



USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)

FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO 96628

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22 March 1982

From: Commanding Officer, USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH) Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374

1981

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

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

- Encl: (1) Addendum No 1 - Distinguished Visitors during calendar year 1981
(2) Addendum No 2 - Underway Replenishments and Vertical Replenishments During Calendar Year 1981
(3) Addendum No 3 - Ammunition Expended During Calendar Year 1981
(4) Portrait of CAPT J. D. Chamberlain, USN
(5) Officer Biography of CAPT J. D. Chamberlain, USN
(6) Family Grams Produced During Calendar Year 1981
(7) Official Welcome Aboard Brochure Used During Calendar Year 1981

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following Command History is submitted for the period of 1 January 1981 through 31 December 1981.

a. Command Organization. Commanding Officer: CAPT John D. Chamberlain, USN, from 1 January through 31 December 1981.

b. Summary of Operations:

BLUE RIDGE, now well established in her role as Flagship of Commander SEVENTH Fleet, started the new year in her homeport of Yokosuka, Japan. Moored at Berth Fifteen for five weeks of maintenance by Ship's Force and Ship Repair Facility, Yokosuka the ship was completing the final phase of the Third Incremental Overhaul. On 12 January BLUE RIDGE was ready once again to carry out her mission in the Western Pacific. Underway for Hong Kong, BCC, the ship arrived on the Seventeenth for a five-day visit. Leaving for the Philippines, 22 January, BLUE RIDGE arrived two days later. After a missile onload at Nabasan Wharf, Subic Bay, the ship shifted to Alava Pier for a short upkeep period. On 2 February BLUE RIDGE embarked various officials and guests for a half-day cruise to Manila, capital of the Philippines. Remaining in Manila for five days hosting and visiting civilian and naval officials, the ship departed 7 February for Okinawa, JA. Arriving the morning of 10 February BLUE RIDGE quickly embarked the Commanders of CTF-76 and CTF-79 and their staffs for a short Command Post Exercise (CPX) in preparation for the Amphibious Exercise, TEAM SPIRIT 81. The following morning the Amphibious and Landing Force staffs disembarked and the ship proceeded home to Yokosuka. Shortly before noon on 13 February, BLUE RIDGE arrived in Yokosuka, JA, for a short upkeep and to prepare for TEAM SPIRIT 81. On 2 March BLUE RIDGE was underway again en route Okinawa, JA. Arriving 5 March the ship embarked the staffs of CTF-76 and CTF-79 and proceeded to anchorage to await the arrival of the other TEAM SPIRIT 81 exercise participants. Upon completion of the Amphibious Embarkation, BLUE RIDGE was underway 9 March formation steaming with eleven other ships en route to Pohang, KS, while

participating as Amphibious Command Ship in Exercise TEAM SPIRIT 81. Several days of formation steaming with tactical maneuvering provided the ship with excellent tactical experience after months of independent steaming. Anchoring 11 March off Pohang, the ship was underway the next day for the LCC Operating Area where extensive helicopter operations were conducted. On 13 March BLUE RIDGE anchored and hosted a meeting of all TF-76 Commanding Officers. Later that afternoon, the TEAM SPIRIT 81 participants were underway again and BLUE RIDGE took station in her assigned OPAREA. Steaming in company with TEAM SPIRIT 81 participants in the evening, the ships were forced to anchor due to unsafe conditions presented by a thick fog. After several hours, the fog had cleared sufficiently to continue formation steaming. On the Nineteenth BLUE RIDGE anchored for a few days in the assigned LCC OPAREA, and then was underway 21 March for Inchon, KS. TEAM SPIRIT 81 was completed and judged a success, with valuable training experience gained by BLUE RIDGE and other participants. 23 March found BLUE RIDGE negotiating the long sea detail up to Inchon in heavy fog. The fog began clearing just before arrival and the ship anchored safely to spend five days visiting Inchon and Seoul, capital of South Korea. Underway 28 March for Okinawa, BLUE RIDGE arrived at Buckner Bay on the Thirtieth. The ship disembarked the staffs of CTF-76 and CTF-79 and embarked the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV). After INSURV pre-underway checks were completed, BLUE RIDGE was en route on the afternoon of 30 March to Yokosuka, JA. INSURV was completed satisfactorily and the ship moored starboard side to Yokosuka, JA, on 1 April. On 6 April BLUE RIDGE commenced the Fourth Incremental Overhaul and off-loaded ammunition at anchorage in preparation for drydock period. That same day the ship returned to Berth Eight, and was moved to Drydock Number Five, SRF Yokosuka, the following day. At 1157 on 9 April the dock had been pumped out and BLUE RIDGE was resting on keel blocks. Significant repair work accomplished during drydock period included the following: the hull was sandblasted, primed and painted, the SLQ-32 electronic warfare suite was installed, the majority of the Collection and Holding Tank (CHT) System was installed, and major habitability improvements were made. On 21 May the drydock was flooded, the caisson was removed, and at 1430 the bow cleared the sill. The ship was moved back to Berth Eight and Dock Trials were successfully conducted on 28 May to put the finishing touch on an ambitious but punctual overhaul. A Fast Cruise was conducted on 4 June, and on 8 June BLUE RIDGE went to anchorage to onload ammunition en route to sea for Post Repair Trials. The ship returned from Sea Trials 11 June, and the next day dependents and various Navy and Japanese officials embarked for a half-day Guest Cruise.

