

COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21)  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

DLG21:FJG:ltr  
3500

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To: Director of Naval History, Washington Navy Yard, Washington,  
D.C. 20390

Subj: Command History; forwarding of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21) Chronology of Events 1974  
(2) USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21) Basic Narrative 1974  
(3) Roster of Enlisted men 1974  
(4) Roster of Officers 1974  
(5) Officers Detached during 1974  
(6) Command Photographs, Biographies, and welcome aboard folder  
(7) Listing of Non-Judicial Punishment

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are  
forwarded for Calendar Year 1974.

  
M. P. FRUDDEN

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CINCPACFLT  
COMCRUDESAC

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COMMAND HISTORY 1974  
USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21)  
PART I - CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 01-08 - Moored, Pier 6, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.
- 08-11 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for plane guarding and type training.
- 14 - At sea in Southern California Operating area for burial at sea, type training and Sonar Systems testing at U. S. Naval Station, Long Beach, California.
- 17 - Arrival at Long Beach SACS Crib. SQT certified as good.
- 18 - Underway at 1500 hrs. for San Diego.
- 23 - GRIDLEY certified as Helo qualified.
- 29 - Underway, for ASW-ASAC training, moored off Broadway pier, San Diego at 2200 hrs.
- 30 - Underway, for ASW-ASAC training, HIFER and Abandon ship drills. Moored, berth 85 South at 2200 hrs.

FEBRUARY

- 04 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for carrier qualification services with the USS RANGER (CVA-61), and burial at sea.
- 05 - Escort USS RANGER, Helo HIFER Drills. Returned to port February 8th.
- 19 - GRIDLEY visited by United States Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable J. William Middendorf III.
- 20 - GRIDLEY visited by 11 foreign officers, tour conducted.
- 26 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for ASW services.
- 27 - At anchorage off B Street pier, San Diego. COMCRUDESGRU 1 and observers aboard for training in battle problems, and Helo Ops.

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MARCH

- 11 - At anchorage off B Street pier, San Diego, California.
- 11 March to 12 April - Five weeks of underway training in Southern California Operating area for refresher training. Moored to Bouys #20 and #21, San Diego Harbor on weekends.
- 12 - Towing exercises.
- 13 - Moored inport for refresher training in fire drills and damage control drills.

APRIL

- 02 - Man overboard, assisted by USS DURHAM (AKA-114) man recovered, Unrep with USS DURHAM conducted.
- 06 - Inport, moored to pier 8, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego.
- 08-12 - Underway, for refresher training in Southern California operating area.
- 18 - USS GRIDLEY crew and families picnic held at Admiral Baker field.
- 29 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for ASW-OPS training.

MAY

- 08-10 - GRIDLEY dependents cruise enroute to Seal Beach, Long Beach Naval Station to onload weapons.
- 09 - Moored, Seal Beach, weapons onload.
- 10 - Underway, to U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.
- 28 - GRIDLEY Annual Supply Department Inspection.

JUNE

- 17-27 - Underway, for FLEETEX 2-74 in Southern California Operating area. 25 Midshipmen aboard GRIDLEY. Operating under RADM W. A. Myers, COMCRUDESGRU THREE.

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JUNE

- 19 - Disbursing Office Audit performed by LCDR T. O. Lester, SC, USN.
- 20 - Underway replenishment.
- 25 - FLEETEX 2-74 completed. GRIDLEY and escorts enroute to San Francisco, California.
- 27 - Arrived, pier 31, Embarcadero, San Francisco. Reception held at St. Francis Yacht Club for Midshipmen.
- 29 - USS GRIDLEY open house and tour. Playboy Bunnies from San Francisco Playboy Club among guests.

JULY

- 03 - Underway, for Monterey, California. Guests making goodwill cruise included Consul generals from Great Britian and Italy and four Bunnies from Playboy Club.
- 03-08 - Moored, Monterey Bay, California.
- 05 - GOODWILL Dinner aboard GRIDLEY for 36 guests including RADM Linder from Naval Post Graduate School, MAJGEN Gard from Ft. Ord, Monterey Mayor Mr. Coniglio, RADM O'Donnell (Retired), Mr. West, President Navy League, and Midshipmen.
- 06 - GRIDLEY participated in Commodore Sloat Ceremony.
- 08 - Underway, for U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.
- 09 - Arrived, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, pier 6. Inport upkeep period from July 9th through August 18th.

