



U.S.S. TOWERS (DDG-9)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA  
96601

DDG9:BGM:cjs  
5750  
Ser 01/C7  
1 March 1973

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer, USS TOWERS (DDG-9)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Command History, Report Symbol 5750-1; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVISNT 5750.12A

Encl: (1) USS TOWERS (DDG-9) Command History  
(2) USS TOWERS Family grams 1972  
(3) Photographs and biographies of USS TOWERS (DDG-9)  
Commanding Officers in 1972.

1. Pursuant to reference (a), the USS TOWERS (DDG-9) History for calendar year 1972 and the supporting documents are hereby submitted as enclosures (1), (2) and (3).

M. B. BRISBOIS

Copy to:  
CINCPACFLT  
COMCRUDESAC  
COMDESRON 21

**DECLASSIFIED**

OP09B4 3/18/77

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reg 337

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

USS TOWERS COMMAND HISTORY

1. (U) Chronology of events:

1 JAN - 23 JAN	Inport upkeep San Diego (DATC School ship).
24 JAN - 28 JAN	Underway; ASW School ship. Gun EX.
28 JAN - 14 FEB	Inport upkeep and training.
14 FEB - 18 FEB	Underway; COMPTUEX: emph on AAW & ASW training missile shoot.
18 FEB - 13 MAR	Inport.
13 MAR - 17 MAR	Underway: Type train.
18 MAR - 19 MAR	Inport San Francisco.
20 MAR - 26 MAR	Underway: Plane guard MIDWAY. ASW & AAW training.
27 MAR - 17 APR	Inport San Diego.
18 APR - 27 APR	Underway: COMPTUEX 10A-72.
28 APR - 7 MAY	Inport San Diego.
8 MAY - 12 MAY	Underway: Type training.
13 MAY - 20 JUN	Inport San Diego, preparation for WESTPAC deployment.
20 JUN - 6 JUL	Transit to WESTPAC. Performed duties as CTU 15.8.6.
7 JUL	INCHOP to COMSEVENTHFLT.
7 JUL - 12 JUL	Transit to Subic Bay R. P. Performed duties as CTU 70.0.2.
8 JUL - 9 JUL	Assigned to SAR effort in vicinity of Guam for downed B-52 aircrew.
13 JUL - 14 JUL	Inport Subic Bay, R. P.
15 JUL - 16 JUL	Transit to TU 70.8.9 while acting as mutual support ship for USS MIDWAY.

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

17 JUL - 28 JUL NGFS operations in vicinity of Quang Tri, RVN during LAMSON-72.

29 JUL - 5 AUG With COMDESRON-31 embarked and in company with USS H.B. WILSON and USS F.B. PARKS reinstated task unit 77.1.2 (Linebacker) after a month's inactivation.

6 AUG - 8 AUG Transit to Sasebo, Japan.

9 AUG - 16 AUG Inport Sasebo, Japan.

17 AUG - 21 AUG Transit to TU 70.8.9.

22 AUG - 23 AUG NGFS operations in vicinity of Quang Tri City. RVN during LAMSON-72.

24 AUG - 11 SEP NGFS operations in support of the 1st ARVN Div. in vicinity of Hue, RVN.

12 SEP - 23 SEP NGFS operation in vicinity of Quang Tri City, RVN during LAMSON-72.

24 SEP- 25 SEP Special operations in the Gulf of Tonkin as part of TU 77.1.2.

26 SEP - 30 SEP NGFS operations in support of the 1st ARVN Div. in vicinity of Hue, RVN.

1 OCT - 2 OCT Transit to Hong Kong, RCC.

3 OCT - 9 OCT Inport Hong Kong, RCC. (05-09 OCT performed duties as SOPA Admin Hong Kong).

10 OCT Transit to Subic Bay, R. P.

11 OCT Inport Subic Bay, R. P.

12 OCT NGFS Services at Tabonnes Range for Third MARDIV NGFS School

13 OCT - 19 OCT Inport Subic Bay, R. P.

19 OCT - 20 OCT Transit to TG 75.9.

21 OCT - 16 NOV NGFS operations in vicinity of Qui Nhon, RVN in support of the 22nd ARVN Division

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

17 NOV	NGFS operations in vicinity of Quang Tri City, ARVN in support of Song Than 9.
18 NOV - 19 NOV	Type training Subic Bay, R. P.
21 NOV	Transit to Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
22 NOV - 20 NOV	Inport Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
1 DEC - 2 DEC	Transit Gunline.
3 DEC - 8 DEC	NGFS operations in vicinity Quang Tri City, RVN.
9 DEC - 12 DEC	NGFS Northern MRI.
12 DEC - 13 DEC	Linebacker ops TU 77.1.1.
14 DEC - 19 DEC	NGFS MR11
19 DEC	Linebacker ops.
20 DEC - 28 DEC	NGFS, MR11
28 DEC - 31 DEC	Escort DD, USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-63)

