

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS BROOKE (FFG 1)  
WFO SAN FRANCISCO 96601

FFG1/RJR:ab  
5750  
Ser C-05  
17 March 1976

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From: Commanding Officer, USS BROOKE (FFG 1)

To: Chief of Naval Operations OP-05D2

Subj: USS BROOKE FFG-1 Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS BROOKE FFG-1 Command History for 1975

1. Command History required by ref (a) is submitted here with and covers calendar year 1975.

*S.J. Penzby*  
S.J. PENZBY  
By direction

Copy to:  
Director of Naval History (OP-09B9) ←

CLASSIFIED BY CO, USS BROOKE (FFG-1)  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR  
INTERVALS. DECLASSIFY ON 31 DEC 1979

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**COMMAND HISTORY**  
**OF**  
**USS BROOKE (FFG 1)**  
**1975**  
**(OPNAV REPORT 5750-1)**

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**Enclosure (1)**

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CHRONOLOGY

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DATE	EVENT
1 JAN - 3 JAN	Upkeep-In
4 JAN - 23 JAN	ART Phase
24 JAN - 4 MAR	OPER Prep
5 MAR - 7 MAR	OPER NYW
8 MAR - 28 MAR	ART Phase
29 MAR - 11 APR	Upkeep-In
12 APR - 18 APR	CONTRX
19 APR - 17 MAY	Upkeep-In
13 MAY - 15 MAY	Upkeep-In
16 MAY - 18 MAY	Upkeep-In
19 MAY - 22 MAY	IT Train
23 MAY - 25 MAY	Upkeep-In
26 MAY - 28 MAY	SWAT - Y
28 MAY - 31 MAY	Upkeep-In
3 JUN - 4 JUN	Upkeep-In
5 JUN - 15 JUN	Upkeep-In
17 JUN - 17 JUN	Upkeep-In
27 JUN - 5 JUL	Upkeep-In
15 JUL - 18 JUL	SOCAL
18 JUL - 19 JUL	Dependent
19 JUL - 23 JUL	Upkeep-In
1 AUG - 9 AUG	Upkeep-In
9 AUG - 18 AUG	Upkeep-In
11 AUG - 27 AUG	Upkeep-In
25 AUG - 27 AUG	Upkeep-In
27 AUG - 31 SEP	Upkeep-In
4 SEP - 6 SEP	U/W NYW
7 SEP - 9 SEP	Upkeep-In
9 SEP - 22 SEP	SEVENTHFL
22 SEP - 17 OCT	Upkeep-In
18 OCT - 27 OCT	Upkeep-In
23 OCT - 31 OCT	Upkeep-In
1 NOV - 1 NOV	Upkeep-In
4 NOV - 8 NOV	Enroute
8 NOV - 11 NOV	Import
12 NOV - 13 NOV	RECON OPS
14 NOV - 17 NOV	ENROUTE
17 NOV - 18 NOV	Upkeep-In
19 NOV - 22 NOV	Upkeep-In
23 NOV - 24 NOV	Upkeep-In
25 NOV - 1 DEC	Upkeep-In
1 DEC - 14 DEC	Upkeep-In
15 DEC - 17 DEC	Upkeep-In
18 DEC - 21 DEC	Import
22 DEC - 23 DEC	Enroute Hong Kong
24 DEC - 29 DEC	Import Hong Kong
30 DEC	Enroute Taiwan
31 DEC	Import Kaohsiung

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CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS 1975

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
1 JAN - 3 JAN	Upkeep-Inport-San Diego
4 JAN - 23 JAN	RFT Phase I U/W SOCAL OPAREA
24 JAN - 4 MAR	OPPE Preparation-Inport San Diego
5 MAR - 7 MAR	OPPE U/W SOCAL OPAREA
8 MAR - 28 MAR	RFT Phase II SOCAL OPAREA
29 MAR - 11 APR	Upkeep-Inport San Diego
12 APR - 18 APR	COMTUEX - U/W SOCAL OPAREA
19 APR - 12 MAY	Upkeep-Inport San Diego
13 MAY - 15 MAY	TYT Training - U/W EASTPAC
16 MAY - 18 MAY	Upkeep-Inport San Francisco
19 MAY - 22 MAY	TYT Training -U/W EASTPAC
23 MAY -25 MAY	Upkeep-Inport San Diego
26 MAY - 28 MAY	NWAT - Inport San Diego
28 MAY - 2 JUN	Upkeep- Inport San Diego
3 JUN - 4 JUN	NWA - Inport San Diego
5 JUN - 16 JUN	Upkeep - Inport San Diego
17 JUN - 27 JUN	FLEETEX 2-75- U/W SOCAL
27 JUN - 14 JUN	Upkeep- Inport San Diego
15 JUL - 18 JUL	SOCAL - OPAREAS
18 JUL	Dependents Cruise
19 JUL - 31 JUL	Upkeep; Inport San Diego
1 AUG - 9 AUG	Transit to WESTPAC
9 AUG - 11 AUG	Upkeep; Inport Pearl Harbor
11 AUG - 24 AUG	Transit to WESTPAC
25 AUG - 27 AUG	Upkeep; Inport Subic Bay, R.P.
27 AUG - 3 SEP	READIEX 1-76; Subic Bay OPAREAS
4 SEP - 6 SEP	U/W MISSILEX 1-76; Poro Pt. OPAREAS
7 SEP - 9 SEP	Upkeep; Inport Subic Bay, R.P.
9 SEP - 22 SEP	SEVENTHFLT OPS, Subic Bay, R.P.
22 SEP - 17 OCT	Upkeep; Inport Subic Bay, R.P.
18 OCT - 22 OCT	TYT Training, SUBIC OPAREAS
23 OCT - 31 OCT	Upkeep, Subic Bay, R.P.
1 NOV - 3 NOV	TYT Training, Subic OPAREAS
4 NOV - 8 NOV	Enroute OKINAWA
8 NOV - 11 NOV	Inport OKINAWA
12 NOV - 13 NOV	RECON OPS, OKINAWA
14 NOV - 17 NOV	ENROUTE Subic Bay, R.P.
17 NOV - 18 NOV	Upkeep Subic Bay, R.P.
19 NOV - 22 NOV	MULTIPLEX 1-76
23 NOV - 24 NOV	MISSLEX 2-76 Poro Point OPAREAS
25 NOV - 1 DEC	TYT Subic OPAREAS
1 DEC - 14 DEC	Upkeep Subic Bay, R.P.
15 DEC - 17 DEC	TYT Training, Subic OPAREAS
18 DEC - 21 DEC	Inport Manila, R.P.
22 DEC - 23 DEC	Enroute Hong Kong
24 DEC - 29 DEC	Inport Hong Kong
30 DEC	Enroute Taiwan
31 DEC	Inport Kaohsiung

