

JET BLAST

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U.S.S. Bennington CVA-20

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SCENIC VIEW - Two Bennington sailors enjoy one of the typical views found throughout South America. This picturesque scene is in the resort city of Vina del Mar, Chile.

Friendly South American Cities Capture Heart of Benn Crew

Almost 16,000 miles and 42 days have passed since the Bennington pointed her hurricane bow towards the Atlantic Ocean. In her wake she has left some wonderful friends and a stronger bond between South and North America.

From September 8, when Big Ben left Mayport, Florida, the United States added another 2,000 good-will ambassadors to her rolls. The first port, although not considered a part of South America, gave us a small hint of what was to come.

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD

We pulled into Port of Spain, Trinidad, on September 12 for one day of liberty and replenishment. A day of enjoyable confusion began when the liberty party loaded into the busses for the city. As the bus headed into town everyone started squirming when they realized that Trinidad followed the traffic regulations of Britain and drove on the left side of the road. It was a little uncom-

(Continued on Page 4)

Return To San Diego Marks Finish of Ten Year Cruise

With the South American ports behind them, the crew of the Bennington turns their attention back to the United States and San Diego, where the welcome mat is laid out at their new home port.

It's been ten years since the Bennington has seen the West Coast and most likely many an oldtimer who saw her when she returned from the Far East in 1945, will marvel at the sleek appearance and major changes that have been made.

The ten day stay at San Diego promises to be a very busy one with an unending line of supplies to be loaded aboard, minor repairs to be made and the celebration of Navy Day. The friendly relationship with Air Task Group 201 will be renewed when it's personnel and planes return to the ship.

Many of the married men are taking advantage of the ten days to move their wives and families to the coast while

those already living in the immediate area plan to take leave.

But for those who must work, the Plan of the Day also calls for three section liberty which will allow plenty of opportunity to view the sights of San Diego and the surrounding area of California and Mexico.

The much-discussed weather of California should provide warm days and cool nights. And for those who enjoy swimming and fishing, San Diego boasts of some of the finest beach and fishing resorts on the West Coast.

Many points of scenic beauty can be viewed at Balboa Park, which is located near the center

(Continued on Page 2)

No Leave Periods While In San Diego

Regular leave periods will not be granted while the Bennington is in San Diego.

According to Ensign D.C. Ulmer, Personnel Officer, leave will only be granted to men who intend to move their families to the West Coast or to personnel living in the immediate area. Special cases will be considered.