



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7)
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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 CALENDER YEAR 1994

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 Calender Year 1994
(6) List of Awards presented for Calender Year 1994
(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 calender year 1994.


LARRY W. NELMS

USS CLEVELAND SHIP DESCRIPTION

USS CLEVELAND is the seventh in a series of LPDs 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. Intrinsicly 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 CLEVELAND's allowance consists of 27 officers and 400 enlisted men. In addition, the ship can carry approximately 850 combat troops and 118 officers in the assault and flag force.

Enclosure (1)

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.

After commissioning, CLEVELAND changed homeport to San Diego, California to become a member of the Pacific Fleet Amphibious Forces. CLEVELAND has divided her time between local operations in the Eastern Pacific and extended deployments to the Western Pacific. CLEVELAND was usually assigned as part of the Marine Amphibious Ready Group and, with her embarked Marines, acted as an integral part of the United States military effort in Southeast Asia. CLEVELAND has participated in numerous amphibious and combat support operations, as well as functioning as a Flagship for various Fleet Commanders.

Upon the Vietnam cease-fire in January 1973, CLEVELAND joined Task Force 78 in the mine-clearing effort of Haiphong Harbor and Operation End Sweep.

CLEVELAND then began a series of seven Western Pacific Deployments commencing in the years 1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983 and 1985 before entering an extensive overhaul.

In January of 1988, CLEVELAND assumed duties as Flagship for Commander THIRD Fleet and served in this capacity until November 1988. Upon completion of Flagship duties, CLEVELAND deployed to Prince William Sound, Alaska in support of oil spill cleanup efforts associated with the Exxon Valdez disaster.

CLEVELAND again deployed to the Western Pacific in 1990 and again in 1991 in support of Operation Desert Storm.

In October 1992 CLEVELAND deployed on short notice to Central America in support of Law Enforcement Operations and again in March of 1993. During these deployments, CLEVELAND played a key role in the seizure of the vessel Sea Chariot, the largest maritime cocaine bust in history as well as transiting the Panama Canal four times.

In June of 1994, CLEVELAND embarked on her fourteenth overseas deployment. Early into the deployment, CLEVELAND participated in Operation SUPPORT HOPE, the United Nations relief effort to Rwanda. Upon completion, CLEVELAND proceeded to the Arabian Gulf to conduct a repair period in Jebel Ali, UAE. The upkeep period was cut short when the TRIPOLI ARG was ordered to steam back to the East African coast to support the United States Liaison Office relocation from Mogadishu, Somalia to Nairobi, Kenya. Following the relocation efforts, CLEVELAND steamed north again to participate in two major exercises; SEA SOLDIER IX and IRON MAGIC 94-1. While completing the second exercise, CLEVELAND was ordered to steam into the North Arabian Gulf to deter the Iraqi aggression of massing troops on the Kuwait border. CLEVELAND remained stationed off of Kuwait for fourteen days in support of this operation termed VIGILANT WARRIOR before the danger had subsided and the order was given to proceed back to San Diego.

ENCLOSURE (2)

**CHRONOLOGY OF OPERATIONS
USS CLEVELAND 1994**

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 01 - 14 JAN | HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD |
| 15 - 17 JAN | INPORT: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 18 - 21 JAN | TSTA III: SOCAL |
| 22 - 31 JAN | UPKEEP: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 24 JAN | AVIATION FACILITIES CERTIFICATION |
| 01 - 13 FEB | UPKEEP: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 14 - 18 FEB | COMPTUEX 94-2M: SOCAL |
| 19 - 28 FEB | INPORT: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 01 - 18 MAR | COMPTUEX 94-19M: SOCAL |
| 08 - 10 MAR | OPPE |
| 11 - 20 MAR | INPORT: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 21 - 23 MAR | FINAL EVALUATION PROBLEM (F.E.P.) |
| 03 - 30 MAR | FLEETEX 94-21M |
| 31 MAR - 03 APR | INPORT: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 04 - 08 APR | LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT (LMA) AND COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS REVIEW (CSRR) |
| 09 - 20 APR | INPORT: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 21 APR - 04 MAY | FLEETEX 94-2M2 |
| 05 MAY - 03 JUN | POM: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 02 - 08 JUN | RFS/MEU EMBARK: SAN DIEGO, CA |
| 09 JUN | DEPLOY - WESTPAC 1994 |
| 09 - 25 JUN | TRANSIT TO SOUTH PACIFIC |
| 26 - 28 JUN | AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISE: TINIAN ISLAND |
| 29 JUN - 03 JUL | TRANSIT |
| 04 - 08 JUL | PORT VISIT: HONG KONG |
| 09 - 12 JUL | TRANSIT |
| 13 - 18 JUL | PORT VISIT: SINGAPORE |
| 19 - 28 JUL | TRANSIT |
| 29 JUL - 16 AUG | OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE |
| 29 JUL - 01 AUG | PORT VISIT: MOMBASA, KENYA |
| 03 - 08 AUG | PORT VISIT: MOMBASA, KENYA |
| 13 - 16 AUG | PORT VISIT: MOMBASA, KENYA |
| 17 - 24 AUG | TRANSIT |
| 25 AUG - 01 SEP | AVAILABILITY PERIOD: JEBEL ALI, UAE |
| 02 - 08 SEP | TRANSIT |
| 09 - 15 SEP | USLO RELOCATION: SOMALIA |
| 16 - 17 SEP | TRANSIT |
| 18 - 28 SEP | EXERCISE SEA SOLDIER IX: OMAN |
| 29 SEP - 01 OCT | TRANSIT |
| 02 - 07 OCT | EXERCISE IRON MAGIC: UAE |
| 08 OCT | TRANSIT |
| 09 - 20 OCT | OPERATION VIGILANT WARRIOR: KUWAIT |
| 21 - 29 OCT | PORT VISIT: JEBEL ALI, UAE |
| 30 OCT - 07 NOV | TRANSIT |
| 08 - 12 NOV | PORT VISIT: SINGAPORE |
| 13 - 28 NOV | TRANSIT |

