

# ORIGINAL

U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383)  
Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California 96601

1967

OPNAV REPORT 5750-1

ADG383/RDR/ear

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Ser: 16

17 January 1968

From: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B9)

Subj: U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383) History from 1 January 1967 through  
31 December 1967

1. Chronology of U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383) during calander year 1967:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
1 JAN - 6 MAR	In overhaul at Sasebo, Japan (4 MAR conducted Sea Trials)
7-15 MAR	RFS and upkeep Sasebo, Japan
16-23 MAR	Enroute Sattahip, Thailand
24 MAR - 1 APR	Provided ranging services to Royal Thai Navy at Sattahip, Thailand
2 APR	Enroute Bangkok, Thailand
3-5 APR	Visited Bangkok, Thailand
6-11 APR	Enroute Hong Kong, BCC
12-16 APR	Visited Hong Kong, BCC
17-18 APR	Enroute Tsoying, Taiwan
19-24 APR	Provided ranging services to Republic of China Navy (ROCN) at Tsoying, Taiwan
25-26 APR	Enroute Subic Bay, Philippines
27 APR	Moored Subic Bay, Philippines
28 APR	Enroute and at Sangley Pt., Philippines
29 APR - 3 MAY	Provided ranging service to Republic of Philippines Navy at Sangley Pt., Philippines
4-7 MAY	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
8-18 MAY	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan (Provided ranging services to MINERON 3 - TG 70.5)
19-20 MAY	Enroute Yokosuka, Japan
21 MAY - 8 JUN	Refresher Training at Yokosuka, Japan
9-11 JUN	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
12-24 JUN	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan (provided ranging service to TG 70.5 and Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force - JMSDF)
25 JUN	Enroute Chinhae, South Korea
26-29 JUN	Provided ranging and deperming services to Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN) at Chinhae, South Korea
30 JUN	Enroute and at Sasebo, Japan
1-17 JUL	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan (provided ranging services to JMSDF)
18-21 JUL	Enroute Subic Bay, Philippines
22-24 JUL	Provided ranging services to MINEDIV 93 at Subic Bay, Philippines

# ORIGINAL

25-27 JUL	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
28 JUL - 18 AUG	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan (provided ranging and deperming services to JMSDF and ranging services to TG 70.5)
19-20 AUG	Enroute Buckner Bay, Okinawa as part of TG 133.5
21-27 AUG	Provided ranging services to TG 70.5 units at Buckner Bay, Okinawa
28-30 AUG	Enroute Subic Bay, Philippines
31 AUG - 4 SEP	Moored Subic Bay, Philippines
5-7 SEP	Enroute Con Son Island, South Vietnam
8-15 SEP	Provided ranging services and calibration to MSB's 21, 22 and 33 at Con Son Island, South Vietnam
16-17 SEP	Enroute Kuching (Sarawak, Borneo) Malaysia
18-21 SEP	<b>Visited Kuching, Malaysia</b>
22-25 SEP	Enroute Subic Bay, Philippines
26-29 SEP	Moored Subic Bay, Philippines
30 SEP - 1 OCT	Enroute Hong Kong, BCC
2-6 OCT	Visited Hong Kong, BCC
7-9 OCT	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
10-22 OCT	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan
23 OCT	Enroute Chinhae, South Korea
24-27 OCT	Provided ranging and deperming services to ROKN at Chinhae, South Korea
28 OCT	Enroute and at Sasebo, Japan
29 OCT - 4 NOV	Provided ranging services to TG 70.5
5 NOV - 9 NOV	Enroute Danang, South Vietnam
- 10-14 NOV	Enroute and at Danang, Qui Nhon, Vung Ro Bay and Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam conducting survey operations for degaussing range sights
15-17 NOV	Enroute Port Swettenham Malaysia. 17 NOV crossed Equator at Long. 105-00E (initiated 50 polywogs)
18-21 NOV	Visited Port Swettenham, Malaysia
22-26 NOV	Enroute Subic Bay, Philippines
27-30 NOV	Provided ranging services to MINEDIV 91 at Subic Bay, Philippines
1-2 DEC	Enroute Tsoying, Taiwan
3-8 DEC	Provided ranging services to ROCN at Tsoying, Taiwan
9-11 DEC	5 DEC - LT Edward M. WILLIAMS, USN relieved LCDR Merice T. NELLES, USN as Commanding Officer
12-31 DEC	Enroute Sasebo, Japan
	Upkeep Sasebo, Japan. Provided ranging services to TG 70.5. Received Management and Maintenance Inspection from MINEFLOT ONE Staff 18 and 19 December.

