



Thunderbolt

"...For I intend to sail in harm's way"
John Paul Jones

31 OCTOBER, 1971

THUNDERBOLT

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NEWPORT NEWS RETURNS HOME TODAY AFTER NATO EXERCISES, NORTH ATLANTIC CALLS

by JOI Bill Kinder

Newport News returns home today after eight weeks of showing the flag in Northern Europe ports, and participation in two NATO exercises. Exercise Royal Knight, a major NATO exercise, ran from September 27 through October 4 in the Norwegian Sea, under the overall command of Vice Admiral Vincent P. de Poix, USN, Commander of NATO's Striking Fleet Atlantic, embarked in Newport News. Later the ship participated in Exercise Magic Sword IV, a fast reaction exercise in the North Sea.

In press conferences prior to the exercises, VADM de Poix warned of expanding Soviet presence in the seas surrounding northern Europe. He said the Soviet Navy, operating out of a huge base at Murmansk in the Kola Peninsula, has been increasingly active in the Norwegian Sea.

To counteract the Soviet build-up, the Admiral said, "we're trying to coordinate the strength of our NATO partners. We are placing a great deal more dependence on them now than in the past."

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TRANQUILITY--North Atlantic sunset silhouettes NATO task force ships during Exercise ROYAL KNIGHT. (ROYAL NAVY PHOTO)



Captain Zartman

FROM THE BRIDGE

As we return to Norfolk I wish for each of you a warm and happy reunion with family and friends. I hope you have found the past eight weeks as personally satisfying as they have been for me.

To be sure there have been good times, visits to historic sites, mingling with new peoples and exposure to strange languages and cultures; but the cruise has had an even greater significance for each of us. In living and working together, individual personalities have been obscured as each man has taken up his responsibilities to the team. You have become a bit more NEWPORT NEWS, and NEWPORT NEWS is a little more of you. This has been evidenced in your tireless efforts at sea to maintain equipment at peak performance, in the proud and courteous manner in which you have presented the ship and responded to the thousands of visitors in port, and in your superb conduct ashore.

You have steamed in seas our adversary would like to call his own. This gesture, in itself, serves notice to those who may think of testing the strength of free people that we will be on station again should the need arise. NATO now has more meaning to you and the people of the countries visited. You have a better understanding of them, and they are better acquainted with you. Our presence in their midst has been reassuring and gives them greater confidence in our cooperative contribution to a common defense.

I want to convey to each of you my personal appreciation and admiration for your splendid representation of your country, your Navy and your command. You have had a rare opportunity and you have used it well.

SEALIFT COMMAND PREPARES WORLD PORT INDEX

Need information about any one of 7,000 world ports? If so, the task of finding it has been made easier by an updated World Port Index.

Data contained in the index were provided by computer read-out prepared by the Navy's Military Sealift command.

In loose-leaf format, the index has been printed and is being distributed by the Navy Oceanographic Office (NAVOCEANO) throughout the U.S. Navy and the sealift command.

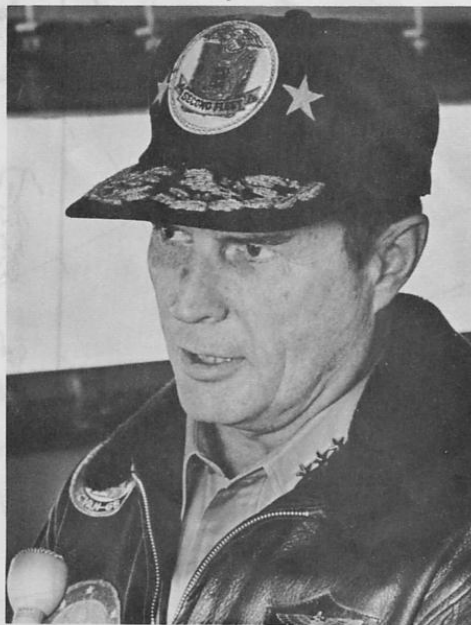
FROM THE FLEET COMMANDER

The North Atlantic cruise has traditionally been a highlight for the Fleet Commander. This cruise has been so for me.

