

1970

USS RANGER (CVA-61)  
FPO San Francisco 96601

CVA61/30  
5750  
Ser 049  
23 February 1971

DECLASSIFIED

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ - Uncl ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ for removal of enclosure

From: Commanding Officer, USS RANGER (CVA-61)

To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2) ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

Subj: Command History (OPNAV Report 5750-1); submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) USS RANGER (CVA-61) Command History for 1970

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command Historical Report for 1970 is submitted as enclosure (1).

*J. L. Coleman*  
J. L. COLEMAN

Copy to:  
CNO (OP-09B9)  
CINCPACFLT (02H)  
COMSEVENTHFLT  
COMCARDIV NINE  
PACFLT PAO Det WestPac

Department of the Navy	50.568552
DON/AA DRMD	
Date: 27 Oct 2015	Authority: EO 13526
Declassify: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deny in Full: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Declassify in Part: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Reason: <input type="checkbox"/>	
MDR	2016 -M- 0026

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL
Authority: EO 13526
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD
Date: OCT 27 2015

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A  
APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE- DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED

DECLASSIFIED

RI Doc 3a

2016-M-0026

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CVA61/30  
5750

TABLE OF CONTENTS (U)

<u>PART</u>	<u>SECTION</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
I		Chronology . . . . .	2
II		Narrative . . . . .	11
	A	Command Organization and Relations . . . . .	11
	B	Operations . . . . .	13
III		Statistics . . . . .	22
IV		Special Topics . . . . .	27
	A	Awards . . . . .	27
	B	Engineering . . . . .	27
	C	Aircraft Maintenance . . . . .	28
	D	Communications . . . . .	29
	E	Dental . . . . .	29
	F	Education . . . . .	29
	G	Chaplain Activities . . . . .	29
	H	Distinguished Visitors . . . . .	30
V		Documentary Exhibits . . . . .	33

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

~~Classified~~  
~~EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION~~  
~~NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED~~

Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

USS RANGER HISTORICAL REPORT - 1970

PART I

CHRONOLOGY (C)

January

- 1 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station.
- 2 SPECOPS. A6A lost in combat. Crewmembers declared missing in action.
- 3 SPECOPS. VA-56 crewmember sucked into the intake of an A7. Died at a Danang hospital 6 January 1970.
- 4 SPECOPS.
- 5 Departed Yankee Station enroute Sea of Japan (SOJ).
- 6-9 Enroute SOJ at reduced speed of advance due to heavy seas.
- 9 Carrier qualifications for VRC-50, VC-5 and VQ-2.
- 10 SOJ Operations.
- 11 SOJ Operations. F4J over-rotated off catapult and crashed. Radar Intercept Officer ejected and recovered; pilot lost at sea.
- 12-13 SOJ Operations.
- 14 1315, moored Sasebo, Japan.
- 15-23 In-port Sasebo for upkeep.
- 24 0922, underway, enroute Okinawa Operating Area.
- 25-26 Flight operations Okinawa Area.
- 27-29 Enroute Yankee Station.
- 30-31 SPECOPS Yankee Station.

February

- 1-4 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station
- 5 SPECOPS. A7B crashed ahead of ship; pilot lost at sea.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

319122AJ030

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (C) A

February

- 6 SPECOPS. A6A lost to enemy fire over Laos. Both crewmembers rescued by Jolly Green SAR helicopter.
- 7-12 SPECOPS.
- 13 SPECOPS. Completed underway replenishment with USS HASSAYAMPA (AO-145), USS MARS (AFS-1) and USS CHARA (AE-31).
- 14-17 SPECOPS.
- 18 Enroute Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.
- 19 0612, moored Subic Bay. 2200, underway, enroute Hong Kong, BCC.
- 20 Enroute Hong Kong, BCC.
- 21 Delayed entering Hong Kong Harbor due to heavy fog. Anchored at 1615.
- 22-26 Anchored Hong Kong, BCC Harbor.
- 27 0800, underway, enroute Yankee Station.
- 28 Type Training enroute Yankee Station. A6A caught fire; crewmembers ejected and were safely recovered.

March

- 1-8 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station.
- 9 SPECOPS. Contact lost with F4J shortly after passing overhead; aircraft and crewmembers presumed lost at sea.
- 10-19 SPECOPS.
- 20 SPECOPS. Enroute Sasebo, Japan.
- 21-23 Enroute Sasebo.
- 24 1024, moored Sasebo.
- 25-31 In-port Sasebo.

DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd)(e)

April

- 1-5 In-port Sasebo, Japan.
- 6 Unable to get underway as scheduled due to casualty to boilers 3A and 3B.
- 7-11 In-port Sasebo, Japan effecting repairs to boilers.
- 12 1029, underway, enroute Okinawa Operating Area.
- 13 Flight operations enroute Okinawa Operating Area.
- 14 Participated in Exercise BLUE SKY (Taiwan Area).
- 15-16 Enroute Yankee Station.
- 17 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station.
- 18-30 SPECOPS.

May

- 1-8 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station.
- 9 SPECOPS. A7B lost at sea after arresting cable dropped from tail hook; pilot recovered by helo, uninjured.
- 10-11 SPECOPS.
- 12 SPECOPS. Enroute Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.
- 13 Enroute Subic Bay.
- 14 0734, moored Subic Bay.
- 15-16 In-port Subic Bay.
- 17 1004, underway, enroute Alameda, California.
- 18-22 Enroute Alameda.
- 23 CHOP COMFIRSTFLT.
- 24 Enroute Alameda.
- 25 Crossed International Date Line.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DQW/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

130122Z 1030

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (S)

May

- 26-30 Enroute Alameda. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
31 CVW-2 Fly-off. [REDACTED]

June

- 1 1030, moored U. S. Naval Air Station, Alameda, California.  
2 COMNAVAIRPAC debrief.  
3-7 In-port Alameda. [REDACTED]  
8 0802, underway, enroute to anchorage for ammunition offload.  
Moored Hunters Point Naval Shipyard at 1709.  
9-12 Restricted Availability (RAV).  
13 Moved to drydock.  
14-19 RAV.  
20 Captain Joseph L. COLEMAN, USN relieved Captain Joe P. MOORER,  
USN as Commanding Officer, USS RANGER (CVA-61).  
21-30 RAV.

