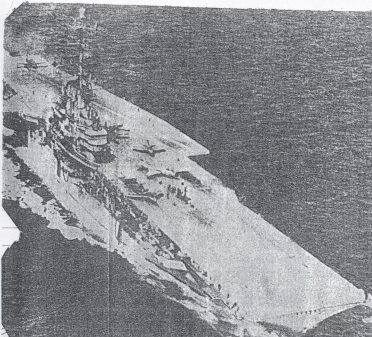


# Aircraft Carrier, Destroyer Are Here Tomorrow

## Helicopters Aboard Big Bennington



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 ten miles off shore. City Councilman A'Ian McVicar said the ship is too large to enter Humboldt Bay.

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

The Walton, a vessel which complimented the hospitality of Humboldt County residents on previous visits here, is expected to dock at Fields Landing at 4 p.m. tomorrow. She will be carrying 1,000 blankets and tons of other supplies.

Rescue attempts were made yesterday by Army Armed Forces Disaster Relief helicopters into the area. They were grounded by poor 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 complement of 3,700 men.

One pilot will conduct rescue missions from the U. S. S. Bennington tomorrow when she is here to aid flood victims. Twenty helicopters

plus emergency supplies will be aboard the vessel. Because of her size, the Bennington will not be able to enter Humboldt Bay.

*The picture was glued over the article*