

USS FOX (DLG-33)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
SAN FRANCISCO 96601

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DLG33/11:rkb  
5750  
Ser: 017  
10 April 1970

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From: Commanding Officer, USS FOX (DLG-33)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)

Subj: 1969 Command History; submission of (OPNAV RPT 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A  
(b) COMCRUDESPACINST 5000.3D  
(c) CINCPACFLTINST 5750.2A

Encl: (1) Chronology of Major Events of 1969  
(2) Narrative  
(3) Special Topics  
(4) Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet ltr 5040 of 2 June 1969  
(5) Commander Destroyer Squadron FIVE ltr 5040 ser 136 of 4 Jun 1969 w/encls  
(6) Commanding Officer, USS FOX FIRST ENDORSEMENT 5040 ser 777 of 26 Jun 1969  
(7) Commanding Officer, USS FOX ltr (OPNAV RPT 5000) of 14 Aug 1969  
(8) Change of Command Brochure of 14 Aug 1969  
(9) Roster of officers and crew as of 31 December 1969

1. Enclosures (1) through (9) comprise the Command History of USS FOX for the period 1 January 1969 to 31 December 1969 and are submitted in accordance with references (a) through (c).

*Paul Boland*  
PAUL BOLAND

Copy to:

CINCPACFLT  
COMCRUDESPAC  
COMCRUDESFLOT ELEVEN  
COMDESRON FIVE

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CHRONOLOGY OF MAJOR EVENTS

- 1 JAN - 7 JAN - NSAR operations
- 7 JAN - Relieved of NSAR duties by USS STERETT (DLG-31), enroute YANKEE station
- 7 JAN - 9 JAN - Conducted tactical drills and ASW operations with USS HUNTINGTON (DD-781) and USS LOFBERG (DD-759) in vicinity of YANKEE station
- 9 JAN - Underway from Tonkin Gulf, enroute Sasebo, Japan
- 12 JAN - Arrived Sasebo, Japan
- 13 JAN - 22 JAN - Upkeep, Ship Repair Facility, Sasebo, Japan
- 23 JAN - Underway from Sasebo, Japan enroute Subic Bay, P.I.
- 25 JAN - Arrived Subic Bay, P.I., RADM BAGLEY, ComCruDesGru 7th Fleet visited. underway from Subic Bay, P.I. enroute SSAR station, Tonkin Gulf.
- 27 JAN - Relieved USS STERETT (DLG-31) as SSAR
- 25 FEB - Relieved of SSAR duties by USS STERETT (DLG-31), enroute Hong Kong
- 27 FEB - Arrived Hong Kong
- 5 MAR - Underway from Hong Kong enroute Subic Bay, P.I.
- 6 MAR - Arrived Subic Bay, underway for Yokosuka, Japan
- 10 MAR - Arrived Yokosuka, Japan
- 11 MAR - 21 MAR - Upkeep, Repair Facility, Yokosuka, Japan
- 22 MAR - Underway from Yokosuka, Japan enroute Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- 28 MAR - Arrived Pearl Harbor, underway enroute San Diego, California
- 24 MAR - Shifted to the operational control of COMFIRSTFLT
- 2 APR - Arrived San Diego, California
- 21 APR - RADM S. KENNEY, COMCRUDESFLT 11 broke his flag in FOX
- 25 APR - COMCRUDESFLT 11 change of command. Guests included COMCRUDESFLC, COMNAVAIRPAC, COMNAVTRACOM, COMCRUDESFLT 9, COMPHIBGRU 3 and COMELEVEN

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- 25 APR - RADM H. H. ANDERSON, COMCRUDESFLT 11 hauled down his flag
- 7 MAY - Underway from San Diego enroute NWS, Seal Beach, California
- 7 MAY - 8 MAY - Weapons and ammo off-load at NWS, Seal Beach, California
- 8 MAY - Underway from Seal Beach enroute San Diego. Arrive San Diego
- 9 MAY - Dependent's Cruise
- 10 MAY - 1 JUN - Inport San Diego, California
- 22 MAY - Annual Supply Inspection held on board
- 28 MAY - 3rd anniversary in commission. COMDESRON 5 conducted administrative inspection
- 29 MAY - Held ship's party at El Cortez Hotel, San Diego, California
- 2 JUN - Underway from San Diego enroute Bremerton, Washington for ROH
- 4 JUN - Arrived Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington
- 4 JUN - 31 OCT - ROH, PSNS, Bremerton, Washington
- 24 JUN - Ship docked in drydock #2.
- 14 AUG - Change of Command
- 6 SEP - Ship undocked
- 20 OCT - Underway conducting sea trials in the Straits of Juan de Fuca
- 23 OCT - Returned to PSNS, Bremerton, having completed sea trials
- 1 NOV - Underway enroute SoCal training operation areas
- 7 NOV - Arrive NWS, Seal Beach, California for weapons and ammo load-out, underway enroute San Diego, California
- 8 NOV - Arrived U.S. Naval Station, San Diego, California
- 8 NOV - 31 DEC - Inport, San Diego, California
- 10 NOV - COMDESRON 5 broke his flag in FOX

