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**Note:**

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## **OBTAINING COPIES OF A SHIP'S DECK LOGS**

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) can provide you with copies of just about every naval ship's deck logs involved in the Vietnam Conflict. They have a web site at <http://www.archives.gov/>

These will be actual copies of the deck log pages, sometimes hard to read because of the handwriting, but none the less original. These are accepted by the VA as proof positive of a ship's activities.

You need to specify the exact dates that you want copies of. Last year their charge was \$0.50 per page, and I don't know if that price has changed. There is an entry into the Deck Log EVERY DAY even when the ship is just tied to a pier and "nothing is happening" other than routine activities. If you are after the information on a ships location and what it was doing, you will find this in the Deck Log. If you are after a certain activity but are not certain of the exact date, then the best way to get this is to request the Deck Logs for a range of dates. E.G. if you know that sometime in April, 1968 an incident occurred and you want to see if it was recorded in the Deck Log, the best thing to do is to request the Log entries for the entire month of April, 1968. Some days the entries are one paragraph. Some days the entries take up one or more pages.

The NARA can be contacted by phone to place an order and they can research something to let you know how much your order will cost (like the example of needing the entire month of April, 1968).. or at least they used to provide that service prior to placing an order.

Their contact information is:

toll free at: 1-866-272-6272 or 1-86-NARA-NARA

TDD lines: For College Park, MD: 301-837-0482

To send a fax: 301-837-0483

They have a web site at <http://www.archives.gov/>