It has also been a highlight in the continuing relationships between NATO naval forces. The personal contacts we made with our counterparts in the NATO countries we visited have strengthened our understanding, and consequently our effectiveness when operating with one another.

Exercise Royal Knight demonstrated not only our ability to operate effectively, but more than that, it demonstrated to all who may have doubts that there is a strong will among NATO nations of the North Atlantic to work together for our common defense.

Today we come home. As we do, I want to express my personal thanks to all hands for all the many ways you made this cruise a success, for your outstanding deportment in our liberty ports; for your hospitality to visitors; and for your continuing efforts to make the Flagship a smart ship.



Vice Admiral de Poix

In Norfolk, I shall expect my Flagship to continue to be an example--in military courtesy, in personal appearance, and material smartness.

High standards certainly, but reasonable standards if each individual resolves to do his share.

STAFF AND CREW ADD NEW ADDITIONS TO FAMILY

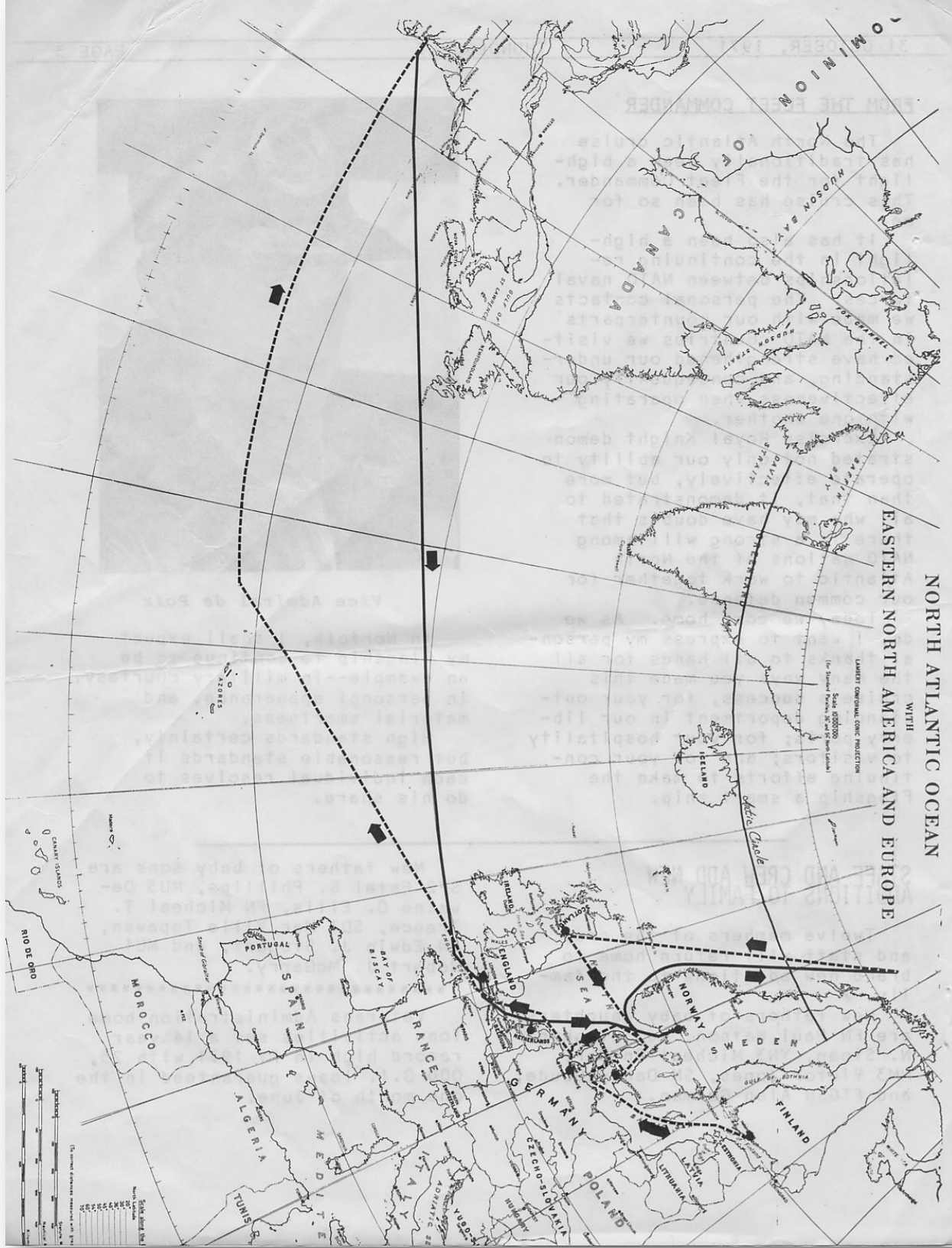
Twelve members of the crew and staff will return home to brand new additions to the family.

