



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN-72)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72)

To: Chief of Naval Operations (N-09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1996

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E OF 19 JAN 90

Encl: (1) Command History for 1996
(2) Biography of Commanding Officer
(3) Welcome Aboard Brochure
(4) Change of Homeport Brochure
(5) Battle "E" Award Submission

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded.

"Shall Not Perish"

R. F. Willard

R. F. WILLARD

USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72)

COMMAND HISTORY 1996

Enclosure (1)

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. Mission. To support and operate naval aircraft at sea, maintain open sea lanes for maritime traffic, project naval power at sea and ashore and provide a formidable strike option in response to national tasking. ABRAHAM LINCOLN also serves as a flagship command and control platform, able to direct and support full battle group and joint operations. Wherever it goes, the ship serves as a symbol of U.S. resolve, acting as both an ambassador and as a sea-based deterrent to threats to our national interest.

b. Organizational Structure. During calendar year 1996, ABRAHAM LINCOLN's Commanding Officer was Captain Robert F. Willard. Commander Bruce W. Clingan served as the command's Executive Officer. EMCM(SW) Gary Weir was Command Master Chief. The ship's chain of command as of 31 December 1996 was:

Commander in Chief	President Bill Clinton
Secretary of Defense	The Honorable Frank Perry
Secretary of the Navy	The Honorable John Dalton
Chief of Naval Operations	ADM Jay Johnson
CINCPACFLT	VADM Archie Clemins
COMNAVAIRPAC	VADM. Brent Bennitt
COMCARGRU THREE	RADM Donald Weiss

Department Heads serving aboard ABRAHAM LINCOLN as of Dec. 31, 1996 were:

Administrative Officer	LCDR [REDACTED]
Air Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
AIMD Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Combat Systems Officer	LCDR [REDACTED]
Command Chaplain	CAPT [REDACTED]
Communications Officer	LT [REDACTED]
Dental Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Engineering Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
First Lieutenant	LCDR [REDACTED]
Legal Officer	LCDR [REDACTED]
Maintenance Officer	LCDR [REDACTED]
CO, Marine Detachment	CPT [REDACTED]
Navigator	CDR [REDACTED]
Senior Medical Officer	CAPT [REDACTED]
Operations Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Reactor Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Safety Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Supply Officer	CDR [REDACTED]
Training Officer	LCDR [REDACTED]
Weapons Officer	CDR [REDACTED]

2. Chronological Listing of Significant Events

<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Events</u>
Jan 01 - Dec 06	Extended Drydocking Selected Restricted Availability at Puget Sound Naval Ship Yard (PSNS).
Jan 04	Safety Stand Down with ship's force and shipyard displays in Hangar Bay, addressing PPE, HAZMAT and recycling in preparation for overhaul.
Jan - Oct	AIMD converted 245 items of support equipment from leaded yellow paint to lead-free white paint.
Jan - Nov	Medical services moved off-ship to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Clinic.
Jan - Nov	AIMD used Defense Regional Material Officer to obtain more than 300 items needed to repair over 200 compartment discrepancies. The department achieved a combined total savings of more than \$458,000 in repairable and consumable materials.
Jan - Dec	Chaplain's Department delivered 420 Red Cross Messages.
Feb 19	Four LINCOLN Sailors saved local civilian from drowning in nearby lake. Two received Navy Marine Corps Medals, the other two received Navy Achievement Medals.
Feb 12	ABRAHAM LINCOLN Birthday Ball.
Feb	Air Department received COMNAVAIRPAC Yellow Battle "E" for efficiency.
Feb	Began installation of Plastics Waste Processor.
Mar - Apr	AIMD (IM-3) directed depot-level on-site calibration and repair of 133 panel meters for Engineering and Reactor Departments aboard USS CALIFORNIA, saving over \$13,000 and readying the ship for deployment. Also provided calibration services to USS RAINIER, USS ARKANSAS, USS SACRAMENTO, SIMA Everett and SIMA PSNS.

Apr 15-18 Air Department had AIRPAC Assist Visit.

Apr 16 Safety Stand Down with MADD and Washington State Patrol as guest speakers.

May 6 and 11 Change of Homeport Fairs

May 24 CPT David Lucas assumed command of Marine Detachment.

