



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)
FPO NEW YORK 09501

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LPD4:LMH:scn
5750
Ser 331

28 MAY 1977

From: Commanding Officer, USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B9)

Subj: Command History; 1 January - 31 December, 1976 supplement

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B of 20 May 1971

Encl: (1) 1976 Command History Supplement

1976

1. In compliance with reference (a), the 1976 Command History supplement is forwarded herein as enclosure (1).
2. Late submission is regretted.


R. B. ROGERS

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMPHIBGRU TWO
COMPHIBRON FOUR

COMMAND HISTORY 1976 SUPPLEMENT

I. Chronology of Outstanding Events

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
01 JAN - 15 JUL	Part of Atlantic Amphibious Readiness Group
01 JAN - 11 JAN	Holiday leave period, Norfolk
01 JAN - 13 JAN	Continued Restricted Availability (RAV) Norfolk and concurrent Tender Availability (TAV) with Fleet Maintenance Group (FMAG) Norfolk
05 JAN - 06 JAN	NAVSURFLANT PMS Assist Visit
12 JAN - 13 JAN	Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection (NWAII)
14 JAN - 15 JAN	Underway for Ammunition onload
15 JAN - 21 JAN	Upkeep, Norfolk
16 JAN	Change of Command: Captain Curtis W. Miller, Jr., USN relieved Captain Joseph G. KAMRAD, USN, as Commanding Officer
20 JAN - 21 JAN	Seamanship Education Assistance Visit
21 JAN - 26 JAN	Transit to Caribbean as a unit of the Caribex 2-76, via Morehead City. Major units/equipment embarked: "K" Co 3/6; "F" BTRY 2/10; Det 20 TK BN; DET 20 RECON BN; 4 LCM-8s; 5 M60 Tanks and 6 106 mm Howitzers
27 JAN - 28 JAN	Amphibious Landing exercise at Windmill Beach, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO)
28 JAN - 30 JAN	GTMO Training Period
31 JAN - 02 FEB	Enroute Curacao, Netherland Antilles
02 FEB - 04 FEB	Port visit, Curacao, N. A.
04 FEB	Embarked Royal Netherland Marines
04 FEB - 16 FEB	Underway for Viegas, P. R. and participation in Exercise RUM PUNCH 76/Doria Salute VIII

Enclosure (1)

16 FEB - 21 FEB	Transit to Norfolk, via Morehead City to offload embarked Marine Units
21 FEB - 12 APR	Leave and Upkeep, Little Creek, Virginia
02 MAR	Annual Supply Inspection
09 MAR	COMPHIBGRU TWO Command Retention Inspection
11 MAR	COMNAVSURFLANT Human Resources Management System Assist Visit
11 MAR	COSAL Validation with NAVSEC
24 MAR - 25 MAR	Nuclear Weapons Assist Team visit
30 MAR	Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection
05 APR - 30 APR	Hull, Mechanical, and Electrical Validation
05 APR - 09 APR	CSTEX 6-76
08 APR	Host Ship for eighty (80) Canadian Officers
12 APR - 23 APR	Pre-Overhaul Test and Inspection
12 APR - 14 APR	Underway, independent steaming exercise in the Vacapes Operations Area for Machinery Condition Analysis Test
15 APR - 30 APR	Upkeep, Little Creek
22 APR	CMS Inspection by COMPHIBRON SIX
30 APR	Shift to Norfolk for refueling
30 APR - 03 MAY	Inport, Norfolk
03 MAY - 07 MAY	Underway Amphibious Training at Onslow Bay
07 MAY - 10 MAY	Upkeep, Norfolk and host ship for Reserve Unit LPH 6-13 (SRU) Chicago, IL for active duty training
08 MAY - 02 JUN	Embarked Lantramid 1-76
10 MAY - 20 MAY	Underway for exercise Solid Shield via Morehead City. Major units/equipment embarked: "I" Co 3/6; "L" Co 3/6; DET TOW PLT; DET 2D RECON BN; DET 2D ENG R BN;

DET 2D TANK BN; DET REDEYE BTRY 2D LAAM
BV; DET "M" Co 3/6; 2 M60 Tanks; 2 LCM-8s
and 225 pallets

21 MAY - 09 JUN Upkeep Norfolk

02 JUN - 04 JUN NAVSURFLANT PMS Assist Visit

04 JUN - 23 JUL Embarked LANTRAMID 2-76

09 JUN - 24 JUN Underway for Caribbean via Morehead City
for TF 22.1 Operations. Major units/
equipment embarked: "K" Co 3/6; "F" BTRY
2/10; DET 2D TANK BN; DET 2D RECON BN;
73 vehicles including 5 M60 Tanks, 6 105
mm HOW; 3 LCM-8s; 1 LCM-6; 263 pallets;
and 1 CONEX BOX

