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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)

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23 MAR 1992

From: Commanding Officer, USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Encl: (1) USS NASHVILLE Command History for 1991

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. D. Daniels".

W. D. DANIELS

by direction

Copy to:
COMPHIBRON TWELVE

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) COMMAND HISTORY

1991

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COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

Commanding Officer: CAPT John M. "Sparky" Lyle, USN

Executive Officer: (from 01 JAN 91) CDR William D. Daniels, USN
(to 01 JAN 91) CDR Thomas J. Scarpelli, USN

Operations Officer: (from 07 MAY 91) LCDR [REDACTED], USN
(to 07 MAY 91) LCDR [REDACTED], USN

Engineering Officer: LT [REDACTED], USN

First Lieutenant: (from 26 JAN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 26 JAN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN

Supply Officer: (from 29 JUN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 29 JUN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN

Chaplain: (from 01 MAY 91) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 01 MAY 91) LT [REDACTED], USNR

Air Officer: (from 15 JAN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 15 JAN 91) LT [REDACTED], USN

Medical Officer: LT [REDACTED], USNR

Dental Officer: LT [REDACTED], USNR

Nav/Admin Officer: (from 08 APR 91) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 08 APR 91) LT [REDACTED], USN

WARDROOM:

LT [REDACTED], USN	LT [REDACTED], USNR
LT [REDACTED], USNR	CAPT [REDACTED], USMC
LTJG [REDACTED], USN	LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USNR	LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN	LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USNR	LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN	LTJG [REDACTED], USNR
LTJG [REDACTED], USNR	CWO2 [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN	CWO2 [REDACTED], USMC
ENS [REDACTED], USN	ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN	ENS [REDACTED], USN

SENIOR COMMANDS:

COMPHIBGRU TWO: RADM Andrew A. Granuzzo, USN

COMPHIBRON TWELVE: CAPT Harold T. Tickle, USN

COMPHIBRON TWO: CAPT Kenneth L. Pyle, USN

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) Homeport: Norfolk, Virginia

SHIP'S MISSION

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13), an Amphibious Transport Dock, is the thirteenth ship of her class. It combines the capabilities of the Amphibious Dock Landing Ship (LSD) and the Helicopter Assault Ship (LPH) into one unit. NASHVILLE's primary mission is to transport a landing force, utilizing helicopter and amphibious craft for the initial assault and provide support for an extended period of time. NASHVILLE can embark up to 850 Navy and Marine Corps officers and enlisted personnel and all the equipment required for sustained Marine Amphibious Assault at the objective area. As a Flag Configured ship, NASHVILLE has the capabilities to act as primary command and control ship and an embarked Amphibious Squadron or Group Commanded can coordinate and control all air, sea and ground force assets whose support is necessary to ensure the success of an Amphibious Operation.

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FOR 1991

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANT EVENTS</u>
01 JAN	USS NASHVILLE IS OPERATING AT MAMBA STATION, MONROVIA OFF THE COAST OF LIBERIA. OPERATION SHARP EDGE WHILE ON MARG 3-90.
03 JAN	TRANSIT TO FREETOWN SL. FOR MAIL AND SUPPLY PICK-UP.
04-05 JAN	ENROUTE MAMBA STATION.
05 JAN	AT MAMBA STATION.
08-11 JAN	EMAT, OVERALL MARGINAL SATISFACTORY GRADE
09-15 JAN	ENROUTE FROM MAMBA STATION TO ROTA, SP.
15 JAN	ARRIVE AND DEPART ROTA, SP ENROUTE EASTERN MED.
15-19 JAN	OPERATING IN THE CENTRAL MED. OPERATIONAL AREA.
21-26 JAN	IN PORT CATANIA, SICILY.
26 JAN	ENROUTE FROM CATANIA, SICILY TO MODLOCK 4W GRID IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN.
31 JAN-02 FEB	OPPE, ABOVE AVERAGE OVERALL GRADE.
01 FEB	STEAMING IN 4W GRID IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN. OPPE UNDERWAY.
03 FEB	IN PORT CAGLIARI, SARDINIA.
04 FEB	UNDERWAY TO 4W GRID IN THE WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN.
05 FEB	ENROUTE TO GIBRALTAR 4W GRID AREA.
09 FEB	AT GIBRALTAR 4W GRID AREA.
11 FEB	ENROUTE FROM GIBRALTAR 4W GRID AREA TO CAGLIARI, SARDINIA.
13 FEB	ENROUTE FROM CAGLIARI, SARDINIA AREA TO WESTERN MED./ALMERIA, SP
14 FEB	USS NASHVILLE 21 ST BIRTHDAY
16 FEB	TURN OVER WITH USS AUSTIN. ENROUTE FROM WESTERN MED. TO ROTA, SP.
17-20 FEB	IN PORT ROTA, SP.
20-02 MAR	UNDERWAY ENROUTE USA.
02 MAR	IN PORT MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C.
03-04 MAR	ENROUTE FROM MOORHEAD CITY, N.C. TO NORFOLK, V.A.
03 MAR	TIGER CRUISE
04 MAR	IN PORT NORFOLK, VA
04-12 FEB	STAND DOWN
19-21 MAR	AMMO OFF LOAD AT G-2 ANCHORAGE, NORFOLK, VA.
21 MAR	IN PORT NORFOLK, VA.
25 MAR	USS NASHVILLE MOVED "DEAD STICK" TO METRO MACHINE SHIP YARD, COMMENCED PMA.
02-06 MAY	ANNUAL PRT
09 MAY	MEDICAL READINESS INSPECTION
20-22 MAY	"I" DIVISION
23 MAY	SHIP'S PICNIC
31 MAY	MAGAZINE SPRINKLER INSPECTION

