

USS ARLINGTON (AGMR2)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO
AGMR2/12:cep
5750
Ser 096
14 January 1970

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Unclassified when enclosures (1) through (3), (6) and (9) through (11) are removed)

From: Commanding Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR 2)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Subj: History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR 2), 1969 (OPNAV Report 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

- Encl:
- (1) Basic Narrative, History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR 2) -- 1969
 - (2) Chronology of Employment -- 1969
 - (3) Underway Replenishments for 1969
 - (4) APOLLO 10 Communications Article for NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS BULLETIN
 - (5) Report of Communications Support for APOLLO 11 and Presidential Visit
 - (6) Communications Survey 7-27 dated March 1969
 - (7) Report on Midway Voice Communications Support
 - (8) Report on UHF Quality Control Study
 - (9) Eleventh Communications Patrol Report
 - (10) Twelfth Communications Patrol Report
 - (11) Thirteenth Communications Patrol Report
 - (12) Mid-Pac 69 Cruise Pamphlet
 - (13) FamilyGram dated 13 January 1969
 - (14) FamilyGram dated 17 March 1969
 - (15) FamilyGram dated 22 April 1969
 - (16) FamilyGram dated 30 May 1969
 - (17) FamilyGram dated 3 August 1969
 - (18) FamilyGram dated 18 September 1969
 - (19) FamilyGram dated 8 January 1970
 - (20) Roster of Officers on Board as of 1 March 1969
 - (21) Roster of Officers on Board as of 14 January 1970
 - (22) USS ARLINGTON's Decommissioning Program

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (22) are forwarded.


C. C. EDWARDS

Copy to:
CINCPACFLT
COMSERVPAC
INACTSHIPFAC

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ARLINGTON'S SHIP'S HISTORY 1969

As the new year began, the USS ARLINGTON was enroute from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to Subic Bay, P.I. where she arrived on 13 January. She departed for Yankee Station on 15 January and commenced special operations there on 17 January, providing direct communications support for U. S. Naval units operating in Tonkin Gulf. ARLINGTON departed the Tonkin Gulf on 6 February bound for Yokosuka, Japan, and upkeep. She remained in Yokosuka from 12 February until 7 March when she departed for special operations off eastern and southern Japan and around Okinawa. ARLINGTON was conducting a special communications survey with Western Pacific Communications Stations.

ARLINGTON then pulled into Sasebo, Japan, for an upkeep period from 17 March until 24 March. Upon departing Sasebo she transited the Taiwan Straits enroute to Hong Kong, B.C.C. Rest and Recreation for the crew was enjoyed in Hong Kong from 28 March until 4 April, with no Shore Patrol reports. ARLINGTON reported for her twelfth patrol of Special Operations on Yankee Station on 6 April. While on patrol ARLINGTON conducted a record day of personnel transfers with the USS HORNET during which 48 people were received or transferred by helicopter.

On 14 April ARLINGTON departed Yankee Station enroute to Lat. 10-45N, Long. 108-04E for rendezvous with the USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA 148) to test Apollo Communication Equipment. After the testing on 15 April she departed the area headed for Guam, on a route north of Luzon, Philippines. ARLINGTON arrived at Apra Harbor, Guam, on 22 April for refueling. During the brief stop at Guam, Captain H. D. MURPHREE, USN, (00904-60) reported aboard for duty as prospective Commanding Officer. Eight hours later ARLINGTON departed Guam enroute to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

On 1 May Captain H. D. MURPHREE, USN, 389859/1100, relieved Captain A. P. CARPENTER, USN, 283335/1100, as Commanding Officer at sea. The next day ARLINGTON arrived in Pearl Harbor and on 3 May reported to CTF 130, Manned Spacecraft Recovery Force Pacific, for operational control as TU 130.1.3, Primary Landing Area Communications Relay Unit. Her mission consisted of providing HF/UHF relay circuits to the Primary Recovery Ship, USS PRINCETON (LPH 5). These circuits would connect PRINCETON with CTF 130 in Hawaii and NASA in Houston. On 6 and 7 May ARLINGTON conducted communications tests and training with USS PRINCETON in the local Hawaiian operating areas in preparation for the Apollo 10 recovery operations, and upon completion, returned to Pearl Harbor. On 11 May ARLINGTON departed Pearl Harbor with USS PRINCETON, OTC and CTG 130.1, Commander Primary Recovery Group, for the Apollo 10 recovery area, east of Samoa and approximately 2400 miles south of HAWAII.

