

# Bennington Facts and Figures

BENNINGTON is the second U.S. ship to bear the name. The first was a 1,700-ton gunboat commissioned in 1891 and named for the American victory at Bennington, Vermont, in 1777.

BENNINGTON was commissioned in 1944 and fought in the Pacific, participating in actions against the Japanese home islands and in the sinking of the Yamato, the last Japanese capital ship in commission.

BENNINGTON is a self-sustaining, floating city. She is three football fields long, 889 feet; four railroad cars, standing end to end, wide, 206 feet; and from the keel to the mast, equals a 15-story building.

BENNINGTON carries four 5-inch guns grouped into batteries for anti-aircraft protection.

BENNINGTON carries more fuels (oil and aviation gasoline) than 10 large filling stations, 1,500,000 gallons. At economical speeds she could steam for more than 60 days without refueling. Her evaporators can produce more than 100,000 gallons of fresh water a day.

BENNINGTON has medical facilities comparable to those of a medium sized city: A 60-bed hospital, operating rooms, X-ray units, and a 3-unit dental department.

BENNINGTON's galleys (kitchens) prepare meals for 2,400 men during deployment periods. Approximately 8,700 pounds of meat and 14,000 pounds of potatoes are prepared each week.

BENNINGTON's Supply Department maintains more than 50 storerooms which stock 65,000 items necessary for the maintenance and mission of itself and its 45 aircraft.

BENNINGTON's library has more than 3,000 volumes. There are more than 1,500 volumes of fiction, 3,300 volumes of non-fiction and 190 volumes of reference works. Magazines and other periodicals are also available.

BENNINGTON acted as the primary recovery ship in November for the Saturn 5/Apollo 4 spacecraft flight. She returned to Long Beach November 17, 1967, from her recovery station near Midway Island, after successfully picking up the spacecraft's command module on November 9, 1967.

BENNINGTON steamed approximately 55,000 miles during her 1965 deployment spending 84 days on station in the Gulf of Tonkin. Leaving the United States on 30 April BENNINGTON visited Pearl Harbor; Yokosuka, Japan; Subic Bay, P.I.; Hong Kong, S.C.C.; Sasebo, Japan, and Singapore. She returned to Long Beach on 9 November 1965.