



USS STERETT (CG 31)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96678

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1980

From: Commanding Officer, USS STERETT (CG 31)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)
Subj: OPNAV Report 5750-1; forwarding of
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C
Encl: (1) Command History (OPNAV report 5750-1; USS STERETT
(CG 31) 1 January - 31 December 1980)

1. As required by reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

D. C. Richardson
D. C. RICHARDSON

Copy to:
Director of Naval History
CINCPACFLT
COMTHIRDFLT
COMNAVSURFPAC
COMCRUDESGRU THREE

COMMAND HISTORY

USS STERETT (CG 31)

1 January - 31 December 1980

OPNAV Report 5750-1

COMMANDING OFFICERS

USS STERETT (CG 31)

CAPTAIN JOSEPH STOVER DONNELL, III, USN
(Assumed command 3 February 1978)

and

CAPTAIN DANIEL CHARLES RICHARDSON, USN
(Assumed command 6 February 1980)

JAN 1980

- 1 Moored Port side to pier 3, berth 31, LBNSY under going regular overhaul
- 16-20 Host for H.S.W. M.S. ALVSNABBEN
- 17 Luncheon for Swedish Officers from H.S.W.M.S. ALVSNABBEN at L.B. Officers club

FEB

- 6 Change of command CAPT J.S. DONNELL III relieved by CAPT D.C. RICHARDSON
- 14 Ship's Party at NAVSTA E.M. Club to celebrate Valentines Day

MAR

- 20 Equal Opportunity assessment by COMCRUDESGRU THREE

APR

- 17 Turn ship-moored STBD side to pier 3, berth 31, LBNSY
- 25 COMCRUDESGRU FIVE assumes temporary ISIC of STERETT due to COMCRUDESGRU THREE deploying to the Western Pacific

MAY

- 13 Visit by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Systems, Mr. Gerald A. Cann
- 17 Commenced move back aboard

JUN

- 9 Temporary ISIC changed to COMCRUDESGRU ONE, RADM W.C. NEAL
- 11-12 After light off examination found ship safe to steam
- 30JUN-1JUL Forward light off examinatin found ship safe to steam

JUL

- 3 Commenced crew certification phase I
- 28 Commenced Crew certification phase II
- 30 Dock Trials
- 31JUL-1AUG Fast Cruise

AUG

- 5-8 First Sea Trial
- 18-22 Second Sea Trial
- 20 Run away diesel and fire
- 22 Visit by COMCRUDESGRU One RADM W.C. Neal

OCT

- 17 Complete overhaul at 2359, underway for Seal Beach Weapons station
- 18 Arrive Seal Beach, conduct ammunition onload, underway for San Diego
- 19 Arrive Naval Station San Diego moored pier 4 outboard of USS Gridley CG 21
- 20 Commence Combat Systems Ships Qualification Trials (CSSQT)
- 24 Commanding Officers Personnel Inspection
- 28 Underway for CSSQT
- 30 Conducted Gunnery exercises as part of CSSQT, returned to Naval Station San Diego

NOV

- 4 Underway for CSSQT
- 7 Conducted AAW gunnery exercise as part of CSSQT, returned to Naval Station San Diego
- 12 Underway for CSSQT
- 13 Conducted missile exercise as part of CSSQT. Returned to Naval Station San Diego
- 24 COMDESRON THIRTEEN, Capt DUNHAM, embarks

DEC

- 4 Conducted burial at sea

DEC

- 8 COMFEWSG, CAPT Toncray, on board, underway for READIEX 1-81, conducted anchoring at San Clemente Island, underway to continue READIEX, USS STERETT is Mobile Sea Range Control Ship.
- 11 Night UNREP with USS WABASH
- 13 COMCARGRU THREE, RADM Chambers, visits to monitor exercise
- 14 COMCARGRU THREE Departs
- 15 COMCARGRU THREE visits for exercise, Departs
COMCRUDESGRU THIRTEEN Debarks
COMFEWSG Departs
USS STERETT Detached from READIEX 1-81
- 16 Arrive Sonar Accuracy Calibration Site (SACS) Pier, Naval Station, Long Beach, California
- 16-19 Conduct SACS tests
- 19 Underway for San Diego,
- 20-31 Leave and upkeep San Diego

NARRATIVE

The New Year finds USS STERETT (CG 31) continuing regular over-haul in Long Beach Naval Shipyard, moored port side to pier 3, berth 31. The crew is living in barracks 2197 at the Long Beach Naval Station.