AUGUST

- 05 - Navy Reserves on board for 2 weeks training.
- 19-27 - Underway, to Southern California Operating area for FLEETEX 3-74. RADM Oberg, COMCARGRU 1, OTC.
- 20 - ASROC and Tube shoot, Pacific Missile Range.
- 26 - FLEETEX 3-74 completed, firing of missile in Pacific Missile Range.
- 27 - Return to San Diego, Pier 6, for inport upkeep period.

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SEPTEMBER

- 02 - Combat Systems Exercise began inport. GRIDLEY supporting COMCRUDESGRU THREE and COMDESGRU THIRTY ONE.
- 06 - Combat Systems Exercise completed.
- 09 - GRIDLEY receives runner up for Career Retention, Golden Anchor Award from COMCRUDES PAC.
- 16-20 - GRIDLEY Wardroom Assit visit by Navy Food Management Team.

OCTOBER

- 01 - Combined Federal Campaign fund drive held aboard USS GRIDLEY from October 1, through November 15.
- 13-14 - Navy Birthday - A Proud Tradition 1974 theme.
- 18 - Investigation Team from Damn Neck here for NTDS.

NOVEMBER

- 11-15 - Disbursing Office Annual Audit by Navy Regional Finance Center.
- 26-28 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for sea trials.

DECEMBER

- 02 - GRIDLEY certified by COMCRUDES PAC as safe to steam.
- 02-06 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for engineering exercises.
- 09-13 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for READIEX 2-74. GRIDLEY serving as flagship for RADM Thomas, COMCRUDESGRU 5.
- 16-27 - SATCOMM installation of AN/SSR-1 receiver and certification for Communications Division.
- 18-20 - Underway, Southern California Operating area for Mobile Team Training and preparations for OPPE.
- 21-31 - Inport, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California, for major inport upkeep and provisioning in preparation for January 2nd departure for WESTPAC Deployment.
- 31 - Moored, Pier 6, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

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COMMAND HISTORY 1974  
USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21)  
PART II - BASIC NARRATIVE 1974

USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21), was moored to pier six, United States Naval Station, San Diego, California on January 1, 1974 and the off duty members of the GRIDLEY crew were celebrating the holiday season with their families. With the new year came the promise for continued peace and readiness for the crew of the GRIDLEY. 1974 was to be a year of many improvements and operational accomplishments for the GRIDLEY and her crew.

The first underway type training for GRIDLEY came during operations in the Southern California Operating area for plane guarding, and other refresher training exercises.

Leaving port early in the morning on January 14, the GRIDLEY again headed to the Southern California Operating area to conduct a burial at sea enroute a Sonar Systems test at the U. S. Naval Station, Long Beach, California. Arriving at SACS Crib in Long Beach, on January 17th for the Sonar Systems Test, GRIDLEY'S SQT was certified as good. Returning to San Diego on January 18, GRIDLEY moored to pier 8.

On January 23rd, GRIDLEY'S Weapons Department was certified as Helicopter qualified.

On January 29 and 30th GRIDLEY left San Diego Harbor early in the morning for Anti-Submarine Warfare and ASAC training and anchored off the Broadway piers at 2200 hours each evening.

GRIDLEY again left for the Southern California Operating area on February 4th for a burial at sea.

On February 5th, GRIDLEY joined the aircraft carrier USS RANGER (CVA 61), as her plane guard and escort. GRIDLEY returned to port on February 8th.

The Honorable J. William Middendorf III, United States Secretary of the Navy, visited the USS GRIDLEY on February 19th and a very successful and well received tour was provided.

Eleven foreign officers were given a tour of the GRIDLEY on February 20. It was a valuable experience for all involved as GRIDLEY was given a chance to share experiences with the representatives of the various countries.

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GRIDLEY got underway again on February 26th for the Southern California Operating area for Anti-Submarine services. On the 27th, COMCRUDESGRU 1 and observers were aboard GRIDLEY as she was anchored off the B Street pier for training in battle problems and Helicopter operations training for ASAC'S.

