



U. S. S. VANCE (DER 387)  
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OPNAV Report 5750-1

From: Commanding Officer, USS VANCE (DER-387)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

Encl: (1) History of USS VANCE

1. In accordance with reference (a) enclosure (1) is forwarded.

  
M. E. SEILER

VANCE HISTORY 1967

(1) Brief Chronology

1-12 January	Enroute to West Pac
13 Jan - 12 February	Market Time Operations
13 February - 23 February	Tender Availability, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
27 February - 29 March	Market Time Operations
1 April - 6 April	Hong Kong R&R visit
9 April - 11 May	Market Time Operations
14 May - 23 May	Subic Bay for upkeep
26 May - 10 June	SOPA Admin Hong Kong duties
14 June - 21 July	Taiwan Patrol duties
22 July - 25 July	Enroute to Yokosuka, Japan
26 July - 29 July	Inport Yokosuka, Japan for R&R
30 July - 9 August	Enroute to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
10 August - 24 August	Leave and upkeep, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
25 August - 7 September	Tender Availability, Ford Island, Hawaii
8 September - 17 November	Restricted Availability, PHNSY
18 November - 1 December	ISE, Pearl Harbor
2 December - 8 December	Type Training, Pearl Harbor
11 December - 23 December	Refresher Training
24 December - 31 December	Holiday leave and upkeep

(2) Basic Narrative

VANCE was deployed with Seventh Fleet from January 1, 1967 until August 9, 1967. The ship served with the Navy's counter-infiltration forces in Vietnam from January until the middle of June. The primary mission of the ship was assisting the Vietnamese Navy police the jagged, 1000 mile coastline between the 17th parallel and Phue Quoc, a Vietnamese island near the Cambodian border.

During January and February VANCE visited Subic Bay, R.P.I., for a brief fuel stop; Vung Tau, and Da Nang, Vietnam, for Market Time briefings and procuring turn over material; and finally, Kaohsiung, Taiwan for a fourteen day tender availability with USS PIEDMONT. She again returned to Vung Tau, Vietnam, in March for repairs to her boilers. April saw VANCE in Hong Kong where all hands enjoyed a well deserved rest for five days. Back on Market Time in May, VANCE rendezvoused with USS BAINBRIDGE and hosted a visit by Admiral Mason Freeman, Commander Cruiser Destroyer Force, Pacific. May was also the month that saw VANCE visit Subic Bay, R.P.I., for her second time during the deployment and here Commander Escort Squadron SEVEN, Commander D. F. Milligan and his staff conducted the annual Administrative Inspection. The ship concluded the month of May arriving in Hong Kong on the twenty sixth to assume SOPA Admin duties as station ship for the United States Pacific Fleet.

In mid June, VANCE initiated a new phase in her history; she began Taiwan patrol duty. VANCE operated alternately with USS SAVAGE in patrolling the waters of the Taiwan Straits between the island of Taiwan and communist mainland China. Kaohsiung became the headquarters for operations with a side trip in the nature of a six day port call to Keelung. On July 4, 1967 VANCE afforded a troop of Keelung Sea Scouts the opportunity of going to sea on a United States warship. This community relations was well received and enjoyed by all, both sailors and sea scouts.

From Kaohsiung, VANCE participated with a Republic of China Navy ASW group, consisting of two Chinese destroyers and two Chinese ASW aircraft. On July 18, 1967 Admiral Cooper, Commander Task Force 72, was hosted for an informal visit.

Finally, on 21 July 1967, VANCE left Taiwan and steamed northward to Yokosuka, Japan, where she took her departure for home on July 29, 1967, after a three day visit.

During VANCE's seven and one half months deployment she stopped, boarded and searched over five thousand Vietnamese junks. She also provided logistics support for some seventy small coastal surveillance units that included PCF's and Coast Guard WPB's.

VANCE's other achievements include: steaming over 31,000 miles and participating in thirty six underway replenishments for fuel and other vital materials. She consumed over 780,000 gallons of fuel since departing Pearl Harbor in late December.

VANCE arrived in her homeport, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on August 9, 1967. Typhoon Ellen made crossing rather difficult, especially for the newcomers, as she generated some forty to fifty foot seas. Four days after leaving Japan, however, the seas quieted and the remainder of the trip was a pleasant experience for all.

From the middle of August until the first part of September, VANCE received some much needed repair work from the USS PRAIRIE at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor. She then began a nine week restricted availability at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. There was a great deal of work to be done in keeping a twenty-five year old ship in good operating condition. One modification performed on the ship during this period was the removal of the AN/SPS-8 radar, located on the after deckhouse.

VANCE spent the remaining month and a half of 1967 undergoing type training and refresher training under the guidance of Fleet Training

Group, Pearl Harbor. Time for re-deployment was near and the ship was operationally ready.

VANCE enjoyed a good re-enlistment rate as five of thirty men re-enlisted during 1967.