



USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)

Decommissioning

San Diego, California

31 October 1997



The Ship's Emblem



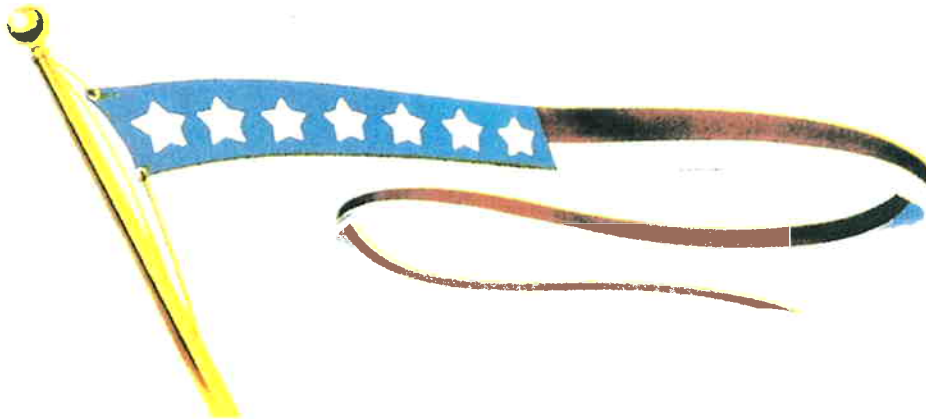
The Ship's Emblem was designed by Mr. McNeil of the Paint Shop and Mr. Kuncovich of the Design Division, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. Mr. Kuncovich, after some research work, suggested the "coat of arms" from the city of Orleans, France. The symbolic eagle of the United States, with wings extended overhead, signified the employment of helicopters. Mr. McNeil combined Mr. Kuncovich's idea with the globe background to signify the world-wide nature of Amphibious Forces, and combined service with the United States Marines.

This emblem is appropriate because NEW ORLEANS has the capability to embark, transport and deliver in excess of 2,000 Marines to any shore on the planet, enforcing the doctrines and policies of the United States Government through airborne amphibious assault.

We are grateful to both of these gentlemen for their outstanding and talented work in providing USS NEW ORLEANS with this insignia. It has been displayed with pride throughout the world.

The Decommissioning Ceremony

A N O B S E R V A N C E O F N A V A L T R A D I T I O N



The decommissioning ceremony is a solemn occasion, one on which we gather together to say farewell to a legacy of steel, sweat, and blood. This ceremony signifies the end of an era in which thousands of men have sacrificed their time, energy, and upon occasion their lives, in order to ensure that the ship's mission was accomplished.

Nowhere in Navy Regulations will you find rules that state a ship must have any sort of decommissioning ceremony. This custom has risen out of the human need to reflect upon the loss of something that is a major part of one's life. It is only precedence that dictates that this should be a formal, impressive, and solemn event. The decommissioning ceremony for UNITED STATES SHIP NEW ORLEANS marks the end of twenty nine years of service for a ship that received her baptism of fire in Vietnam and is being laid to rest in the city she has called home for all these years.

The symbol above has its origin in European antiquity. During the Middle Ages, the mark of knights and other nobles was the "coachwhip" pennant. This pennant was known as a pennon. The size and elaborateness of the design generally indicated the relative rank and importance of the noble it heralded. On the rare occasions that these nobles embarked upon seagoing vessels, they ensured that their pennons were flown from the ship. The pennons generally flew from the vessel's most visible point, usually the forecandle or main mast.

It is believed that the first time the pennant was used independent of feudal heraldry dates back to the 17th century during a conflict between the Dutch and English Navies. In one particular engagement, Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp, the Dutch Admiral, hoisted a broom at his masthead to indicate his intention to sweep the English from the sea. The English Admiral then hoisted a horsewhip, indicating his intention to chastise the insolent Dutch. Ever since that time, the narrow coachwhip pennant, symbolizing the original horsewhip, has been the distinctive mark of a man-of-war. This tradition of so designating ships of war has been adopted by all nations.

The modern United States Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly, and varies in length with the size of the ship. At one time, there were thirteen white stars in the blue field representing the original states, but in 1933 seven white stars became the standard. The commissioning pennant is flown at the main on vessels with no flag officers embarked. Ships with a high ranking officer embarked will fly a personal or command pennant instead.

During the ceremony, NEW ORLEANS will "strike colors" for a final time. The commissioning pennant will be lowered and presented to the ship's final Commanding Officer. This ceremony will mark the official retirement of NEW ORLEANS. Above all this ceremony is to say goodbye to an old and faithful servant. Fair winds and following seas, old girl.



The Honorable John H. Dalton
Secretary of the Navy



General John M. Shalikashvili
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000
17 September 1997

Captain Richard C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
PFO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

As USS NEW ORLEANS hauls down her colors after twenty-nine years of patriotic service, I would like to express my appreciation to all her officers and crew, as well as to all of those who have served aboard her during her long and distinguished career.

Through nearly three decades, NEW ORLEANS has returned our Nation's investment well beyond all expectations. The ability to project power from the sea has always been one of our Navy's strengths. In the years since World War II our Navy-Marine Corps amphibious team has proven itself a potent weapon in conflict and a significant force for preserving our peace and freedom. From Vietnam to the Persian Gulf and Somalia, you and your ship have demonstrated your versatility and skill. Thanks to the professionalism of her crew, NEW ORLEANS has carried out her demanding mission with honor and has shown herself an essential part of our first-line strength.

Now that NEW ORLEANS' tour of duty is over, those who served with her can take pride in her many contributions to America's defense and in the proud tradition of duty well done that she has created. In each of you, NEW ORLEANS' spirit will sail on.

Sincerely,

John H. Dalton
John H. Dalton



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9000

September 1997

TO THE OFFICERS AND CREW
OF
USS NEW ORLEANS

On the occasion of her decommissioning, it is a privilege to honor a proud ship and the sailors who served her during three decades of honored service to our Nation.

For almost 30 years, NEW ORLEANS has been at the forefront of freedom, demonstrating our national resolve in peace and war. From Vietnam to the Persian Gulf, she served with honor and distinction. Her record of service on all the oceans of the world is a stirring chapter in the history of our great Navy. The exemplary teamwork and dedication of her crew were worthy of a great ship and are in keeping with the highest standards of military service.

On behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the men and women of the United States Armed Forces, congratulations on a sterling record of achievement over many years. We share your pride, and welcome this proud vessel to an honored rest - until the Nation calls once again on NEW ORLEANS.

May you always have fair winds and following seas!

Sincerely,

John M. Shalikashvili
JOHN M. SHALIKASHVILI
Chairman
of the Joint Chiefs of Staff



Admiral Jay L. Johnson
Chief of Naval Operations



General C. C. Krulak
Commandant of the Marine Corps



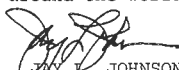
CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

A MESSAGE FOR THE SAILORS OF
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)

As you prepare to decommission USS NEW ORLEANS, I congratulate current and former crew members on your historic contributions to our nation's security. While it's always difficult to bid farewell to old friends, each of you should take great pride in NEW ORLEANS' accomplishments throughout an extremely distinguished career.

For three decades, NEW ORLEANS' crews have served our country with distinction. Always ready to defend our nation's interests, NEW ORLEANS played an instrumental role during the Vietnam Conflict, Persian Gulf War and Somalia contingency operation. She exemplified forward presence during a turbulent era in our history and served as a powerful deterrent to any state that might have considered testing our nation's resolve. Her numerous awards for superior performance are testimony to operational excellence demonstrated around the globe.

Today's ceremony does not end the legacy of USS NEW ORLEANS. Your ship will live on in the memories of all those who served aboard her and in the hearts of freedom-loving people around the world.


JAY L. JOHNSON
Admiral, U.S. Navy




31 October 1997

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

For over a quarter of a century the USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) has been an instrument of our nation's resolve. She has been a weapon in our arsenal and a symbol of our strength. She has been both an instrument of war and the conveyance for the outstretched hand of our compassionate and generous citizenry. For 29 years, USS NEW ORLEANS has faithfully done the nation's bidding.

The strength of this ship, however, was not in her ability to weather the pounding sea or to withstand enemy fire. The strength of the USS NEW ORLEANS has been her crew and the Marines embarked aboard. In their determination to persevere in the face of great challenges, in their courage to go in harm's way, and in their selfless service, is written the legacy of USS NEW ORLEANS. Their pursuit of excellence in the execution of their mission... whether on watch around the world, or landing the landing force, is the true testimony of NEW ORLEANS' worth to the nation.

As we strike NEW ORLEANS from the active register of ships, it is fitting that we remember all those who served aboard this great ship. From Viet Nam, to operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, the sailors and Marines who have crossed her decks served with honor and purpose. As the ensign and commissioning pennant are hauled down, and the last deck log entry is made, the legacy of NEW ORLEANS will live on through the memory of their dedicated and gallant service.


C. C. KRULAK
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commandant of the Marine Corps



Admiral J. W. Prueher
USCINCPAC



18 August 1997

Dear Captain Perkins,

My personal thanks and congratulations to the officers and crew of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11), both past and present, for their significant contributions to our nation's security.

For almost three decades, NEW ORLEANS has been on our front line of defense protecting U.S. national interests. During 29 years of service, NEW ORLEANS amassed an enviable record of accomplishments. In the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars she boldly sailed into harm's way to ensure that her charge of Marines could take every objective. In the Somali Crisis, she provided crucial humanitarian assistance to a starving, violence ravaged country. NEW ORLEANS recovered astronauts and spacecraft; rescued refugees from countries throughout Asia and Africa; performed experimental helicopter, Harrier and UAV trials; conducted Presidential support operations; and won almost every award possible. NEW ORLEANS has done it all.

I have the utmost appreciation and respect for the capabilities which NEW ORLEANS brought to every conflict and crisis. Her distinguished list of achievements is a direct reflection on the fine Sailors and Marines who served aboard her. Although NEW ORLEANS' career is ending, those dedicated professionals will carry her legacy of excellence for years to come.

Well done, NEW ORLEANS.

Decommissioning is hard, emotional work. Like all other tasks, New Orleans has excelled, and sprinted through the finish line - BZ! JWP
Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

My best,

Joe Prueher
J. W. PRUEHER
Admiral, U.S. Navy



Admiral A. Clemens
CINCPACFLT



31 October 1997

Dear Captain Perkins,

On behalf of your shipmates in the Pacific Fleet, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to you and the crew of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) as you decommission this magnificent ship after 29 years of service to our Navy and nation.

Since commissioning in 1968, USS NEW ORLEANS has played a starring role in much of America's history in the Pacific and Indian Oceans for the past three decades. With 18 deployments to the Western Pacific, USS NEW ORLEANS has protected America's vital national interests in the region from her first deployment to Vietnam in 1969 to her most recent actions in the 1991 Gulf War and the Somali Crisis. USS NEW ORLEANS has played an integral role in creating the climate of peace and stability which has set the stage for the 21st century, the century of the Pacific.

In addition, USS NEW ORLEANS' historic roles have been punctuated with important contributions and firsts in amphibious warfare, including launching the first AV-8 Harrier aircraft and UAV craft from an LPH. Along with her wartime service and support during humanitarian crises, USS NEW ORLEANS has had a "Wonderful Life" as a star in our Navy and in Hollywood roles in such films as "Apollo 13" and "A Thousand Men and a Baby." Always there when needed, she has made a special mark in history and will leave the service of her country with an exceptional record of outstanding performance.

The Pacific Fleet commends each and every Sailor and Marine who gave USS NEW ORLEANS such a distinguished and honorable heritage. On behalf of your shipmates, Well done!

Sincerely,

Archie Clemens
ARCHIE CLEMENS
Admiral, U.S. Navy



Vice Admiral Brent M. Bennett
COMNAVAIRPAC



Vice Admiral A. J. Kreckich
COMNAVSURFPAC



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVAL AIR FORCE
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
BOX 257051
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92125-7051

October 31, 1997

Captain R.C. Perkins, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins,

The decommissioning of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) sadly marks the end of a fine ship's career. During her 29 years of commissioned service, NEW ORLEANS has seen tremendous changes in world order and has proudly stood the watch.

USS NEW ORLEANS represents a proud segment of our naval heritage and traditions. She has served with distinction and made great contributions to our nation's defense during both the Vietnam and Persian Gulf conflicts. She has provided humanitarian assistance to many thousands of people in Somalia and other regions. She has carried out our foreign policy for almost three decades, always ready to sail where America needed her.

Since arriving in her homeport of San Diego in 1969, NEW ORLEANS has also made significant contributions to Naval Aviation. While some may have overlooked the big deck amphib's role, NEW ORLEANS' achievements have kept her firmly in the spotlight. From her flight deck the first AV-8 Harrier operations in the Pacific were conducted. A winner of the Admiral Flatley Aviation Safety Award, she was the first LPH to launch and recover Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs).

Beyond her vital role on the Navy-Marine Corps Team as a key participant in littoral operations, NEW ORLEANS also has the distinction of participating in America's space program. She recovered astronauts from the Apollo 14, Skylab II, Skylab IV and Apollo/Soyuz Test Project Missions. NEW ORLEANS also participated in the longest over water air-sea rescue, as well as numerous rescues and medical evacuations of both civilians and military personnel. Her list of credits even includes a 'starring role' in the recent film Apollo 13.

Although her active duty life comes to a close, NEW ORLEANS' many contributions will be remembered by those whose lives she has touched. Her crew and officers, past and present, will always share in the distinction of having served as one of "The Enforcers" aboard the mighty ship USS NEW ORLEANS.

Most sincerely and with great respect for a superb ship,

Brent M. Bennett
BRENT M. BENNITT
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVAL SURFACE FORCE
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
2541 RENDOVA ROAD
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92155-5490

12 August 1997

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins,

Congratulations to you and your crew who have served proudly on USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11). The decommissioning of NEW ORLEANS will mark the end of a truly historic period in our Nation's naval history.

Commissioned nearly 29 years ago at the height of the Cold War, NEW ORLEANS' long career is a symbol of our Nation's commitment to maritime security and freedom. NEW ORLEANS served with pride in numerous campaigns from Vietnam to the Gulf War. Her outstanding record of humanitarian service has been equally significant. She has been a critical asset in maintaining our "Forward From the Sea" mission and has responded superbly in every contingency. Since her commissioning, NEW ORLEANS has also accomplished an impressive record of firsts including the first Harrier and UAV flight operations on an LPH.

Although decommissioning brings USS NEW ORLEANS' contributions to an end, all Americans will remain grateful for the sacrifices of the thousands of Sailors and Marines who have served on her decks. The pride and tradition of service felt by crew members and friends of USS NEW ORLEANS will remain forever in our hearts. You have given this nation nearly three decades of faithful service, and leave behind a shining legacy of excellence for others to follow.

