



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13)
To: Director of Naval History (Op-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
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1. The attached USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13) Command History of calendar year 1988 is submitted in accordance with reference (a).


PATRICK M. MULDOON

Copy to:
COMPHIBRON TWELVE
Public Affairs Officer

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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)

Commanding Officer (from 10/88): CAPT Patrick M. Muldoon, USN
(to 10/88): CAPT William J. Mooberry, USN

Executive Officer: LCDR Gerald R. Brown, USN

Air Officer: LCDR [REDACTED] USN

Operations Officer (from 5/88): LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 5/88): LT [REDACTED] USN

Supply Officer (from 5/88): LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 5/88): LT [REDACTED] USN

Engineering Officer: LT [REDACTED], USN

First Lieutenant: LT [REDACTED] USN

Wardroom:

LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED], USNR
LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED] USN
LTjg [REDACTED] USN
LTjg [REDACTED] USNR
LTjg [REDACTED], USNR
LTjg [REDACTED] USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED] USN
CW03 [REDACTED] USN
CW02 [REDACTED] USN

LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED], USNR
LT [REDACTED] USN
LT [REDACTED] USN
1ST LT [REDACTED] USMC
LTjg [REDACTED] USNR
LTjg [REDACTED] USN
LTjg [REDACTED] USNR
LTjg [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED] USNR
ENS [REDACTED] USN
CW02 [REDACTED] USN

SENIOR COMMANDS

COMPHIBGRU TWO: RADM D.M. Bennett, USN

COMPHIBRON FOUR: CAPT J.W. Lovell, USN

COMPHIBRON TWELVE: CAPT T.S. Treanor, USN

NASHVILLE HOMEPORT: Norfolk, Virginia.

COMMAND HISTORY THROUGH 1988

The USS NASHVILLE is the third ship of the United States Navy to be named after the capitol of Tennessee.

The first USS NASHVILLE (PG-7) was a gunboat commissioned at Norfolk, Virginia in 1897. She played a crucial role in the Spanish-American War, as well as being involved in the Phillipine Insurrection, the Boxer Rebellion, and World War I.

The second USS NASHVILLE (CL-43) was a light cruiser, commissioned in 1938. She had a proud heritage under her belt, earning ten battle stars in World War II. NASHVILLE survived the war despite considerable battle damage. The NASHVILLE was removed from the Navy list in 1959.

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) was built by Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction Company, Seattle, Washington. She was commissioned at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington on February 14, 1970.

NASHVILLE's various assignments have included four Caribbean Amphibious Ready Groups, nine Mediterranean Amphibious Ready Groups, a Mine Countermeasures Task Group, two NATO North Atlantic Operations, and numerous training assignments with the Fleet Marine Force Atlantic.

Throughout her history, NASHVILLE has demonstrated the seamanship and airmanship necessary to transport, land, and support embarked landing forces when required, plus the ability to perform those assignments not normally part of her amphibious missions.

In 1971 NASHVILLE deployed to the Mediterranean as a unit of the first 20 knot amphibious force to enter that area. While deployed, the ship showed the ability to function in an ASW role in a period of operating with ASW helicopters.

In 1972 NASHVILLE received her most unusual assignment, Operation PEGASUS. During this operation NASHVILLE transported 151 dependents, numerous cars, and even pets of the men of DESRON 12 to their new homeport - Athens, Greece.

The six month deployment to the Mediterranean in 1973 encompassed the period of the outbreak of the Yom Kipper War. NASHVILLE, as a unit of Amphibious Squadron SIX, served as an element of the formidable composite SIXTH Fleet Task Force.

In January 1974, NASHVILLE entered the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia for her first major overhaul. In June 1974, having completed her overhaul, NASHVILLE commenced preparations for refresher training and departed Norfolk enroute to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

NASHVILLE's deployment to the Mediterranean in 1975 as flagship for Commander Amphibious Squadron SIX was highlighted by participation in several major amphibious exercises, including the annual joint NATO exercise "DAWN PATROL".

In June 1976, NASHVILLE visited New York City to participate in OPSAIL '76 where she acted as host to the President and the Secretary of the Navy for the review of all ships. In September, NASHVILLE participated in Operation Northern Wedding, a joint U.S./NATO exercise in Northern Europe.