On the fourteenth day of May at Longitude 165°24'W and Latitude 0°0'N, the Royal High Court of the Raging Main was convened by the County of Equatis, Domain of Neptunis Rex on the good ship ARLINGTON. All hands participated in the traditional "crossing the line" ceremonies. "Pollywogs" were initiated into the Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep becoming Trusty Shellbacks.

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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On 18 May the Mid-Pacific Recovery Group arrived on station prepared for abort recovery operations during the launch phases of the Apollo 10 Moon Mission. On 26 May at 0554 local time, the Apollo 10 capsule splashed down between ARLINGTON and PRINCETON less than three miles from the Primary Recovery Group. Successful recovery operations followed and the three astronauts left USS PRINCETON in helicopters at 1400 local time. On their way to Samoa for further transportation to Hawaii, the astronauts flew by the ARLINGTON on her starboard side and were saluted by the crew. ARLINGTON and PRINCETON then departed the recovery area headed for Hawaii, arriving there on 31 May.

On 4 June ARLINGTON departed Pearl Harbor enroute Midway Island to provide Communications Support for the Presidential Summit Conference. Two days later ARLINGTON arrived at Midway Island. On 8 June President Nixon and President Thieu of South Vietnam arrived for their meeting. A two hundred man ARLINGTON Presidential Honor Guard saluted the two Presidents. ARLINGTON support consisted of ten two-way HF voice paths for press coverage and back-up teletypewriter channels to Hawaii. After the conference President Thieu departed about 1400 on 8 June. Before leaving, President Nixon spoke to the residents of Midway and to many of the ARLINGTON'S crew. On 9 June ARLINGTON left Midway enroute to Guam. On 15 June ARLINGTON arrived in Guam for a brief upkeep period and departed for the Tonkin Gulf on 21 June. ARLINGTON arrived on Yankee Station for the Thirteenth Patrol of Special Operations on 27 June.

On 7 July ARLINGTON left Yankee Station on short notice enroute to Apollo 11 Presidential support operations with a brief fuel stop in Guam. ARLINGTON arrived Guam on 13 July to receive fuel, supplies, personnel, and helicopter support equipment and for briefings concerning Presidential support operations. While in Guam a team from the White House Communications Agency was embarked, bringing with them special communications equipment to support the President's visit to the Apollo 11 splashdown area. On 15 July the ship departed Guam enroute Apollo 11 Recovery Area. On 21 July operational control of ARLINGTON was assumed by CTF 130, Commander Manned Spacecraft Recovery Force Pacific. ARLINGTON was designated TU 130.1.3, Primary Landing Area Communications Relay Unit. The mission of CTF 130 was to conduct training, plan and execute search and recovery operations in order to recover the Apollo 11 astronauts and command module safely. An additional mission was to provide search and rescue, air control and escort support for the Presidential Party Visit to ARLINGTON and to USS HORNET (CVS 12), Primary Recovery Ship, during Apollo 11 Recovery Operations. On 21 July ARLINGTON rendezvoused with HORNET for a high speed communication test. Upon completion the ship proceeded toward Johnston Atoll, anchoring there on 22 July. Later the same day ARLINGTON conducted day and night helicopter practice landing operations with two helicopters designated to bring the Presidential party to ARLINGTON. The next day she launched three boats to Johnston Atoll with one officer and 13 enlisted to provide space for helicopter stowage on board and additional surface SAR assets to CJTG 8.6 at Johnston Atoll. The President of the United States Richard M. Nixon, Secretary of State Rogers, Dr. Henry Kissinger, Veteran Apollo Astronaut Col. Frank Borman, and