New fathers of baby daughters are FN Paul Watson, Rd3 Stephen N. Sloan, YN3 Micheal Snyder, MM3 Victor Jones, SN Danny Goude, and FTGSN Alan Gorman.

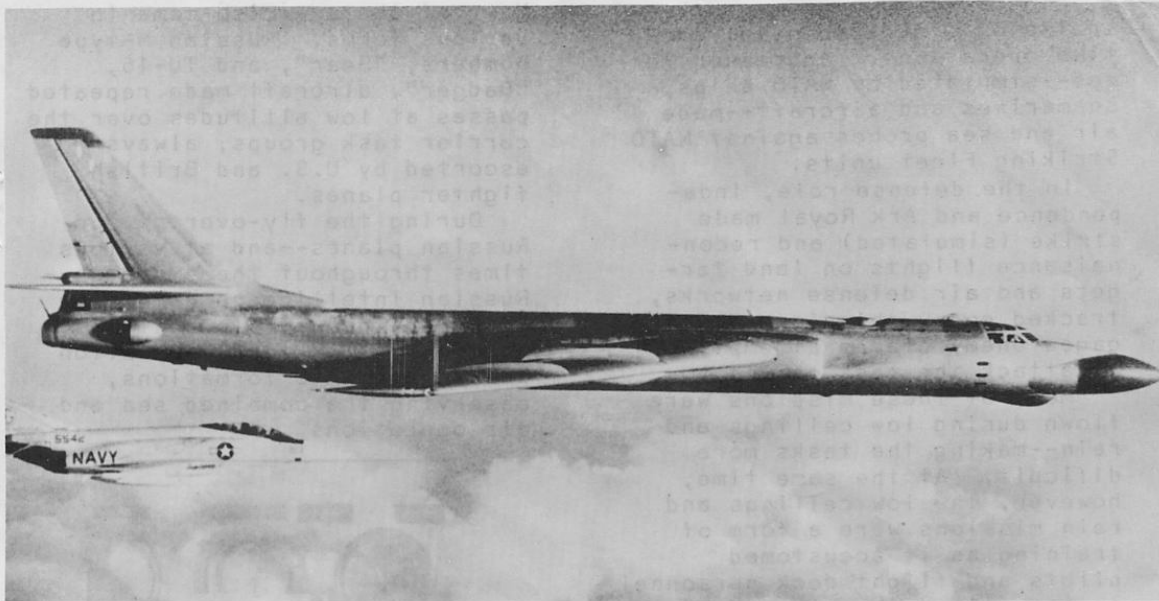
New fathers of baby sons are SF2 Estel S. Phillips, MU3 Dewainè C. Ellis, FN Micheal T. Treece, SD1 Mar Ville Tapawan, SN Edwin J. Stugart, and MU1 Robert J. McGarry.

Veterans Administration home loan activities set a 14 year record high in FY 1971 with 25,000 G.I. loans guaranteed in the one month of June.

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN WITH EASTERN NORTH AMERICA AND EUROPE



Scale 1:100,000
 Nautical Miles 0 10 20 30 40
 Statute Miles 0 10 20 30 40
 Kilometers 0 10 20 30 40
 Meters 0 10 20 30 40
 Feet 0 10 20 30 40
 Fathoms 0 10 20 30 40
 (Lambert Conformal Conic Projection with True Scale along Standard Parallels)



TU-16 "Badger" escorted by USS Independence aircraft.

Royal Knight (cont.)

