



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
USS BATAAN (LHD 5)  
FPO AE 09554-1657

*Rec'd 3/28/02  
w/ disk*  
IN REPLY REFER TO:

5720  
Ser LHD5/0066

**MAR 01 2002**

From: Commanding Officer, USS BATAAN (LHD 5)  
To: Naval Historical Center (N09BH), Washington Navy Yard,  
805 Kidder Breese SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: 2001 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G  
(b) NAVADMIN 023/02

Encl: (1) USS BATAAN (LHD 5) Command History 2001  
(2) Official Photograph and Biography of the Commanding Officer  
(3) Official Photograph and Biography of the Executive Officer  
(4) Official Photograph and Biography of the Command Master  
Chief  
(5) Welcome Aboard Brochure  
(6) Change of Command Brochure  
(7) Floppy Disc

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are submitted.

2. Additional items listed in reference (b), were turned over to CDR Struble, Naval Historical Center during his visit to BATAAN.

*Martin R. Allard*  
MARTIN R. ALLARD

**USS BATAAN (LHD 5)  
COMMAND HISTORY 2001**

**COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION**

COMMANDER, AMPHIBIOUS GROUP TWO, Little Creek Virginia

Commander: Rear Admiral J. Kevin Moran

COMMANDER, AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON EIGHT  
COMMANDER, BATAAN AMPHIBIOUS READY GROUP

Commander: Captain Kenneth B. Rome  
Chief of Staff: Commander John Skillman  
Command Master Chief: MMCM(SW) Robert McCord

USS BATAAN (LHD 5), FPO AE 09554-1657  
UIC: 21879

Commanding Officer: Captain Martin R. Allard  
Executive Officer: Commander Glenn M. Brunner  
Command Master Chief: CMDCM(SW/AW) Michael Tsikouris

**MISSION AND CAPABILITIES**

In its role as flagship of an Amphibious Ready Group, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) is designed specifically for positioning off the shore of an international trouble spot. When necessary, BATAAN will insert Marine forces and their cargo and equipment ashore with helicopters and Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC) hovercraft. USS BATAAN is capable of an amphibious assault, advance force and special purpose operations as well as non-combatant evacuation and other humanitarian missions.

Commissioned September 20, 1997, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) is 844 feet from bow to stern and 106 feet across the beam. Two steam propulsion plants combine to produce 70,000 shaft horsepower, which can propel the ship to speeds in excess of 25 knots. It is equipped with command, control, communications, computer and intelligence (C4I) systems, which provides connectivity to support warfare commander's tactical objectives. BATAAN also houses an extensive medical facility, which include a 600-bed hospital, second in capacity only to the Navy's hospital ships.

As the first Navy ship designed and built from the keel up with accommodations for female Sailors, BATAAN provides living space for nearly 450 female officers, chiefs, enlisted personnel and embarked Marines. BATAAN is outfitted to accommodate a combined total of approximately 3,200 Sailors and Marines.

BATAAN's assault support system coordinates horizontal and vertical movement of troops, cargo and vehicles. Monorail trains, moving at speeds up to 600-feet-per-minute transport cargo and supplies from storage and staging areas throughout the ship to a 13,600 square-foot well deck, which opens to the sea through a huge gate in the ship's stern. There, troops, vehicles and cargo can be loaded aboard landing craft for transit ashore. The LCAC can "fly" in and out of the well deck, or the well deck can be ballasted down for conventional craft, such as the Landing Craft Unit. Simultaneously, helicopters and

Harrier "jump" jets can be brought from the hangar bay to the flight deck by two of the ship's deck-edge elevators, and loaded with supplies and weapons from three massive cargo elevators.

The ship's armament system includes the NATO Sea Sparrow Surface Missile System for anti-air warfare protection, two Rolling Airframe Missile Systems and two Phalanx Close-in-Weapons System mounts to counter threats from low-flying aircraft, and incoming missiles. Six missile-decoy launchers augment BATAAN's anti-ship missile defenses.

CHRONOLOGY

**Command Employment:**

EMPLOYMENT	
29 JAN 01 - 09 FEB 01	TCAT
27 APR 01 - 11 MAY 01	PMINT
30 APR 01 - 02 MAY 01	FT LAUDERDALE SEA AND AIR SHOW
08 JUN 01 - 15 JUN 01	AMMO ONLOAD EARLE
10 JUL 01 - 20 JUL 01	MEUEX 01
30 JUL 01 - 20 AUG 01	JTFEX/SACEX/SOCEX
11 SEP 01 - 14 SEP 01	OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE
19 SEP 01 - 19 MAR 02	DEPLOYED MEDITERRANEAN
10 OCT 01 - 25 OCT 01	EXERCISE BRIGHT STAR
05 NOV 01 - 11 NOV 01	NATIONAL TRAINING CONTINUUM
14 NOV 01 - 31 DEC 01	OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM
14 NOV 01 - 31 DEC 01	OPERATION SWIFT FREEDOM

Significant Exercises Operations

JSOC/MV22 operations involved both operational test and evaluation of the MV-22 aircraft and provided interoperability with Army's Special Operations aircraft. This event provided vital experience for BATAAN's flight deck crew that proved to be useful during Operation Enduring Freedom.

