



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)  
FPO AE 09575-1204

5750  
DDG 95/038  
29 Feb 08

From: Commanding Officer, USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)  
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH)  
Subj: ANNUAL COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT FOR CY 2007  
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12J, Annual Command Operations Report  
Encl: (1) Command Data  
(2) Commander's Assessment  
(3) 2007 Chronological Order of Events and Narrative  
(4) Command Organizational Chart and Supporting Reports  
(5) Commanding Officer Biography  
(6) Executive Officer Biography  
(7) Command Master Chief Biography  
(8) Published Documents  
(9) CD-ROM of Photographs

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (9) are submitted.

2. Enclosure (9) contains photographs of Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, and Command Master Chief and requires a program capable of accessing JPG files.

  
T. R. TRAMPENAU

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**Command Data**

1. Command: USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)
2. UIC: 23148
3. Commanding Officer: Trampenau, Timothy R., Commander/O-5
4. Date Assumed Command: 2007-06-29
5. Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operation(s):
  - Mission
    - o Operations in support of the Global War on Terror
  - Command Employment
    - o Training Cycle (Jan-May 07)
    - o Deployment (Jun-Dec 07)
  - Area of Operation(s)
    - o 2<sup>nd</sup> Fleet (Jan-Jun)
    - o 6<sup>th</sup> Fleet (Jun, Dec)
    - o 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet (Jun-Nov)
6. Permanent Location: Norfolk, VA
7. Immediate Superior in Command
  - Operational
    - o COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWO
  - Administrative
    - o COMMANDER DESTROYER SQUADRON TWO-SIX
8. Units assigned: Not Applicable
9. Type of Aircraft Assigned: SH-60B (Magnum 444 & 446)
10. Detachments deployed onboard: HSL 44, Det 9
11. Number of Personnel Assigned:
  - Officers - 28
  - Enlisted - 275
  - Civilian - 0
  - Total - 303
12. Command POC:
  - ENS [REDACTED]
  - Public Affairs Officer
  - [REDACTED]
  - [REDACTED]
  - USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)
  - FPO AE 09575-1204

### Commander's Assessment

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) has been instrumental in contributing to national defense in 2007. The ship began working up for its second deployment early in the year. The ship began the year with the completion of its Unit Level Training Assessment- Shipboard (ULTRA-S) and Unit Level Training Assessment- Engineering (ULTRA-E) requirement and several other training evolutions. These activities helped pave the way for the ship to be prepared for a surge deployment beginning in July 2007.

The ship deployed with Enterprise Strike Group on 9 July. An unfortunate shafting casualty at sea on 13 July, while attempting to conduct a towing exercise, caused the ship to return to Norfolk for repairs. After repairs the ship was tasked to conduct maritime presence operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Near the end of October the ship intercepted motor vessel Dai Hong Dan, a hijacked North Korean vessel. JAMES E. WILLIAMS negotiated the surrender of the pirates and provided critical medical assistance to six North Korean crewmembers who had been wounded. As a direct result of this action, the North Korean government expressed rare appreciation to the United States government. Immediately following this event the ship was reassigned to Task Force 58 and OPERATION BOWSPRIT to assist with several other pirated vessels off the eastern coast of Somalia. The JAMES E. WILLIAMS was instrumental in the release of three of these hijacked vessels, including the Taiwanese flagged fishing vessel Ching Fong Hwa and Tanzanian flagged fishing vessels Mavuno I and II.

While operating near the Horn of Africa, the ship was also instrumental in multiple Commander, United States Fifth Fleet Tomahawk exercises. Many of these exercises were directed as National Tasking in direct support of ground operations testing rapid plan-and-shoot feasibility. These operations were designed to work with other forces in locating suspected terrorist personnel and then determining the feasibility of a quick strike against those targeted.

Overall, I assess the effectiveness of JAMES E. WILLIAMS as very high. Our ship was instrumental in helping secure the international waterways from piracy as well as testing the feasibility of strikes against suspected terrorist operations.

