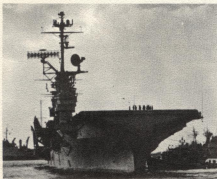


Yorktown leaves L.B. For Norfolk and 2nd Fleet

"Take in all lines!

When that order crackled over the LMC on the USS Yorktown (CVS-10) at 0800 on Tuesday, January 21, the 25-year-old carrier backed down and departed Long Beach forever.

The "Fighting Lady" bade farewell to the West Coast, as she had been assigned new duties with the U.S. Second Fleet in the Atlantic. Her 32-day voyage to her new homeport of Norfolk, Va., was to include stops at Valparaíso, Chile, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



The "Fighting Lady" and "Big Benn" have shared many experiences and missions together since Bennington came to Long Beach seven years ago. Since the step-up in American involvement in the Vietnam conflict, Bennington has relieved Yorktown several times in the four-ship CVS rotation in WestPac. Benn men will not soon forget the huge sign hung from Yorktown's flight deck which read, "The boys are here, the men can go home," when they were relieved of duties in Sasebo, Japan, June 19, 1968.

How the absence of Yorktown will affect Benn's operational schedule is not certain, but with only three ships performing the duties of four, it can't get better.

But for whatever their reasons, most of Bennington's men were sorry to see an old friend go.

Robertson 'Man of Month'

"I was shocked; kind of happy. It had never occurred to me that I'd be selected as a man of the month."

So observed Aviation Boatswain Mate (Fuels) Airman Richard E. Robertson, 21, of V-4 Division. He was selected as Man of the Month for January.

Robertson enlisted in November, 1966, and was assigned to the Bennington in August, 1967, after having attended Aviation Machinist Mate "A" School in Memphis, Tenn. He was assigned to V-4 where he works as a fuels equipment repairman. He changed his rate from MMAL to ASFA I in December, 1968, so he could remain in the AvFuels Division.

As a result of his selection, Robertson will receive a \$25 U.S. Savings Bond, a 48-hour liberty pass he may use any time he so desires, head of the show line privileges for a month, and a letter of commendation for his service record.

200 cyclists attend CHP safety lecture

Two California Highway Patrolmen lectured about 200 Benn cyclists on motorcycle safety in the Education and Training Room, Tuesday, February 18.

The agenda covered points ranging from vehicle safety to vehicle registration. The two officers spoke to three capacity crowds in three separate sessions, each lasting about one and one-half hours. Lecturing were Officer Jim S. Carter, eight-year California Highway Patrol cycle veteran and survivor of four on-duty crashes, and Officer George E. Little, head of a locally-based Highway Patrol vehicle inspection team.

The lecture was mandatory for Bennington men who own motorcycles, ride them, or are just occasional passengers. The lectures came about as a result of an unusually high accident rate, as described by Commander William M. Lallaghan, Jr., Executive Officer, in a ship-wide broadcast over the LMC the previous week.

During the lecture, the participants viewed a motion picture on safe cycling, "Invisible Circle", produced by American Honda Motors. A lengthy question and answer period followed each of the lectures.