

THE *Huk Star*

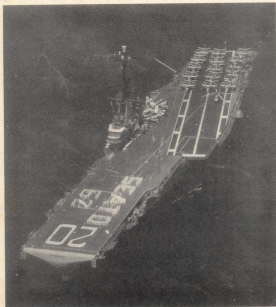


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BENN PARTICIPATES IN SEATO EXERCISE



For three weeks, BENNINGTON participated in the largest training exercise of our current deployment--the SEATO Exercise SEA DEVIL. From the 16th of April until the 4th of May, we operated along with some 47 ships, 150 aircraft and over 16,000 men of the navies of Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand, and Great Britain with the Philippines providing administrative support. This was the 21st exercise conducted by the South East Asia Treaty Organization since the member nations signed the collective defense treaty in September, 1954.

During the exercise the BENNINGTON was presented the opportunity to utilize all the special anti-submarine warfare skills to which we have devoted many long hours in training. We also gained the invaluable experience of working with ASW forces of other nations towards the common goal of retaining the freedom of the seas.

The joint training exercise envisaged the SEATO nations joining to assist a member country which had been invaded by an aggressor. A convoy

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'BOOT' CHIEFS INITIATED

On May 16, 1962 a strange trial took place on board the USS BENNINGTON. That morning at 6 a. m. all "boot" chief petty officers were ordered to report to the CPO Mess in the proper uniform, i.e. frayed dungarees, with skivvy shirts, one black and one brown shoe and CPO hat frames.

After a day of proper indoctrination and a very

sumptuous noon meal, they were assembled for a fair and impartial trial with W. M. Johnson, MMCM, as

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