Early in 1978, NASHVILLE assisted Coast Guard efforts to save a Greek merchant ship in distress, and in February rescued a Coast Guard helicopter that crashed 50 miles off the Virginia coast. In March 1978, NASHVILLE entered her second major overhaul, leaving in September 1979.

In November and December 1979 NASHVILLE completed refresher training in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, leaving with the second highest overall grade for any ship during the calendar year.

In January 1980, NASHVILLE participated in READEX 1-80 and in February completed Amphibious Refresher Training off the coast of Norfolk, Virginia.

In June 1980, NASHVILLE deployed with Amphibious Squadron TWO to the Mediterranean Sea and Indian Ocean in MARG 2-80. This highly successful five and one-half month deployment resulted in NASHVILLE receiving its first Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation and the Indian Expeditionary Force Medal.

In May 1981, NASHVILLE led a Mine Counter Measure Task Group which deployed to the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean. In this change of roles, NASHVILLE demonstrated the versatility of the LPD in a concentrated air/surface Mine Counter Measures command and support role. During the deployment, NASHVILLE embarked a COMINWARCOM staff, HELMINERON FOURTEEN with four RH-53D helicopters, an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) detachment, and carried two Mine Sweeping Boats (MSB's) mounted on skids in her well deck. This unique operation earned NASHVILLE her second Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation in a period of less than twelve months. NASHVILLE served as the Flagship for COMPHIBRON FOUR during READEX 1-82 in the Caribbean which ended on 13 December 1981.

In April 1982, NASHVILLE provided support for the Presidential visit to Barbados.

From May to November 1982, during a Mediterranean deployment, NASHVILLE evacuated non-combatants from 23 different countries who had been trapped by the fighting in Lebanon. NASHVILLE then supported the Marines as part of the Multi-National Peacekeeping Force. The actions earned NASHVILLE the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Naval Unit Commendation.

In February 1983, NASHVILLE embarked upon CARIB OPS '83, representing the United States Navy to six Caribbean nations, and serving as the Flagship for CINCLANTFLT and COMNAVSURFLANT. In this role, she hosted numerous dignitaries as well as more than 16,000 citizens of the lands she visited.

In August 1983, NASHVILLE commenced an extensive eight-month overhaul providing her with a new state-of-the-art communications suite, renovation of the main propulsion plant and an extensive renovation of crew and troop berthing.

During July and August 1984, NASHVILLE departed for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba where she successfully completed Refresher Training.

In January 1985, NASHVILLE deployed with Amphibious Squadron EIGHT to the Mediterranean as a unit of MARG 1-85. During the deployment, she demonstrated her flexibility by being assigned contingency operations off the coast of Lebanon.

In February 1986, NASHVILLE departed for New Orleans to act as support ship for various NROTC units during Mardi Gras.

In April 1986, NASHVILLE deployed to the Caribbean Sea for OCEAN VENTURE '86.

In July 1986, NASHVILLE again visited New York as part of the International Naval Review during the Centennial Celebration of the Statue of Liberty. Departing New York, she successfully completed Refresher Training in Chesapeake Bay in July.

In August 1986, NASHVILLE participated in NATO operation NORTHERN WEDDING '86. She crossed the Arctic Circle and visited Copenhagen, Denmark and Edinburgh, Scotland.

In January 1987, NASHVILLE was awarded her third Meritorious Unit Commendation, the prestigious COMNAVSURFLANT Battle E, and was named "Top Gator" for being the best amphibious ship of her class in COMPHIBRON TWELVE. She also received departmental excellence awards for amphibious warfare, communications, electronic warfare, and damage control. NASHVILLE then deployed to the Mediterranean with COMPHIBRON FOUR as a unit of MARG 2-87. During the deployment she performed contingency operations off the coast of Lebanon. She visited Naples, Italy, Villefranche and Toulon, France, Lisbon, Portugal, and Barcelona, Spain.

In June 1988, after a four-month overhaul, NASHVILLE successfully completed Refresher Training in Puerto Rico in preparation for her ninth Mediterranean deployment. The training included the first implementation of Rigid Raider durable small attack craft on a LPD.