2. U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383) began 1967 in her homeport in overhaul by Ship Repair Department, Commander Fleet Activities, Sasebo, Japan.

Completing overhaul in early March and after a week of provisioning she departed on a two month cruise which included operational visits to Sattahip, Thailand, Tsoying, Taiwan and Sangley Point, Philippines; recreational visits to Bangkok, Thailand and Hong Kong, BCC and a short logistics stop in Subic Bay, Philippines prior to returning to Sasebo in early May.

Late May and early June had SURFBIRD at Yokosuka, Japan going through refresher training, which was highly successful as she obtained a final grade of excellent.

SURFBIRD provided ranging and deperming services in Sasebo from mid-June until mid-August with the exception of two quick trips in which she provided both services to the ROKN at Chinhae, Korea and ranging services to MINEDIV 93 at Subic Bay, Philippines.

On 20 August SURFBIRD joined with U.S.S. PHOEBE (MSC-199), U.S.S. WARBLER (MSC-206), U.S.S. HIPPOCAMPUS (MSC-207) and U.S.S. WOODPECKER (MSC-209) to form TG 133.5 which cruised south to Buckner Bay, Okinawa for a mine warfare exercise. Commanding Officer U.S.S. SURFBIRD (ADG-383) was SOPA and OTC of the task group.

Following a logistics stop in Subic Bay, SURFBIRD rendezvoused with three MSB's one mile south of Vung Tan, South Vietnam the morning of 8 September and escorted them to Con Son Island for ranging and calibration operations. The next six days while at this picturesque island the evening meal was cooked on the beach and swimming was the main activity from 1600 to sunset.

Having escorted the three MSB's back to Vung Tan, SURFBIRD steamed to the mouth of the Sarawak River and two hours later at 0800 on 18 September 1967 became the first United States Ship to visit Kuching (Sarawak, Borneo) Malaysia since before the end of World War II. The citizens of Kuching welcomed the crew with open arms, inviting them into their homes and to share in their activities. Many of the crew felt that Kuching was the most friendly and interesting port visited in 1967.

After a brief logistics stop in Subic Bay and a visit to Hong Kong, SURFBIRD arrived back in Sasebo, Japan on 10 October having completed her second two month deployment of the year. A short upkeep period followed; then a brief operational visit to Chinhae, South Korea was followed by another week of upkeep back in Sasebo.

Five November had SURFBIRD enroute on her third two month Deployment. First stops were in Danang, Qui Nhon, Vung Ro Bay and Cam Ranh Bay, South Vietnam to survey for degaussing range sights.

On 17 November SURFBIRD crossed the Equator at Longitude 105°-00'E and all lowly Polywogs who had dared to enter the royal domain of Neptunus Rex were promptly initiated into the Solemn Mysteries of the Ancient Order of the Deep. The next morning she arrived in Port Swettenham, Malaysia for a visit, and most of the crew took advantage of the stay by sightseeing and shopping in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia's Capitol City) which was only 30 miles away.

Having cruised through the Palawan Passage, SURFBIRD arrived in Subic Bay, where she ranged MINEDIV 91 and her PCO embarked. This was followed by an operational visit to Tsoying Taiwan. While in Tsoying, LT Edward M. WILLIAMS, USN relieved LCDR Merice T. NELLES, USN as Commanding Officer in a traditional ceremony on 5 December. RADM Chou-Fei of the Republic of China Navy was the honored guest.

SURFBIRD arrived back in her homeport on 12 December and finished out the year providing ranging service to various units of TG 70.5. Thus, even though she had spent the first two and one half months of the year in overhaul and to perform her primary mission must be moored or anchored; SURFBIRD spent over one fifth of the year at sea and cruised 22, 742 nautical miles enroute to different ports for work and visits.

3. A total of 96 ships were ranged during 1967 using the portable degaussing equipment carried on-board or the permanently installed facilities at Sasebo; also 5 ships were depermed in 1967. A breakdown by country of these totals follow:

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>RANGED</u>	<u>DEPERMED</u>
United States	63	0
Japan	5	3
Republic of China	12	0
Republic of Korea	6	2
Republic of Thailand	9	0
Republic of Philippines	1	0

4. A brief discription of annexes enclosed follow:

Annex 1 - Change of Command Ceremony with brief navy history of last and present Commanding Officers

Annex 2 - Roster of officers and enlisted personnel assigned to SURFBIRD on 31 December 1967.