I commend both past and present USS NEW ORLEANS crew members and wish you "Fair Winds and Following Seas".

Sincerely,
A. J. Kreckich
A. J. KREKICH
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy





Vice Admiral Robert J. Natter
COMSEVENTHFLT



COMMANDER SEVENTH FLEET

UNIT 25104
FPO AP 96601-6003

25 Aug 97

Dear Captain Perkins,

It is a pleasure to issue a sincere and hearty congratulations to USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11), as the ship completes its distinguished career. During its commissioned service NEW ORLEANS was faced with challenges and provided important contributions to our defense and foreign policy initiatives world-wide. Each time NEW ORLEANS deployed to SEVENTH Fleet, it served as a platform of choice for rapid response to any crisis.

The tens of thousands of Sailors and Marines who served aboard this fine warship during its 29 year career should march with pride for the important role they played in maintaining world peace during often troubled times. These Sailors and Marines truly represented the hard work, teamwork, perseverance, and pride that is our Navy.

Through the years, SEVENTH Fleet commanders were filled with confidence at having such an effective fighting ship as NEW ORLEANS under their command. This ship and crew will be missed greatly.

Fair winds and following seas.

ROBERT J. NATTER
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy

Captain R. C. Perkins
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650



Vice Admiral H. A. Browne
COMTHIRDFLT



COMMANDER THIRD FLEET

29 August 1997

Dear Captain Perkins,

On behalf of all your shipmates in Third Fleet, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to you and the crew of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) as you decommission this magnificent warship after 29 years of distinguished service to our Navy and nation.

USS NEW ORLEANS has made many important contributions to our nation's security. Since commissioning in 1968, NEW ORLEANS has completed fifteen overseas deployments. Serving with honor and distinction in the Vietnam War and the Persian Gulf War, NEW ORLEANS has time and again answered the call to go wherever needed to operate forward from the sea. From humanitarian assistance operations in the Pacific to support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in the Arabian Gulf, NEW ORLEANS has left an indelible mark on the stellar history of our Navy over the past three decades. NEW ORLEANS has performed each mission flawlessly and leaves the service of our nation with a superb record of achievement.

Every current and past crewmember of NEW ORLEANS should take great pride in their personal and professional achievements. Our Navy is strong thanks to your impressive spirit and the tradition of excellence you leave in your wake. I wish each of you "Fair Winds and Following Seas" as you move on to new assignments in the fleet. Well done NEW ORLEANS.

Sincerely,

H. A. BROWNE
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy

Captain R.C. Perkins
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650



Major General C. W. Reinke
CG, Camp Pendleton



5 August 1997

Dear Captain Perkins,

Since November 1968, USS NEW ORLEANS has more than lived up to her charter. From her participation in combat operations during the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars, to her contributions during the crisis in Somalia, she served our Nation with distinction.

Throughout her 29-year history, NEW ORLEANS has served as both home and base to thousands of Pendleton-based Marines, setting a standard of excellence for future amphibious vessels to reach for. All Marines who have served with her will feel the loss of her passing, but the pride in having shared in her achievements.

NEW ORLEANS' three decades of dedicated service stand as a mark of excellence in the annals of Navy-Marine Corps history. On behalf of the Marines, Sailors and Civilian Employees of Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, you have earned the respect and gratitude of a grateful Nation. Farewell and Semper Par.

Sincerely,

Major General, U. S. Marine Corps

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650



Admiral D. L. Brewer, III
COMPHIBGRU THREE



8 September 1997

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

The decommissioning of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) brings to a close a proud chapter in Naval Amphibious Warfare history. During her twenty-nine years of dedicated service, NEW ORLEANS has compiled a distinguished record of achievements. This record includes participation in combat off the coasts of Vietnam, Kuwait and Iraq, as well as humanitarian operations in Somalia. Steaming hundreds of thousands of miles during repeated major deployments throughout the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans, she has always been at the forefront, protecting American interests in every place, at every moment. NEW ORLEANS leaves a wonderful legacy; her service is the hallmark of a proud "Gator." This ship and her many crews have honored her commitment to our Nation.

The crew of NEW ORLEANS and the shipmates who served her before you have displayed superb professionalism and dedication, and upheld the finest tradition of the naval service. NEW ORLEANS has brought out the best in you and you have given her a spirit of pride and excellence that will long outlive the ship herself. You take with you the best wishes of everyone in Amphibious Group THREE for continued success throughout our Navy.

D. L. BREWER, III
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy



The Honorable Pete Wilson
Governor of California



GOVERNOR PETE WILSON

October 31, 1997

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

Gayle and I are delighted to extend our best regards to you and everyone who has gathered today in San Diego for the decommissioning ceremony of the USS NEW ORLEANS.

The third United States vessel to bear the name, NEW ORLEANS was commissioned on November 16, 1968 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Since then, she has served with honor and distinction in Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, Somalia and a host of other operations that were critical to the vital interests of the United States of America. Her presence and the dedication of her crew members, both past and present, have contributed significantly to the security of our Nation during a turbulent era.

A proud and lasting testament to world peace and freedom, NEW ORLEANS has borne great tidings of safety and support to many people in need. Those who have tended her weathered decks have taken part in an important legacy of Naval service that will not soon be forgotten.

On this special occasion, I am honored to join her captain, officers, crew and the civilian community in saluting the USS NEW ORLEANS for her 29 years of remarkable service.

Sincerely,

Pete Wilson
PETE WILSON



The Honorable Mike J. Foster, Jr.
Governor of Louisiana



M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR.
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Baton Rouge

70804 9004

POST OFFICE BOX 91504
(504) 342 1315

September 15, 1997

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

On the solemn occasion of decommissioning USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11), I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of her crew members, both past and present. She is a great warship because of your dedicated service.

USS NEW ORLEANS has served her country well for almost three decades. She has fought in two major conflicts, and assisted countless thousands of people with much needed humanitarian assistance. She has maintained America's forward presence in many places where many of us would not care or dare to be, and has played a significant role in the development of improved military capabilities. In addition to national defense, NEW ORLEANS has made major contributions to our country's foreign relations and the space program.

Although NEW ORLEANS' commissioned service is at an end, her spirit and devotion to freedom will live on in those who served on this great ship. Americans can sleep well knowing that the security of their nation is in your capable hands. On behalf of the people of Louisiana, I thank you for your service to our great country, and wish you every success in the future.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

M. J. Foster, Jr.

M. J. "Mike" Foster, Jr.



The Honorable George H. Waters
Mayor of National City, California



Office of the Mayor

1243 National City Blvd., National City, CA 91950 (619) 336-4230
George H. Waters - Mayor

August 11, 1997

Captain R.C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

As USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) is decommissioned after almost 29 years of faithful service, I would like to pause and reflect on the contributions which she and her crews have made to our great country.

USS NEW ORLEANS has boldly defended our national interests and the causes of world freedom and peace for three decades. She fought in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf when the need arose, serving with great distinction. When not required to fight, she laid down her arms and devoted herself to helping other people in places like Somalia and the Philippines. Wherever she went, she represented the United States well, showing the world our goodwill and commitment to the inalienable rights for which this country stands.

Over the years, the individual members of NEW ORLEANS' crews have also made significant contributions to all San Diego area communities. They volunteered for every imaginable charity and cause, took leadership roles in the community and provided solid role models for our youth. They have been good neighbors.

On behalf of National City, I am proud to congratulate and thank the officers and men of USS NEW ORLEANS for their many accomplishments in the service of our nation and community.

Best wishes for continued success.

George H. Waters
GEORGE H. WATERS
MAYOR

GHW:nu



The Honorable Marc H. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans, Louisiana



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

1300 Perdido Street, Room 2E10
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112
(504) 565-6400
Fax (504) 565-6423

MARC H. MORIAL
MAYOR

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

It is with both great pride and a heavy heart that I send my regards to the officers and crew of the United States Ship NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) upon the occasion of her decommissioning. USS NEW ORLEANS has brought honor to the United States, her naval service and the city for which she was named. We will miss her sorely.

USS NEW ORLEANS has served her country with great distinction for almost 29 years. The third U.S. warship to bear the name, she upheld the legacy of her two ancestors by fighting boldly in two major conflicts. NEW ORLEANS has also served honorably during peacetime. She performed great humanitarian operations in many regions, including Somalia. She has recovered astronauts from four NASA missions. She has carried the flag over most of the globe, and with it the pride, goodwill and ideals of the United States of America.

The City of New Orleans is very proud of the heritage and accomplishments of USS NEW ORLEANS and her crews both past and present. The ship has reached the end of her commissioned service, but her honor, dignity and spirit will live in the hearts of the Sailors and Marines who served on her and the great people of New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial

Marc H. Morial
Mayor



Rear Admiral R. J. Naughton USTRANSCOM (J5)

Captain Richard C. Perkins COMMANDING OFFICER



**DIRECTOR OF PLANS AND POLICY
UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND
508 SCOTT DR
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE IL 62225-5357
1 October 1997**



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11)
P.O. BOX 100000
SAN PABLO, CA 94602-0000

31 Oct 97

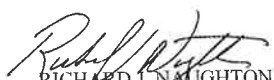
Dear Captain Perkins

You and your crew have done wonderful things with the USS NEW ORLEANS. Although she is a great ship, a ship is only as good as the men and women who sail her. Your crew has made all of us former NEW ORLEANS sailors proud of your accomplishments.

NEW ORLEANS has served proudly in nearly every contingency during her commissioned service. From Vietnam to the Gulf War and Somalia, NEW ORLEANS and her crew always answered the bell when the National Command Authority called. It is a sad but proud day for you and the crew.

Thank you for sailing this great ship so well! You have carried on the long tradition of sailors who have served aboard "the hallmark ship."

Sincerely


RICHARD J. NAUGHTON
Rear Admiral, USN
Director, Plans and Policy

Captain R.C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS
PFO AP 96627-1650

Crew and Families of NEW ORLEANS,

As we say farewell to USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11), it is proper that we reflect upon the many accomplishments made by the present and past crews who have sailed on this proud U.S. Navy warship. Over 45,000 energetic, young members of the Navy-Marine Corps Team have served proudly aboard NEW ORLEANS during her 29 years of service to our great nation.

Highlights of the many accomplishments of the crew and ship include 16 deployments to the Western Pacific with U.S. Marine units in support of SEVENTH Fleet tasking, flagship for Presidents Nixon and Reagan, recovery of Apollo 14, Skylab III and IV, and Apollo/Soyuz Test Project astronauts, minesweeping operations off North Vietnam in 1972, Iran hostage operations in 1980, and operations in support of national tasking in OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM in the North Arabian Sea and RESTORE HOPE off the coast of Mogadishu, Somalia. NEW ORLEANS and crew are also immortalized in time through their participation in two Hollywood films, "Apollo 13" and "1000 Men and a Baby," reflecting great pride for our nation and the U.S. Navy.

I am extremely proud and grateful to have had the opportunity to command this warship and this crew. Words cannot adequately express my pride and admiration for the accomplishments I have observed during my time aboard. I have seen the magic of the ship instill in each of her young crewmen a sense of confidence and a "can do" spirit that will carry on throughout the lives of the Sailors and officers. To all the former NEW ORLEANS crews, I salute you for all the ship's historic achievements. To my crew, thank you for the outstanding job you have done. I have been extremely proud of what you have accomplished and to have served as your Commanding Officer.

As NEW ORLEANS' distinguished career draws to a close, the Navy and Marine Corps Team who have served so superbly for 29 years can be assured that they and this great ship have served their nation professionally, and will be honorably remembered by our grateful nation.


R. C. PERKINS

**Commander, Amphibious Group Three
Rear Admiral David L. Brewer, III
United States Navy**

Rear Admiral David L. Brewer, III was born in Farmville, Virginia on May 19, 1946, and is a resident of Orlando, Florida. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. David L. Brewer, II, retired educators in Orlando, Florida.

Rear Admiral Brewer is a May 1970 graduate of Prairie View A & M University, Prairie View, Texas, where he was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Navy by the then Secretary of the Navy, Senator John Chafee (Rhode Island), who commemorated the first Navy ROTC graduating class at a historical black college.



Rear Admiral Brewer's first assignment was as the Electronic Warfare Officer aboard the guided missile cruiser USS LITTLE ROCK (CLG 4). From March 1972 to June 1975, he served as the Minority Recruiting Officer at Navy Recruiting District Memphis, Tennessee.

In June 1975, Rear Admiral Brewer returned to sea as the Combat Information Center Officer aboard the guided missile cruiser USS CALIFORNIA (CGN 36). In 1977, he attended the Surface Warfare Officers' Department Head School in Newport, Rhode Island.

From August 1978 to October 1980, Rear Admiral Brewer served as the Weapons Officer aboard the guided missile cruiser USS WILLIAM H. STANDLEY (CG 32). In 1981, he reported as the Engineering Officer aboard the amphibious helicopter carrier USS OKINAWA (LPH 3).

From March 1983 to December 1984, he served as the Executive Officer aboard the tank landing ship USS FRESNO (LST 1182). In January 1985, he returned ashore and served as the Enlisted Community Manager for Combat Systems Ratings in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OP-13), Washington, DC.

From June 1986 to September 1988, Rear Admiral Brewer commanded the tank landing ship USS BRISTOL COUNTY (LST 1198), winning several awards, including the Battle Efficiency "E" Award.

In September 1988, Rear Admiral Brewer was hand-picked by Admiral C. A. H. Trost, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), to serve as his Special Assistant for Equal Opportunity, where he was an unfiltered advisor to the CNO and his personal representative at Equal Opportunity forums.

From April 1991 to December 1992, Rear Admiral Brewer commanded the Second Fleet flagship, USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC 20), providing command and control support to the Second Fleet.

In March 1993, he reported as a student in the Senior Officers' Course at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

In December 1993, Rear Admiral Brewer was nominated for promotion to the rank of Rear Admiral.

From August 1994 to December 1996, Rear Admiral Brewer was Commander U.S. Naval Forces Marianas/Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Command Representative Guam/Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands/Federated States of the Micronesia/Republic of Palau.

Rear Admiral Brewer has commanded Amphibious Group THREE since January 1997.

Rear Admiral Brewer's personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (with gold star in lieu of second award), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

He is married to the former Richardene R. Brown of Winnsboro, South Carolina. RADM and Mrs. Brewer have one daughter, Stacey.



REAR ADMIRAL RICHARD J. NAUGHTON
UNITED STATES NAVY

Rear Admiral Richard J. Naughton is Director of the Plans and Policy Directorate (J5), United States Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Rear Admiral Naughton is a native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1968. Receiving his wings in 1969, he reported to VF 84 where he flew the F-4 Phantom. While in VF 84, he made two Mediterranean deployments aboard USS FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT (CVA 42).

