

USS HARPERS FERRY (LSD 49)
Command Operations Report



2014

I. Command Composition and Organization

- ISIC: Moore, Keith G, CAPT
 - Commanding Officer: Fletcher, Kelly T, CDR
 - Executive Officer: Rigby, Jon P , CDR
 - Command Master Chief: Vanterpool, Vince V, CDCM
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- UIC: 21852

Harpers Ferry is assigned to the Boxer Amphibious Readiness Group in San Diego, CA. The command consists of 34 officers and 351 enlisted personnel, with the capability to embark 500 Marines.

Command Point of Contacts

ENS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] &
[REDACTED]

Command Number: [REDACTED]

Command Address: FPO/AP 96665-1737

BOXARG COMMANDS:

- USS BOXER (LHD - 4)
- USS NEW ORLEANS (LPD - 18)
- USS HARPERS FERRY (LSD - 49)

II. Chronology

Aug - Oct 2013

- 23 Aug: Deployment begins
- 12 SEP: I/P Guam
- 29 SEP - 07 OCT: I/P GOA, India
- 15 OCT: SOH Transit into Gulf
- 18 - 20 Oct: Anchored off the coast of Kuwait for Marine offload.
- 23 - 26 Oct: I/P Bahrain with Special Warfare SeaLion onload.

Nov - Dec 2013

- 15 - 17 Nov: Marine Onload IVO Kuwait
- 21 - 29 Nov: I/P Jebel Ali for MDVR
- 01 - 02 Dec: FIAC Ops
- 08 - 13 Dec: SAG Iron Magic
- 14 - 17 Dec: I/P Abu Dhabi

Jan - Feb 2014

- 29 - 03 Jan: I/P Bahrain
- 05 - 07 Jan: FIAC operations
- 08 - 09 Feb: Deck Landing Qualifications for UAE Army Apaches

Mar - Apr 2014

02 - 05 Mar: I/P Port Khalifa, UAE and NFL Player visit
06 Mar: SOH Transit out of Gulf
18 - 20 Mar: I/P Singapore (Chengi)
29 Mar - 03 Apr: Ssang Yong' 14 IVO Busan, South Korea
15 - 17 Apr: I/P Pearl Harbor, HI and Change Of Command
17 - 24 Apr: Tiger Cruise
24 Apr: Marine Offload, Camp Pendleton, Ca
25 Apr: End of deployment

May 2014 - Jan 2015

28 May - 18 Jun: Midshipmen Embark
30 Jun - 03 Jul: Ammo Offload at NWS Seal Beach
03JUL-27JUL: 4A2 CMAV
25JUL: Crew move off ship
28JUL: Dead stick move from NBSD to CMSD
28JUL-01JAN: CNO Availability

III. Narrative

On August 23, 2013, BOXER Amphibious Readiness Group, set sail to commence an eight month deployment. In early September, en route to Singapore, HARPERS FERRY suffered engineering casualties which resulted in an emergency port visit to Guam. Following the repairs, the ship sailed for a port visit to Goa, India.

Immediately following Goa, HARPERS FERRY headed to the Persian Gulf. In mid October of 2013, HARPERS FERRY, along with the rest of the Amphibious Readiness Group transited through the Strait of Hormuz. While in the Gulf, she offloaded the Marines in Kuwait for ground training. On October 17, the Marines disembarked the ship; some departing in Amphibious Assault Vehicles and others in Landing Craft Units. As the Marines conducted training ashore in Kuwait, HARPERS FERRY altered course for Bahrain and embarked Special Forces that conducted several missions.

On completion of the Special Forces missions, they disembarked and the HARPERS FERRY returned to Kuwait. In the vicinity of Kuwait, the Marines gathered their equipment and returned to the ship. After on loading the Marines, HARPERS FERRY sailed to Jebel Ali. In Jebel, HARPERS FERRY underwent Voyage Repairs from November 21 - 29. As the repairs abated, the ship made preparations to get underway to conduct IRON MAGIC, an exercise in the Southern Arabian Gulf.

Post IRON MAGIC, the ship made a port visit in Abu Dhabi. In January 2014, the HARPERS FERRY conducted Joint Maritime Interdiction Operations Training and simulated Fast Inshore Attack Craft with its Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats and a Patrol Craft. Furthermore, HARPERS FERRY was selected to be the landing ship and the first ship of its class to land UAE Army Apaches, for their flight qualifications.

In early March of 2014, HARPERS FERRY stopped at Port Khalifa, UAE. There, the crew was informed that National Football League players would be touring the ship, signing autographs, and posing for photos. The players include wide receiver Pierre Garcon of the Washington Redskins, tight end Jimmy Graham of the New Orleans Saints, and punter Brandon Fields of the Miami Dolphins.

On March 6, 2014, HARPERS FERRY made its transit out of the Gulf en route to Chengi, Singapore. Following Singapore, HARPERS FERRY along with the embarked Marines, Marines from the Republic of Korea, USS BOXER and USS New Orleans kicked off Ssang Yong 2014. An annual exercise in the South China Sea, off the coast of South Korea. At the commencement of this exercise, HARPERS FERRY headed to homeport San Diego.

En route to home port San Diego Naval Base, HARPERS FERRY stopped in Pearl Harbor, HI to undergo a change of command ceremony from Commander Steven Ilteris to Commander Kelly Fletcher. HARPERS FERRY transited from Hawaii back to CONUS 18 - 24 April 2014.

On April 24, the Marines disembarked in Camp Pendleton, Ca. And on April 25, 2014 HARPERS FERRY returned home. From 28 May to 18 June, Midshipmen from the United States Naval Academy embarked for their Summer Cruise. HARPERS FERRY off loaded her ammo at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach from 30 June to 03 July, 2014. Afterwards, HARPERS FERRY entered her CMAV and CNO Availability, which began on 03 July 2014 and extended beyond 01 January 2015.