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U.S.S. ROGERS (DD-876)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

IN REPLY REFER TO:
DD876/EEF:jr
5700
1 APR 1972

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From: Commanding Officer, USS ROGERS (DD-876)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington
Navy Yard, Washington, DC

Removed

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

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

- Encl:
- (1) Chronology for 1971
 - (2) Basic Narrative
 - (3) USS ROGERS Family gram of 4 Aug 1971
 - (4) DRAC NGLO, CTO, RVN msg 250815Z AUG 71
 - (5) COMSEVENTHFLT msg 020644Z SEP 71 (CONF)
 - (6) COMDESRON FIVE msg 170423Z SEP 71
 - (7) USS ROGERS Family gram of 24 Sep 1971
 - (8) USS ROGERS Family gram of 27 Oct 1971
 - (9) COMSEVENTHFLT msg 030236Z DEC 71
 - (10) USS ROGERS Family gram of 3 Dec 1971
 - (11) COMSEVENTHFLT msg 060410Z DEC 71
 - (12) COMSEVENTHFLT msg 120342Z DEC 71
 - (13) USS ROGERS Family gram of 21 Dec 1971
 - (14) COMCRUDESPEC msg 221652Z DEC 71

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1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (14) are hereby forwarded.

JAL
L. A. RAUCH

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CHRONOLOGY
HISTORY OF USS ROGERS (DD 876)

1 January - 21 January	In port San Diego; Post deployment leave and upkeep period.
21 January	At sea for local operations; Burial at sea.
21 January - 25 January	In port San Diego.
25 January - 29 January	At sea for local operations.
29 January - 22 February	In port San Diego; upkeep.
22 February - 3 March	At sea for local operations; Admixture Exercise.
3 March - 12 April	Tender availability.
12 April - 16 April	At sea for local operations.
16 April - 24 April	In port San Diego; upkeep.
24 April - 29 April	At sea for local operations; Gun School Ship.
29 April - 3 May	In port San Diego; upkeep.
3 May - 4 May	At sea for local operations as ASW School Ship.
4 May - 14 June	Tender availability.
14 June - 16 June	At sea for local operations and predeployment shake down.
16 June - 29 June	In port San Diego.
29 June - 22 July	At sea enroute Subic Bay, P. I. with USS ROBISON, USS SOUTHERLAND, and USS AGERHOLM.
4 July - 8 July	In port Pearl Harbor.

ENCLOSURE (1)

11 July	Brief fuel stop, Midway Island
18 July	Brief fuel stop, Guam
22 July - 27 July	In port Subic Bay
24 July	LCDR Leo A. Rauch relieved CDR James E. Woolway as Commanding Officer, USS ROGERS (DD 876)
27 July - 29 July	At sea enroute Republic of Vietnam for Naval Gunfire Support assignment.
29 July	Brief stop Danang; embarked Commander Destroyer Squadron FIVE (Commodore Guthrie)
29 July - 1 August	Assigned Naval Gunfire Support unit M. R. I, Republic of Vietnam
1 August - 26 August	Assigned Naval Gunfire Support unit M. R. IV, Republic of Vietnam
26 August - 1 September	Assigned Naval Gunfire Support unit M. R. I, Republic of Vietnam
1 September	Relieved of Naval Gunfire Support duties by USS EDSON (DD 946)
1 September - 3 September	Enroute Subic Bay
3 September - 12 September	In port Subic Bay; upkeep
12 September	At sea for local operations
12 September - 13 September	In port Subic Bay
13 September - 15 September	At sea enroute Hong Kong
15 September - 28 September	In port Hong Kong
28 September - 30 September	At sea for typhoon evasion; Della
30 September - 3 October	In port Hong Kong
3 October - 6 October	Enroute Subic Bay

