

ASIA

PETRA
Jordan
AQUABA
Jordan

JIDDA
Saudi Arabia

KARACHI
Pakistan

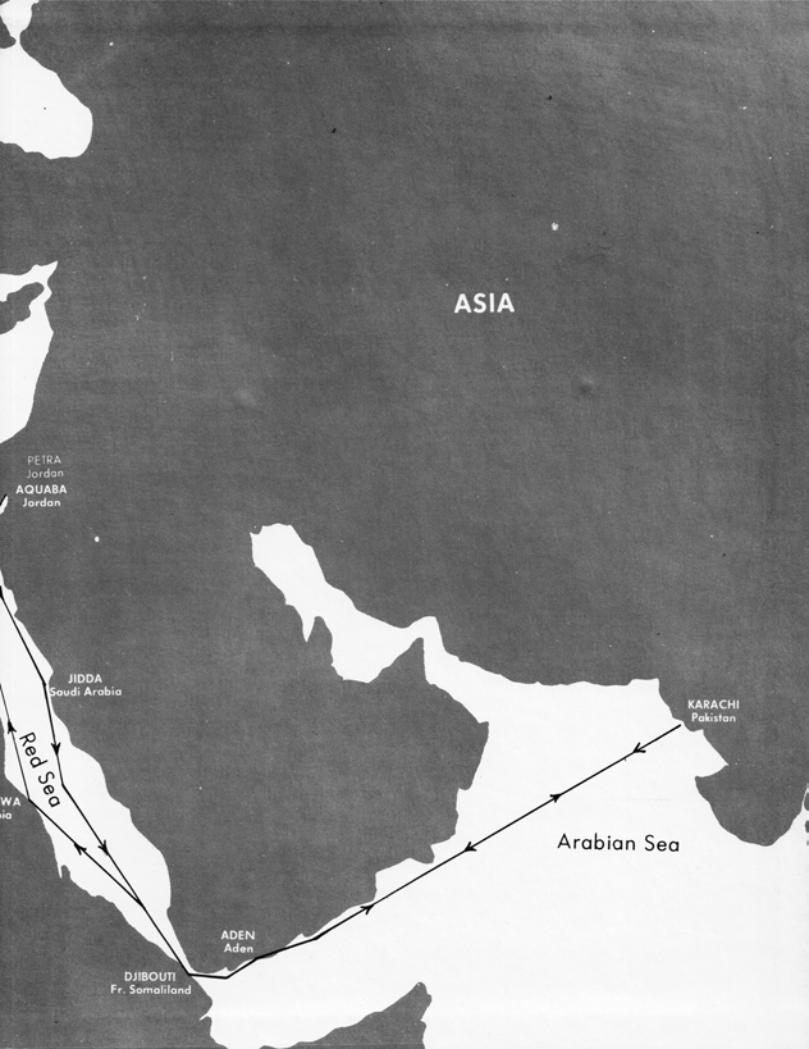
ADEN
Aden

DJIBOUTI
Fr. Somaliland

Arabian Sea

Red Sea

WA
ia



EUROPE

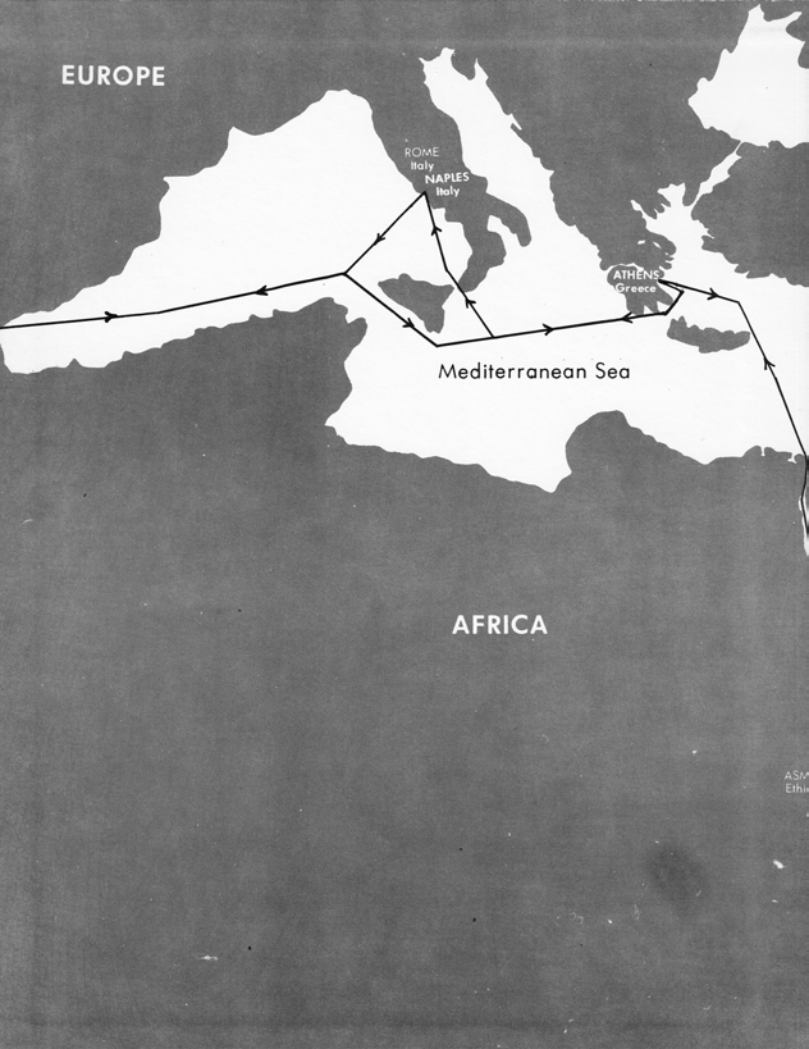
ROME
Italy
NAPLES
Italy

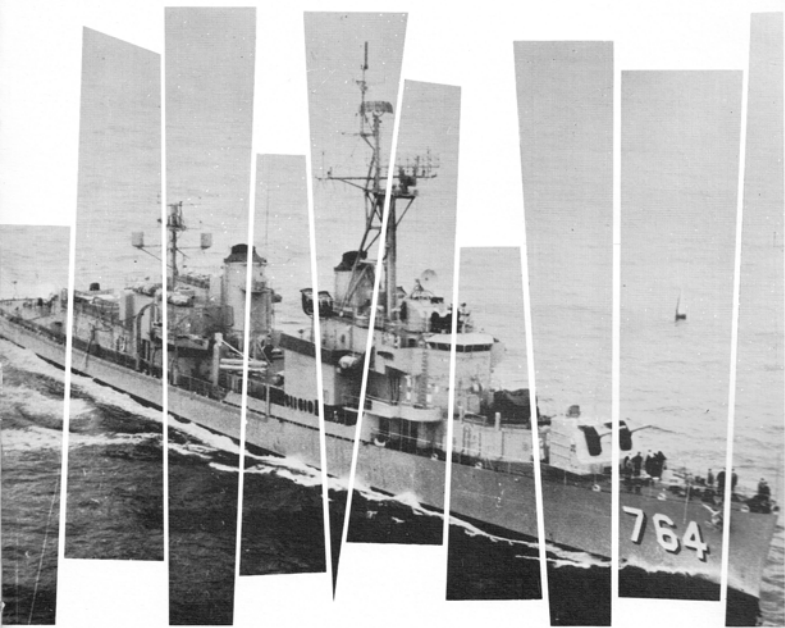
ATHENS
Greece

Mediterranean Sea

AFRICA

ASMA
Ethiopia





*Our ship is made up of many diverse elements.
Alone, each element is small and ineffectual...
unable to function effectively without the others.
But together, these elements compose an efficient
instrument for peace or destruction...an instrument
respected by ally and enemy alike...a hunter-
killer escort destroyer...The USS LLOYD THOMAS...
OUR ship.*

The USS LLOYD THOMAS (DD-764) was named for Lieutenant (junior grade) Lloyd Thomas, a Naval Aviator who lost his life while engaged in the Battle of Midway. He was awarded the Navy Cross, "For extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty while piloting an airplane of Torpedo Squadron SIX based on the USS ENTERPRISE in action against enemy Japanese forces in the Battle of Midway on June 4, 1942. The unprecedented conditions under which his squadron launched its offensive were so exceptional that it is highly improbable the occasion may ever recur where other pilots of the service will be called upon to demonstrate an equal degree of gallantry and fortitude. His extreme disregard of personal safety contributed materially to the success of our forces and his loyal conduct was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

The USS LLOYD THOMAS was authorized to be built on 9 July 1942. Her keel was laid by the Bethlehem Steel Company in their San Francisco, California yard on 26 March 1944 and she was launched on 5 October 1945. Originally constructed as a general purpose destroyer, she was commissioned on 21 March 1947. In January 1949 the LLOYD THOMAS entered the Naval Shipyard at San Francisco for conversion into the Hunter-Killer type escort destroyer.

The principal dimensions of the LLOYD THOMAS are length, 390 1/2 feet, beam 40 5/6 feet, draft 19 feet. She has a design displacement of 2,425 tons and full load displacement of over 3,300 tons. She is powered by four boilers supplying steam to two geared turbines driving twin screws which deliver approximately 60,000 horsepower and can attain a speed of approximately 33 knots. Her normal complement is 13 Officers and 241 enlisted men. Although her primary weapons are designed to combat submarines she also mounts 5 inch 38 caliber guns to offer offensive action to air and surface targets.

The first duty of the LLOYD THOMAS after a period of trials which lasted six weeks was a train-

ing cruise with Task Force 38 of the Pacific Fleet. In company with the VALLEY FORGE and three destroyers, the LLOYD THOMAS departed in January 1948 on a world goodwill tour. The four ships visited Sydney, Australia; Hong Kong and Tsing Tao, China; Singapore, Malaya; Trincomalee, Ceylon; and Ras Tanura, Saudi Arabia. After passing through the Suez Canal, the group touched at Tangier, Morocco; Bergen, Norway; South Hampton, England, and New York City. Then the ship returned to San Diego by way of The Panama Canal after having travelled a total of 46,168 miles in five months.

