

USS GUIDE (MSO-447)  
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OPNAV Report 5750-1

From: Commanding Officer, USS GUIDE (MSO-447)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09E9)

Subj: USS GUIDE (MSO-447) Command History for 1967

Ref: (a) OPNAV Instruction 5750.12

Encl: (1) Chronology of highlights  
(2) Basic Narrative  
(3) Command History Conclusion  
(4) Documentary Annexes

1. The Command History of USS GUIDE (MSO-447) for 1967 is submitted herewith as enclosures (1) through (4) in accordance with reference (a).

  
C. W. WOOD

Copy to:  
CICPACFLT  
COMINEPAC  
COMINFLOT 3  
COMINEDIV 91  
COMINEPAC PAO  
COMINEDIV 93

USS GUIDE (MSO-447)

COMMAND HISTORY CHRONOLOGY OF HIGHLIGHTS - 1967

1 JAN - 6 JAN Import Long Beach, California.

6 JAN USS GUIDE departed Long Beach as part of Mine Division for WestPac deployment. Division consisted of USS LEAH (MSO-490) (with CDR G. T. HULL, COMINEDIV 93 embarked), USS GUIDE (MSO-447), USS LUCID (MSO-458), USS EXCEL (MSO-437) and USS ENHANCE (MSO-437).

16 JAN MINEDIV 93 arrives Pearl Harbor for logistics.

19 JAN Underway from Pearl Harbor.

22 JAN Brief stop at Johnston Island for fuel. Departed the same day.

28 JAN Kwajalein Island stop for fuel departing same day.

4 FEB MINEDIV 93 arrived at GUAM, M. I. for SRF availability.

13 FEB LCDR C. W. WOOD, USN relieved CDR J. E. VARNEY, USN as Commanding Officer, USS GUIDE.

17 FEB Departed Guam.

23 FEB GUIDE arrived Subic Bay, P. I. for logistics stop.

25 FEB GUIDE proceeded independently from Subic Bay.

1 MAR Arrived Vung Tau, South Vietnam for briefing. Departed Vung Tau the same day and proceeded to assigned patrol area. Upon arrival relieved USS FORCE (MSO-445) on station.

1 MAR - 30 MAR Conducted coastal surveillance operations as a part of TF 115.

30 MAR Relieved on station by USS FORCE.

2 APR GUIDE arrived at operating area near Sattahip, Thailand.

2 APR - 5 APR Participated in combined US/British/Thai MINEX Tiger Str with MINEDIV 93 and USS EPPING FORREST (MCS-7).

5 APR - 6 APR Berthed then anchored at Sattahip, Thailand with MINEDIV 93.

7 APR Underway with MINEDIV 93.

8 APR Arrived at Bangkok, Thailand for 4 days R & R.

12 APR Departed Bangkok with MINEDIV 93.

12 APR - 18 APR Conducted Division tactics and formation streaming drill en route.

19 APR Arrived Subic Bay, P. I. with MINEDIV 93 for upkeep and SRF availability.

3 MAY Underway independently for transit to Market Time Assignment.

6 MAY Relieved USS FORCE (MSO-445) on assigned station.

6 MAY - 18 JUN Conducted Coastal Surveillance Patrol as part of TF 11, tracking and/or inspecting 184 contacts.

18 JUN Relieved on station by USS ILLUSIVE (MSO-448).

22 JUN Arrived Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Rejoined remainder of MINEDIV 93.

23 JUN Departed Kaohsiung with MINEDIV 93.

27 JUN Arrived Sasebo, Japan with MINEDIV 93 for two weeks SRF availability.

11 JUL Departed Sasebo, Japan with MINEDIV 93 less USS LUCID (MSO-458)

14 JUL Detached from MINEDIV 93 to proceed independently to Kaohsiung, Taiwan for 3 days R&R.

15 JUL Arrived Kaohsiung, Taiwan went alongside USS DELTA (AR) for minor engineering repairs.

18 JUL Departed Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

19 JUL Re-joined MINEDIV 93 (less USS LUCID) at sea.

21 JUL Arrived at Subic Bay, P. I. with MINEDIV 93 (less LUCID)

24 JUL Conducted degaussing range check with USS SURFEIRD (AD) at Subic Bay.

26 JUL Proceeded independently from Subic Bay enroute to Market Time Assignment.

30 JUL Relieved USS ILLUSIVE (MSO-448) on station.

30 JUL - 7 SEP Conducted Coastal Surveillance Patrol as part of TF 11. Tracked and/or inspected 142 contacts.

Enclosure (1)