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other members of the Presidential party totalling twenty one, plus ten pilots arrived via four helicopters from Johnston Atoll on 23 July at 1736 local time (+11X). The crew of the ARLINGTON manned the rail to honor the President. On arrival President Nixon proceeded through the side-boys and was greeted by Captain Murphree. Before going below the President spoke briefly to the ship's company. President Nixon noted that this was the first time he, a former Naval Officer, had spent the night aboard a Navy ship. Colonel Borman stated that the last time he saw the ARLINGTON was as he was landing from the Apollo 8 Moon Mission and that she had looked "Mighty Good" to him then. During his overnight stay on board, President Nixon toured the ship visiting the Wardroom and Mess Decks and talking with many ARLINGTON sailors. The next morning at 0440X the President and his party departed for the HORNET to view the Apollo 11 recovery and greet the astronauts. At 0551X the Apollo 11 capsule splashed down about five miles bearing 300°T from ARLINGTON. Successful recovery operations by the HORNET followed. The President and his party left HORNET via helicopters to Johnston Atoll for continuation of the President's trip. A fuel stop of Presidential helicopters aboard ARLINGTON had been planned for the return to Johnston Atoll. A change in the end of mission area moving the area closer to Johnston Atoll made the fuel stop unnecessary. During the transit of the Presidential Party from Johnston via ARLINGTON to HORNET and return, ARLINGTON provided Communication Support for the President in addition to support of CINCPAC (embarked in HORNET) and the TG 130.1 ships. The night before splash-down CTF 130 changed ARLINGTON's orders and positioned her within UHF range of HORNET to provide UHF/HF relay of Recovery Force communication circuits between the Primary Recovery ship and NASA at Houston and CTF 130 at Hawaii respectively.

On 24 July, at sunset, ARLINGTON recovered the three boats from Johnston. The ship departed Johnston enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. ARLINGTON transported two Air Force helicopters which were launched for Hickam AFB on 25 July with Combat Camera Group Detachment embarked. On 25 July she received word that the regular overhaul scheduled from 2 September to 1 December 1969, had been cancelled. On 26 July the ship arrived in Pearl Harbor. COMSEVENTHFLT advised that ARLINGTON was not presently required in WESTPAC due to shore-based communications improvements in Southeast Asia and recommended ARLINGTON be returned to FIRSTFLT as a contingency asset. Based on this recommendation, CINCPACFLT instructed COMFIRSTFLT to issue a major schedule change assigning ARLINGTON to FIRSTFLT and steaming her to Long Beach via a San Francisco port visit. Effective 30 July administrative assignment was changed temporarily to COMSERVRON ONE. A permanent shift was deferred pending resolution of FY 70 management plan. Continuation in the status of deployed overseas and Vietnam benefits was to remain in effect until further notice.

ARLINGTON's recommended employment, to be returned to FIRSTFLT as a contingency asset, was confirmed by a COMFIRSTFLT schedule changes. On 5 August ARLINGTON departed Pearl Harbor as CTU 13.9.8 enroute San Francisco, California for seven days of rest and relaxation. On 6 August the yacht WESTERLY reported a passenger ill with a kidney infection. CCGD 14 assumed SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC) and requested U. S. Navy assistance for communications and medical advice.

