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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)

FPO AE 09587-1714

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W/D*

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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7 Mar 02

[REDACTED] Unclassified upon removal of enclosures (5) and (7)

From: Commanding Officer, USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12)
To: Director, Naval Historical Center (N09BH), 805 Kidder
Breese St., SE, Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY (U)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G (U)
(b) CNO WASHINGTON DC 051955Z Feb 02 (U)

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization (U)
(2) Chronology of Events for Calendar Year 2001 (U)
(3) Narrative (U)
(4) Commanding Officer Biography (U)
(5) Motor Vessel Kota Sejarah After Action Report (S)
(6) Deck Log Entry for 0001, 25 Dec 2001 (U)
(7) OPREP-3 NAVY BLUE and UNIT SITREPS filed for
2001 (C/U)

1. (U) Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.

2. (U) In accordance with reference (b), all Unclassified electronic media items have been emailed to shiphistory@nhc.navy.mil. Classified electronic media items have been emailed to **[REDACTED]**

[Handwritten Signature]
W. D. VALENTINE, JR.

Derived from Multiple source
Declassify on 30 Sep 02

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COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION CY 2001

USS SHREVEPORT

Command:

Commanding Officer: W.D. Valentine, CAPT
Executive Officer: D. Baggett, LCDR / M. Pompeo, LCDR
Command Master Chief: G. Shiffert, CMDCM

Department Heads:

Operations Officer: [REDACTED], LCDR / [REDACTED], LT
First Lieutenant: [REDACTED], LCDR
Air Boss: [REDACTED], LCDR / [REDACTED], LCDR / [REDACTED], LCDR
Chief Engineer: [REDACTED], LT / [REDACTED], LT
Supply Officer: [REDACTED], LT / [REDACTED], LT
Medical Officer: [REDACTED], LT
Dental Officer: [REDACTED], LT
Chaplain: [REDACTED], LT
Navigator: [REDACTED], LT

EMBARKED UNITS

Marine Service Support Group 26
Battalion Landing Force 3/6 Lima Company
Battalion Landing Force 3/6 Mike Platoon
Naval Special Warfare Seal Team 8 Golf Platoon
Special Boat Unit Det 20
Assault Craft Unit 2 Det B

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR CY 2001

JAN 01 - JAN 31	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JAN 10	NAVY FOOD MANAGEMENT TEAM/FOOD SERVICE ASSIST VISIT
JAN 16	COMMUNICATIONS READINESS CERTIFICATION
JAN 31 - FEB 02	TRANSIT VACAPES TO ONSLOW BAY
FEB 02 - FEB 08	OPS AT ONSLOW BAY (AAV TRAINING OPS)
FEB 08 - FEB 09	TRANSIT ONSLOW BAY TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
FEB 09 - FEB 21	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
FEB 21 - FEB 23	UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA (TSTA)
FEB 23 - FEB 27	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
FEB 27 - MAR 02	UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA (TSTA)
MAR 02	NAVIGATION CHECK RIDE
MAR 02 - MAR 12	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
MAR 05	TACAN CERTIFICATION
MAR 05 - MAR 08	LEGAL TECH ASSIST VISIT
MAR 09	PERSONAL PAY ASSIST TEAM/PERSONNEL ADMIN TRAINING GROUP ASSIST VISIT
MAR 12 - MAR 14	UNDERWAY VACAPES OPAREA (ENGINEERING QUALIFICATION)
MAR 14 - MAR 23	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
MAR 14 - MAR 23	SEMAT ASSESSMENT
MAR 15 - MAR 22	CARGO AND WEAPONS ELEVATOR ASSESSMENT
MAR 16	COMBAT SYSTEMS READINESS ASSESSMENT
MAR 16	WEAPONS SYSTEMS POINTING AND FIRING CUT OUT ZONES ASSESSMENT
MAR 19 - MAR 23	SUPPLY MANAGEMENT ASSIST VISIT
MAR 23 - MAR 28	TRANSIT NORFOLK TO PUERTO RICO OPAREA
MAR 28 - MAR 31	INPORT ANTIGUA
MAR 31 - APR 04	SUPPORTING ARMS ARG TRAINING
MAR 31 - APR 02	TRANSIT ANTIGUA TO PUERTO RICO OPAREA
APR 02 - APR 06	TRANSIT PUERTO RICO OPAREA TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
APR 06 - APR 26	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
APR 19	DENTAL READINESS INSPECTION
APR 25	CMS INSPECTION
APR 26 - APR 29	TRANSIT NORFOLK TO ONSLOW BAY
APR 29 - APR 30	TRANSIT ONSLOW BAY TO PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA
APR 30 - MAY 02	INPORT PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA (BROWARD COUNTY NAVY DAYS)
MAY 02 - MAY 04	TRANSIT PORT EVERGLADES, FLORIDA TO ONSLOW BAY
MAY 04 - MAY 10	OPS ONSLOW BAY (PMINT)
MAY 10 - MAY 11	TRANSIT ONSLOW BAY TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
MAY 11 - MAY 18	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
MAY 14	MOGAS ASSESSMENT
MAY 18 - MAY 20	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
MAY 20 - MAY 21	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
MAY 21 - MAY 23	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO NEW YORK CITY, NY
MAY 23 - MAY 30	INPORT NEW YORK CITY, NY (FLEET WEEK)
MAY 30 - JUN 01	TRANSIT NEW YORK CITY, NY TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUN 01	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUN 01 - JUN 02	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUN 02 - JUN 05	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUN 05	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO NAVAL WEAPONS STATION YORKTOWN
JUN 05 - JUN 06	INPORT NAVAL WEAPONS STATION YORKTOWN (AMMO ONLOAD)

