DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD 41)
FPO AE 09591-1729

Rec'd 10/7/02
w/o disk

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5750
Ser LSD41/067
27 JUN 02

From: Commanding Officer, USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41)
To: Director, Naval History (NO9BH), Naval Historical Center, Washington Naval Yard, 901 M Street SE, Bldg. 57, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12F

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Chronology
(3) Narrative
(4) Supporting Documents

1. In accordance with requirements set forth in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted for the period 01 January 2001 to 31 December 2001.

M R Hoyle
M. R. HOYLE

Copy to:
COMPHIBGRU TWO

COMPOSITION & ORGANIZATION

The mission of USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD 41) is conducting prompt, sustained combat operations at sea, worldwide, in support of national policy.

Designated, built and manned to carry maneuver warfare vehicles as well as "over-the-horizon" amphibious assault vehicles, WHIDBEY ISLAND – homeported at Little Creek, Virginia, and under the command of Commander, Amphibious Group TWO – can carry four Landing Craft Air Cushions (LCAC) or thirty-six Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAV) in its flood-able well.

During assaults WHIDBEY ISLAND serves as the Primary Control Ship and provides a boat haven with docking, repair and refueling services to landing craft and boats. In short, WHIDBEY ISLAND is ideally suited to support our Navy's foremost strike asset…the U. S. Marine!

The WHIDBEY ISLAND class introduces to the fleet significant improvements with updated communications, combat systems, 20 and 60 ton cranes, expanded repair shops, two helicopter landing spots, complete medical and dental facilities, automated computer-based logistics support and an impressive engineering plant; giving WHIDBEY ISLAND an excellent capability for self-sufficient operations. Equally as effective in peacetime as in wartime, WHIDBEY ISLAND is well suited to carry out a variety of humanitarian missions such as evacuations and disaster relief.

With primary missions of Amphibious Warfare, Mobility, Command and Control, and Anti-Air Warfare, WHIDBEY ISLAND is designed to support special warfare, fleet support operations (refueling other ships), non-combatant operations, ocean surveillance and electronic warfare. Clearly a multi-mission capable ship, WHIDBEY ISLAND's crew, embarked Marines and detachments must be, and are multi-talented. Representing almost every state in the Union, Puerto Rico, U. S. Virgin Islands, and the Philippines, everyone aboard is privileged and proud to serve in USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD 41).

JANUARY 2001

28 DEC – 08 JAN	HOLIDAY STANDDOWN (SECOND PERIOD)
04 JAN	CREW GAS MASK FITTINGS PLAN OF ACTIONS & MILESTONES MEETING
09 JAN	50 CAL WEAPONS TRAINING FLIGHT DECK CREW TRAINING STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING STT TRAINING FLIGHT DECK CRASH DRILL CSTT DRILL PRT WEIGH-IN (MAKE-UP) STT/ETT/ITT/CSTT/MTT/DCTT BRIEFS MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS
10 JAN	COMMAND PT FUEL ONLOAD CDO/SECTION LEADER MEETING PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS LAY LEADER MEETING STT/ETT/ITT/CSTT/MTT/DCTT BRIEFS MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS
11 JAN	50 CAL TRAINING CART II EXAMINATIONS DCTT TRAINING FLIGHT DECK CREW TRAINING FLIGHT DECK CRASH DRILL MASS CASUALTY DRILL LUBE OIL ONLOAD EHF INSTALL STATUS MEETING STT/ETT/ITT/CSTT/MTT/DCTT BRIEFS SESSEF
12 JAN	COMMAND PT CART II EXAMINATIONS ALL HANDS FIELD DAY
16 JAN	CART II INBRIEF CART II CHECKS
17 JAN	CART II CHECKS MTT/ATT/DCTT BRIEFS

17 JAN	SIMULATE FLIGHT QUARTERS HELO CRASH & MASS CASUALTY DRILL INPORT FIRE DRILL SCENARIOS
18 JAN	CART CHECKS STT/ETT/ITT/DCTT/CSTT BRIEFS MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS ITT DRILL
19 JAN	CART II DCPO TRAINING DCTT/DCPO YOKE CHECKS CART II OUTBRIEF
22 JAN	COMMAND PT I DIVISION
23 JAN	SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS TRAINING WELLDECK OPERATIONS TRAINING I DIVISION DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (M)
24 JAN	MAKE-UP PRT COMMAND PT I DIVISION NTCSS OUTBRIEF DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (M) PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
25 JAN	50 CAL TRAINING FLIGHT DECK TRAINING DCPO TRAINING I DIVISION PRE-AVCERT TECH ASSIST INBRIEF DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (M) CO'S PMS SPOT CHECK (EA04) XO'S PMS SPOT CHECK (OC01)
26 JAN	MAKE-UP PRT COMMAND PT I DIVISION
28 JAN	BOY SCOUT TROOP VISIT & TOUR
29 JAN	FAST CRUISE

29 JAN	NAVIGATION BRIEF WELLDECK OPERATIONS BRIEF SCHEDULE OF EVENS BRIEF
30 JAN	WELLDECK TRAINING STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING 50 CAL TRAINING NAVIGATION BRIEF
31 JAN	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY ANCHORED – LYNNHAVEN ANCHORAGE CONDITION "A" FOR LCU OPERATIONS PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS SET NAVIGAION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY MAIN PROPULSION DIESEL ENGINE GROOM

FEBRUARY 2001

01 FEB	UNDERWAY NAVIGATION DETAIL CONDITION "1A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS GENERAL QUARTERS DRILL MAIN SPACE DRILL
02 FEB	STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA CONDITION "A" FOR LCU/AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS SHIP FAMILIARIZATION BRIEF SAR PROFIENCY DRILL MAN OVERBOARD DRILL TTY DRILL DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILL
03 FEB	ENGINEERING EVOLUTIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS CONDITION "1A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS FLIGHT QUARTERS STATIC AAV LAUNCH & RECOVERY HOLY HELO (CATHOLIC) TTY DRILL EMCON DRILL (WBI – OCE)
04 FEB	STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY EN ROUTE VCOA CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS
05 FEB	MAN DIVTACS TEAM LEAP FROGS FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "1A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL
06 FEB	MAN DIVTACS TEAM GMT (EEBD: CARE OF & DONNING PROCEDURES) STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING LEAP FROGS ALL HANDS FIELD DAY FLIGHT QUARTERS GENERAL QUARTERS DRILL

06 FEB	ECC DRILL MAIN SPACE FIRE DRILL
7 FEB	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL Q-ROUTE TRANSIT CONDITION "1A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS "H" & "L" HOUR REHEARSALS ECC DRILLS ICE CREAM SOCIAL
8 FEB	STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL CONDITION "1A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS GMT: EEBD – CARE OF & DONNING PROCEEDURES) CONDITION "1A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS DETACH EN ROUTE NORFOLK, VIRGINIA ALL HANDS FIELD DAY ECC DRILLS
9 FEB	WHIDBEY ISLAND'S 16TH BIRTHDAY CEREMONY FRESH WATER WASHDOWN ULM-4/TACAN RANGE OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
12 FEB	PROMOTION: ENS ROLANDO CALVO TO LTJG ENGINEERING EVOLUTIONS ETT/DCTT BRIEF SAFETY WALK THROUGH MAIN SPACE FIRE DRILL (UNDERWAY SCENARIO)
13 FEB	50 CAL TRAINING LOOKOUT TRAINING STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING DCTT BRIEF MAN UNDERWAY WATCHSTATIONS
14 FEB	MAN UNDERWAY WATCHSTATIONS DCTT BRIEF ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
15 FEB	GMT: EEBD – CARE OF & DONNING PROCEDURES) STANDARDS OF CONDUCT TRAINING LOOKOUT TRAINING

15 FEB	DCPO TRAINING DCTT BRIEF NJROTC TOUR MAN UNDERWAY WATCHSTATIONS ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS CO'S PMS SPOTCHECK XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
16 FEB	COMMAND PT AWARDS CEREMONY CAPTAIN'S CALL
20 FEB	ENGINEERING INITIAL ASSESSMENT INBRIEF COMMENCE MATERIAL CHECKS ETT BRIEF
21 FEB	ENGINEERING INITIAL ASSESSEMENT CHECKS ETT/DCTT BRIEF ECC DRILL SET #1
22 FEB	SSDG HOT CHECKS ETT BRIEF MAN UNDERWAY WATCHSTATIONS IA DRILL SET #1 IA DRILL SET #2
23 FEB	FAREWELL DINNER: LTJG CRAFT
26 FEB	COMMAND PT CSOSS INBRIEF
27 FEB	SCHEDULE OF EVENTS REVIEW DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (NAV-ADMIN)
28 FEB	HULL CLEANING DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (NAV-ADMIN) SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 2001

01 MAR	STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (NAV-ADMIN) SMA OUTBRIEF
02 MAR	COMMAND PT GMT: ANTI-TERRORISM & FORCE PROTECTION CSOSS OUTBRIEF COMPHIBGRU EIGHT VISIT
05 MAR	COMMAND PT ETT/DCTT BRIEF ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
06 MAR	E-6 ADVANCEMENT EXAMS LTT INBRIEF RIG UNREP STATION ADVANCEMENT: SN AKTEPY TO RP3 MAN CONDITION II WATCHSTATIONS AW SCENARIO ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS GENERAL QUARTERS DRILL
07 MAR	MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS DCTT BRIEF ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS RIG UNREP STATION SAR SWIMMER TRAINING
08 MAR	DCTT/ETT/CSTT BRIEFS ECC DRILLS AND EVOLUTIONS GENERAL QUARTERS DRILL MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS CSTT SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT
09 MAR	RETIREMENT: LCDR WETZEL AMMO ONLOAD BRIEF
11 MAR	NROTC CADET TOURS
12 MAR	COMMAND PT ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
13 MAR	E-5 ADVANCEMENT EXAMS LOOKOUT TRAINING

13 MAR	50 CAL TRAINING ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
14 MAR	COMMAND PT TROOP HABITABILITY INSPECTION FSG SANDWICH & BAKE SALE SEMAT INBRIEF
15 MAR	ENGINEERING INITIAL ASSESSMENT INBRIEF IA CHECKS ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
16 MAR	CPG2 TEAM ARRIVAL MATERIAL CHECKS SAFETY WALK-THROUGH IA DRILL SET #1 IA DRILL SET #2
19 MAR	FAST CRUISE STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MAN CONDITION IV WATCHSTATIONS FUEL ONLOAD PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS NAVIGATION BRIEF OPERATIONS BRIEF
20 MAR	E-4 EXAMINATIONS GMT: ANTI-TERRORISM & FORCE PROTECTION 50 CAL TRAINING OFFICER'S TRAINING PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (1ST)
21 MAR	COMMAND PT NAVIGATION BRIEF OPERATIONS BRIEF DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (1ST)
22 MAR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY EN ROUTE VACAPES & PROA MAN OVERBOARD DRILL ITT SCENARIO DEVELOPMENT TRACKEX (AV-8B) ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
23 MAR	ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS

23 MAR	TRACKEX (AV-8B) EMCON DRILLS
24 MAR	JUNIOR OFFICER SHIPHANDLING CIWS PACFIRE TRACKEX (AV-8B) EMCON DRILLS ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS PUBEX
25 MAR	TRACKEX (AV-8B) STEEL BEACH PICNIC ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS PUBEX
26 MAR	ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (+4Q) UNREP APPROACHES TRACKEX (AV-8B) STT/CSTT/DCTT/ETT/MTT BRIEFS FLIGHT QUARTERS ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS EMCON DRILLS PUBEX
27 MAR	STATION NAVIGATION DETAIL DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (A) TRACKEX (AV-8B)
28 MAR	TRACKEX STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR RANGE BRIEF
29 MAR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY
30 MAR	SURFACE TO AIR MISSILEX BACK-UP MISSILEX PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS
31 MAR	ANCHORED – ST. MAARTEN, NETHERLAND ANTILLES

APRIL 2001

01 APR	ANCHORED – ST. MAARTEN, NETHERLAND ANTILLES
02 APR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY EN ROUTE HOMEPORT
03 APR	LEAP FROGS FLIGHT QUARTERS NEO EXERCISE MWR MEETING PLANE GUARD ECC DRILL & EVOLUTIONS PUBEX
04 APR	LEAP FROGS AFFF SHOOT FULL POWER RUN SAILOR & JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER BOARDS SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS SMALL BOAT ATTACK SCENARIO FLIGHT QUARTERS DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILLS PUBEX
05 APR	DIVTACS FULL POWER TRIAL DEMONSTRATION DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (A) ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS FLASHING LIGHT DRILLS PUBEX
06 APR	FLIGHT QUARTERS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAILS MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGININA
09 APR	COMMAND PT SEMAT II INBRIEF
13 APR – 20 APR	COMPUTER NETWORK VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS PRC DECK WORK
17 APR	SWIM PRT DCTT BRIEF CBR DRILL

18 APR	ITT FEP PACKAGE REVIEW COLOR GUARD TRAINING COMMAND PT
19 APR	FMAV WPIC TRAINING TEAM BRIEFS MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS ITT DRILL
20 APR	FEP DAY 1 REHEARSALS AWARDS CEREMONY CAPTAIN'S CALL PRT
23 APR	FEP INBRIEF TRAINING TEAM BRIEFS NEO DRILL PMINT PRE-SAIL CONFERENCE COMMAND PT
24 APR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY ISO FEP
25 APR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL ANCHORED CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS NEO DRILL UNDERWAY
26 APR	UNREP WITH PATUXENT CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS
27 APR	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS PRE-INSURV CHECKS EN ROUTE ONSLOW BAY
28 APR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC/AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS UNDERWAY EN ROUTE FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA FLIGHT QUARTERS ANTI-TERRORISM/FORCE PROTECTION BRIEF NAVIGATION & OPERATIONS BRIEFS
29 APR	FLAG HOIST DRILL

29 APR	PHOTOEX
30 APR	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA CLOSE-IN REFUELING TRAINING OFFICIAL SHIP GREETING ALL HANDS RECEPTION AT RIVERFRONT

MAY 2001

01 MAY	MOORED – PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA WWII VETERAN'S GRADUATION CEREMONY SAILOR & JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON OPEN TOURS OF WBI CARDINALS VS. MARLINS BASEBALL GAME
02 MAY	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS FLIGHT QUARTERS DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILLS
03 MAY	FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS UNREP W/ PATUXENT CO'S PMS SPOTCHECK XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK
04 MAY	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS FLIGHT QUARTERS 26 MEU(SOC) ONLOAD
05 MAY	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONTINUE 26 MEU(SOC) ONLOAD CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS FLIGHT QUARTERS
06 MAY	USMC SHIP ORIENTATION MAN OVERBOARD DRILL STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY FLIGHT QUARTERS FAST ROPE EXERCISES
07 MAY	PUBEX TRACKEX CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS

07 MAY	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL
08 MAY	CLOSE-IN REFUELING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERTIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL FLIGHT QUARTERS H-HOUR REHEARSAL PRE-ASSAULT BRIEF PUBEX
09 MAY	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL LAUNCH SMALL BOATS COMMENCE H-HOUR ASSAULT TRACKS ANCHORED 26 MEU(SOC) OFFLOAD FLIGHT QUARTERS
10 MAY	SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY ENGINEERING DRILLS COUNTERMEASURE WASHDOWN CHECK FRESHWATER WASHDOWN SATVUL EXERCISE
11 MAY	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
14 MAY	RAM OFFLOAD SMI & INSURV BRIEFS COMMAND PT CSOSS INBRIEF PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS
15 MAY	CSOSS TRAINING DCPO TRAINING COMMAND PT GMT: ANNUAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY
17 MAY	SMI OUTBRIEF COMMAND PT

17 MAY	PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING CO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (EA05) XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (OW02)
18 MAY	MCJROTC VISIT & TOUR RE-ENLISTMENT: IT2 SWEAT & EN3 PENNY
21 MAY	COMMAND PT NAVIGATION BRIEF SMALL BOAT OPERATIONS TRAINING ETT BRIEF
22 MAY	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY GMT: HEAT STRESS PREVENTION BECCES OFFICER'S TRAINING JUNIOR OFFICER SHIPHANDLING STT BRIEF
23 MAY	JUNIOR OFFICER SHIPHANDLING DECK TRAINING STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING BECCES ITT DRILLS FLIGHT DECK WASHDOWN
24 MAY	JUNIOR OFFICER SHIPHANDLING DECK TRAINING ETT BRIEF BECCES PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS MWR MEETING NAVIGATION BRIEF
25 MAY	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
29 MAY	TRAINING TEAM BRIEFS PRT WEIGH-INS INTEL BRIEF
30 MAY	FUEL OIL ONLOAD CRANE OPERATIONS PRT WEIGH-INS (MAKE-UP)

30 MAY	DCTT/DCPO MODIFIED ZEBRA CHECKS CIC WATCHSTANDERS TRAINING GUN CREW TRAINING SPRING PRT (MAKE-UP) MAN OVERBOARD TRAINING STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING
31 MAY	MAN CONDITION III WATCHSTATIONS GUN CREW TRAINING SPRING PRT (MAKE-UP) GMT: SIGHT CONSERVATION OFFICER'S TRAINING PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING CO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (EM01) XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (ER03)

JUNE 2001

04 JUN	NAVIGATION BRIEF COMMAND PT
05 JUN	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY EMCON DRILL BILGE PRESSURE WASH ETT BRIEF TACAN/SLQ 32 CALIBRATION
06 JUN	ETT DRILLS ESWS BOARD: ITSN ST. HILAIRE-EPPS STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING ICE CREAM SOCIAL EMCON DRILLS
07 JUN	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPS UNDERWAY DEMO INBRIEF ENGINEERING UNDERWAY DEMONSTRATION
08 JUN	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
09 JUN	MSI SHIPHANDLING TRAINER PETTY OFFICER INDOC CHRIMP INBRIEF COMMAND PT
12 JUN	PETTY OFFICER INDOC MSI SHIPHANDLING TRAINER CARGO ELEVATOR OPERATIONS COMMAND PT GMT: NAVAL HISTORY FMAV INBRIEF
13 JUN	PETTY OFFICER INDOC MSI SHIPHANDLING TRAINER CRANE OPERATIONS COMMAND PT FSG PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEF (SINGLE SAILORS) FSG PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEF (MARRIED SAILORS)

14 JUN	DCPO TRAINING R DIVISION AWARDS CEREMONY RE-ENSLITMENT: DC2 CARIG, DC2 RAMIEREZ-CRUZ & MS3 WALKER COMMAND PT PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS
15 JUN	RETIREMENT: ET1 PARKER COMMAND PT
18 JUN	AWARDS & FROCKING CEREMONY COMMAND PT
19 JUN	I DIVISION SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY PACE COURSE SCREENING COMMAND PT
20 JUN	PACE COURSE SCREENING CPG-2 VISIT COMMAND PT PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING CHRIMPS OUTBRIEF STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS
21 JUN	CINCLANTFLT DISBURSING AUDIT DCPO TRAINING XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (NN01) COMMAND PT
22 JUN	RETIREMENT: MSCS GREENWOOD
25 JUN	PCO ARRIVAL EXECUTIVE OFFIER'S MEETING W/ PCO DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (S1)
26 JUN	MED-DEN OFFICER'S MEETING W/ PCO DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (S1) PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS COMMAND PT GMT: FRATERNIZATION SUPPLY OFFICER'S MEETING W/ PCO NAVAL SEA CADET TOUR

27 JUN	CHIEF ENGINEER'S MEETING W/ PCO DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (S1) AMMO BRIEF COMMAND PT FAST CRUISE
29 JUN	COMMAND PT COMMISSIONING: MIDN KRAMER TO ENS CO'S HAIL & FAREWELL DINNER

JULY 2000

02 JUL	RIG UP & OVERS OPERATIONS OFFICER'S MEETING W/ PCO BATTE FORCE E-MAIL/SINGCARS/EHF SOVT OUTBRIEFS COMMAND PT FIRST LIEUTENANT'S MEETING W/ PCO
03 JUL	ONLOAD CHANGE OF COMMAND EQUIPMENT NAVIGATOR'S MEETING W/ PCO CHANGE OF COMMAND WALK THROUGH COMMAND PT GMT: LEVEL ONE FORCE PROTECTION STRETCHER BEARER TRAINING
05 JUL	CAPTAIN'S CALL CSOSS IMPLEMENTATION CHANGE OF COMMAND REHEARSAL COMMAND PT
06 JUL	CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY
09 JUL	MEUEX PRE-SAIL CONFERENCE (BATAAN)
10 JUL	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY ANCHORED – LYNNHAVEN ANCHORAGE CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS UNDERWAY USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT
11 JUL	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA UNDERWAY ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS
12 JUL	UNREP WITH KANAWHA DIVTACS PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS CAPTAIN'S CALL FOR E-5 & E-6 MAN OVERBOARD DRILLS

13 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (R) MWR OFFICER'S MEETING WITH CO SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING NACHO NIGHT
14 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS
15 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS FLIGHT QUARTERS NEO DRILL USN/USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT
16 JUL	USN/USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS MENU REVIEW BOARD MWR MEETING
17 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS GMT: ESWS PROGRAM DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (S2)
18 JUL	CAPTAIN'S CALL CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS DITS: OUTBRIEFS (S1 & R) SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
19 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (2ND) PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS OFFICER'S TRAINING CAT TEAM MEETING UNREP WITH KANAHWA
20 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL

20 JUL	DEBARK LCACS SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
24 JUL	CRANE OPERATIONS COMMAND PT GMT: FORCE PROTECTION NAVIGATION BRIEF
25 JUL	STATION NAVIGATON/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL BERTH SHIFT AMMO ONLOAD DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (OC) PLANNING BOARD FOR READINESS
26 JUL	DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (OC) NAVIGATION BRIEF CO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (MH01) XO'S PMS SPOTCHECK (EA04) COMNAVSURFLANT VISIT STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL BERTH SHIFT
27 JUL	SNOOPY TEAM TRAINING MATRESS ONLOAD SEMAT III INBRIEF NAVIGATION BRIEF COMMAND PT
30 JUL	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS EMBARK LCACS ANCHOR DROP TEST MACHINE GUN FAMILIARIZATION FIRE
31 JUL	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA 26 MEU(SOC)(SOC) ONLOAD NAVIGATION BRIEF UNDERWAY CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA PUBEX

AUGUST 2000

01 AUG	UNDERWAY EN ROUTE JTFX
03 AUG	USN/USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT CSTT DRILL DCTT MEETING 50 CAL TRAINING PUBEX STATION NAVIGATION DETAIL TRANSIT VIRGIN PASSAGE
04 AUG	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS H-HOUR REHEARSAL FOR ASSAULT ON VIEQUES, PR PUBEX
05 AUG	PACFIRE EW TRACKEX TDU SHOOT UNREP WITH PATUXENT
06 AUG	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS H-HOUR ASSAULT ON VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO RECOVER LCACS & AAVS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL LAUNCH LCACS & AAVS FOR AGRICULTURAL INSP MOORED – NSRR, PUERTO RICO OFFLOAD USMC VEHICLES FOR WASHDOWN
08 AUG	ANTI-TERRORISM/FORCE PROTECTION SCENARIOS
09 AUG	USMC VEHICLE BACKLOAD PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS STORES ONLOAD
10 AUG	NAVIGATION BRIEF STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY FOR SOCEX

10 AUG	FLIGHT QUARTERS ARG RENDEZVOUS DEVIL DOGS SOCIAL NIGHT PUBEX (WBI OCE)
13 AUG	ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA
15 AUG	CPO INDOC CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERTIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS FLIGHT QUARTERS ADM NATTER VISIT ADMIRAL'S CALL PUBEX (BAT OCE)
16 AUG	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY MOORED – MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA CONTINUE OFFLOAD 26 MEU(SOC) UNDERWAY
19 AUG	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS DEBARK LCACS MOORED – NAB LITTLE CREEK, VIRGINIA
20 AUG – 01 SEP	PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT STANDDOWN PERIOD I
23 AUG	PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING IN PORT OOD TRAINING
24 AUG	PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS IN PORT OOD TRAINING
27 AUG	SMALL ARMS QUALIFICATIONS PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS
30 AUG	SMALL ARMS QUALIFICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2000

20 AUG – 01 SEP	PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT STANDDOWN PERIOD I
01 SEP	TURNOVER DAY AWARD'S CEREMONY CAPTAIN'S CALL
01 SEP – 11 SEP	PRE-OVERSEAS MOVEMENT STANDDOWN PERIOD II
04 SEP	AMMO ONLOAD BRIEF
06 SEP	E-6 EXAMINATIONS PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS
07 SEP	STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY BERTH SHIFT PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS
10 SEP	AMMO ONLOAD STORES ONLOAD VADM DAWSON VISIT ADMIRAL'S CALL
11 SEP	TERRORIST ATTACKS ON WTC & PENTAGON SHIP'S COMPANY RECALLED OFF POM PERIOD II
12 SEP	RE-ENLISTMENT: YN3 HERNANDEZ
13 SEP	E-5 ADVANCEMENT EXAMAINATIONS (POSTPONED) RE-ENLISTMENT: EN2 ETHERIDGE
14 SEP	PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS
17 SEP	FAST CRUISE STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MAN CONDITION IV WATCHSTATIONS MAN OVERBOARD DRILL
18 SEP	NAVIGATION BRIEF CIWS & TDU FIRE BRIEF LCAC BRIEF

19 SEP	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS VISITORS DEPART STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL UNDERWAY ISO DEPLOYMENT 01/02 CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CIWS PACFIRE TDU SHOOT
20 SEP	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS STATION NAVIGATION/SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL MOORED – MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA COMMENCE ONLOAD 26 MEU(SOC) NAVIGATION BRIEF UNDERWAY EN ROUTE ONSLOW BAY ANCHORED – ONSLOW BAY, NORTH CAROLINA CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS UNDERWAY RENDEZVOUS WITH BATAANARG PUBEX (BAT OCE)
21 SEP	USN/USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING EOOW BOARD: ENC COX FLIGHT QUARTERS PUBEX (BAT OCE)
22 SEP	DCTT BRIEF PACE COURSE REGISTRATION ITT DRILL FLIGHT QUARTERS ENCOUNTEREX NACHO NIGHT
23 SEP	ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS WINDOW OPSECON DRILL PUBEX (BAT OCE)
24 SEP	MINE WARFARE FAMILIARIZATION TRAINING LEAP FROGS CSTT DRILL ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS WINDOW
25 SEP	DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILL ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (+3P) USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT

25 SEP	DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (S2) FLIGHT QUARTERS ITT DRILL PUBEX (CPR OCE)
26 SEP	STREAM NIXIE EVASIVE STEERING EXERCISE USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (S2) DIVTACS CSTT/DCTT TRAINING ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (+2O)
27 SEP	EW EXERCISES EMCON DRILL USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (S2) SUPPLY DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
28 SEP	AIR DEFENSE TRAINING USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT HISPANIC HERITAGE COMMITTEE MEETING ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (+4N)
29 SEP	ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (+1N) FLIGHT QUARTERS UNREP WITH DETROIT RADM FITZGERALD ARRIVES RULES OF ENGAGEMENT BRIEF ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (Z)
30 SEP	STEEL BEACH PICNIC NAVIGATION BRIEF NACHO NIGHT

OCTOBER 2001

01 OCT	IN PORT: NAS ROTA, SPAIN CORPORAL'S COURSE GRADUATION STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL ARRIVE: NAS ROTA, SPAIN STORES ONLOAD OFFICER VS. ENLISTED SOFTBALL GAME
02 OCT	IN PORT: NAS ROTA, SPAIN DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (MEDICAL/DENTAL) NAVIGATION BRIEF STATION SEA & ANCHOR DETAIL DEPART: NAS ROTA, SPAIN BRIGHT STAR BRIEF BURIAL AT SEA MEETING CSTT TRAINING TRANSIT STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR
03 OCT	CONT. TRANSIT STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR USMC/USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT FLIGHT QUARTERS DITS ZONE INSPECTION (MEDICAL/DENTAL) USMC FAST ROPE TRAINING CSTT TRAINING
04 OCT	E-5 ADVANCEMENT EXAMS DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (MEDICAL/DENTAL) SSDS DOCTRINE REVIEW LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS OFFICER'S TRAINING CSTT TRAINING
05 OCT	LAUNCH PL2 VBSS TRAINING EXERCISE CORPORAL'S COURSE GRADUATION FLIGHT QUARTERS RULES OF ENGAGEMENT TRAINING CSTT TRAINING
06 OCT	DIVISIONAL CAREER COUNSELOR MEETING FLIGHT QUARTERS PUBEX
07 OCT	CAPTAIN'S CALL (SITE-TV) SAFETY STANDDOWN

07 OCT	SHIP-WIDE SAFETY INSPECTION OFFICER'S TRAINING
08 OCT	USMC M-198 TRINING SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY CPR 8 STAFF VISIT MILITARY CONDITION LEVEL EXERCISE
09 OCT	DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (OE) BURIAL AT SEA FLIGHT QUARTERS CICWO BOARD: ENS BERG & ENS HECK MENU REVIEW BOARD BRIGHT STAR BRIEF
10 OCT	MNATF COMM CHECKS E-4 ADVANCEMENT EXAMS USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT AMPHIBIOUS DEMONSTRATION COORDINATION BRIEF LAUNCH PL1 ICE CREAM SOCIAL EW EXERCISES
11 OCT	DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (OE) SSDS DOCTRINE REVIEW AMPHIBIOUS PLANNING CONFERENCE CONDITION 1 "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION 1 "A" FOR AAV OPERATION LAUNCH PL1 SSDS DOCTRINE REVIEW
12 OCT	STT BRIEF FLIGHT QUARTERS PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING REPAIR LOCKER OFFICER/CHIEF TRAINING
13 OCT	NAVY'S 228TH BIRTHDAY CONDITION "A" FOR WET WELL OPERATIONS WELLDECK CROSS-TRAINING W/ SPS GALICIA GENERAL QUARTERS CAKE CUTTING CEREMONY
14 OCT	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS SHIP-TO-SHORE MOVEMENT EXERCISE OOD BOARD: LTJG KROHNE & SMCS MONIZ NACHO NIGHT

14 OCT	DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILLS EMISSION CONTROL DRILLS
15 OCT	LEAP FROGS FLIGHT QUARTERS FLASHING LIGHT DRILLS COMM CHECKS
16 OCT	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS SHIP-TO-SHORE MOVEMENT DITS PROGRAM REVIEW (S-3/S-4) AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS PLANNING CONFERENCE SAILOR & JUNIOR SAILOR OF THE QUARTER BOARDS DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILLS EMISSION CONTROL DRILLS
17 OCT	DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (S-3/S-4) CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS FLIGHT QUARTERS ETT TRAINING
18 OCT	CONDITION "A" FO R LCAC OPERATIONS UNREP W/ GRUMMAN VERTREP W/ SIRIUS EOD MINE POUNCE CSTT DRILL
19 OCT	PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS COMMENCE BACKLOAD MARINE EQUIPMENT SHIPBOARD INDOCTRINATION - EGYPTIAN EMBARKEES
20 OCT	FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS H-HOUR REHEARSAL
21 OCT	STATION SEA & ANCHOR/NAVIGATION DETAIL ANCHORED CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS AMPHIBIOUS REHEARSAL DEBRIEF (BATAAN)

21 OCT	MNATF DIVTACS DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILL
22 OCT	AMPHIBIOUS DEMONSTRATION CONFIRMATION BRIEF MNATF DIVTACS RENDEVZOUS EN ROUTE AHMOS, CAIRO, EGYPT ENCOUNTER EXERCISE EMISSION CONTROL DRILL
23 OCT	FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS DEPARTMENT 3M COORDINATOR MEETING AMPHIBIOUS DEMONSTRATION COMMENCE BACKLOAD USMC EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES CSTT DRILLS DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILLS EMISSION CONTROL DRILLS
24 OCT	STATION SEA & ANCHOR/NAVIGATION DETAIL ANCHORED BACKLOAD ALL FORCES CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAVS OPERATIONS DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (OI) UNDERWAY EN ROUTE AZ ETT EVOLUTIONS
25 OCT	UNREP W/ GRUMMAN DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (OI) HEALTH PROMOTION COMMITTEE MEETING RPPO TRAINING ETT EVOLUTIONS CSTT DRILLS
26 OCT	STATION SEA & ANCHOR/NAVIGATION DETAIL PILOT PICK-UP MOORED – AKSAZ, TURKEY
31 OCT	INPORT – AKSAZ, TURKEY NAVIGTION BRIEF STATION SEA & ANCHOR/NAVIGATION DETAIL UNDERWAY