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USS HANCOCK (CVS 12) was requested to assist but was unable to gain radio contact with yacht. ARLINGTON had intermittent contact with WESTERLY through the BONNE HOMME RICHARD. At 070230Z ARLINGTON was requested to assist. ARLINGTON medical officer recommended patient receive immediate attention. SS GROVE CITY VICTORY was requested to divert from intended movement and evacuate patient at 070800Z. ARLINGTON established direct communications with WESTERLY at 071110Z and commenced passing medical advice. At 071235Z Commanding Officer ARLINGTON was designated On-Scene Commander (OSC) and was diverted to render assistance. Due to the serious condition of the patient ARLINGTON medical officer requested paramedics be deployed to administer medicine and care for patient until ARLINGTON arrived on scene. At 072200Z Air Force Rescue Aircraft 981 departed Honolulu with three paramedics aboard. SS GROVE CITY VICTORY arrived in the vicinity of WESTERLY at 080030Z and provided communication relay assistance. Rescue 981 arrived on scene and deployed paramedics at 080152. Paramedics reported at 080501Z that SS Grove City Victory was released. Air Force Rescue 859 departed Honolulu at 081000Z to assist with rendezvous between ARLINGTON and WESTERLY. Rendezvous was effected 081900Z at 38-00N 147-05W and the patient, Miss [REDACTED], plus one female companion, Miss [REDACTED] and three Air Force paramedics were transferred by motor whale boat. Patient and companion were received aboard in a civilian humanitarian status. Primary diagnosis was infectious hepatitis and dehydration. After all members received preventive treatment by medical officer, yacht WESTERLY departed the area at 081930Z enroute Newport Beach, California. ARLINGTON proceeded to San Francisco. On 11 August the ship arrived San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Hunter's Point, San Francisco, California. The patient was discharged to the custody of Mrs. [REDACTED] and advised to proceed immediately to San Francisco General Hospital for emergency admittance. The para-rescue team was debarked for further transportation to Honolulu. ARLINGTON's San Francisco arrival marked the first time in CONUS after over two years of support to the SEVENTHFLT, including Thirteen Patrols of Special Operations. A homeward bound pennant, 407 feet in length was flown representing the 407 personnel who had served on board nine months or longer. Upon arrival, Vietnam benefits were terminated. CINCPACFLT tasked ARLINGTON to conduct a project to implement a quality monitoring control program applicable to shipboard communication systems. COMEIRSTFLT concurred and recommended direct liaison be authorized ARLINGTON/TYCOMS for assistance/ship visits as required. On 18 August after seven days of rest and relaxation, she departed San Francisco enroute Long Beach, California for a scheduled upkeep period. Arrival in Long Beach on 21 August marked the first time ARLINGTON, since her conversion to an AGMR, had been in her home port.

On 22 August CNO and COMSERVPAC promulgated Navy plans for inactivation of ships as part of the Navy's "Project 703", an economy measure necessitated by fiscal restraints. COMSERVPAC changed ARLINGTON's schedule to comply with her intended inactivation. CTF 13 directed her to assume CTU 13.9.8 for transit to San Diego from Long Beach when ready for sea on 25 August. ARLINGTON departed Long Beach and arrived San Diego 25 August for preinactivation commencing 26 August. COMSERVGRU ONE directed the ship to proceed to Seal Beach, California, to off-load ammunition and pyrotechnics. On 26 August ARLINGTON

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departed San Diego for anchorage off Seal Beach. On 27 August her ammunition was off-loaded. The ship departed Seal Beach and arrived in San Diego on 28 August to continue pre-inactivation. COMSERVGRU ONE recommended that ARLINGTON be scheduled to report INACTSHIPFAC San Diego for operational and administrative control on 15 September vice 2 September 1969 as contained in CINCPACFLT operating schedule First Quarter FY 70. This change was recommended in order to complete required pre-inactivation actions. On 30 August ARLINGTON shifted her communications guard to NAVSTA San Diego due to the ship's intended inactivation.

On 0001 15 September ARLINGTON reported to the Naval Inactive Ships Maintenance Facility for inactivation. At this time she had 70% of her crew onboard and had complied with all directives applying to preparing for reporting for inactivation. On 15 November the ARLINGTON's crew had been reduced to 50%. She shifted to Pier 10 at the San Diego Naval Station from Pier 8 on the morning of 28 November. On 5 December the Executive Officer, Commander C. C. EDWARDS, USN, 514926/1100 relieved Captain H. D. MURPHREE, USN, 389859/1100 as Commanding Officer.