In 1972, the admiral reported to U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. He earned a Masters of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1973 and an Aeronautical Engineer degree in 1974.

After transitioning to the F-14 Tomcat at VF 124, he reported to VF 24 where he made the squadron's first deployment with the F-14 in USS CONSTELLATION (CV 64). In 1978, Rear Admiral Naughton reported to Atsugi, Japan, where he served as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander, Fleet Air Western Pacific.

In 1980, he reported to VF 111. While in VF 111, Rear Admiral Naughton deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean in USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63) and USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70).

In 1983, he served as Fighter and Airborne Early Warning Training Officer for Commander, Naval Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Rear Admiral Naughton reported to VF 24 as Executive Officer and took command of VF 24 in April 1985. During his tour, VF 24 deployed in USS RANGER (CV 61) and USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63).

After command of VF 24, Rear Admiral Naughton reported to Cruiser Destroyer Group FIVE as Air Operations Officer and again deployed in USS KITTY HAWK (CV 63).

In February 1987, he started Navy Nuclear Power Training and reported to USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) as Executive Officer in October 1988. During his tour, USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) completed an around-the-world deployment and shifted homport from Alameda, California to Norfolk, Virginia.

In January 1991, Rear Admiral Naughton assumed command of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11). During its nine-month deployment to the Arabian Gulf, USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) landed Marines in Kuwait in support of the Desert Storm ground offensive and served as the U.S. flagship for coalition mine sweeping of Kuwait's harbors.

After relinquishing command of USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) in July 1992, Rear Admiral Naughton attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and graduated in June 1993. He assumed command of USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) in August 1993. During his tour, USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) returned to the fleet after her third refueling and the most comprehensive overhaul in Navy history. After command of USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65), he reported to JTF-SWA Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Upon selection to flag he reported to USTRANSCOM in October of 1996.

Rear Admiral Naughton and his wife Jackie have one son, Dean, a graduate of Lafayette College, who lives in Washington, DC.

**CAPTAIN RICHARD C. PERKINS
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)**

Captain Richard C. Perkins, son of Richard P. and Mary E. Perkins was born in Chelsea, MA in August 1952. Graduating from Old Dominion University with a Bachelor of Science degree in May 1974, he entered AOCS in September, and was commissioned an Ensign in February 1975.

After receiving his Naval Flight Officer (NFO) wings, Captain Perkins was sent to NAS Whidbey Island, WA for Fleet Replacement Squadron (FRS) training in the EA-6B aircraft, and subsequently assigned to VAQ 134. In November 1979 he was selected for the NFO to Pilot transition program and following pilot training was designated a Naval Aviator in July 1981.



Captain Perkins next joined VAQ 131 where he made three Mediterranean deployments and saw action in Grenada, Libya, and Lebanon. In October 1985 he reported to Naval Strike Warfare Center, "Strike U" in Fallon, NV. In January 1988 he was assigned to VAQ 139 and served as the squadron Maintenance and Operations Officer.

In July of 1989 he reported as the Executive Officer, VAQ 136, homeported in Atsugi, Japan. Assuming command of VAQ 136 in January 1991, he successfully led the squadron throughout Operation Desert Storm. Following selection for the EA-6B FRS, Captain Perkins commanded VAQ 129 from August 1992-January 1994. His next assignment was duty in the Pentagon with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, J6. Captain Perkins assumed command of USS NEW ORLEANS December 1996.

Captain Perkins has over 4800 hours in tactical jets, accumulated 961 carrier landings, and has flown in 44 combat missions. He has been awarded the Bronze Star, Joint Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Air Medal (3 awards), Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" (4 awards), and various unit and campaign ribbons.

Captain Perkins is married to the former Terri A. Lee of Norfolk, Virginia. They are the proud parents of Greg and Tracy. The Perkins family resides in Oak Hill, Virginia.



**CAPTAIN RICHARD F. SEARS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)**

Captain Dick Sears, a native of Needham, Massachusetts, enlisted in the Navy in 1971 and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1976. He was designated a Naval Aviator in December 1977.

Captain Sears' first operational assignment was Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light THIRTY-SEVEN (HSL 37). While assigned to HSL 37, Captain Sears served as Detachment Operations and Maintenance Officer during Western Pacific and Indian Ocean deployments aboard USS BADGER (FF 1071), USS WHIPPLE (FF 1062), and USS KIRK (FF 1087).

In 1984, Captain Sears returned to the LAMPS community and HSL 37 following completion of the Operations Research Curriculum at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School. During this assignment he served as Officer-in-Charge of Detachment ONE aboard USS OLDENDORF (DD 972) and Detachment NINE aboard USS HAROLD E. HOLT (FF 1074). He also served as the Safety Department Head.

In 1987, following graduation from the Naval War College, Captain Sears reported for duty as the Maintenance Department Head of HSL 35. He also served as Detachment THREE Officer-in-Charge aboard USS JUNEAU (LPD '10). For his detachment's role in special operations conducted in the Northern and Western Pacific they were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation.

In December of 1989, Captain Sears reported to the Force Structure, Resources and Assessment Directorate (J8), the Joint Staff. He returned to HSL 37 in September of 1992 as Executive Officer and assumed command of the squadron in October of 1993.

During Captain Sears' tour of duty as Commanding Officer, the squadron was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E," a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and received Sikorsky Aircraft's Most Improved Aircraft Maintenance Award. After a shore assignment serving as Strike Warfare Requirements and Assessment Officer on the Staff of the Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Fleet, he reported as Executive Officer, USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11).

He holds Masters degrees in Operations Research (M.S.), International Relations (M.A.), and National Security and Strategic Studies (M.A.).

Captain Sears is authorized to wear the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Navy Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and numerous campaign and service awards. He was also awarded the U.S. Air Force Space Badge.

Captain Sears is married to the former Carol Anne Chatterley of Honolulu, Hawaii. They have a son, Richard and a daughter, Christina.

**Major General
Charles F. Bolden, Jr.
Deputy Commanding General, I MEF**

Major General Charles F. Bolden, Jr. currently serves as the Deputy Commanding General, First Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF), Camp Pendleton, CA.

Born in Columbia, SC, General Bolden received a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1968 and later earned a Master of Science degree in Systems Management from the University of Southern California in 1977.

Accepting a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps following graduation from the Naval Academy, he underwent flight training at Pensacola, FL, Meridian, MS, and Kingsville, TX, before being designated a naval aviator in May 1970. Between June 1972 and June 1973 he flew more than 100 combat missions into North and South Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia in the A-6A Intruder while assigned to VMA(AW)-533 at Nam Phong, Thailand.



Upon returning to the United States, General Bolden began a two-year tour as a Marine Corps Officer Selection and Recruiting Officer in Los Angeles, CA, followed by three years in various assignments at Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, CA. In June 1979, he graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Patuxent River, MD, and was assigned to the Naval Air Test Center's Systems Engineering and Strike Aircraft Test Directorates. While there, he served as an ordnance test pilot and flew numerous test projects in the A-6E, EA-6B and A-7C/E aircraft. Throughout his career General Bolden has logged more than 6,000 hours of flying time in more than thirty models of fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

Selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1980, General Bolden qualified as a space shuttle pilot astronaut in 1981 and subsequently flew four missions into space. During his first mission on board the Space Shuttle Columbia in 1986, he participated in the successful deployment of the SATCOM KU satellite and conducted experiments in astrophysics and materials processing.

As pilot of the Space Shuttle Discovery in 1990, General Bolden and crew successfully deployed the Hubble Space Telescope while orbiting the earth from a record setting altitude of 400 miles. Additionally, they also conducted extensive scientific experimentation and employed a variety of cameras, including both the IMAX in-cabin and cargo bay cameras for Earth observations.

On his third mission in 1992, he commanded the Space Shuttle Atlantis on the first Spacelab mission dedicated to NASA's "Mission to Planet Earth". During this nine-day mission, the crew operated the ATLAS-1 (Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science), a system composed of twelve experiments which succeeded in gathering a vast amount of detailed measurements of the Earth's atmospheric chemical and physical properties. Immediately following this mission, General Bolden was appointed Assistant Deputy Administrator for the National Aeronautical and Space Administration. He held this Washington, DC post until assigned as Commander of STS-60, the 1994 flight of a six member crew on the Space Shuttle Discovery. This landmark eight day mission was the first joint U.S./Russian Space Shuttle mission, involving the participation of a Russian Cosmonaut as a mission specialist. The crew conducted a series of joint U.S./Russian science activities and carried the Space Habitation Module-2 and the Wake Shield Facility-01 into space. Upon completion of this fourth mission, General Bolden left the space program having logged more than 680 hours in space.

In 1995, after successfully completing a one year tour as the Deputy Commandant of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD, General Bolden served as the Assistant Wing Commander, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing in Miramar, CA. In July of 1997, he was frocked to his current rank and assigned as Deputy Commanding General, I MEF, Marine Forces Pacific.

General Bolden's military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2nd award), the Distinguished Flying Cross, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award), Air Medal, Strike/Flight Medal (8th award), NASA Distinguished Service Medal, NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, and three NASA Exceptional Service Medals. He has also received numerous Honorary Doctorates from several distinguished universities.

He is married to the former Alexis Walker of Columbia, SC. They have one son, Anthony Che, a Marine Corps Captain, and one daughter, Kelly, an undergraduate student at Georgia Institute of Technology.

REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM H. BUTLER
UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE



Rear Admiral William H. Butler, USNR attended Vanderbilt University on a NROTC Regular Scholarship, and was commissioned as an Ensign, USN in June 1968. While on active duty he served as CIC/Electronic Officer aboard USS FORSTER, a Pearl Harbor-based destroyer escort, and made three WESTPAC deployments from 1968-1970.

RADM Butler also served in the Republic of Vietnam as a Naval Advisor and Logistics Officer with Commander, Naval Forces Vietnam and the Naval Support Activity, RVN. He was released from active duty in August, 1972 following a tour as Course Director of the Vietnam Advisors Course at the Naval Amphibious School, Coronado, CA.

Since affiliating with the Naval Reserve, he has served in a wide range of assignments, including various unit deployments to Central America, the Arabian Gulf and the Western Pacific, several assignments in the Pentagon, and other major fleet and joint staff tours. His command assignments include tours as Commanding Officer of MIUWU 107, CINCPAC WWMCCS ADP DET 119, COMNAVSURFGRU Long Beach, CINCPACFLT DET 219 and Commander, Naval Inshore Undersea Warfare Group ONE.

RADM Butler's current mobilization assignment is Commander, Military Sealift Command Pacific/Far East with additional duty as Deputy Commander Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Combat V, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross and several other unit and personal decorations.

A corporate Vice President and principal with Montgomery Watson Americas, Inc., a major international environmental engineering, utility management and hazardous waste remediation firm, he serves as Program Manager for the City of San Diego's Metropolitan Wastewater Department. MWWD is currently executing the design and construction of a \$1.5 billion upgrade to the City's regional wastewater and water reclamation system, the largest public works project in San Diego history. He is the President of the San Diego Post of the Society of American Military Engineers, and is also active in the San Diego Chamber of Commerce's Military Affairs Committee, the Water Environment Federation, and other professional and civic organizations.

RADM Butler resides in San Diego, California with his wife Eileen and their daughters Emily and Meredith.

ENCM(SW) JOHNNIE L. D. SMITH
COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)

ENCM(SW) Smith enlisted in the United States Navy on July 29, 1974 in San Antonio, Texas. Upon completion of Basic Training at Great Lakes, Illinois, his first assignment was to Assault Craft Unit-ONE (ACU 1) at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, CA. While assigned to ACU 1, he made four extended deployments onboard USS JUNEAU (LPD 10), USS MONTICELLO (LSD 35), USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7), and USS DUBUQUE (LPD 8).

In August 1978 Master Chief Smith transferred to the Naval Security Group Activity, Hanza, Okinawa, Japan with a follow on tour at the Naval Fleet Activity, Sasebo, Japan.



Returning to sea, he was stationed on USS PROTEUS (AS 19), home ported in Guam, Mariana Islands from June 1982 to November 1983. While serving as LPO of the Hydraulic Shop in the Repair Department, he completed his seventh deployment to the Western Pacific. Upon transfer from USS PROTEUS (AS 19), Master Chief Smith was ordered back to ACU 1 where he served as Chief Engineer of LCU 1646 and 1651, deploying again to the Western Pacific onboard USS DENVER (LSD 5) and USS PELELIU (LHA 5).

His second shore duty assignment was at the Naval Amphibious School, Coronado, CA. From April 1986 to June 1989 he served as an instructor in the Amphibious Technical Training Department and 3-M Coordinator at the Naval Amphibious School, Coronado.

In June 1989 Master Chief Smith reported to USS PIGEON (ASR 19) as the Auxiliary Division Officer and later served as the Command Master Chief. After decommissioning of USS PIGEON (ASR 19), he served as Command Master Chief in USS SCHENECTADY (LST 1185) deployed in the Indian Ocean. In October 1993 Master Chief Smith entered the Command Master Chief Program, and assumed the duty as Command Master Chief, Naval Support Activity, Souda Bay, Crete, Greece, and reported to USS SHENANDOAH (AD 44) in October 1994.

He is currently a veteran of ten Western Pacific, two Northern Pacific, two Mediterranean, and one Indian Ocean deployments. He has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2 awards), Good Conduct Medal (5 awards), and numerous campaign and service awards.

NEW ORLEANS' Commanding Officers



CAPT G. M. Even

16 November 1968 - 18 December 1969

CAPT E. J. Boudinot, Jr.

18 December 1969 - 15 December 1970

CAPT R. E. Moore

15 December 1970 - 13 July 1972

CAPT R. W. Carius (*)

13 July 1972 - 14 December 1973

CAPT R. E. Neiger

14 December 1973 - 26 July 1975

CAPT H. A. Zoehrer

26 July 1975 - 17 August 1977

CAPT E. M. Moore, Jr.

