

5750
Ser 00/

From: Commanding Officer, USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42)
To: Naval Historical Center, Attn: Ships History

Subj: USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42) 2004 COMMAND OPERATIONS REPORT

Ref: (a) NWD/SH/8102, 29SEP05, Overdue Calendar Year 2004
Reports
(b) OPNAVINST 5750.12J, Annual Command Operations Report

Encl: (1) UNCLAS CD-ROM — *Not readable*
(2) USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42) 2003-2004 Cruise Book
(3) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet
(4) Award recognition letters

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) submitted in accordance with reference (b).


J. D. DEEHR



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL SUPPLY SYSTEMS COMMAND
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COMMERCIAL
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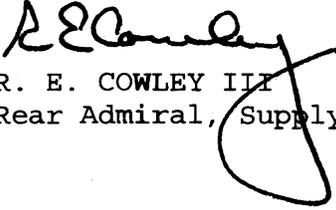
IN REPLY REFER TO:
5061
Ser 51A1J/04-098
27 Apr 04

From: Assistant Chief of Staff, Navy Family Support
To: Commanding Officer, USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42)
Via: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Subj: 2004 CAPTAIN EDWARD F. NEY MEMORIAL AWARDS PROGRAM

Encl: (1) Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Awards Plaque

1. Congratulations on your selection as a Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Awards finalist. Being nominated for such a distinct honor is a credit to your entire food service team of professionals.
2. This year's competition was very competitive in every category. Your food service team's commitment in operating at the highest level of proficiency by providing quality food and service to your crew was very evident.
3. Enclosure (1) is your 2004 runner-up plaque that you can display with pride. Congratulations on your accomplishment.


R. E. COWLEY III
Rear Admiral, Supply Corps, U.S. Navy

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC (N41)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER IN CHIEF
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5061
Ser N411/4761
03 JUN 04

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on Assistant Chief of Staff, Navy Family Support
ltr 5061 Ser 51A1J/04-102 of 27 Apr 04

From: Commander, U. S. Pacific Fleet (N4)
To: Commanding Officer, USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42)

Subj: 2004 CAPTAIN EDWARD F. NEY MEMORIAL AWARD PROGRAM

1. Forwarded with pleasure. The achievements of the 2004 Captain Edward F. Ney Memorial Awards Program demonstrated your continued commitment to the quality of life of your crew and the Sailors you serve. Please accept my congratulations and continued success in Food Service excellence!


M. S. ROESNER
Deputy Chief of Staff for
Logistics, Fleet Supply and
Ordnance

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFPAC (N41)

USS GERMANTOWN

Western Pacific Cruise 2003-2004

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This Cruise Book was made possible by a generous financial contribution from the USS Germantown Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Fund.



Follow in Our Footsteps

EVERYTHING

you never knew you wanted to know.



Gallons of Fuel.....3,118,000 gal.
 Cost of all that fuel.....\$3,336,260
 Gallons of Fresh Water
 from Sea Water.....4,340,000 gal.
 Meals Served.....180,000 + meals
 Iraqi Merchant
 Sailors Rescued.....8 Sailors
 Miles of Toilet Pper.....30 + Miles

24,856 Nautical Miles.....Distance Traveled
 37.....Days in Port
 116.....Days Underway
 567,225,454.....Times we played 'Old
 School' on Site TV.
 4056.....Hours Underway
 Too Many.....Shots Given by Medical

Average number of hours:

Watch stood by an Engineman.....2028
 In 90+ degree heat without
 Ventilation.....34
 Watch stood by a Deck Seaman1900
 In the chow line (E-5 & below).....57
 Watch stood by an
 Operations Specialist.....1352

Sailors and Marines de-
 ployed on Germantown in
 2003-2004 spent about
 \$104,645 on soda and an-
 other \$30,000 on phone
 cards. The two hot sellers
 generated enough cash to
 buy a 3-bedroom house.



The Germantown Ship Store
 sells health and comfort items
 to promote crew morale.
 Profits raised by the store
 feed the Morale, Welfare, and
 Recreation (MWR) fund. The
 Ship's Store is a double posi-
 tive for Germantown sailors.

03-04

USS Germantown Western Pacific Cruise

HISTORY

USS Germantown is named after historic Germantown, Penn. Now a residential section of Philadelphia, Germantown was founded in 1683. It was the site of an important Revolutionary War battle fought Oct. 4, 1777 between the forces of General George Washington and General Sir William Howe. On the morning of the battle amidst dense fog, Washington's forces engaged 9000 of Howe's troops. However, the American Colonists were forced to retreat when the British ranks reformed and were reinforced. Although technically a defeat, this battle demonstrated the colonists' tenacity and courage in battle against the better trained British troops and helped to gain French support for the final battle at Yorktown.

The Navy ordered USS Germantown on March 26, 1982, and commissioned her Feb. 8, 1986. The ship played a significant role during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. The ship was in the Arabian Gulf for the entire operation and deployed for a total of nine months. Germantown departed San Diego en route to the Gulf on 1 December 1990 as part of the largest Amphibious Task Force (18 ships) to leave the West Coast since 1965. The ship participated in mock amphibious assaults in the United Arab Emirates after the start of the air war in preparation for a possible amphibious assault.

