



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13)
To: Chief of Naval Operations Attn: N09BH

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12

1994

Encl: (1) Command History for USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13)

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

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By direction

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) COMMAND HISTORY

1994

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COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

Commanding Officer: CAPT Thomas G. Otterbein, USN

Executive Officer: (from 15 OCT) LCDR Paul A. Cruz, USN
(to 15 OCT) LCDR Bradley F. Jublou, USN

Operations Officer: LCDR [REDACTED], USN

Engineer Officer: (from 02 JUN) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 02 JUN) LT [REDACTED], USN

First Lieutenant: LT [REDACTED], USN

Supply Officer: LT [REDACTED], USNR

Chaplain: LCDR [REDACTED], USN

Air Officer: (from 30 NOV) LT [REDACTED], USN
(to 30 NOV) LCDR [REDACTED], USN

Medical Officer: CDR [REDACTED], UNS

Dental Officer: (from 02 SEP) LT [REDACTED],
USNR
(to 02 SEP) LT [REDACTED], DC, USNR

Nav/Admin Officer: (from 31 OCT) LTJG [REDACTED], USN
(to 31 OCT) LT [REDACTED], USN

Command Master Chief: (from 10 OCT) AVCM Welsh
(to 10 OCT) AVCM(AW/SW/NAC/NP) William
S. Kaufman

WARDROOM:

LT [REDACTED], USN
LT [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED]
ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USNR
ENS [REDACTED], USN
CWO3 [REDACTED], USN
CWO2 [REDACTED], USN

LT [REDACTED], USN
LT [REDACTED], USN
LT [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN
LTJG [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN
ENS [REDACTED], USN
CWO3 [REDACTED], USN
CWO2 [REDACTED], USMC

SENIOR COMMANDS:

COMPHIBGRU TWO: RADM Leonard F. Picotte, USN

COMPHIBRON EIGHT: CAPT Guy E. Myslivy, USN

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) Homeport: Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, VA

SHIP'S MISSION

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13), an Amphibious Transport Dock, is the thirteenth ship of her class. She 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 allowing an embarked Amphibious Squadron or Group Commander to 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 1994

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SIGNIFICANT EVENTS</u>
01 JAN	INPORT METRO MACHINE CORPORATION, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
18 JAN	COMMENCED ISIC SAFE TO LIGHT EXAMINATION
19 JAN	COMPLETED ISIC SAFE TO LIGHT EXAMINATION
20 JAN	UNDERWAY - DEPARTED METRO MACHINE ENROUTE VACAPES OPAREA TO CONDUCT POST PMA SEA TRIALS SEA TRIALS.
21 JAN	INPORT - NORFOLK OPERATING BASE COMMENCED POST PMA IMAV WITH SIMA NORFOLK
11 FEB	COMPLETED IMAV WITH SIMA NORFOLK
14 FEB	COMMENCED CART II
18 FEB	COMPLETED CART II
28 FEB	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE VACAPES OPAREA TO CONDUCT TSTA I: ETG.
02 MAR	INPORT - NORFOLK. CONTINUED TSTA I: ETG.
07 MAR	TRANSIT - ENROUTE NAVAL WEAPONS STATION YORKTOWN
07 MAR - 11 MAR	INPORT - YORKTOWN FOR AMMO ONLOAD
11 MAR	TRANSIT - NORFOLK
14 MAR - 17 MAR	TSTA I: CSTG, LIMITED TEAM TRAINER
17 MAR	UNDERWAY - GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA FOR REFRESHER TRAINING
21 MAR	INPORT - GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
21 MAR - 08 APR	TSTA I: REFTRA
08 APR	TRANSIT - NASSAU, BAHAMAS
10 APR - 13 APR	PORT VISIT NASSAU, BAHAMAS
13 APR	TRANSIT - NORFOLK
16 APR	INPORT - NAVAL STATION NORFOLK
18 APR - 29 APR	TSTA I: CTSG
02 MAY	UNDERWAY - NORFOLK FOR TSTA 2: ETG. ANTICIPATED RETURN SKED FOR 06 MAY
02 MAY - 06 MAY	TSTA 2: ETG
03 MAY	INPORT - NORFOLK EARLY DUE TO ENGINEERING CASUALTY. CONTINUED TSTA 2: ETG
16 MAY	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE FOR VACAPES OPAREA.
16 MAY - 20 MAY	TSTA 2: CSTG
20 MAY	INPORT - NORFOLK
01 JUN	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE BOSTON, MA
03 JUN	INPORT - CHARLESTOWN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, BOSTON.
03-07 JUN	PORT VISIT BOSTON ISO D-DAY COMMEMORATIONS
07 JUN	EMBARKED SOSMRC. UNDERWAY- ENROUTE TO NORFOLK.
10 JUN	INPORT - NORFOLK
13 JUN	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE VACAPES OPAREA FOR TSTA 3: ERAT.

