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DNS-H
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Command Operations Report

This report is **required** by commands listed in **SNDL Parts 1 & 2** and all operational **Task Forces, Groups and Units** temporarily established to meet operational requirements.

The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. See instructions appendices for assistance in compiling and on submitting this form and any attachments.

Electronic documents should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF or plain text. Documents in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. List any enclosures that are not electronic and submit in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM. Photographs submitted electronically should be in JPG, TIFF or GIF format.

1. Command Data (Boxes will expand as information is typed)

Name of your Command or Organization: USS LASSEN (DDG 82)

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: 21956

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: FRANCIS First: ROBERT M.I.: C Rank: CDR

Date Assumed Command: 2015-05-13

Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations: LASSEN is Forward Deployed to Yokosuka, Japan and conduct routine patrols in the 7th Fleet area of responsibility in support of security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region. The mission of LASSEN is to operate in a high-

density multi-threat environment as an integral member of a strike or surface action group to include striking targets along hostile shorelines and well inland. In addition, LASSEN provides its own air warfare, surface warfare and anti-submarine warfare and can effectively provide local area protection to underway replenishment groups, amphibious ready groups, and other military units.

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): Yokosuka, Japan

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: Commander, Destroyer Squadron FIFTEEN

Administrative: Commander, Destroyer Squadron FIFTEEN

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable):
Commander, Task Force SEVENTY (CTF 70), Carrier Strike Group FIVE (CSG 5), mission in support of security and stability in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable): N/A

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable:

MH-60R, HSM-51, WARLORD 00, WARLORD 51 (FEB-APR)

MH-60R, HSM-51, WARLORD 00, WARLORD 51 (MAY-AUG)

MH-60R, HSM-51, WARLORD 00, WARLORD 04 (SEP-NOV)

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable):

Helicopter Squadron Marine (HSM) 51 Detachment 3

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 35 Enlisted: 270 Civilian: 0

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): LT [REDACTED]

Job Title/Office Code: Fire Control Officer (FCO), Public Affairs Officer (PAO)

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available): [REDACTED]

Phone number(s): DSN [REDACTED]

Command Mailing Address: Unit 100190, Box 1, FPO AP 96671

(After 12FEB2016: Unit 100190, Box 1, FPO AA 34091)

2. Commander's Assessment

In 2015, LASSEN participated in numerous multinational exercises, port visits, essential certifications, maintaining a high level of efficiency and professionalism. LASSEN is a proven, combat-ready ship who continues to demonstrate all her might during both strike group and independent operations. At the same time, LASSEN's crew maintained high morale and spirit that catapulted her through a dynamic and challenging year. With the execution of multiple exercises and highly successful inspections, LASSEN proved that she is the best FDNF ship on the waterfront.

3. Chronology

<u>MISSION</u>	<u>SEA DATES</u>	<u>DAYS UNDERWAY</u>
Inpt Yokosuka, Japan – Leave/Upkeep	01JAN-11JAN	
TRAV	12JAN-31JAN	
MOB-D LTT	12JAN-16JAN	
Holiday Party	16JAN	
USW Cert 2.4	19JAN-20JAN	2
ATFP LTT/CV	20JAN-23JAN	
MOB-D CV	26JAN-30JAN	
STW 2.3 A	26JAN-30JAN	
U/W East China Sea Patrol	03FEB-25FEB	21
RAS	10FEB	
TRILAT	13FEB-14FEB	
RAS	17FEB	
RAS	24FEB	
Inpt Kure, Japan	25FEB-27FEB	
Inpt Yokosuka, Japan	01MAR	
U/W enrt South Korea	02MAR-04MAR	3
Inpt Donghae, South Korea – Foal Eagle Plan	05MAR-07MAR	
U/W Foal Eagle/MASCO Cert	08MAR-11MAR	4
Inpt Donghae, South Korea	12MAR-13MAR	
U/W IVO Philippine Sea	14MAR-19MAR	6
COMMS 1.0/READ E-3/1.1 Cert	15MAR-20MAR	
Inpt Guam – Multi Sail Planning Conf	20MAR-22MAR	
U/W Multi Sail 2015	23MAR-26MAR	4
Inpt Guam	27MAR-20MAR	
U/W IVO Philippine Sea	31MAR-01APR	2
Inpt Yokosuka, Japan	02APR	
CMAV	02APR-14MAY	
3M 1.3 Cert	06APR-10APR	