July

- 1 Restricted Availability (RAV) Hunters Point Naval Shipyard.  
Administrative control of USS RANGER shifted from COMCARDIV  
THREE to COMCARDIV NINE.  
2-13 RAV.  
14 Flooded drydock.  
15 Underway from drydock to Berths 3 and 4, Hunters Point Naval  
Shipyard.  
16-29 RAV.  
30-31 Fast Cruise.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

41-122A-030

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd)(C)

August

- 1-3 Restricted Availability (RAV) Hunters Point Naval Shipyard.
- 4 Sea Trials delayed due to boiler and forced draft blower problems.
- 5 Dock Trials.
- 6-9 RAV.
- 10 0846, underway for Sea Trials. Returned to NAS Alameda at 1756.
- 11 1003, underway for Type Training in Southern California (SOCAL).
- 12-13 Enroute SOCAL.
- 14 1644, moored U. S. Naval Air Station, North Island (NORIS), California.
- 15-16 In-port San Diego.
- 17 In-port San Diego; commenced Interim Refresher Training (INTRFT).
- 18 Fast Cruise.
- 19 In-port San Diego.
- 20 1458, underway for OPAREA.
- 21 INTRFT. Practice battle problem; returned to NORIS at 1503.
- 22-23 In-port San Diego.
- 24 1211, underway for practice battle problem with COMFLETRAGRU SDIEGO observers embarked.
- 25-27 INTRFT SOCAL.
- 28 INTRFT. Returned to NORIS at 1832.
- 29-30 In-port San Diego.
- 31 0925, underway for INTRFT. Enroute Alameda, California after final battle problem. Conducted search and rescue operations for four men blown overboard from USS CHOWANOC (ATF-100). Two

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (C)

August

helmed to RANGER, one died on arrival. Remaining two men lost at sea. Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI).

September

- 1 Enroute Alameda. NTPI.
- 2 1422, moored NAS Alameda. Assigned Restricted Availability (RAV) status to effect boiler downcomer repairs and simultaneous replacement of two MK 19 Gyros. NTPI.
- 3-4 RAV. Weapons Safety Inspection. NTPI.
- 5 RAV. RADM D. W. COOPER, USN relieved RADM W. R. Mc CLENDON, USN as COMCARDIV NINE on-board USS KITTY HAWK at NAS North Island.
- 6-7 RAV.
- 8-11 RAV. Pre-deployment boiler inspection.
- 11-13 RAV. Technical Standards Inspection.
- 14-15 RAV. Supply Inspection.
- 16 RAV. COMNAVAIRPAC Pre-deployment Conference.
- 17 1022, underway for air operations in Southern California (SOCAL). CVW-2 fly-on.
- 18 Air operations enroute SOCAL.
- 19-22 Air operations/carrier qualifications SOCAL.
- 23 Commenced Readiness and Operational Evaluation (ROPEVAL 4-70); COMCARDIV THREE embarked.
- 24-26 ROPEVAL 4-70.
- 27 ROPEVAL 4-70. RA5C tail hook broke while landing. Crewmembers and aircraft lost at sea.
- 28 ROPEVAL 4-70.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (S)

September

- 29 ROPEVAL 4-70. Electronic Warfare Technical Proficiency Inspection (EWIPI).
- 30 Commenced Operational Readiness Inspection. EWTPI.

October

- 1-4 Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI). Electronic Warfare Technical Proficiency Inspection (EWIPI).
- 5 Enroute Alameda. ORI Critique. EWTPI. CVW-2 fly-off. Arrived NAS Alameda 1515.
- 6 Preparation for Overseas Movement (POM).
- 7-9 POM. Administrative Inspection conducted by COMCARDIV THREE.
- 10-12 POM.
- 13-15 POM. Attack Aviation Conference. WITH VORADIV.
- 16-26 POM.
- 27 1000, underway, enroute Pearl Harbor, with COMCARDIV NINE and CVW-2 embarked. Commenced RANGER's sixth WESTPAC combat cruise.
- 28-29 Enroute Pearl Harbor.
- 30 Enroute Pearl Harbor. Completed transition to the "Uniform Carrier Supply System."
- 31 Enroute Pearl Harbor.

November

- 1 Air operations mid-Pacific (MIDPAC).
- 2 Air operations MIDPAC. A7E hit ramp, slid to midship and caught fire. Immediately extinguished and pilot rescued.
- 3 Operational Readiness Evaluation.
- 4 Air operations MIDPAC. Moored Pearl Harbor, Hawaii at 1403.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (C)

November

- 5 In-port Pearl Harbor. WESTPAC Pre-deployment Conferences.
- 6 0808, underway, enroute Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.
- 7 Enroute Subic Bay.
- 8 No. 1 shaft turned one million trouble-free revolutions.
- 9 Lost due to transit of International Date Line.
- 10 Enroute Subic Bay.
- 11 CHOP COMSEVENTHFLT.
- 12-14 Enroute Subic Bay.
- 15 Relieved USS AMERICA (CVA-66).
- 16 0733, moored Subic Bay. WESTPAC Pre-SPECOPS Briefings. COMCARDIV NINE embarked.
- 17 0804, underway for type training. Typhoon PATSY forced postponement of type training. Enroute Yankee Station.
- 18 Enroute Yankee Station.
- 19 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station. First day of the first line period.
- 20-30 SPECOPS.

December

- 1-2 Special Operations (SPECOPS) Yankee Station.
- 3 SPECOPS. Pilot ejected from A7E at fuel exhaustion and recovered by SAR helo.
- 4-10 SPECOPS.
- 11 SPECOPS. Participated in Exercise Beacon Tower Six. Hosted USO Show (Wendy and the Arizona Home Grown).
- 12-13 SPECOPS. Exercise Beacon Tower Six.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CHRONOLOGY (cont'd) (C)

December

- 14 SPECOPS.
- 15 SPECOPS. C2A crashed ten seconds after catapult launch. Crew of four and six passengers dead.
- 16 SPECOPS. EKA-3B crashed into port catwalk upon arrestment. No crewmember injuries.
- 17 SPECOPS. Enroute Subic Bay.
- 18 Enroute Subic Bay. Mass casualty drill.
- 19 0859, moored Alava Wharf, Subic Bay.
- 20-25 Upkeep Subic Bay.
- 26 1207, underway for Yankee Station.
- 27 Type training enroute Yankee Station.
- 28 SPECOPS. Pilot of A7E ejected following loss of oil pressure during combat mission and was rescued by Jolly Green SAR helo.
- 29-31 SPECOPS.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II

SECTION A

COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND RELATIONS (c)

