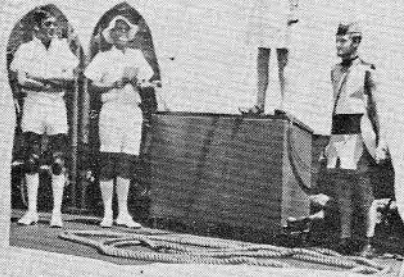


# A GRAND CHARITY FETE WAS HELD



the Captain opened it

## ON PASSAGE



there was music



food

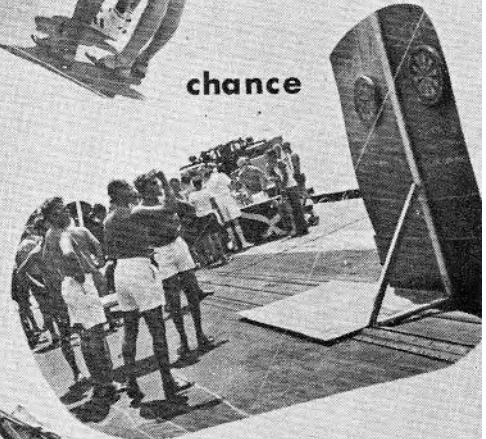
and

## FROM FLORIDA



games of

chance



## TO NORTHERN



madame zsa zsa was duty forecaster



and even the crabs made a splash

## SCOTLAND - JULY, 1973.

## WESTLANT 1973

was kind and the afternoon thundershowers seldom affected the beaches. Part of the Air Group had disembarked to N.A.S. Cecil and there the afternoon storms were a more regular occurrence but the swimming pools were fine, friends abounded and some flying was done. The Navy Exchanges at Cecil, Mayport, and N.A.S. Jacksonville all took a terrific pounding and thank heaven customs clearance was to be at Scapa Flow where few of us would be champing at the bit to rush ashore.

Passage across the Atlantic was beset with shaft and water problems again, but the seas were calm and we arrived off Cape Wrath in conditions allowing a day's flying there and then two days in the Moray Firth. How nice it was to see the hills again after the flatness of Florida! But on moving west of Orkney for a three-day support of Joint Maritime Course 168, some Florida sunshine would have been welcome. As it was, the fixed-wing aircraft were grounded for two and a half days due to fog and very low stratus. The anti-submarine exercises were of good value, however, and we played with three S.S.N.s.

The loss of fixed-wing flying meant a possible lowering of the standards for the forthcoming demonstration to the N.A.T.O. Council and the N.A.T.O. Military Committee—Exercise "Sally Forth"—and so, to obviate this, the weekend at Scapa Flow was cancelled and we remained at sea. Pity about the customs clearance, but then

The clag from the Orkneys had moved eastwards into the North Sea but now the wind shifted to an

easterly and it all rolled back and yet another day's flying was lost—even in the Moray Firth! Another change of plan and a quick dash south to get a reliable diversion and a day's flying took place off the North Yorkshire coast.

Into Rosyth for FORTHVIZ 1973 on 18th July and a wide programme of sports, calls and conferences / meetings. There was a large number—a very large number—of ships in port and we were in our usual berth, below the Forth Railway Bridge and a long, long boat ride from shore. However we had to prepare properly for "Sally Forth" and when we sailed on 23rd had a good rehearsal. It was all justified the next day when the exercise and disembarkation went smoothly, the guests were duly impressed and a number of very complimentary signals were received by the ship.

Back to "C" buoy for a very early start to 26th July and the embarkation of some 1,600 families for a day at sea with the Air Group doing their thing—from shore. The reunion with the families of those who could make it—and, fortunately, a lot seemed able to—was a fitting climax to our lengthy deployment and was a memorable occasion. Do we remember the pipe "Flight and Weather decks may now be used" when there were already some 3,000 people strolling on them? How nice.

For the immediate future, summer leave, a good efficient refit, the Freedom of the City of Leeds and let's get *Ark Royal* ready for our successors and prove that material will not defeat man.

# THE CHAPLAINS



There are three Chaplains in *Ark Royal*, currently, Rev. P. P. Ball (C. of E.), Rev. W. W. Carson (Church of Scotland and Free Churches), and Father J. Ryan (R.C.). During the recent deployment, we have not only been concerned with the usual "Padre's" duties of taking services, marriage counselling, and private interviews as Friend and Confidant to our respective flocks, but have also worked as a team in a number of other fields including visits to sick bay and cells, sharing in combined services, and joining in discussion groups on points of common interest.

The motto for the team during this deployment has been "Unity in Diversity", and, while holding firmly to our individual disciplines and insights, we have combined in a united front over a wide variety of other activities. Father Ryan and Rev. Carson have been seen regularly on A.R.T.V. and heard on the S.R.E., while the "Canon", like a grey/multi-coloured ghost has been on the prow in the various upper and nether regions. Lessons in French, Schools Magazine, Families' Newsletter, collections of foreign coins for charity, have been some of the behind-the-scenes activities.

The "Holy Helo" has been in evidence when one or other of the Chaplains has leapt away for a quick visit to another ship in company. (No, not just for a jolly !), and the S.A.R. /Sea King teams can say truthfully that they have had the Padre on the end of a piece of string (wire).

