



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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From: Commanding Officer, USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09139), Washington Navy Yard

Subj: SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) 1987 History of the USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)

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

2. USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12) executed an extremely varied operations schedule in 1987 commencing with refresher training in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and ending in the Mediterranean Sea as part of MARG 4-87. A total of eight months were spent underway during the year. Major evolutions included Amphibious Refresher Training, "Solid Shield 87", MARG workups, and exercise "AFRICAN EAGLE '87". The year also saw command of USS SHREVEPORT pass from Captain J. N. McKay to Captain K. H. Johnson. The ship departed Norfolk, VA, 29 September for the Mediterranean, ending the year in port, Palma de Mallorca, Spain.


K. H. JOHNSON
CAPTAIN USN

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

JANUARY 1987

USS SHREVEPORT began 1987 inport Norfolk, Virginia, conducting Damage Control Training/Preps for Refresher Training in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. From 06-07 January, SHREVEPORT was involved in AMPHIBTRE, then loaded L-Form on 9 January. On 20 January, the ship was involved in operations off the VACAPES, completing 40 helo landings during DLQ's with USS GUAM (LPH 9). That same day, the ship held Burial at Sea ceremonies for FCC John E. Tyczkowski, USN Retired. SHREVEPORT next anchored for small boat operations on 25 January, and returned to port on 27 January.

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1987

SHREVEPORT departed homeport for Refresher Training in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba on 5 February. The ship wiped a line shaft bearing soon after leaving port and completed the transit on one shaft. The ship arrived in GITMO on 8 February. SHREVEPORT took a brief respite from training and held a Ship Beach Party on 16 February. Besides normal Damage Control and ship handling drills, SHREVEPORT took part in DEFEX 1-87, a simulated forced evacuation of the Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay. The ship completed February with an Underway Replenishment with USS WACAMAW. March saw continued and intensified training. SHREVEPORT went through a variety of evolutions, including medical training, CBR defense and piloting. SHREVEPORT held a highline transfer with USS CANISTEO on 17 March. The ship received OPPE Certification on 24 March and on 25 March passed her Final Battle Problem and set sail for Norfolk.

APRIL 1987

SHREVEPORT was underway to VACAPES operations area for Amphibious Refresher Training. On 4 April, the ship received Phase I & II AV-8 Harrier Certification. SHREVEPORT transitted to Onslow Bay, North Carolina on 12 April and received Phase III AV-8 Harrier Certification. SHREVEPORT received the highest score ever for Amphibious Refresher Training with a score of 99.3%. Upon return to Norfolk the ship hosted COMPHIBRON TWO Change of Command (Captain Ianucci relieved by Captain Cash) 27 April. On 28 April, the ship transitted to Morehead City, North Carolina to onload cargo and troops to Solid Shield 1987.

MAY 1987

SHREVEPORT was underway from 28 April to 16 May for Solid Shield '87. On 6 May, Commander Amphibious Group TWO (RADM Fogerty) visited SHREVEPORT. SHREVEPORT commenced RAS with USS MONONGAHELA on 14 May. On 16 May, the ship began return transit to Morehead City, North Carolina, holding Awards Ceremony and Flight Deck Cookout on 17 May before beginning a Navy Relief Fund-Raising Auction on 18 May. SHREVEPORT arrived in Morehead City 20 May and commenced offload of troops/cargo before getting underway for Norfolk, Virginia. The ship arrived in Norfolk on 21 May, received a PHSAT visit on 26 May, and completed a successful 3-M Inspection 28-31 May.

JUNE 1987

The ship was underway for Pre-Insurv Rehearsal/Full Power Trial on 03 June and returned to Norfolk on 4 June. The INSURV Inspection was held from 8-12 June. On 15 June, SHREVEPORT began IMAV with USS PUGET SOUND and finished the month inport Norfolk.

JULY 1987

The ship received a visit from CPG-2 on 2 July. On 10 July, Captain Kenneth H. Johnson relieved Captain John N. McKay Jr., as Commanding Officer, USS SHREVEPORT. Midshipmen arrived on board 11 July for Summer Cruise Training. The ship held a Dependent Cruise from Yorktown to Norfolk on 23 July. SHREVEPORT completed the month underway from 27-31 July for Midshipmen Shiphandling Exercises.

AUGUST 1987

SHREVEPORT began August underway for FLEETEX 4-87, Onslow Bay, North Carolina, returning to Norfolk 5 August, 1987. On 11 August, the ship held an awards ceremony and hosted another CPG-2 visit. Most of August was spent conducting MARG 4-87 workups for the upcoming deployment to the Mediterranean. The ship conducted Underway Replenishment with USS SEATTLE on 13 August, then transitted to Morehead City, North Carolina for troop and cargo offload before return to Norfolk.

SEPTEMBER 1987

SHREVEPORT began the month in Norfolk with Labor Day liberty and preparations for MARG 4-87 Deployment. On Tuesday, 29 September, at 0830, SHREVEPORT got underway for MARG 4-87. After a brief stop in Morehead City, North Carolina on 30 September to pick up MSSG-22, the ship began the transit to the Mediterranean for MARG 4-87. Ships in company were USS NASSAU (LHA 4) and USS MANITOWOC (LST 1180).

OCTOBER 1987

On 6 October, SHREVEPORT refueled with USS SEATTLE and passed through the Straits of Gibraltar, refueling with USS MISSISSINEWA on 11 October. On 13 October SHREVEPORT celebrated the Navy Birthday on the mess decks with a cake cutting ceremony. October saw the implementation of the SHREVEPORT's CRUISEMASTER PROGRAM for those who reenlisted/extended during MARG 4-87. The ship anchored in Augusta Bay, Sicily, for MARG turnover with USS SPIEGEL GROVE on 14 October, and commenced PHIBLEX, Pian De Spille on 19 October. On 25 October, SHREVEPORT got underway enroute Piano, Monaco, conducting a RAS with USNS PAWCATUCK on 26 October.

NOVEMBER 1987

On 3 November, the ship got underway for Sete, France, for troop offload before arriving Toulon, France, 6 November. This ended 39 days of consecutive sea time. The ship held a Command Personnel Inspection on 13 November and hosted a visit from CPR-2 the same day. On 23 November, SHREVEPORT got underway for Sierra De Retin, Spain, for PHIBLEX. The ship celebrated Thanksgiving on 26 November and held a CONREP with USS CONCORD. USS SHREVEPORT arrived Sierra De Retin on 28 November.

DECEMBER 1987

SHREVEPORT departed Sierra De Retin for Tangier, Morocco, on 4 December, arriving Tangier on 5 December. The ship received a visit from COMPHIBRON TWO, 22 MAU and the Governor of Tangier on 7 December. An Awards Ceremony was held on 8 December and the ship got underway on 10 December for AFRICAN EAGLE '87. SHREVEPORT celebrated her 17th birthday on 12 December. From 14-17 December, the ship held Shiphandling/Maneuvering Drills with USS NASSAU, USS MANITOWOC and RMN ERRAHMANI. After refueling with USS SEATTLE on 16 December, SHREVEPORT sailed for Palma De Mallorca, Spain, arriving on 21 December. On 24 December, SHREVEPORT held Awards Ceremony/Frocking on the Flight Deck. The halfway point of deployment was celebrated 30 December with a Cake Cutting Ceremony on the mess decks. The ship remained in Palma until 4 January 1988.