



Chaplain

Two Chaplains are assigned to the BENNINGTON, a Catholic and a Protestant. Their primary function is to make provisions for the spiritual enlightenment of the personnel of all faiths on board.

To accomplish this mission daily and weekly religious services are scheduled which include daily Catholic Mass and daily Protestant Devotions. At sea religious services for the men of Later Day Saint and Jewish faiths are also scheduled.

Catholic Mass and Protestant Divine services are scheduled on Sundays both at sea and in port. To help promote a vital spiritual program a ship's chapel is furnished on the O2 level. It also provides a place for personal meditation.

In addition to their primary duties the Chaplains act as a liaison between the Commanding Officer and Red Cross, Navy Relief Society, and other similar



groups to meet the personal needs of the personnel and their dependents. The Chaplains are available for personal counseling at all times, and may be used by the command in an advisory capacity on all matters pertaining to the promotion of good morale.

Almost 3,000 volumes of books are available for reading in the ship's library which is located on the second deck. There are more than 1,400 volumes of fiction, close to 1,300 volumes of non-fiction books, and 191 volumes of reference books. Magazines and other periodicals are also available.

During off duty hours the library is used considerably, as the men assemble for personal study, reading or writing letters. The library is furnished with writing table and lounging chairs for every crew member to take advantage of after the working day is complete.