6 October - 13 October	In port Subic Bay; upkeep.
13 October - 14 October	Enroute Search and Rescue Station, Gulf of Tonkin.
14 October - 21 October	Search and Rescue Operations with USS FOX (DLG 33).
21 October - 22 October	ASW Operations with USS DARTER (SS 576).
22 October - 24 October	Enroute Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
24 October - 28 October	In port Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
28 October - 30 October	At sea, enroute North Search and Rescue Station, Gulf of Tonkin.
30 October - 3 November	Search and Rescue operations with USS REEVES (DLG 24).
3 November - 6 November	Enroute Singapore in company with USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN 65).
6 November - 15 November	In port Singapore.
15 November - 16 November	At sea enroute Yankee Station.
16 November - 17 November	In port Singapore.
17 November - 20 November	At sea enroute Yankee Station.
20 November - 26 November	Yankee Station operations with USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN 65).
26 November - 28 November	Enroute Subic Bay.
28 November - 4 December	In port Subic Bay.
4 December - 22 December	At sea enroute San Diego.
8 December	Brief fuel stop, Guam.
16 December - 17 December	In port Pearl Harbor.
22 December - 31 December	In port San Diego; post-deployment leave and upkeep period.

USS ROGERS (DD 876) SHIP'S HISTORY

The end of 1970 saw ROGERS in her homeport of San Diego after just completing a hard six month deployment in WESTPAC. All hands took advantage of the 30 day rest and relaxation period known as stand down as maximum leave and liberty were granted. After everyone had once again become reacquainted with family and friends it was time for ROGERS to continue her duties.

Her first assignment came on January 21. It was not an ordinary job for a U.S. Navy ship in the present, but ROGERS was assigned to perform a burial at sea. All hands were deeply touched as the body of BMC Joseph Lea Scharafinsky was "committed to the deep." The Navy cannot dwell on the past and the same day the job of retraining the crew after a long post-deployment lay-off was begun. The five inch guns were test fired and the engineering plant was given a good workout. This brought to light several systems failures which were not noticed during the previous month's inactivity. A spring bearing casualty required the number one main engine be stopped and a hydraulic leak in mount 52 put it out of commission also. The next week was spent in correcting these and other minor problems.

The next week the crew was put through extensive training which included gunnery exercises, electronic countermeasures exercises, ASW exercises with the USS DARTER (SS 576), and finally an underway replenishment. Again this necessitated repair work and the following month was spent in an upkeep period preparing ROGERS for her next at sea period and upcoming fleet exercises.

On 22 February ROGERS went to sea to participate in training and Exercise Admixture. The first day was spent entirely on ASW training. This included ASROC and torpedo firings at the SQUAW target. Attack procedures were invaluable for training bridge and combat personnel. The following day was spent in gunnery exercises and damage control exercises. On the same day ROGERS rendezvoused with USS TICONDEROGA (CVS 14) and assumed plane guard duties while conducting flight operations for reconnaissance of blue forces involved in Admixture. On 24 February ROGERS sighted what was determined to be a blue forces sonar buoy in the water. After disposing of the sonar buoy she continued her job of shadowing TICONDEROGA. Continuing her duties through the next day she completed a successful underway replenishment from the TICONDEROGA. The last three days of the exercise were uneventful and on 3 March ROGERS returned to port in San Diego.

A tender availability with USS GOMPERS (AD 37) took most of ROGERS' time for the next month. Much of the necessary work which was unable to be completed by the ship's crew was taken care of during this period. Also, during her tender availability, ROGERS underwent an NTPI (Nuclear Technical Proficiency Inspection). As usual she was able to complete the inspection with no major discrepancies.

Following her tender availability ROGERS went to sea for local operations in the Southern California Operations Area for a period of two days. These two days were filled with assorted gunnery exercises, which included Naval Gunfire Support, long range sled shoots, basic anti-aircraft shoots, plus a drone target shoot. Also included between gunnery exercises was an underway replenishment from USS GUADALUPE (AO 32). The next four days were spent inport which was a well deserved rest for the crew after a hectic four day period at sea. While inport ROGERS experienced a fire in the Damage Control shop. The fire was quickly extinguished and no personnel casualties resulted. The fire caused negligible damage to the ship.

