

USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145)

C O M M A N D H I S T O R Y

1966

Enclosure (1) to CO USS HASSAYAMPA
(AO-145) ltr ser 112 of FEB 13 1967

CIRONOLOGY

1965

- 8 September - Captain W. G. COULTER relieved Captain J. B. McCORMICK as Commanding Officer of USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145).
- 17 December - HASSAYAMPA arrived in homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii after completion of an eight month deployment to WESTPAC.

1966

- 12 February - COMSERVRON FIVE held an Administrative Inspection of USS HASSAYAMPA
- 23 February - HASSAYAMPA conducted replenishment exercises with Her Majesty's New Zealand Ship Ortago
- March - HASSAYAMPA was standby ship in MIDPAC waters for Gemini 8 space capsule recovery.
- 28 March - 9 April - Refresher Training.
- 30 April - Entered Dry Dock #1, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.
- 1 June - Participated in Gemini 9 space capsule recovery by providing logistic support to MIDPAC recovery ships.
- 4 June - Rear Admiral E. B. HOOPER, COMSERVPAC, made an unofficial call.
- 5 June - Underway for WESTPAC deployment.
- 11 June - UNREP Task Group 17.5 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 12 June - Changed operational control to COMSEVENTHFLT.
- 24 June - COMSERVRON SEVEN broke his flag on the HASSAYAMPA.
- 28 June - Entered Hostile Fire Zone for first time on 1966 cruise.
- 30 June - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 2 July - UNREP Task Group 70.4 composed of USS YORKTOWN (CVS-10) and her escorts.
- 3 July - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.

1966 (Cont'd)

- 4 July - COMSERVRON SEVEN hauled down his flag.
- 11 July - Rear Admiral F. E. JANNEY, SERVGROUP THREE, made an unofficial call.
- 15 July - (1) Vice Admiral J. J. HYLAND, COMSEVENTHFLT, made an unofficial call.
(2) UNREP Task Group 77.4 composed of USS RANGER (CVA-61) and her escorts.
- 17 July - Admiral Horatio RIVERO, Vice Chief of Naval Operations made an official call.
- 18 July - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 21 July - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 25 July - COMSERVRON SEVEN broke his flag on the HASSAYAMPA
- 1 August - (1) UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
(2) UNREP Task Group 77.4 composed of USS RANGER (CVA-61) and her escorts.
- 4 August - (1) UNREP Task Group 77.4 composed of USS RANGER (CVA-61) and her escorts
(2) UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 18 August - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- 19 August - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 20 August - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 21 August - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- 27 Aug - 2 Sep - At Hong Kong, B.C.C. for first "R&R" trip of the 1966 cruise.
- 5 September - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.

1966 (Cont'd)

- 6 September - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 8 September - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- 13 September - COMSERVRON SEVEN shifted his flag to the USS BRYCE CANYON (AD-36).
- 24 September - UNREP Task Group 77.3 composed of USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) and her escorts.
- 25 September - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 26 September - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 27 September - UNREP Task Group 77.3 composed of USS CORAL SEA (CVA-43) and her escorts.
- 28 September - Debarked passengers of USNHS REPOSE at Danang, Vietnam.
- 4 October - Captain George D. HARRELSON relieved Captain W. G. COULTER as Commanding Officer of the USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145).
- 9-16 October - Keelung, Taiwan.
- 10 October - Admiral CHEN of the Nationalist Chinese Navy made an official call.
- 19 October - UNREP Task Group 77.6 composed of USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her escorts.
- 20 October - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 2 November - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- 4 November - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.
- 5 November - UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- 7 November - UNREP Task Group 77.8 composed of USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) and her escorts.

1966 (Cont'd)

- 8 November - (1) UNREP Task Group 77.7 composed of USS F. D. ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) and her escorts.
- (2) UNREP Task Group 77.3 composed of USS CORAL SEA and her escorts.
- 15 November - HASSAYAMPA conducted replenishment training with Republic of Korea Navy Ships KYONG KI (DE-71) and KANG WON (DE-72).
- 19-25 November - Hong Kong, B.C.C.
- 1-9 December - Yokosuka, Japan.
- 11 December - Changed operational control to COMFIRSTFLT.
- 16 December - Arrived in homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii after completing a six month deployment to WESTPAC.
- 17 December - Rear Admiral E. B. HOOPER, COMSERVPAC, made an unofficial call.

