

WELCOME ABOARD



**USS ANCHORAGE
(LSD-36)**



COMMANDER LOUIS P. ALDANA

Commander Louis P. ALDANA is a native of Idaho Falls, Idaho. He received a BS in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Idaho and a BS in Marketing from the University of Colorado. Upon graduation from the University of Colorado, he was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy. Commander ALDANA has served as Main Propulsion Assistant and Engineering Officer on the USS SPROSTON (DDE-577), Harbor Defense Advisor with the Joint U.S. Military Aid Mission to Turkey, Chief Staff Officer of COMINERON 8, Force Structures Plans Officer of COMUSMACV, Executive Officer of the USS ESTEEM (MSO-438), Executive Officer of USS DUBUQUE (LPD-8), and the Commanding Officer of USS BOLD (MSO-424).

Commander ALDANA has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Commander ALDANA is married to the former Sue Clardy of Felton, California. They have two children, Tye Louis and Christen Carman.



USS ANCHORAGE (LSD-36)

The USS ANCHORAGE (LSD-36) was launched at Pascagoula, Mississippi on 5 May 1968 and was officially commissioned on 15 March 1969 at Norfolk Naval Shipyard at Portsmouth, Virginia.

Following Class Standardization Trials near Andros Island in the Bahamas, the ship departed Norfolk enroute to her homeport, San Diego, California where she arrived on 26 July. After completing Shakedown Training and various amphibious exercises, the ship underwent two months of Post Shakedown corrections at Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California.

From 31 January to 12 March 1970, the ship assisted in the redeployment of USMC units from RVN to the United States. On 1 May, the ANCHORAGE departed her homeport as a unit of Amphibious Squadron FIVE to begin her first extended deployment in the Western Pacific and Far East area. During the cruise the ship participated in various amphibious exercises and a typhoon relief operation in the Philippines, provided wet-well services along the coast of RVN and visited ports in Japan, Okinawa, Taiwan and Hong Kong, BBc. The ANCHORAGE returned to San Diego on 10 December completing a 7-1/2 month and 42,000 mile cruise. After loading construction materials, on 22 February 1971, the ANCHORAGE departed Port Hueneme, enroute to Diego Garcia, the future site of an austere communications station. This "mini-deployment" included visits to Sydney and Perth, Australia, Hong Kong, and Danang, RNV. On March 25, 1971, at Perth Australia, Captain Cyrus A. RANK, USN relieved Captain Percy S. BEAMAN as Commanding Officer.

From July 19 to July 29, ANCHORAGE underwent Refresher Training off the coast of San Diego, upon completion of which ANCHORAGE served as Primary Control Ship (PCS) for a Reserve Marine Amphibious Landing exercise at Camp Pendleton. In August the ANCHORAGE visited its home city in Alaska, and enjoyed the beautiful area and warm hospitality of the 50th state.

ANCHORAGE again joined Amphibious Squadron FIVE for its second extended deployment beginning 1 October 1971 to the Western Pacific. She finally returned to her homeport of San Diego on 24 July 1972. It was shortly after that, that Captain Robert CONGDON became the Commanding Officer of the ship. Captain CONGDON relieved Captain RANK on 10 August 1972. As Commanding Officer he lead the ship through a period of Local Operations, Insurve Inspection as well as an intensive yard period which began 19 February 1973.

The current Commanding Officer of the ANCHORAGE is Commander Louis P. ALDANA. He relieved Captain CONGDON on 25 Sept. 73. As Commanding Officer he has lead the ship through a very successful Refresher Training period in preparation for a forthcoming tour to the Western Pacific.



INSIGNIA OF USS ANCHORAGE (LSD-36)

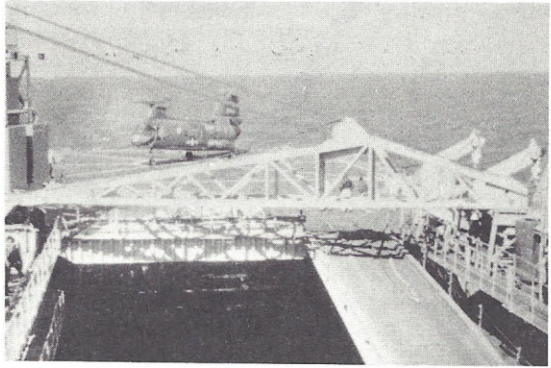
The ANCHORAGE insignia portrays both the origin and meaning of her name, including the reason for her existence and depicting that she is the first of her type in a new class of Dock Landing ships.

Symbolized in the anchor and line are stability and security which this ship will provide for the United States Navy on the high seas.

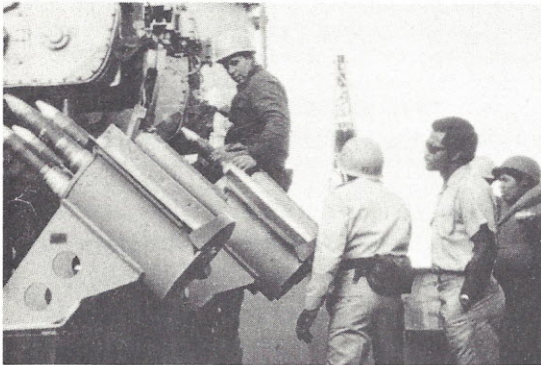
The Latin term "Sui Generis" is literally translated to mean "of a particular kind or first of a class." This ship is unique in two respects; first, it is the largest LSD ever constructed and second, it is the first ship to be named after the largest city of Alaska, ANCHORAGE, which is represented by the star on the map.



Landing of a
Navy LCU Boat



Mail and supplies delivery at sea.



Ready on the line to fire 3 inch 50 caliber guns

THE LSD

The LSD is designed to operate as an integral part of a balanced, mobile and modern amphibious striking force giving greater dimensions to the Navy's troop and vehicle lifting ability.

Designated a Dock Landing Ship, the ship couples a well deck, mezzanine deck and a flight deck for added versatility. A system of joining ramps allows vehicles to be loaded by boat, crane or helicopter, stored on any of the three decks and unloaded by the same or any of the other means. Primarily designed to transport pre-loaded landing craft to an objective area and discharge them rapidly, the ship is also equipped with machine shops and repair facilities to provide drydock repair services to small ships up to the size of harbor tugs. This class of LSD has the capability to berth, feed and transport over 400 fully equipped combat troops and equipment and to unload them in pre-loaded landing craft or to other boats in the landing force. Intrinsicly a part of the well deck operation is a ballasting system which allows the well deck to be flooded with sea water to a depth necessary for loading such landing craft as the LCU or the smaller LCM-8.

Although not specifically designed for helicopter operations in great volume, the flight deck is large enough to service and stow one medium-sized helo. Aviation features include limited repair and maintenance facilities, helicopter refueling stations, aviation fuel stowage tanks and troop debarkation stations for helicopter assaults.

We sincerely hope that you will enjoy your visit aboard the USS ANCHORAGE (LSD-36) and will be able to more fully realize the role of this ship in today's modern amphibious Navy.

If at any time during your visit, you wish to know more about the operation or implementation of any specific system or piece of equipment aboard the ship, the officers and crewmembers will be pleased to answer your inquiries within the limits of security restrictions.

We wish to make your visit with us as pleasant and informative as possible, so feel free to ask questions and again WELCOME ABOARD.