July 27 Command Picnic

July 31 Safety Stand down with CAPT [REDACTED], NAVSAFECEN, as guest speaker.

July 45,000 square feet of non-skid installed on flight deck.

July 536,010 gallons of JP-5 on-loaded while in drydock.

Aug 08 ABRAHAM LINCOLN moved out of drydock to Pier Bravo, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, eight days ahead of schedule.

Aug 08 Semi-Annual PRT completed.

Aug 22 AFFF stations are overhauled and reinstalled.

Sept 4 Crew began moving back aboard the ship.

Sept 27 Wardroom Dining Out.

Oct 17 Crew Certification I.

Oct 24 Hosted Bremerton Navy League and Gig Harbor Navy League in Wardroom for Navy Birthday.

Oct 26 Change of Homeport Fair.

Oct V-3 completed the non-skidding and painting of Hangar Bay Two.

Oct Completed installation of AT&T Definity 75 Ship Telephone System.

Oct 29- Nov 01	Completed Post Overhaul Reactor Safety Exam with a score of satisfactory/average.
Oct - Nov	Installed, tested and began operation of the Nicolet Gas Chromatograph to provide faster, more accurate gas analysis and improve Aviator's Breathing Oxygen product.
Nov 10	Oil spill of 100 gallons oil/water mixture at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
Nov 12 - 15	Crew Certification II/CART IIA.
Nov 18 - 20	Dock Trials.
Nov 21	Safety Stand down emphasizing 'Going to Sea' after 11 months of shipyard work.
Nov 22	COMCARGRU Three Change of Command, Color Guard provided by MARINE DETACHMENT
Nov 23 - 27	Fast Cruise
Nov 26	Oil spill of one gallon lube oil at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
Nov	V-1 completed off-loading all shipyard and contractor equipment from flight deck.
Nov	On-loaded 251,781 gallons of JP-5 while moored at Pier Bravo, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.
Nov	On-load of Marine Locator Markers and Signal Flares
Nov	Began functional tests for catapults
Nov	Installed the dual suite TAC-3 UNIX-based computerized communications suite AN/SYQ 7A. This message processing system provided customers with traffic via a variety of mediums. The system is capable of up to 100 drops and 2,000 users.
Nov 30 - Dec 06	Sea Trials. Air Department completed 196 landings

	encompassing 128 arrested (126 day, 2 night) and 68 touch and go landings. Twenty-two helo sorties were
Nov 30 - Dec 06	conducted, including one at night. Fuels system and PALS certification attained.
Dec 04	VMFA 314 Class "A" flight mishap (ramp strike) during night flight deck certification for Sea Trials. Pilot ejected safely onto flight deck. No other injuries. Plane was lost.
Dec 14	Command Children's Christmas Party
Dec 14 - Dec 31	Holiday Stand Down

3. Narrative

ABRAHAM LINCOLN spent the majority of 1996 undergoing an intense industrial availability, which included six-months in drydock. The drydock period gave LINCOLN's Deck Department an opportunity to supervise the complete repainting of the hull, anchors and anchor chains. In addition to preserving and painting more than 120 spaces within the ship, Deck also certified and reinstalled all 252 of ABRAHAM LINCOLN's lifeboats, refurbished nine underway replenishment stations and the ship's small boats, and improved and upgraded the Foc'sle and Quarterdecks. During Sea Trials, Deck Department completed two underway refuelings and one underway reprovisioning. Their work did not go unnoticed as Deck received its third consecutive departmental Battle "E" Award.

Reactor Department also excelled in 1996, completing one of the most successful EDSRA periods ever for a Nimitz-class aircraft carrier. Reactor Department consistently accomplished major production and testing milestones ahead of schedule, resulting in the early completion of EDSRA. During Sea Trials, Reactor Department provided reliable propulsion and electrical power, while meeting all testing and operational requirements to accomplish the command's mission.

Limited operational missions in 1996 allowed the Operations Department to spend the year upgrading their equipment and personnel. Air traffic controllers received an average score of 91.9 on the new CV NATOPS exam and 95.6 on the graded recovery evolution during team training at NATTC Pensacola. Anti-Surface Tactical Air Controllers were able to maintain their proficiency by attending Big Taco in order to gain controlling time. The Carrier Intelligence Center established a crossdecking program with the U.S. Army's I Corps at Fort Lewis, WA. This training significantly contributed to maintaining crew proficiency in intelligence operations during ABRAHAM LINCOLN's EDSRA. In the area of equipment, the WLR-1 Electronic Surveillance System was upgraded from V3 to V5. Along with the refurbishment of the SLQ-32 antenna system, ABRAHAM LINCOLN established a state-of-the-art electronic surveillance and protection system that will enhance its role in the Battle Group environment as well as improve its own survivability.