04 JUN MOGAS ASSIST
 13-14 JUN CPR 12 SAFE TO LIGHT OFF CERTIFICATION
 08 JUN HARBORFEST MOTOR WHALE BOAT RACE
 13 JUN FAST CRUISE
 18 JUN DOCK TRIALS
 19 JUN END C-IMAV
 21 JUN FAST CRUISE
 22 JUN UNDERWAY, USS NASHVILLE DEPARTS METRO MACHINE SHIP
 YARD, IN PORT NORFOLK, VA
 24 JUN END PMA
 UNDERWAY FOR SEA TRIALS
 25-27 JUN AMMUNITION ONLOAD YORKTOWN, VA

 01-02 JUL SMI ASSIST
 01-12 JUL CSRR
 04 JUL INDEPENDENCE DAY - FULL DRESS SHIP
 08 JUL HERO SURVEY, MEDICAL READINESS INSPECTION, MOGAS
 ASSIST VISIT
 08-10 JUL PETTY OFFICER INDOCTRINATION
 08-12 JUL EMAT (TYPE P), ASRR, PHYSICAL SECURITY ASSIST
 10 JUL CMS ASSIST
 11 JUL NST RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY, AWARDS CEREMONY
 12 JUL ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY
 15-16 JUL CSA
 16 JUL-13 AUG UNDERWAY FOR TCAT/FLEETEX 4-91
 18 JUL I DIVISION

 03-04 AUG IN PORT ROOSEVELT ROADS PR
 05-09 AUG SURFACE WARFARE TRAINING WEEK
 08-12 AUG EMAT
 09-12 AUG SOCEX
 13 AUG-09 SEP POM PERIOD
 14-28 AUG DIESEL INSPECTION
 15 AUG MEDICAL READINESS INSPECTION
 19 AUG-09 SEP PREDEPLOYMENT IMAV WITH SIMA NORFOLK
 22 AUG USS NASHVILLE FAMILY PICNIC
 28 AUG SAFETY SURVEY
 30 AUG NASHVILLE "GATOR CLASSIC" GULF TOURNAMENT

 01-17 SEP POM PERIOD. IMAV EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 16 1991.
 NASHVILLE DELAYS UNDERWAY FOR ARG 3-91 BY ONE WEEK
 05 SEP DOCK TRIALS
 12 SEP SIMA IMAV DEPARTURE CONFERENCE
 16 SEP CPO FROCKING CEREMONY
 17 SEP DEPLOY ARG 3-91 FOR THE ARABIAN GULF
 18 SEP IN PORT MOOREHEAD CITY NC, TROOP AND CARGO ONLOAD
 18 SEP UNDERWAY ENROUTE BENIDORM, SP
 23 SEP COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN COMMENCES, I DIVISION
 27 SEP SAFETY STAND DOWN
 29 SEP IN-CHOP TO COMUSNAVEUR
 30 SEP-05 OCT PORT VISIT BENIDORM, SP

