



U. S. S. BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)

c/o FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO

LCC19/11:ht  
5750  
Ser 473  
9 SEP 1971

From: Commanding Officer, USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC19)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-1);  
submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Commissioning Ceremony Brochure

1. In accordance with reference (a), subject report is submitted for the period 14 November through 31 December 1970.

a. Command Organization

(1) Commanding Officer: Captain Kent J. Carroll,  
U. S. Navy - 14 November to 31 December 1970.

(2) The mission of BLUE RIDGE is to serve as a Command Ship for Amphibious Task Force and Landing Force Commanders and their staffs and to provide the following facilities:

(a) Accommodations for Amphibious Task Force and Landing Force Commanders and their staffs.

(b) Control and coordination of supporting arms and AAW coordination.

(c) A joint communications center.

(d) Control of aircraft.

(e) Collection, processing and dissemination of operational intelligence, including facilities for printing, map reproduction, photo interpretation, a photo laboratory, communication and electronic facilities.

(f) To be capable of limited self defense.

(g) To operate and provide limited support for assigned helicopters.

1970

(3) BLUE RIDGE was placed in commission special on 14 November 1970 at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and was assigned to the Commandant FOURTH Naval District for completion of construction and fitting out. The homeport was designated as San Diego, California.

b. Summary of Operations

(1) None

c. Special Topics

(1) The commissioning ceremony for BLUE RIDGE was conducted on 14 November 1970 at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. The ship was sponsored by Mrs. Harry F. Byrd, Jr., wife of the U. S. Senator from Virginia. The principal speaker at the ceremony was the Honorable John W. Warner, Under Secretary of the Navy.

d. Documentary Annexes

(1) Enclosure (1).

  
K. J. CARROLL

Copy to:  
COMPHIBPAC



**J. S. S. BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)**

c/o FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO

LCC19/16:ht  
5750

Ser 289

25 MAY 1972

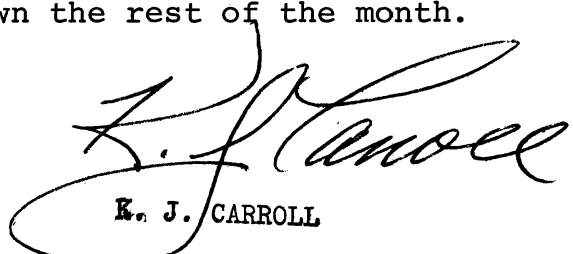
From: Commanding Officer, USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC19)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)  
Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-1); submission of  
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

1. In accordance with reference (a), subject report is submitted for the period 1 January 1971 to 31 December 1971.

a. Command Organization. Commanding Officer: Captain Kent J. CARROLL, U. S. Navy, 14 November 1970 - 31 December 1971.

b. Summary of Operations. BLUE RIDGE left her place of construction and commissioning, the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, on 11 February, stopping at Norfolk 15 February for her initial ammunition outfitting. She headed for her home port of San Diego around South America (through the Strait of Magellan) rather than through the Panama Canal, thus affording a rather unique shakedown cruise. BLUE RIDGE paid visits to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (4-6 March), Lima, Peru (20-22 March), Panama, Canal Zone (27-28 March), and Acapulco, Mexico (2-5 April). She arrived in San Diego on 9 April. The remainder of the year was spent in local operations around the Southern California area, highlighted by Command Post Exercises 3-7 May and 11-13 August. Refresher training was conducted in late June and early July. BLUE RIDGE acted as amphibious task force and landing force flagship for the major amphibious training exercise of the year, ROPEVAL WESTCO (3-71), from 8-16 September. From 11 October to 19 November she was in the Long Beach Naval Shipyard for Post Shakedown availability, followed by class trials from 6-10 December and holiday stand-down the rest of the month.

Copy to:  
COMPHIBPAC

  
K. J. CARROLL