



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CLEVELAND (LPD - 7)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO 96662

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5 APR 1984

From: Commanding Officer, USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20390

Subj: Command History, CY 1983; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Chronology of Major Operations, January-December 1983
(2) Roster of officers serving in USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)
during CY 1983.
(3) Biography of Captain Roger B. McPHERSON, USN
(4) Biography of Captain Barton E. BACON III, USN
(5) Welcome Aboard pamphlet
(6) Change of Command Pamphlet

1. In accordance with reference (a) enclosures (1) through (6)
are submitted.



B. E. BACON

Copy to:
CHNAVOP

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CHRONOLOGY OF OPERATIONS, USS CLEVELAND 1983

- 01 JAN - 03 MAR Pierside Repair Availability (PRAV) at Pier 10, Naval Station San Diego. Work included communication and tactical equipment overhauls, well deck renovation, numerous engineering plant jobs, repainting of topside spaces & hull, and habitability renovation.
- 17 JAN Heavy corrosion discovered in the ship's four Ship's Service Turbine Generators. Inoperative drain valves resulted in standing water inside the housings, which caused the corrosion. Repair efforts delayed the ship from getting underway. Original plans calling for MTT and OPPE Training were changed, with underway time rescheduled to 2 May after repairs were completed. A Ship Alteration Form was submitted, suggesting changes in the design of the drainage valves to allow visual inspection of the valves to insure that they are operating properly.
- 09-13 MAY USS CLEVELAND conducted Amphibious Refresher Training (PHIBREFTRA) in preparation for her upcoming WestPac deployment. CLEVELAND demonstrated her ability to successfully conduct amphibious operations. Successful completion of PHIBREFTRA has been noted with an overall grade of EXCELLENT. During the course of PHIBREFTRA, an amphibious landing craft (VP-3) was accidentally sunk in high surf off Silver Strand Beach, Coronado. The craft was damaged beyond repair during salvage operations.
- 14-22 MAY Conducted Mobile Team Training (MTT), Phase ONE, while inport San Diego.
- 23-28 MAY Underway for training in the Southern California operating area.

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30 MAY - 02 JUN Ammunition Onload at Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, Long Beach, CA. USS CLEVELAND left San Diego at 1800 30 May, arrived Seal Beach 31 May. The ammo onload took two days, after which CLEVELAND anchored off the coast on 1 June to strike the ammunition below. CLEVELAND returned to San Diego 1530 2 June.

03-08 JUN Inport San Diego

09-10 JUN Underway Southern California Operating Area, for training in preparation for Refresher Training.

11-12 JUN Inport San Diego

13-24 JUN Refresher Training (Ship was inport the weekend of 18-19 June). The ship received a grade of "Satisfactory" in all areas, and passed all elements of REFTRA with the exception of the Major Conflagration Exercise.

25- 28 JUN Inport San Diego. Began MTT Phase II on 26 June.

29 JUN - 01 JUL Underway for Santa Cruz, California as Visit Ship for the city's Independence Day celebrations. Concluded MTT Phase II during the transit and arrived at Santa Cruz on 1 July.

01 - 05 JUL Anchored off the coast of Santa Cruz as Independence Day Visit Ship for the city. Scheduled tours were cancelled due to hazardous boating conditions. Heavy ground swells made personnel transfer between the ship's lowered stern gate to the MIKE 8 boat hazardous. A reception for city VIPs was held on 1 July. Additionally, Naval Sea Cadets and Sea Scout groups visited the ship. The ship remained highly visible to the public, anchored off one of the city's main beach areas during the entire three-day weekend. CLEVELAND's color guard detachment participated in several

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local Independence Day events, and the presence of the ship generated strong local media interest.

05-07 JUL

Underway to San Diego.

07-08 JUL

Embarked units of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) of the U.S. Army's 160th Aviation Battalion (Assault Helos), for amphibious training. The training was conducted while CLEVELAND was anchored off the Silver Strand Beach, Coronado, CA.

09-28 JUL

Inport San Diego.

25 JUL

Conducted Operational Propulsion Plant Readiness Examination. The ship failed the examination, and another OPPRE was rescheduled.

