

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS COCHRANE (DDG 21)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

DDG21/AIW:rs
5750
Ser C17-76
20 August 1976

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From: Commanding Officer, USS COCHRANE (DDG-21)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History for Calendar Year 1975; forwarding of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS COCHRANE (DDG-21) Command History Chronology
of Outstanding Events
(2) USS COCHRANE (DDG-21) Command History Narrative
(3) Ships Official Photograph
(4) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

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


M. G. CLARITY

Reg 104 (8-3D)

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~~IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER~~
NUMBER 11652

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- January 1975 - Completed extended repair availability period with Ships Repair Facility Subic Bay, R.P.
- Underway for local operations in Subic Bay Op areas.
 - Participated in READEX 1-75 WESTPAC Training
 - Participated in Missile-ex 3-75; fired two 1911 tartar missiles.
 - Port visit to Hong Kong, BCC.
- February 1975 - Underway for local operations in Subic Bay Op areas.
- Conducted two days of Naval Gunfire Qualifications at the Tabones NGFS Range.
- March 1975 - Completed upkeep period in Subic Bay, R.P.
- Participated in SEATO Naval Exercise "Sea Fox" with units from the U. S., Philippines, British and Thailand Navies.
 - Port visit to Manila
 - Participated in Missile-Ex 4-75; fired one 1973 tartar missile.
- April 1975 - Completed upkeep period in Subic Bay, R. P.
- Provided Naval gunfire support and escort services for the evacuation of Vietnamese refugees transported to Phu Quoc Island in the Gulf of Thailand.
 - Returned to Subic Bay, R. P.
 - Returned to Vietnam and provided Naval gunfire support and area defense for operation "Frequent Wind". (Evacuation of Americans and South Vietnamese refugees from Saigon and Vung Tau.)
 - Took a South Vietnamese refugee ship, with approximately 300 persons aboard, in tow and

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- towed her for approximately eight hours to the staging area for refugees off the Vietnamese coast.
- May 1975 - Out chopped Seventh Fleet and transited to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- Moored Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and commenced post deployment leave and upkeep period.
- June 1975 - Ended post deployment leave and upkeep period.
- Completed repair availability period with USS BRYCE CANYON (AD-36) and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- Dependents cruise to the island of Kauai.
- Participated in filming of a special TV program for Hawaii Five-0 series.
- July 1975 - Dependents cruise to Hilo, Hawaii.
- Participated in 14th Annual Festival of the Pacific in Hilo.
- Commander Naval Surface Force Pacific, Vice Admiral TIDD visits COCHRANE inport Pearl Harbor.
- Transited to Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range and fired one tartar missile.
- August 1975 - Escorted USS RANGER in waters off Hawaii in a composite training unit exercise.
- Completed repair availability period with USS BRYCE CANYON (AD-36) at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
- Commenced RAV at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.
- September 1975 - CDR Michael G. CLARITY relieved CDR Joseph E. BOLAND Jr. as Commanding Officer while moored at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor.
- October 1975 - Completed RAV at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.
- Underway for local operations in Pearl Harbor Op areas.

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Hosted Japanese Training Ship KATORI during her visit to Pearl Harbor.

- November 1975 - Completed repair availability periods with the USS AJAX and USS BRYCE CANYON. Conducted Engineering casualty control training assisted by Type Commander's Mobile training Team in preparation for Operational Propulsion Plant examination.
- December 1975 - Host ship for visiting Canadian Squadron.
- Upkeep Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.
 - Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable J. William MIDDENDORF III and Commander-in-Chief Pacific Fleet, Admiral M. F. WEISNER visited COCHRANE inport Pearl Harbor.
 - Operational Propulsion Plant Examination conducted by CINCPACFLT PEB.
 - Holiday leave period.

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COMMAND HISTORY FOR
USS COCHRANE (DDG-21)
1975

COCHRANE began 1975 by celebrating New Year's Day inport at U. S. Naval Station Subic Bay, R. P. An intensive three week repair availability period with the Ship's Repair Facility, Subic Bay immediately followed the arrival of the New Year. Upon completion of this availability, COCHRANE got underway for local operations in the Subic Bay operation areas. In the month of February, COCHRANE conducted Naval gunfire exercises at the Tabones Naval Gunfire range just north of Subic Bay. A missile exercise followed the NGFS exercises and COCHRANE then closed out the month of February returning to port at Subic Bay.