25 JUN - 27 JUN Port visit, Roosevelt Roads, PR

27 JUN - 02 JUL Transit to New York City to participate
in the International Naval Review

04 JUL Participated in the International Naval
Review

04 JUL - 07 JUL Port visit, New York City

07 JUL - 10 JUL Transit to Norfolk via Morehead City

10 JUL - 17 AUG Inport Norfolk for upkeep/TAV

12 JUL - 26 JUL COMPHIBRON SIX Embarked

14 JUL Joint COMSEC Group Visit

15 JUL Outchopped for Atlantic Fleet Readiness
Group

19 JUL - 30 JUL Electronic SECAS Validation

21 JUL - 23 JUL Command Administration and Personnel
Management Inspection

22 JUL Host Ship for 50 Army Officers from Quar-
termaster School

23 JUL COMPHIBRON SIX PMS Inspection

23 JUL DEBARKED LANTRAMID 2-76

27 JUL Shipyard Work Definition Conference

29 JUL Mobile Training Team Visit

30 JUL - 01 AUG Host Ship for Reserve Unit 203 (SRU) Erie, PA for Active Duty Training

04 AUG Postal Assist Visit

09 AUG - 12 AUG Ship Manning Document (SMD) Survey

10 AUG FMAG and TAV ends

11 AUG Onload IUWG equipment

12 AUG Communications Readiness Assist Team Visit

13 AUG Command PEB Engineering Safety Monitor

16 AUG CINCLANTFLT Postal Assist Team Visit

16 AUG - 19 AUG Environmental Health Survey by EPMU-2

16 AUG - 18 AUG COMNAVSURFLANT 3-M Inspection

17 AUG Underway for Ammo Anchorage W-2. Commenced onload/offload of 3"/50 and L-FORM Ammunition

18 AUG - 20 AUG Inport Norfolk

18 AUG Marine Corps Advance Party Embarkation

18 AUG Communication Assist Team Visit

19 AUG UDT-21, SEAL-2 and IUWG-2 personnel embark

20 AUG - 03 SEP Transit to North Atlantic via Morehead City as a unit of the Advance Forces of Teamwork 76. Major units/equipment embarked: DET 2D FORCE RECON; DET 2D RADIO BN; DET 2D ANGLICO; DET MATCH-21; DET BMU-2; MACS-6; MWCS-28; 8th COMM BN; 4 CH-53 Helicopters; 1 LCU; 2 LARC-5s; 90 (MACS/MATCU) vans; 309 pallets and 11 CONEX BOXES

03 SEP - 04 SEP Loche Ewe, Scotland for fuel

05 SEP - 08 SEP Anchored, Orland, Norway

08 SEP - 12 SEP Enroute Edinburgh, Scotland

12 SEP - 14 SEP	Port Visit, Edinburgh, Scotland
14 SEP - 15 SEP	Enroute Scapa Flow, Scotland
15 SEP	Anchored, Scapa Flow, Scotland for Bonded Item Conference
16 SEP - 30 SEP	Underway and at anchor as part of Operation Teamwork 76
30 SEP - 01 OCT	Enroute Esbjerg, Denmark
02 OCT - 05 OCT	Port visit/offload, Esbjerg, Denmark
05 OCT - 06 OCT	Enroute Amsterdam, Netherlands
06 OCT - 09 OCT	Port Visit, Amsterdam, Netherlands
10 OCT - 15 OCT	Underway for Operation Bonded Item
15 OCT	Esbjerg, Denmark for offload
15 OCT - 18 OCT	Underway for Operation Bonded Item and Enroute Bremerhaven, Germany
18 OCT - 22 OCT	Port Visit, Bremerhaven, Germany
22 OCT - 24 OCT	Enroute Esbjerg, Denmark
24 OCT - 25 OCT	Esbjerg, Denmark for backload
25 OCT - 26 OCT	Enroute Portsmouth, England
26 OCT - 29 OCT	Port Visit, Portsmouth, England
29 OCT - 11 NOV	Transit to Norfolk via Morehead City to Offload
11 NOV - 06 DEC	Leave/upkeep and final preparations for ROH; Norfolk
15 NOV - 03 DEC	Contractor Inspection for Overhaul
19 NOV - 21 NOV	Host ship for reserve unit 203 (SRU) Erie, PA for Active Duty Training
06 DEC - 07 DEC	Underway to provide services for USS Sylvania
07 DEC - 31 DEC	Unkeep/leave Norfolk
13 DEC - 07 JAN	IMAV (FMAG)