NARRATIVE

With Captain W. G. COULTER assuming command of the HASSAYAMPA in September 1965, we continued our logistic support in the South China Sea through the increasing tension in the area of South East Asia. On 17 December 1965 the HASSAYAMPA steamed into its homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii to begin a thirty day leave and upkeep period after completing an eight month deployment in WESTPAC, refueling 377 ships.

18 January 1966 the HASSAYAMPA commenced a period of restricted availability in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at pier BRAVO-17. All hands began preparing for COMSERVRON FIVE's Administrative, personnel and living spaces inspection scheduled on 12 February. The remainder of February was taken up with independent ships exercises and local operations, and on 23 February we had replenishment exercises with HMNZS Ortago off the coast of Oahu; further proving the effectiveness of logistic support with an allied navy.

After a two week upkeep period in March, the HASSAYAMPA was underway in the middle of the month for capsule recovery training for the up and coming Gemini 8 shot. We served as back-up recovery ship in the Mid-Pacific waters for both Gemini 8 and Gemini 9 launchings.

Refresher Training, conducted by Fleet Training Group Pearl, commenced for the HASSAYAMPA the last week in March, and continued until 8 April, with the final battle problem on 9 April. Our next ISE day was 13 April, followed by services to Fleet Training Group Pearl on 19 and 20 April by conducting replenishment exercises with Pearl Harbor based DER's and DD's. The last week of April was then spent preparing the HASSAYAMPA for

entering dry dock in Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard; and on 30 April this fleet oiler was resting on keel blocks in dry dock #1. After a week in dry dock, the HASSAYAMPA again passed over the sill having had the underwater hull sandblasted and preserved, and the overboard discharge and sea injection valves inspected. The 8th through the 11th of May we were in port Pearl, and on the 12th underway for one day of independent ships exercise. The five days that followed were spent at "HOTEL" pier, and on the 18th, the HASSAYAMPA was called on to provide services for Fleet Training Group Pearl. From 19 May until 1 June we remained in port to prepare for our deployment to WESTPAC on 5 June. On 1 June, our final ISE day prior to our 1966 cruise, the HASSAYAMPA was unexpectedly called to rendezvous with the USS EPPERSON (DD-719) on Gemini 9 recovery station north of Oahu Island. Upon completion of this night refueling, we returned to Pearl Harbor on 2 June, mooring at VICTOR piers to take on aviation gasoline. On the 3rd day of the same month we shifted to "HOTEL" pier (fuel pier), and 5 June were underway for the Western Pacific.

On 9 June the HASSAYAMPA crossed the International Date Line and into the Domain of the Golden Dragon. The following day our logistic support in the Western Pacific began with the refueling of the USS ORISKANY (CVA-34) and her destroyers, composing Task Group 17.5. While having the ORISKANY alongside, she launched her CAP aircraft, and within the next hour two Russian bombers were being escorted by U.S. Navy Fighter planes while making passes over the replenishment formation.

On the 12th of June, the HASSAYAMPA came under the operational control of COMSEVENTHFLT, and four days later made landfall with Balintang Island.

On 19 June the "HASS" pulled into what the majority of sailors call her "home away from home" - Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. 24 June Commodore R. C. SHUTT, COMSERVRON SEVEN, broke his flag on the HASSAYAMPA, and two days later we were underway for Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin. On 28 June the "HASS" entered the hostile fire zone on a swing through the Market Time area heading north. The latter part of June and the month of July were extremely busy periods in providing logistic support to our ships off the Vietnam coast and in the Gulf of Tonkin. COMSERVRON SEVEN hauled down his flag and departed the ship on 4 July, to return on the 25th of the month.

Rear Admiral F. E. JANNEY, SERVGROUP THREE, came aboard for an unofficial call on 11 July. Four days later while refueling the USS OKLAHOMA CITY, Vice Admiral J. J. HYLAND, COMSEVENTHFLT, came aboard for an unofficial call. Near Yankee Station on 17 July Admiral Horatio RIVERO, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, was highlined to the HASSAYAMPA during his visit to U.S. Navy ships operating off the Vietnam coast.