With no flight operations being conducted, Air Department worked toward three objectives: Complete all work packages on time and above the ship's standards, train the crew throughout EDSRA, and assist the ship and yard workers in completing all EDSRA requirements. All work packages were extremely demanding. Crew spaces, offices and work centers required complete chipping, priming, repainting and retiling of every bulkhead, overhead and deck. V-1 division restrung safety nets, overhauled catwalks and worked on the island structure. V-2 overhauled all aircraft launch and recovery equipment, including four catapults and five arresting gear engines. V-3 division rehabilitated the largest spaces within the ship - Hangar Bays One, Two and Three - while they remained largely open to yard workers and the crew. V-4 division overhauled the fuel system and installed several updates and modifications. Much of Air Department's work was done by a depleted work force as a third of every division was assigned to tiling teams, pipe teams and other specific job teams.

The Aircraft Maintenance Department faced the huge task of rehabilitating their equipment and then storing it off the ship during EDSRA. AIMD developed a highly effective, labor saving plan utilizing Naval Station Everett storage for fourteen triwalls containing over one thousand AIMD assets not due for calibration until 1997. This plan saved thousands of man-hours by reducing inventory and control time for all AIMD workcenters and significantly increased the amount of man-hours that could then be focused on EDSRA. AIMD also developed and established an unprecedented, fully-functional, off-ship Type IV Field Calibration Activity during EDSRA, completing over \$2,000 worth of calibration tasks for thirty-six critical shipboard systems and over 800 tasks for local area ships.

Weapons Department rehabilitated more than 100 departmental spaces, lockers, heads, passageways, offices and berthing compartments. In addition to offices and living spaces, Weapons rehabilitated 9 elevators and machinery rooms, 33 magazine sprinkler systems and installed 100 street "T"s in magazine pneumatic control systems, enhancing the system's reliability and safety.

Engineering was hard at work in 1996 refurbishing the ship's cooling system by installing two new air conditioning units, each weighing approximately 363 tons. Engineering also improved the ship's communications system by installing the AT&T 75 Ship Telephone System. The new system is smaller, faster and more reliable than the previous system. Environmental upgrades were also on the agenda for Engineering Department and Supply Department as both a new plastic waste processor and two new EPA-approved dry cleaning plants were installed on board ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

This was a year of change and transition for the LINCOLN Dental Department. Dental underwent a renovation of their clinic spaces, received new equipment and turned over the department head and numerous personnel. The Medical Department experienced the same upheaval by being forced to relocate sick call, laboratory, radiology, physical exams and radiation health services to off-ship locations for several months due to yard work precluding a sanitary environment. Medical Department also received a new Senior Medical Officer.

January 1996 found the Marine Detachment involved in the most intensive phase of its EDSRA period, rehabilitating the MARDET spaces, which included painting, and deck and furniture repair. MARDET personnel also worked throughout 1996 maintaining proficiency in physical fitness and serving ABRAHAM LINCOLN as a public relations tool. Many days found the Marine Corps marching at Mission Creek, maintaining MARDET readiness, or providing its Color Guard detail to high visibility events, such as Seattle Thunderbird hockey games and Seattle Mariner baseball games. These performances were enjoyed by thousands of local residents.

The Chaplain's Department continued business as usual in 1996, conducting 12 religious services per week, while completely renovating the Chapel, Crew's Lounge, Library and departmental office spaces. A \$50,000 upgrade of the library was approved in 1996, providing for the installation of a Learning Multimedia Resource Center in 1997. This upgrade will move the Library into the 21st century, making it a state-of-the-art leisure and informational electronic media library. As usual, the Chaplain's office continued to offer various counseling classes throughout 1996, including stress

management seminars and Prevention Relationship Enhancement classes. The Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society shipboard office was re-established, distributing more than \$21,000 to assist service members.

