



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)
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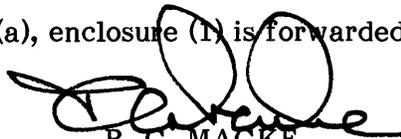
From: Commanding Officer, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Command History for USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)
for calendar year 1985

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


R. C. MACKE

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CINCLANTFLT
COMNAVAIRLANT
Director of Naval History



COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)

CALENDAR YEAR 1985

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USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)

BASIC DATA

1. Command Organization

a. Commanding Officer

(1) Captain Richard C. MACKE, USN

b. Executive Officer

(1) Captain William B. HAYDEN, USN

II. Mission of the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)

The mission of the USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) is to provide seabased tactical air power for defense of America's right to freedom of the sea as well as the protection of the United States sovereignty. As part of this mission, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) is capable of projecting tactical air power both over the sea and land, as well as providing tactical air defense and antisubmarine warfare capabilities.

III. BACKGROUND

Named after the 34th President of the United States, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) is the third nuclear powered aircraft carrier ever built. Originally named the EISENHOWER on February 21, 1970, the ship was renamed DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER on May 25, 1970.

The keel of the ship, (Hull 599, as designated by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company), was laid on August 15, 1970 and was authenticated by the late president's grandson, D. David Eisenhower II. Five years later, on October 11, 1975, Mrs. Mamie Doud Eisenhower, widow of the former President and ship's sponsor, christened the ship during launching ceremonies at the Newport News Shipyard.

On October 18, 1977, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) was placed in commission at pier 12, Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

1985 CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR EVENTS

1-31 Jan	Ops Eastern Med/National Week
1-10 Feb	Port visit, Toulon, France
11-17 Feb	Ops Central Med
18-24 Feb	Upkeep, Naples, Italy
25-28 Feb	Ops Central Med
1-7 Mar	Port visit, Palma, Spain
7 Mar	Emergency Sortie from Palma
7 Mar-15 April	Ops Eastern Med
15-19 April	Port visit, Naples, Italy
20 April	Enroute Augusta Bay, Sicily
21-23 April	Turnover with USS NIMITZ
24-26 April	Ops Western Med
27 April	Outchop SIXTH Fleet
27 April-5 May	Enroute Bermuda
5-6 May	Anchor Bermuda
6-8 May	Enroute Norfolk
8 May-8 July	Inport Norfolk
8-22 July	Ops Central America
23-26 July	Port visit, Bridgetown, Barbados
27 July-5 Aug	Ops Central America
5-9 Aug	Port visit, Montego Bay, Jamaica
10-22 Aug	Ops Central America
22-26 Aug	Inport Norfolk
27 Aug-4 Sept	Ocean Safari
4-9 Sept	Inport Norfolk
9-19 Sept	CVWR-20 Cruise
19-20 Sept	Inport Norfolk
21 Sept	Dependents Cruise
22-27 Sept	Inport Norfolk
27 Sept-1 Oct	Hurrevac Portsmouth
1-26 Oct	Inport Norfolk
26 Oct-31 Dec	Newport News Shipbuilding

RESUME OF USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER OPERATIONS

The year 1985 began with USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) departing Naples, Italy after enjoying a Christmas port visit.

IKE was visited by Mr. Seth Cropsey, Deputy Under-Secretary of the Navy for Policy and Plans, 5-7 Jan. The Under-Secretary received a tour, attended briefings and participated in an A-6E flight.

From 7-10 Jan IKE operated with NATO E3A AWACS aircraft. That was followed by an ASW exercise on 11 and 12 Jan with USS WAINWRIGHT.

CDR W. F. G. Griffin of the Royal Navy visited IKE 14-20 Jan to observe IKE's operations. Flight operations during this period were highlighted with bombing practice over Avgo Nisi and EA-6B missions over Turkey.

The major exercise of MED-I-85 was conducted 26-31 Jan. NATIONAL WEEK XXXIII and DASIX included large numbers of U. S. and NATO ships and aircraft, including USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62). The operation spanned the entire Mediterranean and all warfare areas. The exercise concluded with DASIX, a combined AAW and strike exercise against French aircraft and targets. IKE pilots consider DASIX one of the most realistic and rewarding exercises in which they have ever participated.

VADM Frank B. Kelso, prospective COMSIXTHFLT, visited IKE 28-30 Jan.

VADM Claude Gagliardi, French Naval Forces, Mediterranean visited IKE 30 Jan.