NOVEMBER 2001

01 NOV	NATIONAL TRAINING CONTINUUM LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING GENERAL QUARTERS TRAINING SSDS SENSOR ALIGNMENT CSTT DRILL
02 NOV	RPPO TRAINING SPEED LIGHTINING GUN SHOOT REPAIR LOCKER LEADER/OFFICER TRAINING
04 NOV	OOD BOARD: LTJG LOVE CICWO BOARD: LT TOMASSINI & ENS WAGNER DECEPTIVE LIGHTING DRILL PUBEX (WBI OCE)
05 NOV	REPAIR LOCKER LEADER/OFFICER TRAINING RENDEZVOUS W/ SHREVERPORT EMCON DRILLS ETT TRAINING TRANSIT – STRAIT OF ONTRANTO
06 NOV	I DIVISION' LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (M) NAVY OPERATIONS BRIEF (BATAAN) CSTT TRAINING
07 NOV	I DIVISION USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (M) MWR MEETING GENERAL QUARTERS TRAINING ETT TRAINING
08 NOV	I DIVISION DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (M) FLIGHT QUARTERS RPPO TRAINING CSTT TRAINING
09 NOV	I DIVISION DIVTACS & PHOTOEX

09 NOV	UNREP & VERTREP W/ LENTHAL CSTT TRAINING
10 NOV	R2P2 ISO MEU(SOC) MISSIONS LCAC/AAV OPERATIONS ISO MEU(SOC) MISSIONS KILO COMPANY FORMATION ON FLT DECK C6F VISIT (VADM FRY) ESWS BOARD: HM1 GRANLUND & RP1 FERANTELLI
11 NOV	CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR AAV OPERATIONS LAUNCH SMALL BOATS
12 NOV	FLIGHT QUARTERS VERTREP W/ SIRIUS ALL HANDS WORKING PARTY FOR STORES ONLOAD ESWS BOARD: EN1 ORNAT & QM3 SEARP
13 NOV	ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (-2B) UNREP W/ GRUMMAN
14 NOV	TRANSIT – SUEZ CANAL ANCHORED – GREAT BITTER LAKE CONTINUE TRANSIT – SUEZ CANAL
16 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY 9MM TRAINING PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING PUBEX (BAT OCE)
17 NOV	USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT (9MM) ETT EVOLUTIONS OOD BOARD: LTJG IRELAND FLIGHT QUARTERS FORCE PROTECTION BRIEF
18 NOV	ADVANCE CLOCKS 1 HOUR (-4D) SWO BOARD: LTJG KROHNE & LTJG SAXON FLIGHT QUARTERS STATION NAVIGATION & FORCE PROTECTION DETAIL TRANSIT – STRAIT OF BAB EL MANDEB PUBEX (WBI OCE)
19 NOV	FLIGHT QUARTERS USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT (MK19)

19 NOV	DITS: OUTBRIEF (S2, S3/4, OE, MED & DEN) LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS EOOW BOARD: LTJG GILLOOLY USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT ETT TRAINING PUBEX (BAT OCE)
20 NOV	DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (M) USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE PRESENTATION THANKSGIVING DINNER USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT CSTT TRAINING BINGO PUBEX (SHR OCE)
21 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (M) CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING HEALTH PROMOTION COMMITTEE MEETING USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT RPPO TRAINING ETT TRAINING PUBEX (WBI OCE)
22 NOV	THANKSGIVING USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT RPPO TRAINING PUBEX (BAT OCE)
23 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS VERTREP W/ SIRIUS 100 HAND WORKING PARTY FOR STORES ONLOAD REPAIR LOCKER 5 TRAINING USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT
24 NOV	FLIGHT QUARTERS PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING
25 NOV	DCTT BRIEF DECK OFFICE RE-OPENING CEREMONY CICWO BOARD: ENS GOUGH & EWC ZABAWA PUBEX

26 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DCPO TRAINING ESWS BOARD: IT2 ROLAX & EN2 SIMMONS RE-ENLISTMENT CEREMONY: ET2 NAGY LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS REPAIR LOCKER 2 TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CONDITION "A" FOR LCU OPERATIONS ETT TRAINING PUBEX (DBQ OCE)
27 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT FLIGHT QUARTERS DCPO TRAINING DITS: PROGRAM REVIEW (OW) ETT TRAINING PUBEX (PEL OCE)
28 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (OW) ESWS BOARD: YN1 BERNARD FLIGHT QUARTERS REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS PUBEX (PEL OCE)
29 NOV	FLIGHT QUARTERS UNREP W/ GRUMMAN DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (OW) LCAC MAINTENANCE TURNS
30 NOV	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT PACE COURSE SIGN-UPS FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS REPAIR LOCKER 5 TRAINING

DECEMBER 2001

01 DEC	DCTT DRILL OPERATIONS BRIEF CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS ARMY VS. NAVY FOOTBALL GAME NIGHT
02 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS
03 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS I DIVISION PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING REPAIR LOCKER 2 TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS
04 DEC	I DIVISION ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (NAV-ADMIN) FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS
05 DEC	I DIVISION DCTT BRIEF DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (NAV-ADMIN) MWR MEETING FLIGHT QUARTERS REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS
06 DEC	I DIVISION DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (NAV-ADMIN) PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT RPPO TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CSTT TRAINING
07 DEC	PEARL HARBOR DAY 60TH ANNIVERSARY I DIVISION MOMENT OF SILENCE MEDICAL TRAINING USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT FLIGHT QUARTERS REPAIR LOCKER 5 TRAINING

08 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS VERTREP WITHSACRAMENTO & NIAGRA FALLS EOOW BOARD: LT LASER USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS PUBEX
10 DEC	I DIVISION CPR TRAINING DITS: OUTBRIEF (M & OI) DCPO TRAINING FLIGHT QUARTERS DCTT BRIEF REPAIR LOCKER 2 TRAINING USMC NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS EW EXERCISE
11 DEC	USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT ITT DRILL DITS: PROGRAM REVIEWS (1ST) CPR TRAINING REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING FIRST AID TRAINING CSTT TRAINING PUBEX (SHR OCE)
13 DEC	DCTT BRIEF CPR TRAINING USMC SMALL ARMS SHOOT DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (1ST) RPPO TRAINING CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS CSTT TRAINING PUBEX (BAT OCE)
14 DEC	DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (1ST) CPR TRAINING 26 MEU(SOC)(SOC) OFFLOAD ISO OPERATION ENDURING & SWIFT FREEDOM ESWS BOARD: OS2 GOFF & ET3 CASHWELL CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERATIONS FLIGHT QUARTERS REPAIR LOCKER 5 TRAINING PUBEX (WBI OCE) EW EXERCISES (FIWC OCE)

15 DEC	USN M14 GUN SHOOT PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING FLIGHT QUARTERS NIGHT DLQ PUBEX (BAT OCE)
16 DEC	SHIP-WIDE FIELD DAY PLANE GUARD PUBEX (SHR OCE)
17 DEC	UNREP WITH ERICCSON & ETNA PETTY OFFICER INDOC USN M14 GUN SHOOT
19 DEC	PETTY OFFICER INDOC OFFICER'S TRAINING DITS: ZONE INSPECTION (A) FLIGHT QUARTERS ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS PUBEX (WBI OCE)
20 DEC	PETTY OFFICER INDOC DITS: PERSONNEL INSPECTION (A) FLIGHT QUARTERS COMMANDANT OF USMC ARRIVES PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING CSTT MEETING DECK INSURV MEETING WITH CO PUBEX (TBD OCE)
21 DEC	PETTY OFFICER INDOC FLIGHT QUARTERS FROCKING & AWARDS CEREMONY SUPPLY INSURV MEETING WITH CO ESWS BOARD: OS3 MARSH & OS3 FEASEL PUBEX (TBD OCE) EW EXERCISE (FIWC OCE)
22 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS UNREP & VERTREP WITH CONCORD & SIRIUS NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT
23 DEC	PLANNING BOARD FOR TRAINING FLIGHT QUARTERS PUBEX (TBD OCE)

24 DEC	STEEL BEACH PICNIC SWIM CALL NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT CANDLE LIGHT SERVICES
25 DEC	MAIL DELIVERY
26 DEC	NIXIE STREAM REPAIR LOCKER 2 TRAINING MWR MEETING HEALTH PROMOTION COMMITTEE MEETING USN SMALL ARMS SHOOT REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING CSTT MEETING ECC DRILLS & EVOLUTIONS PUBEX
27 DEC	USN M14 GUN SHOOT REPAIR LOCKER 3 TRAINING PUBEX EW EXERCISE (FIWC OCE)
28 DEC	UNREP & VERTREP WITH ERICCSON PLANE GUARD REPAIR LOCKER 5 TRAINING PUBEX (BAT OCE)
29 DEC	SAILOR OF THE YEAR BOARDS FLIGHT QUARTERS USN M14 GUN SHOOT NIGHT TIME GUN SHOOT PUBEX (WBI OCE)
30 DEC	CIWS PACFIRE GROUND ZERO FLAG RAISING CEREMONY SMALL BOAT TRANSFER PUBEX (BAT OCE)
31 DEC	FLIGHT QUARTERS CONDITION "A" FOR LCAC OPERAIONS REPAIR LOCKER 2 TRAINING ESWS BOARD: OS3 QUINN & OS3 DELOACH SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING PUBEX (BAT OCE)

JANUARY 2001

The year started off with New Year's Festivities and USS WHIDBEY ISLAND (LSD 41)'s crew enjoying the holidays with family and friends during the holiday stand down period. January 4th gas mask fittings began and a Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) meeting was held to prepare for upcoming well deck inspections and certifications.

January 8th marked the end of holiday stand down. With the entire crew returned to work, an in-depth training cycle began January 9th to refresh ship company's fire fighting, flight deck crash, mass casualty and condition III watch standing skills.

CART II examinations were administered on the mess decks January 11th and 12th covering Rules-of-the-Road, Deck Seamanship and Amphibious Boat Control, Lookout Knowledge, Combat Information Center Operations and Navigation Team Knowledge.

January 15th WHIDBEY ISLAND observed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Yet another in a series of evaluations during WHIDBEY ISLAND's Inter-deployment Training Cycle, Command Assessment of Readiness and Training Phase Two (CART II) reviews were conducted January 16th through 19th. For the duration of CART II, assessors evaluated the ability of the ship's various training teams (including Medical, Damage Control, Combat Systems, Seamanship, Intelligence and Engineering) to properly and effectively train the crew.

