



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS MONTICELLO (LSD-35)
FPO SAN FRANCISCO 96672

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From: Commanding Officer, USS MONTICELLO (LSD-35)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval Yard,
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Subj: Command History USS MONTICELLO 1982; submission of

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Encl: (1) 1982 Command History USS MONTICELLO

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


D. H. RUDDOCK
By direction

Command History

USS MONTICELLO

1982

As 1982 commenced, USS MONTICELLO (LSD-35) was inport San Diego, CA for post-deployment leave and upkeep. On 13 January she, and elements of Amphibious Squadron SEVEN were ordered to get underway for a short notice THIRD Fleet Ready Forces Exercise "Kernel Egress". Steaming in the Southern California operating areas, MONTICELLO "rescued" marines posing as civilians from San Clemente Island and participated in an Amphibious Assault Exercise on the beaches of Camp Pendleton, CA, returning to San Diego on 21 January.

The next day MONTICELLO entered a planned restricted availability period which continued until 23 May. Major repairs were accomplished on main propulsion equipment and extensive habitability improvements were made to the enlisted dining facility. During the first two weeks of February, personnel from the Human Resources Management Center conducted a Human Resources Availability (HRAV) on board. The HRAV was a cornerstone in the ongoing program to improve cooperation and coordination among MONTICELLO sailors.

The month of April was spent gearing up for the ISIC Command Inspection. The inspection, conducted 3-6 May by officers of Amphibious Squadron THREE Staff, yielded outstanding results.

On 24 May, MONTICELLO was again underway, bound for San Francisco, with a brief stop at Seal Beach, CA to onload ammunition. Upon arrival in San Francisco on 28 May, training became the order of the day. During the next week, a majority of MONTICELLO sailors attended fire-fighting training at Treasure Island.

On 7 June MONTICELLO was underway for Portland, OR, rendezvousing with the Rose Festival Fleet during the evening of 8 June. On the morning of 9 June, shrouded in fog, MONTICELLO crossed the bar of the Columbia River.

As designated Flagship of the Rose Festival Fleet Commander, VADM R. F. SCHOULTZ, she then commenced the eight hour transit up the river to Portland. While in Portland, MONTICELLO hosted the Enlisted Men's Dance, the Governor's Breakfast, Breakfast for the Rose Queen and her Court, and a formal reception for senior officers and state and local dignitaries. MONTICELLO bade farewell to Portland 15 June, and arrived home in San Diego on 18 June.

The following two weeks were occupied with Refresher Training preparations. An at-sea training day on 6 July was followed by the training Readiness Evaluation at anchor in San Diego Bay on 7 July. MONTICELLO then returned to her berth to continue preparing for Refresher Training. On 2 August, MONTICELLO got underway for the first day of intensive Refresher Training. For the next two weeks Engineering, Weapons, Damage Control and Shiphandling exercises were integral parts of each day's activities. MONTICELLO's outstanding performance during Refresher Training earned her a place on Commander Fleet Training Group's "Wall of Achievers".

After returning to San Diego 13 August, MONTICELLO entered an upkeep period from 14 August to 5 September. During this time MONTICELLO sailors remained busy, successfully completing a 3-M Inspection with a performance rate of 88%, demonstrating weapons systems capabilities during a Combat Systems Readiness Test, and preparing for the upcoming Amphibious Refresher Training.

The underway period of Amphibious Refresher Training originally scheduled for 6 to 17 September was curtailed due to an end-of-fiscal-year fuel allocation crisis, but MONTICELLO did get underway 14 September for four days of amphibious landings on the beaches of the Silver Strand. MONTICELLO completed a highly successful Amphibious Refresher Training on the morning of 17 September.

Returning to port on 17 September, MONTICELLO entered an upkeep period for three weeks, departing San Diego on 12 October for San Francisco with units of Amphibious Squadron THREE. Arriving in San Francisco on 15 October for that city's Fleet Week, MONTICELLO sailors on liberty enjoyed the attractions in town while those remaining on board proudly exhibited their ship to some 8,000 visitors in three days.

Fleet Week ceremonies were concluded on 19 October when the Fleet Week Task Group got underway for the transit back to homeport.

Arriving in San Diego on 21 October, ship's company began making plans for exercise KERNEL USHER 83-1, a combined Carrier Battle Group/Amphibious Task Group operation to be held near Hawaii. Emergent engineering casualties, however, necessitated remaining in San Diego for repairs. A concentrated effort by Ship's Force and Waterfront Maintenance Personnel returned MONTICELLO to a fully operational status. After getting underway on 9-10 December for sea trials, MONTICELLO received the unwelcome word she was to be decommissioned and transferred to inactive ship facility for safe storage. As 1982 drew to a close, all hands "Turned To", preparing their ship for inactivation and storage.