



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

FPO AE 09564-1707

*Revised 11/00
W/disk*

5750

Ser LPD4:X/033

APR 4 2000

From: Commanding Officer, USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH), Washington, D.C.

Subj: 1999 COMMAND HISTORY FOR USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) Command History 1999 Chronology
(3) Command History Narrative
(4) Current Ship's Photo
(5) Welcome Aboard Package

1999

1. In accordance with reference (a), the 1999 Command History for USS AUSTIN (LPD-4) is forwarded.

W. W. CROW

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS AUSTIN is an Amphibious Transport Dock ship designed to transport and land ashore her complement of up to 900 Marines and their equipment by both helicopter and surface amphibious landing craft. AUSTIN carries enough equipment and supplies to sustain her assault force ashore for 15 days, unsupported.

USS AUSTIN is homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, and under the administrative command of Commander, Amphibious Group TWO, RADM Sutton.

USS AUSTIN'S Commanding Officer is Commander William W. Crow, United States Navy.

Chronology

01-18 JAN: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
19-21 JAN: UNDERWAY CHERRY POINT OPAREA
22 JAN-15 FEB: INPORT NORFOLK VA
16 FEB: TRANSIT TO YORKTOWN NAVAL WEAPONS STATION.
16-19 FEB: INPORT YORKTOWN NAVAL WEAPONS NAVAL STATION FOR WEAPONS OFF-LOAD
20-25 FEB: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
26 FEB-03 MAR: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA
04-21 MAR: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
22 MAR-21 JUN: INPORT NORSHIPCO SHIPYARD FOR OVERHAUL.
22 JUN: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA.
23 JUN-18 JUL: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
19-22 JUL: UNDERWAY ENROUTE TO NORFOLK, VA
23-25 JUL: INPORT BOSTON, MA
26-28 JUL: UNDERWAY ENROUTE TO NORFOLK, VA
29 JUL-01 AUG: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
02-03 AUG: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA
04 AUG-12 SEP: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
13-17 SEP: SORTIED TO VACAPES OPAREA TO AVOID HURRICANE FLOYD.
18-20 SEP: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
21-23 SEP: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA
24-26 SEP: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
27 SEP-06 OCT: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA.
07-11 OCT: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
12 OCT: TRANSIT TO YORKTOWN NAVAL WEAPONS STATION.
12-18 OCT: INPORT YORKTOWN NAVAL WEAPONS STATION FOR WEAPONS ON-LOAD.
19-21 OCT: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA
21-25 OCT: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
26-28 OCT: UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA
29 OCT-03 NOV: INPORT NORFOLK, VA
04-06 NOV: UNDERWAY ENROUTE TO NEWPORT, RI
07 NOV: INPORT NEWPORT, RI, FOR ONLOAD OF EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL REQUIRED FOR EGYPT AIR FLIGHT 990 RECOVERY OPERATIONS
08-10 NOV: UNDERWAY IVO NANTUCKET SHOALS (FLIGHT 990 RECOVERY OPERATIONS)
11-12 NOV: INPORT NEWPORT, RI
13-14 NOV: UNDERWAY IVO NANTUCKET SHOALS (FLIGHT 990 RECOVERY OPERATIONS)
15-17 NOV: INPORT NEWPORT, RI
18 NOV: UNDERWAY ENROUTE TO NORFOLK, VA, AND TO COMPLETE FEP.
19 NOV-31 DEC: INPORT NORFOLK, VA

Narrative

The year 1999 commenced with AUSTIN having just returned from deployment in December 1998, and moored Norfolk, Virginia. The Crew was on holiday stand-down, enjoying well-deserved time off with their families.

In February, the ship transited north, to the Yorktown Naval Weapons Station and off-loaded weapons in preparation for the upcoming overhaul.

On 22 March AUSTIN entered the NORSHIPCO Shipyard and began a three-month overhaul period. The ship underwent extensive work in each Main Machinery Room, including a strength and integrity check of both boilers, numerous pump overhauls, and an overhaul of the evaporators. Piping to and from the CHT pumps rooms were replaced. Of particular note was the installation of a Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat on AUSTIN's port side, aft. Upon completion of the overhaul, on 22 and 23 June AUSTIN conducted a very successful sea trial. All the systems that were worked on in the shipyard were tested satisfactorily.

