

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS TRENTON (LPD-14) ✓
FPO NEW YORK 09588



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From: Commanding Officer, USS TRENTON (LPD-14)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH) Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS TRENTON (LPD-14) Command History for 1984

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted as required by reference (a).

Copy to:
COMPHIBRON TWELVE

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R.L. Cooper".

R.L. COOPER

COMMAND ORGANIZATION AND 1984 HIGHLIGHTS

1. **Commanding Officer:** Captain Robert Lee Cooper, U.S. Navy
2. **Homeport:** Norfolk, Virginia
3. **Command Association:** Under Administrative and Operational command of Commander Amphibious Squadron FOUR and CTF 61 respectively from 1 January to 2 May. Under Administrative command of Commander Amphibious Squadron TWELVE from 3 May to 31 December.
4. **Special Topics:**
 - a. **Public Relations:** TRENTON made port calls overseas to the cities of Haifa, Israel and Rota, Spain.
 - b. **Significant Statistics**
 - (1) Salaries/Expenses: \$3,057,082.64
 - (2) Repair Parts and Consumables: \$1,747,410.49
 - (3) Ship's Fuel Burned: 2,368,496 gallons
 - (4) Engine Miles Travelled: 21,566.5 average 58.92 miles/day
 - (5) Large Caliber Ammunition Expended: 103 3"/50
 - (6) Flight Deck Landings: 1853
 - (7) JP-5 Fuel Pumped: 150,000 gallons

Enclosure (1)

COMMAND NARRATIVE 1984

The New Year 1984 found the USS TRENTON off the coast of Beirut, Lebanon participating in MARG 1-84 and Multinational Peace Keeping Force Operation. The ship had arrived there on November 17, 1983 and would remain in the area until early April of 1984. The entire period was an extremely demanding one, both on the ship and her crew as all of the previous preparations and training were put to use. Gunmounts were required to be manned constantly and several times the ship was required to go to General Quarters. The highlight of MARG 1-84 was the evacuation of several hundred civilians from the city of Beirut from 10 to 12 February. For this, the entire crew of the TRENTON earned the Humanitarian Service Medal.

Prior to the evacuation, on January 28th, TRENTON took time out from its busy schedule to hold Change of Command ceremonies. Captain Robert L. Cooper, U.S. Navy, relieved Captain Ralph E. Whitby Jr., U.S. Navy as Commanding Officer.

Two weeks after the evacuation of civilians, TRENTON unloaded Marines of BLT 2/8 as they were withdrawn from Beirut. From there, the ship proceeded to Haifa, Israel for a much awaited liberty visit.

On April 9th TRENTON was relieved of duties by USS PONCE (LPD-15) and got underway for equipment washdown in Rota, Spain, arriving on the 16th. Four days later, TRENTON was underway for the United States, arriving at Moorehead City, North Carolina to offload Marines on May 1st. The ship arrived back at its homeport in Norfolk, Virginia one day later, having been away since October the previous year. There then followed a one month leave and upkeep period.

On June 1st the TRENTON arrived at Metro Machine Shipyard in downtown Norfolk to commence regular overhaul. The overhaul would concentrate on major projects in the engineering plant and combat systems; as well as in improvements in habitability. This extensive work required the closing of messing and berthing areas from 1 June to 24 November. During this period, a barracks and dining facility was provided by the shipyard. From the beginning, the crew of TRENTON put in long hours in order to accomplish the many jobs that had to be done. This resulted in the accomplishment of two major milestones; the successful completion of Light-Off Examination during 5-8 November, and finally the accomplishment of Sea trails the 8th and 14th of December, with the subsequent completion of overhaul on January 16th, 1985, a full month ahead of schedule. Thus ended another successful year of operations for the USS TRENTON (LPD-14).



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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 1984

ATLANTIC FLEET UNITS RETURN FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN

An eleven-ship battle group headed by the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) and the five-ship Mediterranean Amphibious Readiness Group (MARG) headed by USS Guam (LPH-9), returned today to their east coast homeports after having been deployed since October 1983.

During the course of their deployment, units of the battle group provided naval gunfire support, search and rescue services, and emergency medical services to U.S. Marine and Army forces involved in operations in Grenada, and assumed duties as anti-air warfare support units off the coast of Lebanon.

USS Kennedy battle group ships returning May 2 and their homeports are:

USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Detroit (AOE-4)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Richard K. Turner (CG-20)	Charleston, S.C.
USS Moosbrugger (DD-980)	Charleston, S.C.
USS Claude V. Ricketts (DDG-5)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Caron (DD-970)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Fahrion (FFG-22)	Mayport, Fla.
USS Stephen W. Groves (FFG-29)	Mayport, Fla.
USS William S. Simms (FF-1059)	Mayport, Fla.
USS Paul (FF-1080)	Mayport, Fla.
USS Nitro (AE-23)	Earle, N.J.

The MARG, also involved in the Grenada and Lebanon operations off-loaded the 1,800 Marines of the 22nd Marine Amphibious Unit at Morehead City, N.C., yesterday. The MARG was diverted on the way to the Mediterranean to participate in the Grenada operations last October. Off Lebanon, the amphibious ships were virtually the only link to the rest of the world for the Marines ashore and for U.S. diplomatic missions.

MARG ships returning May 2 and their homeports are:

USS Guam (LPH-9)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Trenton (LPD-14)	Norfolk, Va.
USS Fort Snelling (LSD-30)	Little Creek, Va.
USS Manitowoc (LST-1180)	Little Creek, Va.
USS Barnstable County (LST-1197)	Little Creek, Va.

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