Ending the month, WHIDBEY ISLAND conducted a Fast Cruise on the 29th and departed NAB Little Creek January 31st en route Lynnhaven Anchorage and Onslow Bay, North Carolina, in support of Type Commander's Amphibious Training (TCAT) and WHIDBEY ISLAND's well deck certification.

FEBRUARY 2001

On February 2nd, WHIDBEY ISLAND anchored at Onslow Bay off the coast of North Carolina while onloading the Marines and equipment of 2nd AAV Battalion in support of their pre-deployment Type Commander's Amphibious Training (TCAT). That evening embarked Marines attended a familiarization brief on the turntable to acquaint them with the shipboard environment and procedures. During TCAT, with assistance from the ships of the BATAANARG, 2nd AAV Battalion successfully launched three amphibious assaults on Blue Beach at Onslow Bay, North Carolina.

The final H-Hour assault on February 7th required the first wave of AAVs, and every wave sequentially thereafter, launch from WHIDBEY ISLAND and arrive at Blue Beach precisely at the designated time. In order to accomplish this feat, WHIDBEY ISLAND's Combat Information Center (CIC) took the pre-designated arrival time and calculated backwards to determine launch times for the waves taking into account predicted weather conditions, sea state, navigation time of the ship and each AAV. During the assault, CIC directed and controlled the waves using radar and radio communications to guide the AAVs to touchdown.

2nd AAV Battalion's mission and training took priority during the 10-day underway period, yet during the demanding schedule WHIDBEY ISLAND's crew found time to complete several vital re-qualifications for the ship as well. The ship conducted a precision anchorage, 31 helicopter launches and recoveries certifying the flight deck for day and night aircraft operations, along with 4 LCAC, 10 LCU and 108 AAV launches and recoveries certifying the well deck for day and night operations as well.

February 8th, after the successful completion of the H-Hour assault on Blue Beach, Marines and their equipment offloaded and WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor en route NAB Little Creek, Virginia.

In honor of WHIDBEY ISLAND's sixteenth birthday the crew enjoyed a cake-cutting ceremony on the messdecks. As tradition dictates, SKC(SW) Oscar Gabor and FA Travoy Forbes, WHIDBEY ISLAND's oldest and youngest Sailors, sliced the first piece of cake. Later that afternoon, the ship moored at homeport, NAB Little Creek.

ENS Rolando Calvo received his promotion to Lieutenant, Junior Grade (LTJG) in a ceremony held in the ship's wardroom February 12th.

February 16th WHIDBEY ISLAND's top performers were recognized during an awards ceremony on the turntable. Unexpectedly, IT2(SW) Patrick Kirkland was called forward and advanced to Petty Officer First Class by Commanding Officer, CDR Brian E. Barrington, via the Command Advancement Program. Afterwards, Supply Department's S-3 Division presented the ship's MWR Fund with a check for $14,000.00 from proceeds generated in the ship's store.

The Supply Management Assist team arrived February 26th to help the ship's Supply Department prepare for their upcoming Supply Management Inspection scheduled for May.

MARCH 2001

March 1st CAPT John A. Reed, Commander, Amphibious Squadron EIGHT, toured WHIDBEY ISLAND's spaces with CDR Barrington.

Focusing on ship-wide preservation, the crew spent an entire day painting the skin and spaces of WHIDBEY ISLAND during Command Paint Day March 5th.

All eligible Second Class Petty Officers participated in the Navy-wide E-6 advancement exams March 6th. That afternoon SN Sarah Aktepy received her first crow when she was frocked to Religious Programs Specialist, Third Class.

LCDR Lothar Wetzel, COMPHIBGRU TWO's Supply Officer, retired after 26 years of naval service during a special ceremony held on WHIDBEY ISLAND's turntable March 9th.

Advancement exams for E-5 took place on the messdecks March 13th.

March 14th the Habitability Team inspected the ship's troop spaces to ensure embarked Marines would be provided with adequate berthing and lounge spaces during the fall deployment. The same afternoon WHIDBEY ISLAND's Family Support Group (FSG) sold handmade sandwiches and desserts on the messdecks.

The Initial Assessment (IA) inspectors commenced material checks on the ship's Engineering Department on March 15th. Inspectors assessed the engineering team's ability to correctly start the ship's Main Propulsion Diesel Engines as well as their ability to put out a main space fire in the event of an actual casualty. On March 16th material checks concluded and the ship ran through two drill sets, successfully completing IA.

March 20th E-4 advancement exams were administered on the messdecks.

WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor March 22nd en route a Surface-to-Air Missile Exercise off the coast of Vieques, Puerto Rico, and a port visit to St. Maarten, Netherland Antilles.

During the transit to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, WHIDBEY ISLAND's CIC ran tracking exercises with the assistance of the Harriers (AV-8B) aboard BATAAN. The Harriers flew over the ship's airspace a total of 45 times throughout the underway period and the combat team, using the Ship's Self Defense Systems (SSDS), acquired the targets successfully on every pass.

March 25th the crew enjoyed a day of relaxation with a Steel Beach Picnic held on the flight deck.

The ship arrived at Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, on March 28th and onloaded four Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) for the Surface-to-Air Missile exercise. Underway the following afternoon, the OW Division loaded the four missiles into their RAM Launchers.

Surface-to-Air Missile exercises commenced March 30th just south of Vieques. As the two drone flyers approached the ship's port side, the SSDS immediately engaged and flawlessly launched a missile from the aft RAM mount and a second from the forward RAM mount successfully striking both targets. WHIDBEY ISLAND was the first LSD to successfully engage both drones in a single firing run. Later that day, the Vieques range confirmed CDR Barrington's "Boula, Boula!" prediction of skin-to-skin missile engagements.

With the missile exercise successfully completed, the ship departed Puerto Rico en route a brief port visit on the island of St. Maarten.

After WHIDBEY ISLAND anchored off the coast of St. Maarten, the crew ended the month of March by taking advantage of the many tours and activities offered on the island, to include sunbathing, snorkeling tours, horseback riding, biking tours, shopping and dining.

APRIL 2001

After a memorable port visit in St. Maarten, WHIDBEY ISLAND began her transit to NAB Little Creek on April 2nd.

While en route, crewmembers utilized their time conducting in-depth training, drills and exercises. April 3rd, junior officers practiced shiphandling skills during 'Leap Frogs' with USS BATAAN (LHD 5) and USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12) to improve their maneuvering techniques for underway replenishments. Later that afternoon, the crew brushed up on procedures for evacuating civilian personnel from a hostile environment during a Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) Exercise. While NEO Exercises ran, CIC simultaneously conducted Emergency Defense Amphibious Task Force Drills providing protection to the evacuating civilians, crew and ship from retaliation attempts. In the evening, Engineering Casualty Control (ECC) Drills were conducted in preparation for the approaching Underway Demonstration, the final evaluation of the Engineering Department's abilities prior to deployment.

April 4th, the Senior and Junior Sailor of the Quarter board interviewed nominees from various departments in the Chiefs' Mess; selecting BM2(SW) Michael Mullen and DC3 Daniel Renaud to represent WHIDBEY ISLAND in the second quarter.

WHIDBEY ISLAND ran a Full-Power Demonstration on April 5th successfully exhibiting the ship's ability to achieve and sustain a top speed of 24 knots.

The following afternoon, WHIDBEY ISLAND returned to NAB Little Creek, Virginia.

The Computer Network Vulnerability Assessment Team arrived April 9th conducting the first phase of their inspection. Primarily, their team assessed security weaknesses by attempting to hack into the ship's Local Area Network (LAN) system through crewmember's passwords. Working with the ship's Electronics' Technicians (ET) and Information Systems Technicians (IT), the team also inspected every piece of equipment on the bridge, topside, CIC and Radio Central to ensure all systems operated properly.

As the inspectors began their systems reviews, deck work also began on the mess decks, chiefs' mess, troop spaces and ship's office. While the decks received PRC

upgrades, the crew ate meals on the turntable and the ship's Administration Office relocated to the ship's library.

April 18th the crew participated in the Command Physical Readiness Test (PRT).

CDR Barrington addressed ship's company at an awards ceremony and Captain's Call on the Flight deck April 20th. Afterwards, PRT make-ups were held at the Pierside Gym.

Prior to the ARG's departure, BATAAN hosted a PHIBRON/MEU Integration (PMINT) Pre-Sail Conference on April 23rd. With PRC deck work complete, the mess decks re-opened for meals and the Administration Office returned to its location on the second deck.

The ship weighed anchor en route and began its Final Evaluation Problem (FEP) April 24th. FEP inspectors again evaluated the crew's abilities to overcome casualties such as CBR attack, missile impacts, flooding and fires. April 26th, after the successful conclusion of FEP, inspectors departed via LCACs and WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with USNS PATUXENT (T-AO 201) for fuel.

April 28th, a small detachment of 26 MEU(SOC) and their equipment embarked via LCAC before WHIDBEY ISLAND departed Onslow Bay en route Ft. Lauderdale, Florida in support of the Broward County Navy Days and Fleet Week events.

WHIDBEY ISLAND moored at Port Everglades in Hollywood/Ft Lauderdale, Florida, March 30th. After mooring, CDR Barrington, along with the captains of other naval ships in attendance, received a special reception for the ships hosted by the local Navy League Chapter. The Broward County Navy Days and Fleet Week Celebration kicked off in Downtown Hollywood with an All-Hands Reception and Banquet.

Although WHIDBEY ISLAND attended only two days of the weeklong celebration, the crew participated in some fabulous events, and ended another month enjoying a port visit.

MAY 2001

May 1st the crew of WHIDBEY ISLAND continued to enjoy their brief stay in Florida for the Broward County Navy Days events. The second day of the celebration boasted just as many events as the previous, including a graduation ceremony for World War II Veterans, public tours of the naval vessels in attendance, a luncheon in honor of command Sailors and Junior Sailors of the Year as well as a pro-baseball game between the Miami Marlins and St Louis Cardinals.

After a short, but memorable, stay in Ft Lauderdale-Hollywood, Florida, WHIDBEY ISLAND departed Florida May 2nd en route Onslow Bay, North Carolina, rendezvousing with PATUXENT the following day to take on fuel.

Friday, May 4th WHIDBEY ISLAND anchored off Onslow Bay, North Carolina, and commenced to onload the 26 Marine Expeditionary Unit, Special Operations Capable MEU(SOC) in support PHIBRON-MEU Integration (PMINT) exercises.

The ship was underway again May 6th en route Cherry Point Operations Area (CPOA). That afternoon a USMC Orientation was held on the turntable to welcome aboard the embarked Marines and familiarize them with shipboard life.

May 7th through May 9th the BATAANARG and 26 MEU(SOC) maximized underway time conducting numerous training exercises such as LCAC and AAV operations, flight quarters, electronic warfare tracking using the ship's Close-In Weapons Systems (CIWS), small boat operations, and close-in refueling techniques. PMINT exercises finished after a final H-Hour assault on Blue Beach May 9th. Following H Hour, 26 MEU(SOC) commenced their offload of personnel, vehicles and equipment.

