



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20390

DO NOT REPLY TO COMMANDER  
MILITARY SEA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE  
BUT TO THE SIGNER OF THIS LETTER

POPLE

Ser 301174E1

8 OCT 1969

From: Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service  
To: Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Atlantic  
Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Pacific

Subj: Status of USNS Transports for FY 1970

Ref: (a) DESCEDEF IED No. 139 of 29 Nov 1968

1. Reference (a) approved the utilization of five transports in full operating status (FOS) during FY 1970. The readiness status of the remaining six transports is to be upgraded and maintained at the RRS(12) level with 43 man crews assigned to each ship.

2. COMSTS opposes the planned operation of five transports in FOS during FY 1970 and is proposing to higher authority that operation of FOS transports continue as in FY 69 with the remaining transports upgraded to RRS(12).

3. Pending final decision and as a basis for planning the following two plans are outlined:

a. Plan I - Transport operations as approved by reference (a).

- (1) USNS FOLE, WEIGEL, and GORDON, 2 FOS, 1 RRS(12) rotate VC-FE.
- (2) USNS DARRETT, GEIGER, and UPSHUR, FOS - Atlantic
- (3) USNS WALKER, DARBY, PATCH, ROSE, and BUCKNER, RRS(12) East Coast

b. Plan II - Transport operations as proposed by COMSTS.

- (1) USNS DARRETT, GEIGER, and UPSHUR, 2 FOS, 1 RRS(12) rotate VC-FE
- (2) USNS FOLE and WEIGEL, RRS(12) - West Coast
- (3) USNS GORDON, WALKER, PATCH, ROSE, and BUCKNER, RRS(12) East Coast

4. Phasing of the transports from current status to aforementioned status is tentatively planned as follows:

(Wais 7/R. S. S. S.)

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8 SEP 1969

Subj: Status of USNS Transports for FY 1970

a. Plan I

(1) WEIGEL and GORDON commence upgrading 1 July and complete 15 August 1969.

(2) POEE commence upgrading 1 August and complete 15 September 1969.

(3) WALKER, DARBY, PATCH, ROSE, and BUCKNER commence upgrading at one month intervals, starting 1 August 1969 with each ship attaining RRS(12) status in 45 days.

(4) WEIGEL, GORDON, and POEE, upon completion upgrading, relieve BARRETT, GEIGER and UPSHUR in WC-FE rotation. BARRETT, GEIGER, AND UPSHUR shift to East Coast upon being relieved.

b. Plan II

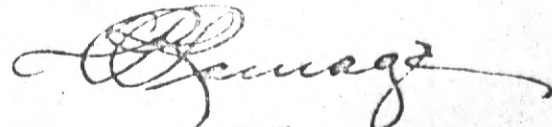
(1) WEIGEL and GORDON commence upgrading 1 July and complete 15 August 1969.

(2) POEE and WALKER commence upgrading 1 August and complete 15 September 1969.

(3) DARBY, PATCH, ROSE, and BUCKNER commence upgrading at one month intervals starting 1 September 1969 with each ship attaining RRS(12) status in 45 days.

5. Therefore, it is requested that condition surveys be conducted on those transports in RRS (90-120) and that the necessary specifications be prepared to bring them up to RRS 12 status with 48 man crews. Specifications shall include USCG certification, ABS surveys that are due, and the new SOLAS requirements for the announcing, alarm and fire damper systems.

6. The final approved operation plan will be forwarded when the decision on paragraphs 1 and 2 is rendered.



L. E. RAMAGE