On 4 January 1957 the USS LLOYD THOMAS in the unit of Destroyer 242 and the submarine USS BATFISH departed on an extended South American Cruise to acquaint our South American neighbors with our ASW methods and capabilities; ports visited included Cartagena, Columbia, Salinas, Ecuador, Callao, Peru and Valparaiso, Chile. This cruise was completed in Newport on 18 March 1957. Upon return, the ship participated in local type training exercises and a HUK cruise to Bermuda, B.W.I., returning on 30 May 1957.

The LLOYD THOMAS participated in local type training exercises until 15 October 1958. At that time, she was taken into Task Group BRAVO, a special anti-submarine hunter-killer group, with whom she has been employed in special training cruises. Examples of this HUK training were a period with the Task



Group at the ASW Tactical School, Norfolk, Virginia, participation in Operation NEW BROOM, a NATO cruise in the Spring of 1959, and an NROTC training cruise for midshipmen in the summer of 1959 which included visits in Quebec and New York City. During August of 1959, the LLOYD THOMAS was given special commendation for the excellence of her assistance to the USS WASP (CVA-18) during a fire and explosion at sea. In November of 1959 the LLOYD THOMAS as a unit of Task Group BRAVO participated in an ASW cruise which included a three day visit to Bermuda. The year ended with a holiday leave period in Newport.

In February 1960 the LLOYD THOMAS participated in "OPERATION SPRINGBOARD" in the Caribbean area visiting St. Thomas and San Juan.

June through September saw LLOYD THOMAS deployed to the Mediterranean fleet. Naples, Gibraltar, Barcelona and Cannes were the scenes of off duty relaxation for the men of THOMAS during this cruise. Another tour with Task Group Bravo completed fleet operations for THOMAS for a full year.

In March 1961 THOMAS entered New York Naval Shipyard for a FRAM II overhaul. FRAM stands for fleet rehabilitation and modernization; through this program the Navy expects to add several years of useful life to destroyers built shortly after World War II. Emerging from the New York yard in December 1961

with a new silhouette complete with helicopter flight deck LLOYD THOMAS underwent the usual period of refresher training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. On return from this training LLOYD THOMAS marked her return to fleet operations with a two-week HUK cruise in March of 1962.

From March through June the LLOYD THOMAS sailed with other units of DESRON TEN for the Mediterranean Sea. From mid-September to the end of the year the ship operated with the Sixth Fleet. Liberty Calls were made in Cagliari, Sardinia; Lousa Bay and Iraklion, Crete; Athens, Greece; Naples and Savona, Italy; Messina, Sicily. December 31 found the LLOYD THOMAS at Port Said, Egypt, awaiting transit of the Suez Canal while enroute to the Red Sea area for the second time in her career.

After transiting the Suez Canal, the LLOYD THOMAS became part of the Middle East force for the months of January and February.