<u>MISSION</u>	<u>SEA DATES</u>	<u>DAYS UNDERWAY</u>
STW 2.4 A Cert	06APR-10APR	
SUP 1.3 Cert	13APR-17APR	
FST-J Preps	13APR-17APR	
FST-J	20APR-24APR	
Command Picnic	24APR	
COMMS 1.2 Cert	27APR-01MAY	
SUP 1.3 Cert	04MAY-08MAY	
NSFS Team Trainer	04MAY-08MAY	
Change of Command	13MAY	
Ammo Onload	15MAY	
U/W East China Sea Patrol	15MAY-11JUN	28
NSFS 2.4 B Cert	18MAY-22MAY	
Inpt Okinawa BSP	18MAY	
TRILAT – Turkey, ROKN	23MAY	
TRILAT – French	25MAY	
Inpt Sasebo, Japan	26MAY-28MAY	
RAS AME	29MAY	
U/W South China Sea Patrol	12JUN-02AUG	52
Inpt Subic Bay, Philippines BSP	03JUN	
RAS WSD	10JUN	
SCS PPO	21JUN-23JUN	
Inpt Subic Bay, Philippines BSP	01JUL-05JUL	
SUP 1.4 Cert	01JUL-05JUL	
Inpt Changhi, Singapore – CARAT	12JUL-18JUL	
U/W ISO CARAT Singapore	19JUL-23JUL	
Inpt Changhi, Singapore – CARAT Debrief	23JUL-24JUL	
3M LTT	20JUL-24JUL	
Inpt Yokosuka, Japan	03AUG-12SEP	
3M 1.4 Cert	03UG-07AUG	
SWOcial	06AUG	
ERAT Prep	10AUG-14AUG	
SWOcial	14AUG	
House Hunting/Initial HPA Transition	09AUG-21AUG	
STW FORTRESS PREDATOR	17AUG-21AUG	
MOB-E ATG LTT	17AUG-21AUG	
MOB-E ISIC LTT	24AUG-28AUG	
U/W ISO MOB-E Preps	26AUG-28AUG	3
MOB-E CV	08SEP-11SEP	2
RAS POS	18SEP	

<u>MISSION</u>	<u>SEA DATES</u>	<u>DAYS UNDERWAY</u>
Inpt Yokosuka, Japan U/W South China Sea Patrol	12SEP-13SEP 13SEP-11NOV	62
Inpt Seppanagr, Malaysia – Liberty FON RAS WSD	19OCT-21OCT 26OCT-27OCT 29OCT	
Inpt Brunei – CARAT U/W ISO CARAT Brunei THR CSG Escort RAS WSD U/W enrt Yokosuka, Japan Inpt Yokosuka, Japan U/W Ammo Offload Inpt Yokosuka, Japan – Leave/Upkeep CMAV EXPSAF 1.0, 1.1, 1.2 Cert	02NOV-04NOV 04NOV 05NOV-09NOV 06NOV 09NOV-11NOV 12NOV-15NOV 16NOV-18NOV 20NOV-31DEC 19NOV-23DEC 20NOV-04DEC	3