Upon completion of the offload on May 10th, WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor en route homeport, NAB Little Creek, Virginia. During the transit, checks of the ship's countermeasure washdown system were conducted; ensuring each sprinkler in the system effectively rinse the outer hull of hazardous substances in the event of Chemical, Biological or Radiation (CBR) assault.

May 11th equipment checks continued with when the ship passed through the Hampton Roads degaussing range testing the ship's degaussing cables ability to diminish

or "erase" the ship's magnetic signature from sonar detection. Early that afternoon, WHIDBEY ISLAND moored at NAB Little Creek.

Implementation training of the ship's new Combat Systems Operational Sequencing System (CSOSS) began May 15th along with Supply Department's annual Supply Management Inspection (SMI) and Operations Department's Computer Network Vulnerability Assessment Phase II.

May 17th SMI concluded favorably for WHIDBEY ISLAND's Supply Department with excellent ratings across the board earning the department its fifth Blue "E" award for excellence.

Friday, May 18th IT2 Justin Sweat and EN3 Taryn Penny re-enlisted on the mess decks and forty cadets from Snow Hill Marine Corps JROTC arrived for a tour of ship's spaces.

WHIDBEY ISLAND departed Little Creek on May 22nd for three days of underway training time in the Virginia Capes Operation Area (VCOA). During the short time underway the Junior Officers and Bridge Watch Teams honed their navigational and ship handling skills and the crew geared up for the upcoming Intermediate Training Team (ITT) Drills and Underway Demonstration. On May 25th, WHIDBEY ISLAND concluded its underway-training period and returned to homeport.

NROTC Midshipmen arrived May 29th for four weeks of hands-on training. During their time aboard first-class cadets teamed up with Department Heads and Division Officers to learned about management techniques and the naval officer's role, while second-class cadets experienced shipboard operations as enlisted personnel.

ITT Drills were conducted May 29th through June 1st assessing the crew's ability to react and respond to various underway situation such as Main Space Fires, General Quarters, Flight Quarters and Chemical, Biological and Radiation Attack. WHIDBEY ISLAND's crew received outstanding scores across the board for quick response times and effectiveness.

JUNE 2001

As June began, and with Intermediate Training Cycle drills successfully complete, the crew's attention and training were directed to the pending Underway Demonstration, the final evaluation of the Engineering Department prior to the ship's deployment.

To support Underway Demonstration, WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor June 5th en route the Virginia Capes Operational Area (VCOA).

During the week underway, the ship's Tactical Air and Navigation (TACAN) and SLQ 32 antennas, necessary for flight operations and electronic warfare, received their annual re-calibration on the Shipboard Electronic Systems Evaluation Facility (SESEF) range.

The Underway Demonstration Assessment Team arrived June 7th via Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC). The inspector reviewed the Engineering Department's capabilities through numerous engineering casualty drills and scenarios. At the conclusion of the trials, assessors certified them 'ready to answer all bells' and departed WHIDBEY ISLAND later that evening. Ending a busy day for the ship, CDR Barrington announced the ship now had 24 new third class petty officers, twelve second class and three first class petty officers as a result of the March 2001 Navy-wide Advancement Exam Cycle.

Underway Demonstration was successfully completed on June 8th and WHIDBEY ISLAND returned to NAB Little Creek, Virginia. Upon mooring, ten additional NROTC Midshipmen embarked for shipboard familiarization training

June 11th – 13th WHIDBEY ISLAND's junior officers, along with members of the ship's combat, navigation and deck teams, attended ship-handling training at Naval Station Norfolk's Shiphandling Simulator Complex. Using a mock pilothouse and bridge wings, the 360-degree simulator allowed junior officers and enlisted Sailors to hone their ship handling techniques and skills without fear of damage to ship, aircraft or personnel.

An expansion of the ship's physical fitness facilities began June 12th. With $11,000.00 from the ship's Morale, Welfare and Recreation funds and $24,000.00 in grants from Fleet Recreation in Norfolk. The long-unused Hydraulic Test Shop was converted into a separate weight room, while the original fitness center became an

aerobics room stocked with three treadmills, three cross-trainers, two cycling machines and two stair steppers. The newly re-modeled workout rooms significantly enhanced the crew and embarked Marines ability to conform to the Navy's Physical Fitness Standards while underway. Battle Force E-Mail installation, an inter-ship user-to-user data transfer capability designed to improve communications between ships of the Amphibious Ready Group (ARG), Battle Group (BATGRU) and Allied/NATO Forces Afloat, also began June 12th.

The ship's Dental Department received outstanding reviews from their assessors at the conclusion of the Dental Readiness Assist Visit June 13th. During the visit inspectors reviewed dental records command-wide, finding 98% of the crew maintained at the highest state of dental readiness. In addition to overall crew readiness, WHIDBEY ISLAND's dental team also received compliments on implemented dental health awareness and disease prevention programs.

The Family Service Center began a series of pre-deployment briefs on June 13th. These informative briefs, specifically designed for deploying Sailors and their families, covered topics such as financial responsibility, automotive storage, home maintenance, emergency notification procedures, obtaining a power-of-attorney and helping children deal with a parent's absence.

June 14th DC2(SW) Raymund Carig, DC2(SW) Yenier Ramirez-Cruz and MS2 Valerie Walker re-enlisted during a combined ceremony on the mess decks. Just as these three Sailors renewed their enlistment oaths, two other shipmates said good-bye to Navy life after twenty years of service. ET1(SW) Julie Parker was piped ashore concluding her retirement ceremony June 15th, and the crew bid farewell to MSCS(SW) Robert Greenwood a few days later on June 22nd.

June 18th Commanding Officer, CDR Brian E. Barrington, frocked the Navy's newest First, Second and Third Class Petty Officers during an awards ceremony held on the Flight Deck. Additionally, BM3(SW) Christopher Hernandez and BM3 Lisa Brinson advanced to Second Class Petty Officers via the Command Advancement Program.

The Disbursing and Personnel Office received their annual CINCLANTFLT Audit June 18th through June 22nd. For the duration of audit, inspectors searched for possible bookkeeping discrepancies and procedural errors of crew travel claims, check-ins,

advancements, security, pay and entitlements. The command received satisfactory grades across the board. Auditors were particularly impressed with the Disbursing Office's document tracking record of 96%; well above the Navy-wide average.

June 19th screening, testing and registration began for the Program Afloat College Education (PACE) courses that would be offered during deployment.

During a brief visit, RADM J. Kevin Moran, Commander Amphibious Group TWO, addressed ship's company on the turntable June 20th. Alluding to the bombing of USS COLE (DDG 67), RADM Moran urged Sailors to be continually on the alert and to take all training, force protection procedures and personal safety seriously at all times, especially during the upcoming deployment.

June 22nd NROTC Midshipmen concluded their time aboard the ship. The following afternoon, 80 Boy Scouts arrived for a tour of WHIDBEY ISLAND's spaces.

Modification of the ship's galley began on June 25th. The new 'buffet-style' serving line considerably cut-down man-hours by eliminating the need for three or four food servers and replacing them with a single observer/stocker.

Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO), CDR Mark R. Hoyle, arrived aboard WHIDBEY ISLAND June 26th beginning his turnover with CDR Barrington.

At the end of the month, ENS Kyle Kramer, one of the NROTC midshipmen embarked just weeks earlier, returned following his commission aboard the historic USS WISCONSIN (BB 64), to assume the duties as the Administration Department's new division officer on June 29th.

JULY 2001

July 1st Department Heads continued their turnover briefs and space walkthroughs with CDR Hoyle. Meanwhile, the crew continued to concentrated on deep cleaning, deck resurfacing and exterior painting projects for the Change of Command Ceremony scheduled for July 6th.

July 3rd WHIDBEY ISLAND received official notification that crewmembers aboard during the 1999-2000 Mediterranean deployment from 19 January 2000 until 18 February 2000 had been awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for their support of Operation Southern Watch.

In observance of Independence Day, a picnic was held on the flight deck for duty section personnel and their families July 4th.

On July 6th ship's company gathered on the flight deck along with friends, family, former crewmembers and guests as CDR Hoyle assumed command of WHIDBEY ISLAND from CDR Barrington. Distinguished guests for the ceremony included Commodore Kenneth M. Rome, Commander Amphibious Squadron EIGHT, and guest speaker, CAPT Leon F. Mahoney, USN, Retired.

In his farewell address, CDR Barrington noted the ship's many accomplishments under his leadership and thanked the crew for their continuous hard work, diligence and loyalty. Following CDR Barrington, CDR Hoyle expressed his enthusiasm and excitement over assuming command of WHIDBEY ISLAND, thanked everyone for welcoming him aboard. He continued by stressing how much he looked forward to meeting and working with every member of the crew during approaching deployment.

July 9th CDR Hoyle and the Operations Officer, LT Chi Cheung, attended a Marine Expeditionary Unit Exercise (MEUEX) Pre-Sail Conference aboard BATAAN.

WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor July 10th for MEUEX. That afternoon, crewmembers qualified with 9mm pistols on a flight deck firing range.

The ship moored pier side at Morehead City, North Carolina July 11th and began the onload of 26 MEU(SOC)'s personnel, vehicles and equipment. Upon completion, the ship transited to its Onslow Bay anchorage for Amphibious Assault Vehicle (AAV) loading.

For the duration of MEUEX, July 11th through July 20th, WHIDBEY ISLAND and 26 MEU(SOC) conducted daily AAV and LCAC operations. The crew used the underway time to conduct small arms qualifications, Flight Quarters, Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations training and Electronic Warfare scenarios.

The ship rendezvoused for underway replenishment with USNS KANAWHA (WLR 75407) July 12th and July 19th. The UNREPs allowed Junior Officers an opportunity to practice the ship handling skills needed for alongside replenishment.

WHIDBEY ISLAND returned to NAB Little Creek July 20th. Over the weekend, the ship welcomed visiting Boy Scouts Troops for a tour of the ship.

Prospective Executive Officer, LCDR Alan B. Gorski, began his turnover process with Executive Officer, LCDR G. Sheppard Matthesen on July 24th.

To onload ammunition for approaching September deployment, the ship berth shifted to Quay Wall West July 25th.

Commander, Naval Surface Forces Atlantic Fleet (COMNAVSURFLANT), RADM J. B. Foley, visited the ship July 26th. After lunch with the wardroom, RADM J. B. Foley addressed the assembled ship's company and answered questions from crewmembers.

In support of Joint Task Force Exercises (JTFX), WHIDBEY ISLAND was underway at 06:00 on July 30th en route Morehead City and Onslow Bay, North Carolina, to onload 26 MEU(SOC). While transiting, weapons qualifications continued for the crew with .50 cal, 25 mm and M-60 machine gun shoots.