TCAT - Type Commanders Amphibious Training

PMINT - Amphibious Squadron and Marine Expeditionary Unit Integration Training

MEUEX- Marine Expeditionary Unit Exercise. The 26<sup>th</sup> MEU embarked in BATAAN and in coordination with Commander, Amphibious Squadron EIGHT performed various special-mission exercises in preparation for Special Operations Capable Exercise. The MEU performed various missions under the evaluation and training of the Special Operations Training Group. USS BATAAN provided both air and surface movement support for the MEU's operations as directed by PHIBRON EIGHT.

JTFEX / CASEX / SOCEX / ATFPEX - BATAAN as Air, Surface, Sub-surface and Screen Commander for the Amphibious Ready Group flexed their CVBG interoperability during the Joint Forces Exercise. BATAAN was Battle

Group FOTC and performed flawlessly, exceeding all expectations. The interoperability and C2 connectivity were extraordinary given that JTFEX was the first time that the BATAANARG had worked together with TRBATGRU.

CASEX the BATAANARG and TRBATGRU practiced, honed and demonstrated the smooth integrated interoperability required for successful Combined Arms Support during live-fire exercises at the AFWTF Vieques, Puerto Rico firing range.

SOCEX certified 26 MEU as Special Operations Capable. This training is critical to the deployment of BATAAN Amphibious Ready Group. Additionally, in the midst of these exercises, BATAAN completed an extraordinarily successful second ever certification of Anti-Terrorist and Force Protection Forces. In port Naval Station Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico. BATAAN performed as the C2 node coordinating and directing the force protection defense of the ARG.

NOBLE EAGLE - In response to the terrorist attack on New York and Washington, D.C., BATAAN recalled personnel from leave and despite intrusive engineering POM maintenance was underway 11 hours after receipt of sortie orders 11 SEP (with 80% of the crew) for a potential support role for the catastrophe. BATAAN was recalled after four days and returned to homeport almost immediately deployed, on time and on schedule four days later for its scheduled six-month deployment.

BRIGHT STAR - Bright Star is a FIFTH Fleet-sponsored multi-national coalition exercise. BATAAN supported the 26th MEU movement ashore via air and surface and continued to support those operations throughout the duration of the exercise. BATAAN engaged in amphibious training demonstrations and embarked Egyptian forces providing valuable training for the coalition and the ARG/MEU assets.

NTC ALBANIA - During the Albanian National Training Continuum the ARG/MEU team conducted valuable Special Mission training that honed crucial special operations skills employed in Operation Enduring Freedom. Key to exercise success was the embarkation and engagement of the entire executive cabinet of the Albanian government including the President, Prime Minister and the United States Ambassador to Albania. The engagement may pay dividends in the future for naval training using the resources available in Albania.

ENDURING FREEDOM - After transiting the SUEZ Canal on 14 November, BATAAN arrived on station ready for duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In the course of operations BATAAN launched combat sorties into Afghanistan and sent troops ashore in support of Combined Task Force 58.

Operational Command Shifts

On 1 October 2001, the BATAAN chopped from SECOND Fleet to SIXTH Fleet and on 15 November chopped to Commander, FIFTH Fleet. BATAAN Assumed duties and responsibilities as Task Force 58.3 on 21 November 2001.

Command Elements aboard BATAAN during Operation Enduring Freedom:

Commander Amphibious Squadron EIGHT  
 Tactical Air Squadron TWENTY-ONE, Detachment TWO  
 NSWTU  
 NBG2  
 Assault Craft Unit FOUR, Detachment Bravo  
 Helicopter Squadron SIX, Detachment ONE  
 Fleet Surgical Team FOUR  
 Explosive Ordnance Detachment, Mobile Unit TWO  
 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable)  
 Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 365 (REIN)  
 Marine Battalion Landing Team 3/6

Command Awards:

FY-01	NEY (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
FY-01 (1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr)	Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet Retention Excellence
FY-01 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Qtr)	Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet Retention Excellence
FY-01 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr)	Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet Retention Excellence
FY-01	Golden Anchor
Dec 01	Surface Warfare Excellence

Retention Status: BATAAN had 179 re-enlistments in FY-01 of which 51 provided more than \$1.2 million in Selective Re-enlistment Bonuses.