EDSRA afforded Communications Department the opportunity to upgrade many of their systems. Navy Order Wire computers were installed to replace Navy Standard Teletypes. This upgrade provided the capability to save information to 3.5-inch computer disks and eliminated the need to maintain Magnetic Tape Media. The Super High Frequency Satcom Antenna was also replaced with an updated version, increasing the total data throughput capability and reducing blockage areas associated with radar or mast obstructions. Additional equipment installations included the SSQ-33A TAC-3 Computerized System, an AN/URC-131 HFRG system and the dual suite TAC-3 UNIX-based computerized communications suite AN/SYQ 7A.

The Supply Department actively supported the ship's EDSRA process by establishing and then subsequently, vacating the ship's warehousing facility at Puget Sound Naval Ship Yard. Additionally, Supply completed an extensive EQOL work package. This included complete renovation of the entire Mess Decks area, Wardroom #3 Serving Area and Lounge, CPO Mess, Wardroom #1 and #2, both barbershops and the CO's galley. The entire Dry Cleaning plant was replaced with an upgraded unit, as well as having all existing steam driven dryers replaced. Both crew sculleries were renovated with the aft scullery being upgraded to include three scullery units (up from the previous two units) and the forward scullery upgraded to include two units (up from the previous one unit).

Ship's Force Overhaul Maintenance accomplished the renovation of 846 separate spaces, including the total renovation of 78 staterooms. The Material Division totally inventoried 22 storerooms with Integrated Logistics Overhaul review of eight major storerooms. Additionally, Q-COSAL support was totally reviewed, updated and backloaded to 100 percent on hand.

Supply actively participated in the crew move-off of personnel and services to the USS PROTEUS, as well as the subsequent crew move-on that occurred in the September/October timeframe.

Inspections/assessments that were executed during the year included the highly successful on-site audit of Disbursing by DFAS, the Postal Assist by CNAP representatives, and the DOD IG Audit of Material Support. All audits/assists were highly successful, with the Postal Assist registering a third straight assessment with zero outstanding discrepancies.

The Safety Department faced a challenging year educating the crew on the unfamiliar hazards of a shipyard environment. To reach this goal, the Safety Department was part of the first-ever cooperative Safety and Environmental Team comprised of ship's force and shipyard, contractor and SUPSHIP safety and environmental professionals. This cooperative effort led to a 30-percent reduction in lost man-hours for the shipyard and no reportable Class 'A' or 'B' mishaps for the crew. Over 1.2 million pounds of scrap metal were recycled and alternative uses were found for non-skid debris and 36,000 pounds of HAZMAT totaling a savings of over \$748,000.

The high percentage of crew turnover in 1996 kept the Training Department busy running 17 Basic Indoctrination Classes and 9 Advanced Indoctrination Classes covering subjects such as general ship's familiarization, 3M, Basic Damage Control, CPR and Navy Rights and Responsibilities. As the shipyard period was also used as a time to send personnel to professional schools, Training Department initiated and processed 924 sets of cost orders and 2,850 sets of no-cost orders. Approximately 1,800 personnel were given school quotas ranging from shipboard firefighting to nuclear propulsion.

In August of 1996, the Maintenance Department was established bringing the 3M Division, Quality Assurance Division, Maintenance Support Center and the Maintenance Management Office under one department head. The integration of these workcenters streamlined operations and allowed for improved communication and exchange of ideas. The Maintenance Department, working in conjunction with Training, also developed a 3M indoctrination course for new personnel, which qualified crew members prior to reporting to their workcenter.

The Administration Department rendered crew services from off the ship for a majority of EDSRA, while the new Personnel Complex was being constructed. The new complex combines XO Admin, Personnel, Educational Services and the Command Career Counselor in one area providing better customer service to the crew.

The Abraham Lincoln Legal Department was busy in 1996, providing legal services to the Commanding Officer, staff, and members of the crew. Specifically, Legal completed 675 NJP investigations. Additionally, Legal processed 197 misconduct related administrative separations, including 25 administrative discharge boards. Legal exercised judicial power in 47 summary courts-martial, with 15 Lincoln Sailors going to Special Courts-Martial and seven going to General Courts-Martial. Finally, legal assistance was given to over 1,200 Sailors and Marines stationed aboard, including 820 wills and powers of attorney.