

USS WAINWRIGHT (DLG-28)  
Fleet Post Office  
New York 09501

DLG28:17:rjh

5750

Ser: 543

9 MAY 1968

From: Commanding Officer, USS WAINWRIGHT (DLG-28)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Command Histories (Report Symbol 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12A

Encl: (1) Chronology of Events for 1968  
(2) Operational Statistics for 1968  
(3) List of WAINWRIGHT Officers 1968  
(4) Narrative History for 1968  
(5) Messages of Commendation 1968

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded herewith.

  
IVAR A. JOHNSON

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR 1968

- 1 JAN ----- In port Charleston, S. C.
- 19 JAN ----- Underway Newport, R. I.
- 21 JAN ----- In port/Newport - WAINWRIGHT acts as schoolship for Destroyer School
- 3 FEB ----- WAINWRIGHT departed Newport for homeport Charleston, S. C.
- 5 FEB ----- In port Charleston
- 7 MAR ----- WAINWRIGHT departs Charleston to rendezvous for Fleet Exercise Rugby Match
- 22 MAR ----- Arrive San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 24 MAR ----- Underway to continue Rugby Match
- 29 MAR ----- In port Charleston, S. C. for upkeep period prior to deployment
- 4 APR ----- USS WAINWRIGHT change of command
- 15 APR ----- USS SAMPSON gives WAINWRIGHT an ADMAT Inspection
- 11 JUN ----- Underway for local operations
- 13 JUN ----- In port Charleston
- 24 JUN ----- Depart Charleston for WESTPAC Deployment
- 29 JUN ----- Transit Panama Canal
- 11 JUL ----- Inport Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- 15 JUL ----- WAINWRIGHT departed Pearl Harbor
- 19 JUL ----- The WAINWRIGHT crossed the International Date Line
- 21 JUL ----- In port Guam for fuel stop
- 26 JUL ----- In port Subic Bay, Phillipines to receive final WESTPAC outfitting
- 30 JUL ----- Departed Subic for the line
- 2 AUG ----- In port Danang, Republic of Viet Nam for PIRAZ briefing
- 4 AUG ----- USS WAINWRIGHT relieves USS STERRETT (DLG-31) on PIRAZ Station
- 14 SEP ----- Depart PIRAZ Station for Subic

Enclosure (1)

17 SEP ----- Arrival Subic  
25 SEP ----- Visit Hong Kong  
2 OCT ----- WAINWRIGHT rescues merchant ship Lindenwood Victory in  
                  distress  
5 OCT ----- Visit Yokosuka, Japan for period of upkeep  
13 OCT ----- Depart Japan for second line period  
19 OCT ----- USS WAINWRIGHT relieves USS STERRETT (DLG-31) on PIRAZ  
15 NOV ----- USS WAINWRIGHT departs PIRAZ Station for Subic  
19 NOV ----- In port Sasebo, Japan for upkeep  
28 NOV ----- WAINWRIGHT relieved USS MAHAN (DLG-11) for last line period  
31 DEC ----- PIRAZ Station

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR 1968

Days in Homeport -----	114 (approx.)
Days in Port (other than home) -----	46 (approx.)
Days at Sea -----	205 (approx.)
Replenishments at Sea:	
Refuel -----	27
Stores -----	14
Vert rep -----	2
Missile Firings -----	11 shots
Volume of Communications Traffic:	
Messages received -----	37,000 (approx.)
Messages sent -----	8,000 (approx.)
Total Messages Handled -----	45,000 (approx.)
Gallons of Fuel Oil Used -----	5, 854, 948
Miles Steamed -----	59, 549
Helo Landings -----	154
Gallons of JP-5 Used for Helicopter Refueling -----	28, 812 (68 helos)

Enclosure (2)

WAINWRIGHT OFFICERS

Commanding Officer ----- CAPTAIN I. A. JOHNSON, USN  
Executive Officer ----- CDR H. F. NELSON, USN  
Operations Officer -----(after OCT 68) LCDR. J. M. BELL, USN  
Engineering Officer ----- LCDR R. B. BERKLITE, USN  
Weapons Officer ----- LCDR W. M. TRUESDELL, USN  
Supply Officer ----- LT F. R. FAISTL, USN  
Navigator ----- LT W. L. STRICKLAND, USN  
ASW Officer ----- LT T. D. WHITE, USN  
Damage Control Asst. ----- LT W. P. PAYNE, USN  
CIC Officer ----- LT M. E. KANNER, USN  
First Lieutenant ----- LT P. R. HARRISON, USN  
Communications Officer ----- LT P. S. HOUSEKNECHT, USN  
Missile Officer----- LT S. W. CALDWELL, USN  
Asst. CIC Officer ----- LTJG H. S. McPHATTER, USN  
Main Prop. Asst. -----(after AUG 68) LTJG P. S. TUMMONDS, USN  
Gunnery Officer -----(after AUG 68) LTJG C. J. WEEKS, USN  
Disbursing Officer ----- LTJG J. A. JONES, USNR  
Fire Control Officer ----- LTJG J. H. RECCHIA, USNR  
NTDS Officer ----- LTJG J. W. CALDWELL, USN  
Sonar Officer ----- LTJG R. N. NORRIS, USN  
Missile Ordnance Officer ----- LTJG N. H. HARMS, USNR  
Asst. Communications Officer ----- ENS R. J. KELLEHER, USN  
Asst. First Lieutenant ----- ENS D. J. ROSA, USNR  
Electrical Officer ----- ENS R. E. RUSSELL, USN