The remainder of the year ARLINGTON continued inactivation work and is scheduled to be decommissioned at 1030 on 14 January 1970. This will be the final yearly ship's history due to the impending decommissioning.

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USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
CHRONOLOGY 1969

1 JAN - 13 JAN	ENROUTE PEARL HARBOR TO SUBIC BAY, P.I.
13 JAN - 15 JAN	REPLENISHING IN SUBIC BAY
15 JAN - 17 JAN	ENROUTE TO YANKEE STATION
17 JAN - 6 FEB	SPECIAL OPS IN TONKIN GULF
6 FEB - 12 FEB	ENROUTE TO YOKOSUKA, JAPAN
12 FEB - 7 MAR	UPKEEP IN YOKOSUKA
7 MAR - 17 MAR	COMMUNICATION SURVEY OFF EASTERN JAPAN & OKINAWA
17 MAR - 24 MAR	UPKEEP IN SASEBO, JAPAN
24 MAR - 28 MAR	ENROUTE TO HONG KONG, B.C.C.
28 MAR - 4 APR	R & R IN HONG KONG
4 APR - 6 APR	ENROUTE TO YANKEE STATION
6 APR - 14 APR	SPECIAL OPS IN TONKIN GULF
14 APR - 15 APR	APOLLO COMM EQUIP. TEST
15 APR - 22 APR	ENROUTE TO GUAM
22 APR	REFUELING IN GUAM
22 APR - 2 MAY	ENROUTE TO PEARL HARBOR
1 MAY	CAPT H. D. MURPHY ASSUMED COMMAND
22 MAY - 6 MAY	APOLLO 10 BRIEFING IN PEARL HARBOR BY CTF 130
6 MAY - 8 MAY	LOCAL OPS & APOLLO 10 TRAINING
8 MAY - 11 MAY	APOLLO 10 RECOVERY PREPARATIONS IN PEARL HARBOR
11 MAY - 18 MAY	ENROUTE TO APOLLO 10 RECOVERY AREA
14-MAY	CROSSED THE EQUATOR

ENCLOSURE (2)

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CHRONOLOGY 1969 (CONT)

18 MAY - 26 MAY	PREPARATION FOR APOLLO 10 RECOVERY
26 MAY	APOLLO 10 CAPSULE-RECOVERY BY USS PRINCETON
26 MAY - 31 MAY	ENROUTE TO PEARL HARBOR
31 MAY - 4 JUN	APOLLO 10 DBRIEFING IN PEARL HARBOR
4 JUN - 6 JUN	ENROUTE TO MIDWAY ISLAND
6 JUN - 9 JUN	PRESIDENTIAL SUMMIT CONFERENCE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT
9 JUN - 15 JUN	ENROUTE TO GUAM
15 JUN - 21 JUN	UPKEEP IN GUAM
21 JUN - 27 JUN	ENROUTE TO YANKEE STATION
27 JUN - 7 JUL	SPECIAL OPS IN TONKIN GULF
7 JUL - 13 JUL	ENROUTE TO GUAM -
13 JUL - 15 JUL	REPLENISHING IN GUAM
15 JUL - 21 JUL	ENROUTE APOLLO 11 RECOVERY AREA
21 JUL	HIGH SPEED APOLLO/PRESIDENTIAL COMM. TEST
22 JUL - 23 JUL	ANCHORED JOHNSTON ATOLL, PRESIDENTIAL HELO NIGHT LANDING PRACTICE. ENROUTE TO PRIME RECOVERY AREA
23 JUL	PRESIDENT NIXON AND PARTY ARRIVED
24 JUL	PRESIDENT NIXON AND PARTY DEPARTED
24 JUL	APOLLO 11 CAPSULE RECOVERY BY USS HORNET
25 JUL - 26 JUL	ENROUTE JOHNSTON ATOLL
26 JUL - 5 AUG	VOYAGE REPAIRS IN PEARL HARBOR
30 JUL -	ASSIGNED TO COMSERVGRU ONE
5 AUG - 7 AUG	ENROUTE CONUS
7 AUG - 8 AUG	CONDUCTED SAR MISSION AS OSC.

