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From: Commanding Officer, USS HALYBURTON (FFG-40)
To: Director of Naval History, (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1988

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS HALYBURTON (FFG-40) 1988 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History for calendar year 1988 is forwarded as enclosure (1).


L.J. GIANNOTTI

USS HALYBURTON (FFG-40) 1988 COMMAND HISTORY

USS HALYBURTON spent the first two weeks of January preparing for a fleet exercise in the Puerto Rican operating area from 15-31 January. USS NICHOLAS, USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY, and USS HALYBURTON departed Charleston together, and joined USS FAHRION and USS JOHN HANCOCK off the coast of Mayport, forming the same battle group scheduled to deploy in April as Middle East Forces 2-88. The ships came under the tactical control of COMDESRON THIRTY-SIX and his staff embarked on the JOHN HANCOCK. The staff scheduled events that allowed the ships to counter various simulated surface and air threats present in the Persian Gulf.

The Gas Turbine Mobile Training Team embarked HALYBURTON for an underway period from 08-12 February. In addition to various engineering and damage control evolutions, the ship conducted some gunnery exercises and requalified several pilots from HSL 42.

HALYBURTON spent the rest of February and March inport Charleston undergoing several inspections, a pre-deployment Intermediate Maintenance Availability, and simulated Persian Gulf operations with a 20B5 van hook-up. The ship performed superbly on the Supply Management Inspection held from 22-24 February. HALYBURTON also excelled on the Combat Systems Readiness Review which happened 22 February to 4 March. The ship completed a Command Inspection on 9 March with outstanding results. The inspections culminated with a successful Combat Systems Assessment from 24-25 March.

The ship remained inport for most of April for Pre-Overseas Movement, allowing the crew to take leave before deployment. HALYBURTON conducted a Dependent's Cruise on 25 April, embarking families and friends of the crew for a one day trip to sea.

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On 28 April, HALYBURTON embarked HSL 42 DET 5 and deployed to the Persian Gulf as a member of MEF 2-88, with the NICHOLAS, ROBERT G. BRADLEY, FAHRION and JOHN HANCOCK. Under the tactical control of COMDESRON TWENTY embarked on JOHN HANCOCK, the battlegroup conducted various exercises during the transit which simulated Persian Gulf operating conditions and the air and surface threat. On 3 May, the HALYBURTON executed a successful missile shoot. The battlegroup pulled into Punta Delgada, Azores on May 7 for a one-day refueling stop.

COMDESRON TWENTY detached HALYBURTON and NICHOLAS for a port visit in Palma, Spain, on 11 May. The crew enjoyed island sightseeing tours, athletic events, and the night life, especially in nearby Palma Nova. The ships departed Palma on 16 May, and proceeded to the central Mediterranean to rejoin JOHN HANCOCK and ROBERT G. BRADLEY.

On 18 May, HALYBURTON conducted a Change of Command ceremony while underway in the central Mediterranean. CDR Louis J. Giannotti relieved CDR Craig R. Welterlen as Commanding Officer. For the ceremony the other ships surrounded HALYBURTON spaced about 500 yards apart, and three of the ships' helos overflew the formation.

On 23 May, the battlegroup commenced the transit through the Suez Canal. The trip took twenty hours, which included a two hour anchoring at Great Bitter Lake, halfway down the canal.

The battlegroup transitted through the Red Sea from 23-27 May, and the ships separated 27 May for refueling stops: ROBERT G. BRADLEY and FAHRION detached for Mina Raysut, Oman, while HALYBURTON, JOHN HANCOCK, and NICHOLAS headed for Djibouti, Africa.

On 2 June, HALYBURTON detached from the battlegroup and anchored alongside the SAMUEL GOMPERS at Ra's al Hadd, Oman, for a short tender

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availability. The engineers from both ships worked together to change out one of HALYBURTON's LM 2500 gas turbine engines.

The ship got underway 5 June, and entered the Arabian Gulf for the first time on 6 June. HALYBURTON spent the rest of the week patrolling the southern Arabian Gulf and providing air coverage for several ships transiting through the Gulf.

The ship stopped for a brief refueling on 11 June, and then got underway for patrol duties in the Northern Arabian Gulf. COMDESRON TWENTY FIVE, the Northern Arabian Gulf Surface Commander, visited HALYBURTON from 17-18 June. The ship remained on station until 24 June, and then headed for Sitrah Anchorage, Bahrain, for a logistics replenishment.

HALYBURTON anchored at Sitrah on 25 June. The ship took on fuel and stores, and the crew enjoyed some much deserved liberty in downtown Bahrain. HALYBURTON got underway 27 June to go back to the Northern Arabian Gulf for patrol duties.

The ship patrolled the Northern Gulf until 4 July, and then departed for a logistics run in Sitrah from 5-6 July. HALYBURTON operated in the Southern Arabian Gulf from 7-15 July, before heading for a four-day pierside stop at Mina Sulman, Bahrain.

