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27 APR 1970

OPNAV REPORT 5750-1

From: Commanding Officer, USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09Ba), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Command History; submission of (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAV Instruction 5750.12A  
(b) CINCPACFLT Instruction 5750.2B

Encl: (1) Roster of officers & men  
(2) Ship's loading characteristics pamphlet  
(3) Complete chronology of the USS DUBUQUE's movements  
(4) Copy of the Public Orientation handout  
(5) Copy of Seattle Seafair program  
(6) Change of Command program containing pictures and bibliographies of the captains assigned in 1969

1. (U) In compliance with references (a) and (b) the history of USS DUBUQUE for the period 1 January 1969 to December 1969 is hereby submitted.

2. (C) Command History

a. Chronology of highlights

1 JAN	COMPHIBRON ONE embarked USS DUBUQUE at San Diego.
21-22 JAN	Administrative inspection by Squadron Commander graded high, good, two points below excellent.
30 JAN-9 APR	Moored at Long Beach Naval Shipyard for overhaul.
16 FEB	100 civilians from the Long Beach Philadelphian and Westminster Seventh-day adventist churches came aboard to attend divine services and to tour the ship.
20 FEB	USS DUBUQUE Change of Command. Captain Paul J. HARTLEY, Jr. relieved Captain H. J. URSETTIE as Commanding Officer of the USS DUBUQUE.
03 April	Sea Trials
09 April	Returned to San Diego.

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GROUP 4  
Downgraded at 3 year intervals;  
declassified after 12 years.

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15 May 75 members of the Department of Defense sponsored Joint Civilian Orientation Conference 39 embarked for demonstrations.

20-28 May Refresher training.

29 May-12 JUN Amphibious refresher training

13 JUN-21 JUN Participated in exercise "Bell Call". COMPHIBRON ONE embarked, as were 600 Combat equipped Marines.

17 July Dependents cruise. 400 visitors embarked. Helicopter and boat operations demonstrated.

21 July 420 U. S. Naval Academy Midshipmen embarked for summer cruise

22 July Commander PHIBRON ONE transferred his pennant to USS NEW ORLEANS.

26 JUL-29 AUG Midshipman cruise to Seattle and Hawaii. USS DUBUQUE assigned to PHIBRON FIVE for administrative purposes.

31 JUL-5 AUG Moored at Seattle for Sea Fair. ETL [REDACTED] selected as King of Sea Fair. 9000 visitors toured USS DUBUQUE.

05-16 AUG Enroute Hawaii

16-21 AUG Moored Pearl Harbour

21 -28 AUG Enroute San Diego.

29 AUG Operational readiness inspection

25 SEP 2nd annual ship's party

1 OCT Deployed to South Viet Nam.

19 OCT Arrived Danang

21 OCT-28 NOV 3 KEYSTONE CARDINAL lifts of troops to Okinawa.

21 OCT-25 OCT Underway to Okinawa

27 OCT-30 OCT Underway to Danang

30 OCT-1 NOV Enroute to Subic

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1 NOV Anchored at Subic.

3-5 NOV Enroute Cua Viet.

9-12 NOV Enroute to Okinawa.

14-16 NOV Enroute to Subic.

18 NOV RADM E. W. ROSENBERG COMPHIBGRU ONE and TACRON 12 embarked.

20-22 NOV Enroute to Cua Viet.

24-28 NOV Enroute to Okinawa.

28 NOV-3 DEC Enroute Danang.

3 DEC Enroute Cam Rahn Bay.

4 DEC Enroute Vung Tau.

5 DEC Anchored Vung Tau.

6-8 DEC Enroute Sattahip, Thailand

7 DEC Unrep by USS MANATEE

8-12 DEC Moored at Sattahip, Thailand.

12-17 DEC Enroute Okinawa.

22 DEC COMPHIBGRU ONE RADM E. W. ROSENBERG and TACRON 12 relieved COMPHIBGRU THREE by RADM DYBDAHL and TACRON 13.

23-27 DEC Enroute Danang.

27-29 DEC Enroute Vung Tau and An Thoi

31 DEC Underway for Cam Rahn Bay.

b. Command organization and relation

(1) The USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8) served as a unit of the Amphibious SQUADRON ONE. The following officers commanded the ship

1 JAN 69 - 20 FEB 1969 CAPT H. J. URSETTIE, USN, [REDACTED]  
20 FEB 69 - 31 DEC 1969 CAPT P. J. HARTLEY, Jr., USN [REDACTED]

(2) The homeport for the USS DUBUQUE was San Diego.

(3) The mission of the ship is to carry out the plans of the squadron

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and execute an amphibious operation involving embarkation, transit to an objective area and an assault of the objective under combat conditions, employing the latest and most effective amphibious force doctrine.

3. (C) Operations.

