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**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)  
FLEET POST OFFICE  
NEW YORK 09587-1714

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**From:** Commanding Officer, USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)  
**To:** Director of Naval History (OP-09HB), Washington, DC  
20374-0571

**Subj:** USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12), COMMAND HISTORY FOR CALENDAR  
YEAR 1989

**Ref:** (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

**Encl:** (1) Ship's picture  
(2) List of command awards and citations  
(3) Commanding Officer's biography and portrait  
(4) Welcome aboard pamphlet  
(5) Change of command pamphlet  
(6) Chronology of Significant Events  
(7) Command Composition and Organization

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following Command History for CY 89 is submitted.

-The year 1989 was an exciting one for the officers and crew of the USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12). Following the holiday leave period, SHREVEPORT departed Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia, on 10 January, enroute to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for Interim Refresher Training.

-During Refresher Training the ship underwent a battery of exercises testing the ship's capabilities in several areas that included Combat Systems, Navigation, Damage Control, and Engineering. These exercises led to the successful certification of all three of our shipboard training teams: Engineering Casualty Control Training Team, Damage Control Training Team, and Combat Systems Training Team.

-We departed Guantanamo Bay on 24 February enroute to Mayport, Florida. The ship arrived in Mayport on 26 February where we embarked the SURFLANT Propulsion Examination Board. Following months of preparation we successfully completed our Operational Propulsion Plant Examination on 28 February receiving a two year recertification. Following OPPE, SHREVEPORT sailed for home. SHREVEPORT arrived at pier two berth five of the naval station in Norfolk on 01 March 1989.

-Following a short rest period, SHREVEPORT was underway for amphibious training in Onslow Bay with USS Manitowac (LST 1180) and USS Nassau (LHA 4). This period was used to get the ship back in the swing of performing it's primary mission; Amphibious landings. We made several practice landings acting as Primary Control Ship (PCS), a job we are well equipped to handle. We returned to Norfolk on 10 March 89 and commenced a three week IMAV with the USS Yellowstone (AD 41).

-On 10 April 89 SHREVEPORT got underway for fleet exercise 3/89 which was scheduled to take place off the coast of Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. We made a brief stop in Morehead city, N.C., to embark MSSG-26. While in Puerto Rico, we acted as PCS for three flawless amphibious landings and five rehearsal landings. Following this successful exercise, SHREVEPORT returned to Morehead city, off-loaded the Marines of MSSG-26 and returned to Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia, on 02 May to commence the Pre-Overseas Movement leave period.

-In the afternoon of 30 May 89, SHREVEPORT departed Norfolk with the Coral Sea Battle Group as a member of the Mediterranean Amphibious Ready Group (MARG) 2-89. Following embarkation of MSSG-26 in Morehead City, N.C., the ship departed the east coast of the United States on course for Rota, Spain.

-Following a twelve day voyage across the Atlantic, SHREVEPORT docked pierside at Naval Station, Rota, Spain, to commence turnover with the USS Austin (LPD 4) and to prepare for our change of command ceremony.

-On 17 June 1989, Captain D. J. Montgomery relieved Captain K. H. Johnson as Commanding Officer of the USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12). The following morning SHREVEPORT was underway enroute to Sierra de Retin for an amphibious exercise with the other members of the Mediterranean Amphibious Readiness Group 2/89 (MARG-2/89), the USS Nassau (LHA 4) and the USS Barnstable County (LST 1197). The Phiblex was completed on 26 June 89 and following a successful exercise the SHREVEPORT plotted a course for Saint Cyr Sur Mer, France.

-We anchored off the coast of St. Cyr on 01 July and began running liberty boats to shore. This liberty visit was highlighted by a mayoral hosted dinner with Captain Montgomery as the guest of honor and a Fourth of July parade in which the ship provided a Navy and Marine Corps honor guard. Following a very enjoyable visit the SHREVEPORT departed on 06 July enroute to Haifa, Israel.

-SHREVEPORT arrived in Haifa, Israel on 10 July 1989. This was a working port visit. During this time period the ship

underwent a three week IMAV. Hydro-jetting of both boilers was the major job completed during this IMAV.

-During our visit to Haifa there were several tours arranged by the Welfare and Recreation officer. A large number of the crew took advantage of these tours to visit such places as Jerusalem, Galilee, and Masada. Also, many members of the ship's company visited a home for unwanted children and later entertained these children onboard the SHREVEPORT with a tour of the ship, free ballcaps, and cookies and punch.

-We departed Haifa on the morning of 29 July, 1989 enroute to Pian Di Spille, Italy. On 30 July, we were ordered to reverse course and proceed to a designated position fifty miles northeast of the Lebanese coast as a result of increased tensions in the area. We arrived in our designated MODLOC position on 01 August and remained in the area for the next twenty-eight days in anticipation of contingency operations to evacuate the U.S. embassy personnel in Beirut. We were prepared to provide a landing platform for helicopters acting as an air bridge from Beirut to Cyprus.

-On 28 August the ship made a port visit to Alexandria, Egypt to provide the crew with three days of liberty following a month on station in MODLOC. Several tours were provided to the pyramids, including an overnight tour to Cairo.

-On 02 September, SHREVEPORT departed Alexandria enroute to Naples, Italy. We arrived in Naples on 05 September and remained inport until departing for the coast of Turkey on 11 September to commence Display Determination 89. This was a NATO exercise conducted with Turkey, Spain, and Italy. We performed several successful Amphibious landings and gained invaluable experience working with our NATO allies. During this period SHREVEPORT passed two major inspections: the Maintenance Material Management (3-M) inspection, and the Engineering Material Assessment inspection. We completed Display Determination 89 on 03 October and sailed for Lisbon, Portugal.

-SHREVEPORT arrived at Lisbon on 11 October and commenced an RAV. Following a ten day port visit, SHREVEPORT was underway for Gallera 89, off the Portuguese coast. During this exercise SHREVEPORT acted as Primary Control Ship (PCS) for two amphibious landings whose participants included Portugal and the United States.

-Following Gallera, SHREVEPORT returned to Rota, Spain, on 25 October, to turnover with the USS Trenton (LPD-14) and the ships of MARG 3/89. On 27 October, SHREVEPORT departed Rota enroute to Morehead City, N.C. We arrived in Morehead City on

09 November and off-loaded MSSG-26. We embarked our Tiger Crew members and departed late that night enroute to our homeport.

-USS SHREVEPORT (LPD-12) arrived home at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia on the afternoon of 10 November 1989. We commenced a post deployment/holiday leave and upkeep period coupled with a three week IMAV with the USS Shenandoah (AD 44).

  
D. J. MONTGOMERY