13 JUN - 17 JUN	TSTA 3: ERAT.
17 JUN	IMPORT - NORFOLK.
20 JUN - 11 JUL	IMA WITH SIMA NORFOLK
18 JUL	UNDERWAY FROM NORFOLK
22 JUL	RETURNED TO NORFOLK
25 JUL	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO LYNNHAVEN ANCHORAGE LA-7
25 JUL - 29 JUL	TSTA 4: AMPHIBIOUS REFRESHER TRAINING
29 JUL	IMPORT - NORFOLK
11 AUG	UNDERWAY - TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC.
12 AUG	IMPORT - MOREHEAD CITY FOR TROOP ONLOAD.
	UNDERWAY - FOR GUANTANAMO BAY.
14 AUG	TURN OVER WITH INCHON ARG.
16 AUG	CHOP TO CTG 125.2 - COMCRUDESGRU 12
	DEPLOYED TO HAITIAN JOINT OPERATING AREA
	IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION SUPPORT
	DEMOCRACY.
17 AUG	IMPORT - GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA
20 AUG	UNDERWAY - CONDUCTED AMPHIB OPS IN HAITIAN
	JOA
14 SEP	IMPORT - GUANTANAMO BAY FOR TECHNICAL
	ASSISTANCE ON BOAT AND AIRCRAFT CRANE.
	CHOP TO CTG 185.2 - COMCRUDESGRU 12
16 SEP	UNDERWAY - CONDUCTED AMPHIB OPS IN HAITIAN
	JOA.
28 SEP	IMPORT - GUANTANAMO BAY FOR PACK/MAIL/CARGO
	ONLOAD.
29 SEP	UNDERWAY - TO CAP HAITIEN TO DELIVER P/M/C TO
	ARG.
04 OCT	IMPORT NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR FOR
	VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT WASHDOWN AND
	AGRICULTURE INSPECTION.
09 OCT	UNDERWAY - RETURNED TO CAP HAITIEN STATION
17 OCT	DEPARTED CAP HAITIEN STATION. CHOP TO CTG
	24.7 - COMCRUDESGRU 12. TRANSIT
	MOREHEAD CITY.
19 OCT	IMPORT MOREHEAD CITY FOR TROOP OFFLOAD
	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO NORFOLK
20 OCT	IMPORT - NORFOLK
	CHOP TO CTU 040.4.6 - COMPHIBGRU 2
15 NOV	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE VACAPES OPAREA
15 NOV - 18 NOV	ETG
18 NOV	IMPORT -NORFOLK
28 NOV	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO ONSLOW BAY, NC
28 NOV - 05 DEC	TCAT 95 -1
06 DEC	IMPORT - MOREHEAD CITY FOR TROOP ONLOAD.
	CHOP TO CTG 055.2 - COMPHIBRON EIGHT
	UNDERWAY - ENROUTE TO ONSLOW BAY.
06 DEC - 16 DEC	JTF 95-II EXERCISE
14 DEC	OFFLOADED TROOPS OVER BEACH AT ONSLOW BAY
15 DEC	IMPORT - NORFOLK

16 DEC

CHOP TO CTG 22.4 - COMPHIBRON EIGHT
COMMENCE HOLIDAY STANDDOWN
CREW'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

17 DEC

NARRATIVE OF EVENTS

1. The year began with NASHVILLE in the yards at Metro Machine Corporation, Norfolk, VA, in the middle of a well-deserved holiday and stand down period. After successfully completing an ISIC Safe-to-Light Examination at the end of the shipyard period, NASHVILLE pulled out for sea trials on 20 Jan 1994. She pulled into NOB the next day for the start of a post-PMA IMAV.
2. The IMAV lasted until 11 Feb. On 14 Feb 94, a contingent from Amphibious Group Two began the extensive CART II training inspection. NASHVILLE passed with flying colors. NASHVILLE had been planning to conduct a weapons onload at Naval Weapons Station Yorktown during February however schedule changes forced that visit to be delayed until March. On the last day of February, NASHVILLE set sail to begin preparing for OPPE by conducting TSTA I training, assisted by the Engineering Training Group (ETG).
3. NASHVILLE returned to Norfolk and continued TSTA I training pierside. On the 7th of March, the ship made the short voyage to Naval Weapons Station Yorktown for a quick and smooth weapons onload. For the return voyage to Norfolk, the crew was joined by their family members for a thoroughly enjoyed Family Cruise. The next week was spent inport Norfolk continuing with TSTA I. This section was focused on the Combat Systems Training Group (CSTG). Then, on 17 March, NASHVILLE got underway and headed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for Refresher Training. The purpose of this training was to refresh the crew in the basics of Engineering Casualties, Damage Control, and fighting the ship by utilizing its combat suite.
4. REFTRA really pushed the crew and by the completion of this training period, the new crew members were now fully confident that they could handle all the challenges that the sea and enemy could produce. When the training was finished, the crew was ready for some well deserved rest. Three days spent inport at Nassau, Bahamas proved to be just what was needed. This was not all rest time though. While inport, the ship hosted over 1000 visitors and provided them with tours of the ship and its capabilities. On 16 April, NASHVILLE returned home to Norfolk. 18 to 29 April was spent completing TSTA I phase by running multiple combat systems drills that integrated many different elements.
5. More engineering training was scheduled for an underway period of 02 to 06 May however this training was cut short. A minor casualty in one of the main machinery rooms caused the ship to return early in order to avoid any serious damage. TSTA 2 training was still continued pierside. The TSTA 2 phase continued during the underway period of 16 - 20 May. More CSTG exercises were run and the crew's expertise increasingly improved.
6. The start of June marked the commencement of NASHVILLE's largest public affairs extravaganza of the year. From 03 to 07 June, the crew helped the National Park Service commemorate the 50th anniversary of D-Day during a port visit to Boston, Massachusetts. While moored across from the oldest commissioned warship in the world, USS CONSTITUTION, NASHVILLE's crew participated in a variety of events including a wreath-laying ceremony with D-Day veterans. During the port visit, NASHVILLE hosted almost 2,500 friendly guests. On the return trip to Norfolk, the ship hosted members of SOSMRC who are prospective commanding officers of other ships coming out to experience command at sea. From 13 to 17 June, an ERAT team embarked to assist the Engineering Department through TSTA 3. With her return to Norfolk, NASHVILLE commenced an IMA period with SIMA Norfolk.
7. The month of July started with NASHVILLE completing an IMA inport Norfolk. Upon completion

