

1976

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)  
PRECOMMISSIONING UNIT  
SUPERVISOR OF SHIPBUILDING  
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA 23607**

CVN69:011:apg  
5750  
Ser 131  
11 FEB 1977

From: Commanding Officer, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)  
Precommissioning Unit  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2), Department of the Navy  
Washington, D.C. 20350  
Subj: Command History (Report Symbol OPNAV 5750-1)  
Ref: (a) Phonecon LCDR [REDACTED] (DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER)/MR. PRICE  
(OP-05D2) of 1 FEB 77  
(b) OPNAVINST 5750.12B  
Encl: (1) Narrative History of DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)  
Precommissioning Unit (AUG - DEC 1975)  
(2) Personnel Utilization Report (JAN - JUN 1976)  
(3) Personnel Utilization Report (JUL - DEC 1976)  
(4) Copies of DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) Progress Reports  
(Numbers 4 through 14) (Report Symbol OPNAV 9030-1) (JAN -  
DEC 1976)

1. As requested by reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.

2. Future Command Histories will be submitted in accordance with reference (b) upon DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) being placed into service.

  
WILLIAM E. RAMSEY

COMMAND HISTORY  
DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) PRECOMMISSIONING UNIT

11 FEB 1977

1. Background. Construction of DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) was authorized in the FY1970 budget. The ship was originally named EISENHOWER on 21 February 1970, but was renamed DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER on 25 May 1970. The ship is named for the 34th President of the United States and General of the Army Dwight David Eisenhower (14 OCT 1890 - 28 MAR 1969). The keel of the ship (Hull 599 as designated by the builder, Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company) was laid on 15 August 1970 and was authenticated by the late President's grandson D. David Eisenhower II.

2. Narrative History (August - December 1975). The following is a narrative history of the DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) Precommissioning Unit from the date of establishment to the end of calendar year 1975.

a. With the inauguration of the first formal diary on 6 August 1975, the Precommissioning Unit was officially established. On that date, there were 19 personnel assigned.

b. The Commanding Officer, CAPT William E. RAMSEY, USN, and the Executive Officer, CDR Edward W. CLEXTON Jr., USN, reported on 10 OCT 75. Both reported on board after completion of A4W/A1G reactor plant design school at Bettis Atomic Power Laboratories in Pittsburgh, Pa.

c. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) was launched at Shipway 11 of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Va., at 1100 on Saturday, 11 October 1975. The sponsor, Mrs. Mamie Doud Eisenhower, widow of the late President, christened the ship with the traditional bottle of champagne. Among the guests present were Vice President of the United States Nelson A. Rockefeller, principal speaker; Deputy Secretary of Defense William P. Clements; Secretary of the Navy J. William Middendorf; ADM James L. Holloway III, Chief of Naval Operations; and ADM Hyman G. Rickover, Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. The ship was then moved by tugs to Pier 2 of the shipyard for completion of fitting out.

d. During the period AUG - DEC 75, the Administrative, Engineering, Reactor, and Supply Departments were established. Medical and Dental were instituted temporarily as one department as were Operations and Training, and Air, Weapons and Communications.

e. Construction progress.

(1) Engineering. Operational testing of steam-driven equipment and auxiliaries in number 2 propulsion plant was conducted. Auxiliaries, damage control and electrical systems installation and testing was conducted. All construction and operational testing was suspended on 19 December 1975 for shipyard holiday shutdown.

(2) Operations. Equipment and cable installation progressed in the Communications spaces and in Radar/NTDS spaces until 19 December 1975 as did power panel installation in CVIC spaces.

Enclosure (1)

11 FEB 1977

(3) Supply. A supply detachment was established at the Naval Supply Center Norfolk, Cheatham Annex, Williamsburg, Va. Allowance Equipage List items were received and warehoused at Cheatham. Supply personnel designated storerooms for Hull, Mechanical and Electronics, Ordnance and "Q" COSAL repair parts.

(4) Training. The Navy Training Plan Review Conference was completed with the revised plan being submitted to CNO for approval.

f. By year's end, the number of personnel on board the Precommissioning Unit was 30 Officers and 282 enlisted.