July 31st, after completing 26 MEU(SOC)'s onload, WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor en route Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, to participate in JTFX scenarios.

AUGUST 2001

As August began WHIDBEY ISLAND continued its transit to Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, for Force Protection training and to take part in Joint Task Forces Exercises (JTFEX) 01-3. Including WHIDBEY ISLAND, over 23,000 joint service and allied personnel and a total of 34 ships participated in JTFX. The exercise, conducted off the East coast, was designed to prepare forces for future forward deployed operations and also served as a final certification opportunity for the ships of the BATAAN Amphibious Ready Group (BATAANARG) and Marines of 26 MEU(SOC) prior to September's deployment.

Saturday, August 4th 26 MEU(SOC) conducted a practiced an H-Hour assault on the island of Vieques, afterwards ship's company and troops attended Force Protection Training on the turntable. Throughout the amphibious assault exercises being conducted on Vieques, WHIDBEY ISLAND and 26 MEU(SOC) received national media attention. Journalists from major news affiliates arrived on-scene to cover the protests of local Puerto Rican residents, who were calling for the immediate termination of military training exercises on and withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from the island. Despite extraneous distractions, protestors and journalists were kept at considerable distance from all evolutions and in no way inhibited WHIDBEY ISLAND or 26 MEU(SOC) from attaining mission accomplishment.

The Operational Warfare Division tested the ship's Close-In Weapons System (CIWS) during Pre-action Aimed Calibration Fire (PACFIRE), Electronic Warfare Tracking Exercises (EW TRACEX) and a Towed Drone Unit (TDU) shoot on August 5th. That evening WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with PATUXENT for fuel UNREP.

August 6th 26 MEU(SOC) launched its final H-Hour assault exercise on Vieques. During the "assault", troops of 26 MEU(SOC) landed at the designated time on a small beach, preceded through the terrain via AAVs to acquire and control a strategically advantageous hilltop area. Upon mission completion, 26 MEU(SOC) retuned to WHIDBEY ISLAND only to debark again shortly after for further training and agricultural inspection of all vehicles at Roosevelt Roads.

Prior to pulling into Roosevelt Roads, Force Protection and Anti-Terrorism (FP/AT) training continued for the entire crew to familiarize them with techniques and measure they could employ to prevent and, if necessary, contain covert hostile attacks.

August 8th Air Craft Unit FOUR (ACU 4) launched their LCACs from the well deck to join the AAVs in Agricultural Inspections. Once the LCACs departed well deck, WHIDBEY ISLAND continued into port and pre-deployment anti-terrorism exercises began. For the duration of the ship's two-day stay in Roosevelt Roads, Special Forces units attempted to compromise ship security using a variety of methods. Calling on the FP/AT training they had received, the crew was able to detect every effort to violate security.

AAVs and LCACs loaded back into WHIDBEY ISLAND's well deck following their agricultural inspection August 9th.

The final exercise on the morning of August 10th called for the ship to depart the port on short notice and as swiftly as possible with out the assistance of local tugboats, as if the simulated "host country" had suddenly turned aggressive against the presence of U. S. Forces.

After making its departure from the naval station, WHIDBEY ISLAND began her return transit up the East coat towards Onlsow Bay arriving off North Carolina's coast August 13th in support of continuing JTF and Special Operations Capable Exercises.

However, due to warnings of approaching severe weather, the planned SOCEX amphibious assault on Blue Beach was cancelled. Instead, AAVs returned to Camp Legune August 15th to avoid the predicted rough seas. That evening, Commander in Charge, United States Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT), ADM Leonard Natter, embarked WHIDBEY ISLAND for a quick tour of ship's spaces and to address all hands. Before answering questions from the assembly, ADM Natter commended the crew and remaining troops for their performance throughout JTFX. He also urged Sailor and Marines, just as RADM Moran had during his June visit, to take every training exercise with the utmost seriousness and be the first line of defense against potential threats and dangers.

WHIDBEY ISLAND and crew returned to homeport a day earlier than expected on August 19th.

August 20th, after an awards ceremony and Captain's Call on the flight deck, the first-half of Pre-Overseas Movement (POM) leave stand down period began. The 11-day leave period reduced ship's company to duty section personnel only.

As the month of August drew to its close, those members of the crew who did not take first leave period continued to prepare WHIDBEY ISLAND for the approaching deployment.

SEPTEMBER 2001

September 1st the entire crew returned to WHIDBEY ISLAND for a day of turnover before the second POM period began. After each division and department passdown pertinent information and uncompleted tasks with their respective reliefs, the second half of the crew was free to begin their leave period.

Returning crewmembers continued deployment preparations and repairs. Terrazzo and Preservation Re-sealant Compound (PRC) deck upgrades continued in spaces throughout the ship, along with countless working parties to onload necessary stores and equipment.

Advancement exams for first class petty officer were administered on the mess decks September 6th.

Interested crewmembers registered for college course through the Program Afloat College Education (PACE) program on September 7th. The same afternoon measurements and weigh-ins for the Physical Readiness Test were taken in Medical.

September 11th, following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, WHIDBEY ISLAND went to THREATCON DELTA and immediately recalled ship's company. As the recall for those on leave went out, some members of the crew found themselves stranded cross-country with family and friends as airline flights were cancelled nationwide and the supply of rental cars quickly exhausted. Those who were able to return to the ship prepared to get underway as expeditiously as possible should the ship be ordered to join BATAAN and SHREVEPORT; already en route Morehead City to embark troops and proceed on to New York City for assistance in medical and rescue efforts.

The following morning WHIDBEY ISLAND received word to remain in port while repairs and weight testing of the anchor windlass continued. For the next few days WHIDBEY ISLAND and her crew remained at a heightened security alert level while completing last minute preparations prior to deploying.

Advancement exams for E-5 originally scheduled on September 13th and the E-4 exam scheduled for September 20th were postponed Navy-wide to October 4th and 11th.

Wednesday, September 19th, crewmembers bid farewell to family and friends as WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor and began the first day of its Mediterranean 2001 deployment. During the transit to embark troops, the Operations Department programmed CIWS to fire several practice rounds while calibrating the system.

WHIDBEY ISLAND arrived at Morehead City early September 20th and commenced the onload of 26 MEU(SOC). The onload was complete in record time, and as the ship weighed anchor for transit to Onslow Bay, local residents and children arrived at the marina with signs and banners in tow wishing departing Sailors and Marines a safe voyage and thanking them for their service.

At the Onslow Bay anchorage, once 26 MEU(SOC)'s onload was complete, WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor and rendezvoused with the BATAANARG before beginning her transit across the Atlantic en route Rota, Spain.

Throughout the transatlantic voyage, WHIDBEY ISLAND took part in a number of exercises, drills and weapons qualifications.

September 21st, WHIDBEY ISLAND simulated being a hostile force within the battle group for Surface Warfare Encounter Exercises. The exercise provided hostile targeting information and practice to destroyers in the battle group and, at the same time, allowed WHIDBEY ISLAND (as the hostile) to simulate tracking and firing missile systems.

Training continued with Operational Security Condition drills and Commander SIXTH Fleet Publication Exercises (C6F PUBEX) on September 23rd. PUBEX training familiarized ships with operational techniques and requirements for the battle group while deployed in the SIXTH Fleet area.

To familiarize the crew with the danger mines present to a ship as well as mine spotting techniques and countermeasures, mine warfare training was conducted September 24th. Later in the day, the bridge and combat teams practiced their close proximity ship handling skills during Leap Frogs maneuvers with BATAAN and SHREVEPORT.

Rosetta Stone PUBEXs performed September 25th acquainted the crew with proper procedures for sending message traffic in the SIXTH Fleet operational area.

The ship conducted torpedo countermeasure procedures by streaming Nixie and using evasive steering on September 26th.

September 27th training concentrated on electronic warfare defense. Throughout the afternoon various Emission Control levels were limiting the transmissions hostile forces might use to detect and track the ship's movement.

The following day defense training shifted to air defense techniques. Using the Ship's Self-Defense System, the Combat team was able to pick-up and track air and surface contacts at considerable distances from the ship.

Commander Carrier Group EIGHT, RADM Mark Fitzgerald, embarked WHIDBEY ISLAND for a brief visit with the wardroom.

September ended with WHIDBEY ISLAND continuing her transit en route Naval Station Rota, Spain, and all hands enjoying a Sunday afternoon steel beach picnic on the flight deck.

OCTOBER 2001

After twelve days of transiting and advancing clocks a total of six hours, WHIDBEY ISLAND arrived at its first port of the deployment, Naval Station Rota, Spain. Upon completion of stores onload, ship's company and troops enjoyed an evening of on-base liberty. The highlight of the evening was the ship's softball game where the enlisted prevailed 5 to 3 over the officers.

October 2nd WHIDBEY ISLAND departed Rota en route Exercise Bright Star off the coast of Egypt. Shortly after departure the ship rendezvoused with BATAAN and SHREVEPORT in order to transit the Straits of Gibraltar together later in the evening. While in transit to the Strait of Gibraltar, KILO Battery and Company Marines received a brief on the proper and safe methods to exit a hovering helicopter via ropes. After the safety brief, troops and interested sailors practiced such a descent using a rope anchored at the 0-5 level "back porch" area down to the boat deck for Fast Rope training.

The E-5 advancement exams postponed in September were held for eligible candidates on the mess decks October 4th.

October 5th. WHIDBEY ISLAND was "invaded" by Marine Special Purpose Force (MSPF) troops during Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) training. As the exercise began, several helicopters approached and began to circle the ship. One by one helicopters took turns hovering over the ship as MSPF teams (complete with weapons and tactical gear) descended to the flight deck via ropes. Once aboard, the MSPF troops raided spaces around the ship, such as the bridge, berthings and engineering spaces to seize control of the vessel. Meanwhile, the helicopters continued to circle WHIDBEY ISLAND providing additional coverage to the MSPF teams by keeping their weapons trained on the ship for the duration of the evolution.

October 6th. KILO Company Marines assembled on the flight deck for the Corporal's Course graduation ceremony. In his address to the graduates, First Sergeant of Troops, 1st Sgt James L. Dalgarn, challenged the new leaders to continue in their quest to be better Marines and set the example for those they purport to have charge over.

During a two-day Safety Standdown conducted October 7th and 8th the crew participated in a ship-wide safety inspection to locate, identify, document and take

corrective action on potential hazards. Additionally, refresher courses and training were conducted on Operational Risk Management, Rules of the Road, International Association of Lighthouse Authorities and the Cardinal Buoy System.

As the ship continued its transit to the coast of Egypt the crew had the honor of laying to rest a former plankowner of WHIDBEY ISLAND, Quartermaster and Petty Officer First Class, Ret., Robert Taylor House. As part of the commissioning crew, House was the Leading Petty Officer of the Navigation Division. He died August 11, 2001 at the age of 60 and his remains were committed to the waters of the Mediterranean during a Burial at Sea Ceremony on the morning of October 9th.