## Chronological Order of Events

2007

01-07 Jan	Leave and Up-Keep Period
16-18 Jan	Unit Level Training Assessment Sustainment
17 Jan	Replenishment at Sea (RAS) with USNS Patuxent
22-26 Jan	Unit Level Training Assessment Engineering
01-09 Feb	Fleet Synthetic Trainer
12-23 Feb	Week One Work-Ups (HSL-44 Det 9)
02-16 Mar	Sustainment Exercise I with Enterprise Carrier Strike Group
19-23 Mar	Engineering Tailored Ships Training Availability (TSTA)
26 Mar-20 Apr	Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV)
16-20 Apr	Engineering TSTA
30 Apr-4 May	Engineering Operational Certification (EOC)
03 May	Deck Landing Qualifications
07 May	Family Day Cruise
01-10 May	Ammo On-load Yorktown, VA
21-22 May	COMMSECONDFLT Force Protection Exercise
22 May-1 Jun	Sustainment Exercise II with Enterprise Carrier Strike Group
05-16 Jun	Pre-Overseas Movement Leave One
11-15 Jun	Supply Material Certification
16-27 Jun	Pre-Overseas Movement Leave Two
29 Jun	Change of Command
09 Jul	Deploy Enterprise Carrier Strike Group

09-13 Jul	Unit Level Training Assessment Sustainment
12 Jul	RAS with USNS Supply
13 Jul	TOWEX with USS Forrest Sherman and Shafting Casualty
19-22 Jul	Inport Norfolk, VA for casualty repairs
24 Jul	RAS with USNS Kanawah
30 Jul- 1 Aug	Port Visit Rota, Spain
3 Aug	Transit Suez Canal and enter 5 <sup>th</sup> Fleet Area of Operation (AOR)
26 Aug	RAS with USNS Leroy Grumman
5 Sep	RAS with USNS Leroy Grumman
11 Sep	RAS with USNS Lewis and Clark
14-18 Sep	Inport Bahrain
24 Sep	RAS with USNS Tippecanoe
29 Oct	RAS with USNS Leroy Grumman
30 Oct	Provided assistance to pirated North Korean vessel Dai Hong Dan
31 Oct	RAS with USNS Leroy Grumman
31 Oct-25 Nov	Provided assistance to multiple pirated vessels of Eastern coast of Somalia
18 Nov	RAS with USNS Supply
29 Nov	Embarked Commander Destroyer Squadron Two
1 Dec	Transit the Suez Canal and enter 6 <sup>th</sup> Fleet AOR
4-6 Dec	Port Visit Naples, Italy
10 Dec	RAS with USNS Supply
19 Dec	Return to Homeport
19-31 Dec	Post-Deployment Standdown

### **Basic Historical Narrative**

USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) honors the Navy's most decorated Sailor. Boatswain's Mate First Class James Elliott Williams received the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery and leadership in 1966, while serving as patrol commander of River Patrol Boat 105 on the Mekong River during the Vietnam War.

James Elliott Williams was born November 13, 1930 in Fort Mill, South Carolina and moved two months later with his parents to Darlington, South Carolina where he spent his early childhood and youth. He attended the local schools and graduated from St. John's High School. He was married to the former Elaine Weaver and they had five children and seven grandchildren. In July 1947, at the age of 16, he entered the United States Navy where he served for twenty years, retiring in April 1967. During those twenty years he served in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

On October 31, 1966, Williams' River Patrol Boat, along with another boat, was searching for Viet Cong guerillas operating in an isolated area of the Mekong Delta River. While searching, they spotted two fast speedboats crossing in front of them. As those two boats split, Williams pursued one and sank it, then turned around to go after the other boat. The boat was hiding in an eight-foot canal and Williams knew his boat wouldn't fit. He looked at a chart and found a wider canal to use to intercept the boat. However, when he maneuvered towards this canal, he and his crew found themselves under heavy fire from enemy boats and shore batteries. Williams and his crew shot back and continued a fierce battle for more than three hours before U.S. helicopter support arrived. By this time, Williams' patrol had accounted for the destruction or loss of 65 enemy boats and more than 1,000 enemy troops.

He is the most highly decorated enlisted man in the history of the United States Navy. On May 14, 1968 the President of the United States presented him the Medal of Honor. His other awards include the Navy Cross, Silver Star (2 awards), The Legion of Merit (with Combat V), The Navy and Marine Corps Medal (2 awards), Bronze Star (3 awards), Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Star and Palm, Navy Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation (2 awards), Purple Heart (3 awards), Vietnam Service Medal (1 star), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, National

Defense Service Medal (1 star), United Nations Service Medal, Korean Service Medal (2 stars), Korean Presidential Unit Citation and Good Conduct Medal (5 awards).

