

U. S. S. KAWISHIWI (AO-146)

FLEET POST OFFICE
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(Unclassified upon removal of enclosure 3)

From: Commanding Officer, USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy
Yard, Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: OPNAV Report 5750-1

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Chronology of Events
(2) Basic Narrative
(3) Informal Report of USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146) July 1969-
January 1970 WESTPAC Deployment [Retained in OP-09B9]
(4) Biography and photograph of Commanding Officer

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1), (2), (3)
and (4) are submitted.


JOSEPH J. MEYER, JR.

Copy to: (less enclosures 3 and 4)
COMSERVPAC
COMSERVRON FIVE

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;

DECLASSIFIED AT 12 YEARS.

DDI FOR EPCO 18 JUL 1984

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Chronology of Events

- 01 JAN 69 KAWISHIWI at Pearl Harbor Shipyard undergoing regular cycle overhaul.
- 23 JAN 69 KAWISHIWI enters drydock #4, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.
- 28 FEB 69 KAWISHIWI leaves drydock #4.
- 29 MAR 69 KAWISHIWI conducts one day sea trials.
- 9 APR 69 KAWISHIWI conducts one day sea trials.
- 11 APR 69 Incline experiment conducted.
- 25 APR 69 Overhaul Completed.
- 28 APR 69 KAWISHIWI underway for MIDPAC replenishment operations.
- 6 MAY 69 Captain JOSEPH J. MEYER, JR. relieves Captain JOSEPH CADY.
- 14 MAY 69 KAWISHIWI returns to Pearl Harbor after completing two major replenishments with USS HORNET (CVS-12) and USS RANGER (CVA-61).
- 19 MAY 69 KAWISHIWI assigned to Commander Fleet Training Group Pearl Harbor for three weeks refresher training.
- 6 JUN 69 KAWISHIWI completes refresher training.
- 27 JUN 69 KAWISHIWI departs Pearl Harbor enroute Subic Bay for her fifteenth WESTPAC deployment.
- 10 JUL 69 Commander Service Squadron NINE shifts his Pennant to USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146) after arrival in Subic Bay.
- 17 JUL 69 KAWISHIWI commences the first of seven line swings to Tonkin Gulf and along the coast of Vietnam made during the seven month deployment to Seventh Fleet.
- 30 AUG 69 KAWISHIWI makes six day port visit to Hong Kong

ENCLOSURE I

- 15 OCT 69 Commander Service Squadron NINE shifts his Pennant to USS HALAKALA (AE-25).
- 4 NOV 69 KAWISHIWI makes four day port visit to the State of Singapore.
- 8 NOV 69 KAWISHIWI crosses the equator at 105 - 31E.
- 31 DEC 69 KAWISHIWI on Yankee Station serving the carrier task groups.

USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146) Command History Narrative

1. Command Organization and Relations

a. Commanding Officers and dates of command

Captain J. B. SWAIN, USN	6 JUL 55 - 31 OCT 56
Captain E. T. HYDEMAN, USN	31 OCT 56 - 24 AUG 57
Captain A. L. GEBELIN, USN	24 AUG 57 - 21 AUG 58
Captain E. G. GARDNER, JR., USN	21 AUG 58 - 10 JAN 59
Captain G. P. JOYCE, USN	10 JAN 59 - 11 JUL 60
Captain H. A. SEYMOUR, USN	11 JUL 60 - 19 JUL 61
Captain L. R. VASEY, USN	19 JUL 61 - 9 AUG 62
Captain F. T. COOPER, USN	9 AUG 62 - 14 DEC 63
Captain R. L. PITTS, USN	14 DEC 63 - 10 NOV 64
Captain C. S. TANNER, USN	10 NOV 64 - 27 NOV 65
Captain M. J. CARPENTER, USN	27 NOV 65 - 27 JAN 67
Captain D. B. EDGE, USN	27 JAN 67 - 19 JAN 68
Captain J. CADY, USN	19 JAN 68 - 6 MAY 69
Captain J. J. MEYER, JR., USN	6 MAY 69 - Present

b. Homeport:

Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

c. Mission of USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146):

As a unit of an underway replenishment group, to furnish complete replenishment of petroleum products to the fleet at sea.

(1) Designated Task

(a) To transport and deliver bulk and packaged petroleum products, bottled gases and fleet freight to the fleet underway, servicing ships along both sides simultaneously.

(b) To destroy surface targets and aircraft at close range.

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(c) To provide command facilities and accommodations for Service Force/Underway Replenishment Group Commander and staff

(2) Contingent Task

(a) To transport and deliver limited provisions and mail to the fleet underway.

d. USS KAWISHIWI (AO-146) Composition on 31 DEC 69.

<u>Complement</u>	<u>On Board</u>
Enlisted 300	290
Officers 14	15

2. Operations

During the period 1 JAN 69 to ²⁵ 21 APR 69 KAWISHIWI underwent a regular yard overhaul at the Pearl Harbor Shipyard. Major events included a drydock period between 23 JAN 69 and 28 FEB 69 and sea trials on 29 MAR and 9 APR. On 25 APR the yard overhaul was completed.

On April 28th KAWISHIWI got underway for MIDPAC replenishment operations and independent exercises.

On May 6, 1969, with the USS HORNET (CVS-12) alongside to port, and USS PARSONS (DDG-33) alongside to starboard, Captain JOSEPH J. MEYER, JR., USN relieved Captain JOSEPH CADY as Commanding Officer. Captain MEYER reported to KAWISHIWI from the staff of Commander Submarine Force, United States Pacific Fleet.

After crossing the International Date Line northwest of Midway Island on the 8th KAWISHIWI replenished the USS RANGER (CVA-61) and escorts on May 10th. The ship then returned to Pearl Harbor and refueled.

Between 19 May and 6 June, KAWISHIWI was assigned to Commander Fleet Training Group Pearl Harbor for refresher training in preparation for her deployment to the Seventh Fleet.

On 27 June 1969 KAWISHIWI departed Pearl Harbor enroute Subic Bay, via the San Bernadino Straits, and her fifteenth WESTPAC deployment. KAWISHIWI arrived on 10 July 1969 at which time Commander Service Squadron NINE, embarked in KAWISHIWI.

During the next six months KAWISHIWI serviced various units of the Seventh Fleet in the Tonkin Gulf and along the coast of Vietnam. All her line swings, except one, were exclusively to Yankee Station, where she serviced the Carrier Task Groups and the SAR/PIRAZ units.

For eight weeks beginning 21 September KAWISHIWI was host to two Vietnamese Naval ensigns, Ensigns THOUNG and THANH. Their presence afforded a much needed opportunity for a mutual exchange of ideas and a furtherance of the training of these two young officers.

KAWISHIWI replenished her supplies of petroleum products from other AO's and from the Naval Fuel Depot in Subic Bay. She had two R&R trips, the first being to Hong Kong, BCC in early September. In early November she visited Singapore and then crossed the equator on the 8th of November at 105 - 31E where Neptunus Rex and his Shellbacks properly initiated the pre-dominately Pollywog crew.

KAWISHIWI returned to Subic Bay by way of a three day Market Time run where she replenished various Seventh Fleet units and the HMAS VENDETTA.

New Years EVE, 1969 found KAWISHIWI on Yankee Station servicing the Carrier Task Groups.

ENCLOSURE 1