phase of the yearly exercises. The Venezuelan Navy was unable to participate due to severe flooding which had devastated portions of Venezuela during the first months of the year.

The Colombian Navy group consisted of the corvettes ARC ANTIOQUIA and ARC CALDAS, the patrol craft ARC MARQUEZ, and the diesel submarine ARC TYRONA. The British destroyer HMS MANCHESTER, the British auxiliary oilier RFA BLACK ROVER also joined the UNITAS group along with the Canadian destroyer HMCS ST JOHNS and the Canadian fleet oilier HMCS PRESERVER. To further the exchange between navies, the ROBERT G BRADLEY exchanged an officer with the ARC CALDAS and took on another officer from the Guatemalan Navy. Much was learned by both ships through this exchange and the guests on board the ROBERT G BRADLEY were a welcome addition to the Wardroom.

Numerous exercises including DIVTACS (drills which put the group into an quick-changing formations), anti-air warfare, anti-surface, and subsurface warfare all put the ships through their paces. All ships in the group gained greatly from the opportunity to practice anti-submarine warfare with the ARC TYRONA, one of the Colombian Navy's Type 209 diesel-electric submarines. This training included an opposed underway replenishment exercise in which the group defended the oilers HMCS PRESERVER and RFA BLACK ROVER from the attacks of the ARC TYRONA while each

group member successively refueled. The exercises culminated in a final warfare scenario in which the ships were divided into two groups, "orange" and "blue". The "blue" forces, which included the BRADLEY, were assigned to blockade a fictitious island nation in response to United Nations sanctions. The "orange" force was given the mission of breaking the blockade. During the exercise, BRADLEY performed extremely well, intercepting one of the two groups of "orange" ships attempting to break the blockade.

The ROBERT G BRADLEY returned to Mayport to the warm welcome of families and friends. The day after returning home many of the same people came aboard as guests for a dependents day cruise. The day was a success even in spite of the rain and cold temperatures. After two weeks at home, the ship was again underway, this time to Tampa, FL. for an official Navy visit. The officers of the BRADLEY hosted the local Navy League, while the crew enjoyed the final weekend of "spring break" on the beaches of Tampa.

A few days after returning from Tampa, the BRADLEY was again underway in order to support search and rescue exercises for the Space Shuttle program near Cape Canaveral. The exercises included units of the Army, Air Force, and Marines in a complex scenario simulating the rescue of the crew of a failed Shuttle launch. Upon completion of the exercise, the BRADLEY left for Manhattan, NY for Memorial Day celebrations. The crew was able to enjoy the many attractions offered by New York City while the ship represented the United States Navy on the important Memorial Day holiday in one of the nation's greatest cities.

After Manhattan, the ship headed south to NWS Yorktown, VA for a weapons offload in preparation of a yard period. Upon arrival in Mayport, the ship began a three-month pier-side maintenance period. Many major systems were overhauled. Two diesel generators and the gas turbine intake plenums were worked on. The flight deck was resurfaced along with the flight deck nets and frames. The close-in weapons system was replaced with an upgraded Block 1 model.

During the yard period, the ship completed the its Engineering propulsion plant light-off assessment, Aviation Readiness Evaluation, and Aviation Certification. BRADLEY, having finished the yard period, conducted a brief "shakedown" before leaving for Yorktown again for a weapons onload. After completing her onload, BRADLEY headed north to New York State again, but this time to West Point for a

visit to the US Military Academy. This visit required a challenging forty-seven mile transit up the Hudson River. The ship completed the difficult navigational feat of transiting an ocean-going vessel so far up the Hudson and back without a hitch. The ship visited the USMA for four days during which the many cadets were able to visit the ship. During the visit, the ship's new Executive Officer, LCDR Edward Lazarski, arrived. The ship then returned to NS Mayport.

Upon arrival at Mayport, BRADLEY officially entered her Interdeployment Training Cycle by conducting her Command Assessment of Readiness and Training, or CART. BRADLEY did very well on her CART, having only a very few minor discrepancies. All of which were corrected and the ship was well on its way to the ship's Final Evaluation Period scheduled for February. BRADLEY completed a quick intermediate maintenance availability before heading up to NS Newport, RI to serve as school ship for Surface Warfare Officer School. Many ensigns in the Divisional Officers Course were able to spend a day at sea aboard the BRADLEY.

BRADLEY headed to the Virginia Capes area in November for a VANDALEX in which the ship was given the opportunity to engage a high-speed air contact with a SM-1 missile. The exercise was completed and the ship headed to Charleston, SC for a port visit before returning to NS Mayport. During the remainder of November, the ship successfully completed her Cruise Missile Tactical Qualification for the Harpoon Missile. The ship then completed a quick underway demonstration underway for its Prospective Commanding Officer, CDR David Wright who assumed command in a ceremony on December 15th. With the Change of Command completed, the crew was able to go home during one of two leave periods to celebrate the Christmas Season.