Williams retired from the Navy in 1967, and was appointed as U.S. Marshal for the District of South Carolina in 1969. He died on October 13, 1999, in Florence, South Carolina.

JAMES E. WILLIAMS' keel was laid July 15, 2002, and was Christened by Mrs. Elaine Weaver Williams, Ship's Sponsor, on June 28, 2003 in Pascagoula, Mississippi. JAMES E. WILLIAMS is the 45<sup>th</sup> ship in the ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) class of Aegis guided missile destroyers - the U.S. Navy's most powerful destroyer fleet. These highly capable multi-mission ships can conduct a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis management to sea control and power projection, in support of National Military Strategy.

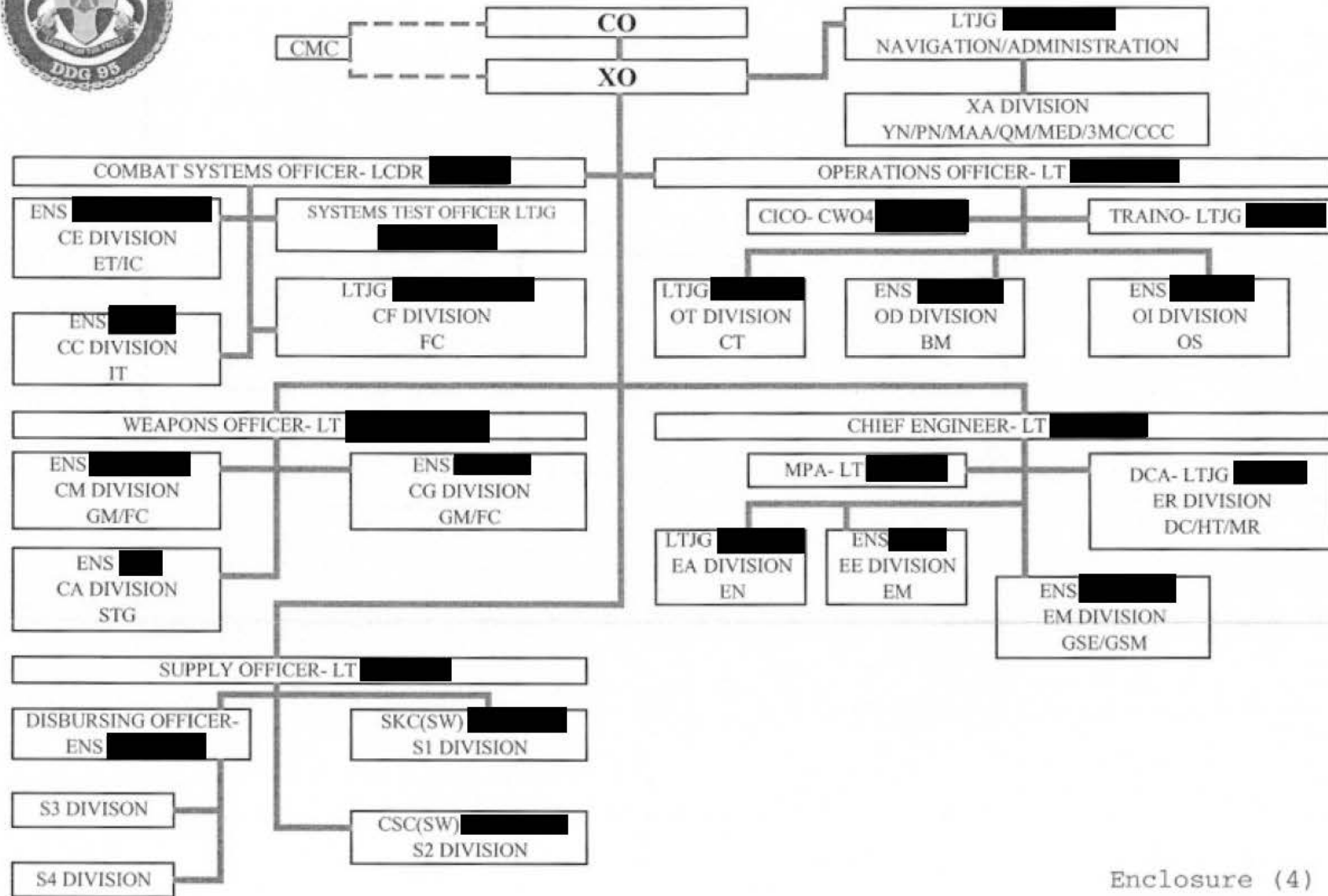
JAMES E. WILLIAMS set out on her maiden deployment in May 2006 to the US Fifth Fleet Area of Responsibility. There she conducted multiple Maritime Interdiction Operations along with several other missions. The ship and her crew helped ensure security for the international maritime community. She successfully completed her deployment in October of that year. She returned to the Fifth Fleet in the summer of 2007 for her second deployment. While there she conducted intelligence collection exercise and Tomahawk Strike exercises. She was also the key player in the release of multiple pirated vessels including a North Korean vessel. Her second deployment was completed in December 2007.