USS Germantown is the second Whidbey Island class dock landing ship and was the first ship in that class to serve in the Pacific.

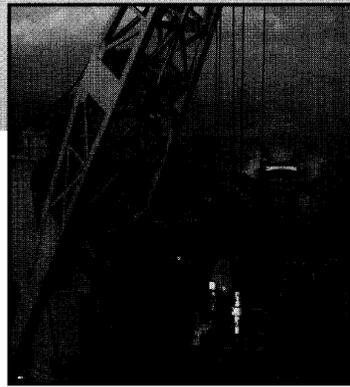
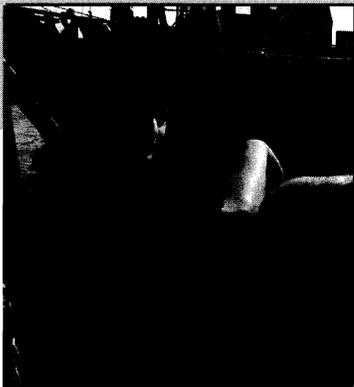
On August 16, 2002, USS Harpers Ferry relieved USS Germantown as a forward deployed naval unit in Sasebo, Japan. Germantown returned to San Diego, Ca., where she underwent a \$25 million overhaul. Germantown's 2003-2004 WestPac Cruise is the latest chapter in the ship's growing story. Take a look at pages 7-11 to see how we contributed to Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

Follow in our Footsteps



USS GERMANTOWN adopted its motto from a quote by Francis Daniel Pastorius, German scholar and original settler of the Germantown community. "FOLGEN SIE UNSEREN FUSSPEREN!" or "Follow in our footsteps!" illustrates the prosperity and success Pastorius found so characteristic in Germantown. As a member of Expeditionary Strike Group ONE, USS GERMANTOWN takes pride in sustaining a high degree of professionalism and challenges all to "Follow in our Footsteps." (You can find out more about the strike group on page 7.)

What We Do



Like all amphibious ships, USS GERMANTOWN's mission is to put Marines on beaches any where in the world at any time. Without us, US Marines could not maintain their formidable reputation as the world's finest landing force. Without them, we'd be pretty bored. Together, amphibious ships and Marine units are the modern version of the ideas seen in the movie "Saving Private Ryan." Only we have some cool gadgets troops landing at Normandy could never have imagined (details to follow).

Over the years, amphibious assault ships like Germantown have deployed as part of "ARG/MEU's." That's short for "Amphibious Ready Groups/Marine Expeditionary Units." Three amphibious ships made up the ARG, and a couple thousand Marine Infantrymen, Tankers, and other combat specialists made up the MEU. In August of 2003 that tradition went away. The crew of USS GERMANTOWN joined the sailors of USS PELELIU and USS OGDEN and the Marines of the 13th MEU to become part of the Navy's first-ever Expeditionary Strike Group (aptly named 'Expeditionary Strike Group ONE' or 'ESG1').

Nothing really changed for the amphibious ships or the Marines. The change came for the destroyer (USS DECATUR), cruiser (USS PORT ROYAL), frigate (USS JARRETT), and fast-attack submarine (USS GREENVILLE) deployed with us.

Until ESG1, the Navy didn't send these smaller, more heavily-armed ships with amphibs. They traveled with aircraft carriers or deployed on their own. Who defended the ARG's? Good question.

The ESG concept makes us feel a lot safer as we

as we transit hostile waters to support the War on Terrorism. The concept also impressed Navy leaders who declared ESG1 a success.

At 8 o'clock in the morning on August 22, 2003, USS GERMANTOWN left her home port of San Diego, CA. The ship traveled north along the California coast for one day. In that time, three giant hovercraft called 'Landing Craft, Air Cushions' (or LCAC's) from Assault Craft Unit 5, Detachment Charlie, brought aboard more than 300 Marines and enough trucks, tanks, humvees, assault vehicles, and related equipment to fill up the entire well deck, truck tunnel, and half of the flight deck, leaving enough space to land one helicopter.

Then Germantown turned westward. With only brief stops in Hawaii and Singapore, we were on our way to the Persian Gulf, where the LCAC's took the Marines back to the shore. This time, they landed on a Kuwaiti beach, a short drive from Iraq and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In October 2003, the Marines of the 13th MEU took part in Operation Sweeney. They helped stop extremist rebels from attacking US and allied interests in Iraq. When Operation Sweeney ended, we picked the Marines up and took them to the coasts of Djibuti, Africa, and the United Arab Emirates, so they could train with those countries' militaries. We parted ways with the rest of ESG1 for a few weeks in January to take just our Marines to Kenya, Africa, for training there. We also delivered a contingent of Fleet Marine Force medical and dental professionals for a humanitarian mission that provided medical care for nearly 2,000 impoverished Kenyans.