Aircraft Carrier, Destroyer Are Here Tomorrow

The attack carrier U.S.S. Bennington and the destroyer escort vessel U.S.S. Walton are due here tomorrow morning with men, rescue helicopters and emergency supplies for flood victims.

Word came today that the Bennington sailed from Long Beach at 11 a.m. She is expected to arrive here at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day.

Aboard the Bennington will be 20 Marine helicopters. The vessel will operate from five to 10 miles off shore. City Councilman Allan McVicar said the city is too large to enter Humboldt Bay.

The Bennington will also be carrying medicine, food and other supplies.

The Walton, a vessel which administered the hospitality of Humboldt County residents on previous visits here, is expected back at Fields Landing at noon tomorrow. She will be bringing 1,000 blankets and tons of other supplies.

Attempts were made yesterday to fly Armed Forces Disasters Relief helicopters into the area, but they were grounded by bad weather conditions.

D. Burns of the Office of Emergency Planning said if more helicopters are needed "we will get them." He added, however, that 15 to 16 more counties had yet to be checked.

The Bennington is a converted World War II Essex-class carrier. She hosts a compliment of 2,700 men.

The picture was glued over the article.