02 OCT	SPANISH MILITARY TOURS ON BOARD USS NASHVILLE AND STATIC ARMS DISPLAY
05 OCT	UNDERWAY ENROUTE ARABIAN GULF
07 OCT	AWARDS CEREMONY
09 OCT	IN-CHOPPED TO COMCENTCOM
09-10 OCT	SUEZ CANAL TRANSIT
10-16 OCT	NORTH ARABIAN SEA TRANSIT
13 OCT	U.S. NAVY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION "STEEL BEACH PICNIC", 5 KILOMETER "GATOR CLASSIC RUN" ON FLIGHT DECK
18-19 OCT	TRANSIT STRAIGHTS OF HORMUZ, NASHVILLE ENTERS TO PERSIAN GULF OPERATIONAL AREA
19-31 OCT	AMPHIBIOUS EXERCISES CONDUCTED AT ANCHOR AND UNDERWAY IN THE SOUTHERN ARABIAN GULF OPERATIONAL AREA
28 OCT	I DIVISION
01-07 NOV	PORT VISIT MINA SULMAN, BAHRAIN
07 NOV	UNDERWAY ENROUTE KUWAIT CITY
08 NOV	US MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY CEREMONY
10 NOV	ANCHOR KUWAIT CITY, COMMENCE OPERATION EAGER MACE
11-21 NOV	OPERATION EAGER MACE, AL KUWAIT
14-15 NOV	SMI
14-17 NOV	COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROJECT AT AL NOUR SCHOOL, KUWAIT CITY
17 NOV	END OPERATION EAGER MACE, ENROUTE DUBIA, UAE
24-28 NOV	PORT VISIT DUBAI, UAE
25 NOV	"GOOD MORNING AMERICA" CHRISTMAS TAPING
27 NOV	AWARDS CEREMONY
28 NOV	THANKSGIVING DAY 5-K "TURKEY TROT" FOOT RACE
29 NOV	UNDERWAY
29-30 NOV	ARABIAN GULF OPERATIONS
01-10 DEC	NORTH ARABIAN GULF OPERATIONS
03 DEC	I DIVISION
07 DEC	STEEL BEACH PICNIC
10-15 DEC	IN PORT DUBIA, UAE
15 DEC	DUBAI 5-K RUN
16 DEC	UNDERWAY
16-19 DEC	ARABIAN GULF OPERATIONS
17 DEC	ARG 3-91 DEPLOYMENT MID-POINT
18 DEC	COMPHIBRON TWO VISIT TO NASHVILLE
19 DEC	COMPHIBRON TWO CHANGE OF COMMAND
20-02 JAN	IN PORT JABEL ALI, UAE
22 DEC	CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN DUBAI EXPATRIATE COMMUNITY
24 DEC	SHIP'S CHRISTMAS AT THE "GATOR AID CANTINA
26 DEC	"SHOW TIME ON NASHVILLE NIGHT" TALENT SHOW
27 DEC	FROCKING CEREMONY
28 DEC	DC AND SEAMANSHIP OLYMPICS

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS

1. January 1, 1991 found USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13), the "Original Top Gator" deployed as a unit of Marine Amphibious Readiness Group (MARG) 3-90. Operating off the coast of Monrovia, Liberia, designated as "Mamba Station" in the Eastern Atlantic, NASHVILLE played an important part of Operation SHARP EDGE, providing logistics support and other humanitarian services to the American Embassy, Monrovia. Operational tempo was high as NASHVILLE was gearing up for it's Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE) and in anticipation of being detached to the Central Mediterranean. A mandatory pre-OPPE EMAT was conducted from 8 to 11 January with an overall grade of Marginal/Satisfactory assigned.

2. On 9 January, NASHVILLE was detached from Mamba Station and proceeded to Rota, SP to stop for fuel and eventually proceed to the Western Mediterranean in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD. NASHVILLE visited Catania, Sicily from 21 to 26 January. On 31 January, the OPPE team arrived onboard. NASHVILLE proved she was more than ready for the exam, and, on 2 February, the OPPE team departed the ship, leaving NASHVILLE with an overall Above Average grade.

3. From 1 February until the 16th, NASHVILLE operated in the Central/Western Mediterranean. During this time, the ship refueled in Cagliari, Sardinia and then transited to the vicinity of Gibraltar. On the 16 February, NASHVILLE turned over the watch to USS AUSTIN (LPD-4) and headed for Rota, SP for "wash down". NASHVILLE arrived in Rota on 17 February and on 20 February, left Rota for the USA. On 2 March, NASHVILLE arrived in Morehead City, NC, off-loaded her Marine compliment and on 3 March, NASHVILLE left Morehead bound for Norfolk, VA on a "Tiger Cruise". NASHVILLE brought her extended 7 month deployment to an end on 4 March, docking pierside at Norfolk Naval Base.