On Monday morning, 15 June, the ship embarked the Fleet Training Group, Western Pacific, and proceeded to the local operating area for a one week Training Assist. Various drills were conducted, finishing with a precision anchorage and mooring on the afternoon of the Nineteenth. Over the weekend, Japanese and U. S. Navy Midshipmen reported aboard for summer training and on 22 June BLUE RIDGE and JDS SHIRANE (DDH-147) were underway for the Annual U. S./Japanese Sister-Ship Operations. Tactical exercises were run between the ships around-the-clock to maximize the Two-Navy operational concept. En route to Beppu, JA, the ships encountered near-gale conditions with high winds and heavy seas; however, both ships arrived safely in the Kyushu city of Beppu, Japan, and anchored 24 June. On 27 June BLUE RIDGE and SHIRANE (translated "White Ridge") departed Beppu for Kagoshima, JA, also on the island of Kyushu. After a day of more exercises and tactical maneuvering, SHIRANE led the way into Kagoshima and anchored while BLUE RIDGE moored at Taniyama Pier. The ship was open for General

Visiting (over 4,000 visitors) and hosted a reception on board before leaving 2 July for Sasebo, JA. After the one-day transit up the western coast of Kyushu, both ships moored in India Basin on 3 July and enjoyed a Fourth of July celebration with a picnic and sports activities the following day. Departing Sasebo on 7 July for the final leg of the cruise, both ships pursued an extensive underway exercise program, including high-line transfers with BLUE RIDGE sending one day and receiving the next. BLUE RIDGE followed SHIRANE into Yokosuka 10 July and the ship began a short upkeep period a few days later. By 30 July the ship had received another group of midshipmen, completed the upkeep and the in-port portion of Mobile Team Training (MTT) Phase I. Underway that day for the at-sea portion of MTT Phase I, BLUE RIDGE returned the evening of 31 July. On 3 August, after a few days in port, BLUE RIDGE was underway for Hong Kong, BCC. Forced to deviate from the original track due to reports of Tropical Storm Roy, the ship passed through the Babuyan Channel just north of Luzon and still made it to Hong Kong 8 August on schedule. Moored starboard side to HMS TAMAR for five days, the ship enjoyed the visit and hosted several officials. Leaving 13 August for Singapore, the ship arrived on the Seventeenth and moored at the World Trade Center, remaining until 21 August, before heading for Penang, MY. On August Twenty-Second, the ship anchored in Penang. Offered an alongside berth, BLUE RIDGE shifted to Swettenham Pier the next day. Problems caused by clogged sea suction due to excessive harbor pollution at the berth forced the ship to move back to anchorage the following day. Underway 26 August for Subic Bay, BLUE RIDGE negotiated the Malacca and Singapore Straits. Arriving 31 August the ship loaded ammunition at Nabasan Wharf and then moved to Alava Pier, Subic Bay. BLUE RIDGE remained in Subic for upkeep and was honored by the visit of ADM Thomas B. HAYWARD, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, on 4 September. MTT Phase II commenced 6 September when the ship got underway for Yokosuka. En route, BLUE RIDGE received a distress signal on 10 September and maneuvered to assist "Eternal Green", a merchant on fire. On 12 September the ship arrived back in Yokosuka, and on 15 September VADM M. Staser HOLCOMB relieved VADM Carlisle A. H. TROST as Commander SEVENTH Fleet. The ship went out into Sagami Wan near Yokosuka 25 September for the Operational Plant Re-Certification Evaluation (OPPRE). OPPRE was completed successfully and BLUE RIDGE returned home on 27 September for a six-week Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) at SRF Yokosuka.