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CHRONOLOGY 1969 (CONT)

8 AUG RESCUED ILL GIRL PATIENT FROM YACHT "WESTERLY"
8 AUG - 11 AUG ENROUTE TO SAN FRANCISCO
11 AUG - 18 AUG R & R IN SAN FRANCISCO
18 AUG - 21 AUG ENROUTE TO LONG BEACH
21 AUG - 25 AUG INPORT LONG BEACH
23 AUG RECEIVED WORD ARLINGTON WAS TO BE INACTIVATED
25 AUG ENROUTE TO SEAL BEACH
26 AUG ENROUTE TO SEAL BEACH
27 AUG OFF LOADED AMMO IN SEAL BEACH
28 AUG ENROUTE TO SAN DIEGO
28 AUG - 14 SEP PREINACTIVATION IN SAN DIEGO
30 AUG SHIFTED COMM GUARD TO NAVSTA SAN DIEGO
15 SEP REPORTED TO NAVINACTSHIPFAC WITH 70% CREW FOR INACTIVATION
15 SEP - 15 NOV CONTINUED INACTIVATION
6 OCT CREWS MESS TERMINATED, MESSING COMMENCED IN LPA IN VICINITY OF BERTH
15 NOV CREW REDUCED TO 50%
15 NOV - 28 NOV CONTINUED INACTIVATION
28 NOV SHIFTED FROM PIER 8 TO PIER 10, CREW MOVED OFF SHIP TO APL-9
28 NOV - 5 DEC CONTINUED INACTIVATION
5 DEC CDR C. C. EDWARDS ASSUMED COMMAND
5 DEC - 14 JAN CONTINUED INACTIVATION
14 JAN 1970 DECOMMISSIONED

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USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
FPO San Francisco 96601

AGMR2:311:wa
5750
7 April 1969

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Declassified upon removal of enclosure (1)

From: Command Historian, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
To: Executive Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Subj: March History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) for March 1969
(2) Roster of officers aboard as of 1 April 1969

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded.

C. T. Brown

C. T. BROWN, ENS, USNR

Copy to:
ALL DEPT HEADS (w/encl (1))

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Mr. Brown,

Remove present Encl (1) and substitute New Encl.

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*W.R.
Hick*

Enclosure (1)

MARCH HISTORY FOR ARLINGTON

The first of March found USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) completing upkeep period in Yokosuka, Japan. One week later on 7 March, ARLINGTON departed Yokosuka for Special Operations off eastern and southern Japan and around Okinawa. ARLINGTON was conducting Communications Survey with Western Pacific Communications Stations while enroute Sasebo. ARLINGTON arrived Sasebo 17 March for an upkeep period. After a week in port, ARLINGTON departed Sasebo on 24 March enroute Hong Kong, B.C.C. via Taiwan Straits. ARLINGTON arrived in Hong Kong on 28 March and commenced a period of rest and recreation. The end of the month found ARLINGTON enjoying R & R in Hong Kong with no incidents or formal shore patrol reports.

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Enclosure (1)
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USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
FFO San Francisco 96601

DECLASSIFIED

AGMR-2:311:um
5750
13 May 1969

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures)

From: Command Historian, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
To: Commanding Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
Via: Executive Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Subj: April History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) for April 1969
(2) Underway Replenishments
(3) Gunnery Exercises

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1), (2), and (3) are forwarded.