2. (C) Basic Narrative

a. Command Organization and Relations

(1) Commanding Officer: CDR. M. B. BRISBOIS, USN, from 27 August 1971 through 1972.

(2) Homeport: San Diego, California

(3) Mission of Command: To operate offensively with strike forces, with hunter/killer groups, in support of amphibious assault operations and screen support forces and convoys against submarine, air and surface threats.

(4) Composition of Command: Officers - 22  
Enlisted - 314

b. Operations

(1) The first portion of 1972 proved relatively uneventful for USS TOWERS, with an underway time of approximately 11%. In February

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

and April, operations increased significantly when TOWERS participated in two COMPTUEXs. During these Fleet exercises, TOWERS tested her weapons systems and capabilities, with an emphasis on AAW and ASW. In the month of March, TOWERS underwent type training and also provided escort services to the USS MIDWAY. The crew enjoyed a weekend in San Francisco.

(2) With the massive North Vietnamese offensive into Quang Tri Province in MRI, the ships of the Pacific Fleet assumed a new and expanded role in the Vietnam Conflict. TOWERS, scheduled to deploy in late September of 1972, was given two weeks notice to deploy and went into a hectic preparatory period in late May and early June of 1972. The deployment began on 20 June when TOWERS got underway for WESTPAC. During the transit, TOWERS assisted in the rescue of 6 downed B-52 pilots in a typhoon near Guam. The Secretary of the Navy commended the ship for its efforts in the SAR mission.

(3) The ship spent a curtailed two day upkeep period in Subic Bay, R. P. from 13 July and immediately got underway for the gunline. Heavy commitments and long hours of firing in support of RVN forces in Quang Tri Province followed from 17 July to 28 July as TOWERS participated in LAMSON-72. From 29 July to 05 August, with COMDESRON-31 embarked, in company with the USS H.B. WILSON and USS F.B. PARKS, TOWERS conducted Linebacker strikes against the coast of North Vietnam as TU 77.1.2. TOWERS qualified for the Combat Action ribbon after being subjected to hostile enemy shore fire on numerous occasions.

(4) 09 August through 16 August saw TOWERS in Sasebo, Japan for general upkeep and for the regunning of her twin 5"/54 gunmounts, whose barrels were expended in intensive NGFS operations. During the period of 22 August to 23 September, TOWERS provided Naval Gunfire for LAMSON-72 and for 1st ARVN Division in the vicinity of HUE, RVN. On the nights of 24 and 25 September, TOWERS fired night Linebacker strikes as a unit of TU 77.1.2. From 26 September to 30 September TOWERS returned to MRII and provided support for the 1st ARVN Division.

(5) After a 49 day line period TOWERS steamed to HONG KONG for R & R and many of the crew were able to meet their wives during the stay of seven days. TOWERS then spent an eight day upkeep period in Subic Bay during which she fired 300 rounds at Tabonnes NGFS range for the third MARDIV NGFS school.

(6) From 21 October to 16 November TOWERS provided NGFS for the 22nd ARVN Division near Qui Nhon and for ARVN forces around Quang Tri City in Sang Than 9. This line period was followed by 2 days upkeep in Subic Bay and 9 days inport Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Despite recurrent rumors of a pending peace agreement, TOWERS returned to Vietnam to fulfill her commitments firing NGFS from 03 December to 08 December in Northern MRI.

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Enclosure (1)

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Exceptionally heavy commitments shaped TOWERS schedules of all night fire missions and all day replenishments. The ship fired over 4000 rounds in the month of December alone.