- (U) During the period of this report USS RANGER was commanded by Captain Joe P. MOORER, USN from 28 June 1969 to 20 June 1970; by Captain Joseph L. COLEMAN, USN from 20 June 1970 to present.
- (U) U. S. Naval Air Station, Alameda, California is the homeport of the USS RANGER (CVA-61).
- (c) RANGER's primary mission during 1970 was to provide carrier air support in Vietnam. One exception was the period 12-13 April when aircraft from RANGER were used in support of the Republic of Korea.
- (U) Rear Admiral J. C. DONALDSON, JR., USN, Commander Carrier Division THREE, was embarked as Commander Attack Carrier Striking Group from 1 January - 14 May. RANGER chopped to COMFIRSTFLT on 23 May.
- (U) During the Restricted Availability (RAV) period (9 June - 9 August) RANGER was under the operational control of COMNAVAIRPAC.
- (U) While undergoing Refresher Training (17 August - 1 September) RANGER was under the operational control of COMFLETRAGRUSSDIEGO. Upon completion of training, operational control shifted to COMFIRSTFLT.
- (U) Rear Admiral L. B. MCCUDDIN, USN, COMCARDIV THREE was embarked as Commander Attack Carrier Strike Forces from 23 September - 29 September while RANGER was participating in Readiness and Operational Evaluation 4-70.
- (U) RANGER chopped to COMSEVENTHFLT on 11 November. On 16 November Rear Admiral D. W. COOPER, USN, COMCARDIV NINE embarked and assumed Commander Attack Carrier Strike Group.
- (c) During the period 1 January - 31 May Attack Carrier Air Wing TWO, Commanded by Captain Allen E. HILL, USN (1 January - 16 May) and Commander Jesse E. McKNIGHT, USN (16-31 May) was embarked in RANGER. During this period CVW-2 was comprised of the following squadrons:

SQUADRON

AIRCRAFT

Fighter Squadron 21	13 F4J
Fighter Squadron 154	13 F4J
Attack Squadron 56	14 A7B
Attack Squadron 196	16 A6A

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

000000000000

COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND RELATIONS (cont'd) (U)

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>
Attack Squadron 93	14 A7B
Reconnaissance Attack Squadron 5	5 RA5C
Carrier Air Early Warning Squadron 115	4 E2A
Tactical Electronics Squadron 134	2 KA3B 3 EKA3B
Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 1 DET 8	3 SH3A
Fleet Composite Squadron 3 DET B	SPRA

- (U) When RANGER deployed on 27 October Attack Carrier Air Wing TWO was again embarked. During the period 27 October - 31 December CVW-2 was commanded by Captain Jessie E. McKNIGHT, USN and was comprised of the following squadrons:

<u>SQUADRON</u>	<u>AIRCRAFT</u>
Fighter Squadron 21	12 F4J
Fighter Squadron 154	13 F4J
Attack Squadron 25	13 A7E
Attack Squadron 113	13 A7E
Attack Squadron 145	8 A6A 8 A6C
Reconnaissance Attack Squadron 1	5 RA5C
Carrier Air Early Warning Squadron 111 DET 34	3 E1B
Tactical Electronics Squadron 134	3 EKA3B 2 KA3B
Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 1 DET 1	3 SH3G

- (U) As of 31 December RANGER had a complement of 134 Officers, 2483 Enlisted and 14 civilians. CVW-2 had a complement of 237 Officers, 1774 Enlisted and 10 civilians.(1)

- (1): Exhibit 1

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (S)

- (U) On 1 January RANGER was conducting Special Operations (SPECOPS) in the Gulf of Tonkin with Rear Admiral J. C. DONALDSON, JR., USN, COMCARDIV THREE embarked as Commander Attack Carrier Striking Group. It was back to business as usual after being host to the BOB HOPE SHOW on Christmas Eve. RANGER was completing the second line period of her fifth combat cruise to WESTPAC.
- (S) On 2 January an A6A INTRUDER from VA-196 was lost in combat. LT B.C. FRYAR and LT N.G. BROOKS ejected from A6A BUNO 152937 but could not be recovered. One crewmember was spotted prone on the ground but the intensity of fire prevented pick-up. Search and rescue operations (SAR) were discontinued due to darkness and resumed on 3 January. Both crewmembers were declared missing in action on 4 January.
- (U) On 3 January AO3 J. F. BRENNAN, JR. of VA-56 was sucked into the intake of an A7 CORSAIR. He was flown to a Danang hospital where he died on 6 January.
- (S) On 5 January RANGER departed Yankee Station enroute to the Sea of Japan (SOJ) at a reduced speed of advance due to heavy seas. Carrier qualifications for VRC-50, VC-5 and VQ-2 were conducted in addition to normal CVW-2 flight operations.
- (S) On 11 January a F4J PHANTOM, BUNO 155750, from VF-154 over-rotated off the catapult and crashed. The Radar Intercept Officer (RIO), LTJG [REDACTED], successfully ejected and was recovered by a RANGER helicopter. The pilot, LT T. P. RYAN was lost at sea.
- (U) On 14 January RANGER moored at Akasaka Pier, Sasebo, Japan for nine days of upkeep.
- (S) Underway from Sasebo on 24 January, RANGER steamed towards the Okinawa Operating Area where flight operations were conducted prior to transiting to Yankee Station. RANGER arrived on Yankee Station on 30 January and combat operations were once again resumed.
- (U) On 4 February Rear Admiral J. C. DONALDSON, JR., USN, COMCARDIV THREE presented the Navy Unit Commendation to USS RANGER and CVW-2 for meritorious service during the period 29 November 1968 to 10 May 1969.
- (S) On 5 February a flash was observed ahead of RANGER shortly after a catapult launch. Voice communications were lost with RAVEN 302, A7B, BUNO 154391, from VA-93. SAR commenced immediately by USS BROOKE (DEG-1) and USS JOHN A. BOLE (DD-755) with two RANGER helos joining

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

at first light on 6 February. Neither the pilot, LTJG R. C. STEPHENSON, nor any aircraft pieces were found.

(C) On 6 February an A6A INTRUDER from VA-196 was lost to enemy fire over Laos. While in a dive A6A BUNO 155618 was hit by hostile fire and went out of control. Both the pilot, LCDR [REDACTED] and Bombardier-Navigator (BN), LTJG [REDACTED] ejected safely and were recovered by a Jolly Green SAR helicopter after spending the night in the jungle.

(U) On 13 February RANGER did not engage in flight operations but it was not a day of rest as "bullets, beans and black oil" were needed. Underway replenishments were accomplished with USS CHARA (AE-31), USS MARS (AFS-1) and USS HASSAYANPA (AO-45).

(C) RANGER left the Gulf of Tonkin on 18 February for a brief stop in Subic Bay prior to visiting Hong Kong. An anxious crew waited as RANGER was delayed entering Hong Kong Harbor on 21 February due to heavy fog. However, once anchored ferries and wala-walas had soon transported most of the crew to Hong Kong to begin a six day rest and recreation visit.

(C) Departing Hong Kong on 27 February RANGER proceeded to Yankee Station where she resumed combat strikes on 1 March. While undergoing type training enroute an A6A, BUNO 155605, from VA-196 caught fire. Both LT [REDACTED] and LT [REDACTED] ejected and were safely recovered.

