



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ROBIN (MHC 54)
FPO AA 34092-1953

DECLASSIFIED

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[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer, USS ROBIN (MHC 54)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) USS ROBIN Command History 2002

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).
2. Unclassified after the removal of Confidential supporting documents included in enclosure (1).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. A. Bradfield", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

E. A. BRADFIELD

DECLASSIFIED BY: CNO (N09N2)
OPNAVINST 5513.16 SERIES
DATE: 23 Nov 2005

SHIP'S HISTORY 2002

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. USS ROBIN (MHC 54), UIC: V21881, is the fourth in the Osprey (MHC 51) class of coastal mine hunters, and the third to bear its name. Her primary mission is mine hunting and mine neutralization in support of harbor clearance, port breakout and deep water coastal mine countermeasure operations

b. ROBIN is a member of Mine Countermeasure Squadron TWO, commanded by Commodore George P. Croy, U.S. Navy.

c. ROBIN's Commanding Officer was CDR Mark R. Laxen, U. S. Navy.

d. ROBIN's current Commanding Officer is Lieutenant Commander Edward A. Bradfield, U. S. Navy Reserve (TAR).

2. Chronology:

01 Jan – 28 Jan In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX

28 Jan – 29 Jan	Training anchorage, Corpus Christi operational area
29 Jan – 01 Feb	Tailored Shipboard Training Assessment III (TSTA III)
02Feb – 04 Feb	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
04 Feb – 07Feb	Underway enroute to Mobile, AL
07 Feb – 13Feb	Port visit Mobile, AL in support of Mardi Gras
13 Feb - 15Feb	Under way enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX
16 Feb - 19Feb	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
20 Feb – 22 Feb	Final evaluation problem (FEP)
20 Feb – 21 Feb	Underway in support of final evaluation problem (FEP)
22Feb – 22 Feb	In port in support of final evaluation problem (FEP)
23 Feb – 11 Mar	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
04 Mar – 06 Mar	Magnetic offload
07 Mar – 07 Mar	Electro magnetic roll facility visit
11 Mar – 13 Mar	Underway in support of Underway Demonstration (UD)
13 Mar – 01 Apr	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
14 Mar – 14 Mar	Ammunition on load
01 Apr – 06 Apr	Underway enroute to Naval Air Station Key West, FL
06 Apr – 10 Apr	In port Naval Air Station Key West, FL
10 Apr – 12 Apr	Underway enroute to Naval Station Mayport, FL
12 Apr – 26 Apr	In port Naval Station Mayport, FL
13 Apr – 25 Apr	IMAV Naval Station Mayport, FL
26 Apr – 26 Apr	Underway enroute to Cherry Point operational area
27 Apr – 27 Apr	Mine laying operations in support of JTFEX 2-02
28 Apr – 05 May	JTFEX 2-02
29 Apr – 01 May	In port Morehead City, NC
01 May – 04 May	Underway in support of JTFEC 2-02
04 May – 05 May	In port Morehead City, NC
05 May – 07 May	Underway enroute to Naval Station Norfolk, VA
07 May – 20 May	In port Naval Station Norfolk, VA
13 May – 13 May	Unit SITREP, minor oil spill
20 May – 21 May	Underway enroute to New York City, NY
20 May – 20 May	Degaussing range run
21 May – 22 May	Anchored, New York Harbor
22 May – 29 May	In port New York City, NY in support of Fleet Week
25 May – 25 May	Unit SITREP, liberty incident
29 May – 31 May	Underway enroute to Naval Station Little Creek, VA
31 May – 06 Jun	In port Naval Station Little Creek, VA
03 Jun – 04 Jun	Enroute to Cherry Point operational area for ARGEX 02-2
05 Jun – 11 Jun	ARGEX 02-2
09 Jun – 09 Jun	RAS with USNS JOHN LENTHAL
11 Jun – 13 Jun	Underway enroute to Naval Station Mayport, FL
13 Jun – 18 Jun	In port Naval Station Mayport, FL
18 Jun – 21 Jun	Underway in support of bottom mapping surveys
21 Jun – 24 Jun	In port Kings Bay, GA
24 Jun – 28 Jun	Underway in support of bottom mapping surveys
28 Jun – 03 Jul	In port Naval Station Mayport, FL