On 24 April, ROGERS again went to sea for local operations. After picking up observers from Fleet Training Center she proceeded to her assigned operating areas and commenced graded gunnery exercises. Surface, air and Naval Gunfire Support exercises were completed with all scores above those needed to qualify. Also during the at sea period damage control drills were held in conjunction with the gunnery shoots.

Returning from these operations, ROGERS remained in port for several days in general cleaning, maintenance upkeep period. Back to sea once again. Acting as ASW School ship, ROGERS conducted single and dual ship ASW operations with USS AGERHOLM (DD 826) and USS BLACKFIN (SS 322). A full power run (4 boiler operations) was also held to evaluate her engineering plant. All exercises and tests were evaluated as very good.

For the next six weeks starting 4 May, ROGERS was scheduled for a tender availability with USS GOMPERS (AD 37). This was her final availability period before her scheduled deployment. This time was also spent in allowing the crew time with family and friends. On 14 June she made her predeployment shakedown cruise and utilized the FORACS facility. On 16 June, ROGERS started her pre-deployment stand down period. All things ready for the long journey and six month long cruise she and her crew said their final goodbyes and stood by to get underway.

On 29 June ROGERS stood out of San Diego enroute to Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, steaming in company with USS ROBISON (DDG 12), USS SOUTHERLAND (DD 743) and USS AGERHOLM (DD 826). Numerous exercises were held putting the final edge on an already finely honed group of men. On 4 July Destroyer Squadron FIVE pulled into Pearl Harbor. Remaining in Pearl for four days due to the 4th of July holiday gave the crew a chance to see the islands and relax for a short time. Then it was underway again bound for Midway Island. After a three day trip to Midway ROGERS stopped only long enough to refuel, then was underway again, bound for Guam Island in the Mariannas Island Group. This leg of the journey was slightly longer than the others and therefore was utilized to the fullest for training and exercises. The stop at Guam was nearly as short

as that in Midway. It was at this point that ROGERS' new prospective Commanding Officer reported aboard. After refueling once more the group was off on the last major leg of the journey, destination, Subic Bay. On 22 July, Destroyer Squadron FIVE made its way into Subic Bay. ROGERS remained in Subic for five days making repairs necessitated by the transit. On 24 July Commander James E. Woolway was relieved as Commanding Officer by Lieutenant Commander Leo A. Rauch in ceremonies held aboard ship.

On 29 July ROGERS received her first assignment and departed Subic Bay bound for Danang Harbor. After receiving Commander Destroyer Squadron FIVE aboard, the ship immediately departed Danang and took up station in M.R. I for Naval Gunfire Support. Providing Gunfire Support for forces ashore both day and night, the ship remained on station in M.R. I for approximately four days and then took station in M.R. IV also providing Naval Gunfire Support. After spending twenty-four days in M.R. IV the ship returned to M.R. I answering all calls for fire. Finally on 1 September ROGERS was relieved of Gunfire Support duties by USS EDSON (DD 946) after spending 34 days on the gunline. Although numerous casualties were experienced during this period, ROGERS was always there when needed and never missed a call for fire. During her gunline period ROGERS successfully completed seventeen underway replenishments without casualty or mishap. She was further required to anchor many times. All evolutions were completed without equipment or personnel casualty.

On 3 September ROGERS entered Subic Bay and remained there for nine days effecting repairs necessary from her stay on the gunline. Commander Destroyer Squadron FIVE shifted his pennant to USS SOUTHERLAND (DD 743) on 9 September. Three days later ROGERS sharpened her anti-aircraft defenses in an air exercise. Returning to Subic for one day to refuel, ROGERS departed for more local operations then departed for Hong Kong. Arriving in Hong Kong on 15 September, her crew spent the next 13 days enjoying the sights and good buys of this amazing city. During her stay she was assigned duties as SOPA (ADMIN), which were carried out in an exemplary fashion. On 28 September upon receiving information that Typhoon Della was heading towards Hong Kong, ROGERS, along with most of the other ships in the harbor, departed to evade the storm. After riding heavy seas and high winds for two days, ROGERS returned to the harbor following the passing of Della. During her evasion she experienced a casualty to the bridge steering mechanism which necessitated steering be controlled from after steering. ROGERS remained in Hong Kong until 3 October and departed for Subic Bay to correct her steering casualty.

