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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-0989), Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY 1991
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Ship's Description
(2) Ship's History and combat experience
(3) Commanding Officer's biography
(4) Executive Officer's biography
(5) Chronology of major operations for CY 1991
(6) List of awards presented for CY 1991
(7) COMPHIBRON NINE NAVGRAM 29 JAN 91
(8) PACFLT PEB SAN DIEGO CA 012209Z FEB 91
(9) SAN DIEGO NAVY DISPATCH 06 APR 91
(10) COMNAVSURFPAC SAN DIEGO CA 101612Z APR 91
(11) COMPHIBGRU THREE 012020Z MAY 91
(12) COMNAVSURFPAC SAN DIEGO CA 220220Z JUN 91
(13) COMNAVSURFPAC SAN DIEGO CA NAVGRAM 08 AUG 91
(14) USS CLEVELAND 051530Z SEP 91
(15) CTF ONE FIVE SIX 211115Z SEP 91
(16) USS CLEVELAND 031410Z OCT 91
(17) COMUSNAVCENT 271528Z OCT 91
(18) CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI 301856Z OCT 91
(19) COMSEVENTHFLT 081105Z NOV 91
(20) CTF SEVEN SIX 100405Z NOV 91
(21) COMPHIBRON NINE 261400Z DEC 91
(22) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(23) Photo of USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (23) are submitted as USS CLEVELAND's Command History for Calender Year 1991.

[Signature]
P. E. HOBSON

DESCRIPTION

Commissioned in April 1967, at Norfolk VA., USS CLEVELAND is the seventh in a series of LPD's designed to add a dimension to the Navy's troop and vehicle lift capability.

Designated a Amphibious Transport Dock, this ship is a direct descendant of the Dock Landing Ship (LSD) of WORLD WAR TWO. Included in the ship's specification are features of the LPA (AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT), the AKA (AMPHIBIOUS CARGO SHIP), and the LPH (AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT SHIP). The CLEVELAND boasts a flight deck (LPH), well deck (LSD), troop carrying ability (LPA), and cargo handling capability (LKA). In addition to these standard features, the ship is flag configured and provides spaces for an amphibious commander and an assault troop commander.

CLEVELAND's assault forces can be disembarked via helicopter or landing craft carried in the well deck. Intrinsically a part of the well deck operation is the ballasting system, which makes possible a maximum depth of twelve feet of water in the after portion of the deck and five feet in the forward section. An accessory to the well deck operation is an overhead monorail crane system which permits rapid loading and unloading of palletized cargo at almost every point in the well deck and upper vehicle storage area.

The late 1980's saw CLEVELAND become Marine Expeditionary Unit Special Operations Capable (MEUSOC). MEUSOC operations include Navy Seal Team and Marine Reconnaissance Team insertions. These insertions are carried out with small Rigid Raider Craft (RRC) and Combat Rubber Raider Craft (CRRC). The RRC's are inserted into the water with launch and recovery devices (LRD's) which are assembled and mounted on the sterngate in the well deck. The CRRC's are hand carried to the sterngate and inserted by lowering the sterngate into the water. Additionally, CLEVELAND has been fitted to carry two additional small boats, increasing its capability to four boats on deck.

Although not specifically designed for helicopter transportation, CLEVELAND's recently expanded flight deck is large enough to permit simultaneous operation of four medium sized helicopters and can land a helicopter as large as the CH-53E. Other features include limited repair and maintenance for helicopters, a telescoping hangar, refueling rigs for aviation fuels, troop debarkation stations from the second deck troop stations to the catwalks, and primary debarkation control, which provides a centralized location for coordination and control of the offloading of men and material ashore.

During her Latest Docked Phased Maintenance Availability CLEVELAND's well deck was modified to receive the Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC). This modification allows CLEVELAND to stay at the forefront of amphibious community by conducting over the horizon amphibious operations.

USS CLEVELAND is 561 feet long, has a maximum beam of 113 feet, and has a navigation draft of 24 feet, six inches. Full load displacement is 16,500 tons. The ship is armed with two twin 3-inch/50 caliber rapid fire mounts.

ENCLOSURE(1)

HISTORY

USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7) was commissioned in April 1967 at Norfolk, Virginia. CLEVELAND is the third ship to be named after the City of Cleveland, Ohio. The first was a protected Cruiser (C-19) from 1903-1929 and the second a light Cruiser (CL-55) from 1942-1947.

Subsequent to commissioning, CLEVELAND changed homeport to San Diego, California where she became a member of the Pacific Fleet Amphibious Forces. CLEVELAND has divided her time between local operations in the Eastern Pacific and deployments to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean. CLEVELAND was usually assigned as part of the Amphibious Readiness Group and, with her embarked Marines, acted as an integral part of the U.S. military effort in Southeast Asia. In addition to participating in numerous amphibious and combat support operations, the ship served as Flagship for Commander Amphibious Force, U.S. Seventh Fleet.