17 August 1977 - 24 November 1978

CAPT E. O. Buchanan

24 November 1978 - 14 May 1980

CAPT C. R. Erie

14 May 1980 - 19 March 1982

CAPT P. F. Duffy (*)

19 March 1982 - 5 August 1983

CAPT D. W. Hoffman

5 August 1983 - 11 April 1985

CAPT D. W. Baird (*)

11 April 1985 - 19 September 1986

CAPT J. J. Zerr (*)

19 September 1986 - 4 May 1988

CAPT M. J. Coumatos

4 May 1988 - 1 September 1989

CAPT D. J. Bradt

1 September 1989 - 5 January 1991

CAPT R. J. Naughton (*)

5 January 1991 - 29 July 1992

CAPT M. W. Smith

29 July 1992 - 11 January 1994

CAPT S. J. Tomaszeski

11 January 1994 - 16 July 1995

CAPT D. K. Bullard

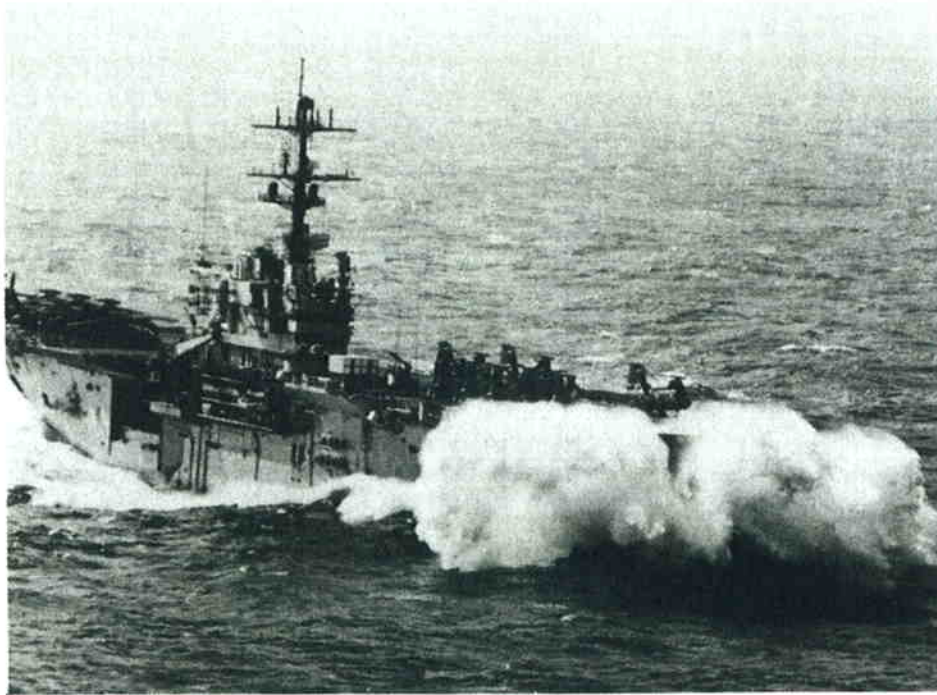
16 July 1995 - 18 December 1996

CAPT R. C. Perkins

18 December 1996 - 31 October 1997

(*) - Attained the rank of Rear Admiral

Command at Sea



"Only a seaman realizes to what extent an entire ship reflects the personality and ability of one individual, her Commanding Officer. To a landsman this is not understandable and at times, it is even difficult for us to understand. But it is so! A Ship at sea is a distinct world in herself and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of the fleet units, the Navy must place great power, responsibility, and trust in the hands of those leaders chosen for command. In each ship there is one man who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to no other man. There is one alone who is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gunfire, and morale of his ship. He is the Commanding Officer. He is the ship. His is the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instance during his tour as Commanding Officer that he can escape the grasp of command responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small; nevertheless, command is the spur which has given the Navy its great leaders. It is duty which most richly deserves the highest, time-honored title of the seafaring world...CAPTAIN."

Joseph Conrad, Author

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Decommissioning Ceremony

USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)

31 October 1997

Arrival of Official Party

Parade the Colors

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Color Guard

National Anthem

San Diego Navy Band

Invocation

Lieutenant M. A. Belt, USN, CHC

Welcoming Remarks and Introduction of Guest Speaker

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN, Commanding Officer

Guest Speaker Remarks

Rear Admiral R. J. Naughton, USN

Introduction of Deputy Commanding General, First Marine Expeditionary Force

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN, Commanding Officer

Deputy Commanding General, First Marine Expeditionary Force Remarks

Major General C. F. Bolden, Jr., USMC

Presentation to Major General Bolden

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN, Commanding Officer

Presentation of Commanding Officer's Award

Rear Admiral W. H. Butler, USNR, Deputy Commander Naval Surface Force U. S. Pacific Fleet

Commanding Officer's Remarks and Reading of Orders

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN, Commanding Officer

Crew Debark USS NEW ORLEANS

Fly-By

Third Marine Aircraft Wing Helicopters

Hauling Down of the Commissioning Pennant, Colors, and Securing of the Watch

Taps

Signing of the Deck Log

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN, Commanding Officer

History of the Commissioning Pennant and
Presentation of NEW ORLEANS' Commissioning Pennant and Colors

Captain R. F. Sears, USN, Executive Officer and

Master Chief Engineman J. L. Smith, USN, Command Master Chief

Benediction

Lieutenant M. A. Belt, USN, CHC

Retire the Colors

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Color Guard

Departure of Official Party

The Story of NEW ORLEANS

USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) first took shape March 1, 1966, when her keel was laid at Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was commissioned on November 16, 1968, under the command of Captain G. M. Even, USN. After completion of final outfitting and weapons on load, she proceeded through the Panama Canal to arrive at her homeport of San Diego on March 3, 1969. Less than five months later, she departed for Vietnam on the first of 18 Western Pacific deployments.

Receiving her baptism of fire in the Vietnam War, NEW ORLEANS was a highly effective and versatile platform during that conflict. Her first deployment was eight months long, and included numerous operations off the coast of Danang, Vietnam. In October 1969, NEW ORLEANS off loaded Battalion Landing Team 2-26 in Vietnam, and was in sight of Danang on New Year's Eve. She helped move troops out of Vietnam during OPERATION KEYSTONE CARDINAL. In March 1970 she returned 1,100 Marines and 100 vehicles to San Diego during operation KEYSTONE BLUE JAY. August 1972 found NEW ORLEANS performing mine sweeping operations in support of OPERATION END SWEEP.

Serving as a control ship, she cleared the mined coastal and harbor waters off North Vietnam.

NEW ORLEANS answered the call to duty again in 1990, when she steamed into harm's way during OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. When USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10) struck a mine on February 18, 1991, leaving a 20 by 30 foot hole in her hull, NEW ORLEANS took over as the flagship for mine sweeping operations in the Persian Gulf. She played a major role in the largest amphibious task force deployed in 25 years, as she was the only ship in the Gulf to actually send Marines into combat.

NEW ORLEANS also distinguished herself in crises other than wars. She spent several months in the Indian Ocean during the Iranian Hostage Crisis. She served in an alert status off the coast of the Philippines during their 1986 national elections. She participated in contingency operations near Selat Lombok. Whenever and wherever NEW ORLEANS was needed, she was on station, maintaining a careful watch on U. S. interests.

During the years of relative peace, NEW ORLEANS maintained her battle readiness by constant training, rigorous preparation, and participation in countless exercises. In 1970 she participated in MEBLEX 1-70, one of the largest amphibious exercises ever conducted on the West Coast. Since then, she has participated in many major exercises, including TEAM SPIRIT, VALIANT BLITZ, COBRA GOLD, KERNEL USHER, RIMPAC, VALIANT USHER, KERNEL BLITZ, and TANDEM THRUST. NEW ORLEANS' constant vigilance in maintaining her battle readiness led to many awards and accolades, as well as outstanding performance on every imaginable inspection. After sweeping every "Efficiency" award one year, she even became known as the "Hallmark Ship."

Lending a helping hand to those in need has also

The First Battle of New Orleans

The Battle of New Orleans, in the War of 1812, represented a significant victory for the fledgling United States. Commodore Daniel Patterson, Commander of the Naval Station of New Orleans, successfully delayed a large British amphibious expedition using a small fleet of gunboats and two sloops. This delaying action enabled the forces of General Andrew Jackson to select a desirable downriver defense and await the arrival of much needed reinforcements. Because it was impossible to communicate quickly across the Atlantic, the British attack on New Orleans was actually conducted 15 days after the war had officially ended. In January of 1815, Jackson won a decisive victory over the British forces at New Orleans. The British suffered over 2,000 casualties, while the Americans had fewer than 100. The accidental linking of the news of the peace treaty with Jackson's victory at New Orleans convinced many Americans that the war had ended in triumph. This victory preserved U. S. national honor, self respect, and prestige at home and abroad.

been a recurring theme for NEW ORLEANS, as evidenced by her many humanitarian accomplishments. In 1971, she provided extensive assistance to the residents of Paluan City on Mindoro Island, Republic of the Philippines. Marines from the embarked Battalion Landing Team built water storage tanks while medical personnel treated over 800 villagers for conditions ranging from intestinal parasites to tuberculosis. Dental care was also provided. One of the ship's portable generators was used to show 2,000 villagers their first movie. A year later, NEW ORLEANS returned to the Philippines to provide flood relief. In 1989, while in transit to Mazatlan, Mexico, she was diverted to Cabo San Lucas to render assistance after a propane explosion destroyed a large section of the city. Most notably, NEW ORLEANS deployed in September 1993 in support of OPERATIONS RESTORE HOPE and UNOSOM II off the coast of Mogadishu, Somalia.

NEW ORLEANS amassed an impressive record of search and rescue achievements, starting with her very first Navy helicopter landing underway. A UH-2 flew from Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey to evacuate a seriously ill shipyard worker to a hospital ashore during machinery trials a few days after her commissioning. NEW ORLEANS entered the record books for the longest MEDEVAC (775 nautical miles) when a crew member injured his head in an accident and two Air Force H-53s flew 7 hours and 43 minutes from Hawaii to reach the ship and take him to a hospital.

The ship operated her own organic search and rescue helicopter (call sign "CAJUN") until August 1992. First an H-46 Sea Knight, it was later replaced by an H-1 Huey. NEW ORLEANS performed many MEDEVACs and rescues utilizing both "CAJUN" and embarked Navy and Marine Corps helicopters. Beneficiaries of these services included personnel from NEW ORLEANS, other United States Ships, Norwegian merchants, Australian Navy ships, and civilian fishing and sailing vessels. In addition, NEW

ORLEANS' helicopters have rescued pilots from F-4, H-53, and AV-8 aircraft, as well as space vehicles.

NEW ORLEANS began her space career on February 9, 1971, when she recovered the Apollo 14 command module and astronauts Alan Shepard, Stuart Roosa, and Ed Mitchell 900 miles south of American Samoa in the South Pacific. On September 25, 1973, she recovered the Skylab III command module and astronauts Alan Bean, Owen Garriott, and Jack Lousma 190 miles southwest of San Diego. On February 8, 1974, NEW ORLEANS recovered the Skylab IV command module and astronauts Jerry Carr, Ed Gibson, and Bill Pogue 250 miles southwest of San Diego. Finally, on July 5, 1975, she recovered the Apollo/Soyuz Test Project command module and astronauts Thomas Stafford, Donald Slayton, and Vance Brand.

Aviation testing was another arena in which NEW ORLEANS excelled. Her accomplishments included the first landing of an AV-8A HARRIER on an LPH class ship in the Pacific, followed by the first underway operations of the "Jump Jet." The first UAV operations from an LPH were conducted onboard NEW ORLEANS. She performed dynamic interface testing for several rotary wing platforms, and operated many experimental aircraft complements utilizing Navy, Marine, Army, Air Force, and Special Operations assets. Additionally, a number of foreign and civilian aircraft have landed on her flight deck.

A world-class hostess, NEW ORLEANS

The Second Battle of New Orleans

The City of New Orleans played a major role in American Civil War history. Admiral David Farragut's fleet passed the forts guarding New Orleans on April 24, 1862, sealing the fate of the Confederacy. New Orleans fell to the Union fleet two days later, assuring that the United States would not be divided. The delta of the Mississippi was open to the Union assault force, which joined the Union forces coming south in the great pincer which severed the Confederacy. "Thus," reported Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, "the great southern depot of the trade of the immense central emporium of the wealthy region was restored to national authority; the mouth of the Mississippi was under our control and an outlet for the great west to the ocean was secured."

represented the nation with dignity and grace around the globe. In 1969, she hosted the Eighth Vietnamese Awards Ceremony. Guests included the Prime Minister of the Republic of Vietnam, Commander in Chief U. S. Pacific Fleet, and numerous other dignitaries. Over the years, she has received several foreign heads of state, the Bolshoi Ballet, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, several Chiefs of Naval Operations, and Miss America, to name a few.

NEW ORLEANS also enjoyed her share of the limelight. In 1971 the popular Mike Douglas TV Show was filmed onboard. In addition to the media coverage of all the space program recoveries, several portions of the Oscar winning movie "Apollo 13," starring Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon, and Bill Paxton, were shot onboard. NEW ORLEANS' Hollywood career ended in May of 1997, after the crew

participated in the filming of the TV movie tentatively titled "A Thousand Men and a Baby." The movie is based on a true story about a U. S. Navy ship that recovered and cared for an infant during the Korean War. The movie is scheduled to air on CBS affiliates at 9 PM (PST), December 7, 1997.

Throughout her 29 year history, NEW ORLEANS has always lived up to the "Hallmark" standard. As a fighting ship, she has never let her country down, always ready to go in harm's way to defend our national interests. NEW ORLEANS has excelled in every endeavor; her many accomplishments are a tribute to the fine Navy and Marine Corps Team that has served with her so well. Her legacy of excellence will be the standard by which other amphibious assault ships will be judged in the years to come. She will be sorely missed.

Fair winds and following seas, NEW ORLEANS!

NEW ORLEANS' ANCESTORS

The first ship intended to bear the name NEW ORLEANS, a wooden ship of 2,805 tons and 74 guns, was never commissioned. She was under construction during the War of 1812, and work was suspended when the war ended. She was sold in 1883, having been in an unfinished condition for 68 years.

The first ship commissioned as USS NEW ORLEANS was a light cruiser of 3,430 tons built in England for the Government of Brazil. The AMOZONES, as she was named by the Brazilians, was purchased by the United States on March 16, 1898. Commissioned by the U. S. Navy on March 18, 1898, she served with distinction in both the Spanish-American War and World War I. She remained in commission until 1920.

The second USS NEW ORLEANS (CA 32) was one of six ASTORIA class heavy cruisers completed just prior to World War II. Built at the Brooklyn Naval Shipyard, the 10,000 ton cruiser was commissioned on February 15, 1934. NEW ORLEANS operated with the Atlantic Fleet until 1936, when she was assigned to the Pacific Fleet. Surviving the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, NEW ORLEANS went on to participate in a total of 17 Pacific Campaign engagements during World War II. She was decommissioned in 1946.