On 9 November the ship was underway for Post-SRA Sea Trials. Upon successful completion of Sea Trials, BLUE RIDGE returned to Yokosuka the following noon for the week-end before leaving again 13 November for Buckner Bay. Embarking the staffs of CTF-76 and CTF-79 16 November, BLUE RIDGE participated in the Command Post Exercise 82-1. After successful completion and disembarkation of CTF-76 and CTF-79 staffs on 19 November, the ship was underway for Subic Bay, RP. Arriving 22 November BLUE RIDGE successfully completed a Command Inspection by Commander Naval Surface Group Western Pacific under the threat of an approaching typhoon. 24 November saw all ships inport Subic Bay, including BLUE RIDGE, sortie to evade the typhoon. BLUE RIDGE returned to Subic Bay the next day, after the storm had passed, and enjoyed the Thanksgiving Holiday before leaving 27 November for Sasebo, JA. En route to Sasebo, the ship conducted a token UNREP with USNS NAVASOTA (T-AO-106), and other training evolutions. Arriving 2 December and mooring in India Basin, BLUE RIDGE visited Sasebo for three days before leaving for Fukuoka, JA. After a half-day transit, the ship anchored overnight to enter Fukuoka the next day. 6 December saw general visit-

ing and other protocol events occupying much of the ship's time. Upon completion of the port visit on 9 December, BLUE RIDGE departed for Pusan, KS. Following another half-day transit the ship anchored overnight again, and entered Pusan the next day, 10 December. Leaving 14 December BLUE RIDGE proceeded to Yokosuka where she arrived 17 December and moored starboard side to Berth Eight, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, remaining through the New Year to enjoy the holidays and a period of leave and upkeep.



J. D. CHAMBERLAIN

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COMNAVSURFPAC
COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC
CINCPACFLT

ADDENDUM NO. 2

UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENTS AND VERTICAL REPLENISHMENTS
DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1981

DATE: 10 Mar 1981

TYPE: TOKEN UNREP (STA 2 & 6)

SHIP: USS ASHTABULA (AO-51)

DATE: 8 JUL 1981

TYPE: UNREP (PERSONNEL TRANSFER) (DUMMY) (SEND) (STA 3)

SHIP: JMSDF SHIRANE (DDH-143)

DATE: 9 JUL 1981

TYPE: UNREP (PERSONNEL TRANSFER) (DUMMY) (RECEIVE) (STA 3)

SHIP: JMSDF SHIRANE (DDH-143)

DATE: 27 NOV 1981

TYPE: VERTICAL REPLENISHMENT (MISSILES)

SHIP: CH-46 CUBI PT, RP

DATE: 27 NOV 1981

TYPE: TOKEN UNREP (STA 1 & 5)

SHIP: USNS NAVASOTA (TAO-106)

ADDENDUM NO. 3

AMMUNITION EXPENDED
DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1981

MT 31 (LEFT GUN)

15 JAN 1981 10 Rounds
23 JUN 1981 3
8 JUL 1981 5
10 SEP 1981 10
1 DEC 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 34

MT 32 (LEFT GUN)

15 JAN 1981 5 Rounds
23 JUN 1981 3
8 JUL 1981 5
10 Sep 1981 10
1 Dec 1981 5

TOTAL ROUNDS: 28

GRAND TOTAL ROUNDS EXPENDED: 123

MISSILES: NO MISSILES FIRED, NO MISSILES EXPENDED.

MT 31 (RIGHT GUN)

15 JAN 1981 10 Rounds
23 JUN 1981 3
8 JUL 1981 5
10 SEP 1981 10

TOTAL ROUNDS: 28

MT 32 (RIGHT GUN)

15 JAN 1981 10 Rounds
23 JUN 1981 3
8 JUL 1981 5
10 SEP 1981 9
1 DEC 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 33

SUPER RBOC

LAUNCHER #1

8 JUNE 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 6

LAUNCHER #3

8 JUNE 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 6

GRAND TOTAL ROUNDS EXPENDED: 24

LAUNCHER #2

8 JUNE 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 6

LAUNCHER #4

8 JUNE 1981 6

TOTAL ROUNDS: 6

Enclosure (3)

