



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS SAIPAN LHA-2
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From: Commanding Officer, USS SAIPAN (LHA 2)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY OF USS SAIPAN (LHA 2) FOR 1992

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command History 1992
(2) Welcome Aboard pamphlets with Commanding Officer's
Biographies (2)
(3) Officer Billet Listing - 1992
(4) Navy Journalists' Articles
(5) USS SAIPAN Familygram

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded.


G. S. RHODES

Copy to: (w/o encls 2 through 6)
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMPHIBGRU TWO
COMPHIBRON TWO
COMPHIBRON SIX

USS SAIPAN (LHA-2)
Command History - 1992

1. Command Organization.

- a. Commanding Officer
Captain Charles M. deGruy, USN
Captain George S. Rhodes, USN
- b. Executive Officer
Captain Harvey J. Gannon, USN
Commander William J. Marshall, USN
- c. Command Master Chief
AVCM(AW/SW) Jon C. Jewett, USN
RMCM(AW/SW) James D. Reeves, USN

2. Mission. To embark, deploy, and land elements of a Marine amphibious landing force in an assault by CH-46, CH-53, and UH-1 helicopters, LCU, and LCM-8 landing craft onto a hostile shore from the sea. SAIPAN serves as the flagship for Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) operations. Evacuation, disaster relief, and hospital ship duties are secondary missions of USS SAIPAN.

3. Composition. SAIPAN's crew is composed of 63 officers and 904 enlisted personnel. The administrative chain of command is via COMPHIBRON TWELVE, COMPHIBGRU TWO, and COMNAVSURFLANT.

4. Chronology.

01 - 03 JAN	Port Visit Manama, Bahrain. Restricted Availability (RAV) period.
06 - 11 JAN	Exercise RED REEF III in Saudi Arabia.
13 - 16 JAN	Port Visit Manama, Bahrain. Drop off turnover packages for USS OKINAWA (LPH-3).
17 JAN	Transit Strait of Hormuz; exit Arabian Gulf.
20 - 29 JAN	Exercise SEA SOLDIER VI in Ras al Madrasah, Oman.
08 - 12 FEB	Exercise INDIGO MUSKET in Saudi Arabia.
14 - 17 FEB	Port Visit Hurghada, Egypt.
19 FEB	Transit Suez Canal, INCHOP SIXTHFLT.
20 - 25 FEB	Port Visit Haifa, Israel. Washdown.
05 MAR	INCHOP CINCLANTFLT.

15 - 16 MAR Arrive Morehead City, North Carolina.
Offload 22 MEU (SOC).

17 MAR Arrive homeport Norfolk, Virginia.

18 MAR - 13 APR Post-deployment leave/upkeep period.

14 APR - 25 JUN SRA with Norfolk Naval Shipyard Portsmouth.

21 - 22 APR Ammunition offload, Hampton Roads Anchorage.

22 JUN Embark midshipmen for LANTRAMID II.

26 - 28 JUN Sea Trials, Virginia Capes Operating Area.

29 - 30 JUN Enroute port visit Boston, Massachusetts.

01 - 05 JUL Port Visit Boston in conjunction with
"Boston Harborfest 92".

06 - 09 JUL Type Training, Virginia Capes Operating
Area.

10 JUL Arrive Norfolk.

13 - 16 JUL Ammunition onload, Hampton Roads Anchorage.

17 JUL LANTRAMID II ends; debark midshipmen.

20 - 24 JUL Embark midshipmen for LANTRAMID III. MV-22
Air Wake Testing; 2nd Tank Battalion Crew
Certification, Onslow Bay, North Carolina.

24 JUL Arrive Norfolk.

29 JUL Commander, Amphibious Group TWO Change
of Command. RADM Andrew A. Granuzzo, USN
relieved by RADM Leonard F. Picotte, USN.

30 - 31 JUL Embark midshipmen for CORTRAMID Cruise,
Virginia Capes Operating Area. Arrive
Norfolk, PM 31 July.

03 - 24 AUG RAV with Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

14 AUG LANTRAMID III ends; debark midshipmen.

02 - 24 NOV Underway, type training.

02 - 06 NOV Amphibious Limited Team Training (PHIBLTT),
Virginia Capes/Onslow Operating Areas.

03 - 05 NOV Air Combat Element (ACE) (HMM-264) Deck
Landing Qualifications.

10 NOV Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) Qualification, Vieques.

12 NOV Onload Lift of Opportunity (OPLIFT) material, Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

16 - 20 NOV Engineering Mobile Training Team (EMTT) and Damage Control Limited Team Training (DCLTT), Cherry Point Operating Area.

17 - 22 NOV ACE Stage II/III work-ups, Cherry Point Operating Area.

23 - 24 NOV Combat Systems Assessment (CSA), Virginia Capes Operating Area. Arrive Norfolk, PM 24 November.

30 NOV - 02 DEC Type training, Helicopter Deck Landing Qualifications, Virginia Capes Operating Area.

07 - 31 DEC Intermediate Maintenance Availability (IMAV) period, Norfolk.

09 DEC Captain George S. Rhodes, USN relieved Captain Charles M. deGruy, USN as Commanding Officer of USS SAIPAN (LHA-2).

16 - 31 DEC Holiday upkeep.