



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC-20) ✓
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09517-3310

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From: Commanding Officer, USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC-20)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subject: COMMAND HISTORY 1986 (OPNAV REPORT 5720-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

Encl: (1) Ship's History 1986
(2) Narrative of Significant Events
(3) Ship's Fact Sheet
No. file (4) Biography of Commanding Officer
COF (5) Photograph of Commanding Officer
(6) List of Commanding Officers

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (6) are forwarded.

L. H. TURNER, JR.

Copy to:
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMSECDEFLT
COMPHIBGRU TWO
COMMANDING GENERAL FOURTH MAB
COMPHIBRON TWELVE

USS MOUNT WHITNEY COMMAND HISTORY 1986

January	09	Underway, Enroute Port Everglades
	12	Inport, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
	16	Underway, Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
	18	Inport, Norfolk, Virginia
	21	Commander, Second Fleet Embarks
	24	Commander, Amphibious Group Two Embarks
	27	Commence Battle Force Inport Training (BFIT)
	28	Commander, Amphibious Group Five Visits Commander, Amphibious Group Two
February	07	Commander, Amphibious Group Two Debarks
	08	Defense Investigative Agency Ship Orientation Tour
	10	Underway, Enroute FLEETEX 1-86
	16	Live Fire/Harpoonex
	22	Anchored, St. Thomas
	26	Damage Control Drills Commence for SELEX
	28	Underway, Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
March	03	Inport Norfolk, Virginia Commence IMAV
	04	Commence Aloud COMEX
	07	Commander, Amphibious Group Two Embarks
	11	Commence CINTEX
	12	Award Ceremony/Presentation
	13	CMS Stand down
	17	Commence SMI Inspection
	24	Commence BFIT 2-86
	24	CDR Kok, PXO, Arrives
	28	Northern Wedding 86 Working Conference
April	01	Commence Shipwide Security Inspection
	03	OS "A" School Tour (30-40 Personnel)
	08	SSO Assist Visit (NAVSURFLANT) Hold MARG 2-86 Religious Planning Conference Embark Air Detachment
	09	Commence Fast Cruise
	10	Embark FLEETEX 2-86 Helicopter
	11	Underway, FLEETEX 2-86
	14	Inport Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico
	15	Underway for FLEETEX/Supporting Arms Coordination Exercise Commence Laser Demonstration
	23	Enroute Norfolk, VA
	25	Award Ceremony/Presentation
	26	Inport Norfolk, VA

May 09 Commander, Amphibious Group Two Debarks
 12 Commanding General, 4th MAB Embarks
 RADM Smith, COMNAVTELCOM, Arrived
 14 BGEN Caulfield, CG Fourth MAB, Arrived
 15 VADM Oswald, COMASWSTRIKFOR, Arrived
 RADM Thomas, Flag Officer Second Flotilla, Arrived
 16 VADM Oswald, COMASWSTRIKFOR, Departs
 23 Military Spouse Day Dinner On Board

June 03 Side Honors for Chief of Staff, French Armed Forces
 Tour of Ship
 04 Reserve Chaplain Ship Tour
 06 OS "A" School Orientation Visit
 09 AWACS TRACKEX 09-10 JUN
 SNAP II Software Installation
 10 FLTDECGRULANT Van on-load
 12 On-load CSSQT Telemetry Gear
 16 COMSECONDFLT Debarks
 17 Underway Local ops/CSSQT, SLQ-32 Testing
 22 Yankee Anchorage/ U/W ENR VCOA 22
 25 Inport, NORVA/Pier 25
 COMSECONDFLT Embarks
 28 CG II MAF Advance Party Embarks
 30 COMPHIBGRU TWO Embarks
 CG II MAF Embarks
 Embark Ship's HELO

July 01 Underway, New York City for INR-86
 02 CTF 20 (C2F) Assumes Tactical Control of INR Ships
 INR Rendezvous
 03 Man The Rail
 21 Gun Salute to Fort Hamilton (Returned)
 Anchor Lower Hudson River Anchorage LH-3
 04 Embark 200 Essay Winners and Escorts
 Man The Rail
 Mount Whitney Renders 21 Gun Salute to President Reagan (On-
 Board USS Iowa)
 Reenlistment, Frocking and Awards Ceremony
 Mount Whitney Fires 21 Gun National Salute
 Underway for Brooklyn, NY
 Inport Brooklyn, NY/Pier 7
 05 Media/General Visiting
 07 Underway, NORVA
 Gun Shoot
 08 Arrive NORVA/Pier 25
 09 BPDSMS Ordalt Installation (9-11)
 JINTACCS ADP Site Survey (9-14)
 AN/SLQ-32 EMC Testing and Ram Barrier Installation

July 10 CG Fourth MAB Embarks
 US-Germany Joint Talks Delegation visit and lunch with C2F
 (Senior Visitor LGEN Vesser USA)
 Marine Corps Inspector General Visit with CG Fourth MAB (MGEN
 Rice USMC)
 ADM Kelso, CINCLANTFLT Arrived

