OPNAV Report Symbol 5750-1
Command Serial Number:
Date Submitted: 01-Mar-12

Classification (when filled in): UNCLASSIFIED

Command Operations Report

This report is required by commands listed in SNDL Parts 1 & 2 and all operational Task Forces, Groups and Units temporarily established to meet operational requirements.

The report format is divided into six sections: Command Data, Commander's Assessment, Chronology and Narrative, Supporting Reports, Published Documents, and Photographs. Required information is identified in specific sections of the form. Instructions on submitting this form and the required attachments are at the end.

1. Command Data

Name of your Command or Organization: USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7)

Unit Identification Code (UIC), per the SNDL: 23027

Name and Rank of Commander/Commanding Officer/Officer in Charge:

Last: CHASSEE First: THOMAS M.I.: J Rank: CAPT

Date Assumed Command (date format YYYY-MM-DD): 2010-07-31

<u>Mission/Command Employment/Area of Operations:</u> Multi-Purpose Amphibious Assault Ship/U.S. SECOND Fleet and U.S. Fourth Fleet.

Permanent Location (Home Port for deployable units): NAVAL STATION NORFOLK, VA

Immediate Superior In Command:

Operational: Amphibious Squadron EIGHT

Administrative: Amphibious Squadron EIGHT

Identify your assigned Task Force/Group/Unit name(s) and mission(s). Include OPLAN(s) and or named operations you participated in during Task Force assignment (if applicable):

Name(s) of Forces, Commands, Ships, Squadrons or Units assigned or under your operational control (if applicable): N/A

Type and number of Aircraft Assigned and Tail Codes, if applicable: N/A

Commands, Detachments or Units deployed on board or stationed aboard as tenant activities (as applicable): U.S. Military commands included: Commander, Amphibious Squadron 8, Fleet Surgical Team 4; Marine Expeditonary Unit 24; Tactical Squadron 21; Assault Craft Unit 4; Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 22 DET 1.

Number of Personnel Assigned:

Officers: 79 Enlisted: 971 Civilian: 1

Command Point of Contact (required entry, complete in full):

Name (Rank, First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name): MCC(SW/AW)

Job Title/Office Code: PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

E-mail (both classified and unclassified, if available):

Phone number(s):

Command Mailing Address: USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7) FPO AE 09574

2. Commander's Assessment

The Commander's Assessment briefly tells the story of the command's role in national defense and should highlight any general and specific lessons-learned. It should contain the commander's commentary, insights and reflections on the unit's activities. Attention should be directed to significant issues impacting training, operations and mission accomplishment during the reporting period. Descriptions of circumstances and sequence of events leading to major command decisions and results of those decisions are particularly desired. Also desired are accounts of specific contributions of individuals in the command to mission accomplishment. For units engaged in or directly supporting combat, significant wartime or peacetime operations (named operations, non-combat evacuation operations, disaster relief or other humanitarian operations, etc.) or major exercises, particular attention should be given to the commander's estimate of the situation, records of discussions and decisions, descriptions of circumstances and sequence of events leading to operational decisions and results of those decisions. For a unit returning from deployment or participating in a single operation this can normally be a single assessment. For higher-echelon commands or units engaging in multiple operations, a separate assessment for each operation in addition to an overall assessment may be appropriate.

During calender 2011, IWO JIMA has by far exceeded every expectation for all assignments that have been given to her. Her highly impressive results from CNO Maintenance Availability, ULTRA-S, Fleet Week Port Everglades and New York City, PMINT Exercise, FST-GC exercise and COMPTUEX in preparation for her 2012

deployment have proved the Sailors of IWO JIMA are ready to complete any task necessary at any time. USS IWO JIMA has risen to every challenge and surpassed all requirements, accomplishing all safely and efficiently. The continued success of USS IWO JIMA will undoubtedly continue for many years to come.

3. Chronology and Narrative

Chronology should include dates of movements; local operations and training; exercises and operations (define acronyms and purpose of exercise or operation); installation of new weapons systems or changes; major physical changes to facilities, ship or aircraft; Class A or B mishaps; port visits; unit awards received; reserve augmentation; and other significant operational or administrative events.

