

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

2023 Command Operations Report

1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51), ARB

Unit Identification Code (UIC): 21487

Name, rank, and contact information of Commanding Officer:

Last: Bowman

First: Tyrchra

M.I.: A

Rank: Commander

Email: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Phone: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Date Assumed Command: 2023-08-24

Mission: Anti-Air Warfare, Ballistic Missile Defense, Anti-Submarine Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Strike Warfare, Maritime Interdiction, and Theater Security Cooperation

Permanent Location: Rota, Spain

Immediate Superior in Command:

Operational: Commander, Task Force SIX-FIVE

Administrative: Commander, Destroyer Squadron SIX-ZERO

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 37

Enlisted: 269

Civilian: Zero

Command Point of Contact:

Name: (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Job Title/Office Code: Navigator

E-mail: NIPR- (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6); SIPR- (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Phone number(s): (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6)

Command Mailing Address: USS ARLEIGH BURKE, UNIT 100271, FPO AE 09565

2. Commander's Assessment

ARLEIGH BURKE'S 2023 was an outstanding year in which the ship did everything a destroyer was designed to do. This year saw the ship drive an aggressive and ever-changing schedule that included operations in multiple fleets, exercises with our NATO allies and multinational partners, a historically successful Surface Incremental Availability (SIA), and training completion of basic and integrated phases in addition to C6F theater certifications.

The crew continued to display unmatched drive and determination as they successfully sailed the ship in rarely-traversed and contested waters. The success in the arduous conditions of the High North made ARB's operational practice the subject for focus groups to prepare for future operations. ARLEIGH BURKE flexed our multiple mission sets and pivoted from the High North to operations in C5F with no-notice and made the transition flawlessly, showing that we can and will succeed anywhere, in any fleet, on any mission.

It has been my privilege to take command and lead ARLEIGH BURKE this year. Our officers and crew are the model of a resilient, flexible, and creative team. I look forward to leading ARLEIGH BURKE as we continue to succeed in a challenging Forward Deployed Naval forces-Europe environment.

3. Chronology and Narrative

January

01-31: In Port Rota, Spain

03-08: ASW ETS SAGT

03-13: NSFS LTT/MTT

09-13: COMMS A-1/M-1

11-13: Ammo Onload

17-31: AW, SW, CRY, EW, INTEL, COMMS, MOB-N, MOB-S Certifications

23-27: Supply T-1

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 0 nm

Total Days Underway: 0 day

At the start of the year, ARLEIGH BURKE underwent a maintenance availability in preparation for her upcoming patrol. The crew; however, remained unwavering in their responsibilities and went above and beyond during a series of demanding exercises. These included Naval Surface Fire Support, Anti-Submarine Warfare, and a thorough Communications inspection. Moreover, the crew successfully achieved several Unit Level Certifications in areas such as Air, Surface, Electronic Warfare, Cryptology, Mobility-Navigation, and Mobility-Seamanship.

February

02: U/W from Rota, Spain
02: Deck Landing Qualifications
08-09: SKAG Transit
08-29: Baltic Operations
11-12: In port Gdynia, Poland
16-20: In port Stockholm, Sweden
20-28: NEPTUNE STRIKE
21-22: In port Kiel, Germany
28: Replenishment at Sea

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 3,001 nm

Total Days Underway: 21 days

Underway from Rota, the ARLEIGH BURKE swiftly charted a course northward, traversing the English Channel, Danish Straits, and finally arriving in the Baltic Sea. In need of a quick refueling, she made a brief stop in Gdynia, Poland, before continuing her journey to an eagerly awaited port visit in Stockholm, Sweden. This visit served as a pivotal moment, as the ARLEIGH BURKE played host to a reception attended by esteemed dignitaries, heads of state, and military leaders. The event served to further solidify the bond between the United States and Sweden, particularly in light of Sweden's potential entry into NATO. Following her departure from Sweden, the ARLEIGH BURKE engaged in a replenishment at sea, before participating in NEPTUNE STRIKE, a multinational exercise designed to both cultivate cooperation and bolster regional security with our Baltic allies.

March

01: SKAG Transit
02-05: In port Stavanger, Norway
02-15: JOINT WARRIOR
02-15: AW, SW, COMM, EW, ASW Theater Certifications
16-17: In port Haakonsværn, Norway
17-21: Mariner Skills Week
27-31: STW, Cyber, Supply Certifications

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 3425 nm

Total Days Underway: 16 days

After completing successful operations in the Baltic, ARLEIGH BURKE sailed out of the Danish Straits and ventured northward along the Norwegian coastline. En route the ship encountered treacherous weather conditions caused by a severe storm in the High North. ARLEIGH Burke sought shelter in the Fjords of Stavanger, Norway, before continuing her journey towards the Arctic Circle. Having crossed into the Arctic, ARLEIGH BURKE participated in JOINT WARRIOR, an exercise that showcased her versatility and prowess as a multi-mission-capable warship. Collaborating with forces from Sweden, Spain, Norway,

Germany, and Britain, ARLEIGH BURKE engaged in a complex war-game where she showcased her expertise in Air, Surface, and Anti-Submarine warfare. Following the conclusion of JOINT WARRIOR, ARLEIGH BURKE made a brief port visit in Haakonsværn, Norway. Soon after, she executed Mariner Skills Week, scoring outstanding marks across the board.