16 Frocking Ceremony

21 ASM/OPCON II Installation (21-22)
 LANDSAT/ERDAS Groom
 AN/SLQ-32 (V) Groom (21-AUG 1)
 CSRR Phase II (21-AUG 1)
 Navy Surgeon General Presentation

23 COMPHIBGRU TWO NAV Assist Team Briefing
 USS CORONADO Arrival (Host Ship)
 FOURTH MAB Embarkation Meeting

25 CPG2 CO'S Tactical Symposium

31 Fourth Amphibious First LT'S Conference
 C2F Vandal Debrief

August 01 Commence DECCA NAV SYST Installation
 Frocking and SOQ Ceremony

04 Phase II BFIT 3-86
 CPG 2 NW 86 CWD Exercise Coordination Meeting
 4TH MAB Augmentee Indoctrination
 BG NAV Accuracy NIDS Program Installation

17 Underway for Northern Wedding 86

19 Frocking Ceremony

24 Z-13-CC SELEX

29 Anchor Vestfjord

September 01 Labor Day

03 Blue Nose Ceremony

05 Anchor In Moray Firth, Scotland

06 Anchor Vic Cape Wrath

08 4TH MAB BOLD GUARD Brief
 Larvik Navigation Brief and Assault Brief

09 Anchor vic Larvik, Norway
 Larvik Amphibious Assault (H/L Hour)

13 Anchor Vic Larvik

14 Hispanic Heritage Week

16 CPO Initiation

17 Maritime Air Defense Exercise

18 Jutland Amphibious Assault (0700 H-Hour)

20 Moor At Assigned Berth, Amsterdam, Netherlands

26 Depart Amsterdam, Netherlands

27 Fire 21 Gun National Salute Vic Outer Spit Buoy
 Returned by HMS Dolphin Naval Saluting Battery
 Berth South Railway Jetty, Portsmouth, UK

October	03	Depart Portsmouth, UK
	15	EXERCISE TEAMWORK 88 Planning Conference
	17	Electrical Cableway Inspection Team Visit
		Shallow Water ASW Conference (C2F)
		MCD Winter Uniform Inspection
		C2F US/USAF Joint Ops Talk
	27	CPG2 CMC MTG
		BG NAV Accuracy MTG
	28	PRR Assist Visit
	30	EPMU Assist Visit
		Naval Supply Corps School Visit
November	04	Command Inspection from COMPHIBRON 12 Inspectors begins
	05	Side Honors for COMPHIBRON 12 Arrival
		CPR 12/CO Tour of Ship
	06	Command Personnel Inspection
		Side Honors for COMPHIBRON 12 Departure
	10	Marine Corps 211th Birthday
		MTW Navy/MC Birthday Ball
		US Army Quartermaster Food Service Course Visit
	11	Veteran's Day
	12	Area-Wide Command Master Chief Meeting
	14	COMPHIBGRU TWO Embarks
	17	CIWS Sustainability Seminar
		C2F SOLID SHIELD Planning Conference
		Aviation Assist Outbrief
	18	CINTEX 04-87
	19	NAVSPASUR Satellite Vulnerability Products Briefing
	21	COMPHIBGRU TWO Debarks
	25	MARG 2-86 /26 MAU Religious Planning Conference
	27	Thanksgiving Day
December	01	Commence MIT
		COMSECONDFLT Debarks
		Underway ISE Vacapes
	04	Vibration survey
	05	MOOR PIER 25 NORVA, Berth 1
		COMSECONDFLT Embarks
	08	Commence NIPS-A software installation/training visit
	10	PMA work definition conference
	11	IMAV pre-arrival conference
	15	Commence TDI validation visit
		IMAV arrival conference (USS YELLOWSTONE)
	19	Departure of LT Teufel, LT Boreth
	22	Commence JAGC officer TEMDU afloat assignment
	23	General Gray (COMMARINE STRIKEFOR) arrives/departs

USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC-20)
NARRATIVE OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS 1986

- 10 FEB - 03 MAR MOUNT WHITNEY, with Commander Second Fleet embarked as Commander Task Force Twenty Seven departed Norfolk, 11 FEB, to participate in exercise FLEETEX 1-86. The exercise took place in the Caribbean with the participation of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands Navies. The participating battle group Commander was COMCARGRU SIX, embarked on USS AMERICA (CV-66). Activities included a port visit to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.
- 11 APR - 26 APR COMSECONDFLT embarked in MOUNT WHITNEY during FLEETEX 2-86 as Commander Task Force Twenty. The battle group was led by COMCARGRU SIX embarked in USS FORRESTAL (CV-59). The exercise included a brief stop in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico 14-15 APR.
- 01 JUL - 08 JUL MOUNT WHITNEY, with Commander Second Fleet embarked as Officer in Tactical Command, led an armada of 30 ships in a ceremonial entry into New York harbor on 03 JUL. This began the celebration of the Fifth International Naval Review and the rededication of the Statue of Liberty. A 21 gun salute was rendered to Fort Hamilton as MOUNT WHITNEY was entering the harbor. That evening, with all the ships at darken ship, the Statue of Liberty was rededicated. Later, when the Torch was relit, all the ships in the harbor, coordinated by USS MOUNT WHITNEY, went to Light Ship at once in celebration of the event. On 04 JUL, the ship went to full dress and stood by for the International Naval Review. The Reviewing Officer was President Ronald Reagan embarked on USS IOWA (BB-61). MOUNT WHITNEY rendered a 21 gun salute to the Commander in Chief as USS IOWA passed alongside. Upon the conclusion of the Review, MOUNT WHITNEY observed the Parade of Tall Ships and later from pierside in Brooklyn, New York, observed the Festival of Freedom Fire Works display.
- 17 AUG - 11 OCT MOUNT WHITNEY departed homeport, Norfolk, Virginia, on 17 AUG and transited northeast to rendezvous with other U.S. and NATO units to participate in NORTHERN WEDDING/NORTHERN ENGAGEMENT 86. MOUNT WHITNEY, with Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic, Commander Amphibious Striking Force, and Commanding General Fourth Marine Amphibious Brigade embarked, served as the command ship for the exercises which involved a multi-national force of over 150 ships, 300 aircraft, including the USS NIMITZ and HMS ARK ROYAL battle groups, and 35,000 men.

