

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS JOUETT (DLG-29)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 96601

DLG29:14
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From: Commanding Officer, USS JOUETT (DLG-29)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy
Yard, Washington, D.C. 20390

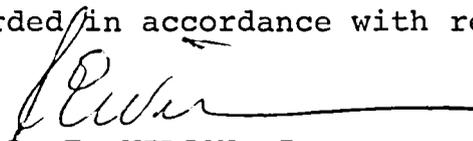
05 APR 1973

Subj: Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Command History

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).



R. E. WILSON, Jr.

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Ship's History 1972

I. Command Organization

a. Commanding Officers

1. Edward S. BRIGGS, Captain, USN, to 25 July 1972
2. Ralph E. WILSON, Jr., Captain, USN, from 25 July 1972

b. Mission remains the same

c. Composition of Command

1. Assigned to 7th Fleet from September 4 1972 to March 5 1973
2. HSL-31, DET 6, assigned to this command from 24 July through the end of the year

d. Homeport remains San Diego, California

II. Summary of Operations

a. Operating Schedule

01-09	JAN	Upkeep San Diego
10-28	JAN	Ship qualification trials
29-07	FEB	REFTRA (Refresher Training) preparation
08-25	FEB	REFTRA
26-27	FEB	Inport San Diego
28-03	MAR	Firing on the Pacific Missile Range
04-26	MAR	Inport San Diego
27-31	MAR	At sea exercises
01-17	APR	Inport San Diego
18-28	APR	At sea exercises
29-07	MAY	Inport San Diego
08-02	JUN	At sea exercises
03-18	JUN	Inport San Diego
19-21	JUL	At sea - Project DS 608
22-18	AUG	Inport San Diego
	25 JUL	Change of Command
19	AUG-10	SEP Enroute WESTPAC via Hawaii, Midway, and Guam
	11-14	SEP Inport Subic Bay
	15-16	SEP Enroute to Tonkin Gulf
	17-23	OCT MSAR/NSAR (Middle and North Search and Rescue Stations) in Tonkin Gulf
	24-26	OCT Enroute Subic Bay
	27-02	NOV Inport Subic Bay

Enclosure (1)

03-04	NOV	Enroute Tonkin Gulf
05-10	DEC	NSAR/PIRAZ (Positive Identification Radar Advisory Zone) in Tonkin Gulf
11-13	DEC	Enroute Singapore
14-20	DEC	Inport Singapore
21-22	DEC	Enroute Sattahip
23-26	DEC	Inport Sattahip
27-29	DEC	Enroute to Tonkin Gulf
30-31	DEC	PIRAZ in Tonkin Gulf

b. Narrative

USS JOUETT began the year 1972 in her homeport of San Diego having just completed her first major overhaul at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard. She had added LAMPS (Light Airborne Multipurpose System) and ASMD (Anti-ship Missile Defense) to her capabilities, and converted to distillate fuel. These new muscles needed to be flexed and tested so the first seven months of the year became a series of trials and exercises.

Most of January was spent in ship qualification trials which were quickly followed by a month of REFTRA (Refresher Training) in February. March included a week at the Pacific Missile Range, and a week at sea operating with other destroyers. May 15 marked the beginning of the LAMPS training which then continued for the rest of the month. JOUETT's ASMD capability was exercised during the month of June and continued into July.

On July 25, 1972, Captain, Ralph E. WILSON, Jr. relieved Captain Edward S. BRIGGS and became JOUETT's fifth Commanding Officer. Captain BRIGGS left to become Assistant Chief of Staff for Planning, Seventh Fleet.

JOUETT said farewell to her families and friends on the morning of August 19, and set off for her fourth WESTPAC deployment. On the transit brief stops were made at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Midway Island; and Guam before arriving at Subic Bay, Philippines.

The first line period saw JOUETT on both MSAR and NSAR stations in the Gulf of Tonkin and on September 19 she made her first combat rescue of the deployment when she picked up an A-7 pilot who parachuted into the water well within visual range of the ship. The last week of October was spent at Subic Bay for upkeep and liberty.

The second line period began with JOUETT on NSAR, but she soon took over the function of PIRAZ, in which she had to account for and identify every aircraft in a 40,000 square mile area, and provide flight control for various strike aircraft over North Vietnam. With these added responsibilities, JOUETT continued to

function as a SAR station and late on the night of November 20, with helicopter assistance she picked up the the two pilots of an F-4 Phantom in a particularly difficult night rescue under adverse weather conditions.

December 10 marked the last day of the second line period and JOUETT headed for a seven day upkeep period in Singapore. Before returning to the Tonkin Gulf, she made a four day liberty stop at Sattahip, Thailand, and December 31, JOUETT completed the year, again on the job of PIRAZ.