



FLOTILLA



NEWSLETTER OF THE LCT FLOTILLAS OF WORLD WAR II

HONORING THE MEN WHO SERVED ON THE LANDING CRAFT OF THE U.S. AMPHIBIOUS FORCES

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AIR CUSHIONED LANDING CRAFT !

US NAVY LCAC IS HI-TECH EXTENSION OF THE LCT

The **Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC)** is a high-speed, over-the-beach fully amphibious landing craft capable of carrying a 60-75 ton payload. It is used to transport weapons systems, equipment, cargo and personnel from ship to shore and across the beach. The advantages of air-cushion landing craft are numerous. They can carry heavy payloads, such as an M-1 tank, at high speeds. Their payload and speed mean more forces reach the shore in a shorter time, with shorter intervals between trips. The air cushion allows this vehicle to reach more than 70% of the world's coastline, while conventional landing craft can land at only about 15% of the coasts.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Class: LCAC 1

Crew: Five

Builder: Textron Marine and Land Systems and Avondale Gulfport Marine.

Power Plant: Four Avco-Lycoming TF-40B gas turbines (2 for propulsion/2 for lift); 16,000 hp sustained; 2 shrouded reversible pitch airscrews; 4 double-entry fans, centrifugal or mixed flow for lift.

Length: 87 feet 11 inches (26.4 meters)

Beam: 47 feet (14.3 meters)

Displacement: 87.2 tons (88.6 metric tons) light; 170-182 tons (172-185 metric tons) fully loaded.

Range: 200 miles at 40 knots with payload/300 miles at 35 knots without payload.



Speed: 40+ knots (46+mph) with full load.

Load Capacity: 60 tons / 75 ton overload.

Military lift: 24 troops or 1 MBT

Armament: Two 12.7mm Mgs. Gun mount will support: M-2HB .50cal machine guns; Mk-19 Model 3 40mm grenade launcher; or an M-60 machine gun.

Radars: Navigation: Marconi LN 66; I band.

Date Deployed: 1982--as of 1995, 82 LCACs had been delivered to the US Navy.

For more info contact the U.S. Navy at:

Public Affairs Office

Naval Sea Systems Command (OOD)

Washington DC 20362

more photos on page 9 . . .