

1,800 Guests Tour Benn's Open House

Friends and families of Benn men had a chance to tour Bennington and see the many exhibits set up by ship's company and the embarked aircraft Jan. 13 and 14.

More than 1,800 guests toured Benn's hangar deck and flight deck. On the hangar deck every department on the ship had exhibits on display with tour guides ready to answer the many questions of the guests.

There were three aircraft on exhibit on the flight deck, a S2E, an E1B and a SH-3A helicopter. Platforms enabled the guests to look inside the helicopter and the S2E. A pilot was aboard to explain the operation of the E1B as many of the guests had a chance to sit in the cockpit.

Soon the weekend was over, and the guests departed as Bennington prepared to operate off the coast of California for a week the coming Monday.

