

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 09501

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LPD13/30:ps  
5750  
Ser: 034  
12 JUN 1972

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(Unclassified upon removal of enclosure)

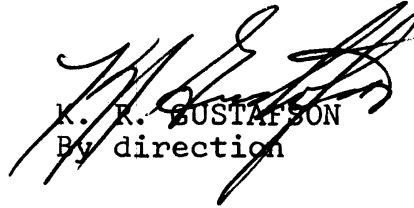
From: Commanding Officer, USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)  
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20390

Subj: USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) Command History 1 January 1971  
to 31 December 1971; submission of (OPNAV REPORT 5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13) Command History 1 January  
1971 to 31 December 1971

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

  
K. R. GUSTAFSON  
By direction

GROUP-4  
Downgraded at 3 year intervals  
Declassified after 12 years

[1971]

Reg 745

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL  
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13)  
COMMAND HISTORY 1971

1. Chronology of Highlights

a. 1 to 17 January: Moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia. Restricted availability through 7 January.

b. 15 January: Captain D. F. MILLIGAN relieved Captain F. R. FAHLAND as Commanding Officer, USS NASHVILLE (LPD-13).

c. 18 to 30 January: Participated in Firex in vicinity of Vieques Island, Puerto Rico.

d. 31 January to 9 February: Moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

e. 10 February to 27 February: Participated in Firex in vicinity of Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. Liberty ports at St. Thomas, Virgin Islands and Port Everglades, Florida.

f. 28 February to 14 March: Moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

g. 15 to 19 March: Type training in Virginia Capes.

h. 22 to 29 March: Type training in Virginia Capes.

i. 30 March to 15 April: Moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

j. 16 April: Departed Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia for deployment to the Mediterranean Sea with the U.S. SIXTH FLEET.

k. 1 to 12 May: Participated in Dawn Patrol, a major SIXTH FLEET exercise.

l. 19 to 29 August: Participated in National Week X, a major SIXTH FLEET exercise.

m. 10 October: Returned to U.S. Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Virginia.

n. 11 October to 10 November: Stand down period.

o. 22 November: Shifted berths to Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

p. 29 December: Became a unit of the Caribbean Ready Group.

DECLASSIFIED  
DECLASSIFIED  
Enclosure (1)

DECLASSIFIED

~~DECLASSIFIED~~  
2. Basic Narrative

a. Command Organization

(1) Commanding Officer: Captain Frank R. FAHLAND, USN. Dates of command 14 February 1970 to 15 January 1971. Captain Donald F. MILLIGAN, USN. Dates of command 15 January 1971 through 31 December 1971.

(2) Home port: U.S. Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

(3) Mission of the Ship: The LPD is the newest and most versatile class of amphibious assault ships. In an amphibious assault, it offers the tactical flexibility of either:

(a) vertical envelopment -- rapid attack by helicopters from the flight deck to landing zones on the enemy's flanks or rear; or

(b) beach landings by assault boat waves launched from the floodable boat well; or

(c) a combination of the two.

The LPD can transport about 860 marines along with their combat vehicles and equipment.

(4) Composition of Command: As of 31 December 1971 there were 29 officers and 385 enlisted assigned to USS NASHVILLE. The ship was on that date a unit of Amphibious Squadron Six.

b. Operations

(1) After participating in firing exercises in the vicinity of Vreques Island, Puerto Rico in January and February and making port visits to St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Port Everglades, Florida and Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, the ship had two weeks of Type Training in the Virginia Capes Operating Areas in preparation for deployment with the Sixth Fleet.

(2) On 16 April NASHVILLE departed from Naval Station, Norfolk and proceeded to Morehead City, North Carolina where marines and amphibious vehicles and equipment were loaded for the deployment. Commander Thirty Second Marine Amphibious Unit was embarked at Morehead City and used NASHVILLE as his flagship for the duration of the Mediterranean Cruise.

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL  
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

(3) During the deployment NASHVILLE participated in amphibious landing at Iraklion, Crete, Navplion, Greece, Strimon River, Turkey and Porto Scudo, and in two large fleet exercises Dawn Patrol and National Week X. Port visits were made at Iraklion, Crete, Athens, Greece, Bari, Italy, Mersin, Turkey, Kusadasi, Turkey, Naples, Italy, Palma de Mallorca, Barcelona, Spain and Rota, Spain.

(4) NASHVILLE returned to the U.S. Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek, Virginia on 10 October 1971 for a thirty day stand down period. On 22 November the ship shifted berths to Naval Station Norfolk and commenced preparations to join the Caribbean Ready Group on 29 December 1971.

### 3. Special Topics

a. Engineering Performance The ship experienced no major engineering problems which caused a commitment to be missed. The ship's motor whale boat was lost in heavy weather enroute to the Mediterranean on 20 April 1971. The boat was recovered by a passing merchant ship and returned to the Navy. NASHVILLE received a replacement boat from USS AUSTIN (LPD-4).

b. Dependent's Flight In coordination with the squadron the ship sponsored a dependent's flight for families of NASHVILLE personnel. The dependents arrived while the ship visited Naples, Italy from 22 July 1972 through 6 August 1972. Flight services and arrangements were through the Davis Agency.

c. Developments in tactics and doctrine. NASHVILLE contributed to the assessment and development of two experimental tactics. The first was an underway launch of LVT's at Strimon River during the joint amphibious landing. The second was the employment of ASW helicopters aboard an LPD during National Week X.

DECLASSIFIED  
CONFIDENTIAL  
DECLASSIFIED