She visited Aden and Colombo, Ceylon, before crossing the equator.

Next stop was the Indian Naval Base of Visakhapatnam, then Chittagong, East Pakistan. Cochin, on the western coast of India, was the last stop before the long return trip back through the Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and home to Newport at the end of March.

June and July of 1963 were spent on a midshipmen cruise which took the THOMAS to Bermuda and Sydney Nova Scotia. In August she took a cruise to Key West and September found her on a two week anti-submarine training operation in the Atlantic.

On 3 October the present Captain, Commander R. Dolan HERTZIG, relieved as Commanding Officer of the LLOYD THOMAS. Both October and November were spent in Newport preparing for another Mediterranean Cruise in April 1964.

From the middle of January to the middle of February 1964 the ship was engaged in OPERATION SPRINGBOARD, a training exercise, in the Caribbean.



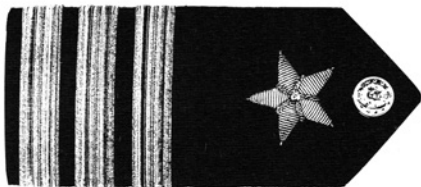
This is the Captain speaking.....

It has been almost a year now since I joined you on the LLOYD THOMAS. During this period we have spent most of our time at sea. First there was a brief operation in early December. Then we spent our month in the Caribbean as part of Operation Springboard. Finally came the time of our overseas deployment.

These past four months have been long and lonely ones - it was a time when we came to miss our families and loved ones at home. Still it was a time when those on the LLOYD THOMAS distinguished themselves by their friendliness and courtesy in each of the ports where we alone were there to show the flag.

I am sure that even though the time and distance may be great, there are many people, adults and children alike, in far-off places such as Pakistan, Arabia, Ethiopia and Aden, who remember with pleasure the visit of the THOMAS. In the same manner we too can look back upon our Mediterranean - Middle East cruise with a certain satisfaction at the new places visited, friends made and a job well done.

It has been a long summer and yet a profitable one. We have been in many situations and have done well in all. It has been a pleasure for me to serve with you and share the good name you have earned for yourselves.



CDR. Hertzig...



CAPTAIN

Commander R. Dolan HERTZIG, USN, the Commanding Officer, USS LLOYD THOMAS (DD-764), hails from San Andreas, California.

He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in the class of 1945. During World War II he served on the USS COLUMBIA (CL-60) participating in five major campaigns in the Pacific Theater during the period August 1944 to September 1945. For his service during this period Commander HERTZIG holds the following medals: Navy Unit Citation, American Defense Service Medal, North American Theater Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 5 stars, World War II Victory Medal, Occupation Medal and Philippine Liberation Medal with 2 stars.

Shortly before the end of the war in the Pacific Theater he applied for flight training and won his Navy Wings in March 1947. He then saw duty in fighter squadron VF-6A at San Diego from 1947 to 1948 and heavy attack squadrons VC-5 and VC-6 based at Moffet Field, California from 1948 to 1950. Following these tours Commander HERTZIG earned his Master of Science Degree in Aeronautical Engineering at M. I. T.

Upon completion of post-graduate schooling in 1953 he joined Attack Squadron VA-35 at Jacksonville, Florida. In 1954 Commander HERTZIG was ordered to the USS WILLIAM M. WOOD (DDR-715) as Operations and later as Executive Officer.

From the summer of 1956 to July 1958 he was Technical Officer in the U. S. Naval Inspector of Ordnance Office, Applied Physics Laboratory, John Hopkins University in Maryland. This was followed by five months as a student at the Armed Forces Staff College.

In February 1959 Commander HERTZIG assumed command of the USS PROTECTOR (AGR-11). Following this he served overseas from July 1960 to July 1963 on the staff of Headquarters U.S. European Command in Paris, France. He assumed command of the USS LLOYD THOMAS in October 1963.

Commander HERTZIG is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Hertzig of San Andreas, California. He is married to the former Ida Warren Pitman of Dunn, North Carolina. They have one son, Richard Mikesell Hertzig.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LCDR. Garcia...



LLOYD THOMAS' Executive Officer, Lieutenant Commander William V. GARCIA is a native of Tenafly, New Jersey. He was commissioned Ensign in 1953 after graduating from Officer's Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island.

LCDR GARCIA's service as an officer includes duty aboard the USS JASPER (PC-486), and the USS TURNER (DDR-834). Just prior to his assignment as Executive Officer of the LLOYD THOMAS in December, 1963, Executive Officer GARCIA served on the staff of COMCORTRON 10.

When not aboard the THOMAS, LCDR GARCIA resides at his home in Middletown, Rhode Island with his wife Marily and his four children.

Our Leaders...



LTJG. JOHN W. DECOSTE
Operations Officer



ENS. P. W. BLONDIN
Supply Officer



LT. WILLIAM SWAN
Weapons Officer



LTJG. T. F. MURPHY
Engineer Officer



LTJG. SIDNEY D. CLARK
Ships' Secretary

D
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P
T.

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A
D
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DEPARTURE



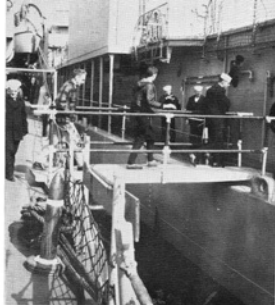
"Are you sure Adm. Nimitz started this way?"



The chain gang.



"What do you mean, you dropped it?"



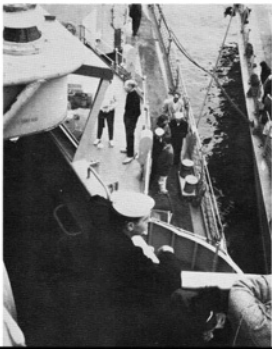
Boarding party

This cruise began like most other cruises: prior to departure, the ship was given a final once-over: we painted, pounded and scrubbed. The rest of the crew arrived, most men accompanied by friends or family. IDs and orders were checked, gear was stowed and the visitors were put ashore. The USS LLOYD THOMAS was ready...for a voyage halfway around the world.



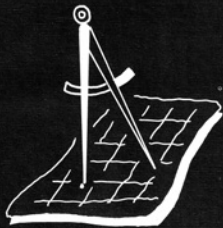
"Yeah. And I'm Napoleon Bonaparte!"

Homesick already...and the cruise hasn't even started yet.



Ready for a long snooze...er...cruise.

OPERATIONS



OC DIVISION

ENS. NATHANIAL KINGSBURY
Communications Officer



OC Division keeps the ship in touch with the rest of the fleet and the rest of the world. All types of communications, radio, signal flags, semaphore, blinker light, and many letters home originate in LLOYD THOMAS' communications division.