Deploying on her fourth WESTPAC Cruise in July 1972, CLEVELAND continued to demonstrate her versatility. In August, AH-1J "Cobra" attack helicopters were embarked for amphibious operations off North Vietnam. In early December, the ship sailed to Okinawa, disembarked the Cobra detachment and embarked elements of the Marine Battalion Landing Team 1/9. During this period, CLEVELAND served as Flagship for Amphibious Readiness Group Commander.

Upon the Vietnam cease-fire in January 1973, CLEVELAND joined Task Force 78 in the mine-clearing effort of Haiphong Harbor, Operation End Sweep, followed by return to San Diego on 28 April 1973. CLEVELAND's next Western Pacific Deployments were from April to November 1974, April to November 1976, March to October 1978 and January to July 1980.

From April to October 1982, CLEVELAND again deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean for her ninth deployment. During this deployment, CLEVELAND participated in RIMPAC '82 and COBRA Gold '82, a joint operation with the Royal Thai Navy. CLEVELAND completed two more deployments from September 1983 to March 1984 and August 1985 to December 1985.

CLEVELAND then completed an extensive overhaul period in Long Beach and returned to San Diego in December 1986, assuming duties as Flagship for Commander Third Fleet in January 1988 and served until November 1988. Upon completion of Flagship duties, CLEVELAND completed a three month Phased Maintenance Availability at Southwest Marine in San Diego. After the PMA, CLEVELAND assisted in the Exxon Oil Spill cleanup efforts and prepared for her 12th WESTPAC, which commenced in January 1990.

Upon completion of WESTPAC 90 CLEVELAND underwent an extensive five month Docking Phased Maintenance Availability (DPMA) at Southwest Marine San Diego. After a compressed work-up schedule, CLEVELAND set sail on her 13th deployment on 01 June 91 in support of OPERATION DESERT STORM. During her three months in the Persian Gulf and North Arabian Sea, CLEVELAND participated as Primary Control Officer/Primary Control Ship (PCO/PCS) in one of two amphibious exercises off the coast of United Arab Emirates and was PCO/PCS for SEA SOLDIER V, an amphibious exercise off the coast of Oman. CLEVELAND returned from deployment in November and will conduct local operations and exercises into the new year.

CLEVELAND's 25 years of distinguished service has earned her three Meritorious Unit Citations, two Battle Efficiency Awards, Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and the Combat Action Ribbon.

ENCLOSURE(2)

CHRONOLOGY OF OPERATIONS, USS CLEVELAND 1991

01 JAN -15 FEB	- Docking Phased Maintenance Availability (DPMA), Southwest Marine (SWM); San Diego, Ca
14 - 18 JAN	- PLOE Phase II
30 JAN - 01 FEB	- Light-off Examination (LOE)
04 FEB	- Safety Standown
05 - 08 FEB	- Fastcruise; SWM, San Diego, Ca
11 - 13 FEB	- Seatrials, SOCAL
16 FEB - 10 MAR	- Upkeep; San Diego, Ca
19 - 22 FEB	- Aviation Readiness Evaluation
05 - 08 MAR	- Nuclear Weapons Assist Team
11 MAR	- ISE; SOCAL
12 - 13 MAR	- AMMO ONLOAD; SEAL BEACH
14 - 22 MAR	- TYT; SOCAL
23 - 31 MAR	- UPKEEP; San Diego, Ca
01 APR - 07 APR	- UPKEEP; San Diego, Ca
02 APR	- Environmental Health Survey
08 - 12 APR	- REFTRA Assist; SOCAL
13 - 15 APR	- UPKEEP; San Diego, Ca
16 - 17 APR	- ISIC Engineering Readiness Evaluation (IERA); SOCAL
18 - 19 APR	- UPKEEP; San Diego, Ca
20 - 25 APR	- Amphibious Refresher Training (Assist); SOCAL
24 - 25 APR	- Air Amphibious Refresher Training; SOCAL
26 - 29 APR	- UPKEEP; San Diego, Ca
30 APR - 12 MAY	- Kernal Usher 91-1, SOCAL
13 - 31 MAY	- Pre-Overseas Movement; San Diego, Ca
01 - 06 JUN	- Transit; Enroute Pearl Harbor, HI
07 - 11 JUN	- Portvisit; Pearl Harbor, HI
12 - 24 JUN	- Transit, Subic Bay, RP
18 JUN - 15 JUL	- Chop SEVENTHFLT AOR, Deployed WESTPAC 91
24 JUN	- Transited San Bernandino Straits, RP
25 - 27 JUN	- ISE Subic Opareas ISO Operation Fiery Vigil
28 - 29 JUN	- Multisail; Enroute Hong Kong
29 JUN - 05 JUL	- Port visit: Hong Kong
05 - 17 JUL	- Multisail; Enroute Arabian Gulf
15 JUL	- Chop COMUSNAVCENT
15 JUL - 30 SEP	- Operation Desert Storm
18 JUL	- Turnover with USS Denver
19 JUL	- Transit Straits of Hormuz
20 JUL - 31 JUL	- Al Hamra Amphibious Training I, South Arabian Gulf
31 JUL - 04 AUG	- Multisail; South Arabian Gulf
05 - 09 AUG	- Port visit; Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
10 - 12 AUG	- Multisail; South Arabian Gulf
13 - 19 AUG	- Al Hamra Amphibious Training II, South Arabian Gulf
20 - 22 AUG	- Multisail/Training Ops; Central Arabian Gulf
23 AUG - 03 SEP	- UPKEEP; Jebel Ali, United Arab Emirates
04 - 23 SEP	- Multisail; Central Arabian Gulf
23 SEP	- Transit Straits of Hormuz
24 SEP	- Enroute Muscat, Oman
25 - 30 SEP	- Port visit; Muscat, Oman