03 Jul – 03 Jul	Underway Jacksonville operational area
03 Jul – 22 Jul	In port Naval Station Mayport, FL
06 Jul – 06 Jul	Change of Command
17 Jul – 17 Jul	Bumper drills
22 Jul – 24 Jul	Underway in support of bottom mapping surveys
24 Jul – 26 Jul	In port Naval Station Mayport, FL
26 Jul – 29 Jul	Underway enroute to Berry Island range, Bahamas
29 Jul – 02 Aug	Mine hunting training Berry Island range, Bahamas
02 Aug – 07 Aug	Port visit Nassau, Bahamas
07 Aug – 09 Aug	Underway enroute to Naval Air Station Key West, FL
09 Aug – 10 Aug	In port Naval Air Station Key West, FL
10 Aug – 15 Aug	Underway enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX
13 Aug – 13 Aug	Received Bravo Zulu from COMCMRON TWO
15 Aug – 15 Sep	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX post deployment upkeep
19 Aug – 13 Sep	Fleet maintenance availability Naval Station Ingleside, TX
03 Sep – 13 Sep	NAVSEA paint avail Naval Station Ingleside, TX
16 Sep – 17 Sep	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
17 Sep – 17 Sep	Underway Corpus Christi operational area
17 Sep – 07 Oct	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
28 Sep – 28 Sep	Unit SITREP, two crewmembers arrested for disorderly conduct
07 Oct – 09 Oct	Type training enroute to Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL
09 Oct – 09 Oct	Unit SITREP, VSP casualty
09 Oct – 10 Oct	Underway enroute to Naval Station Pascagoula, MS
10 Oct – 15 Oct	In port Naval Station Pascagoula, MS
15 Oct – 19 Oct	Underway enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX
19 Oct – 21 Oct	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
19 Oct – 19 Oct	Ammo offload
21 Oct – 04 Dec	PMA South West Marine shipyard, Ingleside, TX
30 Nov – 30 Nov	Unit SITREP, crew member arrested for public intoxication
04 Dec – 10 Dec	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
10 Dec – 19 Dec	Dry-dock Gulf Copper shipyard, Aransas Pass, TX
19 Dec – 20 Dec	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX
20 Dec – 20 Dec	Sea trials, Corpus Christi operational area
20 Dec – 31 Dec	In port Naval Station Ingleside, TX

3. Narrative

ROBIN began the year in Ingleside, TX finishing up a holiday stand down period in the midst of the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC). The first underway period ROBIN had was on the 28th of January for a training anchorage, where she stayed out over night and returned to port on the 29th of January. Upon return to port ROBIN conducted a tailored shipboard training assessment until the 1st of February.

From February 4th to February 7th, ROBIN was underway enroute to Mobile, AL in order to support Mardi Gras. ROBIN stayed in port until the 13th of February when she got underway enroute to homeport Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Upon return to Naval

station Ingleside, TX ROBIN underwent a week of in port training to prepare for the Final Evaluation Problem (FEP). ROBIN got underway in order to execute her Final Evaluation Problem in the Corpus Christi operational area from the 20th of February to the 21st of February. ROBIN completed FEP in port on the 22nd of February. For FEP ROBIN conducted a series of drills including man overboard drills, loss of gyro drills, loss of steering drills, fire drills, and mass conflagration drills. In addition to drills ROBIN also conducted mine hunting operations.

Upon completion of her FEP ROBIN spent the following two weeks in port preparing for underway demonstration. ROBIN conducted a magnetic material offload from the 4th of March to the 6th of March in order to prepare for a visit to the electromagnetic roll (EMR) facility. ROBIN visited the EMR facility on the 7th of March. Upon return to Naval Station Ingleside, ROBIN remained in port until getting underway on the 11th of March in support of her underway demonstration. ROBIN remained underway in the Corpus Christi operational area until the 13th of March. During this underway period, ROBIN conducted a series of basic engineering casualty control drills, damage control drills, and mine hunting operations. From the 13th of March to the 1st of April, ROBIN was in port Naval Station Ingleside preparing for deployment. On the 14th of March she conducted an ammunition on load.