	BATAAN			
Zone	Navy FY-01	CNSL Goals	Last 12 Months	BATAAN Last Qtr
A	56.9%	52%	57%	75%
B	68.2%	64%	81%	68%
C	84.6%	85%	97%	86%

Advancements: Overall promotion rate for BATAAN 37%

Rank	Number Of Candidates	Number Selected	BATAAN Average	BATAAN Average
PO3	115	77	66.9%	66.5%
PO2	223	58	26.%	20.77%
PO1	51	7	13.7%	13.18%

ESWS Qualifications:

E-1 through E6	136
E-7 through E9	12

EAWS Qualifications:

E-1 through E6	100
E-7 through E-9	18

Training Department

October through December: Hosted Video Telconferencing Master Level College Course with ODU while on deployment.

Hosted 397 PACE Students for Instructor Taught PACE

Administered 33 CLEP Exams

Scheduled over 300 SAT test to be give in FY 2002

Note: Throughout Operation Enduring Freedom, the Training Department maintained an active Integrated Training Team which will provide the foundation for a successful SMA and upcoming IDTC.

Change of Command

On June 29, 2001, Captain John B. Strott was relieved as USS BATAAN's (LHD 5) third Commanding Officer by Captain Martin R. Allard in a ceremony aboard USS BATAAN (LHD 5) moored in Norfolk, Va.

Troop Embarkation

On September 17, 2001, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) embarked elements of the 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in Norfolk, Va., then after a three-day transit, BATAAN embarked the remaining elements of the 26<sup>th</sup> MEU(SOC) in Moorehead City, N.C., on September 20, 2001.

Unique Events

From March 4 to April 6, STREAM Missile-EX and ARG SAIL successfully engaged both targets with NSSMS and RAM

On May 28, 2001, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) embarked an entire squadron of U.S. Marine Corps AV-8 Harriers.

On July 17, 2001, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) a Marine jumped overboard during MEUEX. The Lance Corporal, assigned to the 26<sup>th</sup> MEU, was recovered by the ship; resuscitated and MEDEVACED to shore side hospital after ship's medical stabilized him. He was pronounced dead a few days later.

14 Nov 00: VANDALEX Missile-EX successfully engaged the difficult supersonic VANDAL target.

On December 10, 2001, while operating in the Arabian Sea in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) received the flag that had been draped on the Federal Building in New York City. The New York City Emergency Rescue Squad, in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps's New York City's Recruiting Office, sent the flag to the BATAAN to be given to the Marines of the 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit who were currently embarked. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, the three-month anniversary of the Terrorist Attacks on America, the Sailors and Marines aboard USS BATAAN (LHD 5) hoisted this flag and played taps and observed a moment of silence to honor those who died in the attack. The flag was taken ashore by the 26<sup>th</sup> MEU and flown in Kandahar, Afghanistan

On December 12, 2001, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) received the "Ground Zero" flag from the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71). This flag was the original flag that was flown by the three New York City Firefighters in the rubble that was once the World Trade Towers. Once again BATAAN held a flag-raising ceremony to honor this flag and all those who perished on September 11.

Throughout the entire subject period, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) was able to maintain the delicate balance of executing all necessary ship-wide upgrades and alternations, performing all facets of the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle (IDTC) requirements and successfully completing all certifications and evaluations. In concert with these stellar achievements, BATAAN was able to steam a total of 121 days to provide underway training for ship's company, in addition to supporting a full spectrum of aviation activities including Marine Expeditionary Units, U.S. Army Special Operations Forces helicopter operations and the USMC V-22 Osprey.

Demonstrating exceptional mission readiness and material condition, BATAAN successfully sortied for NOBLE EAGLE contingency operations during the later half of her Preparation for Overseas Movement (POM) stand-down. Responding to an emergent tasking, BATAAN was able to recall 80 percent of its crew and get underway in 11 hours. After its return to port, USS BATAAN (LHD 5) departed four days later for its scheduled six-month deployment.

USS BATAAN (LHD 5) was extremely successful in accomplishing all mission tasking throughout the reporting period, seamlessly incorporating the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) forces into the Amphibious Readiness Group, building the total blue - green team concept.

The BATAAN Amphibious Ready Group sortied in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Despite extensive work in the propulsion plant the ship was able to re-install the repaired parts and get underway in the same day. Although BATAAN and crew were prepared to render assistance they were directed to return home to prepare for a scheduled deployment departure.