IKE visited Toulon, France 1-10 Feb. While in port, F-14 aircrews exercised with the French Air Force at Orange-Caritat AB, France, and IKE hosted the USO show "Rocky Mountain Entertainers."

February 12-17 provided more NATO experience for IKE, highlighted by the following:

- 12 Feb: War at sea exercise with Italian Navy
- 13 Feb: ASW exercise with the French Navy
- 14 Feb: Operations with NATO AWACS

15 Feb: War at sea exercise with German Navy

16 Feb: War at sea exercise with Dutch Navy

IKE hosted a group of Austrian Parliamentarians 15-16 Feb.

Port visit Naples, Italy 18-25 Feb.

The last portion of February consisted of routine flight ops to maintain IKE's high state of operational readiness.

March began with a port visit to Palma De Mallorca, Spain. While in Spain, IKE hosted the DOD show "Kings Eight." The port visit was abruptly concluded 7 Mar with an emergency recall as IKE got underway in response to national tasking.

After arriving in EASTMED, IKE conducted normal operations and training from 10 March thru 4 April.

On 28-29 March, IKE hosted the largest USO show ever held at sea -- the "First Airborne Rock 'N Roll Division."

On 5 April CVW-7 conducted a weapons training evolution for the crew. All facets of CVW-7 operations were exhibited, including live ordnance drops, combat SAR and an F-14 "TOMCAT" breaking the sound barrier on a fly by of IKE.

April 6-13 included routine flight operations and training, around-the-clock ASW operations and the interception of Soviet IL-38 May aircraft.

On 14 April, IKE experienced her only aircraft loss during the cruise, an A-7 Corsair due to engine failure. The pilot ejected safely, and was rescued by the SAR helo.

From 15-19 April, IKE was in Naples. While inport, VADM Robert F. Dunn, COMNAVAIRLANT visited and toured the ship.

On 20 April, IKE transited the Straits Of Messina, enroute to Augusta Bay, Sicily.

From 21-23 April, IKE completed turnover operations with USS NIMITZ (CVN 68) in Augusta Bay.

IKE began her transit toward outchop on 24 April, exiting the Mediterranean on 27 April, and chopping to COMSECONDFLT control.

On 28 April, the COMNAVAIRLANT 3-M inspection of IKE began.

On 30 April IKE hosted several Portugese DV's, including General Elmano Rocha, Island Commander of the Azores.

On 2 May the CNAL 3M Inspection of IKE ended with an overall score of 92.

On 5 May, IKE anchored off Bermuda and COMCARGRU Eight Staff departed. While anchored, IKE hosted a group of Bermuda VIP's.

The period 6-10 May was a busy one which included the INSURV Inspection, CVW-7 fly off and IKE arriving at pier 12 on 8 May.

The period 8 May - 8 June was stand down time for IKE, but included several visits:

14 May	Foreign Services Institute Executive Seminar
18 May	VB-106 Reunion
21 May	National Defense University
23 May	NATO Military Budget Committee
28 May	Peruvian Naval War College
29 May	Mexican National Defense College
1 June	Naval Reserve Center

IKE prepared for getting under way for her summer Caribbean cruise 8 June - 9 July. During this period IKE hosted many groups:

12 June	Capt. Metz, PCOS CNAL
13 June	Dr. McCoy (SECNAV guest)
14 June	Telecommunications Systems Staff College
14 June	Navy Supply Corps BQC students
14 June	Nuclear Power Officer Candidates
18 June	Canadian Forces Fleet School

22 June Smithsonian guests
24 June House Select Committee for Intelligence
27 June Defense Logistics Agency
30 June NATO Parliamentarians
1 July BGEN Jose Flores (Spain)

On 8 July, IKE began her summer Caribbean cruise. During the transit to the Jacksonville area 8-15 July, IKE conducted day and night CQ's for CVW-7, VF-32, VF-101, VF-74, VA-205 and TRACOM. Throughout the transit, IKE hosted a continuous stream of visitors including CHINFO media and CNO, CNAL, OLA guests. A Congressional visit included Rep. David S. Monson (R-Utah), Rep. George Darden (D-Ga.) and Rep. William Carney (R-NY).

On 15 July, and with Carrier Qualifications completed, IKE began her transit to the Puerto Rican Operating Area, and READEX 2-85.

