



Revised 3/17/92  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD 44)  
FPO NEW YORK, NY 09573-1732

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From: Commanding Officer, USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard  
Washington, D.C. 20374-0571

Subj: REVISION OF SHIP'S HISTORY; FORWARDING OF

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D CH-1 of 17 Nov 97

Encl: (1) Complete 1991 History of USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44)

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

  
W. J. MARSHALL

## USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44) SHIP'S HISTORY 1991

### Command Composition and Organization

#### 1. Ship's Mission:

GUNSTON HALL's mission is to transport United States Marines with their combat equipment to designated areas around the world, and then to launch and support assault landing craft and helicopters during amphibious operations against hostile shores. GUNSTON HALL carries the new Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC). The LCAC is an assault hovercraft with the ability to exceed 40 knots while carrying a 60 ton payload. Using this new craft, GUNSTON HALL forces will be able to carry out an amphibious assault against a wide range of beaches.

GUNSTON HALL accomplishes her mission through the use of a well deck which is flooded to embark and launch assault craft. After leaving the ship, the assault craft are directed toward the shore by the ship's Combat Information Center.

To provide continuing support to the assault force, GUNSTON HALL is equipped with the Navy's latest advanced technology including updated communication and combat systems, 20 ton and 60 ton cranes, expanded repair facilities, two helicopter landing areas, complete medical and dental facilities, and an automated computer based supply system.

#### 2. Immediate Senior Command

GUNSTON HALL's senior immediate command is as follows:

- a. CINCLANTFLT
- b. COMNAVSURFLANT
- c. COMPHIBGRU TWO
- d. COMPHIBRON TEN
- e. USS GUNSTON HALL

USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD-44) SHIP'S HISTORY 1991: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

01-01-91 COMMENCED NEW YEAR MOORED IN ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
01-03-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
ANCHORED DUBAI, U.A.E.  
01-06-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
TRANSITED STRAITS OF HORMUZ.  
ARRIVED NORTH ARABIAN SEA.  
01-08-91 TRANSITED STRAITS OF HORMUZ.  
ARRIVED PERSIAN GULF.  
01-09-91 UNREP/USS MARS.  
ANCHORED PERSIAN GULF.  
01-10-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
01-11-91 TRANSITED STRAITS OF HORMUZ.  
ARRIVED NORTH ARABIAN SEA.  
01-12-91 UNREP/USNS DIEHL.  
01-14-91 ANCHORED AL MASIRAH, OMAN.  
01-15-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
01-17-91 UNDERWAY TO DUBAI, U.A.E.  
01-19-91 ARRIVED DUBAI SHIPYARDS - MOORED TO PIER.  
COMMENCED REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE.  
01-29-91 UNDERWAY TO AL MASIRAH, OMAN.  
TRANSITED STRAITS OF HORMUZ.  
ARRIVED NORTH ARABIAN SEA.  
01-30-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-01-91 UNREP/USS SAN JOSE.  
02-04-91 ANCHORED FUJAYRAH, U.A.E.  
02-05-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
02-06-91 ANCHORED DUBAI, U.A.E.  
02-08-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
02-09-91 UNREP/USNS DIEHL.  
02-10-91 ANCHORED ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-11-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-12-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-13-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-14-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
ANCHORED ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
02-15-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
02-16-91 UNREP/USNS DIEHL.  
ANCHORED ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
02-17-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
UNREP/USS SAN JOSE.  
02-19-91 ANCHORED ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
02-20-91 UNDERWAY PERSIAN GULF.  
02-22-91 ANCHORED CENTRAL PERSIAN GULF.  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-25-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
02-27-91 CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS/VERTREP.  
03-05-91 UNDERWAY TO ABU DHABI, U.A.E.

CHRONOLOGY PAGE 2

03-08-91 ARRIVED ABU DHABI, U.A.E.  
CONDUCTED LIBERTY PORT VISIT.

03-11-91 UNDERWAY TO ARABIAN SEA.

03-12-91 UNREP/USNS DIEHL.

03-12-91 TRANSITED STRAITS OF HORMUZ.

03-15-91 VISITED BY COMNAVCINCLANT.

03-19-91 COMMENCED TRANSIT OF RED SEA.