The fall advancement exam cycle, rescheduled from September, began on October 10th with the E-4 exams. Later in the day, an Amphibious Coordination Brief was held aboard BATAAN in preparation for the upcoming Exercise BRIGHT STAR. Ending the day, crew and embarked troops gathered on the messdecks for an ice cream social.

Coordination planning concerning troop and vehicle movement for BRIGHT STAR continued the following day aboard the Spanish warship, SPS GALICIA.

October 13th marked the 227th birthday of the United States Navy. In honor of the occasion, the ship's oldest and youngest crewmembers, SKC(SW) Oscar Gabor and SA Hector Santiago, cut the first piece of cake during a special ceremony held on the messdecks. Throughout the morning and afternoon, Deck department conducted welldeck cross-training with the crew of GALICIA.

In preparation of troop movement ashore, ship-to-shore movement exercises were conducted October 14th. After sunset the Operations Department conducted deceptive lighting and emission control drills.

October 15th. The bridge and navigation team practiced close-in maneuvering techniques with BATAAN and SHREVEPORT during Leap Frog exercises.

The following morning embarked Marines, as well as their equipment and vehicles, began offload to the coast of Egypt via LCACs for participation in Exercise BRIGHT STAR. After lunch, the Sailor and Junior Sailor of the Quarter boards convened. When the results were announced, the Dental Department came out shining with DT2(SW) Joseph Colon, named Sailor of the Quarter, and DT3 Ivan Latalladi taking Junior Sailor of the Quarter.

October 18th. WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with USNS LEROY GRUMMAN (T-AO 195) for underway replenishment of fuel and USNS SIRIUS (T-AFS 5) for vertical replenishment for stores. Later in the evening, the boat crew assisted Explosive Ordinance Disposal teams in conducting Mine Pounce Exercises using the ship's safety boat.

October 19th. AAVs backloaded into the WHIDBEY ISLAND's welldeck. After the backload was complete, visiting members of the Egyptian military attended a shipboard indoctrination to acclimate and familiarize the embarked guests to life aboard a naval vessel during their brief stay.

While tanks and artillery troops conducted field training and prepared for the upcoming amphibious warfare demonstration, LCACs and AAVs again launched from WHIDBEY ISLAND's welldeck in an H-Hour rehearsal assault October 20th remaining overnight on the beach before returning to the welldeck the following afternoon.

With the BRIGHT STAR demonstration just days away, ship's company and troops conducted last minute inspections of vehicles and equipment while at the same time rehearsal debriefs and demonstration confirmation briefs were held aboard BATAAN in efforts to ensure full operational readiness and anticipate any last minute obstacles prior to the actual 'assault.'

October 22nd. WHIDBEY ISLAND's junior officers, bridge, combat and navigation teams (along with the Spanish, Canadian and English ships participating in BRIGHT STAR) conducted additional training in close-in ship maneuvering procedures during Multinational Amphibious Task Force Divisional Tactics (MNATF DIVTACS). Later in the evening the ship's rendezvoused en route the coast of Cairo, Egypt, to conduct encounter exercises and emission control drills.

After the events of September 11th, global interest in the multinational amphibious exercise and final demonstration was apparent with the multitude of foreign military and media representatives on hand for the 'assault.' Waves of AAVs from WHIDBEY ISLAND's welldeck along with LCACs hit the beach on October 23rd for an H-Hour assault, joining with tanks and artillery already in position for the event. Various aquatic assault vehicles arrived on station, the troops set-up static displays of their weaponry and answered questions from the assembled guests. Commandant and Sergeant Major of the

U. S. Marine Corps, Gen Jones and Sgt Maj McMichael respectively, as well as Egyptian Military leaders, took the opportunity to address the troops at the conclusion of the demonstration, acknowledging and thanking them for their sustained hard work and outstanding performance throughout the exercise. With the demonstration complete, the backload of all vehicles and equipment commenced, continuing well into the night and following afternoon.

October 25th. WHIDBEY ISLAND again rendezvoused with GRUMMAN for an underway replenishment.

October 26th to October 30th. WHIDBEY ISLAND's Sailors and Marines enjoyed their first liberty port of the deployment, Marmaris, Turkey. While in port, ship's company and embarked Marines enjoyed local cuisine, shopping and MWR-sponsored tours to destinations such as the Temple of Ephesus and world-famous Turkish Bath Houses. Many Sailors and Marines took advantage of the opportunity to bargain with local vendors on the purchase of detailed area rugs, jewelry or leather coats.

WHIDBEY ISLAND weighed anchor again October 31st en route the National Training Continuum.

November 2001

November 2ND. WHIDBEY ISLAND aligned the Ship's Self-Defense Systems sensors for accuracy and swifter response to any potential threats. That afternoon a Speed-Lightening Gun Shoot judged the gun crew response and reaction times to possible small boat attack.

WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with fellow ARG ship, SHREVEPORT, to conduct EMCON drills November 5th. During the drills, each ship took turns becoming 'silent' of all emissions, while the combat teams of the searching ship tried to locate the silent ship. At the conclusion of the drills, WHIDBEY ISLAND began its transit of the Strait of Ontranto.

The navigation and bridge teams practiced shiphandling skills November 9th. With the THEODORE ROOSEVELT Battle Group (TRBATGRU) together for DIVTACS, Combat Camera took the opportunity to shoot panoramic aerial photographs of the ships from helicopters circling overhead.

November 10th. Commander, SIXTH Fleet, VADM Scott Fry, embarked WHIDBEY ISLAND to address the crew on pending schedule changes for the BATAANARG. The National Training Continuum in Albania as well as Operation NOBLE SHIRLEY was cancelled due to operational commitments in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. KILO Company and Battery troops, ashore when the exercises were announced postponed, used the time ashore in Albania to conduct short Special Operations Capable exercises in preparation for their pending movement into Pakistan and Afghanistan.

After backloading troops November 11th, the ship met with SIRIUS for a vertical replenishment of stores the following day.

November 13th. WHIDBEY ISLAND took on fuel from GRUMMAN via underway replenishment prior.

The ship transited of the Suez Canal en route the North Arabian Sea November 15th and the Strait of Bab el Mandel November 18th. Throughout both transits, the crew remained on heightened alert with additional watches and gun crews posted for anti-terrorism/force protection measures.

DKC(SW/AW) Joseph Ruybe hosted an American-Indian Heritage presentation in the Deck Lounge. For the event, static displays of American-Indian arts and crafts decorated the room and Chief Rubye, an Apache of the Jicarilla tribe, entertained guests with traditional dances, songs and instrumentals. Guest speaker at the ceremony was the Commander of Troops, Capt T. Shane Tomko. After the conclusion, Sailors and Marines joined on the messdecks for Thanksgiving Dinner (albeit two days early).

November 23rd. The ship took on additional stores in another vertical replenishment with SIRIUS.

The Deck Department held a re-opening ceremony to celebrate the renovation of their new deck office. The ceremony began with a ribbon-cutting (clipped by CDR Hoyle, SA Melanie Jones and SN Jarod Collins) and ended with refreshments at an informal reception November 25th.

ET2(SW) Anna Nagy re-enlisted on the messdecks November 26th.

As November drew to a close, WHIDBEY ISLAND continued its transit towards the North Arabia Sea. Weapon shoots continued on the flight deck along with Quick Draw drills to speed the gun crew's reaction time to possible threats. The Combat Information Center teams conducted nightly publications exercises designed to increase the teams proficiency in naval warfare tactics. Meanwhile down in the engineering spaces, evening maintenance windows allowed the enginemen to combat the constant wear and tear on the ship's main propulsion diesel engines and ship's service diesel generators from the continuous demands placed upon the parts.

December 2001

As December began the ship took its position on station in the North Arabian Sea, Task Force WHIDBEY ISLAND's Sailors and Marines kept their focus on training, qualifications and the preservation of Marine vehicles and ship's spaces.

December 1st. After a long workday, the crew enjoyed some rivalry between the Armed Forces during the Army vs. Navy football game broadcast over the ship's Direct-to-Sailor Satellite programming system.

Advance elements of KILO Company and Battery were sent ashore to the support operations in progress at Pasni, Pakistan.

Ship's company paused for a moment of silence December 7th to remember those who lost their lives in terrorist attack 60 years ago at Pearl Harbor. Later in the morning, the crew learned and practiced first aid techniques during medical stations training.

December 8th. In order to give the troops ashore a pleasant break from the issued Meal-Ready-to-Eat (MRE), WHIDBEY ISLAND's galley crew cooked up a special batch of pizzas for the men ashore in Pasni. The pies were delivered to the Marines via LCACs along with their mail and supplies.

Additional ammunition, combat stores and supplies came in via helicopter during vertical replenishments with USS SACRAMENTO (AOE 1) and USNS NIAGRA FALLS (T-AFS 3).

December 14th. The remaining Marines of KILO Company and Battery (save a few equipment watchstanders) cross-decked to BATAAN by LCACs before continuing onto locations inside Pakistan and Afghanistan via helicopters.

With a majority of the troops ashore, ship's company continued the push on ship-wide preservation and qualifications training.

WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with USNS JOHN ERICSSON (T-AO 194) and the Italian refueling ship ITS ETNA for underway replenishment.

An awards and frocking ceremony was held on the flight deck December 21st followed by a brief Captain's Call.

December 22nd. The ship conducted underway and vertical replenishments with CONCORD and SIRIUS.

Christmas Eve ship's company relaxed and enjoyed the warm, sunny weather during a steel beach picnic on the flight deck and swim call off the stern gate. A candle light service was held that evening in the Deck Lounge.

December 25th. WHIDBEY ISLAND crew played Santa Claus by delivering mail to the other ship's of the BATAANARG using LCACs. The following day, torpedo countermeasures were practiced during NIXIE STREAM.

WHIDBEY ISLAND rendezvoused with ERICSSON for a second underway replenishment from the ship December 28th.

WHIDBEY ISLAND's Sailor of the Year 2001, SK1(SW/SS) Douglas Kilbarger, was selected December 29th. Later that evening, a special package was delivered to WHIDBEY ISLAND's deck, the Ground Zero Flag. The same flag that fire fighters raised at the scene of the Twin Towers attack was delivered to the ships of the TRBATGRU to be flown over each of the ship's forward deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

Accordingly, ship's company assembled for a flag raising ceremony on December 30th. WHIDBEY ISLAND's Executive Officer, LCDR Alan B. Gorski, gave the opening remarks for the solemn occasion. As the Ensign was passed from hand to hand of the color guard, QMCM(SW) Daniel Nicholson read the poem "Olde Glory." ET3 Jonathan Roby played a rendition of Taps on the trumpet while the Colors flew at half-mast for those who lost their lives in the events of September 11th.

As 2001 came to a close, KILO Company and Battery troops remained on the frontlines in Afghanistan at Kabul and Kandahar or at support posts throughout Pakistan. While the troops remained on the front, WHIDBEY ISLAND continued to provide support while remaining on station off the Pakistan coastline.