100001 January 1969 COMPHIBRON ONE, CAPT. W. D. OWEN, USN, was embarked in USS DUBUQUE. On 21 and 22 January COMPHIBRON ONE held an administrative inspection and graded DUBUQUE as high good two points below excellent.

On 29 January COMPHIBRON ONE shifted his pennant to Building 29, U. S. Naval Base, Coronado, California. On 30 January the DUBUQUE entered into a yard overhaul at Long Beach Naval Shipyard. This period extended until 9 April.

On 16 February as a part of the Policy of the chaplain of inviting civilian church groups to attend divine services aboard, and to tour the ship, 100 members of the Long Beach Philadelphian Seventh-day Adventists church and the Westminister Church of the same denomination were guests of the DUBUQUE. This being race relations Sunday, the black pastor of the Philadelphian Church was invited to share in conducting the service. The results were increasing friendships between the two congregations and between the civilians and the Navy. A two hour tour was laid on for the guests by LCDR GOODWIN.

On 20 February COMPHIBRON ONE attended the change of command ceremony as CAPT P. J. HARTLEY, USN, relieved CAPT H. J. URSETTIE, USN, as Commanding Officer of USS DUBUQUE.

On 9 April DUBUQUE returned to San Diego. On 14 April DUBUQUE commenced local operations to work up after her yard period.

On 15 May 75 members of the Department of Defense Sponsored joint civilian orientation conference 39 embarked for demonstrations. DUBUQUE proceeded to an anchorage 161 Coronado Roads where helicopter and boat operations were laid on. In addition to that which DUBUQUE did for the JCOC guests, pararescue and SGAL teams put on demonstrations which were observed by the guests from the flight deck off DUBUQUE.

20-28 May were spent in a rigorous refresher training period as the new DUBUQUE sailors demonstrated that **they had been** welded into an efficient unit with those seamen who had remained from the previous deployment.

29 May - 12 June was just as heavy a period as the ship underwent amphibious refresher training. This culminated in COMPHIBRON ONE CAPT J. E. MCCAULEY, USN, embarking on 13 June along with 600 Combat equipped Marines from Camp Pendleton. DUBUQUE with other units of the squadron participated in exercise Bell Call. This terminated 21 June.

On 21 July 420 U. S. Naval Academy Midshipmen embarked for their summer cruise. 22 July COMPHIBRON ONE transferred his pennant to USS NEW ORLEANS. On 26 July 8 guests of the secretary of the Navy embarked. The

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Purpose for having these guests embarked is to provide representative citizens with an opportunity for first hand observations of Naval operations at sea. The ship's chaplain kept a full schedule of activities for the guests. One unscheduled activity occurred when a Petty Officer died at sea and a memorial service was laid on. In addition to the officers and men of the DUBUQUE, the embarked midshipmen and guests paid their respects to the deceased. The SECNAV guests departed DUBUQUE at Seattle 31 July after expressing their gratitude for the enlightening cruise.

The stay at Seattle 31 July - 5 August was a very full one. Involved were an enlisted dance at the military branch YMCA; Fleet Officer's Reception and ball at the Washington Athletic Club; and Midshipmen's ball at the Seattle center on 31 July. On 1 August general visiting was held on ship. The general mess hosted 5 Sea Fair Princesses. A Navy League Reception for the CO/XO/LCDR was held in Seattle. A military ball for enlisted men sponsored by USO was held at the Olympic Room, Seattle Center. On 2 August general visiting aboard, and ashore a YMCA dance for enlisted men. On 3 August the general public were invited to divine services. The Junior Choir from "Christ The King" interdenominational school provided the music. 86 members of the Puyallup Seventh-day Adventist made the 70 mile round trip to attend and to tour the ship. General visiting was held in the afternoon and another enlisted dance was held in the afternoon and another enlisted dance was held at the YMCA.

On 1 August due to the Westpac deployment of PHIBRON ONE, the DUBUQUE was assigned to PHIBRON FIVE for administrative purposes. On 5 August DUBUQUE departed for Pearl Harbour and held extensive training for embarked midshipmen enroute.

16-21 August DUBUQUE enjoyed the stay at Pearl Harbour. While the welcome and hospitality were not as overwhelming as that at Seattle, the officers and crew enjoyed the opportunity to tour this very attractive island.

On 21 August the ship departed for San Diego arriving in the area on the 28th. On 29 August embarked midshipmen observed as DUBUQUE underwent an operational readiness inspection by COMPHIBRON FIVE.

During September DUBUQUE remained at San Diego as final preparation were made for the Westpac deployment. On 25 September the 2nd annual ship's party was held in the ballroom of a major hotel in San Diego and was a great success.

On 1 October DUBUQUE deployed to Westpac going direct to Danang and arriving on 19 October. DUBUQUE proceeded to Cua Viet on 21 October and embarked troops of the 3rd Marine Division in a KEYSTONE CARDINAL lift to Kin Red Beach at Okinawa, arriving there 25 October.