The continuing mission of JAMES E. WILLIAMS is to conduct sustained combat operations at sea, providing primary protection for the Navy's aircraft carriers and battle groups, as well as essential escort to Navy and Marine Corps amphibious forces and auxiliary ships, and independent operations as necessary. DDG 95 is capable of fighting air, surface, and subsurface battles simultaneously. The ship contains a myriad of offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime needs well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



# USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS

## 2007 COMMAND ORGANIZATION





**COMMANDER TIMOTHY R. TRAMPENAU**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

Commander Trampenau is a 1989 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in History. Following commissioning, he served in *USS Caron* (DD 970) as Electrical Officer and Gunnery Officer, deploying once to the Persian Gulf during Operation *Desert Storm*, and a second time to the Mediterranean and Red Seas. He then served in *USS America* (CV 66) as Surface Module Officer and Tactical Action Officer, deploying to the Adriatic Sea and Somalia, and later to Haiti during Operation *Uphold Democracy*.

Upon completion of his Division Officer tours, he attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, graduating with distinction with a Masters of Arts degree in National Security Affairs.

He returned to sea as Operations Officer in *USS Deyo* (DD 989), deploying to the Mediterranean Sea as the NATO Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean flagship. He then served as Operations and Plans Officer in *Amphibious Squadron Four*, deploying again to the Mediterranean Sea. He then attended the Joint Forces Staff College and served with *Carrier Group Eight*, deployed to the Arabian Sea for Operation *Enduring Freedom*.

Commander Trampenau served as Executive Officer in *USS Ross* (DDG 71), reporting while *Ross* was deployed to the Mediterranean Sea as the *CTF Six Zero* flagship. While assigned in *Ross*, he deployed to northern Europe and the Baltic Sea to conduct *Baltops 2003*.

He most recently served as the Branch Chief of the European Plans and Operations Center, Missile Defense Branch at the Headquarters, United States European Command in Stuttgart, Germany.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BRAD L. STALLINGS**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

A native of Attica, Ohio, Lieutenant Commander Stallings graduated from the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Florida in 1995 earning a Bachelor of Technology degree in Industrial Management. Upon graduation he received his commission through the Enlisted Commissioning Program.

After his Division Officer tours, Lieutenant Commander Stallings earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California in 2001. In 2007, Lieutenant Commander Stallings completed his second master's degree at the Command and Staff College in Quantico, Virginia where he earned a Masters in Military Studies.

Lieutenant Commander Stallings' previous sea tours include: Commanding Officer of Patrol Coastal Crew INDIA onboard USS TYPHOON (PC 5), which deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; Engineer Officer onboard USS MOMSEN (DDG 92); Ordnance Officer onboard USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49), which deployed with Standard Naval Forces Atlantic; Damage Control Assistant and Electrical Officer on USS GETTYSBURG (CG 64), which deployed to the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation Southern Watch; and while enlisted, USS VREELAND (FF 1068) where he served as Sonar Technician First Class and deployed in 1988 to the Mediterranean Sea in support of US interests in the Cold War. Lieutenant Commander Stallings joined the Navy 11 October 1984.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal (three awards), the Navy Achievement Medal (three awards) and various other unit, campaign, and service awards.