During MARG 2-88, NASHVILLE participated in NATO exercise DISPLAY DETERMINATION '88 in Sardinia and Turkey. Ports visited were Rota and Benidorm, Spain, Haifa, Israel, Naples, Italy, Tangier, Morocco, Toulon, France, and Palma, Mallorca. She returned from the Med in February 1989.

USS NASHVILLE, the "Original Top Gator", stands ready to continue a tradition of excellence in all facets of amphibious warfare.

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - 1988

- 1 Jan Short term goal: Drydock, Near term goal: DPMA 88, Long term goal: Sea Trials.
- 13 Jan NASHVILLE moves from Metro Machine pier to drydock.
- 14 Jan Adopt-A-School Project: several NASHVILLE crew members chaperone Princess Anne High School students to Chrysler Museum for senior field trip.
- 15 Jan Awards/Frocking Ceremony.
- 1 Feb Steam EMTT visit.
- 2-26 Feb Ship's Laundry closed for renovations.
- 10 Feb MARG 2-88 initial embarkation conference.
- 20 Feb Adopt-A-School Project: several NASHVILLE crew members help build sets for the P.A.H.S. spring production of "Cinderella".
- 24 Feb Ship's Party: over 200 NASHVILLE crew members, wives, and friends take an evening dinner cruise aboard the Waterside-based New Spirit.
- 2 Mar NASHVILLE "Cats" take second place in NAB championship basketball tournament.
- CPR 4/ 24 MEU inspection of Troop/ Staff spaces.
- 7 Mar YNCM(AW) T.C. Fitzsimmons relieves MACM(SW) C.F. Lane as Command Master Chief.
- 9 Mar Assembly of Amphibians (NAB Theatre).
- 13 Mar Adopt-A-School Project: NASHVILLE "Cats" defeat P.A.H.S. faculty team in exhibition basketball game.
- 14 Mar Preliminary OSCOT.
- 18 Mar CPR-12 Light Off Examination.
- 21 Mar Aviation Assist/ Tech visit.
- Light Off. Message quote from CPR-12 to CPG-2: "USS NASHVILLE's Chain of Command and ship's company is to be complemented on their organization, material condition and preparations for engineering light off and return to unrestricted operation. NASHVILLE is clearly a superb performer who knows how to do it right."
- 29 Mar ILO onload of repair parts.
- 30 Mar Dock trials.
- 1 Apr Fast Cruise.
- Adopt-A-School Project: CO/XO attend breakfast with P.A.H.S Faculty.
- 4-5 Apr Sea Trials. NASHVILLE returns to NOB.
- 11-15 Apr Underway to Yorktown for am munition onload.
- 16 Apr CPR-4 moves onboard.
- 17-24 Apr Flight deck resurfaced.
- 18 Apr STREAM assist visit, Am mo Accuracy visit, EOSS configuration check, CSRR visit, CINTEX pre-brief.
- 19 Apr CINTEX.
- 21 Apr Laundry assist visit.
- 23-24 Apr Visit Ship: Over 200 visitors tour ship.
- 25 Apr Awards Ceremony.
- 26-27 Apr Underway to VACAPES for MTT.
- 29 Apr-
- 6 May Underway to Onslow Bay for Army DLQ's and Amphibious Warfare Training Week.
- 9 May CSRR-II visit.
- 9-26 May IMAV.
- 11 May Personnel Inspection/ Awards Ceremony.

17 May CPR-12 shifts pennant to NASHVILLE.
 OSCOT.

23 May 3M assist visit, RAVIR team training, NWAT, NEPMU-2 assist visit,
 Gun Weapons Material Review.

24-27 May PRT test.

25 May Ammo Handling Certification.

31 May OSCOT.

1 Jun Embark Midshipmen for Summer Cruise.
 Navy Relief Fund Drive ends with \$8021 in contributions.

2 Jun Underway to "W" anchorage for ammo onload.

3 Jun Underway to VACAPES for Dependents Cruise.

7 Jun-

1 Jul Underway to North Carolina for MARG 2-88 Work-Ups.

9 Jun 24 MEU embarks at Morehead City.

7-31 Jul Mess Deck terazzo replaced.

