

**WELCOME ABOARD**

USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64)



3-67

## Fortress for Freedom

Welcome aboard the attack aircraft carrier USS CONSTELLATION -- the largest conventionally powered aircraft carrier in the world today. Our ship is named after the United States frigate CONSTELLATION which is now a national shrine and still afloat in Baltimore, Maryland.

Within the steel boundaries of CONSTELLATION, the vast network of machinery and equipment is the responsibility of the 3,000 officers and men who are at all times part of the ship's company. An additional 2,000 men comprise the embarked air wing which flies and maintains the assigned aircraft. During operations at sea, CONSTELLATION and her crew are virtually self-sustaining with all the facilities and conveniences of a modern city. CONSTELLATION is equipped with such things as: a hospital with an 86-man ward, dental clinic, Post Office, cobbler shop, laundry, weather bureau, tailor shop, soda fountains and a TV and radio station. CONSTELLATION's inhabitants live in air-conditioned comfort. Shipboard evaporators produce fresh water for everything from cool drinking water to the steam for the catapults. Crewmembers have a library for study and relaxation and a beautiful chapel where all faiths can worship. About the only things our floating city does not have are trees and girls.

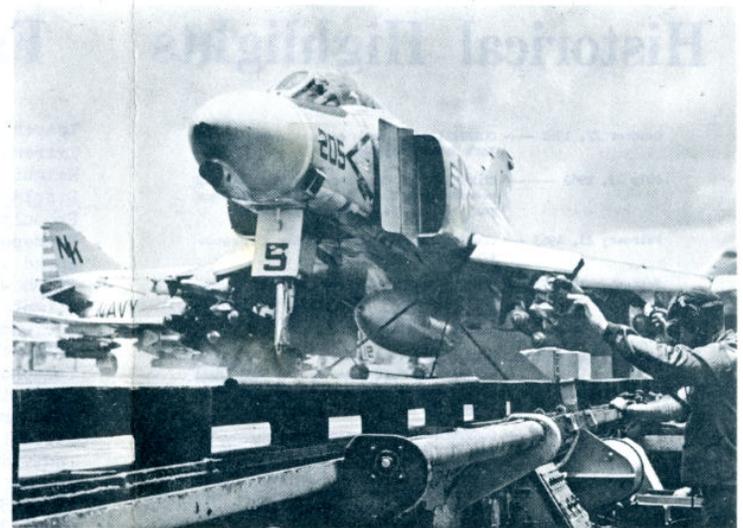
When underway, CONSTELLATION's men and machines combine to form a synthesis of the most modern seapower and airpower in the world. Her mission is "to support and operate aircraft and engage in sustained operations against the enemy." The ship's trademarks are mobility, flexibility and versatility. CONSTELLATION can peacefully show the flag, perform reconnaissance missions or launch strikes of large or small scale, using conventional or nuclear weapons. The radius of action of the embarked air wing embraces the sea, its shores and most of the world's large land targets.

CONSTELLATION is a veteran of four Vietnam combat cruises and has played a significant role in the Vietnam conflict since its initial stages. She is a first line major combat ship of the U.S. Navy and is always ready for any task assigned her, in peace or in war. Serving the cause of peace for the United States and the free world, CONSTELLATION supports and inspires other free nations, discourages aggression, prevents the spread of war and, when called to action, does her share in winning. As a floating fortress for freedom, CONSTELLATION will continue to serve as a sentinel for defense, a thwart to aggression, and a world emissary for the cause of democracy.

