



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS TRENTON (LPD-14) ✓  
FPO NEW YORK 09588-1716

5750  
Ser 149

27 SEP 1988

From: Commanding Officer, USS TRENTON (LPD-14)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval Yard,  
Washington, D.C. 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY OF USS TRENTON (LPD-14) FOR CY 1987

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D  
(b) Deputy Director of Naval History ltr 5757 Ser SH/3334 of 5 Aug 88

Encl: (1) Commanding Officers Biography  
(2) Chronology of Events

1. The following is forwarded in accordance with references (a) and (b).

2. Command Composition and Organization.

a. Mission: To provide fast transport of ground combat troops and their equipment and to rapidly land them ashore by air or surface assault.

b. Organizational Structure. Assigned to COMPHIBRON TWELVE. No additional units assigned to operational/administrative control.

c. Commander. Captain Robert J. Reader, USN (biography attached as enclosure (1)).

d. Permanent Duty Station: Norfolk, Virginia.

e. Type/Number of Aircraft Assigned: None.

3. Chronology. Attached as enclosure (2).

4. Narrative. The year 1987 was highlighted by short-notice participation in exercise SOLID SHIELD in April when the designated LPD was dropped due to material problems. The port visit to Baltimore in June was highly popular with the crew and a tremendous success by all accounts. In September the TRENTON sailed for Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to conduct refresher training and prepare for an Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE). Refresher training emphasized main space engineering and casualty control and proved extremely valuable to OPPE preparation. Except for one hurricane evasion sortie that kept the ship just west of Jamaica for several days, the Guantanamo Bay visit was uneventful. TRENTON departed Cuba on 09 October with the Propulsion Examining Board on board. The ship passed the examination and was scheduled to spend the Columbus Day weekend in Miami, Florida, but, again, a hurricane heading northeast from the Gulf of Mexico forced TRENTON to remain east of the Bahamas, cancelling the Miami visit.

3H

Following an upkeep period the ship participated in Amphibious Warfare Training Week in early November. Training was conducted in Onslow Bay off the North Carolina coast and emphasized the underway launch of Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAV's). TRENTON did not embark any AAV's but instead acted as a control ship for the launches. For her contribution TRENTON was designated the "Top Gator" for the week by COMPHIBRON EIGHT, the Officer Conducting the Exercise (OCE). Upon completion of training, TRENTON entered a holiday leave and upkeep period in preparation for underway workups scheduled for January. TRENTON successfully completed a COMNAVSURFLANT 3-M Inspection in early December.



R. M. NUTWELL

### CHRONOLOGY

01 Jan - 26 Mar Phased Maintenance Availability, Moon Engineering,  
Norfolk, Va.

30 Mar - 03 Apr Ammunition Onload, Yorktown Naval Weapons Station,  
Yorktown, Va.

25 Apr - 07 May SOLID SHIELD Exercise with HM-14 embarked

23 Jun - 30 Jun Port Visit, Baltimore, Md

08 Jul - 15 Jul Amphibious Refresher Training

20 Jul - 10 Aug Operations with AV-8 aircraft, Little Creek, Va.

27 Jul - 05 Aug Embark COMPHIBRON TWO

07 Aug - 15 Aug Embark COMPHIBRON EIGHT

10 Sep - 14 Oct Refresher Training, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

09 Oct - 11 Oct Operational Propulsion Plant Examination (OPPE)

15 Oct - 15 Oct Embark COMPHIBRON EIGHT

19 Oct - 15 Nov Embark COMPHIBRON TWELVE

30 Nov - 03 Dec Amphibious Warfare Training Week

03 Dec - 10 Dec Embark COMPHIBRON EIGHT

08 Dec - 10 Dec COMNAVSURFLANT 3-M Inspection