Cumulative Days Away from Homeport: 196

Acronymns

ACU - Aircraft Control Unit	INSURV – Inspection and Survey
AIS – Automated Information System	ISATT – Integrated Ship Air Team Trainer
ATFP – Anti-Terrorism Force Protection	LTT – Learning Training Team
ATG – Afloat Training Group	MASOC – Maritime Air Support Operations Center’s
AVCERT – Aviation Facilities Certification	MOB – Mobility
AW/SW/EW – Air Warfare Surface Warfare Electronic Warfare	N – Navigation
BSH – Basic Ship Handling	NSFS – Naval Surface Fire Support
CIWS – Close-In Weapons System	PAC – Pre-Action Calibration
CMAV – Continuous Maintenance Availability	PVST – Port Visit
COMREL – Community Relations	RAP – Recognized Air Picture
CRY/INT – Cryptology Intelligence	RAS – Replenishment at Sea
CSICP – Cyber Security Inspection and Certification Program	READ-E – Readiness Evaluation
DTE – Detect to Engage	S – Seamanship
E – Engineering	SAG – Surface Action Group
ECS – East China Sea	SAR – Search and Rescue
EKMS – Electronic Key Management System	SAU – Search and Attack Unit
ERAT – Engineering Readiness Assessment Team	SCAT - Small Caliber Action Team
EXPSAF – Explosive Safety	SCS – South China Sea
FDNF – Forward Deployed Naval Forces	THR – USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT
FST-J – Fleet Synthetic Training - Joint	TYCOM – Type Commander
HSM – Helicopter Squadron Maritime	ULT – Unit Level Training
INPT – Inport	U/W – Underway
IRAT – INSURV Readiness Assessment Team	USW – Undersea Warfare

Narrative

1. Operational Effectiveness. LASSEN had a landmark year in 2015 operating in the South China Sea and spending 115 days on station conducting 8 Persistent Presence Operation (PPO) transits through the Spratly Islands, more than any other ship in the Navy. The ship also set the standard for future platforms operating in Seventh Fleet in data collection and reporting. During 2015, the ship conducted more than 67 constructive kills, produced 47 tactically significant storyboards of which most were briefed at the 7th Fleet Flag Officer Level and above, and developed and distributed a Low Probability of Counter Detection Tactical Bulletin now in use throughout SEVENTH Fleet. Furthermore, LASSEN was hand picked to conduct the first Spratly Island FON of a PRC claimed feature since 2012. Commander, SEVENTH Fleet and the Secretary of Defense, personally visited the ship to thank the crew for their remarkable accomplishments on patrol and for the positive worldwide impact it had in defending Freedom of Navigation and enhancing regional stability.

2. Exercises. LASSEN demonstrated her capability and readiness to perform every mission, the first time every time. Whether it was conducting multi-national exercises or executing material inspections, LASSEN set the highest standard of excellence:

a. LASSEN participated in Foal Eagle 2015 with the Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN) off the Eastern coast of South Korea with DESRON SEVEN embarked. The exercise included DIVTACS, Anti-Submarine and Surface warfare exercises, as well as communications drills. During Foal Eagle LASSEN was praised for her performance as Scene Action Unit Commander during ASW Freeplay exercises, including the use of MH-60R helicopters, which greatly strengthened tactical and strategic coordination in Anti-Submarine warfare between the US and ROK Naval Forces. During Maritime Counter Special Operation Forces Exercise (MCSOFEX), LASSEN achieved the certification and was praised by DESRON SEVEN by the high level of proficiency of the LASSEN combat team. LASSEN's Force Air Defense Coordinator employed JSTARS to control up to eight aircraft at once and successfully engage all adversary contacts, greatly enhancing the Maritime Air Support Operations Center's (MASOC) flexibility.

b. During MULTISAIL 2015, LASSEN coordinated several exercises including Pac-Fires, DIVTACS, tactical demonstrations, SRBOC shoots, Anti-Submarine warfare exercises, OTS engagement, Helo – dropped MK-54 engagements and a Tomahawk Land Attack Cruise Missile live fire exercise. LASSEN's ability to perform in a complex warfare environment resulted in the successful execution of all tasks.

c. LASSEN participated in the Fleet Synthetic Training Joint (FST-J) Exercise 15-72 in April. Despite of the complicated LINK/C4I architecture for the event, LASSEN performed duties as ADU linking with over twenty units from C7F, CTF 70, RRN SG and CTF 76 and integrated seamlessly with USMC, USAF, USA and coalition Units during the dynamic and tactically challenging scenarios.