JUN 06	TRANSIT NAVAL WEAPONS STATION YORKTOWN TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUN 06 - JUN 19	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUN 06	#1 EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR INSPECTION
JUN 07	#2 EMERGENCY DIESEL GENERATOR INSPECTION
JUN 11	SUPPLY MANAGEMENT INSPECTION
JUN 19	UNDERWAY VACAPES OPEAREA (UNDERWAY MATERIAL INSPECTION/NAVOSH/EP ASSESSMENT/PERIODIC OIL POLLUTION ABATEMENT AND OILY WATER SEPARATOR INSPECTIONS/INSURV)
JUN 19 - JUL 10	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUN 20 - JUN 23	MEDICAL READINESS INSPECTION
JUN 26	POSTAL INSPECTION
JUL 27	HAZARDOUS MATERIAL ASSSIST VISIT
JUL 10 - JUL 11	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 11	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 11	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO ONSLOW BAY
JUL 11 - JUL 18	OPS ONSLOW BAY (MEUEX)
JUL 18	TRANSIT ONSLOW BAY TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 18 - JUL 19	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 19 - JUL 20	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUL 20 - JUL 30	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
JUL 23 - JUL 25	CABLEWAY ASSIST VISIT
JUL 30 - AUG 13	(SACEX/JTFEX)
JUL 30 - JUL 31	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 31	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
JUL 31 - AUG 03	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO PUERTO RICO OPEAREA
AUG 03 - AUG 08	OPS PUERTO RICO OPEAREA
AUG 08	TRANSIT PUERTO RICO OPEAREA TO NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR
AUG 09 - AUG 10	INPORT NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR (ARG FORCE PROTECTION EXERCISE)
AUG 10 - AUG 15	TRANSIT NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PR TO ONSLOW BAY
AUG 15 - AUG 18	OPS ONSLOW BAY (SOCEX)
AUG 18 - AUG 19	TRANSIT ONSLOW BAY TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
AUG 19 - 11 SEP	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
AUG 22	UNDERWATER HULL INSPECTION
SEP 06	DERAT CERTIFICATION
SEP 11 - SEP 12	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
SEP 12 - SEP 13	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
SEP 13 - SEP 14	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
SEP 14 - SEP 19	INPORT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION
SEP 19 - SEP 20	TRANSIT NORFOLK NAVAL STATION TO MOREHEAD CITY, NC
SEP 20	INPORT MOREHEAD CITY, NC
SEP 20 - OCT 01	TRANSIT MOREHEAD CITY, NC TO ROTA, SP
OCT 01 - OCT 02	INPORT ROTA, SP
OCT 02 - OCT 10	TRANSIT ROTA, SP TO ALEXANDRIA, EG
OCT 10 - OCT 24	OPS OFF ALEXANDRIA, EG
OCT 24 - OCT 29	TRANSIT ALEXANDRIA, EG TO LA MADDELENA, IT
OCT 29 - NOV 01	INPORT LA MADDELENA, IT
NOV 01 - NOV 07	TRANSIT LA MADDELENA, IT TO ALBANIA
NOV 07 - NOV 12	ALBANIA NATIONAL TRAINING CONTINUUM OPERATIONS
NOV 12 - NOV 15	TRANSIT ALBANIA TO PORT SAID, EG
NOV 15	SUEZ CANAL TRANSIT
NOV 15 - NOV 22	TRANSIT PORT SUEZ TO NORTH ARABIAN SEA