On the directly spiritual side, there has been a quiet, steady progress. The sailor does not wear his heart on his sleeve in religion any more than he does in any other department of his life, but an increasing number of men has been finding its way to the respective services, in the chapel or on the quarterdeck, and others have been asking questions of a more serious nature as visits have taken place in mess decks and working spaces throughout the ship.

Father John has seen an increasing number at Mass, while his weekly *Newsletter* has provoked interest, and in some cases indignation, in many mess decks. The *Ark* Fellowship meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Vestry have provided a further opportunity for Bible study and Prayer, and its members have played a major part in the ordering of worship in churches ashore from Oslo to Mayport.

A stone house is not built in a day, neither do men find their way to a living faith in God in five minutes, rather this faith is the end-product of a period of asking, searching, questioning.

So, to those who will be remaining on board for the next deployment, we wish them "Good luck in the name of the Lord", and to those who will be departing to other ships and establishments, "God bless".

# H.M.S. ARK ROYAL - AS OTHERS SEE US

Mayport,  
July 1971

Sir,

This note is to express the glad feelings we have had concerning your crew. Since your ship has been at Mayport several of your fine crew members have been to our Tavern. They have conducted themselves in an outstanding fashion. All behaved like gentlemen and seamen.

Believe me, Captain, they certainly looked sharp and acted smart.

I just thought I would let you know how much we think of your men.

*Very respectfully,*

C. J. S. PERING,  
Chief Bo'sun's Mate U.S.N. (Retd.)

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*James E. Knight*  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

242 SOUTHWEST THIRTIETH STREET  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33315

TELEPHONE 305/525-5813

Commanding Officer,  
H.M.S. *Ark Royal*,  
c/o U.S. Naval Station,  
Mayport, Florida

June 29, 1971

Dear Sir,

It was my pleasure to host some forty (40) of your men, from the catering section, yesterday at a small outing. I wish to complement you on their outstanding appearance and behaviour.

During your visit to Fort Lauderdale, I had the pleasure of their company and felt that the outing was the least I could do. With the co-operation of your catering officer, I was able to arrange this.

These man are a credit to your country and your command.

*Yours truly,*

JAMES E. KNIGHT,  
Attorney At Law,  
Owner—Tropicana Motel

JEK /lc

# H.M.S. ARK ROYAL"-AS OTHERS SEE US



LEO F. CALLAHAN  
CHIEF OF POLICE

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY OF  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA



In reply please refer to:

July 3rd, 1973

Commanding Officer,  
H.M.S. *Ark Royal*, B.  
F.P.O. (SHIPS),  
London, England

Dear Sir,

Please express my thanks to the officers and men of H.M.S. *Ark Royal* for the many letters I have received regarding your recent, mutually pleasant stay in our city. Both the local citizenry and the Police Department wish to commend you for the exemplary caliber of your crew. We thoroughly enjoyed your visit and are looking forward to your early return.

*Best wishes,*

LEO F. CALLAHAN,  
Chief of Police

LFC/ch

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Dear Sir,

For the last five days I have been the conductor on the bus that has operated from Lochinvar to Dalmeny Railway Station. The chaps from your ship were the bulk of our passengers on it and I would just like to put on record that I could not have asked for better well mannered passengers. They really were a pleasure to take "up and down". I have conducted for ten years and never have I enjoyed five days more. The men on your ship are a credit to the navy and make me feel that the *Ark Royal* is really something special. So to all on it I say thank you lads for being such a good crowd and may good luck go with you all.

I hope some day I may have the pleasure of seeing you all again.

*Yours,*  
CHRIS RICHARDSON

# H.M.S. "ARK ROYAL" - AS OTHERS SEE US

St. Paul's School  
 Martorell y Peña - 9  
 BARCELONA-17  
 23-11-72

Dear Captain and Crew,  
 The children and Staff of St. Paul's School would like to thank you for the interesting visit. We have seen two other boats but this was the best one. Every one liked it very much, but afterwards when we were returning some of us disagreed because they began to say that it was small and the American's were bigger. The aeroplanes were magnificent. All of us liked very much the boat because it was the first time that we have been to see an aircraft carrier. The officers that guided us were very kind. Here in my class is a boy called Jose M<sup>a</sup> Ortega who is all the time talking about your boat and all the Royal Navy. Perhaps he is going

next year to study, for when he is older he is going to be one member more of the Royal Navy. Perhaps he is going to pilot potatoes or perhaps he is going to be an Admiral. I finish my letter repeating from all the children who went to see it, the staff and me congratulations for having such a wonderful aircraft carrier and thank you.

Manolo Gari ~~Edoardo~~ ~~Kalls~~  
 Blanca Gari Bill Zerb ~~St. Paul's~~  
 Fernando Zamamos Mike ~~Carlos Niet~~  
 Francisco P. San Gabada ~~Antonio~~  
 Yllanes ~~Francisco~~ Tony ~~Francisco~~  
 Santiago Raventos ~~Jose Maria~~  
 David Ilario ~~Emi. Marine~~ ~~Agar~~ ~~conchita~~  
 Laura Lopez ~~Ma. Rosa~~ ~~H. Girona~~  
 Juan Manuel ~~Tania~~ ~~Sabir~~  
 Adriana Oregon ~~Ullanes~~ ~~Conrado~~ ~~Misael~~