d. LASSEN participated in Singapore CARAT 2015. Under Commander DESRON SEVEN, LASSEN operated with the Singaporean Navy and other USN units strengthening relations in the South China Sea AOR while maximizing every opportunity for training. Several complex scenarios were executed in a bilateral exercise with Air, Surface and Subsurface units. LASSEN also functioned as SAU, SAG and ASW commander during several multi-warfare events.

e. LASSEN consistently excelled in all SEVENTH Fleet tasking, training exercises and patrols throughout the South China Sea. On short notice, LASSEN went from an underway training environment where she passed with flying colors to turning around and getting back underway within 24-hours for an 8-week real world tasking in support of SEVENTH Fleet priorities.

f. During CARAT Brunei 2015, LASSEN was the SAUC for a five ship bi-lateral event week, during which including LASSEN holding a reception for the US Ambassador to Brunei and Commander, Task Force SEVEN THREE. LASSEN was joined by the Military Sealift Command replenishment ship USNS MILLINOCKET, USS ANCHORAGE (LPD 23) a P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft from VQ-45, and ships and aircraft from the Brunei Navy. The bilateral exercise included complex mission scenarios with ships and aircraft. A simulated MEDEVAC casualty flight with group maneuvers, a gunnery exercise on moving targets, and several Visit Board Search & Seizure (VBSS) familiarization exercises. Additionally, LASSEN was the Officer Tactical Command (OTC) for the live fire gun exercise, in which, she took tactical control of 3 Singaporean Naval ships and fired multiple CIWS and small caliber shots at surface targets. The complexity of this event took extensive preparations, cross-deck planning, and several practice runs before execution. The results were phenomenal and team LASSEN better understood what it took to plan such a complex surface engagement scenario with multiple ships more importantly it solidified our relations with our South East Asian regional partners.

3. Warfare Readiness. LASSEN showcased her warfare readiness during Multi-Sail 2015, Foal Eagle 2015, NSFS Certification, CARAT Singapore, and CDS15 Operations in the Seventh Fleet area of operations.

a. LASSEN held 29 hours of active SONAR contact and 6 hours of passive SONAR contact on submarines during the 2015 calendar year.

b. LASSEN consistently excelled in all Seventh Fleet tasking, training exercises and patrols throughout the South China Sea. On short notice, LASSEN went from an underway training environment where she passed with flying colors to turning around and getting back underway within 24-hours for a nearly 8-week real world tasking in support of SEVENTH Fleet priorities.

c. LASSEN remains at the peak of readiness in Air Defense Coordination, qualified and ready to assume the duties as Force coordinator. With the George Washington Strike Group in March, LASSEN assumed duties as BC, flawlessly deconflicting

4. Real-world operations. As the most mission-ready destroyer in Forward Deployed Naval Forces (FDNF), LASSEN has met every commitment and maintained continuous readiness while excelling in real-world operations.

a. SEVENTH Fleet Presence. During transit in theater or exercises LASSEN continuously remained combat ready and performed at the highest levels. LASSEN conducted routine patrols in the East China Sea, South China Sea, and Philippine Sea

b. MH-60R Integration. LASSEN completed Integrated Ship Air Team Trainer (ISATT), successfully qualifying primary and secondary air crews. The combined efforts of LASSEN and HSM-51 Detachment Three utilized COMSEC, EKMS, LINK, and HAWKLINK to become qualified to conduct real-world integrated operations. Throughout ASW exercises in 2014 the team work of LASSEN and HSM-51 DET 3 proved the capabilities and enhanced the tactics the Romeo helicopter brings to Seventh Fleet operations.

c. Port Visits: LASSEN conducted Port Visits to Donghae, Guam, Sasebo, Okinawa, Kure, Malaysia, and Brunei. While in Guam for Multi Sail 2015, LASSEN participated in Champions Cup, competing in 11 sports events with other FDNF commands. LASSEN sailors upheld “Liberty is a Mission” and had zero incidents during every port visit.

5. Community Relations Projects.

Donghae, South Korea

6-7 MARCH – LASSEN Sailors joined together with Republic of Korean Navy members to explore the rich culture of South Korea. The trips included visits to sites around South Korea including Unification Observatory, Mureung Valley/Samhwa Temple, and Haesindang Park.