(7) December also brought more Linebacker strikes, with TOWERS as CTU 77.1.2 with COMDESRON-21 embarked. Strikes on the 12th and 13th of December and again on the 19th, saw TOWERS receive hundreds of enemy rounds, requalifying her for the Combat Action Ribbon. TOWERS continued to fire NGFS until 28 December. From 28 December to 30 December, TOWERS provided plane guard services for USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-63).

(8) After a grueling seven month combat deployment, TOWERS outchopped through Yokosuka and returned to San Diego via Midway Island and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. TOWERS arrived in San Diego on 20 January 1973. During the deployment TOWERS fired 12,500 rounds and spent 80% of the deployment underway, replenishing, rearming and refueling at sea countless times. In more than 220 fire missions, spotted and unspotted, TOWERS inflicted heavy damage upon the enemy including 30 confirmed KIA's and numerous artillery and motor positions destroyed. In two TARTAR exercises, TOWERS missile system performed admirably, with two skin to skin hits under simulated attack conditions. TOWERS continued her tradition of dependability and versatility as a guided missile destroyer of the Pacific Fleet.

c. Special Topics

(1) Operational Statistics

(a) Underway Replenishments

March	- 2 Refuelings
April	- 1 Refueling
June	- 1 Refueling
July	- 2 VERTREPS 4 Rearmings 4 Refuelings 1 Stores
August	- 1 VERTREP 5 Rearmings 5 Refuelings 1 Stores

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**DECLASSIFIED**

September - 4 VERTREPS  
6 Rearmings  
8 Refuelings  
2 Stores

October - 1 VERTREP  
3 Rearmings  
4 Refuelings  
1 Stores

November - 1 VERTREP  
2 Rearmings  
2 Refuelings  
1 Stores

December - 3 VERTREPS  
6 Rearmings  
6 Refuelings  
2 Stores

(b) Ammunitions expenditures for shore bombardment (5"/54):

12,077

(c) Ammunition expenditures for exercise (5"/54):

662

(2) Communications

(a) 1972 messages received:

11,460

(b) 1972 messages transmitted:

3,420

(3) Casualties to Equipment

(a) Operations Department:

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
30 NOV 71	AN/SPS-29E IFF	5 JAN 72
30 NOV 71	AN/SLQ-26 (Port)	14 JAN 72
30 NOV 71	AN/SPS-39 IFF	14 FEB 72
24 AUG 71	AN/SLD-1	17 APR 72
26 APR 71	AN/WRT-2 NR 2	10 JAN 72
7 JAN 72	TACAN	17 JAN 72

**DECLASSIFIED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- September - 4 VERTREPS  
6 Rearmings  
8 Refuelings  
2 Stores
- October - 1 VERTREP  
3 Rearmings  
4 Refuelings  
1 Stores
- November - 1 VERTREP  
2 Rearmings  
2 Refuelings  
1 Stores
- December - 3 VERTREPS  
6 Rearmings  
6 Refuelings  
2 Stores

(b) Ammunitions expenditures for shore bombardment (5"/54):

12,077

(c) Ammunition expenditures for exercise (5"/54):

662

(2) Communications

(a) 1972 messages received:

11,460

(b) 1972 messages transmitted:

3,420

(3) Casualties to Equipment

(a) Operations Department:

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
30 NOV 71	AN/SPS-29E IFF	5 JAN 72
30 NOV 71	AN/SLQ-26 (Port)	14 JAN 72
30 NOV 71	AN/SPS-39 IFF	14 FEB 72
24 AUG 71	AN/SLD-1	17 APR 72
26 APR 71	AN/WRT-2 NR 2	10 JAN 72
7 JAN 72	TACAN	17 JAN 72



