



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)  
FPO NEW YORK 09564-1707

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5750  
Ser LPD-4/PAO 076  
28 March 1987

From: Commanding Officer, USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Command History Package for USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

1. As required by reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

*R. S. Smith*  
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COMPHIBRON TWELVE

COMMAND HISTORY 86

JAN 1-31 MOORED PORTSIDE TO PIER 5, NAVAL STATION NORFOLK, VA.  
 15 FLOATING CRANE MOVED INTO POSITION TO REMOVE STERNGATE FOR RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY.  
 23 COMPHIBRON EIGHT- EMBARKED SQUADRON COMMANDER

FEB 1-28 MOORED PORTSIDE TO PIER 5, NAVAL OPERATING BASE  
 18 BOLLERS IN DRY LAYUP

MAR 1-31 MOORED PORTSIDE TO PIER 5, NAVAL OPERATING BASE  
 31 JACKED OVER #1 MAIN ENGINE

APR 1-21 MOORED PORTSIDE TO PIER 5, NAVAL OPERATING BASE  
 17 SIMULATED UNDERWAY (FAST CRUISE)\*\*  
 21 UNDERWAY VIRGINIA CAPES OPERATING AREAS  
 22-25 STEAMING INDEPENDENTLY VICINITY VIRGINIA CAPES. COMPLETED RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY. CONDUCTED DAMAGE CONTROL DRILLS, WELLDECK AND SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS.  
 25-30 MOORED PORTSIDE PIER 5, NAVAL OPERATING BASE  
 \*\* DRILLS INCLUDED: ABANDON SHIP, MAN OVERBOARD, GENERAL QUARTERS, STEERING CASUALTY, GUN QUARTERS, FLIGHT QUARTERS, WELLDECK- SMALL BOAT OPS, BASIC ENGINEERING CASUALTY CONTROL EXERCISE.

MAY 1-31 MOORED PIER 7 NAVAL OPERATING BASE, NORFOLK, VA  
 15-16 FAST CRUISE

JUNE 1-2 MOORED PIER 7 NAVAL OPERATING BASE NORFOLK, VA  
 2 BRIGADIER GENERAL NEAL, US ARMY RETIRED ARRIVES ONBOARD  
 UNDERWAY VIRGINIA CAPES  
 4 STEAMING INDEPENDENTLY TO ONSLOW BAY, N.C. 1AW QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SCHEDULE. \*\* CONDUCTED HELO OPERATIONS, AV-8A HARRIER OPERATIONS, WELLDECK OPERATIONS, LVT OPERATIONS.  
 6-12 MOORED PIER 3 NAVAL OPERATING BASE, NORFOLK, VA  
 12 UNDERWAY ENROUTE TO GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA  
 15 ARRIVED NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA FOR INTERIM REFRESHER TRAINING.  
 16-30 UNDERWAY 1AW COMFLETRAGRU SOE 25-86 FOR INTERIM REFRESHER TRAINING

JULY 1-3 UNDERWAY 1AW COMFLTRAGRU SOE 25-86  
 3 EMBARKED U.S. MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, U/W TO KINGSTON, JAMAICA  
 4-7 MOORED PORTSIDE TO ORANGE STATE PIER  
 4 U.S. AMBASSADOR TO JAMAICA ONBOARD  
 GOVERNOR GENERAL OF JAMAICA ONBOARD  
 4th OF JULY CELEBRATION COMMENCES WITH HOTDOGS AND ICECREAM FOR GUESTS.  
 7 ENROUTE GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA.  
 ARRIVED GTMO, DISEMBARKED MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

8-11 CONTINUED INTERIM REFRESHER TRAINING  
 11 COMPLETED INTERIM REFRESHER TRAINING. PASSED OPERATIONAL PROPULSION  
 PLANT EXAMINATION WITH THREE (3) SATISFACTORY ENGINEERING WATCH  
 SECTIONS.  
 11 EMBARKED 4th BATTALION 10th REGIMENT USMC. .  
 11-14 UNDERWAY TO MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C.  
 14 MOORED MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C. DEBARKED 4th BATTALION 10th REGIMENT  
 USMC.  
 UNDERWAY TO NORFOLK NAUSTA, VA.  
 15-31 MOORED NAVAL OPERATING BASE, PIER 7, NORFOLK, VA.

AUG 1-6 MOORED NAVAL OPERATING BASE, PIER 7, NORFOLK, VA.  
 6 UNDERWAY VIRGINIA CAPE OPERATING AREAS  
 EMBARKED SHIP'S CREW DEPENDENTS FOR DEPENDENTS CRUISE  
 7 MOORED YORKTOWN NAVAL WEAPONS STATION  
 RETURNED TO NAVAL OPERATING BASE PIER 7, NORFOLK, VA.  
 7-12 MOORED NAVAL OPERATING BASE PIER 7, NORFOLK, VA.  
 12 ENROUTE TO MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C.  
 12 MOORED MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C.  
 13 COMMENCED ONLOAD OF 4th MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE AND EQUIPMENT.  
 EMBARKED COMMANDING OFFICER OF TROOPS, CAPTAIN BRUCE BESSIMER USMC.  
 13 UNDERWAY 1AW CINCLANTFLT QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SCHEDULE FOR CNO PROJECT  
 K-310 AND NORTHERN WEDDING '86  
 15 STEAMING IN COMPANY WITH USS EL PASO (LKA-117), IN SCREEN FORMATION  
 KILO WITH USS AUSTIN AS GUIDE SHIP. COMMANDING OFFICER USS AUSTIN IS  
 OFFICER IN TACTICAL COMMAND (OTC).  
 18 JOINED WITH WITH USS SPARTANBURG COUNTY (LST-1192), USS PLATTE (AO-  
 186), USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13), STEAMING IN FORMATION WITH AUSTIN AS  
 GUIDE, COMMANDER AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON EIGHT EMBARKED ON USS NASHVILLE  
 IS OFFICER IN TACTICAL COMMAND.  
 29-31 ENROUTE TO MALANGEN FJORD, NORWAY