CT Brown
C. T. BROWN, ENS, USNR

Copy to:
All Dept Heads (w/encs)

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Enclosure (1)
APRIL HISTORY FOR ARLINGTON

April found USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) completing rest and recreation in Hong Kong, B.C.C., which was not marred by incidents or shore patrol reports. ARLINGTON departed Hong Kong on 2 April enroute to Yankee Station, Tonkin Gulf. Two days later, 6 April, ARLINGTON arrived on Yankee Station for the Twelfth Patrol of Special Operations.

On 8 April ARLINGTON had an UNREP with USS IALUGA (AO-62) in the morning and a VERTREP with USS MARS (AFS-1) in the afternoon. During this period HORNET provided several trips daily with logistics helos, including one record day when 48 personnel were received or transferred. Immediately prior to Yankee Station departure on 14 April, ARLINGTON had an UNREP with USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145). Upon completion ARLINGTON left station enroute to Lat 10-45N, Long 108-04E for rendezvous with USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) to test Apollo Communication equipment. After testing on 15 April, ARLINGTON departed NEWPORT NEWS and the Market Time areas enroute to Guam via a route north of Luzon, Philippines. In the early morning on 22 April ARLINGTON arrived at Apra Harbor, Guam for refueling. Captain H. D. MURPHREE, USN, (00904-60), reported aboard for duty as Prospective Commanding Officer. Eight hours later ARLINGTON departed Guam enroute to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

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Enclosure (2)
UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>TYPE OF BOG</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED</u>
8 April 69	USS TALUGA (AO-62)	Sp wire Mar La Highline	Fuel Freight and Personnel
8 April 69	USS MARS (AFS-1)	VEP REP	Provisions and Stores
14 April 69	USS BASSAYANPA (AO-145)	Sp wire Mar La Highline	Fuel Freight, Movies, and Personnel

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Enclosure (3)
GUNNERY EXERCISES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE OF EXERCISE</u>	<u>TYPE OF AMMO</u>	<u>ROUNDS EXPENDED</u>
10 April 69	Z-30-G	BBP, I	46
10 April 69	Z-30-G	.50 CALIBER	410
28 April 69	Small Arms	.45 CALIBER .30 CALIBER	1000 1642

Enclosure (3)
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Command History

USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
FPO San Francisco 96001

AGMR2:311:raw
5750
24 June 1969

CO [REDACTED] (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures)

From: Command Historian, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
To: Commanding Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
Via: Executive Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Subj: May History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

- Encl: (1) History of USS ARLINGTON for May 1969
(2) Underway Replenishments
(3) Transfer of Command, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) (OPNAV Report Symbol 5000-1)
(4) USS ARLINGTON Change of Command - Navy News Release
(5) Commanding Officer's Biography
(6) Commanding Officer's Photograph
(7) Officer Social Roster of 15 May 1969
(8) May Family Gram

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are forwarded.

C. T. BROWN, BMC, USNR

Copy to:
All Dept Heads (w/encs)

DECLASSIFIED [REDACTED]

Enclosure (1)
MAY HISTORY FOR ARLINGTON

On the first day of May Captain H. D. MURPHREE, 389859/1100, USN, relieved Captain A. P. CARPENTER, 283335/1100, USN, as Commanding Officer USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2). The change of command ceremonies were conducted at sea while enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

On 2 May ARLINGTON arrived in Pearl Harbor. The next day ARLINGTON reported to TF 130, Manned Spacecraft Recovery Force Pacific, for operational control as TU 130.1.3, Primary Landing Area Communications Relay Unit. ARLINGTON's mission consisted of providing HF relay circuits to the Primary Recovery Ship, USS PRINCETON (LPH-5). These circuits connected PRINCETON with CTF 130 in Hawaii and NASA in Houston.