Guam

31MAR – LASSEN Sailors visited with the organization, Island Power Girls of Guam, interacting with young women dealing with social hardships of being a young woman. Sailors volunteered alongside the girls doing various items they enjoy like cooking, gardening, trail walks and painting.

21MAR – Sailors volunteered at the GAIN Animal Shelter in Guam, helping to clean out the living spaces for abandoned animals in need looking for new homes.

21MAR – Sailors cleaned the Marbo Cave in Guam of trash and debris. This location is a fresh watering hole that the Guam residents visit often, and Sailors were able to leave the areas in better shape than they visited.

Subic Bay, Philippines

04JUN – Sailors visited the Olongapo City Rizal Triangle Multi Purpose Center to play a basketball game against a year-round youth team from the area. This project was aimed at bringing Sailors the local community together for mutual sportsmanship.

03JUN – Sailors visited the Olongapo City Social Development Center For Girls, a community to strengthen girls who had been abused both physically and mentally. This project was aimed at educating Sailors on living in Olongapo City and interacting with the local community and surrounding area of Subic Bay.

Changhi, Singapore

16JUL – Sailors visited the Willing Hearts Soup kitchen to aide in preparing food for those in need around the city. Sailors helped prepare plates, wash dishes, load and unload trucks, and box meals to be delivered, contributing to the soup kitchen’s preparation of over approximately 5000 meals per day.

15JUL – LASSEN Sailors visited the PeaceHaven Nursing Home in Singapore. Sailors paired up with members from the Singaporean Navy to perform tasks around the facility, including clean the ambulance, residence rooms, and common areas.

6. Change of Command. LASSEN held a change of command ceremony May 13, while moored at its forward-deployed home port in Yokosuka, Japan. As the ship's company and invited guests looked on Cmdr. Michael Smith was relieved by Cmdr. Robert Francis during the traditional ceremony held pier-side at Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY).

4. Supporting Reports (Refer to specific guide for Ship/Shore/Aviation or Fleet Command)

N/A

5. Published Documents

- (1) Lassen Maintains Presence in the Western Pacific
- (2) Lassen Enhances Cooperation with JMSDF
- (3) Lassen Completes TRAV, Departs Yokosuka for Deployment
- (4) USS Lassen Increases Interoperability with JMSDF
- (5) USS Lassen Successfully Completes New Payment Process
- (6) USS Lassen Honors Women’s History Month
- (7) Allied Naval Exercise Strengthens Indo-Asia-Pacific Region
- (8) Midshipmen Experience Pacific Patrol Aboard FDNF Destroyer
- (9) USS Lassen Conducts Trilateral Exercises with Allied Navies
- (10) Lassen, ONI Train Together
- (11) USS Lassen Arrives in Subic Bay for a Port Visit
- (12) USS Lassen Promotes Maritime Security in South China Sea
- (13) Lassen Returns Home from Summer Deployment
- (14) USS Lassen Arrives in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia
- (15) USS Lassen Carries Out Change of Command

Welcome Aboard Materials:

- (16) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
- (17) Welcome Aboard Letter Template
- (18) Commanding Officer’s Command Philosophy

Misc:

- (19) Homeport Shift Newsletter

Command Websites:

- (1) <https://www.facebook.com/ussslassen>
 - (2) <http://www.navy.mil/local/ddg82/>
 - (3) <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ussslassen>
-

6. Photographs

- (1) Commanding Officer – CDR Robert Francis
 - (2) Executive Officer – CDR Thomas Chekouras
 - (3) Command Master Chief – CMC Robert Beachy
 - (4) Air Boss – LCDR [REDACTED]
 - (5) Combat Systems Officer – LT [REDACTED]
 - (6) Weapons Officer – LT [REDACTED]
 - (7) Chief Engineer – LT [REDACTED]
 - (8) Supply Officer – LT [REDACTED]
 - (9) Operations Officer – LT [REDACTED]
 - (10) Navigator – LT [REDACTED]
 - (11) Public Affairs Officer/Fire Control Officer – LT [REDACTED]
-

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