April

01-21: TRAV

22: Outbound, Rota

22-28: Bay of Cadiz 5 inch Gun Shoot

23-28: MOB-E

28: Inbound, Rota

29: Outbound, Rota

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 3,446 nm

Total Days Underway: 10 days

For the greater part of April, ARLEIGH BURKE remained inport Rota, Spain, conducting a TRAV to facilitate necessary ship repairs. Preparations complete, ARLEIGH BURKE set sail, with the intent to conduct MOB-E. She also took time to address some lingering issues discovered during the previous inport period. To round out the month, ARLEIGH BURKE successfully completed a Live Fire Exercise where she displayed her proficiency and combat readiness.

May

02: Souda Bay, Greece BSF

03: CRY C-1

04: Southbound transit through Suez Canal

5-15: Operating in Red Sea

15: North Bound transit through Suez Canal

16: Inbound Limassol, Cyprus

16-20: Inport Limassol, Cyprus

20: Underway from Limassol, Cyprus

21: RAS

25: Inbound Rota

25-27: Inport Rota

27: Underway From Rota

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 6625 nm

Total Days Underway: 20 days

Once underway, ARLEIGH BURKE made a short port stop in Souda Bay to refuel before setting a course southeast towards the Suez Canal. Navigating the canal with ease, she ventured into the Red Sea, where she diligently carried out her duties in support of the Sudan crisis. With her mission accomplished in the Red Sea, ARLEIGH BURKE retraced her steps, transiting northward through the Suez Canal. Taking a well-deserved break, she briefly stopped in Cyprus for a rejuvenating port visit before embarking on her journey back to Rota.

June

6: Inbound Rota
7: Underway From Rota
10: Inbound/ Outbound Agadir, Morocco
12-16: African Lion
14: NSFS Certification
16: Grand Prix
16: Inbound Rota
18: Outbound Rota
20: SW Live Fire Event
22: Anchorage
23: Inbound Rota

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4,368nm

Total Days Underway: 19 days

Getting underway from Rota, ARLEIGH BURKE steadied up on a southerly course towards Agadir, Morocco. After a quick refueling stop, she engaged in the joint exercises, African Lion, with the Moroccan Navy. The exercise proved to be highly successful, showcasing the seamless collaboration between ARLEIGH BURKE and our Moroccan partners. A successful exercise under her belt, ARLEIGH BURKE and her crew then demonstrated their exceptional gunnery skill by executing the Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) Certification with precision and excellence. Live-fire complete, ARLEIGH BURKE returned to her homeport to prepare for the forthcoming maintenance period.

July

3-31: SIA
6-16: CMTQ
10-21: DCI
17-21: SAR
27: Chapter 12 Drill

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 0 nm

Total Days Underway: 0 days

Having arrived in homeport, ARLEIGH BURKE prepared to undergo a one of the largest maintenance overhauls of any ship on the Rota waterfront. The availability began on an immensely positive note, with ARLEIGH BURKE flawlessly completing Damage Control-Industrial certification and the Ch.12 Fire Drill. Setting an unprecedented standard, her scores were the highest ever recorded on the Rota waterfront, truly showcasing ARLEIGH BURKE's excellence. Throughout the month, ARLEIGH BURKE diligently carried out extensive DC Drills, ensuring the proficiency and readiness of her warfighters. Maintenance overhaul notwithstanding, she conducted various training exercises to continually hone the Crews' skill and expertise and remained committed to maintaining the highest level of readiness and proficiency in all respects.

August

1-22: SIA
1-11: SISCAL
8-10: ILDC
15-18: ALDC
24: Change of Command
28-31: ERAT/CSRAT

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 000 nm

Total Days Underway: 0 days

While undergoing necessary maintenance in port, ARLEIGH BURKE remained steadfast in her rigorous training regime, diligently preparing for her upcoming patrol. During this inport period, a Change of Command ceremony took place, marking a bittersweet transition in leadership. During the ceremony, CDR Peter Flynn was relieved of his duties as Commanding Officer, and CDR Tyrchra Bowman assumed the duties and responsibilities as Commanding Officer of the ARLEIGH BURKE, taking the helm of this storied ship with the utmost dedication and commitment.