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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Summary of Operations:

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January

1 January 1975 found USS BROOKE in her home port of San Diego, California making preparations for the up-coming Refresher Training and Operational Propulsion Plant Examination. BROOKE, under command of CDR Robert H. AILES entered Phase I Refresher Training, a three week period of rigorous training in all aspects of shipboard operations with particular emphasis on engineering. After successful completion of Phase I Refresher Training BROOKE had served weeks in port to prepare for the OPPE (Operational Propulsion Plant Examination) an exacting thorough inspection into all aspects of the Engineering Department including administration, material, and personnel performance.

The "Number 1" showed her colors a week later during the three day OPPE, 5 March-7 March, when she became one of the few ships ever to pass the Propulsion Examination on the first try and with laudable comments from the Board on all aspects of the Engineering Department. BROOKE did not have a chance to rest on her laurels for within day she entered Phase II Refresher Training which emphasized training in the Weapons and Operations aspect of the ship. After three weeks of intensive training which included surface, air and shore gunshoots, surface missile shot, ASROC and torpedo attacks, submarine and air tracking, underway replenishments, and a myriad of other shipboard events, the RFT was climaxed the last day by a full scale Battle Problem administered by the Refresher Training Group. Upon completion of the Final Battle Problem a critique was held on the messdecks and once again "Number 1" was lauded for her excellent performance.

Now officially an operational member of the Third Fleet BROOKE had two weeks before she was tested in a fleet exercise, COMTUEX, her first since entering the shipyard a year and half before. COMTUEX, a week-long multi-faceted exercise from 12 April to 18 April, showed BROOKE was in fact ready to rejoin the fleet. Her performance was outstanding.

Following a couple weeks of upkeep in San Diego BROOKE joined BAGLEY and COMDESRON THIRTY-ONE on an excursion to San Francisco. BROOKE'S first underway period with her new Squadron, consisted of a 7 day transit with an extensive training schedule and the time in San Francisco proved to be just as challenging as the transit. BROOKE moored at Treasure Island and held Open House and in two days entertained over 5,000 visitors.

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After returning from San Francisco, BROOKE still had one more major inspection to complete - NWAI, Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection. Prior to the inspection a Nuclear Weapons Assistant Team, NWAT, came aboard for three days 22 March - 24 March, to assist the Weapons Department in its preparations. NWAT felt the ships organization and handling team were sound but made some helpful suggestions and the next week was spent implementing them and furthering training. Starting 2 June BROOKE went through three days of what is the Navy's most exacting inspection - the NWAI. No deviation from set procedures is allowed and any mistake or error found in organization or procedure is enough to fail a ship. BROOKE was nearly letter perfect. The inspection board reported that the results of the inspection was one of the best they had seen.

A week in port San Diego following the NWAI, and BROOKE set sail for one of the largest exercises of the year, FLEETEX 2-75, 17 June - 27 June. FLEETEX 2-75 an exercise of large scope starting with an emergency sortie, an opposed restricted transit, a full scale open ocean conflict, and ending a Missilix that utilized the very realistic Mobile Sea Range Concept. The FLEETEX was a very satisfactory learning experience that began with the intensive training schedule at the first of the year.

