



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS DUBUQUE (LPD 8) ✓  
FPO San Francisco 96663

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750

Ser LPD 8-PAO/070

04 FEB 1985

From: Commanding Officer, USS DUBUQUE (LPD 8)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)  
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV 5750-1); SUBMISSION OF  
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

1. In compliance with reference (a), the history of USS DUBUQUE (LPD 8) for the period of 01 January 1984 through 31 December 1984 is hereby submitted.

2. Basic History

a. Command Organization

(1) During this period, USS DUBUQUE (LPD 8) served as a unit of Amphibious Squadron FIVE from 01 January 1984 through 31 December 1984. The ship was commanded by Captain Robert B. McManis, USN,

(2) Designation of units assigned. Elements of following units were embarked on DUBUQUE (LPD 8):

- (a) Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet  
16 April - 19 April
- (b) Commander, Amphibious Squadron FIVE  
21 September - 01 October
- (c) 31st MAU  
10 March - 30 March
- (d) SEAL TEAM 5, PLT. 4; ACU-1 (LCU 1651);  
BMU-1 (BPT. DELTA)  
17 January - 27 July
- (e) MSSG 37, BLT 1/3  
24 January - 17 July

HISTORICAL NARRATION

On 1 January 1984, DUBUQUE, as a unit of Amphibious Squadron Five, was moored to Pier 12, Naval Station, San Diego, CA. DUBUQUE shifted berths to Pier 3 on 5 January. As part of a Department of Defense program entitled Partnerships in Education, DUBUQUE "adopted" Avondale Elementary School of Spring Valley, CA. on 7 January. On 17

January, DUBUQUE was underway for Pearl Harbor, HI, on the first leg of its 1984 Western Pacific/Indian Ocean deployment. Ships in Amphibious Ready Group Alpha (ARG A) included DUBUQUE, USS BELLEAU WOOD (LHA 3); and USS BRISTOL COUNTY (LST 1198). During the transit to Pearl Harbor, DUBUQUE participated in a series of simulated merchant convoy operations with a Convoy Commodore embarked onboard DUBUQUE. On 24 January, DUBUQUE moored to Pier 5K at U.S. Naval Station, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and departed on 27 January to participate in Kernel Blitz 84-1, a MAB-level scenerio driven amphibious operation conducted 27-31 July in MIDPAC OPAREAS. DUBUQUE returned to Naval Station, Pearl Harbor on 31 January, mooring to Pier 7K. On 2 February, the First Battalion 12th Marines embarked onboard, after which DUBUQUE departed for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, steaming with elements of the USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) battle group. On 19 February, DUBUQUE arrived in the vicinity of U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P. to participate in Zambales LANDEX 84, a successful test of the ARG/MAU heliborne and surface assault landing capabilities. Late that afternoon, DUBUQUE moored to Boton Wharf East, U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay, and commenced a scheduled upkeep period. On 22 February, DUBUQUE shifted berths to Alava Pier 5. On 6 March, DUBUQUE was underway for Buckner Bay, Okinawa, Japan, and arrived 9 March, mooring to Army Pier West. After onloading the Marines from the Ninth Marine Division, DUBUQUE departed on 11 March and steamed in company with other units of the ARG to participate in Team Spirit 84 Amphibious Operations in the vicinity of Pohang Harbor, Republic of Korea. DUBUQUE anchored in Pohang Harbor on 15 March to embark elements of U.S. Marine and Korean forces and departed on 17 March for the TOK SOK RI opareas. The ship again anchored in Pohang on 22 March and departed on 23 March for Kangnung, R.O.K. opareas to conduct a RAIDEX. The RAIDEX was cancelled after the crash of a U.S. Marine helicopter inland and the ship was subsequently ordered to return to the TOK SOK RI opareas. Later that afternoon, DUBUQUE moored to Pier 3 in Pohang, R.O.K. After backloading equipment and personnel, on 28 March, DUBUQUE departed Pohang for independent steaming to Buckner Bay, Okinawa, Japan, and moored to West Army Pier on 30 March. After an admin offload on 31 March, DUBUQUE departed and steamed independently for Hong Kong, British Crown Colony, joining the ARG on 2 April. On 3 April, DUBUQUE moored to buoy RN-2 in Victoria Harbor, Hong Kong, B.C.C., and commenced a port visit. On 9 April, DUBUQUE departed and steamed in company to Subic Bay, R.P. On 11 April, DUBUQUE moored to Riviera Warf, U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay and commenced an upkeep period. On 19 April, DUBUQUE was underway for Singapore; enroute DUBUQUE participated in a PASSEX with Republic of Singapore Naval Forces. The objective was for PHIBRON 5 ships to pass