NOV 22 - DEC 31

NORTH ARABIAN SEA OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION
ENDURING FREEDOM

NARRATIVE FOR CY 2001

Calendar Year 2001 was extremely busy for USS SHREVEPORT. Heavy into the Inter Deployment Training Cycle, readiness was the buzzword as SHREVEPORT prepared for the deployment in September. Sixty percent of the year was spent away from homeport, honing skills that would be required in order to execute all missions during the deployment.

January began the year with one of the longest inport periods for the entire year. Not until the last day of the month did SHREVEPORT leave her berth. During this time a Food Management Assessment and a Communications certification were completed.

February started with SHREVEPORT heading to familiar ground. Onslow Bay, North Carolina was the destination. The mission was to be training with AAVs (Armored Assault Vehicles). It proves to be great training incorporating every aspect of ship functions. After returning to Norfolk, VA, SHREVEPORT will get underway for 2 additional periods in February, conducting Tailored Ship's Training Availabilities. These periods allowed SHREVEPORT to focus on her areas of weakness and develop those skills. General Quarters, battle problems, craft launch and recovering, anchoring, and underway replenishment are common themes during these times.

During the month of March, much of the focus was on preparing for and conducting inspections. A total of nine inspections/certifications/assist visits were conducted in March. Also in March, SHREVEPORT participated in the BATAANARG sail. USS BATAAN and USS WHIDBEY ISLAND were tasked to proceed to the Puerto Rico Oparea to conduct missile qualification. SHREVEPORT proceeded in company, and for the first time since the IDTC, the ARG came together as a group. It was a slow process and lessons were learned the hard way, but by the end of the sail, we were taking the first steps toward functioning as a cohesive unit. It was during this exercise that SHREVEPORT also had her first taste of foreign liberty since March of 2000. After the missile exercise, SHREVEPORT went to Antigua, a tropical paradise in the West Indies.

April began underway, finishing up exercises in the Puerto Rico Oparea. Returning to Norfolk in the second week, SHREVEPORT completed two additional inspections before proceeding back to Onslow Bay, North Carolina.

The transit to Onslow Bay, NC in April was not the typical transit, this time SHREVEPORT was going to Onslow Bay to embark a Marine Amphibious Group Task Force to conduct a public relations port visit in May. Port Everglades, FL was the destination and has been a perennial favorite of the crew. After the port visit, SHREVEPORT returned to Onslow Bay where she conducted PMINT, the first of the combined BATAANARG/26 MEU training operations. A brief stop in Norfolk for SHREVEPORT to complete her MOGAS assessment, she was underway again. This time SHREVEPORT was headed to New York City, NY for the best port visit in the world – Fleet Week.

Tired from the festivities in NYC, SHREVEPORT's crew returned home to rest and catch up on training. After stopping in Morehead City, NC to drop off our visiting Marines, SHEVEPORT went to Yorktown Weapons Station to begin the weapons onload that would prepare her for the rest of the work up cycle and ultimately the deployment. June also saw the completion of 11 inspections/certifications, including the quint-annual INSURV inspection.

