



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS TRENTON (LPD-14)  
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From: Commanding Officer, USS TRENTON (LPD-14)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy  
Yard, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5150.12G

Encl: (1) Photograph and Biography of Commander Brian A.  
Goulding, USN, [REDACTED]/1110  
(2) 2001 Chronology  
(3) 2001 Command Narrative

1. Per reference (a), the following is submitted:

a. Background: USS TRENTON (LPD 14), an amphibious transport dock, is named for the capital of the state of New Jersey.

The present USS TRENTON is the third United States warship to bear the name. The first was a steam sloop of war commissioned in 1884. The second was a light cruiser, CL-11, commissioned in 1924, which served with the Asiatic, Caribbean, and Southwest Pacific Fleets during World War II. The keel for the present TRENTON was laid on 8 August 1966. Mrs. Richard J. Hughes, wife of the governor of New Jersey, christened the TRENTON on 3 August 1968. TRENTON was commissioned 6 March 1971. The amphibious transport dock (LPD) is a very versatile amphibious ship. TRENTON can transport, land, and support a Marine force on a hostile shore. TRENTON is capable of carrying over 900 troops plus their Vehicles, equipment, weapons, ammunition and supplies. She also carries landing craft such as LCACs (Landing Craft Air Cushion), LCUs (Landing Craft Utility) and AAVs (Amphibious Assault Vehicle) in her floodable well deck. Her flight deck allows her to operate all Navy and Marine Corps helicopters and VTOL aircraft (harriers).

TRENTON participated in the 1983 liberation of Grenada, was a member of the multinational force off the coast of Beirut, Lebanon in 1983-84, and was a participant in Operation Praying Mantis in April 1988, during a six-month deployment to the

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

Persian Gulf.

TRENTON played a supporting role in the presidential summit at Malta in December 1989. She participated in Operation Just Cause in Panama in June, 1990, and deployed on short notice to the Middle East as a member of the amphibious task force during Operation Desert Shield (January 1991) and Operation Desert Storm (January - April 1991). In 1992, TRENTON participated in operation Provide Promise as the sea and air rescue platform for humanitarian relief flights into the former Yugoslavia.

TRENTON deployed in January 1994 to the Mediterranean Sea where she was called upon to support Operation Continue Hope off the coast of Somalia (February - March 1994). Ten days after the deployment, TRENTON was called upon again to deploy in support of Operation Support Democracy off the coast of Haiti (July - August 1994).

TRENTON participated in Operation Joint Endeavor off the coast of Bosnia during her 1996 deployment. She also took part in Operation Assured Response off the coast of Liberia, Africa and three NATO exercises (Destined Glory, Matador, Alexander the Great). Upon returning home, TRENTON was immediately tasked as the command ship for the TWA Flight 800 Recovery Operation off the coast of Long Island, N.Y., from 9 September to 19 October 1996.

TRENTON deployed to Mediterranean Sea (26 February to 28 July 1998). While conducting exercise DYNAMIC RESPONSE 98, TRENTON was one of the first US Naval Ships to visit the ports of Split and Ploce, Croatia in nearly 40 years. This unique training made TRENTON a vital part of the ARG while exhibiting Marine Corps air superiority in a NATO military demonstration against the Serbian government. TRENTON completed her deployment by participating in three NATO exercise: DESTINED GLORY 98, ALEXANDER THE GREAT 98, and COOPERATIVE PARTNER 98.

TRENTON's most recent deployment took her back to the Mediterranean Sea (18 February to 08 August 2000). While conducting exercise DYNAMIC RESPONSE 00, TRENTON joined with several European Nations to conduct Amphibious Assaults on the island of Sardinia and the Coast of Greece. This exercise was designed to demonstrate NATO capabilities to defend Kosovo

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

against any possible Serbian aggressive action. TRENTON hosted the Honorable Steven Pifer, the United States Ambassador to the Ukraine during the COOPERATIVE PARTNER exercise allowing him to have a first hand observation of the Humanitarian Assistance Operation in a friendly environment. TRENTON completed her deployment by participating in three NATO exercise: SPANISH PHIBLEX '00, DYNAMIC MIX '00, NOBLE SHIRLEY '00.

b. TRENTON has developed and now operates under the following Mission:

To conduct sustained amphibious combat and special operations safely and efficiently.

c. Commanding Officer: Commander Brian A. Goulding, USN, 04 April 2000 to present.