Again encountering heavy seas and high winds it was necessary to steer evasive courses enroute to Subic Bay. On 6 October while entering Subic Bay with steering control still in after steering, ROGERS experienced a jammed rudder. After successfully putting the rudder amidships, and with tugs standing by she made her way to the piers using her engines to steer with.

The next week was spent in repairing her steering casualty and storm damage. While moored to Rivera Pier another tropical storm passed through the Philippines making it necessary for ROGERS to put over wire mooring lines and also drop her port anchor. No damage resulted from this storm.

On 13 October, her repairs completed, ROGERS departed Subic Bay. Her destination was the Gulf of Tonkin and the North Search and Rescue Station. Operating with USS FOX (DLG 33), ROGERS participated in a search for a drone, but was unsuccessful in her search. Also while on station she received a visit from RADM BAGLEY who talked to the crew about various subjects. The last day on North SAR was spent conducting ASW operations with USS DARTER (SS 576). On 22 October she was detached from her duties on North SAR and proceeded to Kaohsiung, Taiwan arriving two days later.

After spending four days in Kaohsiung and enjoying excellent ship's parties, ROGERS again departed to assume duties on North SAR with USS REEVES (DLG 24). During her stay on North SAR ROGERS experienced a class "C" fire. No personnel casualties and negligible damage resulted. On 3 November she commenced plane guard duties for USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN 65) while enroute to Singapore. After a three day transit ROGERS arrived at the joint Australian, New Zealand, United Kingdom (ANZUK) Naval Base.

After a ten day upkeep period ROGERS departed Singapore on 15 November. Experiencing an engineering casualty immediately after leaving port, she returned the following day to perform needed repairs. Having completed repairs she left Singapore again on 17 November enroute to Yankee Station. Arriving on station she immediately assumed ASW screening and plane guard duties for USS ENTERPRISE (CVAN 65). During this period, an underway replenishment with USS PONCHATOULA (AO 148) was terminated when the refueling rig became unseated due to heavy weather. No personnel casualties resulted. On 24 November she conducted ASW exercises with USS QUEENFISH (SSN 651) which lasted throughout the night and were completed the following day. Detached from the carrier task group on 26 November, ROGERS proceeded to Subic Bay to make final repairs in preparation for the return trip to San Diego.

After five days in Subic Bay ROGERS, on 4 December, departed for San Diego steaming in company with USS ROBISON (DDG 12), USS SOUTHERLAND (DD 743), USS AGERHOLM (DD 826), and USS DAVIDSON (DE 1045), under the command of Commander Destroyer Squadron FIVE. December 8 the squadron stopped briefly in Guam for fuel, but resumed the journey immediately after refueling. ROGERS conducted an underway replenishment from USS GUADALUPE (AO 32) on 12 December, which was necessary because of bad weather in the Midway area. Stopping in Pearl Harbor for refueling on December 16 gave ROGERS a welcomed, one day, rest from the long journey from WESTPAC. The following morning saw ROGERS, in company with USS ROBISON (DDG 12), USS SOUTHERLAND (DD 743), and USS AGERHOLM (DD 826) depart on the last leg of the trip from Subic Bay to San Diego. On 22 December ROGERS moored at Quaywall North 4, U. S. Naval Station San Diego. A multitude of family and friends were on hand to welcome her and her crew home. After a long trip through much heavy weather, it was a welcome relief to be back in her home port once again.

The last days of 1971 saw ROGERS in her post deployment stand down period. Once again maximum leave and liberty were granted to everyone and it was a happy holiday season for ROGERS and her crew brought a fitting end to 1971.