July was back to Onslow Bay. This time the exercise was MEUEX. Training started ramping up, as the deployment was looming closer. By now the ARG and MEU were starting to function as a cohesive unit. Missions shifted from being planned evolutions to developing the Crisis Reaction Teams for all parties involved. The ARG/MEU were on their way to becoming a potent force to be reckoned with.

August saw the completion of the final portions of the IDTC. SHREVEPORT completed her Final Evaluation exercise, and was now certified as ready to deploy. The ARG/MEU completed SACEX/JTFEX/SOCEX fully qualifying the integrated Navy/Marine independent units into a single battle force capable of executing any amphibious special operations mission assigned. The ARG was now ready.

Late August to early September, SHREVEPORT was in a period of stand down. The stress and the excitement of the work up cycle were over, and some rest was needed to prepare for the impending deployment scheduled to begin on September 19th. Things did not work out as expected. On September 11th the world was changed forever, as terrorists from Osama Bin Laden's Al Qaida organization conducted terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, completely destroying the buildings that many of SHREVEPORT's sailors had toured a brief 4 months ago. SHREVEPORT was called to action. Sortied from Norfolk, SHREVEPORT was to go to Morehead City, NC to embark Marines and proceed to New York to assist in the rescue efforts and act as a medical platform. After arriving in Morehead City, SHREVEPORT learned that her services were not required, primarily due to the Herculean efforts of NYC's Fire and Police Departments, as well as the multitude of volunteers who had responded to the call of assistance. In this moment of tragedy, never before had the blood of Americans been so patriotic. An attack had been conducted on our soil and we were thirsty for justice. The impending deployment suddenly took on a much different meaning for SHREVEPORT's sailors. Gone were the images of cozy Mediterranean ports sipping wine and eating pasta. The new focus was getting to the Arabian Sea where we could deliver the justice that America craved – our Marines.

October saw the turnover with the KEARSARGEARG in Rota, Spain. Despite our desire to head directly to the Arabian Sea, SHREVEPORT had commitments to participate in international training exercises. Operation Bright Star, hosted by Egypt was conducted in middle to late October. For many, this operation was viewed as a dress rehearsal for the operations that were to take place later.

November saw a port visit to La Maddelena, Italy to conduct to some maintenance and verify that all of our material and equipment were ready for war. The

crew took advantage of the 3-day port visit, which would prove to be the last one for the year. A brief training exercise with Albania was interrupted with the word we were all waiting for. BATAANARG was to transit through the Suez Canal and report to the North Arabian Sea to support Amphibious Operations into Afghanistan via Pakistan.

Arriving on station in late November, BATAANARG joined the PELELIUARG already on station and plans were laid for the conduct of operations. This was a very different mission from any previous assigned or trained for. The task was to move Marines and their support elements across Pakistan into Afghanistan. This called for the movement over 500 miles inland into landlocked Afghanistan. In December, the assault began. 26 MEU was put ashore to join the marines of 15 MEU who had been there two weeks earlier. There was now a strong American presence in the region, and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan quickly fell. The leadership scattered and many felt were trying to flee the area. This presented SHREVEPORT with a new mission and Leadership Interdiction Operations were founded. At first it was a loose term that held a vaguely familiar sound to the Maritime Interdiction Operations which enforce United Nations sanctions in the Persian Gulf. The goal of LIO however, is to shut down the sea lines as escape routes to terrorist leadership. To support this, all merchant traffic was queried to establish foundations of traffic patterns and verify a master's authenticity. In addition, vessels who had ties to terrorist organizations went on a high interest list, these were the sought after targets. In early December, Shreveport was tasked with the takedown of motor vessel Kota Sejarah, flagged in Sudan due to beliefs that she was transporting terrorists. In a combined effort with USS SHREVEPORT, Naval Special Warfare teams 8 Hotel and Golf platoons, Helicopter Squadron 11, Special Boat Unit Det 20, BLT 3/6 Lima Company, and EODMU2 Det 18, Task Force Cutlass was born. This was truly SHREVEPORT's mission. From development, to command and control, to execution and after action, SHREVEPORT had founded a new mission and performed flawlessly. Unfortunately, there were no terrorists found onboard the Kota Sejarah. However the message had been sent – Don't try to escape via sea, Task Force Cutlass is waiting.