1 July found BROOKE just as busy starting the second half of the year as the first. One month remained prior to deployment and a multitude of items needed to be resolved. During the first two weeks the Squadron Commander conducted a Command Inspection and also arranged for several assist visits to ensure that BROOKE'S administration was up to standards and ready for deployment. BROOKE was ready. On 15 July 75 BROOKE departed for Seal Beach for her WESTPAC ammunition loadout. After completion of loadout BROOKE returned to San Diego. BROOKE returned to sea on the 18th with 150 additional riders for an extremely successful dependents day cruise. This was a chance for the crew to show their friends and loved ones what they did on board and would be doing for the next seven months. BROOKEMEN, one and all, had a good time. Not long after, many of these same people would stand on the pier kissing, waving and hugging good-bye as BROOKE set sail for the Western Pacific. On 1 August BROOKE began the westward bound transit. BROOKE transited with USS BAGLEY, USS ROARK, USS MASON, and COMDESRON THREE ONE. The transit was busy and full of exercises. On 9 August the four ships pulled into Pearl Harbor early in the morning. That afternoon there was a change of Command Ceremony and Captain P.A. LAUTERMILCH was relieved by Captain BROWN as Commander Destroyer Squadron THREE ONE. On 11 August the four ships together with USS PONCHATOULA (AO 148) were underway again. BROOKE, ROARK and PONCHATOULA all arrived in Subic Bay, R. P., on the morning of the 25th of August. BAGLEY and MASON had detached earlier in the week for Guam. This first short stop in

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Subic Bay was frantic, there was an enormous amount of work to be done after the transit. BROOKE was scheduled for a major fleet exercise that was to commence 27 August the same day she was to have her own Change of Command Ceremony. On 27 August just two days after arriving in Subic Bay, LCDR R. L. FREEHILL relieved CDR R.H. AILES in command of USS BROOKE and immediately got underway thereafter for READIEX 1-76. READIEX 1-76 was one of the most sophisticated exercises BROOKE had participated to date. The exercise lasted eight days and included two carriers, two submarines and numerous other ships and landbased aircraft. BROOKE was part of the Blue forces and experienced a full multi-threat environment coming in contact with surface, subsurface, and aircraft attacks by the opposing Orange forces. All these attacks and counter attacks were simulated. Immediately following READIEX 1-76, MISSILEX 1-76 took place near Poro Point in the South China Sea. MISSILEX 1-76 was a well-run, very satisfying exercise for BROOKE. Drones were flown at the force simulating anti-ship missiles, and each ship in turn was directed to counter attack the drone with a missile. With the telemetry warhead independent observers were then able to tell how close the missile had come to the drone and whether or not the shot was a success. "Number One" had no need for the telemetry gear in two separate attempts on different drones BROOKE achieved direct hits knocking both drones out of the sky. Upon completion of the missile exercise BROOKE returned to Subic Bay on 6 September for another short stay. On 9 September BROOKE departed Subic Bay with ROARK to operate as plane guard for USS HANCOCK (CV 19). BROOKE returned to Subic Bay on 22 September and entered dry dock two days later and commenced a long awaited RAV. On 7 October BROOKE left drydock and remained in Subic Bay for the rest of the month with the exception of 18-22 October when the BROOKE was underway for local operations.

1 November found the BROOKE underway in the Subic Bay area for training and on 4 November she headed north for Okinawa arriving on 8 November. During the inport stay of four days, most of the crew took advantage of the chance to attend Okinawa's World Expo. BROOKE was underway on 12 November acted in the support role for the Marines in a two day RECON exercise that gave our boat crew some valuable training. Upon completion of the exercise BROOKE disembarked the Marine contingent and headed back to Subic arriving on the seventeenth for two short days. MULTIPLEX 1-76 commenced on 19 November with BROOKE as a participant. MULTIPLEX 1-76 was a fleet exercise that was held in a small area to force more confrontations between the opposing forces. Volatile and fast acting MULTIPLEX 1-76 was an exciting learning experience for BROOKE. Immediately following on the twenty-third and twenty-fourth BROOKE participated in her second WESTPAC Missile exercise, MISSILEX 2-76. Once again BROOKE'S missile shot was a success; now 3 for 3.

After the missile exercise BROOKE took advantage of seven days of submarine services. BROOKE was able to exercise every

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aspect of her W team, single ship attack, dual ship attacks, and coordinated attacks with ships, helos, and VP aircraft. Additionally, BROOKE WAS afforded the opportunity to shoot two exercise weapons, one ASROC and one torpedo. Both weapons were successfully fired.

On 1 December BROOKE returned to port after a busy month at sea. Upon return to Subic Bay BROOKE was host ship for HMAS VAMPIRE, an Australian destroyer. The two weeks that followed proved to be some of the most enjoyable times of the cruise. BROOKE was underway 15 December for three days of local operations and finished out the year visiting ports. The first port visited was Manila, Republic of the Philippines from 18 December to 21 December. Then followed a two day transit with BROOKE enroute British Crown Colony of Hong Kong where she remained inport through the 29th. It was Hong Kong that the BROOKE ran into her old friend, the HMAS VAMPIRE. The wardrooms of the two ships celebrated Christmas Eve together and on the last evening in Hong Kong a formal dining in with the combined wardrooms culminated our lasting friendship. On 30 December BROOKE set sail for third port visit in as many weeks and arrived in Kaohsiung, Republic of China, Taiwan.

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