



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MHC CREW GALLANT (MHC 60)

FPO AE 09501-5106

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

07/069

01 Mar 07

Classification: Unclassified

Command Operations Report

1. Command Data

a. Name of Command: MHC CREW GALLANT

b. UIC: 40176

c. Name and Rank of Commanding Officer:

(1) Last: Ruiz

(2) First: Rome

(3) M.I.: NMN

(4) Rank: LCDR

d. Date Assumed Command: 21 Feb 06

e. Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: Crew swap from USS ROBIN (MHC 54) to USS SHRIKE (MHC 62), Engineering Operation Certification, crew swap to USS CARDINAL (MHC 60), deployment to Fifth Fleet (Arabian Gulf), Nautical Union 2006, FAWOMO Exercise 2006, crew swap to the USS SHRIKE (MHC 62).

f. Permanent Location: MHC CREW GALLANT is home ported out of Naval Station Ingleside, Texas.

g. Immediate Superior in Command

(1) Operational: Mine Countermeasures Squadron Two

(2) Administrative: Mine Countermeasures Squadron Two

h. Task Force/Group/Unit Name(s) and mission(s): Mine Hunter's are manned by rotational crews. Therefore, a crew's task force/group/unit name, along with their mission, will vary depending on where they are deployed. Over the course of the last year, MHC CREW GALLANT was involved with a Fifth Fleet Deployment to the Arabian Gulf where they participated in

Nautical Union 2006. Nautical Union is a joint exercise where the United States' forward deployed mine countermeasures assets work with the Royal Saudi Navy, simulating potential situations that could arise in the future. Also while deployed, MHC CREW GALLANT participated in "Find a Way or Make One," exercise (FAWOMOEX). FAWOMOEX was a mine countermeasure exercises utilizing both air and surface based assets. This exercise simulated the most significant threat to the Arabian Gulf, the mining of the Straits of Hormuz. During this time, MHC CREW GALLANT embarked on USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) was attached to Mine Countermeasures Division Three One, the Immediate Superior in Command of the forward deployed mine countermeasures assets.

While home ported in Naval Station Ingleside, MHC CREW GALLANT is embarked on the USS SHRIKE (MHC 62). While attached to the USS SHRIKE (MHC 62), Mine Countermeasures Squadron Two is our Immediate Superior in Command.

i. Number of Personnel Assigned:

(1) Officers: 48

(2) Enlisted: 6

(3) Civilian: 0

j. Command Point of Contact:

ENS [REDACTED]
Supply Officer/Public Affairs Officer

[REDACTED]
Quarterdeck: [REDACTED]
Mobile: [REDACTED]
MHC CREW GALLANT
FPO, AE 09501-5106

2. Commander's Assessment: Coastal Minehunter ships are strategic assets designed with a primary mission of Minehunting to clear harbor, coastal, and ocean waters of acoustic, magnetic, pressure and contact mines. A suspected minefield will be entered and searched using precise navigation systems and a variable depth sonar. Suspected mines will be investigated with a remote controlled submarine, which can also neutralize mines using explosives and other techniques. Since Coastal Minehunter hulls are made of a special fiberglass and resin, they are easy to maintain and flex to absorb the violent shock of any underwater mine explosion. For added safety, Coastal minehunter ships are designed to have very low magnetic and acoustic signatures.

In 2006, MHC CREW GALLANT was embarked onboard USS ROBIN (MHC 54), USS SHRIKE (MHC 62), and USS CARDINAL (MHC 60). Using ROBIN and SHRIKE as training platforms in Ingleside, Texas, the crew deployed fully combat ready onboard CARDINAL in the Arabian Gulf and participated in numerous multi-national, multi-ship exercises. MHC CREW GALLANT successfully employed all of CARDINAL's minewarfare capabilities in support of Commander Fifth Fleet objectives in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). CARDINAL's exhaustive efforts earned her the reputation as Fifth Fleets workhorse for all minewarfare and deterrence operations.

3. Chronology and Narrative:

2006 Feb 02: MHC CREW GALLANT assumes USS SHRIKE (MHC 62). MHC CREW VALOR assumes USS ROBIN (MHC 54).

2006 Feb 03 - 2006 Apr 21: MHC CREW GALLANT inport Naval Station Ingleside.

2006 Mar 30: Captain's Mast ICO MNSA [REDACTED]

2006 Mar 31: Captain's Mast ICO ITSN [REDACTED]

2006 Apr 03 - 2006 Apr 05: ULTRA-E

07 Apr 06: Ship's Picnic

2006 Apr 10 - 2006 Apr 14: ELTT (Engineering Limited Training Team)

2006 Apr 13: Gun Shoot qualifications

2006 Apr 17: USS SHRIKE (MHC 62) galley shuts down in support of turnover preparations

2006 Apr 18: Engineering Operation Certification awarded to MHC CREW GALLANT

2006 Apr 19: Turnover of USS SHRIKE (MHC 62) to MHC CREW BOLD commences

2006 Apr 21: Turnover of USS SHRIKE (MHC 62) to MHC CREW BOLD completed

2006 Apr 28 - 2006 May 13: MHC CREW GALLANT on pre-deployment leave

2006 May 14: MHC CREW GALLANT deploys to Fifth Fleet area of operations (Arabian Gulf)

2006 May 15 - 2006 May 18: Turnover of USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) from MHC CREW LOYALTY to MHC CREW GALLANT