undetected through a sector patrolled by Singapore Naval Forces to provide training for the latter. DUBUQUE anchored in Singapore Harbor on 23 April for a port visit, and departed on 28 April. After steaming independently, DUBUQUE anchored in Penang, Republic of Malaysia on 29 April and commenced a port visit, with departure on 2 May. DUBUQUE steamed in company enroute to Fremantle, Western Australia to participate in Valiant Usher 84-7AS, a MAU-level exercise to be conducted in the vicinity of Lancelin, Western Australia. DUBUQUE moored to Victoria Quay, Fremantle on 12 May and departed on 14 May to conduct Valiant Usher 84-7AS. The ship arrived back in Fremantle on 17 May for a port visit lasting until 24 May, when DUBUQUE departed for Subic Bay, R.P. From 28 May to 3 June, DUBUQUE participated in Phase I of Battle Week 84-3, involving an opposed transit from the Lombok Straits to the Subic oparea. On 3 June, DUBUQUE, with the BRISTOL COUNTY, conducted a RAIDEX at Zambales, R.P., mooring later that morning to Leyte Pier, U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay, R.P. for an upkeep period. During the upkeep period, 4 through 15 June, 29 DUBUQUE crewmembers spent more than 650 man hours providing technical assistance in the renovation of five school buildings of the Longos Elementary School, Longos, Cabanean, Zambales, R.P. At a local health center, the DUBUQUE Dental Department gave more than 140 children dental examinations, dental hygiene lectures and home care kits as part of the humanitarian project. During the same upkeep period, DUBUQUE participated in Project Handclasp. Crewmembers assisted in the unloading and distribution of 18 pallets valued at more than \$35,500 which included two medical pallets, four pallets of elementary school books and two pallets of food. DUBUQUE shifted berths to Riviera Pier on 8 June, and departed on 16 June. DUBUQUE anchored in Pohang Harbor on 20 June and later that day departed and anchored off the R.O.K. coast in the TOK SOK RI oparea to participate in exercise Valiant Usher 84-8KS/SSANG YONG-25; a joint U.S.-R.O.K. ATF/BLT amphibious operation. DUBUQUE weighed anchor on 24 June and moored to Pier 3 in Pohang Harbor, R.O.K. later that morning. After an offload, DUBUQUE departed that afternoon for Sasebo, Japan. The ship arrived in Sasebo for an upkeep period on 25 June and moored to Pier 1, India Basin. DUBUQUE got underway on 6 July for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and arrived on 17 July, mooring to Pier K-5. After offloading MSSG-37 "C" Company and "A" Battery, DUBUQUE got underway on 20 July for the return trip to San Diego. During the transit, DUBUQUE participated in simulated Convoy Operations and welcomed aboard numerous dependents of the crew for a "Tiger Cruise." DUBUQUE arrived in San Diego on 27 July, moored to Pier 6, U.S. Naval Station, and commenced a leave and upkeep period. DUBUQUE shifted berths to Pier 12 on 7 August. On 5 September, DUBUQUE got underway for Seal Beach, California

and moored to NWS Pier on 6 September to conduct an ammunition offload. DUBUQUE got underway on 7 September and moored that afternoon to Broadway Pier, San Diego, CA, to conduct a visit ship program. On 10 September, DUBUQUE departed and moored to Pier 5, U.S. Naval Station, San Diego and began a Planned Restricted Availability (PRAV) with A & E Industries and San Diego Maritime Corp. as the prime contractors. DUBUQUE donated 134 Super 8mm films to Avondale Elementary School during an awards presentation held at the school on 25 October. The films were deemed unusable for training purposes aboard a Navy vessel. The ship ended its PRAV status with the forward plant lighting off on 7 December, and on 13 December DUBUQUE conducted a fast cruise. December 19 marked the beginning of DUBUQUE's Christmas leave period. On 21 December, DUBUQUE shifted berths from Pier 5 to Pier 10, U.S. Naval Station San Diego, closing out the year moored to that pier.

*R B McManis*  
R. B. MCMANIS