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NARRATIVE

1. Command Organization and Relations. The FOX was commanded by Captain Marshall D. WARD, USN from 1 January 1969 until 14 August 1969 at which time he was relieved by Captain Paul BOLAND, USN. From 1 January until 24 March 1969, FOX was under the operational control of Commander SEVENTH Fleet. At 1800, 24 March, FOX shifted to the operational control of Commander FIRST Fleet. Administratively FOX is a unit of Destroyer Squadron FIVE and Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla ELEVEN.

2. Operations. The FOX and her crew started the new year deployed as a unit of the SEVENTH Fleet, on station in the Tonkin Gulf as the North Search and Rescue (NSAR) ship with COMDESRON SEVENTEEN embarked as SAR Area Commander. FOX had been the NSAR ship since 10 December 1968. During this line period operations were routine, consisting of passive surveillance, frequent underway refueling and helo operations and normal shipboard evolutions. The line period ended uneventfully on 7 January when the USS STERETT (DLG-31) relieved FOX of her duties as NSAR ship, and COMDESRON THREE relieved COMDESRON SEVENTEEN as SAR Area Commander.

On the evening of 7 January FOX set course for YANKEE station in the Tonkin Gulf. On 8 and 9 January FOX conducted tactical maneuvering drills and ASW operations in the YANKEE station area with USS HUNTINGTON (DD-781) and USS LOFBERG (DD-759). This brief training period gave the FOX and her crew a chance to sharpen up on some of their capabilities and skills which hadn't been practiced for some time. FOX left the Tonkin Gulf on 9 January enroute to Sasebo, Japan and arrived the morning of 12 January. Sasebo was a working port for FOX and the eleven days spent there were productively used for sorely needed ship's upkeep and repair.

FOX was again underway on 23 January for Subic Bay, Philippine Islands. On 25 January FOX arrived at U.S. Naval Station, Subic Bay and at 1600 RADM D. G. BAGLEY, USN, COMCRUDESGRU SEVENTH Fleet arrived for a short visit. FOX was again underway on 25 January enroute to SSAR station in the Tonkin Gulf.

On 27 January FOX relieved USS STERETT (DLG-31) as SSAR ship and COMDESRON SEVENTEEN relieved COMDESRON THREE as CTU 77.0.0, SAR Area Commander. This line period, much as the first, was uneventful with the normal routine being carried out. On 25 February STERETT relieved FOX as SSAR ship and CTU 77.0.0 passed from COMDESRON SEVENTEEN to COMDESRON THREE. FOX then set course for Hong Kong for some much awaited liberty and shopping.

The stay in Hong Kong lasted seven days. On 5 March, FOX, a little more heavily burdened now with the weight of WestPac souvenirs purchased in Hong Kong, set course for Subic Bay in the Philippines.

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FOX arrived at Subic Bay on 6 March where COMDESRON SEVENTEEN hauled down his flag and departed the ship. After refueling, FOX was underway enroute to Yokosuka, Japan and arrived at that port on 10 March. This was another much needed upkeep period and the FOXMEN got their last chance for awhile to do some shopping and to take advantage of liberty in WestPac. FOX's stay in Yokosuka lasted thirteen days at which time (on 22 March) FOX was underway for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and then home to San Diego.

2 April was the big day -- FOX returned to her homeport in San Diego. The usual reception of families and friends with colorful balloons, decorations and welcome home signs awaited the FOX and her crew as she moored at Pier 4 at 0900. A leave and upkeep period was started upon arrival in San Diego.