ENCLOSURE(5)

30 SEP - 01 OCT	- Advance Force Operations, North Arabian Sea
02 - 09 OCT	- Operation Sea Soldier V, North Arabian Sea
10 - 17 OCT	- Multisail; Gulf of Oman
17 OCT	- Turnover with COMPHIBRON TWO and USS NASHVILLE
17 - 24 OCT	- Multisail; Straits of Mallaca
20 OCT	- Inchop Seventh Fleet
24 - 26 OCT	- Detached to transit to Penang, Malaysia
26 - 30 OCT	- Port visit; Penang, Malaysia
31 OCT	- Transit Straits of Mallaca
01 - 18 NOV	- Multisail; Pearl Harbor, HI
18 NOV	- Inport; Pearl Harbor, HI
19 - 25 NOV	- Multisail; SOCAL
26 NOV	- Offload; Camp Pendleton, Ca
27 NOV - 27 DEC	- Post Deployment Leave and Upkeep; San Diego, Ca
28 - 31 DEC	- Holiday Leave and Upkeep; San Diego, Ca

AWARDS PRESENTED DURING 1991

The following personnel were promoted under the Command Advancement Program:

PN1 [REDACTED]	BT2 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]	PN3 [REDACTED]

The following personnel were awarded a Flag Letter of Commendation:

PN1 [REDACTED]	SM2 [REDACTED]	BT1 [REDACTED]
RM2 [REDACTED]	DC2 [REDACTED]	ABF3 [REDACTED]
DT3 [REDACTED]	HT2 [REDACTED]	MS1 [REDACTED]
QMC [REDACTED]	SK2 [REDACTED]	RM3 [REDACTED]
ET2 [REDACTED]	SN [REDACTED]	BT3 [REDACTED]
SHCS [REDACTED]	PC1 [REDACTED]	YN2 [REDACTED]
OS2 [REDACTED]	GMG2 [REDACTED]	MM3 [REDACTED]
BM2 [REDACTED]	YNSN [REDACTED]	MS2 [REDACTED]
SKC [REDACTED]	MM3 [REDACTED]	PN3 [REDACTED]
ET2 [REDACTED]	RM3 [REDACTED]	BT3 [REDACTED]
QM1 [REDACTED]	ABH1 [REDACTED]	MS1 [REDACTED]
RM2 [REDACTED]	DS1 [REDACTED]	HM3 [REDACTED]
RM3 [REDACTED]	AN [REDACTED]	HM3 [REDACTED]
SR [REDACTED]	HM2 [REDACTED]	BM2 [REDACTED]
HM3 [REDACTED]	HM3 [REDACTED]	HM3 [REDACTED]
SM1 [REDACTED]		

The following personnel were awarded the Navy Achievement Medal:

HT1 [REDACTED]	MMC [REDACTED]	MS1 [REDACTED]
PNC [REDACTED]	MS3 [REDACTED]	MS1 [REDACTED]
SH3 [REDACTED]	MM1 [REDACTED]	HM3 [REDACTED]
SK2 [REDACTED]	RM1 [REDACTED]	DK1 [REDACTED]
ABFC [REDACTED]	MM1 [REDACTED]	MM1 [REDACTED]
EN1 [REDACTED]	BT3 [REDACTED]	EN2 [REDACTED]
RMC [REDACTED]	MMCM [REDACTED]	*LTJG [REDACTED]
ET2 [REDACTED]	DCCM [REDACTED]	ENC [REDACTED]
ABF1 [REDACTED]	SK2 [REDACTED]	LT [REDACTED]
HM1 [REDACTED]	QM1 [REDACTED]	*PC1 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]	DT1 [REDACTED]	BT3 [REDACTED]

*From another command

The following personnel were awarded the Navy Commendation Medal:

ETC [REDACTED]	*YNCM [REDACTED]	*CW03 [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]	*NCC [REDACTED]	*LCDR [REDACTED]
LT [REDACTED]	LT [REDACTED]	GYSGT [REDACTED]
ETCM [REDACTED]		

*From another command

ENCLOSURE(6)

The following people were selected as USS CLEVELAND's Sailors of the Quarter:

SENIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

MS1(SW)

OS1(SW)

BT1(SW)

QM1(SW)

SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

BM2

PN1

OS2

MM3(SW)

JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER

MMFN

RMSN

FN

SKSA

MS1(SW/AW) [REDACTED] was selected as USS CLEVELAND's Sailor of the Year for 1991.