(C) On 7 March USS RANGER and CVW-2 staged the most successful strike in two years when they struck an ammunition storage area on RTE 914 South of TCHEPONE. Damage equated to 164 tons of supplies destroyed and would require 53 trucks to replenish the stockpile.(1)

(C) On 9 March contact was made with F4J, BUNO 155775 while overhead. Radio communication was lost while shifting frequencies and radar contact shortly thereafter. No emergency transmission was received. A SAR effort failed to locate any trace of the VF-21 aircraft. The pilot, LT L. J. SCHOEPNER and RIO, LTJG R. L. PARCELS, JR., were declared lost at sea.

(C) RANGER departed Yankee Station on 20 March and was moored at Akasake Pier, Sasebo, Japan on 24 March for a scheduled upkeep period.

(1): CTG 77.0 msg 080530Z Mar 70

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

ators and associated governors, overhaul of the special frequency turbo generators, repair of the port rudder, replacement of No. 4 propeller, repair of forced draft blowers, repair of catapults, repair of arresting gear, refurbishment of all air search radar antennas, repair of RAS winches and weapons handling elevators. In addition, many auxiliary machinery units were overhauled by ship's force.

(C) The major ship alterations accomplished during the two month availability were:

a. Installation of U-1500 ADP equipment (S/A 2823) to replace the IBM 407 accounting system.

b. Addition of digital SINS Mods to SNAIAS System (S/A 3531 PART).

c. Provide additional aircraft electrical servicing stations (S/A 3617).

d. Provide A6C TRIM Support Facilities (S/A 3551).

e. Provide A7E Support Facilities (S/A 3395).

f. Install improved fire fighting systems for machinery rooms (S/A 3364).

(U) On 10 August RANGER was underway for Sea Trials and returned to NAS Alameda upon completion. Pre-deployment training commenced the following day as RANGER was underway for type training in the Southern California (SOCAL) OPAREA.

(C) RANGER was in-port NAS North Island, California from 14 to 20 August prior to getting underway for the at-sea portion of Interim Refresher Training (INTRFT). A total of 792 exercises were conducted during the training period of which 663 were graded satisfactory or better. (1) Almost a year of man-days of observation and instruction were provided to the ship by COMFLETRAGRUS DIEGO observers. RANGER received the following grades on the Final Battle Problem conducted 31 August: (2)

Ship Control	90.00	Weapons/Missiles	78.00
Navigation	91.00	Engineering	55.00

(1): Exhibit 7

(2): COMFLETRAGRU SDIEGO ltr ser 0544 of 11 Sep 70

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

- (C) RANGER was unable to get underway as scheduled on 6 April due to a casualty to boilers 3A and 3B. The next five days were spent in port effecting boiler repairs.
- (C) Underway for the Okinawa Operating Area (OPAREA) on 12 April, RANGER participated in Exercise BLUE SKY on 14 April. Departing the Okinawa OPAREA on 15 April, RANGER returned to Yankee Station where she resumed combat strikes for the last line period of the 1969-1970 deployment.
- (C) On 9 May A7B, BUONO 154555 was lost at sea after the arresting cable dropped from the CORSAIR's tail hook. The VA-93 pilot, LCDR [REDACTED], ejected and was safely recovered by a RANGER helo.
- (C) RANGER completed the combat operations of her fifth Vietnam deployment 12 May. After off-loading the transferable Yankee Team assets in Subic Bay, she proceeded to her homeport in Alameda, California on 17 May. On 31 May the Air Wing aircraft were flown off to their respective home bases. The following day, RANGER arrived in Alameda, completing her ninth cruise to the Western Pacific. (1/2)
- (U) RANGER was underway again on 8 June to Hunters Point Naval Shipyard and commenced a two month Restricted Availability (RAV) on 9 June. (3)
- (U) On 20 June Captain Joseph L. COLEMAN, USN relieved Captain Joe P. MOORE, USN as Commanding Officer, USS RANGER (CVA-61). (4) Ceremonies were conducted onboard RANGER. Distinguished guests were VADM W. F. BRINGLE, USN, COMNAVAIRPAC; RADM L. B. McCUDDIN, USN, COMCARDIV THREE; and RADM J. FERRIS, USN, COMFAIRALAMEDA. (5)
- (U) On 1 July administrative control of RANGER was shifted from COMCARDIV THREE to COMCARDIV NINE.
- (U) RANGER's RAV was completed on 9 August. The total cost of repairs accomplished by the shipyard was approximately \$4,000,000. Major repair work accomplished during this period included extensive boiler re-work which accounted for nearly one quarter of the overhaul funds expended. Other major work items were the replacement of No. 1 Main Engine Low Pressure Turbine, overhaul of ship's service turbo gener-

- (1): Exhibit 2
- (2): Exhibit 3
- (3): Exhibit 4
- (4): Exhibit 5
- (5): Exhibit 6

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

CIC	86.00	Damage Control	73.00
Communications	91.00	Personnel Casualty Control	71.00
Electronics	70.00	Air	94.57

- (U) While enroute Alameda on 31 August, RANGER received notification from the USS CHOWANOC (ATF-100) that four men were blown overboard during IX304 (ATLANTA) experiment in the vicinity of Pyramid Point, San Clemente Island. USS CHOWANOC was conducting launch and under-water high explosive tests. Upon detonation of charge, the winch of LCM-6 (from which the charge was streamed) broke loose and carried the following men overboard. (1/2)

YN1 B. J. WHITE	USS ATLANTA
PH2 R. HERRICK	Combat Camera Crew, NAS SDIEGO
G. R. JACKSON	Shop 38, Hunters Point Naval Shipyard
J. MALLORY	Shop 72, Hunters Point Naval Shipyard

RANGER assumed on-scene command and coordinated the SAR. YN1 WHITE and G. R. JACKSON were recovered and heloed to RANGER. YN1 WHITE was dead on arrival and Mr. JACKSON was treated for a broken leg. USS BRADLEY (DE-1041), with COMDESRON 21 embarked, relieved RANGER as on-scene command and RANGER proceeded enroute Alameda. (3) After a 200% DATUM coverage had been affected, the SAR was terminated at 011000T and PH2 HERRICK and Mr. J. MALLORY were declared lost at sea. Units participating in the SAR were:

USS RANGER (CVA-61)	USS TRIPOLI (LPH-10)
USS CHOWANOC (ATF-100)	HC-5
USS KITTY HAWK (CVA-63)	CGAS SDIEGO
USS BRADLEY (DE-1041)	

- (U) RANGER returned to Alameda on 2 September and was assigned a RAV status to repair downcomer tube defects (Boilers 3B & 4B) and effect the simultaneous replacement of two Mark 19 Gyros.
- (U) On 16 September the COMNAVAIRPAC Pre-deployment Conference was held at COMNAVAIRPAC Headquarters, San Diego. RANGER's Type Commander and COMCARDIV NINE were provided with a resume of carrier/air wing readiness for extended deployment with particular attention directed on matters that had an adverse impact on readiness.