On 01 July CDR W. W. Crow relieved CDR R. S. Callas as the Commanding Officer of AUSTIN. Later in July AUSTIN traveled to Boston, Massachusetts, for liberty. While there, AUSTIN Sailors gave many tours of the ship, and successfully projected a very positive Navy image to the community.

Upon returning from Boston, AUSTIN began her Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. The months of August and September saw AUSTIN underway several times to complete the Basic Phase requirements of the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. LCDR J. E. Hines relieved CDR J. E. Tranoris as AUSTIN's Executive Officer on 02 September. On 15 September AUSTIN sortied with all of the ships homeported in Norfolk in order to avoid Hurricane Floyd. Three days later, despite having been caught in the storm, AUSTIN returned to Norfolk unscathed.

In October, AUSTIN began Preparing for the Final Evaluation Period (FEP), and the transition from the Basic Phase of Training to the Intermediate Phase. On 12 October AUSTIN once again transited to Yorktown, where a successful ammunition onload was conducted. AUSTIN returned to Norfolk on 29 October.

In early November AUSTIN Sailors were called upon to put their training and experience to work. On 04 November AUSTIN left Norfolk enroute to the Nantucket Shoals, off the coast of Massachusetts, to provide support as the Command and Control Ship for the Egypt Air Flight 990 recovery efforts. AUSTIN remained on station through 18 November, pulling into Newport, Rhode Island several times to off-load recovered part and transfer personnel. While in Newport, Austin embarked FBI and NTSB detachments to assist in and help direct the recovery efforts. Once the flight-data and voice recorders were recovered, AUSTIN moored in Newport for four days. The FEP inspection team arrived on 18 November. AUSTIN departed Rhode Island on the 18th

and successfully completed FEP during her transit back to Norfolk. On 19 November AUSTIN arrived in Norfolk. The rest of the year was spent inport.

Technicians began installing the Navy's IT-21 communications upgrade in December. The last part of December was spent with the ship in a Holiday Leave period for Christmas and New Year's Day. AUSTIN was awarded the Maritime Excellence Black E, the Engineering Survivability Red E, the Combat Systems Excellence Green E, and the Supply/Logistics Excellence Blue E in recognition of her superior performance during 1999. AUSTIN completed the year ready to face all challenges that face her during the first year of the next millennium.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

FPO AE 09564-1707

3000

Ser LPD4:X/033

10 Mar 99

From: Commanding Officer, USS AUSTIN (LPD-4)

To: Commanding Officer, Shore Intermediate Maintenance Activity (SIMA), Norfolk

Subj: USS AUSTIN (LPD-4) PMA 99 MILESTONES AND MAJOR EVENTS

1. The following are the current milestones and major events of USS AUSTIN's phased maintenance availability (PMA) at the Norfolk Shipyard and Drydock Corporation (NORSHIPCO) facility. These dates are current as of 10 March 1999.

05 March 1999:	Early Start on PMA work
05 March 1999:	Ship's boilers secured
05-28 March 1999:	Boiler Strength & Integrity inspection preparations
17-19 March 1999:	Defuel ship (JP-5 and DFM); minus fuel for ship's EDGs
22 March 1999:	Deadstick move from NOB pier 3 to NORSHIPCO
29 March 1999:	Boiler Strength & Integrity inspection (SAI) starts
19-23 April 1999:	PLOT II visit (ETG)
17-21 May 1999:	PLOT III visit (ETG)
31 May 1999:	Boiler Completion of Availability Inspection (CAI)
01 June 1999:	Fuel ship
01 June 1999:	CHT work complete
02 June 1999:	Main propulsion work complete
04 June 1999:	PCD/Machinery Space Turnover
08-09 June 1999:	Light Off Assessment (LOA)
14 June 1999:	Propulsion plant light off
21 June 1999:	Dock Trials/Fast Cruise
22-23 June 1999:	Sea Trials
24 June 1999	PMA complete

2. These milestones and major event dates will be updated as required.

R. S. CALLAS

Copy to:

ENCS(SW) Godfrey, RSG

Mike Scott, LPD-4 Port Engineer

Charlie Greene, SUPSHIP Portsmouth