The Operations department is either directly or indirectly concerned with every evolution the ship undertakes. Few things are done aboard LLOYD THOMAS which do not pass through the Combat Information Center or Radio Central. These two stations must be manned 24 hours a day, whether in port or underway. The ship's administrative, navigational, and medical personnel are also assigned to operations as well as the most popular man on the ship...the mailman.



"It's this way: I flash my light at him, he flashes back. Then we call up on the radio to see what we said."



D. R. SIRK, YNC



J. DONDERO, QMC



M. L. CATTERTON, RM1



P. M. CORBIN, HM1



T. F. MORRISON, RM2



W. L. PALMER, RM2



W. J. SCHAGER, RM2



"Hey, look! Girls!!!"



G. J. EUGENE, RM3



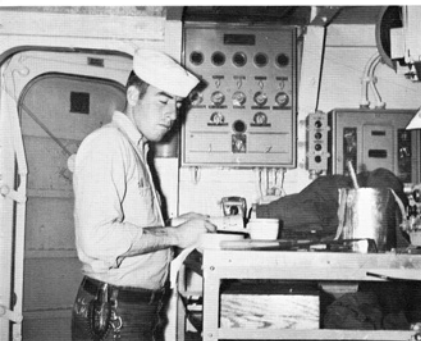
R. L. FERLAND, RM3



R. Z. GHAZARIAN, RM3



G. F. GUSHUE, PC3



"But Grandma, what big teeth you have!" said little Red Riding Hood."



W. E. BRITT, SN



R. D. CHAGNON, RMSN



P. J. EATON, SN



P. D. EOVIACIOUS, SN



J. C. SIGAFOOSE, SM1 M. A. DIETRICH, QMSN



"But Sir, I can already see my face in it."

OI DIVISION



LTJG. DAVID L. ROBBINS
CIC Officer



ENS. WILLIAM T. GUNN III
EMO

OI Division gathers, receives and evaluates electronic intelligence affecting the ship and the fleet through its combat information center. From information received by radar, sonar, meteorological observations and from the bridge, the ship's course is plotted and combat readiness is achieved.



F. RIGNEY
RDC



H. J. SCHOEN, QMSN



D. A. SKIPWORTH, SN



D. G. VANDYKE, YNSN



R. R. CARTIER, RD2



S. L. COOPER, RD2



W. J. CLARKIN, RD2



W. M. DAVIS, ET3



R. A. LUSSIER, SN



H. S. FELDMAN, SMSN



K. M. HARRINGTON, SN



J. HENSELY, SN



T. L. KING, RMSN



G. C. LUCE, HM



G. L. RICHARDS, M SN



S. R. CRAFT, RD3



G. C. DUNLOP, SN



OGLE, RD2



R. A. KIRWIN, ETSN



J. F. LAKES, RD2



J. M. MORGAN, RDSN



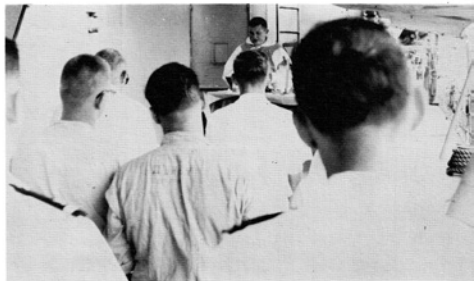
J. S. GARRETT, RD1



L. E. YOCKERS, ET3



K. G. WILSON, ET3



A. C. BINFORD, ET2



J. R. MOORE, RDSA



W. M. MARION, ET2



K. C. MANNIKKO, RD2



D. S. LENOX, RDSN



T. P. WARNER, SN



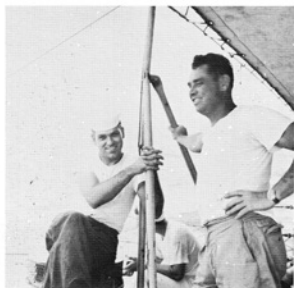
W. G. STROTH, SN



D. W. RODERER, RDSN



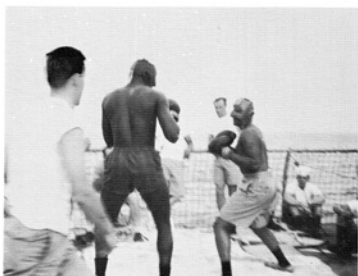
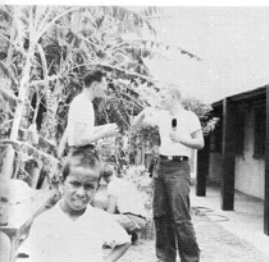
D. A. OSLAND, ET2



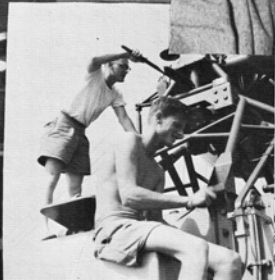
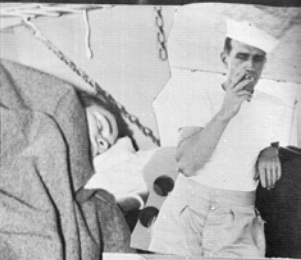
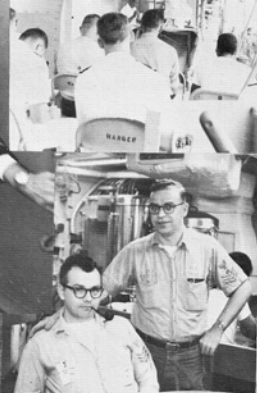
"...then the travelling salesman..."



"Just turn right at Suez."



"Hey fellas, has anyone seen that horseshoe I had in my locker?"





WOW!!



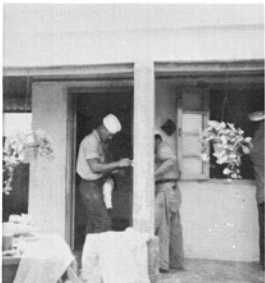
"In Lieu thereof, however, and in consonance with..."



"Yep, the egg was soft-boiled, alright."



Hope the beer lasts as long as the paint does.



It didn't!



"Wish they'd published this before I enlisted."

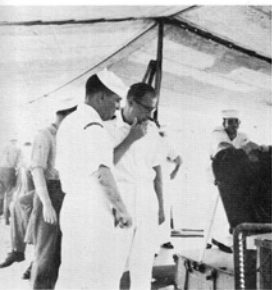
"All right you guys, who stole the @!?!@ ski rope?"