d. Homeport: Norfolk, Virginia

e. Command Association:

01JAN-09JUN: Commander, Amphibious Group TWO/  
Commander, Surface Force Atlantic  
09JUN-31DEC: Commander, Amphibious Squadron FOUR/  
Commander, Second Fleet

f. Embarked Units:

(1) August 2001

(a) 2D BSSG

(2) September 2001-October 2001

(a) MMSG 22

(b) BLT 2/6

(c) ST-2

(d) BMU 2 DET

(e) ACU 2

(f) SBU 20

(3) November 2001-December 2001

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

- (a) 22 MEU
- (b) BLT 2/6
- (c) MSSG 22
- (d) HMM 261 DET
- (e) ST-2
- (f) BMU 2DET
- (g) ACU 2
- (h) SBU 20

g. Statistics

- (1) Fuel consumed: 1,656,934
- (2) Refuelings at sea: 11
- (3) JP5 aviation fuel utilized: 37,311
- (4) MOGAS delivered: 351 gallons
- (5) Large caliber ammunition expended: None.
- (6) Underway replenishments: 11
- (7) Aircraft landings: 3,166  
Lifetime total landings: 46,110
- (8) 2001 Budget:           Repair parts — \$908,430.00  
                                  Consumables — \$789,810.00

h. Biography and photo of Brian A. Goulding is attached as enclosure (1).

i. Chronology is attached as enclosure (2).

j. Narrative is attached as enclosure (3).

  
B. GOULDING

## 2001 Chronology

05-07 FEB: LIGHT OFF ASSESSMENT (LOA)  
23 MAR: SEA TRIALS  
11-13 APR: SEARCH AND RESCUE CERTIFICATION  
16-22 APR: AMMUNITION ONLOAD  
14-18 MAY: COMMANDERS ASSESSMENT FOR READINESS  
TRAINING II /WELL DECK CERTIFICATION I  
30 MAY-01JUN: WELL DECK CERTIFICATION II  
04-09 JUN: TYPE COMMANDERS AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING (TCAT)  
11-12 JUL: ENGINEERING INITIAL ASSESSMENT  
23-26 JUL: FINAL EVALUATION PROBLEM (FEP)  
06-21 AUG: MARINE EMBARKATION EXERCISE (MEBEX)  
10-13 SEP: INSPECTION AND SURVEY BOARD (INSURV)  
25 SEP-04OCT: PHIBRON/MEU INTEGRATED TRAINING (PMINT)  
09-11 OCT: ENGINEERING UNDERWAY DEMONSTRATION  
18-19 OCT: AMMUNITION ONLOAD  
15 OCT-09 NOV: FLEET MAINTENANCE AVAILABILITY (FMAV)  
12 NOV: SUPPLY MANAGEMENT INSPECTION (SMI)  
27 NOV-10DEC: AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP EXERCISE (ARGEX)

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## Narrative

We started the beginning of our training cycle at Metro Machine Shipyard, Norfolk, VA with a Light-Off Examination. Upon its successful completion, TRENTON lighted fires and headed for sea. She conducted sea trials off the coast of Virginia and returned to Naval Station Norfolk Virginia. April saw the end of the yard period and TRENTON's preparations for deployment beginning with a stop at Naval Weapons Station, Yorktown to load her magazines.

May was a month filled with successful certifications including Well Deck Certification, Search and Rescue Certification, Aviation Certification and Engineering 1A. Through the tireless efforts of the crew, TRENTON received full certification to conduct the missions she may be called on to perform. TRENTON completed its Final Evaluation Problem (FEP), in July and proved yet again her superb mission readiness.

In June, TRENTON arrived at Naval Station Mayport, which doubled as a liberty port and a great opportunity for training. Focusing chiefly in improving our damage control capabilities and repair lockers, TRENTON took full advantage of the facilities in Mayport.

September proved to be one of the busiest months in TRENTON's history. The month began with TRENTON undergoing INSURV, the Navy's most comprehensive inspections of ship's readiness. On September 11, just one day into the inspection, tragedy struck in the form of terrorism. Despite the sorrow felt throughout the crew, TRENTON pulled together, putting grief aside and focusing on the mission at hand. Our determination in the face of tragedy yielded outstanding results.

Finally, as a most successful year in this ship's life comes to a close, TRENTON is making preparations for deployment and the upcoming JTFEX.