September

5-15: AIC MTT
11-15: BRM
11-22: DC MTT
18-22: SET
25-26: NSST WTE
30: Outbound Rota
30: ISIC Navigation Checkride

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 92 nm

Total Days Underway: 2 days

With the conclusion of September came the end of ARLEIGH BURKE's maintenance period, prompting immediate preparations to get underway. The bridge watchstanders of ARLEIGH BURKE embarked on a comprehensive two-week course focused on honing their skills in Bridge Resource Management (BRM). Additionally, they engaged in invaluable special evolution training, utilizing the simulator, and further enhancing their expertise. Having diligently sharpened her skills in the Naval Shiphandling Trainer (NSST), she set sail for a day to undertake the ISIC Navigation checkride. Demonstrating exceptional proficiency, she effortlessly passed the checkride, showcasing her mastery in navigation.

October

02: Inbound Rota
02-06: CMTQ
02-13: FSO-M
05-13: NSFS MTT
16-20: RE-2

17: Outbound Rota
18: Inbound Rota
23-25: Ammo Onload
26: Outbound Rota
26: XCAL
27: DLQs
28: SW LFE Event
28: Inbound Rota

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 517 nm

Total Days Underway: 7 days

October proved to be a busy month for ARLEIGH BURKE. With all necessary inport maintenance tasks successfully completed, she wasted no time in setting sail to accomplish a series of operational checks and to recertify mission areas that required attention during the inport period. Ensuring her full mission capability was intact, ARLEIGH BURKE then proceeded to execute RE-2, an inspection akin to INSURV. The comprehensive examination meticulously assessed and verified the ship's material condition. Despite her 32-plus years of service, ARLEIGH BURKE proved that she was still both fully prepared and capable, and ready for any challenges that lay ahead.

November

1-22: MOB-E
07: Outbound Rota
13: Inbound Rota
13-15: Ammo Onload
23: TACON to CTF60

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4276 nm

Total Days Underway: 22 days

In November, the Engineering Department took center stage as they faced a persistent challenge with equipment issues. However, their determination and hard work paid off as they successfully obtained their MOB-E certification. With the engineering plant freshly certified, ARLEIGH BURKE wasted no time and swiftly made her way to the Eastern Mediterranean Sea. Upon arrival, she joined forces with the Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group, assuming the crucial role as an escort for the group. Throughout the entirety of November, ARLEIGH BURKE carried out operations alongside the Gerald R. Ford Strike Group, acting as Horizon Reference Unit, Air Defense Picket, and SUW/ASW defense.

December

1-17: TACON to CTF60
10: Inbound Souda Bay, Crete
11-14: VBSS Certification
14: Outbound Souda Bay, Crete

17: RAS
21: Inbound Rota, Spain
21-31: TRAV

Total Nautical Miles Traveled: 4568 nm
Total Days Underway: 15 days

Breaking away from the Strike Group, ARLEIGH BURKE conducted a port visit to Souda Bay, Crete, with the specific purpose of executing her VBSS (Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure) certification. The VBSS team dedicated an entire week to training alongside their Greek counterparts, not only completing a successful certification but fostering stronger ties with our Greek partners. After concluding the fruitful visit in Souda Bay, ARLEIGH BURKE set sail once again, this time heading westward towards Rota. She made it back to Rota just in time to allow the crew to reunite with their families and enjoy a well-deserved Christmas and New Year's celebrations together.

4. Supporting Reports

NTR

5. Published Documents

We will operate this ship with Excellence and Efficiency to achieve our overall mission of warfighting readiness - our cardinal headings will be Self, Stewardship, Family and Integrity.



"The ship is built to fight... You'd better know how!" - CNO Arleigh Burke

6. Photograph and Biography



Commander Tyrchra A. Bowman
Commanding Officer

Ty is a native of (b) (3) - 10 U.S.C. § 130b, (b) (6) and a 2007 graduate of the University of South Carolina with a B.S. in Entrepreneurial Management. He holds an Executive-MBA with a concentration in Financial Management from Naval Postgraduate School and a Master of Military Studies from Marine Corps University. He has completed Joint Professional Military Education Phase I.

At sea he completed his division officer tours as Electrical and Auxiliary Officer in USS ROOSEVELT (DDG 80) and Scheduling Officer in ESG2 and as a department head Chief Engineer in USS TRUXTON (DDG 103) and NAVIGATOR in USS ESSEX (LHD 2). He has deployed to FIFTH FLEET in support of operations ENDURING FREEDOM and INHERENT RESOLVE and to SIXTH FLEET in support of Operations ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR and NOBLE MIDAS as part of Standing NATO Maritime Group TWO (SNMG-2) and BALTOPs.

Ashore, he served as an instructor for Cruise Missile Command Course and Deputy Executive Assistant to the Director, Navy Surface Warfare (N96) in the Pentagon.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3), and multiple unit, campaign, and service awards.

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