Next time you snicker at an officer's legs the punishment could be eight hours in the corner.



"And there I stood, surrounded by the whole Japanese Navy..."



Down the Hatch



Escapee

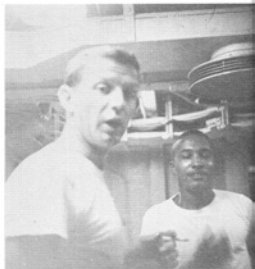
"Unexpurgated?"





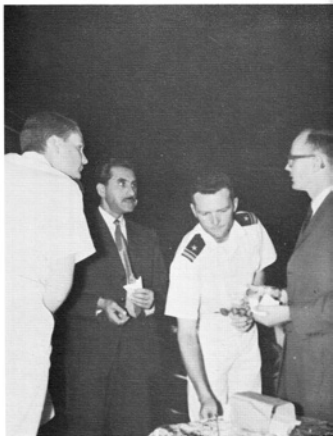


"Sir, the main rubberband just broke!"



"I get fifteen shaves per blade with (coo-coo) razor blades."

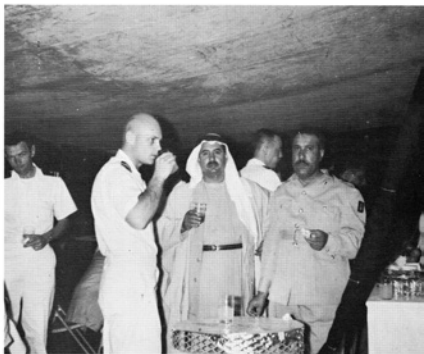
"The last time he did this, the ship sank at the pier."



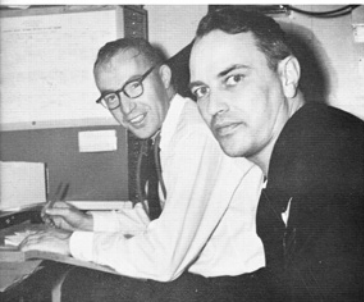
CRUNCH! "I found your contact lens, Lieutenant."



"Dear Mom, Today we..."



"I've never been to a party before where they didn't have dancing girls."



"Whadaya mean you thought the Navy paid the bill?"



A. A. KUCZEWSKI, BT1
M. D. BENSLEY, BT1
J. R. PICKERING, BT1
J. G. WESTLUND, BTFA
J. C. SIAGLE, BTFN



L. W. SARGENT, BT2
D. C. ROBERTSON, BT2
R. MORAN, BT3
J. M. KELLY, BTFA
G. GARDYNIK, BT3

H. M. GAGNON, FA
N. C. FLANNERY, FN
J. C. GREINER, FA
M. DISTASIO, FA
T. J. COUITT, FN



J. J. CAMILLERI



C. S. CHRISTENSEN



H. G. BEEMAN, FA



J. L. BAXTER, BT3



G. D. ADAMS, BT3

R DIVISION



ENS. WALLACE TOMY
R Division Officer

Acclaimed on this cruise for keeping the movie projector in operating condition for the entire 7 months of the cruise, R Division does other things, too. Repair and maintenance of all ships systems and equipment is their primary duty...and they performed it admirably.



"I'd rather fight than switch."

G. W. WILBUR, MMCS
L. G. TORRES, SFC
H. F. CHAPLIN, EMC
P. W. BENNETT, ICFN
J. M. BROWN, EM2



Rrrrip!



V. A. COX, MM2



N. H. CARPENTER, ENFN



L. D. CARTER, EMFA



R. J. CEBULA, EM1

J. D. EACRET, EM3
C. S. PILACINSKI, PNSN
W. R. WALLACE, DC1
J. C. BEAUDRY, EN1
E. W. WAGONER, EM3



"TAG! You're it!"



B. E. THIELEN, FN



D. A. SOLLORS, SFM3



B. A. SOLLORS, MM3



R. E. PHETTEPLACE, ICFN



E. R. MELLOTT, EMFN



D. O. JOHNSON, EN3

L. HALL, FA
E. W. HOLDAWAY, FN
G. G. HAWKIN, IC1
R. R. HENDERSON, EM1
L. GIBBY, FN





"Just a forty-eight hour pass, sir...You see, I have this sick grandmother in Athens."



Reinforcements



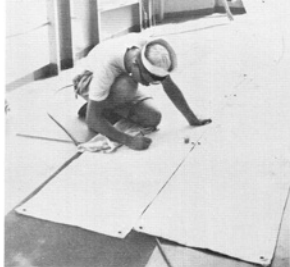
"All right, who's the wise guy that put the Roman candles in the light sockets?"

"Knit one, purl two..."





"I get the slices with the roses!"

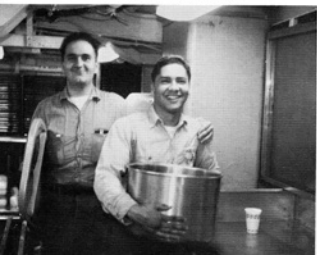


"H - E - L - P"

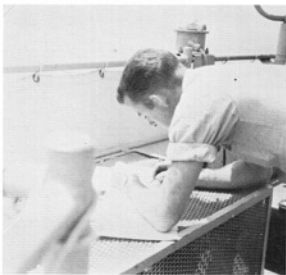


"And then I said..."

"Now you know I wouldn't do anything like that.
We only rode camels in Karachi."



"Chow time..and we ate out!"





"Now is the time for..."



"He says his brother knows this girl in Naples."



"Alright, I've got two of your cruisers and you have one of my battleships."



All that dough and no place to spend it!



A rousing Saturday night at sea.



"Uh-uh, not there"



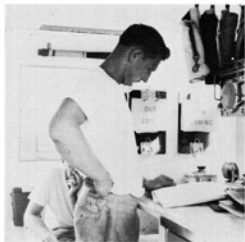
"I dropped my mickey mouse wristwatch in the mixer."



"That @#!\$? Rock Hudson ALWAYS gets the girl!"



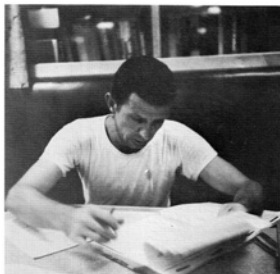
"And then she said..."



"She entwined her slender arms around his neck, and with a contented sigh, kissed him passionately..."



"Yeah, this controls the lights in the Officer's wardroom. Why?"



"Jones, John P., who's he?"