ADDENDUM NO.1

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1981

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
17 January	Calls by CAPT A. A. WAUGH, Captain in Charge, Hong Kong; Mr. R. C. SMITH, Counselor, Canadian Commission; Mr. G. J. KLINTWORTH, First Secretary, Australian Commission; Mr. T. E. LLOYD, General Manager (Far East), South Carolina State Port Authority.
3 February	Calls by CAPT J. B. BALBIN, CO RPS ANG PANGULO: CAPT B. R. SUAREZ, Deputy Commandant, Philippine Coast Guard; CAPT R. C. STRANGE, U. S. Naval Attache, American Embassy, Manila; CDR R. S. ANTOS, PN, Manager, Manila Port.
24 March	Calls by RADM YU In Chu, ROKN, Commander FIFTH Sector, ROK Navy; COMMO CHANGI So Hu, Commander Intelligence Unit, ROKN; Mr. Lee Hoi Rim, President, Inchon Chamber of Commerce; Mr. CHO Dong Hwon, Vice Mayor, Inchon, Korea; Mr. LEE Yong Rin, Defense Security Command, Korea.
7 April	Visit by MGEN ROCKWELL, CINCPAC Director for C ³ .
10 April	Visit by CAPT K. KOTAKI, Director of Second Education Second Service School, JMSDF.
12 June	CAPT BADEMAN, Chief of Staff, Commander Naval Forces Japan, CAPT LEHMBERG, Commander Submarine Group SEVEN; CAPT CARR, CO NRMC; Yokosuka CAPT DOERR, Commander Destroyer Squadron FIFTEEN; CAPT LAWLER, CO USNAF Atsugi, Mr. G. I. PURDY, President, American Chamber of Commerce embarked for the Guest Cruise.
24 June	Visits by CAPT Tohru IWASAWA, CO SHIRANE; COL Tomihiro UMEYAMA, Commander 41st Infantry Regiment; and Mr. KAWANO, Chief of Maritime Safety, Beppu, Japan
29 June	Calls by CAPT Yoichi TASAKI, Chief of Police (Central), Kagoshima, Mr. Sueo MAUIZONO, Commander Kagoshima Prefecture Liason Office.
3 July	Calls by Mr. Yoshitoshi TOMONAGA, Chief, Maritime Safety, Sasebo; Mr. Kenji IBA, Chief of Sasebo Defense Facility Administrative Office; Dr. Yoshihisa TOMOHIRO, Director, Dojinkai Hospital; and CDR W. G. NORCROSS, USN, CSO FLEACT Sasebo.
10 July	Call by CAPT WATAOKA, JMSDF Liason Officer.
13 July	Visit by RADM D. P. ROANE, COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC.

8 August Visit by Mr. John MURPHY, Managing Director, Far East Airways, Kai Tak International Airport.

12 August Visits by Mr. Harry WONG, Account Executive; Mr. David TANG, General Manager, Yat Ming Medicine Co., LTD; and Mr. KWEK Lim Ng, Managing Director, Trans-Meridian.

4 September Visit by ADM T. B. HAYWARD, USN, Chief of Naval Operations.

14 September Visit by ADM J. D. WATKINS, USN, CINCPACFLT.

18 September Visit by LCDR N. N. CARROL, USN, CO USS GRAYBACK.

25 September Visit by CAPT W. FARNHAM, USN, Senior Member, CINCPACFLT PEB.

29 September Call by LTGEN HILSMAN, Director, Defense Communications Agency

23 October Visit by MCPON T. S. CROW, USN, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy.

2 November Visit by RADM H. D. ARNOLD, USN, COMNAVELEXSYSCOM.

27 November Visit by RADM D. P. ROANE, USN, COMNAVSURFGRU WESTPAC.

2 December Call by Mr. Takechi NODA, Vice Mayor, Sasebo City, Mr. Keiji IBA, Chief of Defense Facility Administration Office; Dr. Uko TOMINAGA, Director, Central Hospital; Dr. Taro NANAKUMA, President, Nishi Nippon Food Service Center; Dr. Yoshihisa TOMOHIRO, Director, Dojinkai Hospital; Mr. Masanori TAMUKA, Chief of Police, Sasebo City; and CAPT N. HASAI, CO JDS IWASE.

6 December Visits by Ms. Marilyn MEYERS, U. S. Consul General, Fukuoka; Honorary Consul Tsukasa SHISHIMA of Italy; Honorary Consul Perry S. MIHARA of the U. K. and Sweden; Honorary Consul Hiroshi YASUKAWA of Brazil; and Dr. Toshisuke MATSUURA, Director, Jonan Hospital, Miyazaki Prefecture

7 December Call by LTGEN Toshiyuki IMADA, Commander 4th Division JGSDF, MGEN Makoto YOFU, Chief Fukuoka District, SDF Liason Office.

10 December Call by COL R. C. CLOY, CO U. S. Army Garrison, Hialeah

31 December Visit by His Eminence Terrence Cardinal COOKE, Military Vicar and Military Ordinariate.

Enclosure (1)