



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8)  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

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CHAP:EGM:hm  
5700  
Ser C11  
APR 20 1977

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From: Commanding Officer, USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History; submission of (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Chronology of USS DUBUQUE's Movements during period  
1 January 1976 to 31 December 1976

1. (U) In compliance with reference (a), the history of USS  
DUBUQUE (LPD-8) for period 1 January 1976 to 31 December 1976  
is hereby submitted.

2. (C) Basic History

a. (U) Command Organization

(1) During this period, USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8) served as a  
unit of Amphibious Squadron ONE. The following officer commanded  
the ship:

1 January 1976 to 31 December 1976  
Captain Andrew C. FERGUSON, USN,

(2) Designation of Units Assigned. The following units  
were embarked in USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8):

1st Battalion, 9th Marines	15-20 NOV
2nd Battalion, 9th Marine	24 NOV-31 DEC
1st Battalion, 12th Marines	4-6 OCT
2nd Battalion, 12th Marines	29 OCT-3 NOV
ACU-1/BMU-1 SEABEES	30 OCT-31 DEC
HMM 164 (Det)	13-19 DEC
COMPHIBRON ONE	7 JUL-30 OCT
TACRON ONE,	
UDT 11,	
PHIBRON 411, El Paso, TX,	

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EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND  
DECLASSIFICATION  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE  
EXEMPTION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM 48 CFR  
101-11.6, EXEMPTION ON 31 DECEMBER 1983

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11/18/83 (11/83)

[1976]

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Chronology of USS DUBUQUE's Movements During Period  
1 January 1976 to 31 December 1976

1 January		Homeported, San Diego
6 January	0822	Underway. TYT Training Southern California.
8 January	1629	Moored Pier 6, Naval Station, San Diego, California
16 January	1240 1332	Underway for Broadway Pier Moored Broadway Pier
19 January	1037	Underway for Buoy 19; local operations.
20 January	0642	Underway for local operations.
22 January	0830	Moored Buoys 19 and 20, San Diego, California
23 January	1447 1547	Underway for local operations. Moored Pier 4; San Diego, California.
1-19 February		Upkeep; San Diego, California
20 February	1045 1124	Underway cold for Pier 10. Moored Pier 10; San Diego, California.
1 March	0841	Underway for Refresher Training
2 March	1629 1746	Anchored Underway for local operations
3 March	0656 0737 2010	Anchored Underway for local operations Moored Buoys 19 and 20; San Diego, California
4 March	1750	Underway for local operations
5 March	0723 0815 1728	Moored Underway for local operations Moored Buoys 19 and 20
8 March	0909 1756 1803	Underway for Refresher Training Moored Underway

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EXCEPT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR  
INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1983

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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9 March	0708	Moored
	0717	Underway for Refresher Training
	2028	Moored
10 March	0657	Underway for local operations
11 March	2040	Moored
	2119	Underway for local operations
	2130	Moored
12 March	0756	Underway for Final Battle Problem
	1159	Moored
	1330	Underway
	1508	Moored Pier 10 San Diego, California
16 March	1415	Underway
	1545	Moored Pier 4
29 March	0912	Underway for local operations
31 March	0756	Moored Starboard Side; Seal Beach, Anaheim Bay
	1530	Underway
02 April	1325	Moored Pier 4 Outboard Point Defiance, San Diego, California
12 April	1702	Underway for Amphibious Ref Training
	1845	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
13 April	1716	Underway for local operations
	1955	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
15 April	0830	Underway for local operations
	0918	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
16 April	0739	Underway for local operations
	1143	Moored Pier 4 San Diego, California
19 April	1038	Underway for Amphibious Ref Training
	1254	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
	1449	Underway for local operations
	1654	Anchored
21 April	0819	Underway for local operations
	0945	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado

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22 April	0858	Underway for Local Operations
	1015	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
	1431	Underway
	1520	Anchored off Silver Strand
23 April	0337	Underway for Final Battle Problem
	0506	Anchored
	0740	Underway
	0935	Moored Pier 3; San Diego, California
24 April to 1 June		Upkeep period
02 June	1850	Underway for local operations
03 June	1741	Moored Pier 3; San Diego, California
08 June to 5 August		Upkeep period
06 August	1017	Underway for local operations.
	1325	Anchored in Anchorage 150, Silver Strand for Amphibious Exercises
09 August	0717	Underway for Operations IAW CTF 176 OPOD 211A
13 August	1411	Anchored Anchorage 162, Silver Strand
14 August	0659	Underway
16 August	0533	Anchored off Ocean City Break Water Light, Camp Delmar
	2001	Underway
17 August	0843	Anchored off Silver Strand, Coronado
	1330	Underway
18 August	0937	Anchored off Delmar Beach
19 August	0921	Underway
	1540	Moored Port Side Pier 3; 32nd Street Naval Station, San Diego, California
20 August to 9 September		Upkeep period
10 September	0906	Underway for Dependents' Cruise
	1653	Moored
11 September to 24 September		Upkeep period

