



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GRIDLEY (CG-21)  
FPO. SAN FRANCISCO 96666

5750  
Ser N01/313  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS GRIDLEY (CG 21)  
To: Director of Naval History, (OP-09B9), Washington, D.C. 20390

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1985

Ref: (a) CNO ltr 5757 Ser 09BH/SH/2073 of 25 Jul 1986 (NOTAL)  
(b) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS GRIDLEY (CG 21) Chronology of Events  
(2) USS GRIDLEY (CG 21) Basic Narrative 1985

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded for calendar year 1985.

*R. T. Conway, Jr.*  
R. T. CONWAY, JR.  
By direction

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CNO (OP 09BH)

COMMAND HISTORY 1985  
USS GRIDLEY (CG 21)  
PART I - CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

**JANUARY**

01-02 Inport Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines  
02-12 Enroute North Arabian Sea  
12-31 North Arabian Sea

**FEBRUARY**

01-10 North Arabian Sea  
11-16 Tender Availability alongside USS VULCAN  
17-28 Enroute Port Victoria, Seychelles

**MARCH**

01-21 Enroute Port Victoria, Seychelles  
22-26 Visit Port Victoria, Seychelles  
27-31 Enroute North Arabian Sea

**APRIL**

01-02 Enroute North Arabian Sea  
03-10 Operations North Arabian Sea  
11-18 Enroute Geraldton, Australia  
19-26 Visit Geraldton, Australia  
27-30 Enroute Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines

**MAY**

01-02 Enroute Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines  
03-05 Inport Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines  
06-16 Enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii  
17 Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii  
18-23 Enroute San Diego - Tiger Cruise  
24-31 Inport San Diego, California

**JUNE**

01-16 Inport San Diego, California  
17-20 Ammunition Offload Seal Beach, California  
21-31 Inport San Diego, California

**JULY**

01-14 Inport San Diego, California  
15-31 Selective Restricted Availability San Diego, California

**AUGUST**

01-31 Selective Restricted Availability San Diego, California

**SEPTEMBER**

01-13 Selective Restricted Availability San Diego, California  
12-13 Sea Trials  
14-30 Inport San Diego, California  
23-27 Nuclear Weapons Assist Team Inspection

**OCTOBER**

01-07 Inport San Diego, California  
08-11 Local Operations, Southern California  
12-13 Inport San Diego, California  
14-18 Local Operations, Southern California  
Weapons Onload, Seal Beach, California  
19-31 Inport San Diego, California

**NOVEMBER**

01-11 Inport San Diego, California  
12-14 Enroute Mazatlan, Mexico  
15-17 Visit Mazatlan, Mexico  
18-20 Enroute San Diego, California  
21-30 Inport San Diego, California

**DECEMBER**

01-17 Inport San Diego, California  
10-13 Nuclear Weapons Assist Team  
16-20 Mobile Training Team, Phase I  
18-20 Local Operations, Southern California  
21-31 Inport San Diego, California  
Holiday Leave and Upkeep

Enclosure (1)

COMMAND HISTORY 1985  
USS GRIDLEY (CG 21)  
PART II - BASIC NARRATIVE

USS GRIDLEY started a new year with a new Commanding Officer. Captain Charles P. Metzler took charge of the helm following a Change of Command ceremony on 31 December 1984 in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.

From Subic Bay it was on to the North Arabian Sea where GRIDLEY acted as Anti-Air Warfare Commander. GRIDLEY remained on station in the North Arabian Sea until mid-February when she went alongside USS VULCAN for a Tender Availability. During this time the ship completed many needed repairs and also had an opportunity to enjoy the music of Mickey Gilley. Upon completion of the availability it was back on station in the North Arabian Sea where GRIDLEY continued to act as Anti-Air Warfare Commander.

On 16 March GRIDLEY was relieved on station and proceeded towards the island paradise of Port Victoria, Seychelles. GRIDLEY arrived in Port Victoria on 22 March and enjoyed a much needed and well deserved time of rest and relaxation. On 2 April GRIDLEY again returned to her picket station in the North Arabian Sea.

On 11 April relief was finally in sight as Battle Group Echo more than gladly relinquished their duties to Battle Group Delta and began their journey home. But the best was yet to come. GRIDLEY, after being relieved, began her transit down under. GRIDLEY enjoyed the unique liberty that can only be experienced by a port visit to Australia. On 19 April GRIDLEY arrived in Geraldton, Western Australia where she had a time to relax and recap her outstanding performance as AAW Commander during her time in the North Arabian Sea. While in Geraldton, GRIDLEY crewmembers took participation in Australia's ANZAC Day Parade. Nevertheless, all good things must come to an end as GRIDLEY began her transit to Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines on 27 April.

The transit to Subic Bay was more than just another underway and another port visit, it meant that it would not be long before we would be returning home to our family and friends. GRIDLEY arrived in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines on 3 May, took on supplies, enjoyed liberty and on 5 May began her transit to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for the last leg of the journey.

Upon arrival Pearl Harbor on 17 May, GRIDLEY embarked 49 "Tigers" eager to take on the challenge of the sea. From 18-23 May the Tigers learned first hand about the Navy and its mission.

On 24 May the excitement was high as GRIDLEY passed under the Coronado bridge for the first time in nearly seven and one-half months after returning from her 17<sup>th</sup> Western Pacific deployment.

The remainder of May and most of June were spent inport San Diego giving the crew as much time as possible to spend with their families.

Enclosure (2)

During the week of 17-20 June GRIDLEY offloaded at Seal Beach and returned to San Diego where she began a three month Selective Restricted Availability period in drydock at Southwest Marine.

During the month of October GRIDLEY enjoyed some time in her homeport and completed a weapons onload during the week of 14 - 18 October.

On 12 November GRIDLEY was enroute to Mazatlan, Mexico for a goodwill visit, and for some of the crewmembers, a second honeymoon. GRIDLEY arrived in Mazatlan on 15 November and enjoyed its beaches, shops, friendly people and restaurants until 18 November when she began her trip back to San Diego. While in Mazatlan, GRIDLEY crewmembers distributed Project Handclasp materials to two orphanages and hosted some 3,500 visitors.

In December GRIDLEY completed a Nuclear Weapons Assist Team and Mobile Training Team Phase I visit. GRIDLEY closed out the year with a leave and upkeep period which lasted from 21-31 December.

Enclosure (2)