April 1st ROBIN got underway for deployment, accompanied by the USS BLACK HAWK, USS KINGFISHER, USS SENTRY, and USS DEFENDER. The transit to the first port of the deployment, Naval Air Station Key West, FL took until the 6th of April. During the transit ROBIN conducted basic engineering casualty control drills, a main space fire drill, man overboard drills, maneuvering board drills, and night steam packages. ROBIN visited the port of Key West, FL until the 10th of April, when she got underway enroute to Naval Station Mayport, FL in company with the USS BLACK HAWK, USS KINGFISHER, USS DEFENDER, and USS SENTRY. On April 12th, ROBIN pulled into Naval Station Mayport, FL along with USS KINGFISHER and USS DEFENDER. She began an intermediate maintenance availability on the 13th of April that lasted until the 25th of April. The following day, April 26th, ROBIN got underway enroute to the Cherry Point operational area accompanied by USS KINGFISHER, USS BLACK HAWK, and USS SENTRY in support of mine laying operations for JTFEX 2-02. ROBIN participated in JTFEX 2-02 on the 28th of April when she received mission tasking for minehunting operations. On the 29th of April, ROBIN pulled into the port of Morehead City, NC along with USS KINGFISHER, USS BLACK HAWK, and USS SENTRY for what was originally schedule to be a brief stop for fuel, but ended up being an extended in port period due to severe weather in the operational area. ROBIN got back underway on the 1st of May, accompanied by USS KINGFISHER, USS BLACK HAWK, and USS SENTRY. ROBIN continued with underway JTFEX 2-02 during which time she conducted minehunting operations as well as low slow flier, and small boat attack drills. On the morning of the 4th of May, ROBIN returned to Morehead City, NC accompanied by USS SENTRY, USS KINGFISHER, and USS BLACK HAWK due to severe weather conditions. With the completion of JTFEX 2-02 on the 5th of May, ROBIN got underway with the USS SENTRY, USS BLACK HAWK, and USS KINGFISHER enroute to Naval Station Norfolk, VA. On the 6th of May general quarters was actually sounded due to the approach of a small boat. The small fishing boat was identified as the SEADUCER from Hill, NC. The SEADUCER came within 20 yards off

the beam and would not respond to repeated hails over VHF. The SEADCUCER finally pulled away after the ROBIN mounted her 50 caliber machine guns and used a bullhorn to warn her that she was in a Naval Protection Zone and needed to maintain a safe distance. On May 7th ROBIN pulled into Naval Station Norfolk, VA.

On the 13th of May, while in port Naval Station Norfolk, VA ROBIN had a minor oil spill due to a faulty oily water separator content monitor. The oil spill was contained and cleaned with no further investigation or cleanup required. ROBIN remained in Norfolk, VA until the 20th of May when she got underway along with USS SENTRY, and USS KINGFISHER enroute to New York City in support of Fleet Week 2002. On the way out to sea ROBIN ran the shallow water degaussing range. Upon arriving in New York on the 21st of May, ROBIN anchored in the bay for the night prior to the parade of ships that marks the beginning of Fleet Week. The morning of the 22nd ROBIN got underway from anchorage and proceeded up and down the Hudson River in support of the parade of ships. Upon completion of the parade, ROBIN moored outboard USS KINGFISHER on pier 72 in Staten Island. On the 25th of May one of ROBIN's crew members returned to the ship intoxicated and caused an incident, a SITREP was written and sent. After a week of fabulous liberty in New York, ROBIN got back underway on the 29th of May, enroute to Naval Station Little Creek, VA. ROBIN was accompanied by USS KINGFISHER, and USS SENTRY. On the 30th of May ROBIN pulled into Naval Station Little Creek, VA.

Prior to getting underway ROBIN embarked an explosive ordnance disposal detachment to support minhunting efforts during ARGEX02-2. On the 3rd of June, ROBIN got underway enroute to the Cherry Point Operational area in support of ARGEX02-2. While enroute with USS KINGFISHER, USS BLACKHAWK, and USS SENTRY, ROBIN conducted man overboard drills. On the morning of the 5th of June, ROBIN began ARGEX02-2 by minehunting an assigned area. The minhunting consisted of ROBIN finding mine like contacts and then putting divers in the water to investigate the contacts. In addition to minhunting operations, ROBIN also conducted engineering casualty control drills when they did not interfere with tasking. On the 9th of June ROBIN along with USS KINGFISHER, USS BLACKHAWK, and USS SENTRY rendezvoused with the USS JOHN LENTHAL and conducted astern refueling operations. The following day after tasking had been completed, ROBIN anchored and conducted a swim call. On the 13th of June, ROBIN pulled back into Naval Station Mayport, FL, and on the 18th she pulled back out, this time in support of bottom mapping surveys outside of Kings Bay, GA. On the transit to the assigned bottom mapping area, ROBIN conducted a series of man overboard drills as well as basic engineering casualty control drills. For the next three days ROBIN conducted minehunting and mine neutralization vehicle operations of the coast of Kings Bay, GA in support of bottom mapping operations. On the 21st of June, ROBIN pulled into Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, GA. She stayed in port until the 24th of June, when she got back underway to continue bottom mapping surveys in the Kings Bay, GA. On the 28th of June ROBIN returned to Naval Station Mayport, FL.