25 - 29 NOV
29 NOV - 01 DEC
02 - 07 DEC
08 DEC
09 DEC
09 - 31 DEC

NAVIGATION CHECKRIDE
PORT VISIT: PEARL HARBOR, HI
TRANSIT
MEU DEBARKATION: CAMP PENDLETON, CA
ARRIVAL: SAN DIEGO, CA
HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD: SAN
DIEGO, CA

List of Awards presented for Calender Year 1994

Navy Commendation Medals

YNM(SW) [REDACTED]
LT [REDACTED]
SM2 [REDACTED]
SM2 [REDACTED]

Navy Achievement Medals

ET3 [REDACTED]
HM1 [REDACTED]
DC2(SW) [REDACTED]
SK2(SW) [REDACTED]
BTC(SW) [REDACTED]
FN [REDACTED]
RM1(SW) [REDACTED]
SM1 [REDACTED]
RM3 [REDACTED]
DC2 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]
FC2 [REDACTED]
PNC(SW) [REDACTED]
MS1(SW) [REDACTED]
SK2 [REDACTED]
SH1(SW) [REDACTED]
BM2 [REDACTED]
ET1(SW) [REDACTED]
GMG2(SW) [REDACTED]
PN3 [REDACTED]
QM2 [REDACTED]
CTR3 [REDACTED]
QM2 [REDACTED]
RM1 [REDACTED]
OS2 [REDACTED]
QM3 [REDACTED]
PCC(SW) [REDACTED]

Letters of Commendation

AN [REDACTED]
FN [REDACTED]
ET1(SW) [REDACTED]
OS1(SW) [REDACTED]
OS1(SW) [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SHSR [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
BM2(SW) [REDACTED]
ET2(SW) [REDACTED]

PN2 (SW) [REDACTED]
OS1 (SW) [REDACTED] (2)
RM3 [REDACTED]
OSSN [REDACTED]
IS1 (SW/AW) [REDACTED]
FA [REDACTED]
FN [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
DCFR [REDACTED]
DCFR [REDACTED]
DC2 [REDACTED]
EM2 [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]
BT3 [REDACTED]
HT1 [REDACTED]
BT2 [REDACTED]
BT3 [REDACTED]
EN3 [REDACTED]
OSSA [REDACTED]
OSSA [REDACTED]
EN3 [REDACTED]
BT1 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
MM3 [REDACTED]
HT1 [REDACTED]
DCFN [REDACTED]
ENFN [REDACTED]
EN2 [REDACTED]
MM1 [REDACTED]
MM2 [REDACTED]
BT2 [REDACTED]
FN [REDACTED]
MS2 [REDACTED]
MS3 (SW) [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
OSSA [REDACTED]
DC3 [REDACTED]
DCFN [REDACTED]
DCFN [REDACTED]
EM3 [REDACTED]
EM3 [REDACTED]
AA [REDACTED]
AN [REDACTED]
ABFAA [REDACTED]
AA [REDACTED]
ABF3 [REDACTED]
AN [REDACTED]
AN [REDACTED]
SMSN [REDACTED]
SMSN [REDACTED]
SGT [REDACTED]

SSGT
CPL
SGT
SGT
SGT
FN
CPL
SGT
MM2
MM3
BT2
MMFN
BT2
MM3
BT3
MM3
MM3
BT2 (SW)
BT3
MSSN
SK3
FA
RM1 (SW)
RM1
RM2
RM3
MS2
MS3
RM3
RM3
RM3
RM3
RMSA
RMSA
RM2
SH2 (SW)
SH2
SHSN
OS2
OS2
OS3
OS3
OSSA
OSSN
SR
SN
SK2 (SW/AW)
SH1 (SW)
RM3
RM3

SH2 (SW)
SK3
MS2