Historical Highlights

1 Mar 66	Keel laid by Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.	18 May 71	Evacuated crew member from SS AMICA (Norwegian ship); Medical Officer performed appendectomy.
3 Feb 68	Launched. Christened by sponsor, Mrs. Arthur A. de la Houssaye.		
6 Nov 68	Crew moved aboard.	28-31 Jul 71	Provided civic action medical assistance in Paluan Village, Mindoro, R.P.I.
16 Nov 68	Commissioned at U. S. Naval Shipyard, Philadelphia, PA. First helicopters landed for display purposes.	5 Nov 71	Returned from WESTPAC.
10-12 Dec 68	First underway helicopter operations; MEDEVAC of shipyard worker by HC-4.	17 Feb 72	Entered Dry Dock #1, Long Beach Naval Shipyard, for new low pressure turbine and communications upgrades.
24 Feb 69	Transited Panama Canal.	17 Jul 72	Underway for WESTPAC (Vietnam contingency operations and Philippine flood relief).
3 Mar 69	Arrived homeport San Diego.	1 Oct 72	Evacuated 28 personnel from USS NEWPORT NEWS after her 8 inch gun turret exploded.
1 Aug 69	Underway for WESTPAC (Vietnam War).	23 Oct 72	15,000th helicopter landing.
11 Jan 70	Conducted memorial service for USS DUPAGE.	4 Feb 73	Rescue and Assistance Team helps USS TOLOVANA (AO 72) in fighting fire while at anchor.
27 Mar 70	Returned from WESTPAC.	13 May 73	Returned from WESTPAC.
14 May 70	Arrived in San Francisco to participate in Maritime Week and Armed Forces Week festivities; hosted over 5,000 visitors.	25 Sep 73	Recovered Skylab III crew and command module.
9-19 Jul 70	Transported load of miscellaneous aircraft to Pearl Harbor.	29 Sep 73	Gun Mounts 32 and 34 removed for installation of Basic Point Defense Missile System (BPDMS).
17-28 Aug 70	Supported Nixon's Presidential Visit to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.	8 Feb 74	Recovered Skylab IV crew and command module.
28 Sep 70	NASA evaluated Pettybone crane (Tilley) for use with Apollo 14 Mission.	16 Mar 74	Underway for WESTPAC.
7 Jan 71	Underway for Apollo 14 Mission.	30 May 74	Performed MEDEVAC of crewman from merchant ship OCEANIC LONDON.
09 Feb 71	Recovered Apollo 14 crew and command module.	31 May 74	Performed MEDEVAC of female crew member from merchant ship KYMO.
11 Feb 71	Astronauts flown off to Pago Pago, Samoa.	10 Jun 74	Performed MEDEVAC of crewman from USS ST. LOUIS (LKA 116).
25 Feb 71	Returned from WESTPAC.	31 Aug 74	Returned from WESTPAC.
15 Apr 71	Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Department established.	5 Jul 75	Underway for WESTPAC.
1 May 71	Underway for WESTPAC.	24 Jul 75	Recovered U. S. astronauts and command module from Apollo/Soyuz Test Project.
12 May 71	Provided medical assistance to SS COLUMBIA MARINER.		

3 Dec 75	25,000th helicopter landing made by CH-46.	22 Feb 81	Arrived Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for regular overhaul.
16 Dec 75	First Harrier landing and takeoff on LPH in Pacific (made pierside).	23 Feb 81	Shifted homeport to Bremerton, WA for overhaul.
19 Dec 75	First underway AV-8A Harrier operations on LPH in Pacific.	8 Jul - 18 Oct 81	Ship's helicopter undergoes Standard Depot Level Maintenance work in Corpus Christi, TX.
17 Mar 76	26,000th landing made by the Commanding Officer, Capt Zoehrer, in CAJUN 05.	12 Dec 81	Returned to San Diego with 200 private vehicles, 20 tons of household goods, and 82 dependents.
23 Mar 76	Returned from WESTPAC.	15 Jul 82	Underway for WESTPAC. Encountered 6 typhoons in a 5 week period.
2 Apr 77	Underway for WESTPAC.	20 Sep 82	Returned from WESTPAC.
4 Jul 77	Fired 21 gun salute in Hong Kong Harbor.	15-19 Oct 82	40,000 guests tour NEW ORLEANS during Fleet Week in San Francisco.
7 Dec 77	Returned from WESTPAC with 58 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.	30 Jan 83	Underway for WESTPAC.
21 Jun 78	Underway for WESTPAC.	3 Feb 83	Participated in the longest over water air-sea rescue to date (775 NM one way)
2 Jul 78	MEDEVAC from USS ASHTABULA (AO 51) to Tripler Army Hospital, Hawaii.	14 Jul 83	Returned from WESTPAC.
5 Oct 78	Returned from WESTPAC with 68 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.	30 May 84	Underway for WESTPAC
16 Feb 79	Received CAJUN 07, the ship's Search and Rescue UH-1N (Huey).	6 Dec 84	Returned from WESTPAC.
3 Oct 79	35,000th accident free landing made by Canadian UH-1N.	16 Jan 86	Underway for WESTPAC.
15 Oct-21 Nov	Modified For Harriers.	14 Feb 86	CH-46 under control of Cubi Point crashes.
30 Mar 80	Rescued the lone and unconscious skipper of a 28 ft sailing vessel 30 miles southeast of Catalina Island. The sailor recuperated from exposure in sickbay while NEW ORLEANS' Sailors returned his boat to Dana Point.	27 Apr 86	Arrived in Bali Operating Area to provide Presidential Support.
15 May 80	Recorded 25.5 knots on ships speed log during Full Power Trials.	2 May 86	Air Force One overflies NEW ORLEANS; President Reagan radios the bridge to say "Thanks."
23 May 80	Underway for WESTPAC.	16 Sep 86	Returned from WESTPAC.
3 Jul 80	Project Handclasp in Luzon. Delivered 25,000 pounds of materials.	6 Oct 86	Homeport shifted to San Francisco for overhaul.
19 Aug 80	Miss America USO troupe visited and spent the night.	22 Apr 87	CAJUN 08 rescues three people from an overturned fishing boat south of Half Moon Bay, CA.
24 Sep 80	Man overboard recovered by Marine CH-46.	29 Sep 87	Returned to San Diego.
20 Nov 80	40,000th safe landing made.	16 Dec 87	CAJUN 08 rescues three people from a sinking fishing boat off San Clemente Island.
22 Nov 80	Returned from WESTPAC with 103 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.	16 Jun 88	Underway for WESTPAC.

15 Aug 88	CAJUN 08 rescues two men overboard from HMAS SWAN.	14 May 93	San Ysidro Middle School National Honor Society induction ceremonies held on NEW ORLEANS.
18-24 Aug 88	12,000 visitors toured NEW ORLEANS while inport Fremantle, Australia.	3 Sep 93	Underway for WESTPAC (Somalia). First WESTPAC with HC SAR detachment.
6-13 Sep 88	Contingency operations near Selat Lombok.	19 Dec 93	GEN John Shalikashvili, USA, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, visits overnight.
5 Nov 88	A CH-46 makes the 65,000th landing on NEW ORLEANS.	20 Dec 93	Admiral Frank Kelso, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, visits for two nights.
1 Dec 88	CAJUN 08 brings MEDEVAC from USS FRESNO the day after crossing the International Dateline.	18 Mar 94	Returned from WESTPAC with 142 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.
16 Dec 88	Returned from WESTPAC with 53 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.	19 Nov 94	Astronaut Captain Jim Lovell, USN, director Ron Howard, and actors Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon, and Bill Paxton film "Apollo 13."
4 May 89	Humanitarian assistance to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.	12 Jun 95	Received Battle Efficiency Award For 1994.
15 Sep 89	CAJUN 08 transferred to USS PELELIU to replace an aircraft lost at sea.	23 Jun 95	Underway for WESTPAC.
21 Feb 90	CAJUN 09 received from MCAS El Toro.	24 Oct 95	Marine raid on Al Hamra Facility.
21 Mar 90	AV-8B from VMA-311 lost at sea; pilot recovered by CAJUN uninjured.	22 Dec 95	Returned from WESTPAC with 198 "Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.
03 Aug 90	Captain Michail Ezel, Deputy Chief of Staff, Red Flag Soviet Pacific Fleet toured the ship.	8 Apr 96	Received Battle Efficiency Award (and all Departmental Efficiency Awards) for 1995.
20 Aug 90	Bolshoi Ballet toured and had lunch aboard NEW ORLEANS.	13 Jun 96	Won 1995 Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety.
1 Dec 90	Underway for WESTPAC (Desert Shield/Desert Storm/Desert Saber/Desert Stay).	1 Jul 96	Won 1995 CNO Safety Award.
24 Feb 91	Off load of 11th MEU into Kuwait.	31 Jan 97	Underway for WESTPAC.
1 Mar 91	NEW ORLEANS replaces TRIPOLI as the MCM flagship after it struck a mine.	2 May 97	Returned from WESTPAC with "78 Tigers" from Pearl Harbor.
28 Aug 91	Returned from WESTPAC.	20 May-6 Jun 97	Filming for "A Thousand Men and a Baby."
30 Jun 92	First launch/recovery of UAVs on an LPH.	8 Jul 97	Underway for ammunition off load at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.
14 Aug 92	CAJUN 11 transferred to MCAS Yuma.	31 Oct 97	U. S. Navy retires USS NEW ORLEANS. Decommissioning ceremony held at Pier 13, Naval Station San Diego, California.
10 Oct 92	Hosted 1,800 guests, including the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, while at anchor in San Francisco Bay for Fleet Week.		

The Ballad of Typhoon Phil

In the year of eighty-two, NEW ORLEANS sailed the ocean blue, Things were going fine and dandy, until we met with Typhoon Andy. We made a stop for a little rest, but had to run from Typhoon Bess. Along came Cecil followed by Dot, oh how that put us on the spot. No one knew quite what to say, when we crossed with Ellis and Faye. We hoped it to be the last of them, but alas came Gordon and Miriam. Then there was Iwa the last of the year, kept us all from having a beer. We blame you not for all that happened, but now we'll call you Typhoon Captain.



USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) under construction at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, 1968.



Marines returning from Vietnam, circa 1969.

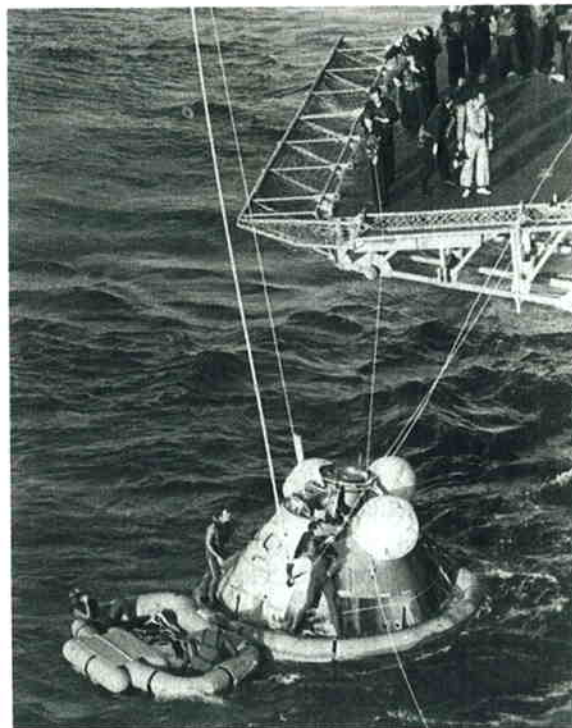
A Look at History

U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11) Commissioning Ceremony

PRELUDE New York Naval Band Bands	ACCEPTANCE OF COMMAND CAPTAIN GLEN M. EREN, U. S. Navy, reads his orders and assumes command of the U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11)
ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY	SETTING THE FIRST WATCH The Commanding Officer directs his Executive Officer to set the first watch
INVOCATION LIEUTENANT COMMANDER TREMBLETT, CHC, U. S. Navy Chaplain, U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11)	RENDERING OF HONORS The Commanding Officer orders the personal flag of the Senior Officer Present Eligible for Command at Sea to be broken with appropriate honors
WELCOMING REMARKS Rear Admiral ROBERT H. SWICE, U. S. Navy Commandant, Fourth Naval District CAPTAIN FLOYD W. GOODE, U. S. Navy Commander, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard	REMARKS BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER CAPTAIN GLEN M. EREN, U. S. Navy
ADDRESS BY THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER DR. HOMER HITT Chancellor, Louisiana State University of New Orleans	PRESENTATIONS The Commanding Officer presents ship's plaques to Mrs. Arthur A. de la Houssaye, sponsor Mrs. Arthur A. de la Houssaye presents gift to the U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11)
READING OF NAVY DEPARTMENT ORDERS TO COMMISSION U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11) Rear Admiral ROBERT H. SWICE, U. S. Navy Commandant, Fourth Naval District	BENEDICTION LIEUTENANT COMMANDER TREMBLETT, CHC, U. S. Navy Chaplain, U. S. S. NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11)
COMMISSIONING The playing of the National Anthem, hoisting of the National Ensign, Union Jack and the Commissioning Pennant. The ship is now in commission.	CUTTING OF COMMISSIONING CAKE Mrs. Arthur A. de la Houssaye and Captain Glen M. Eren, U. S. Navy, will officiate at the cake cutting ceremony
	NAVY HYMN New York Naval Band Bands
	DEPARTURE OF OFFICIAL PARTY

All guests are invited to remain on board following the ceremonies to visit the U. S. S. New Orleans and her crew.

NEW ORLEANS' Commissioning Ceremony Program.



NEW ORLEANS recovered the Apollo 14 capsule and astronauts on February 9, 1971.



A CH-53 drops off a Marine vehicle during OPERATION DESERT SHIELD.



Marines debark NEW ORLEANS during OPERATION DESERT STORM, bound for Kuwait. NEW ORLEANS was the only Navy ship to send troops into combat during the Gulf War.



Finding hope in Somalia's barren landscape.



Just another busy day on the flight deck of USS NEW ORLEANS.

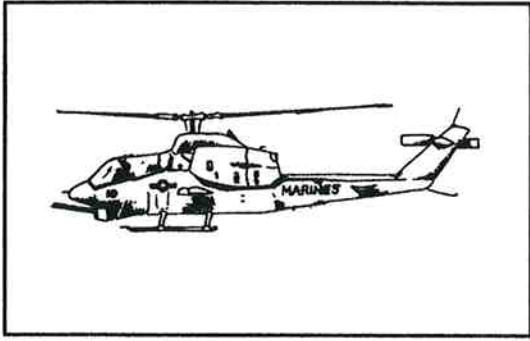


A CH-46 from HC-11 rescues a very lucky Marine who fell overboard.



