



Rec'd 6/13/94
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)
FPO AP 96662-1710

5757
Ser 017/290
31 MAY 1994

From: Commanding Officer, USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7)
To: Director of Naval History OP-0989), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, D.C. 20375-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY CALENDAR YEAR 1993

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Ship's Description
(2) Ship's History and Combat Experience
(3) Commanding Officer Biography
(4) Executive Officer Biography
(5) Chronology of Major Operations for Calendar Year 1993
(6) List of Awards presented for Calendar Year 1993
(7) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(8) Photograph of USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted as USS CLEVELAND's Command History for calendar year 1993.

T. S. Fellin
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USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7)

USS CLEVELAND is the seventh in a series of LPD's designed to add a new dimension to the Navy's troop and vehicle lift capability.

Designated an Amphibious Transport Dock, the new vessel is a direct descendant of the Landing Ship Dock (LSD) of World War II. Included in the ship's specifications are features of the APA (Attack Transport), the AKA (Attack Cargo Ship), and the LPH (Amphibious Assault Helicopter). The CLEVELAND boasts a flight deck (LPH), well deck (LSD), troop carrying ability (APA), and cargo handling capability (AKA). In addition to these standard features, the ship is flag configured and provides spaces for an amphibious commander and an assault troop commander.

CLEVELAND combatant personnel can be disembarked by landing craft carried in the stern 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.

Although not specifically designed for helicopter transportation, CLEVELAND's flight deck is large enough to permit simultaneous operation of two medium sized helicopters. 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.

USS CLEVELAND is 561 feet long, has a maximum beam of 113 feet, and has a navigational 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.

The CLEVELAND's allowance consists of 34 officers and 400 enlisted men. In addition, the ship can carry approximately 850 combat troops and 118 officers in the assault and flag force.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)

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SHIP'S HISTORY

USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7) was commissioned April 21, 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 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, then returned 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 overseas 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 Planned 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 (PMA) at Southwest Marine. 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 Oman. CLEVELAND returned from deployment in November and conducted local operations and exercises into the new year until entering a three month Planned Maintenance Availability at Southwest Marine in San Diego.

1992 saw CLEVELAND undertake a new mission while participating in Law Enforcement operations in the Southeast Pacific and Caribbean Sea from October - December. Cleveland undertook the same mission from March - June 1993. During this Counter-Narcotics operation, Cleveland participated in the arrest and seizure of M/V Sea Chariot and its crew after Coast Guard Law Enforcement officials determined it to be carry over 11,000 pounds of cocaine. Cleveland then escorted the vessel through the Panama Canal to a position off the coast of Miami, Florida before transferring control to Coast Guard personnel. This event marked the second largest maritime drug seizure in history. Additionally, Cleveland also participated in Non-Combatant Evacuation operation with the U.S. Army in Panama as well as Patrol and refueling exercises with Navy PHM's.

Cleveland has currently coupled local training and work-up operations in preparation for a June 1994 Deployment.

CLEVELAND's 25 years of distinguished service has earned her a Combat Action Ribbon, a Joint Meritorious Unit Award, three Meritorious Unit Citations, two Battle Efficiency Awards, National Defense Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, and Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

