



COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY  
May 1 2009-present  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Sept 8, 2008 - May 1, 2009

Commander Sparks, a Texas native, enlisted in the Naval Academy Preparatory School in 1987 and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography. In 1997 he earned a Master of Arts degree in National Security Affairs (Strategic Planning) from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Commander Sparks has served Division Officer assignments as Administrative Officer and Strike Warfare Officer in USS O'BRIEN (DD 975) and as Electrical Officer in USS NIMITZ (CVN 68). He served as a Department Head as Operations Officer in both USS TAYLOR (FFG 50) and USS CHOSIN (CG 65), and he has served on the afloat staff of Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group One (CONSTELLATION Battle Group) as Flag Secretary and Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration. Commander Sparks served as Commanding Officer of USS KINGFISHER (MHC 56).

Commander Sparks has made numerous deployments to the Western Pacific, Arabian Gulf, the coast of Africa, and the Mediterranean. Prior to reporting to USS ROBERT G. BRADLEY (FFG 49), Commander Sparks served in the Pentagon on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (Strategy and Policy Division). During his shore tour, he also served on the staff of Commander, United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) and deployed to Doha, Qatar in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Most recently, Commander Sparks served as ROBERT G. BRADLEY's Executive Officer prior to taking command. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (3), the Navy Commendation Medal (3), Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal, in addition to various unit and campaign awards.