On the 3rd of July, ROBIN got underway for the day in order for the prospective commanding officer to see how the ROBIN operated while underway. Several different drills were conducted, including man overboard drills, and a main space fire drill. That afternoon ROBIN pulled back into Naval Station Mayport, FL. On the 6th of July change of command took place, with LCDR Bradfield relieving LDCR Laxen as commanding

officer of USS ROBIN. On the 17th of July ROBIN conducted bumper drills in the Mayport basin. This included practice driving the ship away from and mooring back to the pier. Upon completion of bumper drills ROBIN then steamed out into the Jacksonville Operational area and conducted a precision anchorage. Later in the afternoon, ROBIN got back underway and headed back into Naval Station Mayport, FL. On the 22nd of July ROBIN got underway in support of bottom mapping surveys in the Jacksonville operational area. These surveys were conducted until the 23rd of July when ROBIN pulled back into Naval Station Mayport, FL. Three days later, on the 26th of July, ROBIN pulled out of Naval Station Mayport, FL for the last time during this deployment. Accompanied by USS BLACKHAWK, USS SENTRY, USS DEFENDER, and USS KINGFISHER, she was enroute to the AUTEK practice mine range off of Berry Island in the Bahamas. While enroute to Berry Island ROBIN conducted man overboard drills, as well as familiarization fires with the .50 caliber machine guns as well as the m-60 machine guns. The practice range was reached on the 28th of July and minehunting started that evening. Minehunting operations continued until the 1st of August, after which ROBIN began her transit to Nassau, Bahamas. ROBIN pulled into Nassau on the 2nd of August and stayed until the 7th of August, at which time the ROBIN got underway enroute to Key West, FL for a brief stop for fuel on the 9th of August. On the 10th of August ROBIN got underway for the last leg for the transit home. During this transit ROBIN received a Bravo Zulu from Commodore Rush, for the outstanding job we did while on deployment. ROBIN returned to her homeport of Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the 15th of August.

Upon return to Ingleside, TX ROBIN entered into a post deployment upkeep and leave period. Concurrent to the leave period, ROBIN also went into a fleet maintenance availability, and also had a NAVSEA paint availability to paint and preserve the multi-purpose crane. With the completion of the leave period and the availabilities, ROBIN got back underway for a day on the 17th of September. After pulling back into Ingleside, TX ROBIN stayed in port until the 7th of October, during which time bumper drills were conducted on the 1st of October, and a SITREP was filed on the 28th of September due to two members of the crew being arrested for disorderly conduct. On the 7th of October ROBIN got underway enroute to Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL. While enroute ROBIN conducted basic engineering casualty control drills, General Quarters drills, as well as familiarization fires of the M-60 and .50 caliber mounts. During the transit there was a casualty to the starboard VSP, forcing ROBIN to divert to Naval Station Pascagoula, MS in order to assess the damage. The cause of the casualty was later found to be a broken weld on a control arm. ROBIN pulled into Naval Station Pascagoula, MS on the 10th of October. ROBIN stayed in port until the 15th of October, at which time she got underway in order to return to Naval Station Ingleside, TX. While enroute ROBIN was met and escorted by USS AVENGER. Both ships returned to port on the 19th of October. ROBIN conducted an ammunition offload on the 21st of October, just prior to ROBIN steaming over to South West Marine Ship yards for ROBIN's phased maintenance availability. ROBIN stayed at South West Marine Shipyards until the 4th of December when she returned to Naval Station Ingleside, TX prior to her going into dry dock at Gulf Copper Ship yards in Aransas Pass, TX on the 10th of December. During these two months ROBIN conducted a PLOT I, II, and III as well as a surface rescue swimmer limited training team visit. While in the ship yards a SITREP was sent out due to a crewmember

being arrested for public intoxication on the 30th of November. While at Gulf Copper Ship Yards ROBIN had both VSP's replaced with refurbished units from the USS BLACK HAWK. On the 19th of December ROBIN got underway from dry dock at Gulf Copper Ship yards enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Only staying at Naval Station Ingleside for a day, ROBIN got underway to conduct sea trials in the Corpus Christi Operational area. During this brief underway ROBIN was able to test a prototype procedure to deploy and recover a test mine shape used as a sonar conditions check shape. Upon completion of this procedure, ROBIN became the first MHC 51 class to deploy and recover her own sonar conditions check shape. Upon return to port that afternoon, ROBIN entered a holiday leave and stand down period for the rest of the year.