

The grunt and groan Royals at the Boxing Night



Deck hockey 'knock-out'

On 10 December we were detached at full speed towards the Bay of Bengal to aid any UK citizens remaining in East Pakistan during the INDO-PAK war. Before leaving the Gulf we embarked four Seakings of 826 Squadron from *Eagle*.

However, we were diverted to Gan and on 15 December 40 Cdo were flown home for Christmas.



Stirring the Christmas Pud



A thoroughbred under auction

Christmas



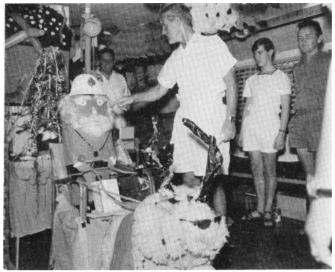
Tense moment in the Crib Final



- somewhere in

Bouncing Babies at the Fete

1971



Christmas Day walk around



The Grand Draw

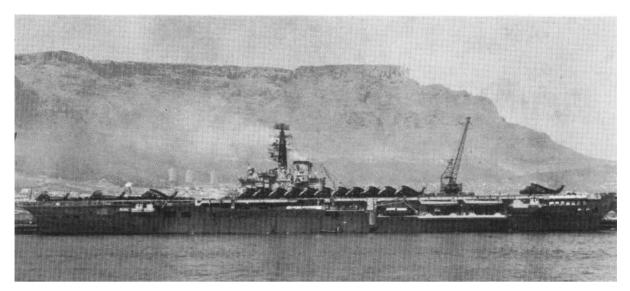


Jake at the Opera

the Indian Ocean



Captain's Table à la 2N43



Under the shadow of Table Mountain



The War Memorial, Adderley Street



Coon Carnival Characters, Capetown

and so to CAPETOWN

... disembarking 826 back to *Eagle* as we passed Durban.

Capetown produced hospitality on a grand scale and was undoubtedly the best visit of the commission. We attended barbecues and receptions, went on 'bus tours and visited breweries and wine cellars throughout the Province. It was, however, the private invitations that poured in to the ship that made us all feel very much at home.

We reciprocated with Cocktail Parties, Children's Parties and Ship open to visitors and on 5 January slipped quietly away after a splendid six days.

HOME AGAIN





848 fly off to Culdrose

20 January was disembarkation day for 848, and we said farewell to a large number of them including the CO who would not be rejoining later. The following day 40 Cdo stores were unloaded at Guz and we then quietly steamed eastwards to arrive at Outer Spit Buoy on 24 January.

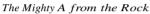
Presentation of £500 cheque for Guide Dog

We were home at last! after a trip of nearly ten months and it seemed as though everyone's family had come to Pitch House Jetty to welcome us. A pity the weather prevented us putting on an `Alpha'.



Families at Pompey







Top of the Rock race in progress

SPRING CRUISE

On 11 April we were off again.

Having embarked 848 and 42 Cdo we made for Gib where an attempt was made on *Bulwark's* `Top of the Rock' Race Record. Unfortunately our time fell just short though it did provide exercise for those

who thought they deserved it.

From 20-29 April we were lying off Cyprus landing and supporting the Commando during exercise DOUBLE BASE', which was a warm-up for things to come. Despite fluctuating weather conditions shore leave was granted; one

night in particular a large number were accommodated at the Army's Dhekelia Barracks due to the LCVP's service being suspended. Coach tours were well patronised and took us to the local scenery of Nicosia, Famagusta and Kyrenia.



'DAWN PATROL' was the big NATO exercise which involved us; during this we visited Kavalla (Greece) and Soudha Bay (Crete). We were apparently the first British warship to visit Kavalla since the war.

One feature of the exercise was the interchange of aircraft between ships giving us the opportunity to see the various US `choppers' in service.

A few fortunate ones got ashore in both places mainly for beach leave although it was hardly bronzey weather!