On 25 April the COMCRUDESFLOT ELEVEN Change of Command took place on board FOX. RADM Herbert H. ANDERSON, USN relieved RADM Sheldon H. KENNEY, USN. Among the guests were COMCRUDES PAC, COMNAVAIR PAC, COMNAVTRACOM, CRUDESFLOT NINE, COMPHIBGRU THREE and COMELEVEN.

On 7 and 8 May FOX went north to the Naval Weapons Station, at Seal Beach, California to offload weapons and ammunition in preparation for a forthcoming overhaul.

On 9 May FOX was back in San Diego for a dependent's cruise. Miss San Diego was among the many guests aboard for the one day cruise.

22 May was the date of the Annual Supply Inspection for FOX.

28 May was the third anniversary of FOX's commissioning and this was also the day COMDESRON FIVE and his staff held the administrative inspection on board.

A ship's party was held for all hands on 29 May. The party, was held at San Diego's El Cortez Hotel.

On 2 June FOX departed San Diego enroute Bremerton, Washington for her yard overhaul.

On 4 June FOX made a brief stop at Port Angeles, Washington to embark shipyard personnel then proceeded into Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington to officially start the yard overhaul.

During the five month regular overhaul, many standard routine jobs including docking and undocking were accomplished. Additionally, the following major modifications were incorporated:

(1) The addition of a new ECM equipment room on the 04 level above the signal bridge.

(2) A third UNIVAC 642-A NTDS computer was installed further enhancing the ship's capabilities.

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(3) Radio Central was completely remodified to enhance efficiency and security. It is now a model installation.

(4) Mounts #31 and #32 were entirely replaced by new units.

(5) The moving of the T-MK6 fanfare and expendible bathythermograph launcher from the fantail into after steering.

(6) The entire set of 526 transducer elements in the BQS-26 sonar dome was replaced.

(7) The addition of sponsons to either side of the signal bridge made room for a much more efficiently run signal bridge.

(8) There were 2 Chaffroc launchers installed on the 02 level amidships. This installation was the first part of a ships anti-missile integrated defense (SAMID) system completed after the yard period in San Diego

The yard period was considered successful and after a three day period at sea from 20 October to 23 October for sea trials, FOX departed Bremerton, in fine shape for another 3 years, on 1 November.

San Diego was the ultimate destination of FOX after the yard period. But a roundabout way was taken utilizing the southern California operation areas for some much needed training exercises. During this eight day in transit and training period FOX spent 7 November at NWS, Seal Beach, California for a weapon and ammo load-out.

On 8 November FOX reached San Diego for a leave and upkeep period which would carry her through the end of the year. On 10 November COMDESRON FIVE broke his flag in FOX.

During this period the SAMID installation begun during ROH was completed.

The year ended with a liberal holiday liberty and leave policy for the crew before embarking on the rigors of SQT and Refresher Training which would be their lot after the New Year.

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SPECIAL TOPICS

(1) Personnel

- (a) Reenlistments - 22
- (b) Discharges - 134
- (c) Separations to Fleet Reserve - 2
- (d) Total officers and enlisted on 31 Dec 69:
  - 23 Officers
  - 25 Chief Petty Officers
  - 363 E-1 to E-6
  - 411 Total on Board

(2) Communications

- (a) Incoming Messages - 10,687
- (b) Outgoing Messages - 3,562
- (c) Total Messages Handled - 14,249

(3) Operations

- (a) Underway Refueling - 13
- (b) Underway Replenishments - 7
- (c) Underway Rearming - 2
- (d) Vertical Replenishments by Helicopter - 8
- (e) Helicopter Landings - 160
- (f) Total miles steamed - 12,050

(4) Engineering. During 1969 the Engineering Department experienced no serious boiler or machinery casualties. At the outset the casualty to number 1A boiler uptake, which occurred on 30 December 1968, was still outstanding. This was corrected by SRF, Sasebo, Japan during FOX's availability 12-22 January. In addition to routine maintenance and repairs the first five months of 1969 were spent preparing for the ship's first regular shipyard overhaul scheduled for 4 June - 1 November at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington. During the overhaul such repairs as boiler refractory renewal, fuel oil transfer piping renewal, numerous valve repair/renewal, pump overhauls, etc., were effected. Upon completion of the overhaul FOX's engineering plant met its test by successfully completing 15 knot and 20 knot economy trials and a full power trial. These trials completed FOX's engineering competitive exercise requirements and subsequently earned for her the Engineering Excellence Award for 1969.

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