

DECLASSIFIED

USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8)  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 966

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5700

Ser

10 MAR 1973

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From: Commanding Officer, USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy  
Yard, Washington D.C. 20390

Subj: Command History; submission of (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Chronology of USS DUBUQUE'S Movements During Period  
1 JAN 72 to 31 DEC 72

1. (U) In compliance with reference (a), the history  
of USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8) for the period 1 January 1972 to  
31 December 1972 is hereby submitted.

2. (C) Basic History

a. Command Organization

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

1 January 1972 - 31 August 1972:  
Captain Paul A. PECK, USN, [REDACTED]

1 September - 31 December 1972:  
Captain Cecil J. KEMPF, USN, [REDACTED]

(2) Designation of Units Assigned. The following  
units were embarked in USS DUBUQUE during the Midshipman  
Cruise and the deployment to the Western Pacific.

Helo Combat Squadron, Detachment 105; 10 June - 4 August  
TACRON 13, Detachment CHARLIE; 6 - 31 December  
HMA 369, MAG 36, First Marine Aircraft Wing; 6 - 31  
December

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**CHRONOLOGY OF USS DUBUQUE'S MOVEMENTS  
DURING PERIOD OF 1 JAN 72 TO 31 DEC 72**

**01 JAN**

Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 85, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**10 JAN**

1330 Underway for local operations.

**11 JAN**

0900 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 85, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**12 JAN**

1000 Underway for local operations.

**14 JAN**

1630 Moored port side to Pier 8, Berth 81, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**24 JAN**

1023 Underway in company with USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2) for Acapulco, Mexico.

**28 JAN**

0715 Anchored in Acapulco, Mexico.

**01 FEB**

0759 Underway in company with USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2) for San Diego, California.

**04 FEB**

1403 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 85, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

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**15 FEB**

0757 Underway for local operations.

**16 FEB**

0807 Moored starboard side to Seal Beach Pier.

0947 Underway for San Diego.

1820 Anchored in Anchorage 213 in San Diego Bay.

1837 Underway.

1845 Anchored in Anchorage 213 in San Diego Bay.

**17 FEB**

0941 Underway.

1040 Moored starboard side to USS DURHAM, Pier 6,  
Berth 61, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**20 MAR**

1054 Underway for local operations.

**22 MAR**

0610 Anchored off Silver Strand, San Diego, California.

1256 Underway for local operations.

**23 MAR**

0657 Anchored at White Beach, Camp Pendleton, California.

0921 Underway for San Diego.

1541 Moored starboard side to Pier 6, Berth 61, U. S.  
Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**18 APR**

1142 Underway for local operations.

1741 Anchored off Camp Pendleton.

2310 Underway.

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**19 APR**

0833 Anchored at White Beach, Camp Pendleton, California.

1753 Underway.

**25 APR**

0724 Moored starboard side to, La Playa fuel pier, San Diego, California.

1045 Underway for local operations.

**26 APR**

0456 Anchored at White Beach, Camp Pendleton, California.

**27 APR**

1925 Underway for San Diego.

**28 APR**

0838 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 81, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**07 JUN**

1003 Underway for local operations.

1157 Anchored in Coronado Anchorage 173.

1442 Underway.

1604 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 81, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

**10 JUN**

1004 Underway for Yokosuka, Japan.

**26 JUN**

0742 Moored starboard side to Berth 3, Yokosuka, Japan

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[REDACTED]  
30 JUN

0855 Underway for Hong Kong, BCC.

04 JUL

0825 Moored to Bouy A18, Hong Kong, BCC.

09 JUL

0854 Underway for Subic Bay, Philippine Islands.

11 JUL

1348 Anchored Subic Bay.

1439 Underway for Anchorage F-1 Subic Bay.

1452 Anchored in Anchorage F-1 Subic Bay.

13 JUL

0849 Underway for Guam.

17 JUL

0813 Moored starboard side to Wharf D. Drydock Point  
Guam.

1337 Underway for Hawaii.

25 JUL

1344 Moored starboard side to Berth Kilo 7, Pearl Harbor,  
Hawaii.

29 JUL

0758 Underway for San Diego, California.

04 AUG

1004 Moored Pier 8, Berth 85, U. S. Naval Station  
San Diego, California.

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[REDACTED]  
21 AUG

1037 Underway for local operations.  
1225 Anchored at Anchorage 173, Silver Strand.  
1716 Underway.

23 AUG

0632 Anchored Blue Beach, Camp Pendleton, California.  
1137 Underway.

24 AUG

0603 Anchored Red Beach, Silver Strand, San Diego.  
1253 Underway.  
1332 Anchored Red Beach, Silver Strand, San Diego, California.  
1549 Anchored off Pier 8, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.  
1638 Underway.  
1656 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 81, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

19 SEP

0709 Underway for local operations.  
1641 Anchored at Anchorage 212, San Diego Bay.  
1709 Underway for local operations.