A visit by His Swedish Majesty's Ship ALVSNABBEN provides a brief break in the shipyard routine as the officers and crews of USS Sterett (CG 31) and H.S.W.M.S. ALVSNABBEN exchange visits. As host ship USS Sterett (CG 31) gave several parties for the visitors and everyone had a chance to observe the differences in the two cultures and Navies.

On February 6th Captain Daniel C. RICHARDSON relieved Captain Joseph S. Donnell, III at a ceremony conducted on the U.S. Naval Station at Long Beach, California. A reception was held at the officers club immediately following the change of command.

Valentine's Day was selected as the date for a ship's party to be held at the Enlisted Men's Club on Long Beach Naval Station. Good food, drink and music made the party a great success.

COMCRUDESGRU THREE representatives conducted an Equal Opportunity assessment visit on 20 March and were pleased with the Equal Opportunity program aboard USS Sterett (CG 31).

On April 17th the ship was turned starboard side to pier 3, berth 31, to enable the collumating of the fire control radar systems. This was a sure sign that the ship was being put back together.

COMCRUDESGRU FIVE became the temporary immediate superior in the USS Sterett (CG 31) chain-of-command due to COMCRUDESGRU THREE deploying to the Western Pacific

Two assist visits by NAVAIRPAC representatives get the preparations for LAMPS helicopter operations well underway.

On 13 May Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Mr. Gerald A. CANN visited USS STERETT (CG 31) and was a dinner guest of the Commanding Officer.

17 May was the start date for the crew's move back aboard the ship. The move aboard was completed on 29 May.

On 9 June COMCRUDESGRU ONE, RADM W. C. Neal became our immediate superior in the chain of command.

The period 11-12 June saw the Propulsion Examining Board (PEB) on USS STERETT (CG 31) to conduct the Light-Off Examination (LOE) of the after plant. The LOE was a successful evolution. 30 June - 1 July had the PEB back on board for LOE of the forward plant. Another successful operation. The Sterett (CG 31) was found safe to steam both plants with three duty sections qualified. Phase I of the Crew Certification was held on 3 July.

NAVAIRPAC representatives were on board on 17 July for another aviation assist visit.

Crew Certification Phase II was conducted on 28 July and 30 July. Dock trials were held in preparation for the first sea trial. 31 July and 1 August were the dates for the fast cruise and 5-8 August was the first sea trial. The second sea trial was conducted from 18-22 August.

A runaway diesel engine resulted in a fire that caused some damage to the space and the total loss of the diesel. Fast, positive action by those on the scene and the fire party prevented this from becoming a more serious problem. There were no personnel injuries.

On 22 August RADM W. C. NEAL, COMCRUDESGRU ONE, was aboard to discuss the overhaul and meet some of the crew.

USS STERETT CG 31 continued in overhaul at Long Beach Naval Shipyard for the month of September, with three underway periods for sea trials. The scheduled completion date was changed from September 30th to October 17th.

After one more sea trial on 7 and 8 October USS STERETT CG 31 departed Long Beach Naval Shipyard at 2359 on October 17th. Arriving at Seal Beach Weapons Station the morning of October 18th where an ammunition onload was conducted.

Departing Seal Beach that evening USS STERETT CG 31 headed for San Diego. Arriving the morning of October 19th USS STERETT CG 31 moored outboard of USS GRIDLEY CG 21 at pier four.

Combat Systems Ship's Qualification Trials (CSSQT) team arrived on board the morning of October 20th to conduct a period of extensive training on the ships weapons and operations systems.

During CSSQT, gunnery and missile exercises were conducted as a part of the combat systems training.

On November 24th, Commander Destroyer Squadron Thirteen, Captain Dunham, embarked to ride the ship until the completion of READIEX 1-81.

During this underway period a Burial at Sea Service was conducted and the remains of twelve people were committed to the deep.

On December 8th COMFEWSG, Captain Toncray, came on board for READIEX, 1-81. USS STERETT (CG 31) was the Mobile Sea Range Control Ship for this exercise.

COMCARGRU THREE, RADM Chambers, visited on December 13th to observe the READIEX and departed on the 14th. RADM Chambers returned on the 15th to observe the final phase of the exercise.

Upon completion of READIEX 1-81 USS STERETT (CG 31) proceeded to the Sonar Accuracy Calibration Site at Naval Station, Long Beach, California.

Getting Underway the morning of December 19th, USS STERETT (CG 31) returned to the Naval Station, San Diego, California and moored that afternoon at pier four, outboard of USS LEAHY (CG 16).

The remainder of the year was spent as a leave and upkeep period.