of final training preparations underway from 22 to 25 July, TSTA 4: AMPHIBIOUS REFRESHER TRAINING or PHIB REFTRA was conducted from 25 to 29 July at Lynnhaven Anchorage. The ship performed several practice amphibious raids and demonstrated its flexibility in amphibious operations. This would be where the training ended and real world operations began. NASHVILLE was ordered to the Caribbean in support of the UN sanctions against the illegitimate government of Haiti; OPERATION SUPPORT DEMOCRACY.

8. The first week of August was spent making final preparations for the upcoming mission. On 11 August, the ship set sail and arrived at Morehead City, NC on 12 August. Later that same day, NASHVILLE got underway with CSSD-29 embarked. On 16 August, NASHVILLE, along with USS WASP (LHD-1), relieved the INCHON ARG. After a quick stop in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, NASHVILLE began intensive training in the Haitian Joint Operating Area (JOA). While off the coast of Cuba, The Chief of Naval Operations visited to the ship in order to meet the crew.

9. For the first half of September, NASHVILLE continued her training operations in the Caribbean. On 13 September, NASHVILLE suffered a hydraulics casualty to her Boat and Aircraft Crane. Fortunately, she was in the Gitmo Op area, where she was able to pull in for a quick repair. Upon completion of these repairs, she returned to a station off the coast of Haiti. Soon afterwards, while preparing for an assault to remove the illegitimate government, the word was passed over NASHVILLE's 1MC system that the Carter mission had been successful and hostilities had been averted. NASHVILLE proceeded to conduct an administrative off-load of her embarked troops. At the end of the month, she made a speedy passenger/mail/cargo run to Gitmo and back.

10. After backloading the embarked troops, the ARG proceeded to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, PR for a freshwater wash-down of its landing force. While in port, the crew enjoyed some well-deserved rest and relaxation by touring the local "culture." On 9 October, the ships got underway and once again returned to the JOA. With much anticipation, the crew awaited General Cedras' exit from power and there was much rejoicing when, on 15 October, he departed the country. With another mission successfully completed, NASHVILLE turned north to return home. After a brief stop in Morehead City to disembark troops, she pulled into Norfolk on 20 October. Once again home, NASHVILLE was able to perform some much-needed maintenance for ship and crew.

11. NASHVILLE spent the first half of November resting after her high optempo. On 15 November, she was underway again to continue training in preparation for her upcoming OPPE. After Thanksgiving, she returned to the Onslow Bay area for TCAT 95-1.

12. TCAT proved to be an excellent training experience for everyone involved. On 6 December, NASHVILLE embarked components of MSSG 24 in Morehead City, and then returned to Onslow Bay. She began JTF 95-II on that same day. This exercise was her first operation with the unit's that she would eventually be working with during her upcoming Med cruise. After working out a few coordination problems, the Navy-Marine Corp team performed two flawless amphibious assaults. Upon completion of the second raid, the remaining embarked troops were off-loaded over the beach at Onslow Bay. NASHVILLE returned to her home port on 16 December and commenced her holiday standdown. Christmas parties for the crew were held on 16 and 17 December as the "Original Top Gator" completed another challenging and rewarding year.

NOTE: On 14 February, 1995, NASHVILLE's 25th birthday, the ship received notification that she had earned the Battle Efficiency Awarded for excellence in service shipwide.