**DECLASSIFIED**

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
14 JAN 72	AN/SLQ-26 (Stbd)	9 MAR 72
14 JAN 72	AM-1017/SLR	2 FEB 72
20 FEB 72	AN/SPS-10	13 MAR 72
20 MAR 72	KY-8 NR1	25 MAR 72
20 MAR 72	EW TECHS	
25 JUN 72	AN/SPS-29E	26 JUN 72
28 JUN 72	AN/WRT-2 NR1	30 JUN 72
16 JUL 72	AN/WRT-2 NR2	18 JUL 72
19 JUL 72	AN/SPS-29E	20 SEP 72
20 JUL 72	AN/SLD-1	28 NOV 72
20 JUL 72	AN/UPX-1 (39IFF)	30 SEP 72
4 AUG 72	AN/WLR-10	17 AUG 72
24 JUL 72	AN/WRT-2 NR2	16 AUG 72
24 JUL 72	AN/SRC-20 NR2	26 AUG 72
16 AUG 72	AN/SLQ-26	20 NOV 72
20 SEP 72	AN/SRN-6 (TACAN)	12 OCT 72
20 SEP 72	AN/SPA-62	
2 OCT 72	AN/SPS-10	13 OCT 72
17 OCT 72	AN/SLA-12	5 JAN 73
1 DEC 72	AS-899/SLR	11 DEC 72
10 DEC 72	AN/WRC-1	24 JAN 73
12 DEC 72	AN/URC-9 NR3	23 DEC 72
6 Jan 73	AN/SLQ-26V	20 JAN 73
12 FEB 73	AN/SPS-10C	23 FEB 73

(b) Weapons Department

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
20 DEC 71	AN/SPG-51C NR2	7 JAN 72
26 JAN 72	MK73 Director NR3	14 FEB 72
17 FEB 72	MFCS NR3	24 FEB 72
9 MAR 72	MFCS (DIR MK73) NR3	13 MAR 72
24 MAR 72	AN/SPS-39	28 MAR 72
20 APR 72	AN/SPS-39	21 APR 72
26 MAY 72	GMLS MK11	8 JUN 72
19 JUN 72	AN/SPS-39	21 JUN 72
25 JUN 72	AN/SPS-39	30 JUN 72
23 AUG 72	GMLS MK11	25 AUG 72
4 NOV 72	GMLS MK11	16 FEB 73
10 DEC 72	AN/SPS-39	19 DEC 72
8 DEC 72	01 Level AFT	14 FEB 73
13 JAN 72	AN/SPG-53A	14 JAN 72
10 FEB 72	ML16 Computer	28 MAR 72
14 MAR 72	AN/SPG-53A	8 APR 72

**DECLASSIFIED**

Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
25 MAY 72	AN/SPG-53A	19 JUN 72
25 JUN 72	MK16 Stable Element	27 JUN 72
3 JUL 72	AN/SPG-53A	14 JUL 72
14 SEP 72	5"/54 Gunmount 52	19 SEP 72
30 OCT 72	AN/SPG-53A	14 NOV 72
4 DEC 72	5"/54 Gunmount 51	7 DEC 72
13 DEC 72	5"/54 Gunmount 51	
7 JUN 72	5"/54 Gunmount 51	15 JUN 72
16 FEB 72	5"/54 Gunmount 51	13 MAR 72

(c) Engineering Department

<u>CASREPT</u>	<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>CASCOR</u>
10 FEB 72	1A Boiler	12 MAR 72
23 MAR 72	1A Boiler	7 APR 72
3 JUN 72	1A Boiler	16 JUN 72
23 MAR 72	1B Boiler	7 APR 72
3 JUN 72	1B Boiler	17 JUN 72
3 JUN 72	2A Boiler	20 JUN 72
5 SEP 72	2A Boiler	7 SEP 72
5 NOV 72	2A Boiler	6 NOV 72
3 JUN 72	2B Boiler	20 JUN 72
21 OCT 72	1A Main Feed Pump	4 NOV 72
12 MAY 72	Forced Draft Blower	17 JUN 72
21 OCT 72	Forced Draft Blower	1 NOV 72
9 MAY 72	Firepump NR6	23 MAY 72
2 OCT 72	Firepump NR1	10 OCT 72
8 AUG 72	MG SET (60KW)	15 AUG 72
19 JAN 72	Air Compressor (ACC)	30 JAN 72
1 DEC 72	Evaporator	8 DEC 72
31 MAY 72	NC-Z Plotter	18 JUN 72
10 FEB 72	SS/TG (NR2A)	21 MAR 72
26 FEB 72	SS/TG (NR1A)	11 MAR 72
26 FEB 72	SS/TG (NR2B)	11 MAR 72
10 MAR 72	L.O.Purifier Heater	7 APR 72
23 JUL 72	S.W. Cooling Pump	16 AUG 72
19 OCT 72	Diesel Generators (NR1)	19 OCT 72

(4) Personnel. During 1972 there were 20 reenlistments on board and 88 transfers for discharge.

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Enclosure (1)