In early March, COCHRANE completed an up-keep period in Subic Bay and got underway for Manila to join a SEATO task force participating in exercise "SEA FOX". COCHRANE anchored in Manila Harbor along with warships and auxiliaries from Great Britain, Thailand, and the Philippines. After two days of pre-sail conferences, the exercise commenced; several successful gun shoots, missile shoots and anti-submarine exercises highlighted COCHRANE's participation. "SEA FOX" ended with a four day port visit to Manila. Shopping, sight-seeing and numerous recreational activities in Manila made it one of the bright spots of the cruise.

April proved to be the most significant month of the deployment. COCHRANE was unexpectedly called upon to provide Naval gunfire support and escort services for the evacuation of Vietnamese refugees; from areas north of Saigon, to a relocation center on the island of Phu Quoc in the Gulf of Thailand. COCHRANE loaded out and got underway within 48 hours. Within the next 48 hours she was on station and assumed her duties in an area defense posture protecting the refugee ships that were off-loading their personnel cargoes to Phu Quoc. After seven days, COCHRANE's mission was completed and she returned to Subic Bay in anticipation of transiting back to Pearl Harbor. COCHRANE was then called upon to return to the Vung Tau area of South Vietnam to provide Naval gunfire support and area defense for operation "Frequent Wind", the aerial extraction of Americans and Vietnamese from Saigon and Vung Tau by the amphibious ready group led by USS BLUE RIDGE. During this period COCHRANE conducted one search and rescue operation for a downed American helicopter. She also during this period took a drifting Vietnamese ship, loaded with three hundred

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refugees, under tow and towed her to the staging area for the transfer of refugees to the evacuation ships. COCHRANE also provided the refugees with food, water and medical aid during the transit to the staging area. When the evacuation was completed, COCHRANE returned to Subic Bay and made final preparations for her return to Pearl Harbor.

In May, COCHRANE departed Subic Bay, escorting merchant ships loaded with Vietnamese refugees destined for Guam and then upon completion of this mission "out chopped" from Seventh Fleet. On May 16th, COCHRANE arrived and moored at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and commenced a well earned and deserved leave and upkeep period.

COCHRANE remained inport Pearl Harbor, during most of the month of June. After her post-deployment leave and upkeep period ended, COCHRANE commenced a ten day repair availability period with the USS BRYCE CANYON and the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. The end of June saw COCHRANE participate in the filming of an episode for the TV program Hawaii Five-0. During June COCHRANE also made a dependents cruise to the garden island of Kauai. A very relaxing and enjoyable four days were spent in Kauai.

July was a busy month. Commander Naval Surface Force, Pacific, Vice Admiral TIDD paid an informal visit to COCHRANE. He was very impressed with both her appearance and material condition. In mid-July COCHRANE transited to the Barking Sands Pacific Missile Range and fired one standard missile. Upon completion of the missile shoot, she proceeded to Hilo, Hawaii for another dependents cruise and to participate in the 14th Annual Festival of the Pacific. Receptions, athletic events, picnics and parties highlighted the five day visit.

COCHRANE escorted the USS RANGER in waters off the coast of Hawaii in a composit training unit exercise for ten days during the month of August. The remainder of August was occupied by a repair availability period with the USS BRYCE CANYON as well as local operations in the Pearl Harbor operation areas.

The month of September brought COCHRANE a new skipper. Commander Michael G. CLARITY relieved Commander Joseph E. BOLAND, Jr. as Commanding Officer in a ceremony held on board while COCHRANE was moored at the Naval Station, Pearl Harbor. The remainder of that month was devoted to upkeep inport.

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October and November saw COCHRANE preparing for an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination scheduled for December. Much needed repair work was completed by the destroyer tenders AJAX and BRYCE CANYON and also by the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. COCHRANE conducted engineering casualty control exercises during this period with the assistance of the Type Commander's Mobile Training Team in preparation for her upcoming OPPE.

December brought two more distinguished visitors across COCHRANE's brow. The Secretary of the Navy, The Honorable J. William MIDDENDORF III, accompanied by Commander-in-Chief Pacific Fleet, Admiral M. F. WEISNER, visited COCHRANE as part of an inspection tour of ships in Pearl Harbor. Both were exceptionally impressed with her appearance and material condition. The Secretary of the Navy presented the Engineering department with the "Golden Snipe" Award for engineering excellence. In mid-December the CINCPACFLT PEB arrived on board to administer COCHRANE's Operational Propulsion Plant Examination. COCHRANE was the first two engineering plant ship in Pearl Harbor to receive a Conditional Satisfactory on her first examination. The later part of December was devoted to enjoying a holiday leave/upkeep period.

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