2-13 Aug Underway to the Med for MARG 2-88.

3 Aug Arrive Morehead City, embark 500 Marines of 24 MEU.

14-27 Aug Inport: Rota, Spain.

23-26 Aug "NASHVILLE OLYMPICS" sporting competition and picnic.

26 Aug Safety stand down.

28 Aug Underway to Anchorage A1 and MARG 2-88 rendezvous.

30 Aug Transit Strait of Gibraltar.

31 Aug-

4 Sep Anchored: Benidorm, Spain.

5 Sep Underway to western Med.

6 Sep Operating in central Med.

7-9 Sep Training anchorage Golfo De Patti.

10-16 Sep Training anchorage Brindisi.

11 Sep H-Hour - Marine offload.

17 Sep Operating in central Med.

18 Sep-

11 Oct "Display Determination 88".

18-25 Sep Training anchorage Capo Tulada, Sardinia.

26 Sep-

4 Oct Operating in east Med.

30 Sep Awards ceremony

5-11 Oct Training anchorage Sarus Bay, Turkey.

6 Oct H/L Hour - Marine offload.

10 Oct CAPT Patrick M. Muldoon, USN relieves CAPT William J. Mooberry,
 USN as Commanding Officer in ceremony on Fo'c'sle.

12-13 Oct Operating in east Med.

14-31 Oct Inport: Haifa, Israel.

16-28 Oct Visit Ship: Over 300 Israeli military members and civilians tour ship.

20 Oct Community Action Project: Over 25 NASHVILLE sailors and Marines
 refurbish Neve David Old Age Home in Haifa.

22-24 Oct 3M assist visit.

26 Oct COMSIXTHFLT visits.

28-31 Oct PQS audit.

1-4 Nov Operating in east Med.

3-5 Nov MTT visit.

4 Nov Transit Strait of Messina

5-11 Nov Training anchorage Pian De Spille
 6 Nov H-Hour - Marine offload
 7 Nov PQS stand down
 8 Nov Hump Day/ Election Day cookout on the flight deck.
 11 Nov Underway for Naples, Italy for possible Persian Gulf duty turnover with
 USS Raleigh.
 Cross deck Marines and equipment to USS Charleston and
 USS Guam.
 12-17 Nov Med Moored: Naples, Italy.
 18-21 Nov Operating in west Med.
 22-24 Nov Training anchorage Sierra De Retin for PHIBLEX SPANISH 2-88.
 25-26 Nov Operating in west Med.
 27-30 Nov Inport: Tangier, Morocco.
 29 Nov Mayor of Tangier and Princess Lulu Fatima of Morocco visit.
 30 Nov Community Relations Projects: Over 30 NASHVILLE sailors and
 Marines participated in various painting projects at The Kresh, an
 orphan's home, Tangier Feminist Center, a women's work
 center, and the Tangier Day Care Center, a local school.
 1 Dec Operating in west Med.
 1-11 Dec Training anchorage Al Hoceima for "African Eagle 88".
 2 Dec Food Service assist visit.
 4 Dec H-Hour - Marine offload
 12 Dec Operating in west Med.
 13 Dec-
 3 Jan 89 Inport: Toulon, France for IMAV.
 14-17 Dec PRT test.
 16 Dec USO Show: King's Company on Flight Deck.
 19 Dec Community Relations Project: Over 20 NASHVILLE sailors and Marines
 participate in reforestation project on nearby mountain.
 21 Dec Community Relations Project: Over 20 NASHVILLE sailors and Marines
 help in cleaning and landscaping a Toulon city park.
 22 Dec Community Relations Project: NASHVILLE volunteers throw a
 Christmas party for 20 Orphans of Le Patio, France on the Mess Deck.
 24 Dec USO Show: Loretta Lynn in Upper Vehicle Stowage.
 26 Dec Midshipmen arrive for cruise.
 29 Dec NASHVILLE wins pump-down competition in DC Olympics at USS
 Yellowstone.
 31 Dec Frocking ceremony.
 Short term goal: Palma, Spain, Near term goal: Rota, Spain, Long term
 goal: Little Creek, Va.