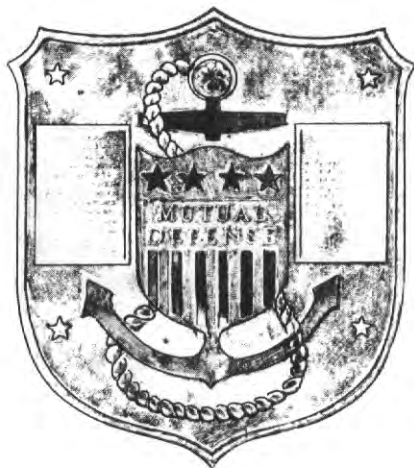


U.S. NAVY
DECOMMISSIONING
VIETNAMESE NAVY
COMMISSIONING
CEREMONIES



USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848)
NA TRANG (HQ-505)

USS BULLOCH COUNTY (LST-509)
QUI NHON (HQ-504)

8 APRIL 1970

SCHEDULE

ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

Commodore TRAN VAN CHON, RVN
Chief of Naval Operations, Republic of Vietnam Navy

Vice Admiral W. F. BRINGLE, USN
Commander Naval Air Force, Pacific

Rear Admiral J. W. WILLIAMS JR., USN
Commandant Eleventh Naval District

Rear Admiral E. M. ROSENBERG, USN
Commander Amphibious Group Three

Lieutenant Commander J. D. SHEWCHUK, USN
Commanding Officer, USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848)

Lieutenant T. C. DAVIS, JR., USN
Commanding Officer, USS BULLOCH COUNTY (LST-509)

Lieutenant Commander PHAN PHI PHUNG, RVN
Commanding Officer, QUI NHON (HQ-504)

Lieutenant Commander LE THUAN PHONG, RVN
Commanding Officer, NHA TRANG (HQ-505)

INVOCATION

Captain J. M. DANIELSEN, CHC, USN

OPENING REMARKS

Rear Admiral WILLIAMS

OF EVENTS

REMARKS

Lieutenant Commander SHEWCHUK

REMARKS

Lieutenant DAVIS

**HAULING DOWN OF COLORS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
UNITED STATES NATIONAL ANTHEM**

SECURING OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY WATCH

READING AND SIGNING OF THE CERTIFICATE OF DELIVERY

Rear Admiral WILLIAMS and Commodore CHON

SETTING OF THE VIETNAMESE NAVY WATCH

**HOISTING OF THE COLORS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**READING OF THE MESSAGE FROM THE
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS**

Vice Admiral BRINGLE

REMARKS

Commodore CHON

BENEDICTION

Chaplain DANIELSEN



USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848)

Length 329 feet

Beam 50 feet

Displacement 4080 tons

Maximum Draft 14 feet - 4 inches

Armament - 8 40mm Guns

SHIP'S MEDALS AND RIBBONS

Meritorious Unit Commendation

Vietnam Campaign Medal

Asiatic-Pacific Area Campaign Medal

American Campaign Medal

Vietnam Service Medal

National Defense Service Medal

World War II Victory Medal

Navy Occupation Service Medal

HISTORY OF USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848)

USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848) was built by the American Bridge Company, Ambridge, Pennsylvania in December 1944 and was placed in commission 20 January 1945. Upon commissioning USS JEROME COUNTY sailed for the Western Pacific and assignment as a troop and cargo transport.

For her World War II service JEROME COUNTY earned the Asiatic Pacific Area Campaign Medal, the Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal and for her support of the occupation forces in Japan, the Navy Occupational Medal.

Since recommissioning in 1959 JEROME COUNTY, homeported in San Diego, has operated with other San Diego based LST's in the southern California area, Mid-Pac Hawaiian waters, and in the Western Pacific as a unit of the Seventh Fleet.

During 1965 and 1966 JEROME COUNTY made two deployments to Vietnam. Wherever the action was and vital supplies needed, JEROME COUNTY would be ready to answer the call; Da Nang, Chu Lai, Cam Ranh Bay, and Saigon. Much of the time she shuttled supplies from Da Nang to Chu Lai and back, but she would often go as far as Subic Bay, Philippines for vital material for the war zone. Finally in October of 1966 she returned to San Diego for a well earned rest and maintenance period.

