

U. S. S. VERNON COUNTY (LST-1161)

C/O FLEET POST OFFICE

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Ser 9

5 January 1965

From: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. VERNON COUNTY (LST 1161)
To: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Annual Revision of Ship's History; submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.7 of 9 Feb 1956

Encl: (1) History of USS VERNON COUNTY (LST 1161) for 1964
(2) List of Commanding Officers of USS VERNON COUNTY (LST 1161)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded.


H. J. NESBITT

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HISTORY OF U.S.S. VERNON COUNTY (LST 1161) FOR THE YEAR 1964

Having completed refresher training in January with Fleet Training Group Western Pacific, VERNON COUNTY departed for Iwakuni, Japan to load units of the Marine Air Control Squadron for Operation "BACK PACK" in Taiwan. February 1964 saw VERNON COUNTY to Tsoying and Kaohsiung, Taiwan and back to Naha, Okinawa to load troops for the final phases of "BACK PACK" - an operation with the Nationalist Chinese Navy.

On 25 March 1964, LCDR H. J. Nesbitt assumed command of VERNON COUNTY from CDR C. J. McCann who had been her skipper since 27 July 1962. After Amphibious Refresher Training in Numazu, Japan, VERNON COUNTY participated in Operation "LIGTAS" with the other contributing SEATO nations. The objective area was Mindoro Island in the Philippines. After a visit to the British Crown Colony of Hong Kong, VERNON COUNTY returned to Yokosuka to learn that she had been awarded a second consecutive Battle Efficiency Award as well as a Green "C" for Communications and a Green "E" for Operations excellence. Soon after came word that the ship was authorized to paint on a Red Engineering "E" making her the most honored LST in either ocean. A port visit to Kobe, Japan followed from 13 to 17 July.

A routine operation in Okinawa was cancelled in July and VERNON COUNTY proceeded to Naha, Okinawa to load units of the Third Marine Division. The next two months were spent 5 to 100 miles off the coast of Vietnam with other ships from the U.S. Amphibious Fleet. VERNON COUNTY remained on station until October when she was ordered to return to Yokosuka via Okinawa.

In November, VERNON COUNTY made a routine administrative lift

Enclosure (1)

from Tsoying, Taiwan to Naha, Okinawa and back and then visited the
hotsprings resort of Beppu on the island of Kyushu in Japan. Christ-
mas was spent in Yokohama and New Years in Tokyo.