- (1): USS CHOWANOC 010255Z Sep 70  
(2): USS CHOWANOC 010805Z Sep 70  
(3): FACSFAC SDIEGO 010646Z Sep 70

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

- (C) RANGER was underway again on 17 September enroute SOCAL to participate in Readiness and Operational Evaluation (ROPEVAL 4-70). COMCARDIV THREE and CVW-2 were embarked in RANGER to participate in the exercise which commenced on 23 September. (1) ROPEVAL 4-70, one of the largest naval operations in recent years, involved 41 U. S. ships, 3 Canadian ships and more than 30,000 navymen. The exercise was designed to train participating units in a sustained hostile multi-threat environment with maximum emphasis on all aspects of electronic warfare; to train for deployment and to evaluate fleet capabilities and limitations.
- (C) On 27 September the tail hook broke off of a RA5C VIGILANTE (BUNO 156629) aircraft from RVAH-1 and the plane went off the angle. The pilot, LCDR R. R. RENNER and Navigator, LT M. E. JOSEPH, were lost at sea.
- (U) RANGER terminated participation in ROPEVAL 4-70 on 29 September and commenced her Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) on 30 September. While undergoing ORI the USS BENICIA (PG-96) was utilized to plane guard. On 4 October "Little Brother" was brought alongside to replenish her jet engines with JP-5 aviation fuel. (2)
- (U) Following the ORI Critique on 5 October RANGER was enroute Alameda where she began her Preparation for Overseas Movement (POM) on 6 October.
- (U) COMCARDIV THREE was the Chief Inspector for RANGER's Command Inspection 7-9 October.
- (U) RANGER departed Alameda on 27 October for her sixth WESTPAC combat cruise. ADMIN COMCARDIV NINE and CVW-2 were embarked as all eight boilers were available for powering RANGER for the first time in three years. (3)
- (C) RANGER conducted air operations in the mid-Pacific Operational Area from 1 to 4 November and received her Operational Readiness Evaluation (ORE) on 3 November.
- (1): CTG 170.7 and COMCRUDESFLT SEVEN ltr ser 069 of 31 Aug 70, Subj: LOI for ROPEVAL 4-70 (U)
- (2): Exhibit 8
- (3): Exhibit 9

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (e)

- (C) On 2 November A7E (BUNO 157502) hit the ramp, slid to midships and caught on fire. The fire was immediately extinguished and the VA-25 pilot, LT [REDACTED], received no injuries.
- (C) While in-port Pearl Harbor on 5 November, RANGER personnel attended WESTPAC Pre-deployment Conferences at CINCPACFLT and on-board RANGER. The purpose of the briefings was to update RANGER on current WESTPAC operations including intelligence, weather, communications, logistics support, etc.
- (C) RANGER was underway for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines on 6 November in company with USS JOHN R. CRAIG (DD-885). After attending WESTPAC Pre-SPECOPS briefings on 16 November RANGER was ready to begin combat operations once again.
- (C) RANGER departed Subic Bay on 17 November, just in time to avert Typhoon PATSY, and began her first day of the first line period on 19 November.
- (C) On the night of 20-21 November a small force of U.S. soldiers landed 20 miles West of Hanoi in an attempt to rescue American Prisoners of War (POW) while U.S. fighter planes bombed enemy gun and missile sites in North Vietnam. The task force landed in a helicopter at a POW camp which was found to be abandoned. RANGER and CVW-2 conducted diversionary operations over NVN in company with USS HANCOCK (CVA-19) and USS ORISKANY (CVA-34). The level of night operations was the highest ever seen in the Gulf of Tonkin with approximately sixty carrier-based aircraft airborne, all of which were recovered without incident.
- (C) On 3 December A7E (BUNO 157483) of VA-25 was diverted from overhead to Danang. The CORSAIR lost its navigational aids and was unable to find Danang. The pilot, LT [REDACTED] ejected at fuel exhaustion and was recovered by a SAR helo.
- (C) RANGER participated in Exercise Beacon Tower Six from 11-13 December. (1) The objective of the exercise was to exercise TF SEVENTY-SEVEN readiness, test specific Task Force responses and to test/develop tactics and supporting communications.
- (C) On 15 December a C2A GREYHOUND (BUNO 155120) stalled approximately ten seconds after launch and climb from a waist catapult shot and crashed. The twin engine propeller driven aircraft from FLETC-SUPPRON FIVE ZERO, normally utilized for the delivery of mail and

(1): CTF SEVEN SEVEN 271444Z Sep 70

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (C)

personnel from ship to shore, commenced a rapid rate of climb and a high angle of attack before crashing and killing the crew of four and six passengers. Personnel killed:(1)

LT M. O. McCOY, JR.	VRC-50	Pilot
LTJG A. J. PIERSANT, JR.	VRC-50	Co-pilot
ADJ3 J. SZALPA	VRC-50	
ADJ3 C. C. OWENS	VRC-50	
BTCN C. J. DEUSO	MSU DET ERAVO	
AQF2 W. S. STEWART	VA-113	
R. G. DEPERIO (Civ)	SRF SUBIC	
A. G. FLORES (Civ)	SRF SUBIC	
P. G. SARMIENTO (Civ)	SRF SUBIC	
P. Q. LOFAMIA (Civ)	SRF SUBIC	

SAR forces, consisting of USS JOHN R. CRAIG (DD-885), USS GOLDSBOROUGH (DDG-20) and RANGER SH3G, recovered the bodies of AQF2 STEWART and ADJ3 SZALPA.