In November 1967 JEROME COUNTY again departed for the Western Pacific for an eight month deployment. During the five months spent in Vietnam in direct support of U. S. forces her main assignments included MDRAF (Mekong Delta Riverine Assault Force) resupply LST and operations in the Northern I Corps in and around Da Nang and the Perfume and Cua Viet rivers just south of the DMZ. Surviving her share of the enemy fire she returned to San Diego in June 1968.

For her Vietnam service JEROME COUNTY earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal and National Defense Service Medal.

Additionally crew members were awarded the Combat Action Ribbon for having sustained enemy fire in Vietnamese waters in 1968.

Since returning to San Diego in June 1968 JEROME COUNTY has been employed in routine local training operations and logistic support.

JEROME COUNTY is named in honor of a county in the state of Idaho, the only county in the United States bearing that name.



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER J. D. SHEWCHUK, USN

Lieutenant Commander J. D. SHEWCHUK, a native of Downers Grove, Illinois, began his naval service in August 1960 after obtaining his commission through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Iowa State University. His first duty station was USS EVERETT F. LARSON (DD-830) as Electronics Material Officer and CIC Officer. While serving aboard LARSON, he completed CIC and Air Intercept Control Schools. His next assignment was CIC Officer and Operations Officer on USS ROBERT H. MC CARD (DD-822). In September 1964 LCDR SHEWCHUK attended the U. S. Naval Amphibious School; training included Counter-insurgency, Self-protection and Survival, which prepared him for duty on the Joint Staff of the U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. LCDR SHEWCHUK served in Vietnam from October 1964 to October 1965 working with the Vietnamese General Staff as an advisor and Liaison Officer in Communications-Electronics. For his service in Vietnam LCDR SHEWCHUK was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious service. From Vietnam, LCDR SHEWCHUK went to the Pennsylvania State University NROTC Unit where he was senior class instructor in Naval Engineering and Leadership/Naval Management. LCDR SHEWCHUK assumed command of the USS JEROME COUNTY (LST-848) on 31 July 1968.



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER LE THUAN PHONG, RVN

Lieutenant Commander Le Thuan Phong was born in Ha Nam, North Vietnam, on February 21, 1934, and graduated with Class Six of the Vietnamese Naval Academy.

In 1960, he was acting Commanding Officer of River Assault Group Twenty-Four; in 1963, was Commanding Officer of motor patrol gunboat, HQ-605; in 1964, was Commanding Officer of the large infantry landing ship, LSIL-327; and in 1966, was Commanding Officer of the escort patrol ship, PCE-04. Also, he was selected to undergo General Line training in the United States in June, 1966, returning to Vietnam in late 1967.

In August of 1969, he became Chief of the Training Department of the Naval Training Center, Saigon.

In early April, 1970, the Lieutenant Commander is to accept the turnover of the tank landing ship, USS Jerome County (LST-848), in the United States. The ship is to become the Nha Trang (HQ-505).

Lieutenant Commander Phong has been awarded 14 medals during his naval career, and he has been named Knight of the National Order, the highest award available for a senior officer of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Vietnam.

Lieutenant Commander Phong is married and has four children.



USS BULLOCH COUNTY (LST-509)

Length 329 feet
Beam 50 feet
Displacement 4080 tons
Maximum Draft 14 feet - 4 inches
Armament - 8 40mm Guns

SHIP'S MEDALS AND RIBBONS

Meritorious Unit Commendation
Vietnam Service Medal
Navy Occupation Medal
European Campaign Medal
Middle Eastern Campaign Medal

National Defense Medal
Vietnam Campaign Medal
American Campaign Medal
African Campaign Medal
World War II Victory Medal

HISTORY OF USS BULLOCH COUNTY (LST-509)

The tank landing ship, USS Bulloch County (LST-509), was constructed by the Jefferson Boat and Machinery Company, Jeffersonville, Ind. The ship was launched in December, 1943, then ferried down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans where it was commissioned on January 20, 1944.

Bulloch County has a history of memorable service in WWII. The ship landed at Utah Beach on D-Day + 1 (June 7, 1944) during the Normandy Invasion. From this initial landing until June, 1945, the ship made 252 transits of the English Channel and one trip to Norway transporting personnel and equipment including evacuating wounded and prisoners of war. Also, while serving in the European Theater, the Bulloch County experienced no material or personnel casualties.

