



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS OGDEN (LPD 5)  
FPO AP 96674-1708

5750

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From: Commanding Officer, USS OGDEN (LPD 5)  
To: Director, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard,  
805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2002

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization  
(2) Chronology  
(3) Narrative  
(4) Commanding Officer's Biography  
(5) Welcome Aboard Pamphlet

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are submitted.

  
A. K. TAJUDDIN  
By direction

Copy to:  
COMPHIBRON THREE

**COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION**

Mission: OGDEN is an AUSTIN-class amphibious transport doc (LPD) which employs a "balanced load" concept. Capable of carrying troops, cargo, tanks, and helicopters, OGDEN can simultaneously launch amphibious assaults by sea and air. OGDEN combines the functions of four different classes of ships: the dock landing ship (LSD), the tank landing ship (LST), the attack transport (LPA), and the attack cargo ship (LKA).

Immediate Senior Command: Commander, Amphibious Group THREE

Homeport: San Diego, California

Short Title: USS OGDEN (LPD 5)

UIC: 07176

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Commanding Officer:	CDR W. R. Edwards, USN	01JAN02 - 21FEB02
	CAPT J. F. Berg-Johnsen, USN	21FEB02 - 06MAR02
	CDR L. D. Crow, USN	06MAR02 - 31DEC02
Executive Officer:	LCDR L. D. Davis, USNR	01JAN02 - 31DEC02
Chief Engineer:	LCDR J. Dykema, USN	01JAN02 - 27MAY02
	LCDR L. M. Bell, USN	27MAY02 - 31DEC02
Operations Officer:	LCDR J. C. Melton, USN	01JAN02 - 31DEC02
First Lieutenant:	LTJG A. Diaz, USN	01JAN02 - 15NOV02
	LT L. J. Regelbrugge, USN	15NOV02 - 31DEC02
Aviation Officer:	LCDR D. Moenter, USN	01JAN02 - 27MAR02
	LCDR F. D. Cotts, USN	27MAR02 - 31DEC02
Supply Officer:	LT W. D. Booth, USN	01JAN02 - 31DEC02
Navigator:	LT J. C. Arneson, USNR	01JAN02 - 16SEP02
	LTJG A. K. Tajuddin, USNR	16SEP02 - 31DEC02

## CHRONOLOGY

1 January	-	7 January	PVST Changi, Singapore
15 January			Enter 5 <sup>th</sup> Fleet Area of Responsibility
16 January			Turnover with PELELIU Amphibious Ready Group
17 January			Chief of Naval Operations/ Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Visit
27 January			Collision with USS GREENVILLE (SSN 772)
1 February	-	22 February	In-Prt Bahrain
21 February			Change of Command
22 February	-	7 May	U/W
7 March			Change of Command
14 April			Beer Day
2 May			Exit 5 <sup>th</sup> Fleet Area of Responsibility
7 May	-	12 May	PVST Phuket, Thailand
23 May	-	28 May	PVST Cairns, Australia
3 June			Crossing the Line Ceremony
7 June	-	10 June	PVST Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
18 June			Return to San Diego
18 June	-	18 July	Leave and Standdown
5 August	-	9 August	Ammo Off-Load Seal Beach, California
12 September	-	13 September	U/W INSURV Rehearsal

30 September	-	4 October	INSURV
30 October			Move into Dry Dock, NASSCO
27 November			Move out of Dry Dock into Southwest Marine
12 December			Command Christmas Party
13 December	-	31 December	Holiday Standdown

## NARRATIVE

New Year's Day 2002 found USS OGDEN deployed a month early on Westpac. The new year celebration took place in Changi, Singapore prior to entering the Arabian Gulf. From there, things happened swiftly. The OGDEN entered 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January and was already relieving the USS PELELIU Amphibious Readiness Group the following day. On the 17<sup>th</sup>, the OGDEN received a warm welcome when the Chief of Naval Operations and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy visited the crew and answered questions about current concerns in the Navy.

On 27 January, a personnel transfer with the USS GREENVILLE ended in that which every crew dreads: a collision at sea. From 1 - 22 February, the OGDEN was deterred from her duties in 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet to undergo repairs and investigations. On 21 February, a day before exiting port, CDR W. R. Edwards turned over command to CAPT J. F. Berg-Johnsen, the Executive Officer of BONHOMME RICHARD, who was to take temporary position as Commanding Officer until a permanent replacement could be flown out to the gulf.

The OGDEN then returned to her duties without any port calls until 7 May. During that period, CDR L. D. Crow took command of the OGDEN on 7 March. The OGDEN participated in two major exercises during her time in 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet.

OGDEN was scheduled to depart 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet on 15 April, but tensions in Israel called for her presence a couple weeks longer. On 2 May, the OGDEN outchopped from 5<sup>th</sup> Fleet and proceeded on to the earned portcalls ahead. 7 - 12 May was spent in Phuket, Thailand. The OGDEN then proceeded immediately south of the equator to Cairns, Australia. The old Navy tradition of the Crossing the Line Ceremony took place on the way back to the northern hemisphere on 3 June, initiating the crew into the Shellbacks.

After one last stop from 7 - 10 June in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, the OGDEN returned safely to homeport, San Diego, CA, on 18 June, 17 days later than had been previously scheduled. A month-long leave and upkeep period commenced, ending on 18 July.

The OGDEN was not able to relax for long as INSURV was only a couple months away. From 5 - 9 August, the OGDEN traveled to Seal Beach to offload all the unspent ammo from deployment, and then back to San Diego to needlegun and paint the ship into shape. A practice INSURV was conducted in mid-September to identify potential areas of concern and to get an idea for the timing of the underway. Due to

maintenance issues, the underway was cut short, but it paid off in the end. The USS OGDEN conducted INSURV on 30 September - 4 October and passed with flying colors. The crew was a testimony to teamwork and hard work.

With INSURV completed, the OGDEN crew concentrated on the upcoming availability and dry dock. Contractors were coming aboard to assess potential job and, in some cases, start them before the ship even left Naval Station San Diego. In the early morning hours of 30 October, the OGDEN moved into dry dock at NASSCO. Preservation and alterations were conducted, inside and out, and the noises of welding, grinding, and hammering could be heard constantly. Almost as early as she had come in, the OGDEN left dry dock on 27 November to move a couple piers down to Southwest Marine to finish out the availability.

After a joyous and successful Command Christmas Party, for the children and then the crew, the OGDEN crew went home to the families they had been away from the previous Christmas. 31 December found the OGDEN and her crew finishing up the last of the availability and preparing to begin the cycle of work-ups again.