20 SEP

0703 Anchored at Anchorage 212, San Diego Bay.  
0733 Underway for local operations.  
1203 Anchored at Anchorage 212, San Diego Bay.  
1248 Underway for local operations.

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22 SEP

1650 Moored to Buoys 24 and 25 San Diego Bay.

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25 SEP

0836 Underway for local operations.

28 SEP

1601 Moored to Buoys 24 and 25 San Diego Bay.

29 SEP

0757 Underway for local operations.

1134 Anchored at Anchorage 212 San Diego Bay.

1405 Underway for local operations.

1525 Moored starboard side to Pier 8, Berth 82 outboard of USS ANCHORAGE (LSD-36), U. S. Naval Station San Diego, California.

02 OCT

0800 Underway for local operations.

2310 Anchored at Anchorage 59, Blue Beach, Camp Pendleton, California.

03 OCT

1204 Underaway.

2245 Anchored side of Boat Lane #3, Coronado Roads, San Diego.

06 OCT

1250 Underway.

1447 Moored starboard side to Pier 3, Berth 33, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

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08 NOV

1220 Underway for local operations.

1815 Moored starboard side to Pier 3, Berth 35, U. S. Naval Station, San Diego, California.

10 NOV

1000 Underway for Oakland, California.

11 NOV

1800 Moored at Naval Supply Center Pier, Oakland, California.

12 NOV

0746 Underway for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

17 NOV

1658 Moored Starboard side to Pier 1, Mike 1 and 2, Pearl Harbor.

18 NOV

1558 Underway for Midway Island.

21 NOV

0954 Anchored at Midway Island.

1614 Underway for Sasabo, Japan.

30 NOV

1422 Moored starboard side to Akasaki Pier, Sasabo, Japan.

01 DEC

1359 Underway for Buckner Bay, Okinawa.

03 DEC

0811 Moored starboard side to pier Buckner Bay, Okinawa.

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06 DEC

0800 Underway for Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.

09 DEC

0804 Anchored at Anchorage Golf 4, Subic Bay.

10 DEC

0439 Underway for special operations in the Gulf of Tonkin.

23 DEC

0738 Moored starboard side to Piers 1 and 2, Kaoshiung, Taiwan.

28 DEC

0804 Underway for Subic Bay, Republic of Philippines.

30 DEC

0827 Anchored at Anchorage Golf 4, Subic Bay.

1507 Underway.

1558 Anchored at Anchorage F-1, Subic Bay.

31 DEC

1534 Underway.

1603 Moored to Riviera Pier, Berths 9 and 10, Subic Bay.

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10 MAR 1973

b. Summary of Operations

At the beginning of 1972, DUBUQUE was in a period of up-keep at the Naval Station, San Diego, California. The ship was underway on 12 January for three days of gunnery exercises and returned to San Diego on 14 January.

The PHIBSCOL Training Survey Team came on board 17 January, and the Task Analysis Survey Team was on board 20 January. On 22 January, COMPHIBRON ONE embarked in DUBUQUE.

The ship got underway for a Mexican port visit/Navy League Cruise on 24 January and arrived in Acapulco on 28 January. From 4 February through the 14th, DUBUQUE was in a period of up-keep at the Naval Station in San Diego before getting underway for minefield exercises on the 15th and 16th.

A highlight of the year for DUBUQUE was the receiving of the second Battle Efficiency "E" award in March. From 20 - 23 March, DUBUQUE was engaged in Marine helicopter operations off Camp Pendleton, California, and LVT operations from 18 - 28 April with units of the 17th Marine Amphibious Brigade.

On 5 June, Captain Richard PADDOCK relieved Captain John O'NEILL as COMPHIBRON ONE in ceremonies on board DUBUQUE.