7 SEP Relieved on station by USS ILLUSIVE (MSO-448). Proceed independently enroute to Hong Kong, ECC

12 SEP Rejoined MINEDIV 93 (less USS LUCID) and arrived Hong Kong for 4 days R&R.

16 SEP Proceeded independently from Hong Kong for Subic Bay.

20 SEP Joined by USS LUCID (MSO-458). Arrived at Subic Bay for SRF availability and interim drydocking.

21 SEP Remainder of MINEDIV 93 arrived Subic Bay for SRF availability.

27 SEP CDR Lewis E. DENNY relieved CDR George T. HULL as COMI 93 on board USS LEADER (MSO-490).

28 SEP - 8 OCT GUIDE in USS WINDSOR (ARD-22) for routine interim drydock along with USS LUCID.

1 OCT MINEDIV 93 less GUIDE and LUCID departed Subic Bay enroute to Guam, M. I. for SRF availability and interim drydocking.

16 OCT GUIDE departed Subic Bay accompanied by USS LUCID (MSO) enroute from Guam to rejoin MINEDIV 93.

16 OCT - 23 OCT Enroute Guam. Diverted from direct route by 310 miles to evade Tropical Storm/Typhoon DINAH.

23 OCT Brief stop (5 hours) at Guam for fuel. Rejoined remainder of MINEDIV 93.

28 OCT Brief stop at Kwajalein with MINEDIV 93 for fuel. Declared drums of diesel oil to preclude fuel stop at Johnston. Departed Kwajalein the same day.

6 NOV Arrived Pearl Harbor with MINEDIV 93 for fuel and logistics.

8 NOV Departed Pearl Harbor with MINEDIV 93.

18 NOV Arrived Long Beach Naval Station Pier 9 with MINEDIV 93.

18 NOV - 19 DEC Leave and upkeep.

20 DEC - 21 DEC Underway daily for ISE including degaussing range check.

22 DEC - 26 DEC In port Long Beach.

27 DEC - 29 DEC Underway daily for ISE.

30 DEC - 31 DEC In port Long Beach.

USS GUIDE (MSO-447)

COMMAND HISTORY BASIC NARRATIVE - 1967

1. COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND RELATIONSHIPS.

a. The Commanding Officer from the beginning of the year to 13 Feb 1967 was Commander Jack E. VARNEY, USN, 557502/1100. For the remainder of the year the ship was commanded by Lieutenant Commander C. W. WOOD, USN, 606717/1100.

b. Home port for USS GUIDE was Long Beach, California.

c. The mission and functions of USS GUIDE were to maintain a high level of mine countermeasures readiness and to conduct anti-infiltration patrols off the coast of the Republic of Vietnam.

d. At the end of the year USS GUIDE was manned by 6 officers and 61 enlisted men.

e. USS GUIDE was a unit of Mine Division NINETY THREE. Other ships in the Division were USS LEADER (MSO-490), USS EXCEL (MSO-439), USS ENHANCE (MSO-437), and USS LUCID (MSO-458). The Flagship for COMINEDIV 93 was the LEADER. Mine Division 93 was one of three divisions in Mine Squadron 10.

2. OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

a. Long Beach to Guam, M. I. GUIDE spent the first five days of the new year at Pier 9, U. S. Naval Station, Long Beach, California making final preparations to deploy to the Western Pacific. On the morning of 6 January, the five MSO's of Mine Division 93 commenced the long transit across the Pacific. Accompanying the MSO's was the Chinese Nationalist YUNG LO. Stops were made for fuel at Pearl Harbor from 16-19 January, Johnston Island on 22 January, and Kawajalein Island on 28 January. The Division arrived at Guam, Marianas Islands on 4 February.

b. Guam to Subic Bay, P. I. The ships of Mine Division 93 were assigned a 13 day SRF availability at Guam. On 7 February LCDR C. W. WOOD reported aboard at Guam and on 13 February he relieved CDR J. E. VARNEY as Commanding Officer, USS GUIDE. On 17 February, Mine Division 93 departed Guam and proceeded enroute to Subic Bay. Advantage was taken of this transit for shore board and intra-division drills and streaming minesweeping gear. Mine Division 93 arrived at Subic Bay, P. I., on 23 February.

c. First Market Time Patrol. At a few minutes past midnight on the morning of 25 February, USS GUIDE proceeded independently from Subic Bay and proceeded towards the coast of South Vietnam. After 3 days of riding in the trough of heavy seas, GUIDE arrived at Vung Tau, RVN on the morning of 1 March. The ship was anchored and the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, and Operations personnel went ashore for intelligence and operations briefings. Upon completion, GUIDE weighed anchor and proceeded to Conson Island where USS FORCE (MSO-445) was relieved on station. From

1 March to 30 March GUIDE conducted coastal surveillance operations as a part of Task Force 115. During this period the ship tracked and/or inspected 116 steel hulled vessels and 8 junks. Ten underway replenishments were received from AO, AF, and AKS type ships.

d. Exercise Tiger Strips On 30 March after being relieved on station by USS FORCE, GUIDE proceeded to an operating area near Sattahip, Thailand to participate in Operation TIGER STRIPE. This was a combined United States, British, and Thai Mine Exercise. Captain C. R. QUANTRON, COMINFLOT ONE embarked in USS EPPING FOREST (MCS-7) was OTC. Other U. S. units were MINEDIV 93, an ECDU detachment, and minelaying aircraft. During this operation GUIDE trained at moored and influence mine formation sweeping and minehunting. Formation sweeping was performed with other MINEDIV 93 units and HTMS DONCHEDI (MSC-7). GUIDE was commended by COMINFLOT ONE for recovering a man who fell overboard from DONCHEDI while she had moored gear streamed. The recovery was accomplished by boat in 6 minutes. Operation TIGER STRIPE ended on 5 April. GUIDE participated in drill mine recovery then proceeded in company with MINEDIV 93 to the port of Sattahip for a post exercise critique.

e. Sattahip and Bangkok. The Division remained at Sattahip, first at pierside and then at anchor for two days. On 7 April MINEDIV 93 weighed anchor and arrived at Bangkok, Thailand on 8 April for 4 days RAR. GUIDE contributed to the good relationship between the U. S. and Thailand by hosting officers and men from Thai minesweepers on board including HTMS DONCHEDI.

f. Return to Subic Bay. On 12 April MINEDIV 93 got underway from Bangkok and proceeded toward Subic Bay. Advantage was taken of the transit to exercise at division tactics and formation minesweep gear streaming. MINEDIV 93 arrived at Subic Bay on 19 April for a much needed 2 week SRF availability.

g. Second Market Time Patrol. GUIDE proceeded independently from Subic Bay on 3 May and on 6 May relieved USS FORCE on Market Time Patrol. During the following 6 weeks GUIDE tracked 164 steel hulled vessels and inspected 20 junks. None were considered suspicious. During this second patrol GUIDE received 17 underway replenishments and provided fuel for Coast Guard WFB on two occasions. GUIDE was relieved on station by USS ILLUSIVE (MSC-448) on 18 June and rejoined MINEDIV 93 at Kaohsiung, Taiwan on 22 June.