4. On 25 March, NASHVILLE moved "Dead Stick" to Metro Machine Shipyard and commenced a 4 month Planned Maintenance Availability (PMA). Extensive work was conducted on most of NASHVILLE's main propulsion equipment with significant improvements made to her boiler water/feed water treatment systems, steering gear, ballast piping and welldeck. On 13 June, NASHVILLE was certified "safe to light-off" by a COMPHIBRON 12 Light-off Exam and after successful dock trials and Fast Cruise, NASHVILLE got underway on 24 June.

5. USS NASHVILLE operated under a tight schedule in preparation for the Amphibious Readiness Group (ARG) Deployment 3-91 and conducted an Ammunition onload, Engineering Mobile Training Team (EMAT, Type "P", overall grade Marginal/Satisfactory), Auxiliaries Systems Readiness Review (ASRR), Combat Systems Assessment (CSA) and Communications Material Systems (CMS) Assist during this time. On 16 July, NASHVILLE sailed as a participant in FLEETEX 4-91.

6. The operational tempo was high and concentration was on Amphibious evolutions, ship handling and proving the ship was operationally ready to meet the upcoming deployment requirements. Following a brief stop in Roosevelt Roads, PR, NASHVILLE had her first underway Engineering Mobil Assessment Team (EMAT) visit since the previous deployment. The visit went very well and the team helped diagnose some major engineering discrepancies which required correction prior to deploying. An overall grade of Satisfactory was assigned. On 13 August, NASHVILLE arrived in Norfolk, VA and commenced her Planned Overseas Movement (POM). Concurrent with the POM was an Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV) with SIMA Norfolk, VA, a highly successful evolution based on the scope of work accomplished and the short time allotted for completion.

7. NASHVILLE deployed as a unit of ARG 3-91 on 17 September. In the company of USS SAIPAN (LHA-2) and USS HARLAN COUNTY (LST-1196), under the direction of COMPHIBRON TWO, the first stop for NASHVILLE was in Benidorm, SP. NASHVILLE anchored off the coast of Benidorm on 30 September. Although the visit proved to be manpower intensive in that small boat operations had to run continuously to transporting personnel to and from the shore, the visit proved very beneficial in terms of public relations. Among the guests to visit NASHVILLE were Spanish Military Officials and the Deputy Minister of Benidorm.

On 5 October, NASHVILLE departed Benidorm enroute for the Suez Canal. The ship arrived at Port Said on 9 October and completed the Canal transit on 10 October without incident.

8. NASHVILLE transited the Red Sea from 10 to 16 October and on 13 October, observed the U.S. Navy's Birthday with a "Steel Beach Picnic" on the flight deck. On 19 October, the ship transited the Strait of Hormuz.

NASHVILLE's first port visit was Mina Sulman, Bahrain from 1 through 7 November. Perhaps the most relaxed of the Arabic regions, Bahrain proved to be far different from the image the crew had upon arrival. The U.S.O. welcomed the ship and became the focal point and place the majority of the crew spent their free time. Interesting areas such as the Gold Souk (shopping area) also became frequently visited attractions. The entire visit went well and on 7 November, NASHVILLE departed enroute for Kuwait City and Operation EAGER MACE.

Operation EAGER MACE lasted from the 11 to 21 November; NASHVILLE remained anchored off of Kuwait City, Kuwait. The exercise involved landing a large complement of Marine Amphibious Forces along with Special Recon and Assault units. NASHVILLE participated in an exceptional community relations project centered around the Al Nour school which had been occupied during the war. Sailors and Marines contributed to repairing and renovating the school. A highly successful Supply Management Inspection (SMI) was conducted on 14 and 15 November.

NASHVILLE departed Kuwait on 17 November and on 24 November, moored in Dubai, UAE. NASHVILLE's visit lasted to 29 November, the crew celebrated the Thanksgiving Holiday and participating in many "Take A Sailor Home for Dinner" programs. Numerous activities existed for the crew, among these were "Hash House" foot races, a 5 kilometer "Turkey Trot" run, tours, shopping and sight seeing in the city of Dubai.

NASHVILLE departed Dubai on 29 November and conducted operations in the Gulf until 10 December, when she returned to Dubai, UAE for a 5 day port visit. NASHVILLE departed again on 16 December for underway operations and on 19 December, CAPT Kenneth L. Pyle assumed command of the Amphibious Squadron.

The last port-of-call for the ship was Jabel Ali, UAE on 20 December and lasted until 2 January, 1992. Although not recognized as a "liberty port", the operational tempo was slackened for the Holiday period. Perhaps the most memorable events the crew experienced in port Jabel Ali came from those centered around the "Gator Aid Cantina".