SEP 1 ANCHORED IN MALANGEN FJORD  
 LAUNCHED 23 LUTS, ICW EXERCISE NORTHERN WEDDING 86 REHEARSAL,  
 CONDUCTED HELO OPERATIONS, AND WELLDECK OPERATIONS.  
 2-5 ENROUTE TO CAPE WRATH, SCOTLAND VIA NORWEGIAN INNER LEADS  
 5 ANCHORED IN FJORD OF CATHNESS, SCOTLAND (MORRAY FIRTH, SCOTLAND)  
 5-9 ENROUTE TO SANDEFJORD BAY, NORWAY  
 9 LAUNCHED LUTS ICW EXERCISE NORTHERN WEDDING 86  
 9-16 ANCHORED IN VICINITY OF SANDEFJORD/ CONDUCTED SHIP TO SHORE MOVEMENT  
 AS PRIMARY CONTROL SHIP. INCLUDED STERNGATE MARRIAGE W/ LCU  
 15 COMPHIBRON FOUR ONBOARD  
 16 U/W ENROUTE TO ESBJERG, DENMARK (JUTLAND PENINSULA) FOR EXERCISE BOLD  
 GUARD 86 LANDING  
 17 DEPUTY SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER, ATLANTIC FLEET ONBOARD (VICE ADMIRAL  
 DALTON, ROYAL NAVY)  
 18 ANCHORED ESBJERG, DENMARK. SERVED AS PRIMARY CONTROL SHIP FOR SHIP TO  
 SHORE MOVEMENT FOR INITIAL LANDING FOR EXERCISE BOLD GUARD 86

MOORED PORTSIDE JUTLANDIER TERMINAL, ESBJERG, DENMARK. COMPLETED OFFLOAD OF USMC SUPPORT EQUIPMENT.

19 U/W ENROUTE TO KIEL, GERMANY (PORT CALL)

20-28 MOORED TIRPITZEMOLE GERMAN NAVAL BASE, KIEL.

22 RECEIVED 25 MEMBERS, GERMAN NAVAL LEAGUE (SHIP VISIT)

28 UNDERWAY- ANCHORED IN VICINITY OF ECKERNFJORD, GERMANY FOR BACKLOAD OF USMC EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL

30 UNDERWAY TO DOVER, ENGLAND (PORT CALL)

OCT 1-3 ENROUTE FROM KIEL, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY TO DOVER, ENGLAND

3-8 MOORED PRINCE OF WALES PIER, DOVER ENGLAND

5,6,7 CONDUCTED PUBLIC VISIT OF SHIP FOR ENGLISH HOST NATIONALS.

8-20 ENROUTE TO ONSLOW BAY, N.C.  
STEAMING IN COMPANY WITH USS PLATTE, USS NASHVILLE, USS NEWPORT (LST-1179, USS INCHON (LPH-12), USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD-41), USS EL PASO, USS SPARTANBURG COUNTY, COMPHIBRON EIGHT EMBARKED ON USS NASHVILLE IS OFFICER IN TACTICAL COMMAND.

20 LAUNCHED 23 LVTS, TOUCHDOWN BEACH ON ONSLOW BAY (AUSTIN ANCHORED IN ONSLOW BAY)  
U/W TO MOOREHEAD CITY, N.C.  
MOORED STATEPORT TERMINAL, MOOREHEAD CITY  
MARINE WEAPONS COMPANY 3/8 DISEMBARKED  
" KILLO " " "  
LAAD BATTALION DISEMBARKED  
GOLF BATTERY "  
C.O. TROOPS "  
EMBARKED 36 DEPENDENTS (TIGER CRUISE)/ U/W TO LITTLE CREEK, VA

21-28 MOORED LITTLE CREEK, VA

28 ENROUTE TO YORKTOWN, NAVAL WEAPONS STATION.

28-30 MOORED YORKTOWN FOR AMMUNITION OFFLOAD.

30 U/W ENROUTE TO LITTLE CREEK, VA  
MOORED QUAYWALL LITTLE CREEK, VA

NOV 1-3 MOORED QUAYWALL LITTLE CREEK, VA

3 ENROUTE TO NORSHIPCO SHIPYARD, NORFOLK, VA  
RESTING ON KEEL BLOCKS, NORSHIPCO (DRYDOCK)

3-DEC 31 DRYDOCK PLANNED RESTRICTED AVAILABILITY (DPRAU) AT NORSHIPCO SHIPYARD, INCLUDED; REMOUNTING FORWARD CLOSE IN WEAPONS SYSTEM MOUNT, INSTALLATION OF UNDERWATER HULL CATHODIC PROTECTION SYSTEM, REMOVING BOTH SCREWS AND RUDDERS, HULL SANDBLASTING AND PAINTING, AND INSTALLATION OF NEW AFFF FIREFIGHTING SYSTEM.

\*\* 1986 AUSTIN SERVED AS HELICOPTER PLATFORM FOR A TOTAL OF 381 HELO AND AV-8A HARRIER LANDINGS.