- (C) All C2 aircraft were immediately grounded pending determination of the cause of the accident. Interim Yankee Station logistic support was effected by three C1A aircraft operating from Danang.
  - (C) Subsequent investigation determined the cause of the accident to be a cargo shift of two 1525 lb generators creating an excess aft center of gravity. All C2 crews were directed to be re-indoctrinated in C2 cargo loading and certification.(2) Upon completion of the re-indoctrination C2 aircraft were released for unrestricted carrier operations.(3)
  - (C) On 16 December an EKA-3B SKYWARRIOR (BUNO 147667) from VAQ-134 crashed into the port catwalk upon arrestment. No injuries were received by any of the crew. RANGER was turning slightly starboard while the A-3 was in its approach and the LSO was unaware of the turn.
  - (C) RANGER's first Yankee Station Flare Exercise (FLAREX) was conducted on 16 December. Two A-7E CORSAIRS, loaded with flare dispensers, were vectored to the USS JOHN R. CRAIG (DD-885) by an E-1B. The aircraft acquired the JOHN R. CRAIG and her wake on radar 20 NM out and dropped their flares from 4,000 feet. The USS JOHN R. CRAIG termed the FLAREX an "enlightening experience".
- (1): USS RANGER 150442Z Dec 70
  - (2): COMNAVAIRPAC 171926Z Dec 70
  - (3): CTF SEVEN SEVEN 240406Z Dec 70

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART II  
SECTION B  
OPERATIONS (cont'd) (S)

- (S) RANGER departed Yankee Station on 17 December enroute Subic. As RANGER entered Subic Bay she had been away from Alameda for 53 days with 2½ days in-port, including a high speed transit and minimum work-up followed by 23 days of combat operations. Upon arrival in Subic on 19 December RANGER moored at Alava Wharf vice the usual mooring spot at Leyte Wharf in order to be close to the Ship Repair Facility during the short duration of the upkeep period. Poor material condition on deployment, a long at-sea period and a series of casualties combined to overload RANGER's engineering department. Many engineering personnel were standing watch and watch, leaving few manhours available for PMS and causing some concern for the future of the plant. It was essential that the general condition of the engineering plant be improved to the point where a normal level of effort by ship's force could maintain a satisfactory condition of readiness.
- (S) RANGER departed Subic Bay on 26 December enroute Yankee Station to begin her second line period of the deployment.
- (S) On the first day of SPECOPS, 28 December, a VA-25 pilot ejected from A7E (BUNO 157509) following loss of oil pressure during a combat mission. LCDR [REDACTED], was recovered uninjured by a Jolly Green SAR helicopter.
- (U) The year 1970 ended the way it began, with RANGER conducting SPECOPS on Yankee Station.

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DGN/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

76-1730

## PART III

## STATISTICS (S)

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
 Authority: EO 13526  
 Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
 Date: OCT 27 2015

- (U) For the year 1970, RANGER was in port 165.9 days and at sea 199.1 days. A further breakdown of in-port and at-sea periods is as follows:

<u>IN PORT</u>	<u>DAYS</u>
Home Port	44.3
Not in assigned Home Port	12.9
RAV - not in Home Port	62.7
In SEVENTH Fleet	<u>46.0</u>

Total: 165.9

<u>AT SEA</u>	<u>DAYS</u>
Special Operations	105.1
Major Fleet Exercises	7.6
Minor Fleet Exercises	35.2
Transit	<u>51.2</u>

Total: 199.1

OPCON COMFIRSTFLT	172.3
OPCON COMSEVENTHFLT	192.7

- (U) During the year thirteen pilots made one-thousand landings as indicated:

<u>LANDING</u>	<u>PILOT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE A/C</u>	<u>SQDN</u>	<u>DAY/NITE</u>
129,000th	LT [REDACTED]	04 Jan	A6	VA-196	NIGHT
130,000th	LTJG [REDACTED]	02 Feb	A7	VA-56	NIGHT
131,000th	LTJG [REDACTED]	11 Feb	F4	VF-154	DAY
132,000th	LTJG [REDACTED]	03 Mar	F4	VF-154	DAY
133,000th	CDR [REDACTED]	14 Mar	A5	RVAN-5	DAY
134,000th	LTJG [REDACTED]	18 Apr	F4	VF-154	DAY
135,000th	LTJG [REDACTED]	27 Apr	A7	VA-93	NIGHT
136,000th	LT [REDACTED]	06 May	F4	VF-154	DAY
137,000th	LCDR [REDACTED]	23 Sep	F4	VF-154	DAY
138,000th	LT [REDACTED]	01 Oct	F4	VF-21	DAY
139,000th	LT [REDACTED]	22 Nov	F4	VF-21	DAY
140,000th	LT [REDACTED]	06 Dec	A7	VA-113	DAY
141,000th	LT [REDACTED]	17 Dec	A7	VA-25	DAY

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART III  
STATISTICS (cont'd)

- (S) Monthly day and night traps, hours flown and sorties were as follows:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>FLT HOURS</u>	<u>SORTIES</u>	<u>TRAPS</u>	
			<u>DAY</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>
Jan	2091.5	963	772	322
Feb	3803.0	1817	1097	834
Mar	4072.7	1813	1117	814
Apr	3805.3	1684	1032	777
May	2144.2	954	615	408
Jun	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jul	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Aug	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sep	1757.5	882	955	391
Oct	679.2	315	181	98
Nov	2976.2	1362	1107	308
Dec	4192.5	1830	1153	659

- (U) The following is a monthly breakdown of all Mode IA, Mode II and Mode III instrument approaches made during the year using the SPN-10 system. (Note that the last column is for the SPN-35)

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>MODE IA</u>	<u>MODE II</u>	<u>MODE III</u>	<u>SPN-35</u>
Jan	26	203	125	120
Feb	40	422	326	-
Mar	101	595	408	205
Apr	90	543	374	26
May	28	257	157	387
Jun	-	-	-	-
Jul	-	-	-	-
Aug	0	0	0	64
Sep	4	41	656	-
Oct	3	8	224	-
Nov	27	356	451	29
Dec	<u>70</u>	<u>324</u>	<u>676</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals:	389	2749	3397	831

Overall: 4228

- (U) The 1970 total of catapult launches was 12,409 (8,249 day/4,160 night).

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by: DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

PART III  
STATISTICS (cont'd)

(6) During the year 1970 the Weapons Department received, stowed and issued to the Air Wing, 14,689 short tons of aviation ordnance consisting of MK 80 series bombs, cluster munitions (ROCKEYE II and CBU 24), 20MM, Flares, Air-to-Ground and Air-to-Air Missiles.