The Admiral also explained why Royal Knight was being conducted in the North Atlantic. "We must coordinate and train our navies in location and environment where the Striking Fleet might be called upon to work together," he said.

As the Admiral reiterated these remarks during his Oslo press conference, Russian naval forces were gathering off the port of Oslo. They had their ships in open water; they were there to see and test the strong will of the NATO forces; and they were proving they could already operate in the location and environment of the North Atlantic.

The stage was set--and NATO Exercise Royal Knight began.

Its scope and magnitude encompassed some 38 ships and 200 land and carrier based aircraft from Canada, the United Kingdom, Norway, the Netherlands, Germany, and the U.S.

There were three Carrier Task Groups, headed by the U.S. carriers Independence and Intrepid and the British carrier Ark Royal. Aboard Independence was Rear Admiral W. D. Houser, U.S. Navy, Commander Carrier Division Two, and Commander Carrier Striking Force for the exercise.

Aboard Intrepid was Rear Admiral G. P. Steel, U. S. Navy, Commander Anti-submarine Carrier Task Force, and on board Ark Royal was Rear Admiral J. D. Teacher, Commander Carrier Division Two.

Throughout the eight-day ex-

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Royal Knight (cont.)

ercise of simulated naval war-time operations. Aggressor forces--simulated by NATO ships, submarines and aircraft--made air and sea probes against NATO Striking Fleet units.

In the defense role, Independence and Ark Royal made strike (simulated) and reconnaissance flights on land targets and air defense networks, tracked enemy shipping, and engaged enemy planes attempting to attack the task groups.

Many of these missions were flown during low ceilings and rain--making the tasks more difficult. At the same time, however, the low ceilings and rain missions were a form of training as it accustomed pilots and flight deck personnel to operations in cold and adverse weather.

Locating, tracking and simulating destruction of submarines (anti-submarine warfare) was the defense job of the Intrepid and her task group which included six U. S. ships and two Dutch destroyers.

In carrying out the ASW flight operations--Intrepid employed the S2E tracker aircraft, the E1B tracer aircraft and the SH3 helo. Helos from Independence and Buccaneer aircraft from Ark Royal assisted in the ASW missions.

Also of significant note during the exercise, was the anti-submarine and anti-air support given the task group by NATO's standing Naval Force Atlantic, a permanent multinational squadron made up of frigates and destroyers from the Netherlands, Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Observance by the Russian Navy of the exercise came in various forms. Russian M-type bombers, "Bear", and TU-16, "Badger", aircraft made repeated passes at low altitudes over the carrier task groups, always escorted by U.S. and British fighter planes.

During the fly-over of the Russian planes--and at various times throughout the exercise--Russian intelligence gathering ships, guided missile cruisers and destroyers took up station within the NATO formations, observing the combined sea and air operations.



NO RECORD, MAYBE, but still a lot of miles. MM1 Walter Lindsay and FN Ronald Soule keep track of the miles NEWPORT NEWS traveled during the current North Atlantic cruise. When the ship docks in Norfolk later today, she will have steamed over 11,490 miles.

(Photo by PH2 House)

100th Z-GRAM ESTABLISHES NEW PERSONNEL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The 100th Z-Gram was issued by the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr. It establishes a new "Personnel Exchange Program" (PEP) between the U.S. Navy and allied navies.

"Negotiations to establish exchange billets are currently underway with Australia, New Zealand, Canada, United Kingdom, Greece, the Netherlands, Italy, and the Federal Republic of Germany," according to Adm. Zumwalt. "We plan to expand the program to other allied navies."

"Exchange personnel are not intended to be liaison officers, advisors, instructors, or observers," he added, "but integrated working members of the unit or staff in which they are employed."