"Hey, how do you spell..."



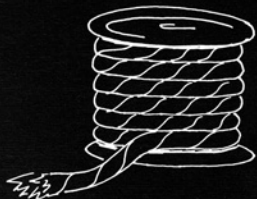
BLAP!



Giddyap!



"Guess who's got the midwatch again!"



As the name implies, the fighting arm of the ship. The men of Weapons Department must operate, maintain, and repair all equipment related to the gun batteries and anti-submarine armament and detection gear. These men also perform replenishment and transfer at sea, honors and ceremonies, underway watch standing on the bridge, after steering, small arms and much, much more.

FIRST DIVISION

LTJG. MICHAEL W. CREIGHTON
First Lieutenant



LLOYD THOMAS' men of many talents who do the multitudes of tasks involved in keeping the ship spic 'n span and happy. During the seven months of our cruise, the First Division worked so conscientiously to maintain the appearance of the ship and welcome the VIP's, that we received many compliments.



Rub-a-dub-dub



B. J. BOLSTRIDGE, BM1
G. J. ZACCARIA, BM1
J. R. ATWOOD, SN
G. CONNORS, BMSN

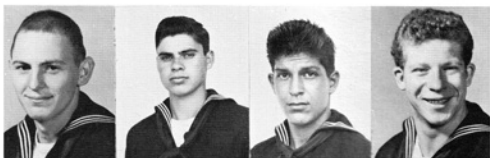


J. A. CAMPBELL, SA
D. J. LYONS, SA
R. A. OLIVARES, SA
L. HOFFMAN, SN



L. ROBICHAUD, BMSN
P. E. GERDT, SN
W. V. CHERNESKI, SA
J. R. GIAMMUSSO, SA

D. G. NOLAN, SA
N. D. DELATORRE, SA
R. J. HINES, SA
R. MILLER, SN



E. L. ANUSKIEWICZ, SA
R. J. LAPORTA, BMSN
J. T. CHARFAUROS, SA
M. GILLIAM, SN



Artist at work



S. WILSON, BM2
C. Z. GOULD, SN





R. V. A. HUEBINGER, SN
R. J. LAPORTA, BMSN
J. T. CHAFAUROS, SA
M. GILLIAM, SN



W. L. JONAKIN, SA
W. C. WILCOX, BMSN
J. E. PREDMORE, BMSN
J. R. McNALLY, SA

G DIVISION

ENS. JOHN H. RIXSE, III
G Division Officer



The Gunners who maintain and fire our 5" gun batteries keep their marksmanship at a high peak of near perfection with frequent practice. The calls for General Quarters became an unexpected occurrence as the Gunner's mates performed their art.



"This ain't the Sistine Chapel, but I'll do my best."



J. E. CROUCH, FTC
W. JARRELL, GMC
A. C. ST. PETER, FTG3
J. H. WALL, FTG3



G. E. GILES, SN
T. F. HOOD, SN
T. E. SLEDGE, SN
F. O. LAMPMAN, FTG3
P. G. SLOVINSKI, SA



R. M. RITZ, SN
D. L. PUGH, GM2
L. PAULUKONIS, FTGSN
R. L. ARNSMAN, GM3
R. J. CLARK, GM2



G. L. KITCHEN, SN



J. G. RENNER, FTGSN

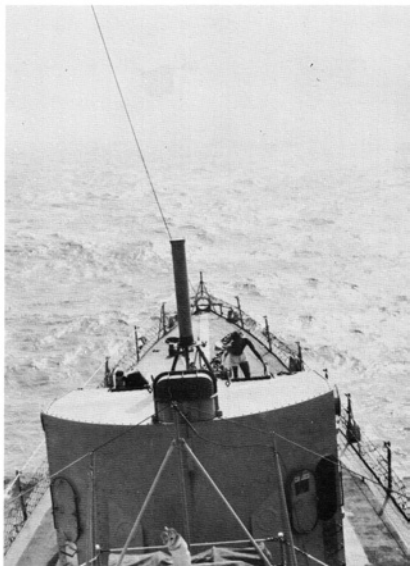


M. D. PARMENTIER, FTGSN



D. A. WILLIAMS, GM2

Take her down





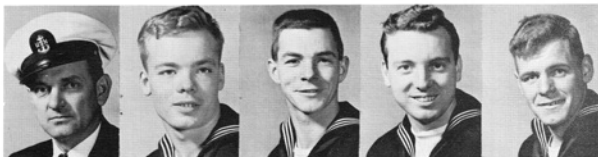
"I...think...I'm...going...to...be...SICK!"

A/S DIVISION

ENS. J. EDWARD McCORMACK
ASW Officer



The anti-submarine division performs virtually the same function for undersea targets that G Division does for those above the water. They are charged with maintaining and operating the sonar and torpedo gear for tracking and destroying enemy submarines.



C. A. POLISKEY, SOCM
J. W. BIEDERMAN, SN
R. R. ZIMMERMAN, SOG
A. J. WILLIAMS, TM3
R. O. ROUSH, TMSN



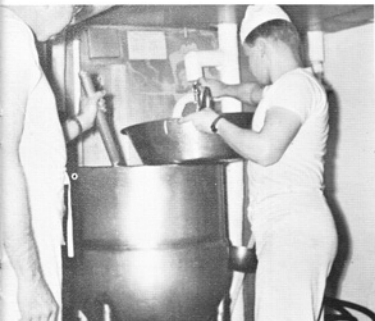
L. W. PUGH, SOG3
A. B. OSBORN, SOG3
W. R. O'BRIEN, SOG2
W. J. McINERNEY, SN
D. W. JANVRIN, SOG2

D. R. LIGHTBODY, SN
M. B. CROSSMAN, SOG3
B. K. BULLARD, SN
G. I. CLARK, TM3



While deployed the crew must maintain its efficiency and no small part of this involves its food and diet. And what sailor doesn't look forward to pay-day, obtaining gifts for loved ones, or just sitting around eating "gedunk"?

To accomplish this we have the Supply Department in whose hands is placed the job of maintaining a supply of repair parts for all equipment on the ship; feeding the crew, doing their laundry, cutting their hair and keeping them in such items as cigarettes, candy, razor blades, etc.



"S'matter? Spoil the broth?"