h. Sasebo, Kaohsiung, and Subic Bay. MINEDIV 93 departed Kaohsiung on 23 June and arrived at Sasebo, Japan for 2 weeks SRF availability on 27 June. On 11 July MINEDIV 93 less USS LUCID completed the availability and got underway for RAR at various ports in Taiwan. GUIDE was detached from MINEDIV 93 on 14 July and proceeded independently to Kaohsiung for 3 days RAR. This time was spent alongside USS DELTA (AR-6) for minor engineering work. GUIDE left Kaohsiung on 18 July and rejoined MINEDIV 93 (less LUCID) at sea on 19 July. On 21 July the 4 ships arrived at Subic Bay where a degaussing range check was performed with USS SURFBIRD (ADG-383) and on 26 July GUIDE proceeded independently from Subic Bay.

Enclosure (2)

i. Third Market Time Patrol. On 26 July GUIDE proceeded independently from Subic Bay and relieved USS ILLUSIVE (MSO-448) on Market Time Patrol on 30 July. During the next 6 weeks GUIDE tracked 130 steel hulled vessels and inspected 12 junks. None were evaluated as suspicious. 17 underway replenishments were received while on patrol. USS ILLUSIVE relieved GUIDE on station on 7 September. CTG 115.3 sent a message to GUIDE which read in part: "Your contribution to Market Time most significant. Well Done."

j. Hong Kong R&R and back to Subic Bay. GUIDE proceeded independently to Hong Kong, D.C.C., where she rejoined MINEDIV 93 (less LUCID) on 12 September. After 4 days of R&R GUIDE proceeded independently from Hong Kong on 16 September. On 20 September GUIDE was joined by USS LUCID and the two ships entered Subic Bay for SRF availability. Both ships received interim drydocking in USS WINDSOR (ARD-22) during this period. The remainder of MINEDIV 93 arrived at Subic Bay on 21 September. On 27 September CDR Lewis E. DENNY relieved CDR George T. HULL as COMINEDIV 93. USS LEADER with COMINEDIV 93 embarked, USS EXCEL, and USS ENHANCE then departed Subic Bay on 1 October for SRF availability and interim drydocking at Guam.

k. Subic Bay to Guam. On 16 October GUIDE completed her availability and departed Subic Bay accompanied by USS LUCID to rejoin the remainder of the division at Guam. During the transit the two ships diverted from the direct route by 310 miles to evade Tropical Storm (then Typhoon) DINAH,

l. Guam to Long Beach. GUIDE and LUCID arrived at Guam on 23 October and after fueling departed with MINEDIV 93. A brief stop for fuel was also made at Kwajalein Atoll on 28 October. The division arrived at Pearl Harb for fueling on 6 November and departed on 8 November. On 18 November despite heavy fog, MINEDIV 93 entered Long Beach Naval Station and tied up at Pier 9, ending a 10½ month absence. The remainder of the year was spent at leave and upkeep with a few days of ISE including a degaussing range check in December.

### 3. SPECIAL TOPICS

- a. Days deployed from homeport: 316
- b. Days underway: 224
- c. Days in transit: 108
- d. Days participating in MINEX: 4
- e. Days on Market Time Patrol: 113
- f. Days in upkeep and repair availabilities during deployment: 67
- g. Underway replenishments: 50
- h. Days on longest Market Time Patrol: 43

USS GUIDE (MSC 447)

COMMAND HISTORY CONCLUSION

1. USS GUIDE was deployed for ten and one-half months of 1967.
  - a. During this time GUIDE spent 224 days underway.
  - b. Due to designed speed limitations 108 days - almost 50% - of the underway time was spent in transit.
2. Only 67 days were spent in upkeep or repair availability during the 316 days the ship was deployed. Despite this GUIDE met all commitments without fail and on time.
3. USS GUIDE is designed for missions related to mine countermeasures but assignments in WestPac consisted of 114 days as a coastal surveillance patrol craft and only 5 days as a mine countermeasures unit during an exercise. GUIDE was not utilized as an operational mine countermeasure unit at any time.

Enclosure (3)