USS MOUNT WHITNEY

The USS Mount Whitney (LCC-20) was constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, and is the second in the Blue Ridge class of command ships.

The ship is named for the 14,946 foot peak in the Sierra Nevada range in California, the first ship in the Navy to bear this name.

The 620 foot Mount Whitney, with a complement of 750 men and officers, serves as flagship for Commander U.S. Second Fleet; Commander Amphibious Group Two; and Commanding General Fourth Marine Amphibious Brigade. The ship is homeported in Norfolk, Va.

Since commissioning, the ship has participated in fleet operations in the Mediterranean, Caribbean, and the North Atlantic. Mount Whitney's long list of accomplishments and awards include nine Battle Efficiency ("E") awards, receipt of the Meritorious Unit Commendation, numerous department efficiency awards. The ship participated in the July 4, 1976 International Naval Review in New York City, and again during the Rededication of the Statue of Liberty and International Naval Review July 3-5 1986. Mount Whitney won consecutive Battle "E" awards in 1972, 1973 and 1974; and repeated this in 1978, 1979 and 1980. The ship earned the Battle "E" again in 1983, 1985, and most recently it's third consecutive award in 1986. Mount Whitney has won departmental efficiency awards in Engineering, Amphibious Assault, Electronic Warfare, Anti-air Warfare, and Communications. The ship's latest departmental awards included Amphibious Assault, Electronic Warfare (third consecutive), anti-air warfare (third consecutive) and damage control (third consecutive).

One of the largest and most sophisticated command ships ever commissioned, Mount Whitney embodies elements of some of the largest military command and communications systems currently in operation, afloat or ashore. A modular amphibious control center gives the Amphibious Task Force Commander control of all tactical phases of the landing operation. The control is greatly enhanced by Mount Whitney's Naval Tactical Data System (NTDS) which presents an instantaneous display of the tactical situation of friendly and enemy forces. The heart of the system is the four computers located in the Automated Data Processing Module. Display of tactical information and real time tactical situations is available from any one of the 28 consoles located in the various command control modules. This complex is served by one of the largest tactical intelligence centers and communications units in the Navy.

The ship's communication center can handle 75,000 messages a month, and its intelligence center is the most sophisticated of its kind afloat in any navy.

Although her main fighting equipment is her electronics and communications suite, Mount Whitney is also armed with two rapid fire 3"/50mm gun mounts and the Basic Point Defense Missile System consisting of two launchers, each capable of firing eight Sparrow III missiles.

The ship carries enough food to feed the crew for ninety days. It also can transport supplies to support an emergency evacuation of 3,000 people. It's evaporators produce over 100,000 gallons of fresh water daily, enough to meet the needs of a large ocean liner.

The ship travels at a maximum speed of 23 knots and her fuel capacity is over one million gallons of Navy distillate and JP-5 fuel. This would permit the ship to steam at 16 knots for 35 days - from Norfolk, Va. to Mozambique in the Indian Ocean and back.

The ship's two anchors weigh 11 tons each and are attached to 180 Fathoms (1080 feet) of anchor chain. Each chain weighs almost 25 tons. The rudder is 22 feet tall and enables the ship to turn in a circle 500 yards in diameter. Total electrical capacity is 7500 kilowatts, a sufficient amount to power a small city.

-(LCC 20)-

Enclosure (3)

COMMANDING OFFICERS
USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20)

1. Captain O. G. Baird, USN, relieved 05 January 1973
2. Captain R. F. Dunn, USN, relieved 21 June 1974
3. Captain L. H. Bibby, USN, relieved 12 June 1976
4. Captain R. M. Burris, USN, relieved 02 September 1977
5. Captain J. J. Kingston, USN, relieved 26 January 1980
6. Captain V. C. Smith, USN, relieved 10 October 1981
7. Captain D. M. Bennett, USN, relieved 22 April 1983
8. Captain R. C. Johnson, Jr., USN, relieved 01 March 1985
9. Captain L. L. Lubbs, USN, Commanding through 1986

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