2006 May 19: MHC CREW GALLANT underway (U/W) Arabian Gulf in support of USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) turnover

2006 May 19 - 2006 May 21: Inport (IPT) Manama, Bahrain

2006 May 22 - 2006 May 26: U/W Central Arabian Gulf (CAG) conducting unit level training (ULT)

2006 May 27 - 2006 Jun 08: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Jun 09 - 2006 Jun 16: U/W Northern Arabian Gulf (NAG) and Saudi Arabian waters in support of Nautical Union 2006

2006 Jun 17 - 2006 Jul 06: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Jun 18 - 2006 Jul 06: USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) conducts a Repair Availability (RAV)

2006 Jul 07 - 2006 Jul 09: U/W CAG and Southern Arabian Gulf (SAG) enroute to Jebel Ali, UAE

2006 Jul 09 - 2006 Jul 13: IPT Jebel Ali, UAE

2006 Jul 13 - 2006 Jul 16: U/W CAG and SAG

2006 Jul 16 - 2006 Jul 21: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Jul 22 - 2006 Jul 26: U/W CAG in support of survey operations

2006 Jul 26 - 2006 Jul 26: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Jul 28 - 2006 Aug 07: U/W CAG in support of survey operations

2006 Jul 30: Replenishment at sea conducted with the USNS SUPPLY

2006 Aug 07 - 2006 Aug 19: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Aug 10: Conducted berth shift Manama, Bahrain

2006 Aug 20: U/W in support of FACDAR, moored Manama, Bahrain in evening

2006 Aug 21: U/W in support of FACDAR, moored Manama, Bahrain in evening

2006 Aug 22 - 2006 Aug 27: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Aug 27 - 2006 Sep 02: U/W SAG in support of survey operations

2006 Sep 02 - 2006 Sep 06: IPT Jebel Ali, UAE

2006 Sep 06 - 2006 Sep 10: U/W SAG in support of survey operations

2006 Sep 10 - 2006 Oct 01: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Oct 01 - 2006 Oct 12: U/W CAG in support of FAWOMOEX

2006 Oct 13 - 2006 Oct 22: IPT Manama, Bahrain

2006 Oct 18 - 2006 Oct 22: USS CARDINAL (MHC 60) turnover from MHC CREW GALLANT to MHC CREW ENDURANCE

2006 Oct 22: U/W CAG in support of ship turnover

2006 Oct 23: MHC CREW GALLANT awaits flight to the United States

2006 Oct 24: MHC CREW GALLANT departs Fifth Fleet area of operations enroute to Ingleside, Texas

2006 Oct 25: MHC CREW GALLANT arrives in Ingleside, Texas

2006 Oct 26 - 2006 Nov 06: MHC CREW GALLANT starts post deployment leave period

2006 Nov 07: MHC CREW GALLANT assumes USS SHRIKE (MHC 62) from MHC CREW LOYALTY

2006 Nov 08 - 2007 Jan 31: IPT Naval Station Ingleside

2006 Dec 04 - 2006 Dec 07: Command Physical Readiness Test

2006 Dec 07: Command holiday party

2006 Dec 16 - 2006 Dec 28: First Christmas leave period

2006 Dec 30 - 2007 Jan 09: Second Christmas leave period

2007 Jan 10: DCFN [REDACTED] begins his absent without leave period

2007 Jan 22: Search and Rescue (SAR) LTT

2007 Jan 29: SAR Certification

2007 Jan 30: MHC CREW GALLANT receives SAR certification

2007 Feb 01: U/W Corpus Christi Operational Area (CCOA)

2007 Feb 02 - 2007 Feb 06: IPT Naval Station Ingleside

2007 Feb 07: U/W CCOA in support of Greek foreign military sale of USS HERON (MHC 52)

2007 Feb 08: U/W CCOA in support of Greek foreign military sale of USS HERON (MHC 52)

2007 Feb 09: U/W CCOA in support of Greek foreign military sale of USS HERON (MHC 52)

2007 Feb 10 - 2007 Feb 26: IPT Naval Station Ingleside

2007 Feb 20 - 2007 Feb 21: Anti Terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) LTT

Throughout the course of last year, MHC CREW GALLANT was embarked on the USS ROBIN (MHC 54), USS SHRIKE (MHC 62), and the USS CARDINAL (MHC 60). We deployed to the Arabian Gulf on 15 May 06 and participated in several exercises as well as completed several hundred miles of survey operations, ensuring safe navigation for not only military vessels, but for merchants as well. Since returning to Ingleside, Texas, on 25 Oct 06, MHC CREW GALLANT has been working diligently on the recertification of the crew's 3M and AT/FP programs.

4. Supporting Reports: NTR

5. Published Documents: NTR

6. Photographs: Two crew photos taken 14 Dec 06.


R. RUIZ, LCDR