On 6 May ARLINGTON proceeded to local operating areas for two days of communication tests and training with USS PRINCETON in preparation for APOLLO 10 recovery operations and, upon completion, returned to Pearl Harbor. On 11 May ARLINGTON departed Pearl Harbor with USS PRINCETON, OTC and CTG 130.1, Commander Primary Recovery Group, for APOLLO 10 Recovery Area, east of Samoa and approximately 2400 miles south of Hawaii.

On the fourteenth day of May at Longitude 165° 24'W and Latitude 0° 0'N, the Royal High Court of the Raging Main was convened by the County of Equatis, Domin of Neptunus Rex on the good ship ARLINGTON. All hands participated in the traditional "crossing the line" ceremonies. "Follywogs" were initiated into the Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep becoming Trusty Shellbacks.

On 18 May the Mid-Pacific Recovery Group arrived on station prepared for recovery operations during the launch phase of the APOLLO 10 Moon Mission.

On 25 May ARLINGTON replenished underway from USS CHIPOLA (AO-63). On 26 May at 0554 local time, the APOLLO 10 capsule splashed down between ARLINGTON and PRINCETON less than three miles from the Primary Recovery Group. Successful recovery operations followed. The three astronauts left PRINCETON in helicopters at 1400 local time. On their way to Samoa for further transportation to Hawaii, the astronauts flew by ARLINGTON's starboard side and were saluted by the crew. With the capsule safely on board PRINCETON and recovery operations completed, ARLINGTON and PRINCETON departed the recovery area for Pearl Harbor, arriving there on the last day of May.

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Enclosure (2)
UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>TYPE OF RIG</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED</u>
25 May 69	USS CHIPOLA (AO-63)	Spanwire Manila Highline	Fuel Freight, Mail, and Personnel

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Command History

USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
FPO San Francisco 96601

AGMR2:311:hn
5750
8 July 1969

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Unclassified upon removal of enclosures)

From: Command Historian, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
To: Commanding Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)
Via: Executive Officer, USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Subj: June History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) History of USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) for June 1969
(2) Underway Replenishments
(3) Gunnery Exercises

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1), (2), and (3) are forwarded.

CS Brown
C. T. BROWN, ENS, USNR

Copy to:
Executive Officer (w/encls)
All Dept Heads (w/encls)

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Enclosure (1)
JUNE HISTORY FOR ARLINGTON

June found USS ARLINGTON (AGMR-2) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii for Apollo 10 Recovery Debriefing. On 4 June ARLINGTON departed Pearl Harbor enroute Midway Island to provide Communications Support for the Presidential Summit Conference. Two days later ARLINGTON arrived at Midway Island.

On 8 June President Nixon and President Thieu of South Vietnam arrived for their meeting. A two hundred man ARLINGTON Presidential Honor Guard saluted the two presidents. ARLINGTON support consisted of ten two-way HF voice paths for press coverage and back-up teletypewriter channels to Hawaii. After the conference President Thieu departed about 1400 on 8 June. Before leaving, President Nixon spoke to the residents of Midway and to many of the ARLINGTON's crew. On 9 June ARLINGTON left Midway enroute to Guam.

On 15 June ARLINGTON arrived in Guam for a six-day upkeep period. ARLINGTON departed Guam for the Tonkin Gulf on 21 June.

ARLINGTON arrived on Yankee Station for the Thirteenth Patrol of Special Operations on 27 June. The last day of the month found ARLINGTON replenishing underway with USS KENNEBEC (AO-36) in the Tonkin Gulf.

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Enclosure (2)
UNDERWAY REPLENISHMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SHIP</u>	<u>TYPE OF RIG</u>	<u>TRANSFERRED</u>
30 June 69	USS KENNEBEC (AO-36)	Spanwire Manila Highline	Fuel Freight, Mail, Movies, and Personnel

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Enclosure (3)
GUNNERY EXERCISES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE OF EXERCISE</u>	<u>TYPE OF AMMO</u>	<u>ROUNDS EXPENDED</u>
25 June 69	Z-99-G	HE-PD	92

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