On 30 October DUBUQUE was back at Danang for a boat lift to Subic arriving 1 November. After a short stay DUBUQUE departed for Cua Viet to

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lead another KEYSTONE CARDINAL lift arriving 5 November. 5-9 November was spent loading. Lift was discharged at Buckner Bay 12 November. DUBUQUE departed for Subic Bay 14 November.

On 18 November RADM E. W. ROSENBERG COMPHIBGRU ONE CTF 76 and TACRON 12 embarked. 20 November DUBUQUE departed for Cua Viet for 3rd KEYSTONE CARDINAL lift departing Cua Viet on 24 November. On 28 November KEYSTONE CARDINAL lift disembarked at Buckner Bay. On 29 November DUBUQUE departed for Danang to lift fuel barge to Vung Tau stopping at Cam Rahn Bay for a R & R stop enroute.

On 6 December DUBUQUE arrived Buckner Bay, Okinawa. On 22 December RADM E. W. ROSENBERG COMPHIBGRU THREE and TACRON 12 were relieved by COMPHIBGRU THREE, RADM V. DYBDAHL and TACRON 13 aboard USS DUBUQUE.

On 23 December DUBUQUE departed for Danang, Vung Tau and An Thoi where she was anchored 31 December.

4. (C) Special topics

a. Communications

Throughout the deployment, training in all areas of communications was emphasized.

Communications consisted of the multi-channel broadcast, a full-period, 4 channel termination with ship/shore backup and numerous voice circuits including multi-channel ship/shore relay when operating off Danang. Much of the tediousness of routine was simplified by the introduction of STROFAC into the ship/shore communications facilities. In February, DUBUQUE, being a subscriber to STROFAC by virtue of having COMPHIBGRU ONE aboard was required to copy only channel 5 of the multi-channel broadcast until the staff departed.

The Westpac traffic load without the staff averaged about 30 messages a day, jumping to about 500 messages per day with the staff aboard. Thus it is readily apparent that the main battery of DUBUQUE during the staff's reign became communications - communications then becoming about 50% of DUBUQUE's workload as apposed to its normal 15% in Westpac.

Most notable of DUBUQUE's communication experience in Westpac was the utilization of TH-39's to effect a 4 channel termination since the P system was neither installed nor available at the time. It is believed that a much more reliable termination could have been effected by use of the P system and it is highly recommended that the P system be installed on any ship in preparation for carrying the Amphibious Force Seventh Fleet Staff.

b. Chaplain's activities

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In addition to regular services held by the chaplain for the Protestant personnel, he arranged for Catholic coverage. Lay leader Services for Catholics by LT [REDACTED] SC, USN, and for Jewish personnel by LT [REDACTED] MC, USNR. During the midshipmen cruise Chaplain [REDACTED] of the USS POINT DEFIANCE and DUBUQUE's chaplain exchanged ships twice for one week each time in order to provide full Catholic and Protestant coverage. Liason was maintained with civilian churches and missionaries both in CONUS and overseas. Books donated by the Oceanside Seventh-day Adventist church in California were presented to an elementary school in Olongapo, R. P.

(c) Community relations

The JCOC demonstration listed in the basic narative, and the SECNAV guest cruise to Seattle were the outstanding examples of community contacts. In addition the tours conducted on Sunday following divine services created good will in Long Beach and San Diego.

d. Awards

Navy Commendation Medal      CDR [REDACTED], USN  
 Navy Achievement Medal      BMCM [REDACTED] USN

e. Distinguished visitors

CTF 76, RADM E. W. ROSENBERG, USN, COMPHIBRON ONE  
 CTF 76, RADM V. DYBDAHL, USN, COMPHIBRON THREE

f. Dental Activities

During August the Dental Office was temporarily opened to care for the embarked midshipmen. During September the office was closed for remodeling and repairs. In October the Dental Office was opened for full dental services. Monthly totals were as follows:

Month	Total Number of Patients	Total Number Of Procedures
August	115	289
September	3	3
October	131	356
November	125	402
December	197	501

g. Medical

Medical Department vital statistics during Westpac were as follows:

Outpatients	1578	Prescriptions	951
Inpatients	95	Laboratory Tests	1442
Physical Exams	84	X-rays	198
Immunizations	1796		

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This data indicates that the 1969-1970 Westpac cruise was a busy period for "H" Division. In addition to the routine functions provided by the Medical Department, we were called upon on numerous occasions to administer definitive emergency care. The most notable of the occasions was an emergency appendectomy accomplished at sea. This was the first time that DUBUQUE's medical team had utilized the operating room for major surgery.

h. Supply

1969 was a big year for the Supply Department. Disbursing paid out \$1,300,828.00 to DUBUQUE's crew. Ships store had sales of \$115,335.00. Food service fed 177,370 people. The storekeepers prepared 4413 requisitions for a total of \$139,610. The Westpac deployment went quite well with three highly successful "unreps" by helicopters.



C. L. FULD, Acting

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