Just prior to sailing for WESTPAC on the Midshipmen Cruise, a Dependant's Cruise was held on 7 June. Midshipmen from the Naval Academy began arriving on the 8th and 9th of June, and the ship sailed for Yokosuka, Japan on 10 June via the great circle route with approximately 243 Midshipmen on board. During the cruise, the midshipmen had the opportunity to do many of the things they had learned in the classroom. Their time was divided between gunnery, navigation, environmental science, shiphandling, damage control, and engineering exercises. In addition, regular watches were stood with the ship's officers and enlisted personnel. The cruise was in company with the USS VANCOUVER (LPD-2). Captain John F. DANIS, USN, of Annapolis, Maryland was in command of Midshipmen training.

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10 MAR 1973

DUBUQUE arrived in Yokosuka on 26 June and sailed for Hong Kong on 30 June, arriving there on 4 July. The ship's visit was cut short by one day because of typhoon threats. On 9 July the ship sailed for Subic Bay.

DUBUQUE was anchored in Subic Bay from 11 July through 13 July. Because of typhoons to the north, the ship sailed south through the San Bernardino Straits on 13 July on the way to Guam. Half a day on 17 July DUBUQUE refueled in Guam and then sailed for Pearl Harbor, arriving there the afternoon of 25 July. On 29 July the ship sailed for San Diego. One day out of San Diego, DUBUQUE was diverted on a SAR mission. Finding the boat in distress, which had been abandoned, DUBUQUE stayed on station until relieved by a Coast Guard cutter from San Diego. The ship arrived in San Diego on the morning of 4 August, and the Midshipmen debarked the same day.

From 21-24 August, DUBUQUE was engaged in training exercises with the Marines at Camp Pendleton, and then remained in port in San Diego until 19 September.

On September 1, Captain Cecil J. KEMPF relieved Captain Paul A. PECK as Commanding Officer of the DUBUQUE. COMPHIBRON ONE debarked on 15 September and the ship sailed for three weeks of Refresher Training on 19 September.

On 10 November, DUBUQUE sailed for WESTPAC going by way of the Naval Supply Center at Oakland where the ship moored the night of 11 November to pick up CONEX boxes for delivery in Sasabo, Japan. Sailing from Oakland on the morning of 12 November, the ship arrived in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the afternoon of the 17th.

The ship sailed from Pearl Harbor on the afternoon of 18 November and anchored off Midway Island on the 21st where dredging equipment, destined for Subic Bay, was loaded in the well-deck. On the same day, DUBUQUE left for Sasabo, Japan where it arrived on the afternoon of 30 November. Here the CONEX boxes were off-loaded, and the ship was underway for Okinawa the afternoon of 1 December.

On 3 December, DUBUQUE moored to the pier in Buckner Bay, Okinawa to relieve the USS CLEVELAND (LPD-7). Detachment CHARLIE of TACRON 13, and HMA 369 along with seven Cobra helicopter gunships embarked in DUBUQUE. The afternoon

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10 MAR 1973

of 6 December, the ship sailed for Subic Bay where it anchored on 9 December. Aviation ordnance was taken on board, and the ship sailed for the Gulf of Tonkin during the early morning hours of 10 December.

By the morning of 12 December, DUBUQUE was on station off North Vietnam in the Hon La Anchorage. MARHUK operations were begun the same day and continued until 21 December. On the night of 21 December, the ship headed for Kaoshiung, Taiwan where it arrived on the morning of 23 December. Christmas was spent in Kaoshiung, and the ship was under way again on 28 December for Subic Bay. The DUBUQUE arrived in Subic Bay on 30 December.

c. Special Topics

(1) Distinguished Vistors

- 28 January - The United States Ambassador to Mexico and Mrs. Robert McBride
- 28 January - Rear Admiral and Mrs. Lorenzo Del Peon ALVAREZ, CNO of the Mexican Navy
- 5 June - VADM Nels C. JOHNSON, USN, Commander Amphibious Forces Pacific
- 1 Sep - Dr. Wayne A. Moldenhauer, Mayor of Dubuque, Iowa

(2) Congratulatory Messages

From COMPHIBRON ONE on 2 February: I would like to commend all of the flagship officers and men for the hard work, very fine performance and favorable image created by them for the U. S. Ambassador, Mexican CNO, and other officials, and the Navy League guests during our Acapulco visit. It was carried out in a typically outstanding DUBUQUE manner.

From CINCPACFLT on 3 March: It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the officers and men of the DUBUQUE for

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10 MAR 1973

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~  
your achievement in winning the Battle Efficiency Award.  
The standards of excellence which you have attained reflects  
a high degree of dedication and professionalism. Well  
Done.

*Cecil J. Kemp*  
Cecil J. KEMP

Copy to:  
CNO  
CHINFO  
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COMPHIBPAC  
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