03-22-91 ANCHORED RED SEA.

03-23-91 TRANSITED SUEZ CANAL.  
INCHOP MEDITERRANEAN SEA ATTACHED TO SIXTH FLEET.

03-25-91 CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.

03-27-91 UNREP/USNS HENRY J. KAISER.

03-30-91 TRANSITED STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR.  
ARRIVED NAVAL STATION ROTA, SPAIN/LIBERTY PORT VISIT.

03-31-91 COMMENCED FRESH WATER WASHDOWN OF SHIP AND EQUIPMENT.

04-03-91 UNDERWAY TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC.  
COMMENCED TRANSIT OF ATLANTIC OCEAN.

04-05-91 CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.

04-06-91 UNREP/USNS HENRY J. KAISER.

04-08-91 CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.

04-09-91 CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.

04-10-91 CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.

04-12-91 UNREP/USNS HENRY J. KAISER.

04-13-91 US CUSTOMS INSPECTION ONBOARD.

04-14-91 SHIP'S SECOND BIRTHDAY CEREMONY

04-15-91 ANCHORED MOREHEAD CITY, NC  
COMMENCED OFFLOAD OF EMBARKED USMC 2ND BATTALION  
LIGHT ARMORED INFANTRY A/1-10.

04-16-91 UNDERWAY TO NAB, LITTLE CREEK.

04-17-91 ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK  
COMMENCED PERSIAN GULF STANDDOWN LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD.

05-20-91 COMPLETED STANDDOWN LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD.

05-21 TO 23-91 PARTICIPATED IN DIVER TRAINING FOR EOD TEAM II.

05-24-91 PARTICIPATED IN DIVER TRAINING FOR SEAL TEAM II.

05-31-91 SHIP'S BOILERS INSPECTED.

06-04-91 CONDUCTED CPS FILTER CLEANING.

06-13-91 CONDUCTED STORES ONLOAD.

06-18-91 CLASSIFIED MATERIAL SECURITY TESTING VISIT.

06-25-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES.

06-26-91 CONDUCTED CIWS PACFIRE  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.

06-27-91 ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.

06-28-91 CONDUCTED STORES ONLOAD  
COMPHEBRON TEN VISIT.

07-01-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES  
ANCHORED VACAPES  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
UNDERWAY TO NEW YORK CITY.

07-02-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.

07-03-91 ARRIVED NEW YORK CITY/LIBERTY PORT VISIT.

CHRONOLOGY PAGE 3

07-08-91 UNDERWAY TO NAB, LITTLE CREEK, CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
07-09-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
07-10-91 ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
07-15 TO 19-91 DIESEL ENGINEERING MOBILE ASSESSMENT TEAM (DMAT) VISIT  
07-17-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES.  
07-19-91 ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
08-07-91 VISITED BY COMPHIBGRU TWO.  
08-13-91 UNDERWAY TO NAVAL STATION NORFOLK  
CONDUCTED DEPENDENTS' DAY CRUISE  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
ARRIVED NAVAL STATION NORFOLK.  
08-14-91 AWARDED NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION FOR OPERATIONS DESERT  
SHIELD/STORM  
08-20-91 UNDERWAY TO VACAPES  
ANCHORED VACAPES  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
UNDERWAY VACAPES.  
08-21-91 CONDUCTED CIWS PACFIRE  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
08-22-91 ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
09-03-91 RUPTURED BALLAST TANK  
VISITED BY MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY.  
09-05-91 VISITED BY USS: WHIDBEY ISLAND, HARLAN COUNTY, SIMA LITTLE  
CREEK, BOULDER, SPARTANBURG COUNTY, PORTLAND, MANITOWAC,  
NEWPORT, COMPHIBRON TEN.  
09-09-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES  
ANCHORED VACAPES  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
09-10-91 EMBARKED NINE OCS PERSONNEL FOR TRANSIT TO NEWPORT, RI  
UNDERWAY TO NEWPORT, RI  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
09-11-91 CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
09-12-91 CONDUCTED 25MM FAMFIRE  
CONDUCTED SMALL ARMS TRAINING.  
09-13-91 ARRIVED NEWPORT, RI/LIBERTY PORT VISIT.  
09-19-91 UNDERWAY TO NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
09-20-91 ARRIVED NAB. LITTLE CREEK.  
09-27-91 VISITED BY DELEGATION OF SOUTH AMERICAN  
NAVAL OFFICERS.  
10-03 TO 04-91 SUPPLY MANAGEMENT INSPECTION.  
10-18-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES  
ANCHORED VACAPES.  
10-19-91 CONDUCTED WET WELL OPS WITH LCUs  
CONDUCTED SMALL BOAT OPS.  
10-20-91 CONDUCTED WET WELL OPS WITH LCUs  
UNDERWAY VACAPES.  
10-21-91 CONDUCTED WET WELL OPS WITH LCUs  
CONDUCTED SMALL BOAT OPS.  
10-22-91 CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS  
ANCHORED VACAPES.  
10-23-91 UNDERWAY TO CHARLESTON, SC.