Enclosure (3)

Electronics Maintenance Officer ----- CWO R. H. OLIVER, USN  
Asst. CIC Officer ----- WO1 W. D. SMITH, USN  
Asst. CIC Officer ----- WO1 B. S. LANGLEY, USN

NARRATIVE

Ship's History for 1968

After returning to the United States from WESTPAC in November 1967 the USS WAINWRIGHT spent the first weeks of 1968 in her homeport, Charleston, South Carolina in a period of leave and upkeep. On 19 January the WAINWRIGHT departed Charleston for Newport, Rhode Island where she acted as Destroyer School ship for two weeks. February 5 found WAINWRIGHT back in Charleston where she continued her never ending job of maintaining constant readiness.

On 7 March, the WAINWRIGHT got underway to rendezvous with the Blue Forces in connection with the fleet exercise "Rugby Match". Rugby Match entailed a wide assortment of Missile shoots, gunnery exercises, ASW drills, and formation steaming. During this three week exercise, the WAINWRIGHT fired six Terrier missiles which included a successful surface missile shoot against the decommissioned destroyer KILLEN. For a short breather during Rugby Match, the crew enjoyed two days of liberty in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Following Rugby Match the WAINWRIGHT again returned to Charleston to begin her preparations for another Western Pacific Cruise. On the fourth of April, Captain Garrett E. LOCKEE was relieved by Captain Ivar A. JOHNSON as Commanding Officer of USS WAINWRIGHT in an impressive ceremony. With their new Captain, the WAINWRIGHT continued preparations for the Western Pacific including Administrative Material inspection, local operations, and constant drills. Then, on 24 June, the USS WAINWRIGHT embarked on her long journey to South East Asia.

After passing through the Panama Canal, and short stops in Pearl Harbor and Guam, the WAINWRIGHT arrived in Subic Bay, Phillipines. Here she received her final WESTPAC outfitting. The WAINWRIGHT then departed Subic and made her first voyage of 1968 into the South China Sea and Gulf of Tonkin. After a one day stopover in Danang, the WAINWRIGHT proceeded to PIRAZ (Positive Identification Radar Advisory Zone) Station where she relieved the USS STERRETT (DLG-31).

On station, WAINWRIGHT was responsible for the identification of all aircraft over the Tonkin Gulf and immediate coast line. This area of responsibility consisted of over 50,000 square miles of friendly, North Vietnamese and Chinese Communist Air Space. WAINWRIGHT's northern geographic position made her a navigational reference point for friendly aircraft and patrol aircraft.

During the first line period, 4 August to 14 September the WAINWRIGHT received a visit from Charles F. THOMAS, former Secretary of the Navy, VADM William BRINGLE, COMSEVENTHFLT and a CBS News Team. Also, during this period the WAINWRIGHT left station for typhoon evasion. Finally on 14 September, the WAINWRIGHT was relieved on station by USS HORNE.

The month that followed was both rewarding and enjoyable. Not only did WAINWRIGHT visit Hong Kong, Subic Bay, and Yokosuka Japan; but also conducted a successful missile shoot and maintained constant readiness. On the passage to Yokosuka the WAINWRIGHT received an SOS from the SS LINDENWOOD VICTORY who was drifting helplessly toward shoal water. The WAINWRIGHT arrived on the scene and managed to take the merchant vessel in tow thus averting her grounding. For her effort the USS WAINWRIGHT

Enclosure (4)

received many laudatory messages.

On 19 October the WAINWRIGHT relieved the USS MAHAN (DLG-11) for another tour on PIRAZ. During the second line period the Engineering Department was awarded its second consecutive "E" for excellence. On 15 November, the WAINWRIGHT again departed the line for four days upkeep in Sasebo, Japan.

After this very short rest, the WAINWRIGHT began its last line period on 28 November. At the end of the year, WAINWRIGHT was still on PIRAZ, finishing a busy but successful year.