CHRONOLOGY OF OPERATIONS, USS CLEVELAND 1993

01 - 23 JAN	- HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD
24 JAN - 15 FEB	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
15 - 22 FEB	- ISE; NOCAL
18 - 20 FEB	- PORT VISIT; SAN FRANCISCO, CA
20 MAR	- DEPLOYED TO EASTERN PACIFIC AND CARRIBEAN IN SUPPORT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS
20 MAR	- TRANSIT TO EAST PAC OPAREA
28 MAR	- CHOP TO JOINT TASK FORCE FOUR
05 APR	- PORT VISIT; RODMAN, PANAMA
11 APR	- CROSSING THE LINE CEREMONY
13 - 16 APR	- PORT VISIT; MANTA, ECUADOR
22 APR - 05 MAY	- OPERATION SEA CHARIOT
22 APR	- CLEVELAND PARTICIPATES IN JOINT BOARDING OF M/V SEA CHARIOT WITH USS VALLEY FORGE OFF THE COAST OF PANAMA. VESSEL IS CONFIRMED TO BE CARRYING A LARGE SHIPMENT OF COCAINE
23 APR	- CLEVELAND TAKES TACON OF M/V SEA CHARIOT AND AWAITS "STATEMENT OF NO OBJECTION" VESSELS COUNTRY OF REGISTRY.
25 APR	- CLEVELAND AND M/V SEA CHARIOT UNDERWAY FOR PANAMA
28 APR	- "S.N.O." IS GRANTED FOR SEIZURE OF M/V SEA CHARIOT AND CONTRABAND AND TO ARREST CREW FOR PROSECUTION UNDER U.S. LAW
29 APR	- PORT VISIT; RODMAN, PANAMA
30 APR	- CLEVELAND COMMENCED TRANSIT OF PANAMA CANAL WHILE ESCORTING M/V SEA CHARIOT
01 MAY	- CLEVELAND ESCORTS M/V SEA CHARIOT FROM PANAMA TOWARDS MIAMI, FLA
05 MAY	- CLEVELAND TRANSFERS TACON OF M/V SEA CHARIOT TO USCGC DECISIVE AT WINDWARD PASSAGE OF CUBA TO COMPLETE ESCORT DUTY AND TRANSPORT TO MIAMI, FLA
07 - 12 MAY	- PORT VISIT / UPKEEP; GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
12 MAY	- UNDERWAY; TRANSIT TO KEY WEST, FLA
15 - 18 MAY	- PORT VISIT; KEY WEST, FLA
19 MAY	- CLEVELAND RESCUES NINE CUBAN REFUGEES ADrift ON A FLOATING RAFT OFF THE COAST OF CUBA WHILE BEING CIRCLED BY CUBAN GUNBOATS
21 MAY	- CLEVELAND TRANSFERS REFUGEES TO USCGC SITKINAK FOR TRANSPORT TO MIAMI, FLA
24 MAY	- TRANSIT PANAMA CANAL
25 MAY	- INPORT; RODMAN, PANAMA
07 JUN	- RETURNED FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS; SAN DIEGO, CA
08 JUN - 11 JUL	- LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD; SAN DIEGO, CA
30 JUN	- TRAINING SUPPORT: COMBAT CARGO HALF DAY INDOC
30 JUN	- TRAINING SUPPORT: LIMPETEX WITH SEAL TEAM

	FIVE
01 JUL	- SECOND ANNUAL CLEVELAND HEALTH FAIR
02 JUL	- TRAINING SUPPORT: WELL DECK TRAINING WITH ACU-1
05 JUL	- CLEVELAND IS AWARDED THE ALLEN G. OGDEN AWARD FOR SUPERIOR FLIGHT DECK FIREFIGHTING IN THE SMALL SHIP AMPHIBIOUS CATEGORY FOR 1992
07 - 08 JUL	- INPORT TRAINING: CART IIA
09 - 10 JUL	- UNDERWAY; SOCAL: CART IIA
10 JUL	- CIWS TRACKING EXERCISE
10 - 18 JUL	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
12 JUL	- CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY: CAPT TOM S. FELLIN RELIEVES CAPT GEORGE V. GALDORISI
19 - 23 JUL	- INPORT TRAINING; CART IIB
19 JUL	- ISIC COMMAND INSPECTION
21 JUL	- TRAINING SUPPORT: NIGHT SNEAK ATTACK EXERCISE
24 JUL	- DEVIL PUPS YOUTH PROGRAM SHIP VISIT
24 JUL - 08 AUG	- UPKEEP; SAN DIEGO
26 - 30 JUL	- CARGO-WEAPONS ELEVATOR ASSESSMENT
07 AUG	- RECRUIT TRAINING COMMAND ORIENTATION VISIT
09 - 13 AUG	- INPORT TRAINING; TSTA I
14 - 15 AUG	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
16 - 20 AUG	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; SOCAL: TSTA I
21 - 22 AUG	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
23 - 27 AUG	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; TSTA I
28 AUG - 12 SEP	- UPKEEP: SAN DIEGO, CA
30 AUG - 17 SEP	- "A" AVAILABILITY WITH USS CAPE COD
13 - 17 SEP	- INPORT TRAINING; TSTA II
20 - 24 SEP	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; SOCAL: TSTA II
25 - 26 SEP	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
27 SEP - 01 OCT	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; SOCAL: TSTA II
02 - 17 OCT	- UPKEEP; SAN DIEGO, CA
05 OCT	- TRAINING SUPPORT; BOAT HOIST/LOWERING
07 OCT	- AVIATION ORDNANCE SAFETY SURVEY
13 OCT	- TRAINING SUPPORT; STERNGATE MARRIAGE INPORT WITH ACU-1
18 - 24 OCT	- INPORT TRAINING; SAN DIEGO: TSTA III
25 - 29 OCT	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; SOCAL: TSTA III
27 OCT	- DLQ'S WITH HMM-166
28 OCT	- TRAINING SUPPORT: CAMP PENDELTON LCU/CRRC OPS WITH NBG-1
30 OCT - 08 NOV	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
08 NOV - 03 DEC	- UPKEEP: SAN DIEGO, "R" AVAILABILITY
09 NOV	- GUEST SHIP VISIT
15 NOV	- LIMITED TEAM TRAINING FOR CBR DEFENSE
15 - 17 NOV	- RADAR ASSISTED PILOTING TEAM TRAINER
15 - 19 NOV	- HULL CLEANING
15 - 22 NOV	- CAPDS MOD 1 UPGRADE INSTALLATION
16 NOV	- MRE INSPECTION
18 NOV	- INPORT TRAINING; SIGS/COMM/CIC/EW EXERCISE
22 - 26 NOV	- AMPHIBIOUS BOAT CONTROL TEAM TRAINER
22 NOV	- INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE SURVEY