July and August saw the HASSAYAMPA operating on Yankee Station and in Market Time Areas one through nine; and on the 27th of August this oiler was sent to Hong Kong for a well deserved seven days of rest and relaxation. Realizing that service to the Fleet is our business, it was no shock to all hands on board when we got underway on the last day of August to refuel the USS INTREPID (CVS-11), and then return to the British Crown Colony later that same day.

The HASSAYAMPA departed Hong Kong for the Gulf of Tonkin on 3 September, and after five days on station returned to Subic Bay, RPI. On the 13th of

September COMSERVIRON SEVEN shifted his flag from the HASSAYAMPA to the USS BRYCE CANYON (AD-36), and on the 21st of the month we were again underway for Yankee Station.

While off the coast of Vietnam on 26 September, Captain George D. HARRELSON, prospective Commanding Officer, came aboard via helicopter. The remainder of September was taken up by replenishments, and the HASSAYAMPA anchored in Danang, Vietnam on the 28th to offload personnel going to the U.S. Naval Hospital Ship REPOSE, and other various duty stations.

The 3rd of October saw this fleet oiler entering Subic Bay, RPI to load fuel, and the following day Captain George D. HARRELSON relieved Captain W. G. COULTER as Commanding Officer of the USS HASSAYAMPA.

We departed Subic Bay on 9 October, arriving in Keelung, Taiwan on the 11th of this same month. Admiral Chen of the Nationalist Chinese Navy returned Captain HARRELSON's call, and after five days of "R&R", AO-145 was again underway for commitments in the Gulf of Tonkin. After experiencing a master gyro casualty on the 21st, we returned to Subic for repairs, not to be out on the "line" again until 31 October.

The first two weeks of November the HASSAYAMPA refueled 67 ships, and on 15 November held replenishment training with Republic of Korean Navy Ships KYONG KI (DE-71) and KANG WON (DE-72) off the coast of Luzon Island. We then entered Subic Bay for two days, and on 17 November were underway for our second visit to Hong Kong, B.C.C. After an uninterrupted six days in Hong Kong, the HASS was underway for Yokosuka, Japan on 25 November.

The first week of December was spent in Yokosuka, and on the 8th the HASSAYAMPA departed Japan for the Hawaiian Islands. We came under the

operational control of COMFIRSTFLT on the 11th, and on the 12th refueled the USS KEARSARGE (CVS-33) and her destroyers. The remainder of the trip the HASS steamed in company with DESDIV 252, arriving in our homeport of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the morning of 16 December 1966, having refueled 367 ships during her deployment. To these ships of the Seventh Fleet, HASSAYAMPA pumped 719,796 gallons of aviation gasoline, 13,558,714 gallons of JP-5 and 33,615,484 gallons of NSFO.

Saturday, 17 December, Rear Admiral E. B. HOOPER, COMSERVPAC, made an unofficial call on the HASSAYAMPA, and for the remainder of the year 1966 the officers and men of AO-145 settled down for a period of serious post deployment leave and upkeep.

DOCUMENTARY

DESCRIPTION OF ENCLOSED PICTURES

1. ILMNZS Ortago approaching starboard side of USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145) on 23 February 1966
2. Picture taken from May 1966 issue of SERVPAC Bulletin showing HASSAYAMPA preparing for "Gemini 8"
3. USS OKLAHOMA CITY approaching USS HASSAYAMPA for fuel
4. Vice Admiral J. J. HYLAND, COMSEVENTHFLT, makes an unofficial call on the USS HASSAYAMPA during replenishment operations in the South China Sea
5. Admiral Horatio RIVERO, Vice Chief of Naval Operations, visits the HASSAYAMPA on Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin
6. USS REPOSE, conducting her first underway replenishment, approaches starboard side of USS HASSAYAMPA near the DMZ Zone off of Vietnam on 31 October 1966
7. Admiral CHEN of the Nationalist Chinese Navy making an official call on Captain George D. HARRELSON, Commanding Officer of the HASSAYAMPA, while the ship was visiting Keelung, Taiwan