

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
ELROD	FFG 55
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7)-class guided missile frigate	None
Vessel Location	Current Status
Inactive Ships On-site Maintenance Office at Philadelphia, PA	Decommissioned and Stricken, Awaiting Disposal

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
13 January 2015	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
19 March 2015	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	Named to honor Major Henry T. Elrod, U.S. Marine Corps, awarded the Medal of Honor (posthumously) for his role in the defense of Wake Island, 10-23 December 1941.
Displacement	3,900 tons
Length	453 feet
Beam	47 feet
Draft	24.5 feet

Speed	30+ knots
Propulsion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two General Electric LM2500 gas turbine (40,000 SHP) - Two 360 HP electric auxiliary propulsion units - One controllable reversible pitch propeller
Armament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mk 13 Guided Missile launcher with <i>Harpoon</i> anti-surface and <i>Standard</i> anti-aircraft missile - 76mm Mk 75 rapid-fire gun - Mk 32 ASW torpedo tubes Mk 15 Mod 1 Phalanx Close-in Weapon System (CIWS)
Laid Down	21 November 1983
Launched	12 May 1984
Built By	Bath Iron Works Corporation, Bath, Maine
Sponsor	Mrs. Norma J. McDonald, wife of Admiral Wesley L. McDonald.
Delivered	10 May 1985
Commissioned	6 July 1985
Decommissioned	30 January 2015
Stricken	30 January 2015

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	<p>ELROD has completed five deployments to the Persian Gulf, three to the Mediterranean Sea, and one to the Adriatic Sea, and has participated in numerous operations in the Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea and the Caribbean Sea.</p> <p>In 1990, ELROD participated in Operation <i>Desert Storm</i> and supported</p>
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aggressive air and surface surveillance operations while conducting naval exercises with units of Gulf Cooperation Council nations.

In 1992, the ship participated in TEAMWORK '92, NATO's Arctic Ocean anti-submarine exercise.

From 1993 to 1996, ELROD participated in Operation *Sharp Guard*, in support of multi-national enforcement of United Nations sanctions and embargoing war materials to the Balkans.

22 November 1999, ELROD returned to Norfolk after a six-month Mediterranean deployment.

From 19-20 April 2000, ELROD was underway for sea trials after a three-month Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) while pierside at Naval Station Norfolk, VA. On 9 May 2000, the vessel departed her homeport to participate in Canadian Exercise CRO 2/00. From 8-19 June 2000, the vessel was in port at Naval Station Newport, RI, for SWOS training. On 3 July 2000, ELROD anchored in New York Harbor for International Fleet Review 2000/Operational Sail 2000. On 16 October 2000, ELROD departed Mayport for Joint Tactical Fleet Exercise (JTFEX) with the DESRON 28 in the Puerto Rican OPAREA.

From 31 May through 2 July 2001, the guided missile frigate was underway for a COMPTUEX in the Puerto Rican OPAREA. From 1-19 August 2001, ELROD was underway for JTFEX. On 19 September 2001, the vessel departed Naval Station Norfolk for a scheduled deployment as part of the THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) Battle Group (BG). On 2 October 2001, ELROD conducted turnover with the GONZALEZ (DDG 66) for Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean (SNFM) duties. Supported Operation Active Endeavour from Nov. 6-20; Inport Souda Bay again from Nov. 25-30; Port visit to La Maddalena, Sardinia, from Dec. 17-25.

From 23-27 February 2002, ELROD participated in exercise *Dogfish*. On 19 March 2002, the vessel returned to homeport after a six-month deployment in the U.S. 6th Fleet AOR. On 15 July 2002, ELROD entered the NORSHIPCO shipyard in Portsmouth, VA, for a three-month Drydocking Selected Restricted Availability (DSRA). From 28 October to 5 November 2002, the vessel was underway in support of the HARRY S. TRUMAN (CVN 75) BG's JTFEX as part of opposition force.