<u>TYPE</u> (Combat Expeditions)	<u>QUANTITY</u>
Mk 82 500 lb bombs	47,959
Mk 82 Con Fins	41,790
Mk 82 S/E Fins	6,169
Mk 83 Bombs	426
Mk 83 Fins	426
Mk 84 Bombs	4
Mk 84 Fins	4
M 904 Fuzes	43,705
M 907 Fuzes	1,141
346 Tail Fuzes	3,328
DST's	1,284
T 45 Boosters	43,721
T 46 Boosters	3,321
.01 Delays	6,854
.025 Delays	480
Mk 5 Arm Assy	3,281
Mk 2 Ctgs	64,287
Mk 45 Flares	371
20MM	129,770
Nose Plugs	3,137
Sup Cups	3,137
M 990 E4	315
CBU 24	1,409
ROCKEYE II	1,427
7E SPARROW	4
9D SIDEWINDER	5
AGM 87A FOCUS	4
7D SPARROW	2
WALLEYE	2

(Training Expenditures)

Mk 82 Bombs	1,059
Mk 82 Fins	1,059
Mk 83 Bombs	50
Mk 83 Fins	50
Mk 84 Bombs	4
Mk 84 Fins	4

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART III  
STATISTICS (cont'd) (C)

M 904 Fuzes	1,113
T 45 Boosters	1,113
Mk 2 Ctg's	1,200
Mk 76's	2,025
Mk 106's	120
Mk 4 Ctg's	2,145
Mk 15 Para Flares	160

(C) During the year RANGER participated in 102 underway replenishments (UNREPS) out of 199 underway days. Specific statistics are as follows:

	<u>AF/AFS</u>	<u>AOE</u>	<u>AOR</u>	<u>AE</u>	<u>AO</u>	<u>DD</u>
No. of UNREPS	7	16	3	24	34	18
Tons of ordnance brought aboard		6098.2	881.9	10,209		
Tons of stores brought aboard	979.0		30			
Tons of fleet freight	10.0	116		20	148	
Lifts	1186	4533	745	7,567		
Tons of retrograde		200	125	491		
Lifts of retrograde	82					
Tons of ordnance received by VERTREP		297				
Gallons of NSFO received	7,236,400	1,519,700		19,043,000		
Gallons of JP-5 received	6,867,600	1,570,900		13,633,100		
Gallons of AVGAS received				56,500		
Gallons of JP-5 backloaded				558,100		
Gallons of NSFO delivered					1,266,300	

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART III  
STATISTICS (cont'd) (C)

TOTALS

NSFO Received	27,799,300 gallons
JP-5 Received	22,071,600 gallons
AVGAS Received	56,500 gallons
Ordinance Received	34,972,200 pounds (17,486.1 tons)
Fleet Freight Received	292,000 pounds (146 tons)
Stores Received	2,314,000 pounds (1,157 tons)
Retrograde Returned	1,796,000 pounds (898 tons)
Total Lifts	15,443
JP-5 Backloaded	558,100 gallons
NSFO Delivered to DD's	1,266,300 gallons

(U) Reenlistment rates by month for the year were as follows:

MONTH	<u>FIRST TERM</u>			<u>CAREER</u>		
	<u>ELIG</u>	<u>REEN</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>	<u>ELIG</u>	<u>REEN</u>	<u>PERCENT</u>
Jan	10	3	30.0	2	2	100.0
Feb	12	4	33.0	8	7	87.5
Mar	21	0	0	12	6	50.0
Apr	38	3	7.89	12	10	83.3
May	28	8	28.5	13	10	76.9
Jun	176	4	2.2	17	0	0
Jul	4	3	75.0	5	4	80.0
Aug	3	3	100.0	7	7	100.0
Sep	129	3	2.3	6	1	16.6
Oct	81	1	1.2	1	0	0
Nov	12	4	33.0	11	10	90.9
Dec	<u>40</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10.0</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>88.0</u>
Totals	554	40	7.22	103	65	63.1

Overall Total: Eligible: 657 Reenlisted: 105 Percent: 15.9

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

03/12/2015

PART IV

PART IV

## SPECIAL TOPICS (4)

## AWARDS

- (U) During the period 1 January through 31 December 1970 the following awards were received:

Campaign/Service: Vietnam Service Medal for service in the contiguous waters of Vietnam during the period 17 November 1969 to 12 May 1970.

COMSEVENTHFLT 1tr FF/7/RB:dj ser N1/PD-1889 of 10 Jul 70 recommended to SECNAV that RANGER be awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in support of the Republic of Korea for the period 12-13 April 1970.

Individual awards were received for sustained meritorious service by ship's company personnel as follows:

Bronze Star - 7

Navy Commendation Medal - 22

Navy Achievement Medal - 94

CINCPACFLT Letter of Commendation - 28

SEVENTHFLT Letter of Commendation - 73

## ENGINEERING

- (U) During 1970 RANGER steamed a total of 69,177.7 engine miles as recorded by shaft revolution counters.
- (U) Boiler hours accumulated for each of the ship's 1200 PSI Babcox and Wilcox boilers during the year were as follows (total hours for each boiler since commissioning are also indicated):

	<u>1970</u>	<u>Since 10 Aug 57</u>
1A	3,269.2	44,392.9
1B	2,461.2	43,825.1
2A	3,476.9	47,718.5
2B	3,697.9	44,561.5
3A	3,165.6	44,611.1
3B	3,037.5	52,196.5
4A	3,201.0	45,622.3
4B	3,512.3	46,547.8
Totals:	25,821.6	369,475.7

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART IV

SPECIAL TOPICS (cont'd) (C)

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date OCT 27 2015

- (C) The major maintenance problem during the year was routine maintenance of boiler firesides and watersides. Thirteen boiler CASREPT's during the year negated orderly scheduling of routine maintenance since CASREPT boilers were out of commission for from four to twenty-eight days with an average time out of commission of thirteen days. These boiler CASREPT's coupled with essential maintenance requirements on other machinery during deployed upkeep periods resulted in excessive boiler fireside hours on many occasions which in turn contributed to additional casualties. The boiler maintenance schedule was further upset by the requirement to accomplish more than routine maintenance when boilers were secured for fireside or waterside cleaning. On the average, corrective maintenance required twenty percent more additional time than the schedule maintenance times in order to accomplish boiler casing repairs and/or major waterside repair such as hand-hole seat repairs or plugging of leaking tubes. In spite of these difficulties, RANGER only missed one operational commitment while deployed, an exercise in the Sea of Japan in April; however, RANGER did carry out an extra assignment when the last line period in the Gulf of Tonkin was extended one week.

AIRCRAFT INTERMEDIATE MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

- (U) The Department spent the first five months of 1970 in production supporting Air Wing TWO's combat operations, processing a total of 26,275 components during the 1969/70 cruise with a repaired and returned-to-use rate of 81.6%. April 1970 was the highest single production month in over two years with a total of 4,655 components processed, 80% returned to use.
- (U) The day RANGER departed Yankee Station, 13 May, the C1A landed at Danang, requiring an engine change. The C1A crew built-up the new engine, installed it under very adverse conditions and the aircraft returned to NAS Cubi Point in two days, leaving a comfortable margin of time for loading aboard prior to sailing for CONUS. The next flight was a mid-Pacific MEDEVAC mission from RANGER to Midway Island and return, a distance of over 300 miles one way.
- (U) During the summer turn-around months many new items of test equipment were installed in the avionics shops for support of the A7E and A6C TRIM systems.
- (U) Production in the Department for FY 1970 totalled 28,428 components processed with a repaired and returned-to-use median of 82.1%.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

PART IV

SPECIAL TOPICS (cont'd) (U)

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

COMMUNICATIONS

- (U) During the year 1970 the Communications Department expended 6,882,500 individual sheets of message paper, or, an average of 18,856 sheets per day. Some 2,216 separate messages (in excess of 50,000 sheets of message paper) were distributed about the ship during the year's busiest day.