**CMDCM(AW/SW) Willie L. Burnett**

Master Chief Burnett began active duty in March of 1982. He completed Basic Training in Orlando, FL prior to attending Aviation Electrician's Mate (AE) 'A' school in Millington, TN. After completion of 'A' school he reported to Training Squadron 24 in Beeville, TX on 5 January 1983. Upon transfer in March of 1986, Petty Officer Second Class Burnett reported to Fighter Attack Squadron 87 in June 1986. In January of 1987 he was transferred to Sea Operational Detachment Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL. During his tenure he accompanied Fighter Attack Squadron 132 during operation "Team Spirit" in Iwakuni, Japan and completed the "Final Voyage" of the Ageless Warrior, *USS Coral Sea* (CV 43).

In May 1990, AE1 Burnett was assigned to Naval Air Technical Training Unit Detachment Oceana, Virginia Beach, VA where he reported 15 June. After a successful instructor tour he reported to *USS Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) in October of 1993 where he served until advancing to Chief Petty Officer in 1995. Chief Burnett transferred to *Pre-Commissioning Unit John C. Stennis* (CVN 74) in October 1995, completing his sea tour before returning to Naval Air Technical Training Unit Detachment Oceana in July 1997.

After advancing to Senior Chief Petty Officer, he returned to sea in *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65) in August 2000. In May 2003 he attended the Senior Enlisted Academy en route to Naval Safety Center, Norfolk VA. He was advanced to Master Chief in 2004 and returned to sea in *USS Theodore Roosevelt* (CVN 71) as the Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department Leading Chief Petty Officer. After selection to the Command Master Chief Program in 2005, he was assigned to *USS James E. Williams* (DDG 95) in March 2006.

His awards include the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3 awards), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (3 awards), Good Conduct Medal (7 awards), Various campaign and unit awards, Enlisted Aviation Warfare, Enlisted Surface Warfare, Master Training Specialist, and Senior Enlisted Academy class 107 Peter Tomich Distinguished Graduate, Honor Graduate and Academic Excellence Awards.

Education includes an Associate of Science (1989), Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts (1999) and Bachelor of Science in Psychology (2000).



PRN: 02-2007  
30 October 2007

ENS [REDACTED]  
Public Affairs Officer  
USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95)  
[REDACTED]

#### JAMES E. WILLIAMS PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO CAPTURED NORTH KOREAN CARGO SHIP

The guided-missile destroyer USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) boarded the North Korean Motor Vessel Dai Hong Dan late Tuesday afternoon. The vessel had only days before been attacked and taken over by Somali pirates.

Late Monday afternoon, the Norfolk based destroyer received initial tasking to investigate and render assistance to the vessel while conducting other anti-piracy operations off the eastern coast of Somalia. Reports indicated that five crewmembers, including the ships Master, were several injured while fighting continued between the Dai Hong Dan's crew and the pirates.

James E. Williams provided one of her embarked SH-60B helicopters to assess the situation on the Dai Hong Dan. Communications were quickly established between the motor vessel and the destroyer on the ships bridge-to-bridge radio.

With the help of a Korean-speaking crew member and an embarked Arabic translator on board James E. Williams, communications between the hostage crewmembers, the pirates, and the destroyer were trouble-free. The Somali pirates agreed to give up the ship once the James E. Williams arrived on station.

After further discussions between all three parties, two remaining armed Somali pirates discarded their weapons over the side of the Dai Hong Dan and surrendered to her crew. The James E. Williams provided three medical personnel and three security personnel from her Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure (VBSS) team, which proceeded to board the Dai Hong Dan.

Once onboard, the VBSS and medical team discovered six members of the vessels crew were injured. Three of them were severely wounded and were transferred to the James E. Williams for further medical treatment.

Ships Background: Guided Missile Destroyer JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG 95) is the 45<sup>th</sup> Arleigh Burke class destroyer built by the US Navy. She was christened 28 June 2003 at North Grumman Ship Systems in Pascagoula, MS and commissioned 11 December 2004 in Charleston, SC. The ship is named after BM1 James Elliott Williams who received the Medal of Honor for his actions in Vietnam. The ship is currently homeported in Norfolk, VA and is captained by CDR Timothy Trampenau, USN.