After service in the Atlantic following WWII, the ship was decommissioned on March 21, 1947, then recommissioned during the Korean Conflict on October 20, 1950, and decommissioned December 1, 1955. The ship served entirely in the Atlantic area.

Bulloch County was again recommissioned on August 31, 1966. The ship was then sent to the Pacific area where it arrived at its new homeport, San Diego, on December 29, of the same year.

In January, 1967, the ship left for the Western Pacific, not to return to the United States until July 15, 1969. During this period Bulloch County made many cruises to Vietnam from its homeport at Guam.

During the ship's Vietnam assignments (beginning with its first arrival at Vung Tau Bay on March 15, 1967), it shuttled general cargo, ammunition, vehicles and men between Cau Viet, Da Nang, and Chu Lai. Bulloch County also took part in "Operation Oregon" moving Marines from Chu Lai to Da Nang, and "Market Time" operations patrolling again against the smuggling of enemy supplies along the coast.

Since returning to San Diego in 1969 the Bulloch County has been employed in routine local training operations and logistical support.

Bulloch County has just completed overhaul in preparation for turn-over to the Republic of Vietnam Navy. The ship will become the Qui Nhon (HQ-504).

The Bulloch County has earned the following awards: Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service and Vietnam Campaign Medals, Navy Occupational Medal, American, European, African and Middle Eastern Campaign Medals and the World War II Victory Medal.



LIEUTENANT THOMAS CAHILL DAVIS, JR., USN

Lieutenant Thomas C. Davis, Jr., Commanding Officer, is a 1959 graduate of Dartmouth College. He received his Master of Science degree in Geology from the University of Alaska in 1961. Upon completion of Officer Candidate School he was commissioned as ensign in August, 1962.

Lieutenant Davis' first assignment was as communications officer on USS Frank Knox (DD-742). He next served as astronomy course head and as an instructor in air-ocean environment at the U. S. Naval Academy. In September, 1965 he attended the U. S. Naval Destroyer School and graduated with distinction. He served as operations officer on USS Hanson (DD-832) for 17 months and in September 1967 he joined the pre-commissioning crew of USS Parsons (DD-33) as prospective operations officer and assumed these duties upon the ship's commissioning in November, 1967.

On 14 June 1969, Lieutenant Davis relieved Lieutenant T. A. Derf, USN as Commanding Officer, USS Stone County (LST-1141). He commanded the Stone County from 14 June 1969 to 1 August 1969.

On 1 August 1969 Lieutenant Davis participated in an exchange of command ceremony, a unique evolution. Lieutenant Davis relieved Lieutenant Henry J. McGoldrick, USN as Commanding Officer USS Bulloch County (LST-509). Lieutenant McGoldrick relieved Lieutenant Davis as Commanding Officer USS Stone County (LST-1141).

Lieutenant Davis is qualified for command of destroyers. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Davis of Short Hills, New Jersey and is married to the former Marilyn Monia of Beverly Hills, California.

He is authorized to wear the following awards: National Defense Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, Vietnamese Campaign Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Meritorious Unit Commendation and Antarctic Expeditionary Medal.



LIEUTENANT COMMANDER PHAN PHI PHUNG, RVN

Lieutenant Commander Phan Phi Phung was born in Vinh, North Vietnam, on April 18, 1933. He entered the Vietnamese Navy in 1954 and graduated in Class Five of the Vietnamese Naval Academy in June, 1955.

The Lieutenant Commander has seen service in several units and has held various important positions: Chief of the Planning Bureau, Commanding Officer of River Assault Group Twenty-One, Commanding Officer of the large infantry landing ship, LSIL-328, Chief of the Political Education Bureau, Chief of the Psy-War Bureau, Commanding Officer of escort patrol ship, PCE-11, and Commanding Officer of the tank landing ship, Da Nang (HQ-501).

In 1963, he underwent training in Basic Oceanographic Hydrography.

In April, 1970, he is to accept the turnover of the tank landing ship, USS Bulloch County (LST-509), in the United States. The ship is to become the Qui Nhon (HQ-504).

Lieutenant Commander Phung has 16 medals to his credit for his naval service. He is married and has one child.