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25 September		Underway for Hawaii and WESTPAC
01 October	1654	Moored at Berth K-8; Naval Station; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
04 October	1322	Underway for Local Operations
07 October	1015	Moored Pier M1 and 2 U. S. Naval Station; Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
16 October	1230	Underway for Inchon, South Korea
29 October	0900	Anchored in Inchon, South Korea
01 November	0710	Underway for Okinawa
03 November	1008	Moored at Okinawa
04 November	0907	Underway for Typhoon Evasion (3 days)
09 November	1400	Moored Subic Bay; Republic of Philippines
17 November	1305	Underway for Okinawa
20 November	0717 2055	Anchored Oura Wan Bay, Okinawa Underway for Numazu, Japan
24 November	0714	Anchored Numazu, Japan
25 November	0806	Underway for Iwakuni, Japan
27 November	0657 1530	Anchored Iwakuni, Japan Underway for Yokosuka, Japan
29 November	1124	Moored Yokosuka, Japan
30 November to 8 December		Upkeep period
09 December	2142	Underway for Pohang, South Korea
12 December	1242 1629	Anchored Pohang, South Korea Underway Local Operations
13 December	1155 1779	Anchored Pohang, South Korea Underway Amphibious Operations
14 December	0422 1923	Anchored Underway for Night Steaming
15 December	0352	Anchored

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19 December	1601	Underway for Yokosuka, Japan
23 December	1035	Moored Yokosuka, Japan
24 December to 31 December		Holiday Seasons

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57 MAU HQ,  
2nd Battalion, 24th Marines,  
4th Tank Battalion,  
4th RECON Battalion,  
and 25 Midshipmen

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b. (C) Summary of Operations

On 1 January 1976 DUBUQUE was moored at U.S. Naval Station, San Diego, California, her homeport. On 6 January DUBUQUE got underway for two days TYT training in the local operating area. During the remaining days of January and all of February, DUBUQUE enjoyed an extended period of upkeep.

For the months of March and most of April the ship was occupied in a variety of tasks. Refresher Training began on 1 March and lasted until 12 March when she moored at Broadway Pier and acted as the visit ship for the weekend. From 12 April until 23 April USS DUBUQUE was conducting Amphibious Refresher Training. From 24 April until 25 September she was in port for long periods of upkeep marked by very short periods of underway time as indicated below:

- 8 June: Underway, for an Inspection and Survey.
- 5-19 August: Participated in the Amphibious exercise "Varsity Knight". During this period officers and men from the following units were aboard: TACRON ONE (9/11); UDT 11 (2/3); PHIBRON 411, El Paso, Texas (1/8); 57 MAU HQ 22/130; 2BN 24th Marines (31/381); 4th Tank Battalion (1/13); 4th RECON Battalion (1/22) and 25 Midshipmen.
- 10 September: Conducted a dependents cruise.

On 25 September DUBUQUE set sail for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii enroute to WESTPAC for a seven and one-half month deployment. Shortly before arriving in Pearl Harbor, DUBUQUE suffered casualties to three of her four main feed pumps which necessitated her being replaced in Operation Kangaroo TWO in Australia by the USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2). On 1 October she arrived and moored in Pearl Harbor. PHIBRON ONE transferred to the VANCOUVER on 2 October and set sail for the "land downunder". After correcting the engineering problems, training opportunities were provided for 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and 3rd AMTRACKS of the 1st Marine Brigade. DUBUQUE then got underway on 16 October for Inchon, Korea. Enroute DUBUQUE met the USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7), her sister ship, and assumed the duties of flagship for Amphibious Ready Group BRAVO.

Inchon, Korea was bitter cold when DUBUQUE arrived on 29 October. Her task was to embark the 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines for transport to Okinawa. With the USS FREDERICK (LST-1184) in company, the DUBUQUE departed Inchon, Korea on 1 November and off loaded the embarked Marines in Okinawa on 3 November. Upon departure


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on 4 November, Typhoon Louise directly interfered with DUBUQUE's transit to Subic Bay, R.P. and evasive action was taken by steaming back into the Yellow Sea near Korea. The ship arrived in Subic Bay, Philippines on 9 November.

After a weeks stay in Subic Bay, the 1st Battalion, 9th Marines were loaded on 15 November to be transported to Okinawa. DUBUQUE got underway on 19 November and delivered BLT 1/9 to Okinawa on 20 November. That evening Rear Admiral MORRIS, Commander Amphibious Force Western Pacific visited the ship. DUBUQUE left Okinawa on 21 November and proceeded to Numazu, Japan. The 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines were embarked on arrival on 24 November. On 25 November the ship proceeded to Iwakuni, Japan to conduct air operations. Unfortunately the operations were cancelled because of weather; whereupon DUBUQUE set course for Yokosuka, Japan. She arrived on 29 November and departed on 9 December to participate in BLTEX 1-77, a joint U.S./Korea Exercise. Anchoring in Pohang Harbor on 13 December, a helicopter detachment of HMM-164 embarked to supply the needed air support for BLTEX 1-77. After a near perfect performance of all U.S. and ROK naval forces, the ship departed Pohang on 19 December. Christmas and the Holiday Season were spent in Yokosuka, Japan from 23 December through the end of the year.

  
D. E. SIGSWORTH

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