CHRONOLOGY PAGE 4

10-24-91 CONDUCTED 50 CAL FAMFIRE.  
10-26-91 ANCHORED OFF CHARLESTON, SC  
UNDERWAY TO ONSLOW BAY, NC  
10-30-91 ARRIVED NAVAL STATION NORFOLK.  
11-04-91 UNDERWAY TO NORFOLK DEPERMING STATION  
ARRIVED NORFOLK DEPERMING STATION.  
11-04 TO 08-91 SMALL BOAT OPS.  
11-05-91 COMMENCED DEPERMING OF SHIP.  
11-07-91 CEASED DEPERMING.  
11-08-91 LCDR MICHAEL A. DURNAN ASSUMED POSITION AS EXECUTIVE  
OFFICER FROM LCDR WELROSE EARNEST BARTLEY III  
UNDERWAY TO NAVAL STATION NORFOLK  
ARRIVED NAVAL STATION NORFOLK.  
11-12-91 UNDERWAY TO NAB, LITTLE CREEK  
ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
11-13-91 VISITED BY INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE COLLEGE.  
11-17-91 UNDERWAY TO ONSLOW BAY, NC.  
11-19-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
ANCHORED ONSLOW BAY, NC  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT QUARTERS.  
11-20-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
11-21-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
UNDERWAY TO NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
11-22-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
12-02-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES.  
12-03-91 ANCHORED VACAPES  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
12-05-91 UNDERWAY NAB, LITTLE CREEK  
ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.  
12-09-91 UNDERWAY VACAPES  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS  
CONDUCTED LCAC OPS.  
12-10-91 CONDUCTED LCAC OPS  
CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
12-11-91 CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS.  
12-12-91 CONDUCTED FLIGHT OPS  
ARRIVED NAB, LITTLE CREEK.

**Narrative:**

From January 17, 1991 to March 6, 1991 USS GUNSTON HALL participated in Operation Desert Storm. GUNSTON HALL conducted numerous LCAC operations in the North Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf with LCAC #7, LCAC #8 and LCAC #9 of Assault Craft Unit Four. In addition, GUNSTON HALL embarked various elements of the following USMC units: 2nd Light Armored Infantry Battalion and Battery A, 1st Battalion, 10th Marines.

Diesel Engineering Mobile Assessment Team (DMAT) visit conducted from 15-19 July inport at NAB Little Creek, Virginia and underway in the Virginia Capes. Assessment team noted all goals of the periodic assessment were met.

Embarked 140 officer candidates from SWOSCOLCOM, Newport, RI for shipboard familiarization training enroute Little Creek, VA to Newport, RI. Provided extensive training in all facets of shipboard operations. Upon arrival Newport, RI, acted as training platform for Diesel Engineering Officer of the Watch (EOOW) school.

Completed first Supply Management Inspection (SMI) between 3-4 October. All areas were graded excellent or outstanding which qualified GUNSTON HALL for first supply excellence award.

Participated in Operation SandCrab 92, reservist training exercise, from October 19-21. Conducted extensive conventional wet well training and evolutions which included handling LCU, LCM6 and LCM8 craft in the well and alongside, sterngate marriages with assault craft, and cargo handling operations with assault craft.

From 5-7 November, GUNSTON HALL depermed ship and calibrated all degaussing systems at Deperming Station, Norfolk, Virginia. Subsequent degaussing range tests have all proved successful.