14 Dec 10 - 05 JUN 11	Ready Duty Amphibious Ready Group
24 - 28 JAN 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
29 JAN - 08 MAR 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
31 JAN - 25 FEB 11	Continuous Maintenance Availability (11A2)
09 - 17 MAR 11	Cherry Point Operating Area
18 MAR - 10 APR 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
23 MAR- 30 SEP 11	C2F Flag Ship
28 MAR- 05 APR 11	Unit Level Training Sustainment(ULTRA-S)
11 - 15 APR 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
16 - 24 APR 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
20 - 24 APR 11	Virginia Capes and Jacksonville Operating Area
25 APR - 2 MAY 11	Fleet Week Port Everglades
03 - 06 MAY 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
07 - 22 MAY 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
23 - 24 MAY 11	Vacapes Operating Area
25 MAY - 01 JUN 11	Fleet Week NYC
02 - 03 JUN 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
04 JUN - 05 SEP 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
06 JUN - 01 JUL 11	Continuous Maintenance Availability (11A3)
05 JULY - 02 SEP 11	Continuous Maintenance Availability (11A4)
06 - 09 SEP 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
10 - 30 SEP 11	Upkeep/Maintenance
19 - 23 SEP 11	Aviation Certification
03 - 07 OCT 11	Virginia Capes Operating Area
24 OCT - 04 NOV 11	Amphibious Squadron/Marine Expeditonary Unit Integration
	Training (PMINT)
07 NOV - 17 NOV 11	Fleet Synthetic Training - Group Commander (FST-GC)
29 NOV - 21 DEC 11	Composite Training Unit Exercise

The short narrative should amplify chronology entries (such as objectives and results of exercises/operations; commander's evaluation of exercises/operations, etc). Entries may refer to an enclosure of this report without additional description if the enclosure sufficiently reports the incident/event.

For all other entries, give the date or period in YYYY-MM-DD format and provide a brief narrative. All significant events during the reporting period are to be included.

IWO JIMA returned from her Continuing Promise 2010 mission and upon arrival, she immediately started ship's upkeep and continued to be the ready duty Amphibious Ready Group from January through June 2011.

In late March to beginning of April 2011, IWO JIMA successfully completed her required Unit Level Training Sustainment (ULTRA-S). ULTRA-S is an evaluation of the ship's training proficiency levels conducted by the Afloat Training Group (ATG) and the ship's Immediate Senior in Command (ISIC). The ship is evaluated in all warfare areas including; engineering, damage control, combat systems, medical and aviation. The assessment also covers seamanship, navigation and the Maintenance Material Management (3M) program.

Immediately following ULTRA-S, IWO JIMA got underway to lead the U.S. Navy presence during Fleet Week New York in New York City and Port Everglades, Florida hosting more than 60,000 visitors and more than 300 dignitaries. Operations Department's Media division planned and coordinated the visit of 40 different news outlets, showcasing IWO JIMA on a global scale. Following IWO's successful Fleet Weeks, she return to her homeport to execute back-to-back continuous maintenance availabilities which included overdue boiler inspections from June to September 2011. IWO JIMA successfully completed this availability and got right back at it by completing Aviation Certification in September 2011.

IWO JIMA, Amphibious Squadron (PHIBRON) 8 and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (24th MEU) completed a highly successful PHIBRON-MEU Integrated Training (PMINT) from Oct. 24 thru Nov. 3.

PMINT is the first integrated training between the IWO JIMA Amphibious Readiness Group (IWO ARG) comprised of approximately 1,700 Sailors from USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7), USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD 44) and USS NEW YORK (LPD 21), and approximately 1,200 Marines with the 24th MEU. PMINT enhanced operability between the Sailors and Marines and began the process of forming a blue-green team during three phases and approximately two weeks of training exercises.

Immediatley following PMINT, IWO JIMA conducted Fleet Synthetic Training Group Commander Exercise. FST-GC was one of the first graded evolutions in the ARG's work-up cycle for it's upcoming Spring 2012 deployment. FTS-GC is a two-week combined exercise that includes operational and tactical planning composed of a one week classroom planning session followed by a second week of synthetic exercises with all ARG ships linked together simulating an at sea environment.

IWO JIMA got underway from Nov. 29 thru Dec. 21 and completed a Composite Training Unit Exercise (COMPTUEX). COMPTUEX is a three week, multi-ship, at sea battle problem, combining the mission sets of both ARG shipping and 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit in preparation for Spring 2012 deployment. COMPTUEX serves as a certification event for the Amphibious Ready Group prior to deployment, testing multiple

abilities across the ships. The exercise is designed to train the ship, embarked air wing and other units that make up the ARG to function as one highly effective fighting force. Evaluators from Commander Strike Force Training Atlantic ensured the ARG's ships were exercised in all warfare areas. IWO JIMA ARG received its major combat operations certification.

UNIT AWARDS:

During calender year 2011, IWO JIMA was selected for FY10 CNO's Safety Afloat Award and Medical department received the Surgeon General's Health Promotions Blue and Green "H" Award. IWO JIMA also received runner up for the 2011 NEY Award for Food Service Excellence.

Eligible for the following and awaiting results:

- 1) Maritime Warfare (Power Projection/Sea Control) Excellence Award.
- 2) Engineering/Survivability Excellence Award.
- 3) Command, Control, Communications and Information Warfare Excellence Award.
- 4) Secretary of Defense Maintenance (PHOENIX) Award.

