



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)
FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK 09501

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From: Commanding Officer, USS SHREVEPORT (LPD-12)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-0989), Washington
Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Calendar Year 1974 Command History (OPNAV Report
5750-1)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12B

Encl: (1) 1974 History of USS SHREVEPORT (LPD-12)

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. A. Karvala", is centered below the text.

C. A. KARVALA

Copy to:
CINCLANTFLT
COMNAVSURFLANT
COMPHIBGRU TWO
COMPHIBRON TWO

As the year 1974 began SHREVEPORT was moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia. She was at sea the 10 - 11 January for training exercises off the Virginia Capes, and from 14 - 17 January operations off Onslow Beach, North Carolina.

On February 1st, 1974 SHREVEPORT assumed duties as Flagship for Caribbean Amphibious Ready Group 1-74. On 6 February she was underway with COMPHIBRON TWO for the first part of CARG 1-74. During the next six weeks she participated in Exercise ESCORT TIGER an Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and VERITAS VII with Brazilian forces off the Island of Vieques with liberty stops at St. Croix and St. Thomas.

SHREVEPORT returned to Norfolk on the 19th of March for one month of maintenance, training and recuperation. A month later she deployed again on CARG 1-74. During this deployment she participated in exercise VENUS III with Venezuelan forces off the Island of Vieques and dropped the Marines off for Jungle Training in Panama Canal Zone. After visiting St. Thomas, Santa Marta (Colombia) San Juan, and Port Everglades (Florida) the ship took part in Exercise SOLID SHIELD before returning to Norfolk on the seventh of June.

After her return to Norfolk, SHREVEPORT prepared for a cruise with some 350 Midshipmen from the U. S. Naval Academy. This next voyage in which she would participate would be the annual Midshipmen Training exercise called NATRONLANT. This cruise is designed to give future Academy graduates experience in the fundamentals of ship-board life. With COMPHIBRON SIX embarked, SHREVEPORT left Norfolk on the 24th of June in company with the USS PONCE (LPD-15). SHREVEPORT and PONCE visited Rotterdam, Holland from 6 to 10 July and Portsmouth, England from 12 to 18 July. Both the transit to and from Norfolk were busy with training for the Midshipmen as the port stops were filled with liberty. SHREVEPORT and PONCE returned to the Naval Station on 28 July 1974 to debark the Midshipmen and commence preparations for another cruise, CARG 2-74.

Early August saw SHREVEPORT again assume duties as Flagship for Commander Amphibious Squadron TWO. In company with AUSTIN, HERMITAGE and FAIRFAX COUNTY, SHREVEPORT departed for exercises in the Caribbean on August 20th. SHREVEPORT participated in ESCORT TIGER XVII and DORIA SALUTE and visited San Juan, St. Thomas and Roosevelt Roads. SHREVEPORT was tasked by CINCLANT to help the Coast Guard rescue an ill merchant sailor from the British tanker CAVENDISH. After completion of this, SHREVEPORT continued to Fort Lauderdale, Florida and Norfolk, arriving home October 1st, 1974.

(ENCLOSURE 1)

October 31st saw SHREVEPORT again underway, this time for the last half of CARG 2-74. After embarking BLT 3/2 in Morehead City, North Carolina, she headed for the Canal Zone for Jungle Training and off-loading on the BLT. After a five day visit to Cartagena, Colombia, SHREVEPORT returned to the Canal Zone and began backloading the BLT. After a port stop in Montego Bay, Jamaica, SHREVEPORT participated in exercise JITNEY LIFT, a test of the helo lift capabilities of an LPD. This included debarking Marines ashore and evacuation exercises from the beach while steaming, at one point 60 miles to sea. After completion of the backload, SHREVEPORT was underway for Morehead City, North Carolina. SHREVEPORT and her crew arrived in Norfolk on the 17th of December, and moored at South Annex, Naval Station. After a full steaming year - some 220 days deployed - SHREVEPORT finished 1974 preparing for a January INSURV, taking ~~some~~ much deserved holiday leave and upkeep and looking ahead to yet another Caribbean deployment in early 1975.

(ENCLOSURE 1)