Alternating inport and underway training periods from March 11th through April 12th, all hands aboard the GRIDLEY were involved in refresher training in the Southern California Operating area. During this training period conducted by the Fleet Training Group from San Diego, daily evolutions and operations included General Quarters, battle problems, deck evolutions, ECCE'S, damage control drills and the exercising of all the ship's bills.

GRIDLEY spent weekends moored to bouy's 20 and 21 in San Diego Harbor and Liberty was granted to off duty personnel. While moored inport, refresher training was conducted for the duty sections in fire drills and damage control drills.

While underway on April 2nd, a GRIDLEY man jumped overboard. With the assistance of the USS DURHAM (AKA-114), the man was successfully recovered and GRIDLEY was able to complete its UNREP with the DURHAM.

With the completion of the refresher training period on April 12, GRIDLEY's grades in most areas were good to excellent.

Admiral Baker field San Diego, was the setting for the GRIDLEY family picnic on April 18th. A good time was had by all.

Underway during the period of April 29-30th, GRIDLEY conducted type training, Anti-Submarine Warfare training and Operations Training.

Combining business with pleasure enroute a weapons loadout at Seal Beach, California, male dependents of GRIDLEY personnel were guests aboard during the three day cruise from 8-10 May. These guests were provided a chance to see what was involved in steaming a United States Naval vessel, and it gave personnel on board a chance to show their guests something about their life at sea.

The Annual Supply Department Inspection was held on May 28, during a routine inport upkeep period. The inspecting officer was LCDR A. O. Kesmark, SC, USN. The Supply Department was evaluated as rendering satisfactory service overall and was effectively carrying out its mission of supply support. Grades were assigned the GRIDLEY in the various categories were: Organization and Training - 91.05; Supply Accounting - 84.60; Material Support - 85.85; Food Service - 88.50; and Ship's Service - 81.25.

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Twenty-five Midshipmen were assigned to GRIDLEY in June and were aboard for FLEETEX 2-74 which was conducted in the Southern California Operating area during the period 17-25 June. Operating under RADM W. A. Myers, GRIDLEY and other representatives of the Third Fleet conducted a "Hot War" and operated under various conditions of battle readiness.

The GRIDLEY was tasked with providing both Anti-Aircraft and Anti-Submarine Warfare protection for the force. Participation in live missile firing on the Pacific Missile Range was also included during the exercise.

A highlight for the Operations department was the "Hands Off" NTDS Link 4-A controlling of two F-14 Aircraft by the GRIDLEY Air Intercept controllers. Training and exercises performed during these past few months proved GRIDLEY to be a well organized and fully operational team.

LCDR T. O. Lester, SC, USN, GRIDLEY's Supply Officer, conducted an audit of the disbursing functions on June 19th. No grades were assigned as the purpose of the audit was to prepare the Disbursing Office for the Annual Audit to be held in November by inspectors from the Navy Regional Finance Office.

Having successfully completed FLEETEX 2-74 on June 25, GRIDLEY spent the last few days of June and the first week in July visiting the ports of San Francisco and Monterey, California.

Arriving at pier 31, Embarcadero, San Francisco, on June 27th, GRIDLEY hosted a reception at the St. Francis Yacht Club for the Midshipmen that evening.

On June 29th, GRIDLEY held an open house on board and conducted tours for the people of San Francisco. Among the guests attending the open house were four charming Bunnies from the San Francisco Playboy Club.

Leaving San Francisco on July 3rd for a visit to the Monterey area, GRIDLEY invited the Consul Generals from Great Britain and Italy and the four Playboy Bunnies as guests for a Goodwill cruise.

Mooring in Monterey Bay on the 3rd of July, the men were provided with many opportunities for sight seeing and liberty. A party for the crew was held at the Naval Post Graduate School by the Navy Wives Club and a dinner was held aboard the GRIDLEY for 36 guests including RADM Linder, superintendent of the Naval Post Graduate School, MAJGEN Gard,

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Commanding Officer of Ft. Ord Army Base, Monterey Mayor Mr. Coniglio, RADM O'Donnel, (USN, retired), Mr. West, President of the Navy League, and the Naval Academy Midshipmen.

On July 6th, GRIDLEY participated in Monterey's Annual Commodore Sloat Ceremony and fired a salute.