From 6-8 May and 9-16 July 2003, ELROD was underway for Group Sail operations. On 23 July 2003, the vessel was underway for the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) assessment. On 16 September 2003, ELROD emergency sortied from Naval Station Norfolk to avoid the Hurricane Isabel. Returned on Sept. 20; Underway for navigation

certification (NAVCERT) on Sept. 25. On 2 October 2003, the Mk-13 guided missile launching system (GMLS) was removed from the ELROD in accordance with the Mk-13 Divestment plan. From 16-27 October 2003, the vessel was underway for Group Sail with the Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 28. On 13 November 2003, ELROD was underway in support of the GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73) CSG's Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX) as part of opposition forces. The vessel returned home on 19 December 2003.

From January 19-24, 2004, ELROD was underway for Group Sail operations as part of the GEORGE WASHINGTON CSG. From 26-29 February 2004, the vessel was underway for MK-53 Nulka Decoy System testing and underway for COMDESRON 28 Group Sail from 8-9 March 2004. On 30 April 2004, ELROD departed Norfolk for a Mediterranean deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism, as part of the Surface Strike Group 04-1. On 9 May 2004, the vessel entered the Mediterranean Sea after transiting Strait of Gibraltar, along with RAMAGE (DDG 61) and ROSS (DDG 71). In port in La Spezia, Italy, from 2-7 June 2004 and joined Standing Naval Forces Mediterranean (SNFM) duties. On 17 September 2004, ELROD returned to homeport after four-and-a-half month Mediterranean deployment. The ship carried out Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO) in support of Operation *Active Endeavour*, in the Aegean Sea.

10 February 2006, ELROD departed Norfolk to participate in a coalition course in the North Atlantic with ships from the United Kingdom, Germany, and Denmark. *Neptune Warrior* was designed to improve interoperability between allied navies as well as to prepare the participants for a role in a Coalition Joint Task Force during upcoming deployments. On 23 February 2006, the vessel arrived at HMNB Clyde in Faslane, Scotland, to participate in a coalition course exercise. On 1 August 2006, ELROD transited Bosphorus Straits southbound. The ship had recently departed for a scheduled deployment as part of the Standing NATO Response Force (NRF) Maritime Group (SNMG) 2, in support of Operation *Active Endeavour*. On 13 November 2006, ELROD returned to Norfolk after supporting Commander, 6th Fleet operations, Joint Task Force Lebanon and Maritime Security Operations. On 4 September 2006, the vessel departed homeport to participate in exercise *Neptune Warrior 07-2*, off the coast of Scotland, from 17-29 September 2006.

On 2 June 2008, ELROD departed Norfolk for a scheduled deployment in Europe and Africa, within the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR). On 27 July 2008, the guided missile frigate pulled into Severomorsk to participate in a Russian Navy Day celebration after completing the underway phase of Northern Eagle 2008, a 12-day trilateral exercise involving the U.S., Russia, and Norway in the Norwegian and Barents seas. On 8 September

2008, the ship arrived in Mindelo, Cape Verde, for a goodwill port visit in support of Africa Partnership Station (APS). On 3 December 2008, ELROD returned to Naval Station Norfolk after a six-month deployment.

On 14 May 2010, ELROD departed Norfolk for a scheduled Middle East deployment. On 15 November 2010, the vessel returned to homeport after a six-month underway period in the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet Areas of Responsibility, in support of anti-piracy and maritime security operations. During this time, the ship also visited Italy, Djibouti, Oman, Jordan, Seychelles, Greece, and Croatia.

On 25 August 2011, ELROD emergency sortied from Naval Station Norfolk to avoid the approaching Hurricane Irene. On 16 December 2011, the guided-missile frigate completed a three-week Certification Exercise (CERTEX) off the coast of Florida.

On 18 January 2012, ELROD departed Norfolk for a scheduled Caribbean deployment in support of counter-illicit trafficking. On 27 March 2012, the vessel, with embarked Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 60 Det. 3, pulled into Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for a three-day port call. On 20 July 2012, ELROD returned to Naval Station Norfolk after a six-month deployment in the U.S. 4th Fleet Area of Responsibility.