The ARG deployed on 19 September 2001, loading all 26th MEU (SOC) assets in 16 hours. After a brief stop in Rota, Spain, for fuel and stores, BATAAN quickly departed for sea in support of Exercise BRIGHT STAR.

Flight Operations Recapitulation. BATAAN provided outstanding amphibious aviation support throughout its Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. In addition to providing underway Deck Landing Qualifications (DLQs) for the designated Marine Air Combat Element (ACE), a major achievement was realized when VMA-223 embarked onboard with a full complement of AV-8B Harrier aircraft to conduct intense shipboard training. This marked the first time that an entire Harrier squadron went to sea aboard an L-class ship. The success enjoyed by this evolution set the trend for what is now a routine training function. A further milestone was realized when BATAAN was selected to host the final phase of the V-22 OSPREY underway validation.

Ten-Section Duty. BATAAN implemented a ten-section duty schedule for in-port watch standing during the Inter-Deployment Training Cycle. This watch schedule afforded maximum liberty for BATAAN Sailors, dramatically improving quality of life and boosting retention efforts.

Air

**Flight Hours**

<u>PLATFORM</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>NVD</u>	<u>UNAIDED</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Rotary	3,112.1	1,262.0	190.2	4,564.3
Fixed	534.5	550.7	80.1	1,165.3

**Landings**

Actual Numbers

**Rotary Wing**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>UNAIDED</u>	<u>NVD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
4283	866	2246	7395

**Fixed Wing**

<u>DAY</u>	<u>UNAIDED</u>	<u>NVD</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
744	28	256	1028

Medical

The Medical Department received the Commander, Naval Surface Forces, U. S. Atlantic Fleet Unit Wellness Award for the year of 2000.

In April, Fleet Surgical Team FOUR embarked in preparation for the Mediterranean deployment and participated in work-ups. In July, Medical Department received an unprecedented C-1 status on their Medical Readiness Assessment and faced their first trauma case during



JTFEX in which a man overboard was successfully recovered, resuscitated and MEDEVACed to a shore facility.

On 6 December 2001, nine Northern Alliance casualties were received from Camp Rhino, south of Kandahar, Afghanistan. Treatment of the casualties involved 29 surgical procedures that took more than 60 hours and five days of intensive post-operative care. Six of the casualties were transferred for further care and two were returned to Kandahar.

During the underway period five medical officers completed qualifications and qualified as SWMDOs.

### Combat Systems

Combat System's Fire Controlman successfully dual engaged the RAM and NSSMS during the STREAM MISSEL-EX in March 2001.

In June, Combat Systems completed a successful ammunition onload in Earle, N.J., in preparation for MEUEX, JTFEX and deployment. During MEUEX and JTFEX, the Aviation Ordnancemen built the necessary training packages and ensured all aircraft ordnance was available when needed. The Gunner's Mates continued training the ship's force in the use of small arms and crew-served weapons and ensured USS BATAAN was ready with the increased security requirements after September 11 terrorist attacks.

Combat Systems Department had all weapons loaded and ready shortly after getting underway for deployment and continued to support the 26th MEU's training during Bright Star and NTC Albania. The support continued during OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM where all necessary ordnance was packaged for use and delivery in Afghanistan. Working closely with the MEU, USS BATAAN recovered and packaged more than five million dollars worth of ordnance for future operations.

### Supply Support

During the summer of 2001, the Sales Division completed two major initiatives to improve service in the ship's store and reduce customer wait time. A second counter was added to the ship's store, which added a second register and store operator. Additionally, a second store outlet, nicknamed GatorAide, was added adjacent to the ship's gym. The GatorAide sold fast-moving items such as candy, film, batteries and cold drinks, and was open during peak customer service hours.

A separate sales division initiative added a self-serve laundry, which provided all BATAAN Sailors an on board facility to wash their civilian and gym clothes.

BATAAN qualified for the NEY Award competition and received a surprise inspection while underway in the North Arabian Sea in November.