29 NOV	- AVIATION FACILITIES TECH ASSIST
29 NOV - 03 DEC	- MULTI-THREAT TEAM TRAINER
04 -05 DEC	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
06 -07 DEC	- FASTCRUISE; SAN DIEGO, CA
08 -10 DEC	- UNDERWAY TRAINING; SOCAL
08 DEC	- BSA: NASNI
11 - 12 DEC	- INPORT; SAN DIEGO, CA
13 - 16 DEC	- ISE: SOCAL LIMITED TEAM TRAINING
14 DEC	- AMMO ONLOAD: SEAL BEACH, CA
17 -31 DEC	- HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD

LIST OF AWARDS PRESENTED FOR CALENDAR 1993

Navy Commendation Medals

LT [REDACTED]
LCDR [REDACTED]
PC1 [REDACTED]

Navy Achievement Medals

HT3 [REDACTED]
MS1 [REDACTED]
LT [REDACTED]
YN3 [REDACTED]
FC3 [REDACTED]
EM1 [REDACTED]
ETC [REDACTED]
PN1 [REDACTED]
ABF3 [REDACTED]
ABH3 [REDACTED]
CW02 [REDACTED]
RM2 [REDACTED]
CW02 [REDACTED]
LTJG [REDACTED]
QM1 [REDACTED]
ABFC [REDACTED]

Letter of Commendation

DN [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
SH1 [REDACTED]
ET1 [REDACTED]
FC3 [REDACTED]
RP3 [REDACTED]
SM1 [REDACTED]
SMSN [REDACTED]
SM3 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
OS1 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
PC3 [REDACTED]
MS2 [REDACTED]
SH2 [REDACTED]
DK1 [REDACTED]
SH1 [REDACTED]
PC3 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
EWSN [REDACTED]

Letter of Appreciation

DK3 [REDACTED]
SHSN [REDACTED]
SH3 [REDACTED]
SH3 [REDACTED]
SH1 [REDACTED]
DK1 [REDACTED]
PC1 [REDACTED]
OSSN [REDACTED]
OS3 [REDACTED]
OS3 [REDACTED]
OSSN [REDACTED]
OS3 [REDACTED]
MM3 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
FR [REDACTED]
MM3 [REDACTED]
EN2 [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]
MM3 [REDACTED]
FR [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]
HM2 [REDACTED]
IC3 [REDACTED]
EM3 [REDACTED]

Certificate of Appreciation's from Consulate General of the U.S.A. Curacao

CW02 [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
BTCS [REDACTED]
BT2 [REDACTED]
DC2 [REDACTED]
SM1 [REDACTED]
MCSC [REDACTED]
MS1 [REDACTED]
DC1 [REDACTED]
RM2 [REDACTED]
LT [REDACTED]
EN2 [REDACTED]
FN [REDACTED]
EN3 [REDACTED]

Letter of Recognition

SR [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]
MS2 [REDACTED]
MS1 [REDACTED]
EWSN [REDACTED]
BT3 [REDACTED]
SR [REDACTED]
MSSN [REDACTED]