ENS. P. W. BLONDIN
Supply Officer

S DIVISION



J. H. HILLMAN, CSI



A. J. RITTENBERRY, SHI



G. D. UMILA, SK2 W. L. WERTZ, SN R. S. AYSON, TN J. H. BOOTH, SN E. M. CHITTY, SK2 W. J. HERRMANN, SN



S. JOHNSON, SD2 D. D. MYERS, SN L. H. RACINE, CS3 R. M. PUEPKE, SN
A. T. MAVRAKOS, SK3 R. PALLADINO, SN

The officers and men of the USS LLOYD THOMAS (764) departed their home port of Newport, Rhode Island on April 29th and commenced a four month deployment to the Mediterranean and Middle Eastern naval forces. Just before transiting the Straits of Gibraltar the Thomas and other units of Destroyer Squadron 10 were called upon to aid in the search of a downed aircraft off the coast of Rota, Spain. The search turned up much debris but no survivors.

Upon joining with units of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the western Mediterranean area, the THOMAS took part in Operation Fairgame II, a joint U.S. - French war game employing naval, air and land forces of both nations. These maneuvers lasted almost two weeks during which time the opportunity presented itself for French and American officers and men to come together and share their knowledge and experience.

Following these operations the THOMAS was sent to Athens, where on the morning of May 23, she anchored in the waters to Piraeus (Athens' port), and thus began a four day visit to the cradle of western civilization. This was the first port which the ship visited since her departure from Newport, and the visit was greatly anticipated. No one was disappointed.

On each of the four days tours were provided to the points of scenic and historical interest throughout the area. These included visits to the Stadium, the Acropolis, the Royal Palace, and to some of the beautiful beaches surrounding Athens. Also day long tours to Corinth and Mycenae, famous in antiquity, were provided.

Then detaching from the U.S. Sixth Fleet, on June 1st, the THOMAS proceeded through the Suez Canal for a two month tour of duty as a unit of the U.S. Navy Middle Eastern Force.

First came a brief stop (3-5 June) in Aqaba, Jordan, that country's only seaport. The ship was hosted by the Royal Jordanian Army and the highlight was a day long trip to the ancient city of Petra, high in the hills, followed by a basketball game in the evening.

Early on the morning of June 6th the ship arrived at Jidda, Saudi Arabia, the diplomatic capital of the nation, for a two day visit. Each morning embassy buses arrived at the pier to take the liberty parties to the beach for an all-day picnic. Following the picnic a tour of the city was provided. Sights of particular interest were the Jidda palace of King Saud, the local residence of Crown Prince Faisal, the various embassies, the road to the holy city of Mecca, and the market place where were seen many phases of Arab life.

Next stop, Aden, Aden Protectorate, where on the 11th of June the THOMAS arrived for a four-day visit. Full use was made of the beaches and recreational facilities found in the vicinity, and in the evenings many of the THOMAS personnel found themselves guests of the Britise at private dinners and parties. Much of the time during this and subsequent stops here were spent in browsing through Aden's famous duty free shopping district.

Then on the night of June 17th, three days out of Aden enroute to the Persian Gulf, the ship received orders to proceed to Jidda at best speed to aid in the search for a downed Saudi Arabian Air Lines aircraft which had crashed some 60 miles south of Jidda. After fighting heavy seas for three days and an emergency fueling in Aden, the THOMAS arrived in Jidda on the morning of the 21st. The search was thorough but fruitless due to the extreme depth of the water. Upon returning to Jidda the ship was made the guest of the Air Lines for their efforts in the search.

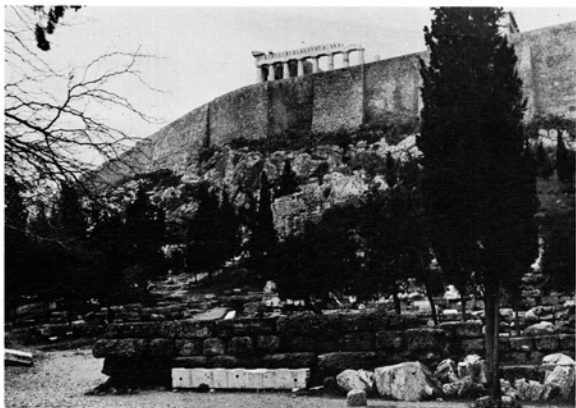
There was another brief stopover in Aden (June 27) and then the ship was off for Karachi. Here the THOMAS met a very enthusiastic and well-organized reception. During the stay from 3-8 July the days were full of shopping, receptions, dinners, and parties given for individual men aboard ship by members of the American community there. Perhaps the biggest occasion was the celebration of the 4th of July by all Americans in Karachi. There was a picnic and fireworks display for all to enjoy. While in the city members of the THOMAS crew volunteered to paint a vocational school township. This action received much praise in the local press.

The ship soon left and after another visit to Aden (July 13-17) proceeded to her last two ports of call, both of which were on the African Continent. The first of these was a two-day call in Djibouti, French Somaliland. Here full advantage was taken of the sunny beaches for a ships' party. The stay in Massawa, Ethiopia from 22-24 July saw the enthusiastic welcome by the Ethiopian Navy and the civilian officials of Eritrea province. Here there were many athletic events scheduled for the ship's teams, and the facilities of the Naval Base were made available to all THOMAS personnel. Of especial enjoyment was an overnight trip to the city of Asmara, located some 80 miles from Massawa at the pleasantly cool altitude of 7000 feet.

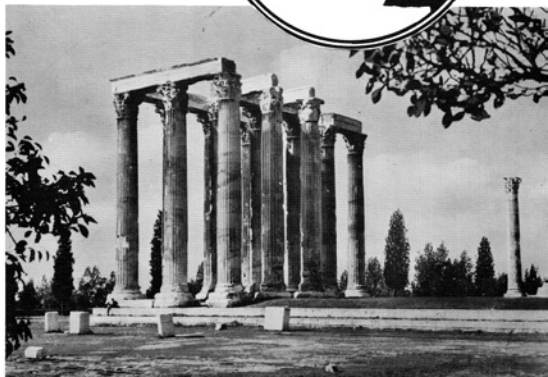
On our stay in Athens (31 July - 5 August) we again had the opportunity to see many of the famous sights of that ancient city. It was as the ship returned from the Red Sea that she embarked 8 midshipmen who were to ride her for the next four weeks and thereby implement with first hand experience their classroom training.