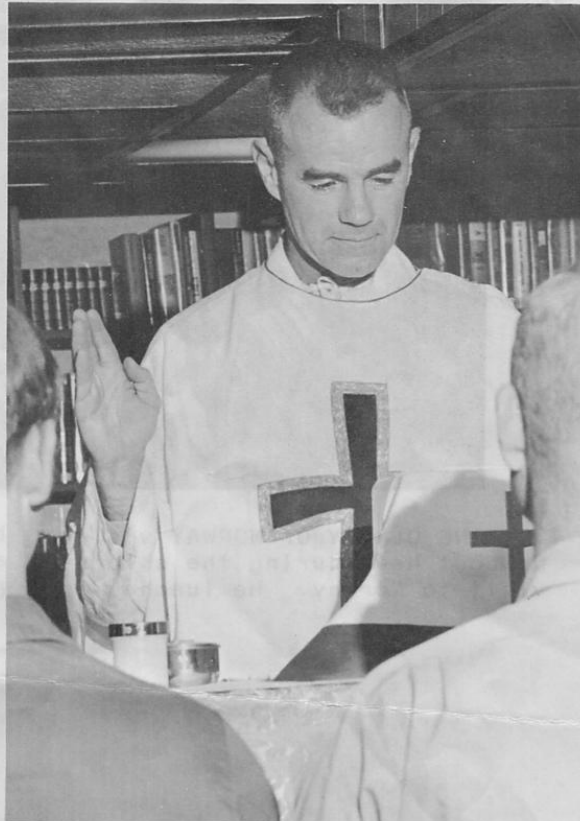
Officers assigned will normally be Commanders and below, and enlisted personnel will normally be career designated Petty Officers Second Class or above.

A forthcoming OPNAV instruction and BUPERS notice will formally establish the program and promulgate procedures for volunteering.

NAVAL RESEARCH SCIENTISTS DEVELOP NEW NOISE BUOY

Naval Research Laboratory Scientists have developed a bottom-anchored, unattended ambient noise buoy with no surface floats, for monitoring acoustic signals in remote areas of the ocean.

NRL scientists report that the buoy can be acoustically recalled or can surface on a clock timer.



"Eternal Father, Director of the destinies of man and of nations, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for the safe conclusion of our recent cruise.

"As we express our thanks, keep us mindful that it is only with Thy Divine assistance we can achieve any measure of true peace in our own selves and among the nations of the world.

"Grant, we pray, that every thought and action of ours may be in harmony with Thy Divine Will and we may merit the everlasting happiness of Eternal Blessedness. Amen"



KING OLAV V OF NORWAY visited Newport News during the ship's visit to Norway. He lunched on

board with Vice Admiral de Poix (l) and Captain Rumble (r). (photo by PH1 Weaver)



THEIR NOSES WERE REALLY BLUE-- When NEWPORT NEWS crossed the Arctic Circle on 28 September, all on board qualified for "Blue Nose" status. But

SM3 James Johnson (recording) and SM3 Don Galloway (on the light) got a real blue nose to go along with a certificate. (photo by PH3 Keske)



"Compensation," VA payments to veterans and dependents for service-connected injury or death, is often confused with "pension" paid on the basis of need to veterans disabled from non-service connected causes.



PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY CAN HELP PREVENT THIS

Exercises, port calls, through them all the Newport News Dental Department continued its all-out campaign against plaque, the number one cause of dental caries and loss of teeth. The full course includes a 15-minute movie and lecture the first day--then individual instruction on proper brushing techniques, use of dental floss, and use of liquid stain to check for plaque, ultimately to clean thoroughly only once a day. Just once thoroughly for total oral health.



DET 44 of Helo Combat Support Squadron FOUR, based at NAS Lakehurst will "fly away" later today, after being emarked in NEW-PORT NEWS during the Norht Atlantic cruise. (left to right) AE3 L. Madison, AMHC C. Gibson, crew leader, AT2 E. Coomer, AMS1

E. Thornton, ATAN R. Platt, and AMH3 C. Kenagy. In the cockpit is LT R. Trotter, Officer in Charge and Aircraft Commander. Not pictured: Lt. G. Peterson, Team Pilot, ADJ3 M. Gower, ADJ3 F. Sandoval, and AN J. Wenner. (photo by PH2 House)





Miss Theresa Roughton, of Virginia Beach, says "Hi" and welcome home. (photo by PH1 Lahouchuc)



THE MIGHTY THUNDER--Symbol of our contry's determination that nations shall be free and shall be permitted to live in peace.

FM _____

Place
Stamp
Here

TO _____

ZIP _____