In March 2013, ELROD completed a five-month Phased Maintenance Availability (PMA) at the General Dynamics NASSCO shipyard in Norfolk, Va. On 30 September 2013, the vessel arrived in Naval Station Mayport, Fla., in preparation for a Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). ELROD was underway for INSURV rehearsal on 21 and 22 October 2013; was underway for INSURV assessment on 4 November 2013.

On 14 January 2014, ELROD, with embarked Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) (HSL) 60 Det. 2, departed Naval Station Norfolk for a scheduled Mediterranean deployment in support of AFRICOM Counter Terrorism, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance missions. On 2 February 2014, the guided missile frigate moored for a four-day visit to Tangier, Morocco; Conducted a Passing Exercise (PASSEX) with the RMNS ALLAL BEN ABDELLAH (FMMM 615) on 6 February 2014. On March 19 2014, ELROD took over the escort duties from STOUT (DDG 55), for the hijacked oil tanker MORNING GLORY, two days after a team of U.S. Navy SEALs seized control of the commercial tanker from three armed Libyan hijackers; U.S. Sailors handed over control of tanker to Libyan forces while in international waters, west of the capital Tripoli, on 22 March 2014. On 19 July 2014, ELROD pulled into her homeport in Norfolk, VA for the final time.

<p>Awards</p>	<p>One Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation with 1 star, one CG Meritorious Unit Commendation, six Navy Battle "E" Ribbons, National Defense Service Ribbon with 1 star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with 3 stars, one Southwest Asia Service Medal, one Armed Forces Service Ribbon, one Humanitarian Service Ribbon, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 5 stars, one United Nations Medal, one Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait)</p>
<p>Noteworthy Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2004, the ship participated in Operation <i>Distinguished Games</i>, which provided maritime protection for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Greece. - On 7 September 2004, ELROD arrived in Novorossiysk, Russia, for a scheduled port visit. She is the first United States Navy vessel to pull into this Black Sea port since 2001. - On 10 September 2008, ELROD's Inport Emergency Team helped firefighters battle a blaze at a Port Authority building in Mindelo, Cape Verde. - On 5 July 2010, the vessel rescued 16 Pakistani mariners stranded in a life raft near the wreckage of their fishing vessel, 144 miles west of Socotra Island. - On 22 March 2012, the ship intercepted a fast moving speedboat carrying 1,000 pounds of cocaine in the Caribbean Sea. - On 20 April 2012, ELROD recovered 89 bales of cocaine, weighing 4,840 pounds, with an estimated value of more than \$362 million, while supporting Operation <i>Martillo</i> in the western Caribbean Sea. - On 17 May 2012, the guided missile frigate, with an embarked U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) team, recovered 57 bales of cocaine, weighing 3,790 pounds, in the western Caribbean Sea, with an estimated street value of more than \$283 million. - On 10 June 2012, ELROD interdicted a suspected smuggling vessel in the Caribbean Sea, recovering more than 1,000 pounds of cocaine. - On 3 July 2012, the ship recovered approximately 5,000 pounds of marijuana in the Caribbean Sea, on July 3. - On 7 June 2014, ELROD rendered assistance to persons in distress at sea in the Mediterranean after receiving a report of a small, sinking vessel

DANFS* Entry	Placeholder history edited 3 March 2015, ready to be posted.
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**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation?	No
ii. Did an individual act of heroism take place aboard the vessel such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross?	No
iii. Was a President of the United States was assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service?	No
iv. Was the vessel was the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities?	No
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	No
Historic Evaluation Conclusion	Ineligible

Sources	- USS ELROD "Welcome Aboard" pamphlet
	- Various "Navy News" articles
	- USS ELROD Cruise Book
	- MaritimeQuest Online
	- NVR

Historic Preservation Stakeholder Comment

Historic preservation stakeholder comments received are considered when preparing final determinations. The initial determination for this vessel was made available for comment by historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received no written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition

¹ Evaluation conducted using triggers established for naval vessels in *Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels*, issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 15 March 2010.