*Edward M. Williams*  
Edward M. WILLIAMS

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31 December 1967

PERSONNEL ROSTER

OFFICERS (6)

LT Edward H. WILLIAMS, USN, [REDACTED]  
LT Regneld D. ROBINSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
LTJG Jerome J. ADAMEK, USNR, [REDACTED]  
ENS Rolland E. KIDDER, USNR, [REDACTED]  
CWO4 Elmer H. WITHEROW, USN, [REDACTED]  
WO1 John E. VACARRO, USN, [REDACTED]

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS (4)

EMCS Charles H. HOLLAND, USN, [REDACTED]  
RMC Kenneth J. WILSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
CSC Jackie D. WILSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
HMC Joseph T. KURTZ, USN, [REDACTED]

FIRST CLASS PETTY OFFICERS (8)

BM1 Fred D. SHELDON, USN, [REDACTED]  
QM1 Gary P. BORD, USN, [REDACTED]  
SM1 Donald B. TAYLOR, USN, [REDACTED]  
GMG1 Victor E. THOMPSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
DC1 Harold S. LEE, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN1 William H. BARNES, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN1 Alvin (N) BALDWIN, USN, [REDACTED]  
EM1 Winston H. BELLS, USN, [REDACTED]

SECOND CLASS PETTY OFFICERS (13)

BM2 Glenn A. WALKER, USN, [REDACTED]  
BM2 Bill J. MARTIN, USN, [REDACTED]  
QM2 Ronald L. CARSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
RD2 Lawrence (N) HILL, USN, [REDACTED]  
ETN2 George C. BELTZ, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN2 Gary D. PENN, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN2 Kenneth J. PASH, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN2 William F. ERICSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
EM2 Paul T. LIDDLE, USN, [REDACTED]  
SFP2 Frank L. DANIELS, USN, [REDACTED]  
YN2 Eric A. RICHARDSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
SK2 James L. UNUHART, USN, [REDACTED]  
SD2 Jose S. ABAD, USN, [REDACTED]

THIRD CLASS PETTY OFFICERS (6)

EM3 James E. PARSONS, USN, [REDACTED]  
GMG3 Gary E. REID, USN, [REDACTED]  
RM3 Richard K. SIEMING, USN, [REDACTED]  
RD3 Harold J. COOK, USN, [REDACTED]  
EN3 William J. WHITMAN, USN, [REDACTED]  
PN3 George H. McCODY Jr., USN, [REDACTED]

SEAMEN/FIREMEN/STEWARDS (26)

SN Francis R. STAFFORD, USN, [REDACTED]  
QMSN Earnest R. HALL, USN, [REDACTED]  
RMSN Anthony E. SCHARFF, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Gaylen W. DARNELL, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Angel M. ORTIZ, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Juris (N) BERLINS, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Samuel E. FREEMAN, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Robert (N) KINCAID, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Michael J. MARFIZ, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Bruce A. STEVENS, USNR, [REDACTED]  
SN Robert M. MERKIN, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN John E. CHILDERS, USNR, [REDACTED]  
SN Robert E. HAGEN, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Alan C. STIKA, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Thomas L. RICHARDSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
SN Ronald J. JUNG, USNR, [REDACTED]  
EMFN Charles R. SCHEER, USN, [REDACTED]  
EMFN Richard L. KING, USN, [REDACTED]  
EMFN Jerome H. FOX, USN, [REDACTED]  
EMFN Rodney H. HOLMES, USN, [REDACTED]  
FN Leslie C. HENDRY, USN, [REDACTED]  
FN Edwin C. BENFER, USN, [REDACTED]  
FN Kenneth W. FLETCHER, USN, [REDACTED]  
FN Richard D. JACOT, USN, [REDACTED]  
FN Russell E. HANVEY, USN, [REDACTED]  
TN Valentin D. DALMACIO, USN, [REDACTED]

SEAMEN APPRENTICE/FIREMEN APPRENTICE (6)

CSSA Philip A. BURKS, USN, [REDACTED]  
SA Gary R. THOMPSON, USN, [REDACTED]  
SA Ellis C. BEARDEN, USN, [REDACTED]  
EMFA Reid E. MCNEELY, USN, [REDACTED]  
EMFA Eric L. BURTON, USN, [REDACTED]  
SA Ray Anthony WEEKS, USN, [REDACTED]