4. Supporting Reports

Supporting Reports are those reports required by other instructions that provide significant data about the command during the calendar year. These reports may be submitted "as is," eliminating the need to duplicate information for this report that is already contained in reports prepared in response to other instructions and requirements. Examples include battle efficiency, safety and other award submissions, major staff or command studies, and end of cruise reports or briefs. For units engaged in or directly supporting combat, significant wartime or peacetime operations (named operations, non-combat evacuation operations, disaster relief or other humanitarian operations, etc.) or major exercises, enclosures may include, but are not limited to:

- a. Situation Reports
- b. Intentions Messages
- c. Operational Reports
- d. Operations Orders/Deployment Orders
- e. Operational Plans
- f. Personal For Messages
- g. After Action Reports
- h. Significant Electronic Message Traffic (outgoing/e-mail/chat)
- i. Battle Damage Assessments
- j. Casualty Reports
- k. End-of-Cruse/Deployment Reports
- 1. Intelligence Summaries
- m. Major Exercise Reports

List below the items submitted, indicating the classification of each. Electronic reports should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF, or plain text. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. Submit electronic reports via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. Enclosures that do not exist in electronic format should be listed below and submitted in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM.

5. Published Documents

List below the published documents being submitted in either electronic or paper format, indicating the classification of each item. Documents to be submitted include cruise books, change of command programs, commissioning/decommissioning brochures, establishment/disestablishment/deactivation brochures, copy of command's web site, news releases, biography of commander, welcome aboard brochures, newspaper articles, command studies, statistical data, etc.

Electronic documents should be in a Microsoft Office format (Word, Excel, Power Point, or Access), HTML, PDF, JPG, GIF or plain text. Documents in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained at the end of this form. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. List any enclosures that are not electronic and submit in hardcopy in the same manner as a CD-ROM.

- (U) CY 2011 Stories
- (U) Welcome Aboard brochure

6. Photographs

List below official photographs and any other command-generated media being submitted in either electronic or paper format. Photographs to be submitted include: official photo of commanding officer; recent photo of ship, aircraft, or facility; and photos of historic events associated with the command. Photographs submitted electronically should be in JPG, TIFF or GIF format. It is unnecessary to convert non-electronic documents to electronic format. Photographs in electronic format are to be submitted via e-mail or on CD-ROM as explained below. Enclosures that do not exist in electronic format should be listed below and submitted in the same manner as the CD-ROM. Also include any photographs covering operational strikes, battle damage (especially that sustained by own ship, aircraft, facilities or equipment), or other relevant photos relating to combat or deployment operations.

- (U) Commanding Officer's official photo/bio
- (U) Executive Officer's official photo/bio
- (U) Command Master Chief official photo/bio
- (U) All Released Photos 2011
- (U) Command Crest Logo

Submit this Command Operations Report as follows:

Via e-mail, to one of the three e-mail addresses:

All air/aviation commands: aviationhistory@navy.mil

All ships: shiphistory@navy.mil

All other commands: archives@navy.mil

Place any attachments too large for transmission via e-mail on CD-ROM and send by an approved commercial courier, such as FEDEX or UPS. Check CDs for readability before submission to guard against corruption. Forward paper records included as attachments in the same manner. Do not forward Command Operations Reports via U.S. mail, as all mail addressed to the Naval Historical Center is irradiated and will result in destruction of discs and damage to paper enclosures. Address all shipments to:

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Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Submit Confidential and Secret Command Operations Reports electronically via SIPR-net e-mail to one of the three e-mail addresses:

All air/aviation commands: aviationhistory@nhc.navv.smil.mil

All ships: shiphistory@nhc.navy.smil.mil

All other commands: archives@nhc.navv.smil.mil

Place any classified attachments too large for transmission via e-mail on CD-ROM and send by an approved commercial courier, such as FEDEX or UPS. Check CDs for readability before submission to guard against corruption. Forward classified paper records included as attachments in the same manner. Do not send attachments to the Command Operations Report via U.S. mail, as all mail addressed to the Naval Historical Center is irradiated and will result in destruction of discs and damage to paper enclosures. Ensure all items are properly marked and wrapped. Address all shipments to:

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(Attn: Ships History/Aviation History/Operational Archives) *

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Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Forward Command Operations Report enclosures containing Top Secret via courier to:

405130-BA 33

NHC/AR Washington, DC

Forward Command Operations Report enclosures containing Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) via courier to:

449354-BA 31 ONI/Suitland, MD

The inner wrapper should read: ONI Historian, ONI-ODB EXT 2975

Telephone numbers for the ONI Historian are DSN 659-4488/5901, Commercial (301) 669-4488/5901.

* The attention line should read **Ships History** for all ships, **Aviation History** for all air/aviation commands, and **Operational Archives** for all other commands. Telephone numbers for these branches are as follows: Ships History Branch, DSN 288-6802, Commercial (202) 433-6802; Aviation History Branch, DSN 288-2321, Commercial (202) 433-2321; Operational Archives Branch, DSN 288-3224, Commercial (202) 433-3224.