

inklings  
by  
r. henry a.

the EXEC answers  
your questions



Greetings brother shellback  
...r h a back again with some  
jazzy jottings of late. Things  
to do today..a fond farewell to  
the fabulous orient--an impres-  
sive stay with King Neptune and  
Royal Court--and a hearty, warm  
welcome to Sydney, Australia..  
our superb port of stay for one  
lovely week.

Sydney offers a splendid stay  
for the traveler, being the hub  
of cosmopolitan activity and  
Australia's important Pacific  
Gateway. Westerwise Sydney  
will be similar to our fall, as  
the seasons are in reverse to  
those of the northern hemisphere.  
The people are a friendly, hos-  
pitable people, with an ingrained  
sense of fair play. You'll  
encounter a new medium of ex-  
change...this time shillings,  
pence and pounds. So forget  
your NPC, Yen, HK's, Pesos and  
Okinawa Yen..they'll do you no  
good! A small note also on the  
pubs, as they close promptly at  
8 o'clock...so avoid the 5:45  
swirl!

You'll recognize and remember  
Sydney mostly by the Harbor  
Bridge..a massive steel tower in  
the sky--the breath-taking beauty  
of the land from the white sandy  
beaches to the majestic mount-  
ains--and most of all the warm  
and friendly people.

A small side note from the  
flight deck..who's been filling  
the AD's water injection tanks  
with petro? Tsk-tsk...must be  
more careful next time.

**WILL PRIVATE AUTOMOBILES OWNED BY MEMBERS OF THE BENNINGTON CREW BE TRANSPORTED ABOARD WHEN THE SHIP LEAVES FOR THE YARDS AT HUNTERS POINT, IN SAN FRANCISCO?**

Although a final definite 'yes' can not be given at this time, it is expected that cars may be transported on board to the Navy yard. A definite answer will be made as soon as possible after arrival on the West Coast.

**WHILE THE SHIP IS IN THE YARDS. WILL THE MARRIED MEN LIVING ASHORE BE ALLOWED TO DRAW COMBATED RATIONS?**

It is probable that the answer will be 'no'. There are no provisions for feeding men drawing combated rations on board ship. Further study will be made on this subject.

**MOVIES:**

Now that the cruise is over movies will be shown in Hangar Bay #1 at every opportunity. When our Air Group is embarked and the ship is operating with Task Force this is seldom possible.

## Farewell WESTPAC

As BENNINGTON pulled out of Yokosuka on April 18, PIO came up with the following farewell poem, which was immediately dispatched to the commands we worked with during our stay in the Far East.

Another WESTPAC tour is done  
And Big Benn moves along.  
We'll miss your land of rising sun  
And the sights of old Hong Kong.

Our course is set at south by west,  
Australia soon we'll raise,  
And Benn will be great Sydney's guest  
For seven festive days.

With souvenirs and color slides  
We'll prove to folks in CONUS  
The job of keeping up the peace  
Has many a pleasant bonus.

FROM  
DIVISION  
USS BENNINGTON (CVA-20)  
FPO SAN FRANCISCO,  
CALIFORNIA

TO

STAMP