29 JUL

Underway for degaussing run at Ballast Point. Returned to San Diego the same day, mooring at Pier 6.

30 JUL-01 AUG

Inport San Diego

02-12 AUG

Underway for READIEX 83-5 in the Southern California Operating area. Embarked units of BeachMaster Unit ONE (BMU-1) and Marine Service Support Group SEVENTEEN (MSSG-17). CLEVELAND Conducted MTT training (Phase I) during 3-11 August. The ship also conducted amphibious operations off Camp Pendleton and San Nicholas Island during the week of 8-12 AUG.

13 AUG-10 SEPT

Inport San Diego

8 SEPT

Underway for degaussing run, engineering checks and ammunition onload while anchored off the Silver Strand.

12 SEPT

Underway for WestPac 83-84 as part of Amphibious Squadron SEVEN. Enroute to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii with units of Amphibious Squadron SEVEN. Conducted and passed Operational Propulsion Plant Readiness Examination enroute.

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19 - 22 SEPT Inport Pearl Harbor. Onloaded USMC Fox Company and Bravo Battery of Battalion Landing Team 2/3.

23 - 26 SEPT Underway for Operation Bell Volcano in the Hawaii area with units of PHIBRON SEVEN.

27 SEPT - 02 OCT Inport Pearl Harbor

02 OCT Underway for Subic Bay, Philippines.
04 OCT Inchop to SEVENTHFLT.

14 OCT Participated in the training exercise Operation BEACHGUARD 83 with units of PHIBRON SEVEN's Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) ALPHA on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima. Upon completion of exercise, resumed transit for Subic Bay, R.P.

18 - 21 OCT Inport Subic Bay, Philippines

21 OCT Underway for Fremantle, Australia as a unit of ARG ALPHA.

25 OCT Turnover with PHIBRON ONE near Singapore. Later in the day the starboard screw struck a log, causing significant damage. USMC personnel and equipment embarked in CLEVELAND were transferred to other units of ARG ALPHA. Ship was detached from the Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) and sent to Singapore for drydock repairs to the starboard screw.

27 OCT Arrive Singapore.

28 OCT Entered drydock at Singapore for repairs. A replacement screw had been ordered, but later inspection determined that the damaged screw was repairable, and replacement wasn't necessary. While in drydock, numerous other maintenance and repair jobs were accomplished, including the replacement of an expansion joint, repair of leaks in both of the ship's main condensers, and complete sandblasting and repainting of the ship's hull.

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07 NOV Underway on an east-southeast course to briefly cross the equator. The appropriate "crossing the line" ceremonies were held on 8 November, after which the ship turned north to transit the Malacca Straits enroute to Phuket, Thailand for a brief liberty stop.

11 - 17 NOV Anchored off Pa Tong Beach, Phuket, Thailand for liberty.

15 NOV 21 CLEVELAND crewmen volunteered their time to paint the Bankalin School in Pa Tong Beach, Thailand as part of Project Handclasp. American schoolbooks, medical supplies, toys, clothes and food were also donated to the school.

17 NOV Underway for Singapore to rejoin ARG ALPHA.

19 NOV Rejoined ARG ALPHA, re-embarked USMC Fox Company and Bravo Battery of Battalion Landing Team 2/3.

21 - 29 NOV Inport Singapore for upkeep.

25 NOV Prospective Commanding Officer, CAPT. Barton E. BACON III arrives on board at 0400.

29 NOV. Underway for Pattaya Beach, Thailand.

01 DEC Arrive Pattaya Beach, Thailand. The ship anchored off the coast with other units of PHIBRON SEVEN.

02 DEC CAPT. Barton E. BACON III assumes command of USS CLEVELAND. CAPT. R. B. MCPHERSON departs the ship.

5-10 DEC Transit to Subic Bay, R.P.

8-9 DEC Participated in LANDEX '83, an amphibious landing exercise at Green Beach, Subic Bay.

10-26 DEC Inport Subic Bay, R.P. for upkeep.

19 DEC Conducted MTT Phase I.

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26 DEC

Underway for Hong Kong

27 DEC- 02 JAN 1984

Moored to a buoy, Hong Kong Harbor. The ship visited the city for liberty.

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