In Bahrain the Navy installed two special sonar modifications on the ship as part of a special Chief of Naval Operations project. HALYBURTON left port 21 July, and tested the sonar mods until 27 July before returning to Bahrain to remove them.

HALYBURTON commenced its first escort operations on 30 July, taking ships out of and into the Gulf. HALYBURTON escorted several tankers such as the Bridgeton and Gas Princess, and some USNS ships like the Sea Lift Mediterranean. The ship conducted outbound and inbound escort operations

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through mid-August, stopping in Bahrain from 5-6, 11-12, 15-17 August for fuel and stores.

The ship left the Arabian Gulf 19 August to conduct a one-week tender availability starting 21 August with the USS EMORY S. LAND off Ra's al Hadd, Oman. The tender accomplished over 200 jobs. HALYBURTON got underway 28 August, and headed back into the Gulf.

After more patrolling operations, the ship reached Sitrah 3 September for fuel and supplies, and a visit from the Honorable Jack Krings, the First Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary of Defense. HALYBURTON left Sitrah 4 September and headed for its only Arabian Gulf liberty port visit in Damman, Saudi Arabia.

The crew enjoyed four days in Damman. The Take-a-Sailor-to-Dinner Program provided the best liberty. Bus rides to downtown Damman allowed crewmembers to enjoy good shopping bargains, especially for gold, silver, jewelry, and middle eastern rugs.

HALYBURTON patrolled the Arabian Gulf from 9-13 September, entered Sitrah Anchorage for two days, and then commenced its final escort operation into the Gulf on 16 September. HALYBURTON departed the Arabian Gulf for the final time on 20 September, and spent the next day turning over with the USS DOYLE (FFG-39) just outside the Gulf. The ship then commenced its long trek home.

On 22 September HALYBURTON rejoined the same ships in the task group which traveled to the Gulf together. As senior officer of the task group, HALYBURTON's commanding officer became the task group commander for the transit home.

On 25 September, HALYBURTON and NICHOLAS stopped in Mina Raysut, Oman, for a refueling, while the other ships refueled in Djibouti. The ships

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regrouped on 28 September for the four day trip up the Red Sea. HALYBURTON entertained the American Ambassador to Egypt, Ambassador Wisner, for the transit through the Suez Canal on 2 October.

The group entered the Mediterranean on 3 October, then proceeded west for some port visits commencing 6 October. All the ships except for JOHN HANCOCK stopped in Naples, Italy, where the four FFG's parked together in the familiar Mediterranean moor. The crews from the ships took tours to various places like Rome, Sorrento, and Mt. Vesuvius, and enjoyed shopping and dining in Naples. The group got underway 9 October and steamed toward the western Mediterranean.

HALYBURTON and NICHOLAS moored in Malaga, Spain, on 11 October. Malaga and Torremolinos, a small tourist town located about 8 miles away, provided the crews with some enjoyable liberty. The ships left Malaga on 15 October.

The task group reunited in the western Mediterranean and proceeded through the Strait of Gibraltar, arriving in Rota, Spain on 16 October for a refueling and supply stop. The group then began the crossing of the Atlantic. The ships stopped in the Azores on 19 October for fuel, and continued westward. JOHN HANCOCK detached for Mayport 27 October and the other ships continued into Charleston, arriving 28 October. The families and friends of the crewmembers greeted all the sailors at the piers, marking the end of a long deployment.

HALYBURTON commenced a one month standdown period and held a concurrent leave period which ran through the Christmas holidays. The ship got underway for type training from 28 November-2 December in the Charleston operating area. Training consisted of gunshoots, engineering and damage control exercises, and flight deck qualifications for new pilots of HSL

42 DET 5. HALYBURTON spent the next few weeks inport Charleston, and got underway 28 December with a Coast Guard detachment embarked for three weeks of Law Enforcement Operations in the Caribbean.

As a unit of the Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic, HALYBURTON is permanently assigned to Cruiser Destroyer Group Two and Destroyer Squadron Six. The ship's homeport is Charleston, SC. HALYBURTON's officers assigned at 31 December, 1988 are: Commanding Officer, CDR Louis J. Giannotti, USN; Executive Officer, LCDR John J. Hammerer, USN; Weapons Officer, LT [REDACTED], USN; Operations Officer, LT [REDACTED], USN; Engineering Officer, LT [REDACTED], USN; Support Officer, LT [REDACTED], USN; Main Propulsion Assistant, LT [REDACTED], USN; Auxiliaries Officer, LTJG [REDACTED], USNR; Combat Information Center Officer, ENS [REDACTED], USN; Electronics Readiness Officer, ENS [REDACTED], USN; Communications Officer, LT [REDACTED], USNR; Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer, LT [REDACTED], USN; Disbursing Officer, LT [REDACTED], USNR; Ordnance Officer, LTJG [REDACTED], USNR; Damage Control Assistant, ENS [REDACTED], USN; First Lieutenant, ENS [REDACTED], USN. HALYBURTON's Command Senior Chief was QMCS(SW) Ricardo Ramirez, USN.

Enclosure (1)