From 17-21 July IKE participated in READEX 2-85 with the USS SARATOGA (CV-60), and several surface and submarine units. IKE's participation included war at sea exercises, long range strikes, and ASW exercises. At the end of READEX, IKE's attention turned toward real world activity, with the intercept of two pairs of Soviet Bear D aircraft transiting to and from Cuba.

From 23-26 July IKE was inport Bridgetown, Barbados. Highlights of the visit included several projects by volunteers to improve local schools and other facilities. Diplomatic functions included an Embassy reception/luncheon and press luncheon aboard IKE.

After leaving Barbados, IKE transited to the Panama Operating Area to continue training. From 27 July - 4 Aug, the IKE/CVW-7 team exercised close air support, low level flight training, TARPS missions in support of a SAR effort, DACT with Howard AFB Air National Guard and war at sea exercises. Several Central American flag officers visited during this period and the command of CVW-7 was changed from CAPT. Ellis to CDR Matton.

IKE visited Montego Bay, Jamaica, from 5-9 August. Volunteers pitched in once again to assist local self-help programs. A diplomatic luncheon was held aboard IKE on 6 Aug for Montego Bay Embassy guests, including Ambassador and Mrs. Hewitt.

IKE got underway on 9 Aug, and returned to the area and vicinity of Honduras and Guatemala to continue training.

During the at sea period from 9-15 Aug, IKE hosted many Honduran, Guatemalan and Panamanian visitors to observe the carrier operating environment. Guests included COMUSSOUTHCOM, U.S. Charge D'Affairs to Panama, Panamanian Cabinet Members, MGEN Commanding 193 INF BDE, USDAO, Panamanian Second VP, Deputy CO Panamanian Air Force, Acting CO Panamanian Navy, Honduran CNO, David Martin and crew - CBS News, and a USSOUTHCOM news team.

The transit from the Panamanian Operating Area to the Puerto Rican Operating Area began 15 Aug. During the transit and subsequent operating period, IKE and CVW-7 conducted long-range strikes, war at sea exercises, ASW exercises and coordinated exercises with the USS CORAL SEA (CV-43).

IKE departed the Puerto Rican Operating Area on 19 Aug enroute Norfolk.

From 22-26 Aug IKE was inport Norfolk.

On 27 Aug, IKE got underway for exercise Ocean Safari.

On 28 Aug IKE hosted a visit by VADM Dalton, DEPSACLANT, and Senator William P. Gramm (R-Texas).

IKE's participation in Ocean Safari 27 Aug - 3 Sept included interaction with a large number of U.S. and NATO ships, including USS AMERICA (CV-66) and USS SARATOGA (CV-60). Dual carrier flight operations highlighted this period, and included defense against manned raids, AEW against USAF assets, ASW screening and war at sea exercises. The large number of NATO players and a constant Soviet presence added to Ocean Safari's viability.

On 3 Sept, IKE concluded participation in Ocean Safari, and commenced her transit to Norfolk. On 4 Sept, IKE bid farewell to her airwing for the last time.

IKE was inport Norfolk 4-9 Sept.

On 9 Sept, IKE began a week of carrier qualifications for Reserve Carrier Air Wing 20 in the Virginia Capes. These were the most extensive and tactically current operations ever conducted by a reserve air wing.

The period 9-19 Sept was filled with all facets of training for CVWR-20. This included day and night cyclic flight operations, CAP/AIC, ASUW, ECM, DACT, Photo recce, a WASEX and bombing Stumpy Point and Dare County targets. Also during this period, IKE hosted a steady flow of visitors, including guests from CNO, SECNAV, COMNAVRESFOR, OLA, CNAL and COMNAVBASE. CHINFO media that visited IKE included Jim Gerstenzang L.A. Times.

IKE returned to Norfolk 19 Sept to prepare for Dependents Day Cruise.

On 21 Sept, IKE dependents viewed at sea carrier operations first-hand. The cruise included weapons demonstrations, an air show, arrested landings and catapult launch, and an impromptu Blue Angels fly-by.

From 22-27 Sept, IKE was inport Norfolk.

From 27 Sept- 1 Oct, IKE transited deadstick to NAVSHIPYARD Portsmouth's sheltered berths to evade Hurricane "Gloria's" winds and seas.

From 1-26 Oct, IKE was inport Norfolk.

On 26 Oct IKE entered Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. to begin her complex overhaul.

In recognition of the outstanding performance of the ship, Commander, Naval Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, awarded IKE the Battle Efficiency "E" Award for 1985. In addition to the overall award, departmental "E"'s were given to Weapons, Operations, Supply and Communications.