13 DEC - 28 DEC First Christmas leave period

17 DEC ROH contact awarded to Maryland Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., Baltimore, Md.

22 DEC Aviation Facility Assist Team (AFAT) visit

28 DEC Second Holiday leave period begins

II - Basic Narrative

A. Command Organization and Relations

1. Captain Joseph G. KAMRAD, USN
17 December 1974 - 16 January 1976
Captain Curtis W. MILLER, JR., USN
16 January 1976 - 31 December 1976
2. Homeport: Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia
3. Mission: "To transport and land troops and their essential equipment and supplies by means of embarked landing craft or amphibious vehicles augmented by helicopter lift."
4. Allowance: 24 Officers 433 Enlisted Men
On board: 24 Officers 436 Enlisted Men

B. Operations

1. Deployment

Caribex 2-76	21 JAN - 21 FEB
Solid Shield	10 MAY - 20 MAY
TF 22.1 OPS	09 JUN - 26 JUN
International Naval Review	27 JUN - 07 JUL
Teamwork 76/ Bonded Item	20 AUG - 10 NOV

2. Inport Periods

Norfolk, Virginia	01 JAN - 14 JAN
Norfolk, Virginia	16 JAN - 21 JAN
Little Creek, Virginia	21 FEB - 12 APR
Little Creek, Virginia	15 APR - 30 APR
Norfolk, Virginia	30 APR - 03 MAY
Norfolk, Virginia	07 MAY - 10 MAY
Norfolk, Virginia	21 MAY - 09 JUN
Roosevelt Roads, PR	25 JUN
Virgin Islands	25 JUN - 27 JUN
New York, New York	02 JUL - 07 JUL
Norfolk, Virginia	10 JUL - 17 AUG
Norfolk, Virginia	18 AUG - 20 AUG
Edinburgh, Scotland	12 SEP - 14 SEP
Esbjerg, Denmark	01 OCT - 04 OCT
Amsterdam, Holland	05 OCT - 08 OCT
Bremerhaven, Germany	18 OCT - 21 OCT
Esbjerg, Denmark	22 OCT - 24 OCT
Portsmouth, England	26 OCT - 28 OCT
Norfolk, Virginia	11 NOV - 07 DEC

Norfolk, Virginia

07 DEC - 31 DEC

3. Significant Deployment Events - Noted in Section I of Chronology

4. Special Topics

A. Flight time: 2526 Landings during various amphibious operations including the following:

142 Touch and Gos
293 shut downs
129 refuels
1635 PAX
119 ASAP missions
5 medivacs
203 vertreps

B. Ammo Expenditure: 414 rounds of 3"/50 caliber

C. Troops Carried:

Caribex 2-76 part I - 22 officers and 496 enlisted troops
Exercise Solid Shield - 39 officers and 754 enlisted troops
Caribex 2-76 part II - 14 officers and 378 enlisted troops
Teamwork/Bonded Item
(1) 84 officers, 651 enlisted troops and 1 civilian
(2) 20 officers and 72 enlisted British Royal Navy personnel from 846 squadron
6 officers and 99 enlisted British Royal Marines from Lima Company - 420 Commandos
(3) Transit to U. S. 68 officers and 609 enlisted troops

D. Number of unreps - 203 vertical replenishments, 3 underway replenishments and 4 underway refuelings

E. Development of tactics - continued the development of the underway launch of tank landing vehicles

F. Ship's Store: During 1976 AUSTIN's Ship Store and Soda Fountain provided approximately \$19,000.00 profit for use by AUSTIN's Welfare and Recreation Fund. This fund is used to provide recreational facilities and activities for AUSTIN's crew.

III - Documentary Annexes

1. Roster of officers and assigned billets as of 31 December 1976:

CAPT Curtis W. MILLER, JR.	Commanding Officer
CDR Theodore J. KAISER, III	Executive Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Communications Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Engineering Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Assistant Supply Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	Personnel Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Air Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	2nd Division Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Dental Officer
CWO [REDACTED]	Damage Control Assistant
LT [REDACTED]	Navigation Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Gunnery Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Supply Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Main Propulsion Assistant
ENS [REDACTED]	Disbursing Officer/Food Services Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	CIC Officer
LCDR [REDACTED]	Operations Officer
ENS [REDACTED]	1st Division Officer
CWO [REDACTED]	Electronics Maintenance Officer
LTJG [REDACTED]	Ship's Bos'n/Boat Division Officer
LT [REDACTED]	Aircraft Handling/Fuels Officer
LT [REDACTED]	First Lieutenant
CWO [REDACTED]	Electrical Officer
1stLT [REDACTED]	Combat Cargo Officer

Allowance - 24 & 1 Combat Cargo (Marine)

On Board - 24 & 1 Combat Cargo (Marine)