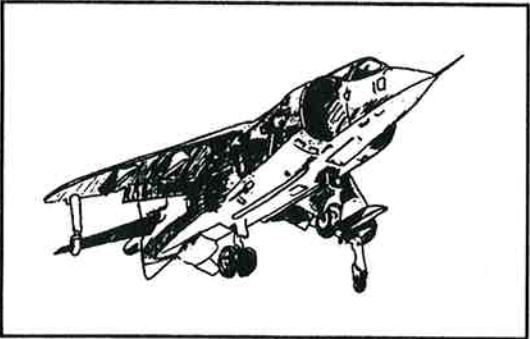
NEW ORLEANS returned from her final deployment on May 2, 1997.

Standard Aircraft Complement



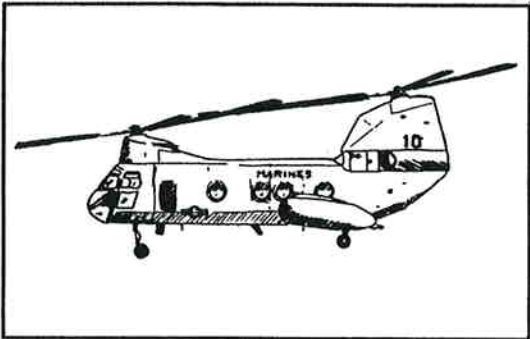
AH-1W

Known as the Sea Cobra, the AH-1 series of assault helicopters has seen action in every major conflict since the Vietnam War. The current incarnation, the AH-1W, is equipped with two powerplants which enable the aircraft to reach speeds in excess of 150 kts. The Sea Cobra is primarily used for close ground support of Marine landing forces during amphibious assaults, counter-insurgency, and defense of the afloat task force.



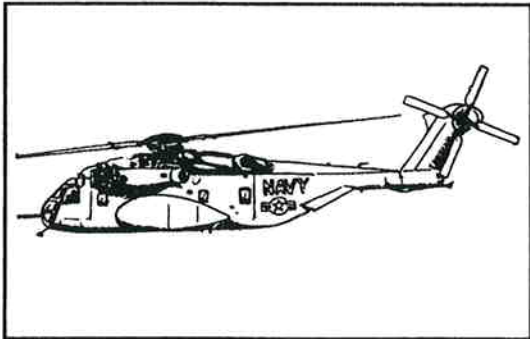
AV-8B

Known as the Harrier or Jump Jet, the AV-8B is of British design. It is one of the few fixed wing aircraft capable of vertical takeoff and landing. The Harrier is a versatile weapons platform, making it ideal for many missions. The Harrier's Rolls-Royce turbojet engine allows speeds up to 590 kts with a range of approximately 1,500 miles. Like the Sea Cobra, the Harrier is used for ground support and counter-insurgency.



CH-46

Known as the Sea Knight, the CH-46 series is a true war-horse that has seen action in every major conflict since Vietnam. Though primarily a troop transport vehicle, the CH-46 pulls duty as a vertical replenishment vehicle and often as a search and rescue craft. The E model is used by the Marines for troop transport while the D model is used by the Navy for logistics and search and rescue. Its maximum speed is 145 kts. A favorite of Sailors, it delivers the mail.



CH-53E

Known as the Super Stallion, the CH-53 series is another veteran of the Vietnam War and following conflicts. Its empty weight of 33,226 lbs puts it among the largest helicopters in the world. It can carry an external payload in excess of its own weight and internal payload of 30,000 lbs or 55 men. The CH-53E has three General Electric turboshaft engines. It can cruise at 173 kts and stay airborne up to six hours.



UH-1N

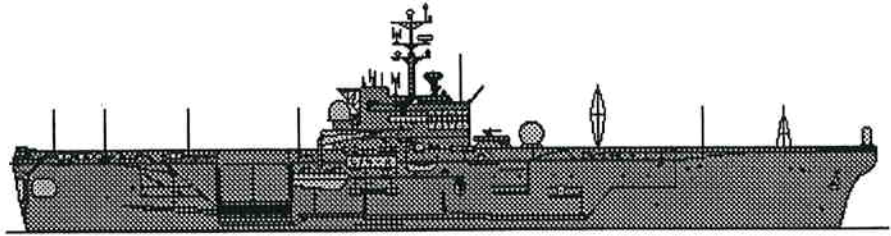
Although officially called the Iroquois, the UH-1 series is more popularly known as the "Huey." UH-1s have been in service since the 1950s. Classified as a utility helicopter, the Huey has been used for virtually every task imaginable, including MEDEVAC, reconnaissance, search and rescue, ground support, and VIP transport. It cruises at 110 kts with a range of 318 miles.

The TWO JIMA Class

The IWO JIMA Class (LPH) Amphibious Assault Ship was created in the early 1960s. The LPH is ideally suited for amphibious assault by the vertical envelopment method. The ship is designed to carry up to 25 helicopters, a Marine battalion landing team and weapons and equipment needed to support them. In addition to its mission as a Marine battalion landing team delivery ship, the LPH class has also served as an amphibious task force control ship, medical duty ship, and a mine countermeasure support ship.

The IWO JIMA Class has a power plant consisting of two boilers and one geared turbine which turn a single shaft with 22,000 shaft horsepower. Its armament includes 3 inch twin barrel guns, the 20mm Vulcan/Phalanx Close-in Weapons System (CIWS) and 50 caliber machine guns. Crew complement is 57 officers, 750 enlisted and up to 2,000 Marine troops.

At least one IWO JIMA Class ship has been present in every major conflict since the Vietnam War. Although the LPH has proven itself to be a reliable performer, the Navy recognized the need for an amphibious assault ship with greater range, capacity, and capabilities, hence the replacement of the LPH with the technologically superior WASP Class (LHD).

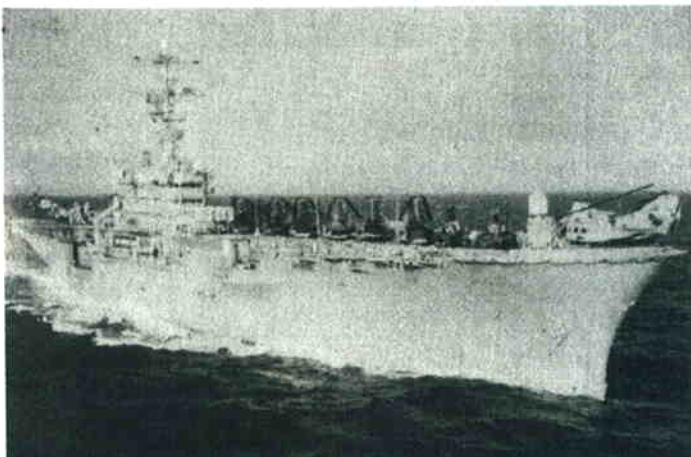


Ships of the IWO JIMA Class

<i>Name</i>	<i>Hull No.</i>	<i>Status</i>
IWO JIMA	LPH 2	Decommissioned
OKINAWA	LPH 3	Decommissioned
GUADALCANAL	LPH 7	Decommissioned
GUAM	LPH 9	Active Duty
TRIPOLI	LPH 10	Decommissioned
NEW ORLEANS	LPH 11	Decommissioned
INCHON	LPH 12	Converted to MCS



USS GUADALCANAL (LPH 7)



USS TRIPOLI (LPH 10)



USS GUAM (LPH 9)



A Record of Excellence

UNIT DECORATIONS

Navy Unit Commendation
 Meritorious Unit Commendation
 Battle "E" Award
 (Six Awards)
 Navy Expeditionary Medal
 National Defense Service Medal
 (Two Awards)
 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
 Vietnam Service Ribbon
 (17 Awards)
 Southwest Asia Service Medal
 (Two Awards)
 Sea Service Deployment Ribbon
 (18 Awards)
 Republic of Philippines Presidential Unit Commendation
 Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Commendation
 (Gallantry Cross Medal with Palm)
 Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal
 (with Clasp)
 Kuwait Liberation Medal
 (Saudi Arabia)
 Kuwait Liberation Medal
 (Kuwait)

OTHER DISTINGUISHED AWARDS

Secretary of the Navy Letter of Commendation
 Golden Anchor Award for Retention - 1976
 Amphibious Assault Award - 1978
 PHIBRON THREE ESWS Award - 1982
 Maritime Warfare Excellence Award - 1993
 Best in Sales and Services Award - 1993
 CNO Surface Ship Safety Award - 1995
 Admiral Flatley Award for Aviation Safety - 1995
 Engineering "E," Operations "E," AIMD "E" (Seven Awards), Green Communications "E,"
 Gunnery "E," Missile "E," Yellow Air "E," Black AIMD "E," CIC "E" (Operations)

Ship's Statistics

Built.....	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Meals Served Daily.....	2,010; 5410 with Marines
Keel Laid.....	March 1, 1966	Dial Telephones.....	350 +
Commissioned.....	November 16, 1968	Berthing Compartments.....	8 Navy, 10 Marine
Homeport.....	San Diego, California	Boats.....	One 40-foot utility
Overall Length.....	597 feet, 9.5 inches	.....	Two 26-foot motor whale
Extreme Beam.....	84 feet, 2.75 inches	.....	One 36-foot personnel
Draft.....	28 feet, 9 inches	.....	114 Mark VI life rafts
Displacement.....	18,155 tons	Armament.....	Three 25mm gun mounts
Shaft Horsepower.....	22,000 SHP	.....	Two Vulcan Phalanx CIWS
Propeller.....	4 Blade, Diameter 22 feet	.....	Four 50 cal machine guns
Anchors.....	Standard Navy Stockless	Aircraft Elevators.....	Two; 34 feet by 50 feet
.....	22,500 pounds	.....	22.5 ton lift capacity
Anchor Chain Length.....	1080 feet	Aircraft Carried.....	CH-53 Sea Stallion
Anchor Chain Links.....	923 per chain	.....	MH-53E Sea Dragon
Link Weight.....	70 pounds	.....	UH-1N Iroquois (Huey)
Aviation Fuel Capacity.....	378,913 gallons	.....	CH-46 Sea Knight
Ships Fuel Capacity.....	804,892 gallons	.....	AH-1W Sea Cobra
Masthead.....	164 feet, 11 inches	.....	AV-8B Sea Harrier
Horizon to Bridge.....	9.9 nautical miles	Landing Spots.....	Eight
Electrical Capacity.....	5 megawatts	Ship's Complement.....	57 Officers, 750 Enlisted
Fresh Water Production.....	100,000 gallons per day	Marine Complement.....	2000 +
Fresh Water Storage.....	122,000 gallons	Deployments Completed.....	18
Cargo Space.....	70,000 cubic feet		
Cargo Elevators.....	Two, 7 ton lift capacity		
Speed.....	22.5 knots		
Rudder.....	21 feet by 12 feet		

Capacity for Food Support

Dry Provision Capacity.....	241,200 rations; 120 days
Frozen Provision Capacity.....	180,900 rations; 90 days
Chilled Provision Capacity.....	40,200 rations; 20 days

USS NEW ORLEANS is also equipped with a large laundry, three galleys, a ship's store, a library, two barber shops, a post office, a closed circuit TV station, a photographic laboratory, and a universal gym. Medical facilities include a six bed ward, 167 bed medical overflow, two fully equipped operating rooms, and a modern dental office. Much like a small city, USS NEW ORLEANS IS A SHIP ALL CREW MEMBERS PAST AND PRESENT CAN BE PROUD OF.





Decommissioning Crew

I don't know what effect these men will have on the enemy, but, by God they frighten me!

- Arthur Wellesley,
The Duke of Wellington

USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) PERSONNEL ROSTER

COMMANDING OFFICER

CAPT RICHARD C. PERKINS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CAPTAIN RICHARD F. SEARS

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF

ENCM JOHNNIE L. SMITH

AIR DEPARTMENT

CDR DAVID G. JENKINS

OPS DEPARTMENT

CDR STEVEN A. KIEPE

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

CDR STEVEN C. STERRETT

AIMD

LCDR EDWARD J. GAWLIK

DECK DEPARTMENT

LCDR CRAIG M. MULLENS

ENGINEERING

LCDR KEVIN A. DOYLE

CHAPLAIN

LT MICHAEL A. BELT

DENTAL DEPARTMENT

LT JEFFREY H. HAAG

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

LT JANOS TALLER

NAV DEPARTMENT

LT STEPHEN P. STARBOARD

SAFETY DEPARTMENT

LT ROY M. PORTER

COMM DEPARTMENT

CWO3 MIKE S. WALKUSKY

ADMIN DEPARTMENT

CWO2 JAMES W. MCDONNER

ADMIN

EMCM NAZ LAGRIMAS
MACS DENNIS J. HALL
NCC BRIAN K. BERGMAN
PNC JOHN L. GRIGSBY
PN1 SCOTT BURGER
MA1 BRETT B. GUNDERSON
LN1 PAUL E. NIOUS
MA1 JAMES L. SCHWERTDFEGER
MA1 SCOTT M. THOMPSON
DM1 JOHNNY J. VILLARREAL
MA2 JAMES E. GRANT
LI2 HAROLD F. JACOB
MA2 LENARD A. KELLAM
MA2 MATTHEW K. NAVARRO
MA2 RAUL RODRIGUEZ
PN2 JAMES W. SIMMONS
YN2 MARC A. VANORDEN
PN2 LUIS A. CARRILLO
YN3 JERRY CHANDLER
PN3 JOSE L. CUEVAS
YN3 JOHN E. DOUCET
YN3 ABRAM A. HACKWORTH
MA3 JOSEPH R. SHYRER
MA3 PHILLIP D. VERDICK
PN3 JEFFREY WHEELER
YNSN JOHN M. WILKE
LISN BRIAN J. DESMOND
LISA VALENTIN MEJIA

AIMD

CWO3 JAMES R. BARBER
CWO2 NICHOLAS E. RUPERT
AFCM BUENAVENTURA S.
RONQUILLO
ADCS NELSON O. VINAS
AEC KEITH L. ASKEW
ATC TIMOTHY MILLER
ASC JERICO B. TIMOG
AMS1 FIDEL S. ABABA
AS1 DUANE K. ANDERSON
AD1 JESUS D. DELFIN
AD1 VALENTINO T. DOCTORA
AS1 BYRON L. FLEENER
AK1 WILLIAM J. FLETCHER
AMH1 ALFRED GUTIERREZ
AZ1 RONALD HARRIS
AD1 DEWEY H. JAMES
AT1 ROBERT P. KELLOGG
AO1 JAMES W. KOTOFF
PR1 DERRICK A. MOUNCE
AE1 EDWIN E. PEREZ
AS1 LARRY S. PERRY
AT1 DENNIS D. WARD
AS1 CHARLES J. WRIGHT
AT2 MICHAEL BARNHILL
AZ2 JOHN R. BAXTER
AZ2 DONALD E. BOGAARD
AS2 GEORGE CONVERSE
AMS2 DANIEL CRUZ