Leaving Monterey Bay on July 8th, GRIDLEY and her crew returned to her homeport, San Diego, California.

Arriving at the U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, on July 9th, GRIDLEY moored at pier 6 and began another inport upkeep period.

On August 5th, 14 Navy Reservists arrived aboard the GRIDLEY for two weeks training.

FLEETEX 3-74 began on August 19th, with GRIDLEY as one of the participants along with other units of the Third Fleet. RADM Oberg, COMCARGRU 1, was OTC for the FLEETEX.

During the FLEETEX, GRIDLEY had the opportunity to fire one ASROC and one tube loaded torpedo on the Pacific Missile Range. Upon completion of the FLEETEX, GRIDLEY fired a missile on the Pacific Missile Range. On August 27, GRIDLEY returned to San Diego for a major inport upkeep period, which became a three month restricted availability.

During the period of August 28th through the 25th of November GRIDLEY was inport at the U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, moored to pier 6. A vast number of machinery and material repairs were completed by the ship's force, tenders and the DATC force.

Weekly AAWE's and CINTEX's (Combined Inport Tactical Exercises) were completed and conducted by GRIDLEY and FCDSTCPAC during this upkeep period. These drills provided GRIDLEY's CIC Team with comprehensive AAW and EW training.

GRIDLEY was involved in a Combat System's Exercise during September 2-6. This exercise was held in port, San Diego, and tested GRIDLEY's combat systems readiness. GRIDLEY was the only TDS unit in the exercise and served as the flagship for Captain Lautermilch, COMDESRON 31. Communications Division received a C-1 rating for their part in the exercise.

A first for the GRIDLEY Supply Department came during the period of 16 through 20 September, when personnel from the Navy Food Management Team, San Diego, conducted the first Wardroom Assit given visit on the West Coast. A review was made of the Wardroom food preparation and service procedures.

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On the job training of steward personnel was also conducted. The visit was acknowledged by all concerned to be beneficial to the improvement of Wardroom Mess food service preparation and operation.

On September 9th, the USS GRIDLEY was presented the Golden Anchor Award from COMCRUDESPAC for being runner up in Career Retention....

The Annual Combined Federal Campaign fund drive began on October 1st and lasted through November 15th. GRIDLEY's crew surpassed the amount collected in the 1973 campaign.

The theme of this year's Navy Birthday celebration was "A PROUD TRADITION" and GRIDLEY celebrated the Navy's Birthday holiday on October 13 and 14th with their families.

Inspectors from the Navy Regional Finance Center conducted an annual audit of the USS GRIDLEY Disbursing Function during November 11th through 15th. No grades were assigned.

Departing pier six in the afternoon of November 26, after completing an extensive RAV, GRIDLEY headed towards the Southern California Operating area for sea trials. In addition to conducting a series of engineering drills and economy runs, the crew exercised at General Quarters and reviewed the standard underway revolutions.

On 2 December, GRIDLEY was certified by COMCRUDESPAC as safe to steam during their inspection of the machinery and material repairs that had been completed during the inport period.

Underway on 2 December, GRIDLEY served as flagship for RADM Thomas, COMCRUDESGRU 5, while participating in READIEX 2-74.

GRIDLEY and her crew exercised her combat systems teams with other major units of the Third Fleet during a simulated "Hot War" environment. Exercises training the crew in every aspect of transit, "Hot War" and "Tactical Withdrawal" were conducted.

A highlight for the GRIDLEY's CIC team came during the missile shoot on the Pacific Missile Range during which the GRIDLEY successfully completed two live CAP/Missile coordinated firings.

Leaving port for the final time in 1974, on December 18, GRIDLEY was underway for the Southern California Operating area for Mobile Team Training in preparation for COMCRUDESPAC's Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE).

Returning to port on the 20th of December, final preparations began for GRIDLEY's 2 January 1975 departure for a WESTPAC Deployment.

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This final inport period provided the crew time for holiday leave and a chance to be with their families prior to the forthcoming deployment.

GRIDLEY and her crew had completed another year in a time of peace. A year that had been full of training and preparation for even greater expectations..1974 had proved to be a successful and eventful year for the crew of the USS GRIDLEY. The new year promised further travel, training and everincreasing operational challenges.

As the sun set on December 31, 1974, the USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21) was moored to pier 6, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

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