MANPOWER ON THE MOVE



LAUNCHING STRIKE AIRCRAFT



## CONNIE IN ACTION



CONSTANT VIGILANCE IN CIC



TERRIER MISSILES FOR DEFENSE



REARMING AT SEA

# Historical Highlights

- October 27, 1961 ---- CONSTELLATION was commissioned at New York Naval Shipyard.
- July 12, 1962 ----- CONSTELLATION departed New York to sail around Cape Horn to reach her new home port in San Diego, California.
- February 21, 1963 --- CONSTELLATION departed on her first Western Pacific deployment.
- September 19, 1963 -- CONSTELLATION returned to San Diego. Newly-appointed Secretary of the Navy Paul Nitze visited CONSTELLATION on December 17, 1963.
- November 24, 1964 --- Crewmembers of CONSTELLATION were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for participating in Gulf of Tonkin operations.
- February 1, 1965 ---- CONSTELLATION returned to San Diego, after her second Western Pacific deployment where she launched retaliatory air strikes for unprovoked attacks by North Vietnamese patrol boats on two U.S. destroyers in international waters in the Gulf of Tonkin.
- November 29, 1965 --- CONSTELLATION completed an 8 month \$19 million overhaul, making her the most modern warship in the world.
- June 15, 1966 ----- CONSTELLATION joined the U.S. Seventh Fleet off the coast of Vietnam to conduct air strikes against North Vietnamese military targets.
- December 3, 1966 ---- CONSTELLATION returned to San Diego after a 7 month tour of duty in the Western Pacific. During the cruise, CONSTELLATION pilots participated in the raid on the heavily-defended Haiphong petroleum storage area, destroying 88 percent of the target area.
- March 20, 1967 ----- Crewmembers of CONSTELLATION were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for participating in Gulf of Tonkin operations.
- April 29, 1967 ----- CONSTELLATION departed San Diego to conduct combat operations with the U.S. Seventh Fleet off the coast of North Vietnam.
- December 4, 1967 ---- CONSTELLATION returned to San Diego after more than 7 months in the Western Pacific. During her cruise, CONSTELLATION jets mounted attacks against three bridges just 10 miles south of the Communist Chinese border. It was the farthest north any U.S. warplanes had flown until that time.
- February 18, 1968 --- President Lyndon B. Johnson paid a surprise visit to CONSTELLATION.
- April 24, 1968 ----- Crewmembers of CONSTELLATION were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for participating in Gulf of Tonkin operations.
- June 28, 1968 ----- CONSTELLATION joined the U.S. Seventh Fleet off the coast of Vietnam for her fourth tour of combat in the area.
- November 1, 1968 ---- CONSTELLATION pilots flew the last missions against North Vietnam before the declaration of a bombing halt.

# Facts of Interest

Length ..... 1,072 feet, 7 inches  
 Extreme Width ..... 273 feet, 5 inches  
 Height (keel to flight deck) ..... 97 feet  
 Displacement ..... 84,000 tons  
 Propulsion Plants ..... 4  
 Horsepower ..... 250,000  
 Speed ..... Over 35 knots  
 Fresh water produced daily ..... 300,000 gallons  
 Flight deck area ..... 4.1 acres  
 Deck-edge elevators ..... 4  
 Telephones (sound-powered, 123 circuits) ... 876  
 Telephones (dial) ..... 750  
 Electrical fixtures ..... 24,750  
 Radio receivers ..... 82  
 Radio tubes ..... 30,000  
 Individual transmitters ..... 87  
 Closed circuit television ..... 120 receivers  
 TV Studio ... Broadcasting 100 hrs./wk. underway  
 Radio Studio. Broadcasting 126 hrs./wk. underway  
 Ship's stores ..... 5  
 Soda fountains ..... 3  
 Barber shops ..... 3  
 Laundry ..... 1  
 Shoe repair shop ..... 1  
 Total area of living quarters ... 88,550 sq. ft.  
 Mess and Lounge area ..... 55,964 sq. ft.

## DAILY PREPARATION OF FOOD

Meals served daily ..... approx. 15,000  
 Bread ..... 1,000 loaves  
 Vegetables ..... 10,150 pounds  
 Meat ..... 5,260 pounds  
 Dry provisions ..... 22,000 pounds  
 Potatoes ..... 3,000 pounds

## SHIP'S CAPACITY FOR CONSUMABLE GOODS

Dry provisions ..... 2,003,758 pounds  
 Vegetables ..... 405,000 pounds  
 Ice-making plant ..... 5,200 lbs./day  
 Meat ..... 370,705 pounds  
 Dairy products ..... 86,600 pounds

## HOSPITAL AND RELATED FACILITIES

Hospital, modern operating room ..... 86 beds  
 Diet Pantry ..... 1  
 Sick Bays ..... 2  
 Audiometric room ..... 1  
 Pharmacy ..... 1  
 Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic ..... 1  
 Battle dressing stations ..... 6  
 First aid boxes ..... 220  
 Dental Office ..... 4 chairs  
 Physiotherapy treatment room ..... 1