### Deck Department

Significant evolutions conducted:

Conducted 22 underway replenishments  
Received nine million gallons of DFM  
Received one million gallons of JP-5  
Received 400 pallets of stores, mail and supplies via CONREP  
Completed 260 sill crossings during LCAC operations  
Completed 10 wet-well operations with LCUs  
Completed 17 precision anchorages  
Painted and preserved the entire starboard side of the ship while in port Souda Bay, Crete  
Conducted 22 safe evolutions while pulling into and out of port  
Safely transited the Suez Canal with Master Helmsman driving the ship  
Conducted two fueling evolutions, sending fuel to other ships

### Personal Excellence Program

The following is a list of schools, groups, and people with whom the Personal Excellence Partnership Committee and E-Pal Committee have been corresponding. I do not have any photographs. The following applies:

#### Organization

#### Area of Support

The Ship's Project	Homemade Clothing Item and Food Products
Ms. Ellen Harpin Casselberry, Fl.	Holiday Goodies, Personal Hygiene Items, Letters
First Colonial High School Virginia Beach, Va.	Flag, Letters, Cookies, Paintings, Cards
Granby Elementary School Norfolk, Va.	Letters, Paintings, Cards
Tempe Elementary School Tempe, Ariz.	Letters
Korean War Era Veterans Mr. & Mrs. Al Soehrmann Eckert, Colo.	Support Cards
Girl Scouts of America Ms. Amy Drake Viginia Beach, Va.	Letters, Cards
USS EISENHOWER	Letters, Magazines, Goodies
Meriwether Lewis School Charlottesville, Va.	Letters, Paintings
Ridge Elementary School Ridge, Md.	Cards, Letters

Newsome Park Elementary Newport News, Va.	Letters, Cards
Junior Troops 288 Madison, Ohio	Letters
Cure of ARS School Leawood, Kansas.	Large Personalized Flag, Painted with Kids Footprints
Ms. Donna Wooten Fairbanks, Ark.	Support Letter
Hampton Inn Virginia Beach, Va.	Toiletries
Bataan Elementary School Port Clinton, Ohio	Letters, Cards, Paintings
Crystal Lake Middle School Pompano Beach, Fla.	Letters, Banner

To date, our Personal Excellence Partnership Committee, Penpal/E-pal Committee, along with numerous volunteers throughout the command have forwarded more than 4000 letters and e-mails to our supporters. I'm available if you need further assistance.

**Public Affairs**

**Ship Visits:**

January

Scientists to Sea  
University of Virginia Medical Alumni

February

USMC Expeditionary Warfare Orientation (EWO)  
U. S. Army War College  
CIA/NIMA

March

Joint Intel Officer Visit  
Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus Performers  
NATO Infrastructure Staff  
Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Reserve Detachment  
JAG Assession  
NATO Working Group  
CLF N3a (Captain Becker)  
Mechanicsburg, PA Boy's Baseball Team  
SACLANT British Officers  
Boy Scout Troop 19  
Joint Strike Fighter Program Office

April

WVEC/MS2 Flotas Interview  
European Dignitaries  
USAF Internship Program Officers

Argentine CNO  
 MCPON's Live ALL HANDS CALL  
 Navy War College  
 Salt-Water Trip/Navy Supply Corps School  
 Canadian Forces College

May  
 U. S. Army War College  
 26<sup>th</sup> MEU/Government Services Leadership Program  
 SACLANT Officer Visit  
 Expeditionary Warfare Intelligence Course (EWIC)  
 Swedish National Defense College  
 Naval Supply Corps/Face the Fleet Group  
 Center for Naval Analysis  
 Grandby Elementary  
 The Basic School - Expeditionary Warfare Orientation (EWO)

June  
 USMC Logistics School  
 Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Two  
 Joint Forces Intel Visit  
 Scientists to Sea  
 CHINFO CMC Visit  
 Mr. & Mrs. Piggott - Stained Glass Gift to Chapel  
 Joint Information Center/NMITC USMC  
 Civilian Employee Supporters  
 Family Day Cruise  
 Boy Scout Troop 1965  
 Dona Noland and BATAAN Survivors  
 Melvin J. Sivils  
 Katherine Barrett/Channel 13  
 BATAAN CHANGE OF COMMAND  
 Office of Naval Intelligence  
 Commander Amphibious Group TWO

July  
 Medical Officers  
 COMPHIBGRU TWO Intel Reservists  
 CNSL/Admiral Foley

August  
 Joint Forces Command/Major General Casey  
 CLF N8/N8a

Secretary of the Navy/The Honorable Gordon R. England  
 Admiral Alberto J. Mora, General Counsel and RADM Guter, JAG  
 Commander in Chief Atlantic Fleet Admiral R. J. Natter  
 Commander, Second Fleet Vice Admiral Dawson  
 AVORD Amphibious Working Group  
 Navy JAG

October  
 Commander Sixth Fleet  
 National and International Media Outlets from 16 different organizations

November  
 Navy/Marine Corps Times Embark  
 Albanian President  
 Commander Sixth Fleet Vice Admiral Fry

Globe TV Embark

Commandant, U. S. Marine Corps—General J. J. Jones

December

Commander In Chief, United States Central Command - Gen. Tommy R.  
Franks