DENTAL

- (U) RANGER Dental Department's accomplishments for this period include a total of 26,926 dental procedures completed in 13,250 patient sittings; 2,212 of these procedures were stannous fluoride treatments. At-sea periods were peak work times. In November, for example, 4,100 dental procedures were performed during 1,369 patient sittings and 265 of these procedures were stannous fluoride treatments. The Dental Officer, along with a Dental Technician, made twelve visits to accompanying destroyers during 1970 for the purpose of updating dental records and rendering dental examinations.

EDUCATION

- (U) In September RANGER embarked on an aggressive educational program in anticipation of the 1970/71 deployment. At the heart of the program was "Top Gun University," a USAFI sponsored group study program in high school and college subjects. Upon deployment over 300 students were enrolled in 18 classes ranging from high school English to college trigonometry. In conjunction with "TGU" the ship prepared eight week courses for non-high school graduates to prepare them to complete the GED. Additionally, during the first two months of the deployment, RANGER issued over 400 Navy Training Courses and 200 USAFI and college courses.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAPLAIN

- (U) During the year 512 services were conducted on RANGER (11,146 attended/4,221 communed) and 62 services were conducted on board other ships (1,424 attended/487 communed). Holy Helos were employed to the maximum extent possible to provide Chaplain services to escorting destroyers. During some months the Chaplains logged more flight time than some ship's company aviators who were prevented from leaving the ship by the high tempo of operations in the Gulf of Tonkin.

DECLASSIFIED

## PART IV

## SPECIAL TOPICS (cont'd) (C)

- (U) Other activities included 1,337 counselling sessions, 87 Navy Relief referrals, 123 letters sent to family homes, 664 Red Cross messages delivered and 241 sent. Facelifting activities included the supervision and building of the first permanent meditation chapel aboard RANGER and the remodeling of the ship's library facilities.
- (U) Contributions from the Chapel Funds were used as follows:

Seiwa School (Sasebo, Japan)	\$250.00
St. Peter's Church (Hong Kong)	500.00
Ruttonjer Sanitorium (Hong Kong)	250.00
Pope John XXIII Center (Olongapo, R.P.)	200.00
Seifven Girls Home (Sasebo, Japan)	200.00
Subic Servicemans Center (Olongapo, R.P.)	458.00
Operation School House (R.P.)	704.00
Olongapo Girlstown (R.P.)	500.00
Total:	\$3,062.00

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

- (U) During 1970 RANGER played host to a variety of visitors. Some of the most notable ones are listed below.

12 January	Brigadier General C. H. BAIK, Republic of Korea Air Force
1 March	Admiral J. J. HYLAND, USN, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Vice Admiral W. F. BRINGLE, USN, Commander SEVENTH Fleet
14-15 March	Major General J. L. WAGSTAFF, USAF, Deputy Commander, U. S. Military Assistance Command, Thailand
14 April	Vice Admiral MOU PING-CHO, Chief of Staff, Chinese Navy; Rear Admiral SHU CHI-UN, Chief of Operations, Chinese Navy; Major General HSIANG HSIH-TUON, Commander Tactical Wing, Chinese Navy
21-22 April	Admiral J. J. HYLAND, USN, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet
16 May	Manila Navy League

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
 Authority: EO 13526  
 Reviewed by DON/AA/DRMD  
 Date: OCT 27 2015

## PART IV

## SPECIAL TOPICS (cont'd) (C)

- 2-17 August Sea Cadets (1 Officer/12 Cadets) and Navy Reservists (10 Officers/2 CPO/8 Enlisted) on board during transit to Southern California
- 29-30 September Admiral R. E. PEET, USN, Commander FIRST Fleet
- 27 October - Secretary of the Navy Guest Cruise  
4 November
- 20 November Vice Admiral F. A. BARDSHAR, USN, Commander Attack Carrier Striking Force SEVENTH Fleet
- 29-30 November Vice Admiral L. D. EMPSON, RN, Commander Far East Forces(1); Vice Admiral M. F. WEISNER, USN, Commander SEVENTH Fleet
- 7-8 December Doctor Curtis TARR, Director of Selective Service
- 23 December Admiral B. A. CLAREY, USN, Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet
- (U) RANGER hosted nine Secretary of the Navy guests during the transit from Alameda to Hawaii. All of the below listed SECNAV Guests are prominent business leaders in their communities:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
Mr. Gus Levi	Vice Mayor of Alameda, California. Owner of two jewelery stores
Mr. Alvar Hanson	Director of Santa Monica Navy League
Mr. Joseph Mancini	President of Brookman Company, J & P Enterprises and Mancini Enterprises
Mr. William Secor	Owner of Guaranty Typewriter and Adding Machine Company, San Francisco, California
Mr. Robert Simcock	President of the Commonwealth Financial Corporation
Mr. Ray Gimbal	Gimbal Brothers Wholesale Confectioners
(1): Exhibit 10	



DECLASSIFIED

PART IV

SPECIAL TOPICS (cont'd) (S)

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

Mr. William Alberts Former National Treasurer of the Navy League  
Mr. Francis Lobbett Chairman of the Board of the American  
Chemical Corporation  
Mr. Robert Dohrmann Active in Navy League, the Sierra Club and  
University Club of San Francisco

DECLASSIFIED

**DECLASSIFIED**

PART V

DOCUMENTARY EXHIBITS (U)

<u>EXHIBIT</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	December 1970 Officers Directory
2	1969 - 1970 Cruise Report
3	Photo: USS RANGER steams under Bay Bridge 1 June 1970
4	Photo: USS RANGER drydocked at Hunters Point Naval Shipyard
5	Commanding Officer Biography and photograph
6	Photo: Change of Command USS RANGER
7	Photo: Flight deck fire drill
8	Photo: USS BENICIA (PG-96) alongside USS RANGER
9	USS RANGER Familygram
10	Photo: VADM L. D. EMPSON, RN, COMFET
11	Photo: UNREP/VERTREP - USS CAMDEN (AOE-2) and USS RANGER
12	Photos: USS RANGER aircraft
13	1969 - 1970 RANGER Cruise Book

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Reviewed by DON/AA DRMD  
Date: OCT 27 2015

**DECLASSIFIED**