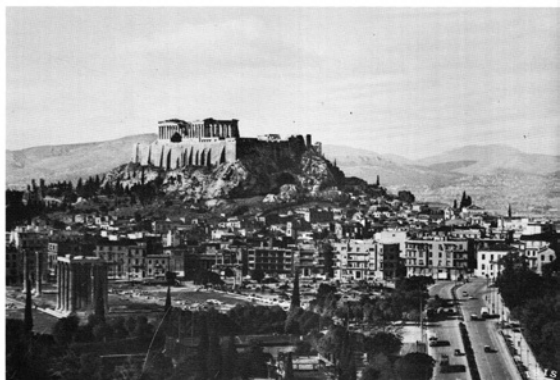
The last stop on our deployment was Naples, Italy where we remained from the 8th to the 14th of August. The many advantages of cosmopolitan Naples were not wasted. Trips were taken to Sorrento, to the isles of Ischia and Capri, to the ruins of Pompeii, to Vesuvius, and most importantly to Rome herself.

The night of the 16th the THOMAS passed through the Straits of Gibraltar enroute Newport. Unfortunately an accident which occurred while refueling from the USS SALAMONIE caused the ship to return to Rota, Spain on the 21st for repairs. These repairs took less than a day so that on the evening of the 21st the ship again set sail for Newport, where she arrived early on a foggy morning - Saturday the 29th.



ATHENS







THE MEDITERRANEAN ITSELF HAS A REPUTATION OF HAVING THE MOST PRECIOUS SHADE OF BLUE. HER PORTS GLISTEN LIKE JEWELS IN THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN SUN AND GLOW LIKE FIRE-FLIES AT NIGHT. WORDS ALONE ARE INADEQUATE TO DESCRIBE THE PLACES TO BE SEEN AND EVEN THE FOLLOWING COLOR SHOTS FALL SHORT TO TELL THE FULL STORY.



NO COMMENT!

BEAUTIFUL BEACHES





CANNES HARBOR IS FULL OF SLEEPING YACHTS



STATUE ON GROUNDS OF THE
ROYAL PALACE OF MONACO



BEACHES ARE SOMETIMES EMPTY

FRENCH FISHERMEN CAST THEIR NETS





CHURCH OF ST. PETER IN ROME



ENTRANCE TO CATACOMBS IN ROME



ANCIENT SITE OF THE ROMAN SENATE



FOUNTAIN OF TREVI



THE COLLOSEUM IN ROME



MONUMENT TO KING EMMANUEL II
ONE OF MANY MEMORIALS



MUSEUM AT ENTRANCE
TO ANCIENT POMPEII



ANCIENT COLUMNS IN POMPEII



A GARDEN COURTYARD IN POMPEII



BREAD OVENS IN POMPEII



THE FAMOUS ERECTHEUM ON THE ACROPOLIS



"EVZONE"
GUARD AT THE
ROYAL PALACE



BOY WITH DONKEY FRIEND



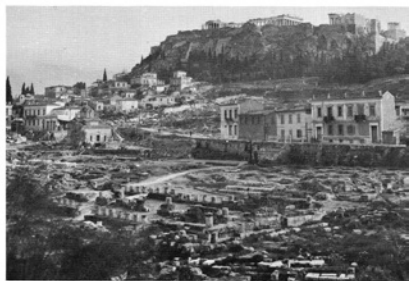
DETAIL OF SCULPTURE



"THE SANTA MARIA" FAMILIAR
SIGHT TO SIXTH FLEET SAILORS

SHOPPING
FOR FLOWERS





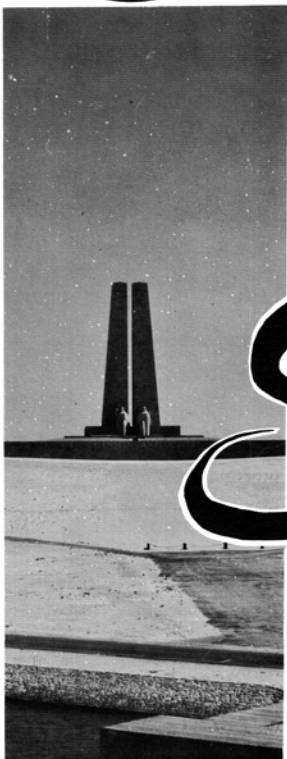


THROUGH

T
H
E

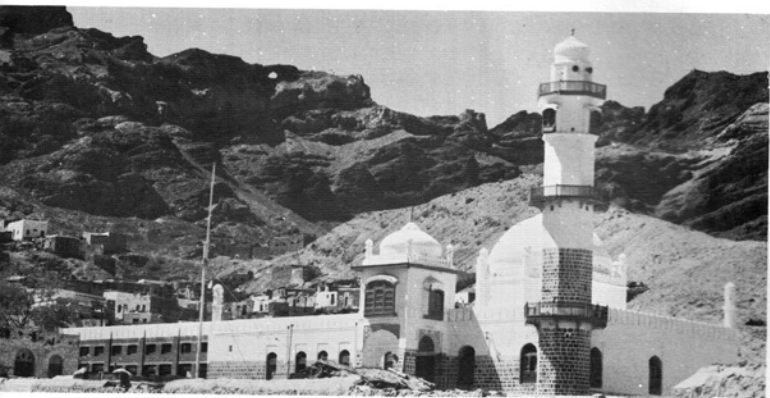
Suez

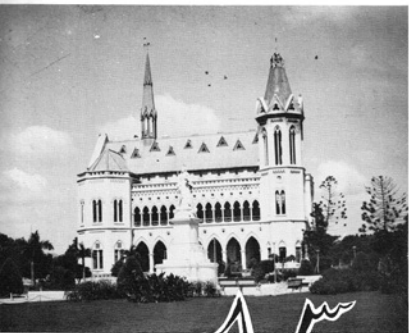
CANAL



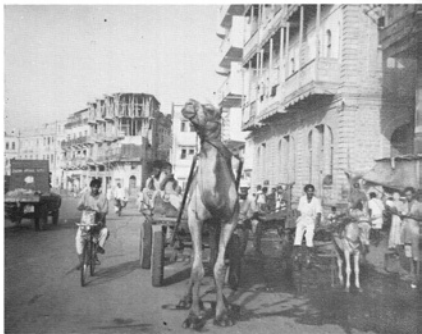
Aden

B.C.C.

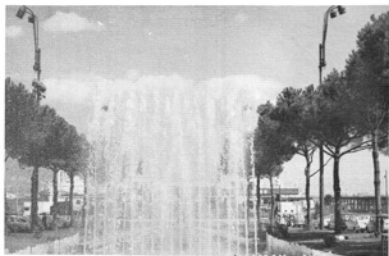




Karachi




NAPLES









After 4 months at sea, and over 22,000 miles, LLOYD THOMAS docked at Newport. All hands eagerly participated in the welcome home ceremonies and decided that welcomes like this made four month cruises well worth the effort!

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