AS2 ROBERT W. GREENE
AD2 ROBERT B. HAMPTON
AZ2 CHARLES D. KNUDSEN
AS2 TERRY A. LEACH
AZ2 EDWARD C. LIND
AS2 DEAN E. LONG
AZ2 MOISES E. LUJAN
AMS2 DAVIE O. MATHEWS
AO2 ENRIQUE A. MELENDEZ
AS2 JOHN E. OTTO
AS2 WESLEY RAMOS
AT2 SCOTT V. WHELPLEY
AS3 ALBERTO ALARCON
AMH3 DONALD R. CUGINI
AS3 ELEAZAR GARCIA
AT3 PHILLIP C. HOWARD
AT3 MATTHEW S. KLOECKNER
AS3 JOHN J. MANN
AS3 TIMOTHY MELSON
AS3 RONALD S. MELTON
ADAN PHILIP C. BOYER
AA CHRISTOPHER DEEPE
AZAA MATTHEW G. HINCHMAN
AEAA BRIAN P. STOLZENBURG
ADAR DANNY V. DORRIS
ADAR NIGEL M. SEEPERSAD

AIR

LCDR BRUCE O. LANKFORD
LT DAVID A. DEMARSH
LTJG DARYL F. WALLS
ABHCS CLIFFORD WEBER
ABFC ERIC J. ANDERSON
ABHC FRANK FUENTES
ABFC ERNEST W. RINGGOLD
ABHC EUGENE TILLERY
ABHC RONALD G. WEBER
ABF1 ALBERT GUAJARDO
ABF1 MARK A. ROMINGER
ABH1 JEFFERY M. SOPSON
ABF1 JAMES T. SPARGO
ABH1 FREDERICK E. SROUFE
ABH1 KENNETH W. WILLIS
ABF2 NICHOLAS FLITER
ABH2 LONZIE JONES
ABH2 DARREE E. MILLER
ABF2 ANTONIO L. OSORIO
ABF2 BENJAMINE V. SALVANIA
ABH2 CHARLES D. SILMAN
ABF2 TRUMPUS Z. THOMAS
ABH3 RODRICK D. ALEXANDER
ABH3 ROBERT C. ANDERSON
ABH3 CHEVANCE B. BAILEY
ABH3 JOSEPH S. BAILEY
ABF3 IGNACIO BARBA
AMH3 MICHAEL S. BASQUES
ABH3 RICHARD P. BULLARD
ABH3 SCOTT A. ENNIS
ABF3 ERIK T. FIGURACRION
ABF3 MARK J. GACKOWSKI
ABH3 ADRIAN GUAJARDO
ABH3 MATTHEW HAWKINS

ABH3 ROBERT L. KEYS
ABH3 GREGORY S. LANCASTER
ABH3 MICHAEL L. LINDSEY
ABH3 A. M. MARQUEZ
ABH3 KENNETH C. MILLER
ABH3 JASON R. MULLANY
ABF3 DAVID E. NUNES
ABF3 KANE F. M. OUANO
ABF3 CIRILO S. RAYOS
AMH3 JUAN E. SALAZAR
ABF3 HUMBERTO
SANTANA AVILA
ABF3 STEPHEN TOMES
ABH3 ARTHUR J. TWIFORD
ABF3 VUE VANG
ABF3 COREY W. WALTERS
ABH3 WAYNE A. WHYTE
ABHA NAUGUSTUS R. BACA
AN MER S. BAGOISAN
AN JOVELLE L. BENNETT
AN BRUCE R. CHENEY
AN KALANI J. EATON
AN CHRISTOPHER A. HERRON
AN DARNELL E. HILL
AN ABDOLLAH JAHANFAR
ABHAN STEVE G. MORALES
AN CHRISTOPHER W. NEAL
AN JASON L. RUSSELL
AN HIEN V. TRAN
AN ANDRECO TURNER
AA MICHAEL C. BARNHILL
AA BRIAN M. BERRIER
AA HENRY J. BROWN
AA PAUL A. CASTILLO
AA GEORGE C. DAVIS
AA BRENDAN DREW
AA ISRAEL D. GALLEGOS
AA JACOB JOSEPHHAMMITT
AA EDMOND J. HINELY
ABHAA LARRY HUMMEL
AA CODY S. MCWILLIAMS
AA MONTEL PARKS
ABFAA SAJID B. REYES
AA CHRISTOPHER L. RICCIARDI
AA VICTOR G. RISSO
AA RICK A. RODRIGUEZ
AA JAMIE J. SHRADER
AA JEFFREY A. STEPHAN
AA WESLEY R. L. URBAN
AR KENNETH E. AKERS
AR TIMOTHY J. ANSCHULTZ
AR JOSEPH D. BECKER
AR WILLIAM A. CASTILLO
AR HEATH G. CATCHING
AR NEIL F. COLOMA
AR SHANE R. ENGLE
AR DERRICK W. GILLESPIE
AR TIMOTHY GOLDEN
AR CARLOS A. GOMEZ
AR JEREMY W. HANKINS
AR BRIAN D. HIXSON
AR CHRISTOPHER D. HOBBS
AR RYAN C. INGRAM

AR GERALD LOPEZ
AR ROBERTO C. MARENCO
AR JOHN S. MARONICK
AR RAMIRO A. MARTINEZ
AR CHRIS J. MILLERLEILE
AR MARTY J. RAUK
AR RYAN R. RHOADS
AR JASON J. RIME
AR JOSEPH C. ROBATTO
AR MICHAEL T. ROUSH
AR JIMMY F. TAMAYOAREVALO
AR ELTON R. WILLIAMS

CHAPLAIN

RP1 TERRY D. BENNETT

COMMUNICATION

SMC EDWARD W. FOLMSBEE
RMC ROBERT T. WHITNEY
SM1 IAN L. ALLEYNE
RM1 MARTIN GARCIA
RM1 JAMES KNUTSON
RM1 WAYNE WEAVER
RM2 CHRISTOPHER J. FRYE
RM2 JONATHAN A. RIENKS
RM2 WILLIAM T. ROSS
SM2 JOHN A. SAVITZ
RM3 JOHNNY L. BOATWRIGHT
SM3 MICHAEL W. COOLE
RM3 JASON DECARLO
RM3 SEAN T. DILLON
RM3 WALLACE F. EDDY
RM3 JEROME EDWARDS
SM3 EARNEST L. HARRIS
RM3 OMAR MOYA
RM3 AARON D. MYERS
RM3 BENJAMIN J. NAVARRO
SM3 MAURICIO PERKINS
SM3 JOSE RAMIREZ
RM3 ROBERT L. WASHINGTON
RM3 DAMETRIUS R. WESLEY
RMSN MICHAEL J. ZIEGMANN
SMSA JOSHUA M. MYERS
RMSA REID A. SQUELLATI
SMSR CARL E. SMITH

DECK

CWO3 JAMES M. HUFFMAN
ENS RICHARD R. BESSEL
ENS KURT E. FISCHL
ENS DENNIS A. KELLY
ENS MICHAEL A. NELSON
BMCS RANDOLPH E. MOORE
GMC ALFRED J. LUCERO
BM1 PETER BEYER
AO1 DENNIS R. CURT
BM1 JOHN C. ELKINS
AO1 MICHAEL JORZYK
AO1 DANIEL J. KRAMER
BM1 JAMES W. SANTORO
BM2 JAMES L. JOHNSON

BM2 JOSEPH C. JOHNSTON
BM2 MICHAEL W. NEWTON
BM2 CLEMENTE M. RIETA
BM2 MURPHY B. ROLAND
AO2 MARK WORKMAN
BM3 DONTA BEAMON
AO3 KEVIN D. BELL
BM3 COREY BROADNAX
BM3 JODIE M. BROWN
BM3 CURTIS C. CAMPBELL
OS3 WILLIAM D. CAMPBELL
AO3 SALVATORE DEFAZIO
BM3 JUAN E. DELAMORA
BM3 SHONDELL D. GAINES
BM3 THOMAS J. GREENE
AO3 LLOYD G. GUARNES
BM3 SHELDON L. HALL
GMG3 NATHAN B. JONES
AO3 STEVEN O. KAMIN
BM3 AUDIS D. KIDD
AO3 SCOTT E. KING
AO3 BRETT D. LOHMAN
GMG3 WILLIAM J. LUERA
BM3 CHRISTOPHER L. MCCALL
BM3 TAURUS M. PATTON
BM3 MICHAEL W. PUGSLEY
BM3 JUAN C. RAMIREZ
BM3 JAMES A. SANFORD
GMG3 ERIC A. TELLO
BM3 RAY S. VASQUEZ
AO3 KENNETH G. WELK
BM3 HAROLD J. WOODSON
SN JEFFERY BADYNA
SHSN EMERSON Z. BASCO
SR THOMAS C. DUBOSE
SN CLINT J. HINISH
SN JASON F. JUSTIN
SN AARON J. MASTERSON
AO3 BILLY G. MOORE
AOAN PAUL D. MOORE
SN MINH A. NGUYEN
SN GREGORY A. SIMS
AOAN RONALD M.
STLAWRENCE
SN ARNEL B. YABUT
AOAN HECTOR B. ZELAYA
AOAA TERRY W. DENNEY
SA ALEJANDRO
GAMBOACARLIN
SA LAWRENCE D. JOHNSON
SA JOHN F. JULIUS
SA HENRY P. NAZAK
SA RUDOLPH ROBERSON
SA SHAWN C. SUTTON
SR MARIO P. CAPE
SR MICHAEL R. FITCH
SR JOEL M. HENDERSON
AOAR SHAW HOLLOS
SR WILLIAM E. JONES
AOAR KEVYN K. KNOTTS
SR IVAN MARTINHERNANDEZ
SR PETERSON PETIT
SR ERIC SAUCEDO

DENTAL

DT1 ROMUALDO O. PRADO
DT2 SERVANDO D. VITUG

DT3 CHRISTOPHER M. RUTZ
DA RANDOLPH L. GRUBBS

ENGINEERING

CWO3 RICHARD A. DVORCHAK
CWO3 JEFFREY D. WRIGHT
LTJG BRIAN S. COLLIER
LTJG SEAN P. HARRINGTON
LTJG THOMAS M. JODZIEWICZ
LTJG MARK S. KIM
ENS RICKE PORTALATIN
DCCS JESSE R. HENLEY
EMCS WALTER W. WHITTLE
MMCS WILLIAM W. WRIGHT
HTC DENNIS D. BUSH
BTC PEDRO MARTINEZ
ICC VINCE ORTEGA
MMC PHILIP J. PITTMAN
EM1 ARNULFO G. ANG
BT1 SAMMIE L. CHAPMAN
DC1 KEENA C. ELLIS
HT1 DAVID A. ENSIGN
MR1 FEDERICO M. ESTABAYA
BT1 BRIAN C. HARMAN
MM1 STEVE K. KELLEY
IC1 PHILLIP A. MARTIN
EM1 JESUS MAXILOM
MM1 DAVID W. MORRIS
MM1 TODD D. MORROW
EM1 RAPHAEL R. MYERS
DC1 RALPH PEREZ
MM1 NORMAN V. QUIOCSON
EN1 JOHN J. STEVENSON
MM1 CURTIS R. WILES
MM1 JERRY J. WILLIAMS
MM1 STEVEN R. WILLIAMS
MM2 PATERNO P. ANDAYA
MM2 FRANCISCO S. BANTUG
MM2 LESLIE R. BATTLES
EM2 KEVIN W. BLACKWELL
MM2 NONELON C. BUCAYAN
MM2 MICHAEL E. BUCHANAN
HT2 KENNETH R. DZIENDZIEL
EM2 JEFFREY D. FREDELUCES
MM2 CLINTON D. HANKS
HT2 JASON W. HENSON
BT2 MICHAEL KANE
EM2 HOWARD H. KAWAI
BT2 NORMAN R. MILLER
IC2 SAVARIO M. POLITO
EM2 CHRISTOPHER L. PRUITT
MM2 LINFORD A. SCHULTZ
DC2 JAMES H. STRICKELL
BT2 MATTHEW J. TRANQUILLI
MM2 MARK L. WALDVOGEL
MM2 DANIEL A. WILLIAMS
MM3 RANDY WALLESSIO
DC3 ANDREW P. ALVAREZ
MM3 MATTHEW E. ANDERSON
IC3 JEREMY R. BACON
DC3 JEFFERY A. BATEMAN
MM3 DUSTIN T. BRANNER
DC3 LUTHER BROWNRIDGE
MM3 ERIC C. BUHLMANN
MM3 AARON L. DAVIS

MM3 TERREN DAVIS
HT3 TAYLOR H. EDBERG
BT3 RAYMUNDO C. ENRIQUEZ
MM3 CHRISTOPHER A. ENYEART
EN3 SHAWN R. FAHEY
MM3 NOEL Y. GARCIA
DC3 JOSH B. HARLOW
MM3 MICHAEL A. JURKOWSKI
MM3 WILLIAM J. LAFOND
MM3 ROD N. MCGAHAN
MM3 WILBERT A. MOORE
MM3 JASON T. MOUNT
EM3 DAVID M. MURRAY
BT3 AARON B. NETEMEYER
BT3 ROBERT O. PAINTER
IC3 ROBERT S. POLITO
EM3 AL S. SANDOVAL
BT3 ANTHONY J. SMITH
HT3 CLINTON A. SPIVEY
IC3 CARLOS R. TORRES
IC3 ROBERT L. TOWNLEY
MM3 JASON A. WENTT
DC3 ERIC C. WRIGHT
EMFN ROBERTO GARCIA
HTFN BRIAN M. INGLIS
FN RICHARD D. REID
EMFN JUAN G. SANCHEZ
FN JAMIE B. SPRINKLE
FA ANTHONY N. BROWN
EMFA KORY L. CAMPBELL
FA HENRY L. CHROME
EMFA EDISON T. ESTACIO
FA TIMOTHY J. FELTER
EMFA ALEJANDRO E. GONZALES
EMFA CHRISTOPHER A. JORDENS
FA SAMUEL C. LEWIS
DCFA IRA E. LOCKE
EMFA GUILLERMO MACIASGARCIA
HTFA PATRICK D. OLSEN
EMFA ABDUL SMITH
EMFA MICHAEL TOLES
FR DONOVAN W. ACKERMAN
MRFR JUSTIN J. CARVER
FR JONATHAN P. CLARK
FR ROBERT P. COALSON
FR KEVIN B. CONE
MMFR DONALD K. GREGORY
FR DAVID T. HARRISON
FR JAYSON P. HART
FR ANTHONY L. MAGINN
FR PATRICK RAY
FR LARRY D. SIMMS
FR JACOB R. TERRAZAS
FR CHARLES O. WATKINS
FR QUINN P. WINSHEIMER
FR DAMON C. WRIGHT

