

1985



USS NASSAU (LHA-4)
FPO NEW YORK 09557-1615

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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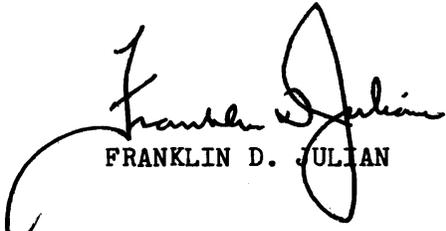
From: Commanding Officer, USS NASSAU (LHA 4)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

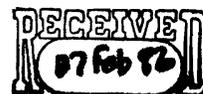
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) Command History for USS NASSAU (LHA 4) for period
1 Jan - 31 Dec 1985

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).


FRANKLIN D. JULIAN

Copy to:
Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)



JANUARY

- 3 — COMPHIBRON SIX staff departed.
- 7 — COMPHIBRON SIX staff returned.
- 9 — Underway for local operations.
- 11 — Returned to port.
- 14 — Underway for local operations.
- 19 — Returned to port.
- 23 — Second Marine Division staff embarked. GEN KEITARO WATANABE, chairman of Japanese Joint Staff Council, visited.
- 24 — Underway for local operations.
- 26 — Returned to port.
- 31 — Second Marine Air Wing staff embarks.

FEBRUARY

- 2 — Second Marine Division and Second Marine Air wing departed.
- 4 — COMPHIBRON FOUR change of command held aboard.
- 7 — Underway for local operations.
- 13 — Returned to port.
- 18 — Underway for local operations.
- 21 — Operational Propulsion Plan Examination (OPPE) began.
- 23 — Received satisfactory grade in OPPE. Returned to port.
- 25 — Underway for Supporting Arms Coordinated Exercise (SACEX)/Naval Gunfire Support (NGFS) qualification, during which USS NASSAU carried 2,670 tons of equipment, including 213 Marine Corps vehicles and artillery units, a record load for the ship.

MARCH

- 2 — Arrived Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; began offload of Marine Corps construction gear, materials and personnel.
- 3 — Completed offload; departed Guantanamo Bay.
- 9 — Arrived Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, following completion of successful SACEX/NGFS qualification. Departed Roosevelt Roads.
- 11 — Safety standdown.
- 12 — Arrived Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for port visit.
- 14 — Underway for Norfolk. Conducted AV-8 Harrier and Army and Air Force helicopter carrier qualifications en route.
- 19 — Returned to home port.
- 27 — Admiral James H. Flatley Award for 1984 fleetwide aviation safety in LHA/LPH class ships presented to USS NASSAU by RADM R. B. ROGERS, COMPHIBGRU TWO.
- 30 — CAPT FRANKLIN D. JULIAN relieved CAPT RONALD H. JESBERG as Commanding Officer. VADM ROBERT F. DUNN, COMNAVAIRLANT, was guest speaker.

APRIL

- 15 — Underway for Operations Universal Trek and Solid Shield '85. USS NASSAU served as flagship for the nine-ship task force in Universal Trek before joining 35 other U.S. Atlantic Fleet ships for Solid Shield. Universal

Enclosure (1)

Trek took place in Honduras and her coastal waters. UT85 came to a climax on the 24th when the order "Land the landing force." began the assault by more than 750 Marines from USS NASSAU on the beach near Puerto Castillo.

- 30 — The 22nd annual Solid Shield exercise, which included 43,000 members of the four Armed Services and U.S. Coast Guard, began off the U.S. East Coast. USS NASSAU and embarked units participated in air assault and amphibious operations off the coast of Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

MAY

- 18 — Returned to home port at conclusion of Solid Shield '85.
- 29 — COMSECONDFLT, VADM HENRY C. MUSTIN, shifted his flag to USS NASSAU from USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20).

JUNE

- 11-13 — Satisfactorily completed COMPHIBRON TWELVE Command Inspection.

JULY

- 9 — Underway for Readiness Exercise '85.
- 21 — Arrived St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, for port visit.
- 24 — Underway for home port.
- 27 — Returned to home port at conclusion of READEX '85.

AUGUST

- 27 — Underway for Exercise Ocean Safari '85.
- 28 — ADM WESLEY L. MCDONALD, SACLANT, arrived.
- 29 — ADM MCDONALD and VADM HENRY C. MUSTIN, COMSTRIKFLTANT, held news conference with 17 international journalists. ADM MCDONALD departed. U.S. Senator WILLIAM P. GRAMM of Texas arrived for a tour, briefing and a lunch with his constituents and departed.

SEPTEMBER

- 23 — Arrived Hamburg, Germany, for port visit. According to German Navy officials, USS NASSAU is the largest U.S. Navy ship to visit Hamburg.
- 28 — Underway for Portsmouth, England.
- 30 — Arrived Portsmouth, England, for port visit.

OCTOBER

- 5 — Underway for home port.
- 12 — Returned to home port at conclusion of Exercise Ocean Safari '85.
- 28-30 — Satisfactorily completed COMNAVSURFLANT Supply Management Inspection.

NOVEMBER

- 15 — USS NASSAU received Meritorious Unit Commendation, presented by RADM R. B. ROGERS, COMPHIBGRU TWO, for service during her 1984 Mediterranean

deployment off Beirut, Lebanon. NASSAU was flagship for Mediterranean Amphibious Ready Group 2-84 and 24th Marine Amphibious Unit from April 1984 to August 1984 when it supported U.S. diplomatic efforts in Lebanon. During the same ceremony, ADM ROGERS presented COMNAVSURFLANT mission area excellence awards for the competitive cycle ending March 31, 1985: anti-air warfare, damage control; amphibious warfare; command, control and communications; electronic warfare; navigation/deck seamanship; and aircraft intermediate maintenance department.

DECEMBER

- 2 — VADM HENRY C. MUSTIN, COMSECONDFLT, shifted his flag from USS NASSAU to USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13).
- 3 — Underway for AV-8B carrier qualifications.
- 8 — Arrived Nassau, Bahamas, for port visit, the second visit by USS NASSAU to her namesake city.
- 11 — Underway for home port.
- 14 — Returned to home port.
- 15 — VADM HENRY C. MUSTIN, COMSECONDFLT, shifted his flag from USS NASHVILLE (LPD 13) to USS NASSAU.
- 22 — VADM MUSTIN shifted his flag from USS NASSAU to USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20).