



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS PONCE (LPD-15)
FPO NEW YORK 09582-1717

5750
Ser LPD 15-PAO/438
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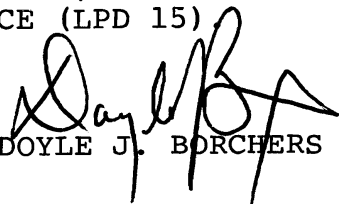
From: Commanding Officer, USS PONCE (LPD 15)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)

Subj: OPNAV 5750-1, COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS PONCE (LPD 15) 1985 Command History

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is the 1985 Command History for USS PONCE (LPD 15)


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USS PONCE (LPD 15) 1985 COMMAND HISTORY

In January of 1985, Captain Robert P. Lucas became the tenth officer to command PONCE when he relieved Captain Emory P. Zimmer. In April, the ship participated in Operation Handclasp, a relief effort for the poverty-stricken natives of Haiti and Honduras, and in May PONCE was once again a part of major amphibious operations, including Universal Trek and Exercise Solid Shield 85. PONCE spent the Fourth of July in New York City "showing the flag" and went immediately north to Newport, Rhode Island for Surface Warfare Officer's School amphibious orientation. The remaining two weeks of the month were involved with USMC Reserve Training at Onslow Bay, North Carolina followed by a liberty port visit to Boston, Massachusetts. An active onboard training program throughout the summer benefitted both USNA ROTC midshipmen and NJROTC students embarked for selected periods. PONCE deployed to the Mediterranean in November 1985 as an element of MARG 1-86 after concentrated workup periods in September and October, and was PCS for the MARG's first amphibious exercise at Sierra de Retin, Spain. The ship completed 1985 with an extended holiday upkeep period in Barcelona, Spain. PONCE was awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation in November for support of the U. S. diplomatic functions in Lebanon from April 1984 to August 1984.