MEDICAL

HMCS REYNALDO M. IGNACIO
HM1 CHRISTOPHER D. GARY
HM1 JAMES P. MCSHEAHM2
MICHAEL R. CARTER
HM2 SIMON R. EASTEP
HM2 BRIAN S. EVERSULL

HM2 FRANK HANNIBAL
HM3 THOMAS F. CASSIDY
HM3 RAUL ESPINET
HM3 ALEX D. GRANT
HM3 JESSIE J. PONCE
HA DANIEL E. GORDON

NAVIGATION

QMC WILLIAM A. HUBACKER
QM1 BRETT N. HALL
QM1 RAYMOND D. ZOROLA
QM3 SHAWN M. ALBERT
QM3 JEFFREY P. WHITE
QMSR GILBERT AGLIAM

OPERATIONS

MAJ LOREN D. BARNEY
LCDR MARK A. BRIGHT
LT DAVID B. HOWARD
LT ANTHONY SIDLAUSKAS
LT JOSEPH T. WALKER
LT ROBERT A. WEIS
LTJG CLAUDE F. GAHARD
LTJG KRIST D. NORLANDER
LTJG JASON B. VANMATRE
ETCS MICHAEL DORAN
OSCS JAMES R. LEUENBERGER
AGC PAUL E. BREWER
ETC ROY E. JENNESS
EWC MARK D. LUND
ET1 JAMES W. BAKER
IC1 DONALD P. BERGERON
ET1 RYAN F. BROWN
ET1 FULVIO A. CARRION
AG1 JORG A. COVINGTON
ET1 STEVEN D. DAHLBERG
AG1 THOMAS H. FOREMAN
AC1 JOHN C. GOOCH
FC1 JAMES F. HAAG
ET1 STEPHEN C. HALE
AO1 ROBERT C. JONES
AG1 ALLEN E. KLIEVES
EW1 ARTHUR P. MAYFIELD
OS1 RAY A. MITCHELL
OS1 DAVID H. STEINMAN
PH1 RONALD V. WOXLAND
IS1 STEVEN L. ZENOR
ET2 RANDY C. BRACKINS
OS2 GUSTAV O. CASTILLO
OS2 RAYBURN K. CHATMAN
EW2 BART A. CHENEY
OS2 STEVEN J. FITZGERALD
EW2 DWIGHT D. FREDERICKS

AG2 JOSE FUENTES
AG2 THOMAS R. LARSEN
OS2 CHRISTOPHER G. MAIER
OS2 SEAN C. MILLER
EW2 DANIEL C. NICHOLS
JO2 JOHN P. SMITH
ET2 MELVIN M. SPRUILL
FC2 DAVID M. THOMPSON
EW2 RADFORD B. TRAVIS
ET2 GAROLD VANDERWERKEN
OS2 JERMICHAEL G. WEBSTER
OS2 TIMOTHY S. WOOD
OS3 GABRIEL AGUIRRE
AG3 MARK N. ALLEN
AC3 BRIAN K. ARMSTRONG
OS3 GREGORY A. BURWICK
JO3 COREY J. CLARK
OS3 TRAVIS CLARKE
OS3 JOSEPH M. CORTON
ET3 MICHAEL A. GREER
OS3 EPIFANIO GUILLEN
AC3 JASON L. HODGES
PH3 FERNANDO MARTINEZ
AC3 PHILLIP A. MCKAY
AG3 CHRISTOPHER MCKINNEY
ET3 EUFRONIO K. NAVARRO
GMG3 SHANNON G. ROGERS
FC3 ANDRE M. RUIZ
FC3 JAMES E. SEGUL
OS3 CARNELL L. SKANES
EW3 DAYTON E. SWANN
ET3 RICHARD N. VOGEL
AG3 DANA W. WEBSTER
EW3 BENJAMIN D. HIPKINS
AGAN RUEL C. LACNO
OSSN ALFRED A. STRAPP
OSSA RICHARD E. BAKER
OSSR LADARYL J. BARKER
OSSA BRETT M. BITTNER
OSSA TYRE D. MCCLENDON
EWSA GREGORY B. TATE
ICFA KENNETH K. TOMINAGA
OSSR ROZMOND L. BELLARD
OSSR CARL J. BETTS
PHAA EDWARD R. BUTCHAS
OSSR BILLY R. CONTRANO
OSSR CHRISTOPHER M. GOMEZ
OSSR JOSHUA H. HANNAH

SAFETY

LT THOMAS P. WALSH
LT ASA YAM

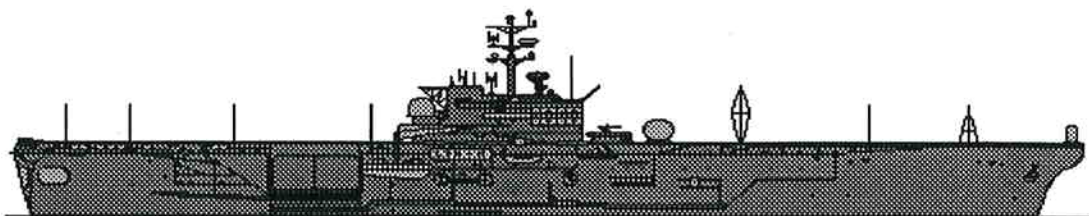
SUPPLY

LCDR FREDERICK M. VANLUIT

LT PETER S. ANDERSEN
LTJG RICHARD A. COSTELLO
LTJG RODGER D. REED
LTJG CRAIG A. RETZLAFF
LTJG JOHN R. VANBUREN
CWO3 JAYSON F. KHOON
SKCM MANFRED FOMBY
MSCM ANTONIO H. RADO
SKCS ISIDRO B. ALVAREZ
MSCS TIMOTHY J. LOFTUS
AKCS PATRICK J. ADAMS
MSC PRECIOSO M. AMANSEC
SHC RICARDO O. FELIX
DKC SAMUEL P. JEAN
DPC ERNEST L. JONES
DSC CLINT T. SAWAMURA
AK1 MICHAEL D. BAKER
MS1 RODOLFO T. CIPRIANO
SH1 ALLAN P. FOZ
AK1 JOSEMABINI S. FULGENCIO
SK1 REYNALDO F. HALILI
AK1 EARLY JOHNSON
PC1 LARRY G. LEE
MS1 ISAGANI D. MARAAN
MS1 RIC D. MARQUEZ
DP1 PAUL J. MITCHELL
MS1 CHANDIKA PERSAUD
SK1 HENRY J. POLLARD
AK1 DENNIS D. POWELL
SK1 PAUL T. WASSMER
SK2 RON BARABIN
AK2 FRANCIS P. BOLLIG
DP2 MICHAEL A. CARDEN
MS2 RANDALL A. CARL
AK2 ROBERT E. COWLING
DP2 MICHAEL S. CUPPS
MS2 JOHNSON A. FIANZA
MS2 JAMES GILSTRAP
SK2 KENNETH GUTHRIE
DS2 MARK L. KRAMER
DP2 MICHAEL J. LANGLEY
AK2 EDDIE A. LOOSLE
DK2 ARTURO C. MANGLICMOT
MS2 CEDRIC R. MCCRAY
MS2 GREGORY MICHAEL
MILLER
MS2 TERRY D. MOLLER
MS2 HOI V. NGUYEN
SH2 REGINALD B. NICKERSON
DP2 JAMES C. OAKLEY
SK2 KEITH POWELL
SH2 BUTCH C. RADO
SH2 KARL E. RHODES
SK2 FRANK SIEGLE
DP2 ERIC P. TOUCHET
SH2 ANTHONY C. VITUG
AK2 KENNET WAITS

MS2 GLEN F. ZASTROW
MS3 JIMMY P. ALCOVA
MS3 WILLIAM N. ARUDA
SH3 RICKY S. BAQUIRAN
AK3 JOSEPH BELL
SH3 ARTURO E. BERMUDEZ
SH2 REYNALDO C. BILLONES
RM3 GREGORY T. BILLS
AK3 JOHN E. BURROWS
AK3 JASON G. BUSS
MS3 TROY L. CURRY
MS3 LEONARD O. DEGUZMAN
SK3 DOLREICH Q. FAUSTINO
DK3 SAMUEL C. FITZPATRICK
AK3 NARRY L. GRAHAM
SH3 MATTHEW W. HESS
MS3 JOSEPH C. JAMES
DP3 PATRICK KEAN
AK3 CYRUS MAYEN-MANCILLA
SH3 THOMAS M. MCDANIEL
SH3 THOMAS MCDANIEL
SK3 ALBERTO NINOROJAS
MS3 JOSE M. RAMIREZ
SK3 ANTONIO LRUIZ
SK3 EDUARDO SARMIENTO
DP3 WATTRUS T. SCREEN
SH3 ALDWIN C. SINGSON
PC3 DEAN M. THOMAS
SH3 MINHTRUNG N. VO
DP3 JOHN C. WALKER
MSSN THOMAS L. ADAMS
MSSN ROBERT J. AREVALO
MSSN JEFFERY R. BIRD
SKSN OLIVER P. DESEO
SN AARON T. KEMP
MSSN JUAN MORTIZ
MSSN CRAIG T. PATTON
MSSN NICHOLAS RECTOR
AKAN ANGEL E. SANTOS
FN CHRISTOPHER M. SHERROD
AN RODERICK WIGGINS
MSSA ROBERT L. BRUEN
SKSA JORGE L. COTTO
SKSA NATHAN A. EVANS
MSSA JASON J. GUTIERREZ
RMSA MATTHEW Q. HODGES
MSSA HOSS R. HUANTE
MSSA RONALD JONES
MSSA AARON L. SALES
AKAR BRYAN R. BARTON
AKAR HUMBERTO B. CAVAZOS
MSSR JOSEPH J. GARCIA
RMSR TRAVIS S. HUDNELL
SR JUAN C. QUINTAL
MSSR JEFFERY D. REBECCHI
RMSR ANTHONY L. SMITH
SR JAE J. SWEET

USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) PLAN OF THE DAY



Commanding Officer.....Captain R. C. Perkins Executive Officer.....Captain R. F. Sears
Command Master Chief.....ENCM(SW) J. L. Smith Sailor of the Year.....ET1 (SW/AW) Baker
Command Ombudsman.....Irene Felix (497-7178) Ombudsman Voice Mail.....(619) 685-3495

USS NEW ORLEANS MISSION: TRANSPORT AND LAND ELEMENTS OF THE LANDING FORCE WITH THEIR SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT BY MEANS OF EMBARKED HELICOPTERS.

THE DEFINITION OF A SAILOR: I AM A UNITED STATES SAILOR. I REPRESENT THE FIGHTING SPIRIT OF NAVY BLUEJACKETS WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE ME TO DEFEND FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY AROUND THE WORLD. I PROUDLY SERVE MY COUNTRY'S NAVY COMBAT TEAM WITH HONOR, COMMITMENT AND COURAGE. I AM COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE AND THE FAIR TREATMENT OF ALL. I WILL OBEY THE ORDERS OF MY SUPERIORS. I WILL SUPPORT AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

SHIP'S ROUTINE: TO CARRY OUT THE NORMAL IMPORT ROUTINE AS PRESCRIBED IN NEWORLEANSINST 3120.32C EXCEPT AS MODIFIED BELOW. ALL HANDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN.

FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER 1997
IMPORT DUTY SECTION FOUR WATCHBILL
CDO: CWO3 HUFFMAN

SECTION LEADER: ABHCS WEBER

ADMIN: YN2 VANORDEN	DECK: AO1 JONES	ENG: MMCS WRIGHT	MAA: MA1 THOMPSON
AIMD: AT1 WARD	MED: HM2 EASTEP	F/M: HT1 ENSIGN	AIR: ABH1 WILLIS
OPS: ET1 HALE	COMM: RM1 GARCIA	SUP: LTJG RETZLAFF	

0600 - REVEILLE
0700 - LIBERTY EXPIRES ONBOARD FOR ALL HANDS/MUSTER BY DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
0730 - MUSTER DUTY SECTION FOUR (FLIGHT DECK)
1100 - DECOMMISSIONING CEREMONY

1. **COMMANDING OFFICER'S FINAL COMMENTS.** Today, as we decommission the NEW ORLEANS, my thoughts are of this great crew that has served so professionally making this warship the best it could be. Through your superior leadership and skill this ship has for 29 years served our country honorably, a clear testament to your dedication, patriotism and deep love of country. You have superbly carried out all our national tasking with hard work, personal sacrifice and dedication. I wish every shipmate and their families the best of luck as we all go on to our next challenge. It has been my honor to serve as your Commanding Officer. Sincerely, Captain R. C. Perkins.

2. **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S FINAL COMMENTS.** Today, as we officially decommission NEW ORLEANS, we will stand tall to salute the proud history of this mighty warship. Your accomplishments, as her last crew, along with those of former crew members are worthy of this memorable occasion. NEW ORLEANS crews have responded with dignity and pride on every mission, whether it involved going into harm's way to protect our national interests; performing humanitarian actions; or completing the difficult task of decommissioning a historic national asset. You have done your job exceptionally well, particularly when faced with adversity. You have represented your country with patriotism and dedication. I want to thank you for a job well done and bid you all fair winds and following seas. We will always be proud to say we served aboard the USS NEW ORLEANS!

3. **COMMAND MASTER CHIEF'S FINAL COMMENTS.** The time has come for all of us move on to better things as we walk off the "NO BOAT" for the last time. I want to let you know that I had a lot of fun as the CMC of the best group of professionals in the Navy. I can honestly say that you all acted professionally, while each of you posed different situations which deserved personal attention. There are no harder working young men in the world. I'm convinced that you can complete any project equal to or better than any major corporation in the world. We all know that the Navy requires a lot of professionalism and sacrifice, which you delivered daily over the past 14 months. We have been through a lot together: TSTA I-III, FEP, "the" NEW ORLEANS port visit, two different decomm dates, Tandem "Justin" Thrust, new policies changes and 800 PCS orders. All these things make us a better force because of you. My precepts have remained constant throughout my tenure. Seek to diversify, qualify for the most senior watch, strive to be the subject matter expert in your field, and establish both long and short term goals along with the prowess to achieve them. Thanks again for making my tour a memorable one and I look forward to seeing you in the fleet.

R. F. SEARS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



*In Commemoration of
29 Years of Distinguished Naval Service
of
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)*

*This Program is Dedicated to
the Officers and Crew Who Stand Aboard Her Today,
to All Who Have Sailed Her in the Past,
And in Memory of Our Fallen Shipmates
Who Gallantly Made the Ultimate Sacrifice
In Defense of Their Nation.*