



Standing Naval Force sailors and American Marines post the colors at SACLANT's twentieth anniversary ceremony.

Another important function of the Standing Naval Force is its availability and readiness for immediate deployment to the scene of any possible contingency situation to reaffirm the solidarity of the NATO Alliance and provide a visible deterrent force. Should this occasion arise, the squadron would also possibly have to meet its fourth objective which calls for providing the initial elements around which a more powerful and versatile NATO naval force could be formed.

The Standing Naval Force is deployed throughout the vast, 12 million-square mile North Atlantic which is crossed by the Western world's major shipping lanes. Here, more than 3,000 merchant vessels can be found on any day. NATO countries are presently operating approximately two-thirds of the world's tonnage of ocean-going cargo vessels in support of a large portion of their foreign trade.

Confronted with the ever-increasing figures in Soviet naval construction, the countries of the NATO Alliance found it necessary to reappraise their overall defensive strategy.

While naval units of the Alliance had been operating together for very brief periods over a number of years, it was not until February of 1965 that naval vessels of several countries participated in extended exercises, lasting approximately six months. Dubbed Exercise Match Maker I, II and III, in succession, the annual training periods continued through 1967. The success of Match Maker convinced many that a permanent international force was feasible.

The Standing Naval Force Atlantic was first activated on January 13, 1968 at Portland, England, after having been approved in full at the NATO Ministerial Meetings in Brussels the previous December.

The first ships to join STANAVFORLANT were the British frigate HMS **BRIGHTON**, the Dutch frigate HNLMS **HOLLAND**, the Norwegian frigate HNOMS **NARVIK**, and the American destroyer USS **HOLDER**. Since that time, ships from the NATO member nations of Canada, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States have played a vital role in NATO's permanent multi-national force.

# Commander Standing Naval Force Atlantic

## STANDING NAVAL FORCE ATLANTIC CRUISEBOOK

### FOREWORD

I am immensely proud to have been associated with the Standing Naval Force Atlantic and to have been its Commander in 1972. The months we have been together have been a fascinating a challenging period from which we all have benefited. I know that the experience of this deployment will always be of valuable assistance to each one of us in the years to come. You have all been involved in proving that international cooperation among navies is a practical proposition and in our case a most happy and successful venture.

It is always amusing to thumb through a Cruisebook and reminisce on what happened in those "good old days". In time to come I feel sure that all of you who are a part of this book, will remember with much pleasure the months you spent as a member of the Standing Naval Force Atlantic. We have all made a great number of friends during the last six months and it has been a sad day for me when ships leave the Force; remember, however, the sense of brotherhood left behind and that bonds of friendship are strong.

From Fort Lauderdale to London and Willemstad to Izmir, STANAVFORLANT has enhanced its reputation with all whom we have met and worked with. All those who have seen it before have been unanimous that it has never been in better form. The solidarity, professionalism and sense of purpose of this Force are renowned in all parts of the Western World.

This book sets out to show some of the spirit and good fellowship which abounds within the Standing Naval Force Atlantic.

JOHN D. E. FIELDHOUSE

1st July 1972

COMMODORE



COMMANDER STANDING NAVAL FORCE ATLANTIC

Commodore John D. E. Fieldhouse, RN

In early January 1972, five warships, each from a different NATO navy, left their homeports to rendezvous in Bermuda and begin another twelve months' operations as the Standing Naval Force Atlantic.



**HMCS SKEENA**



**FGS BRAUNSCHWEIG**

**HNLMS EVERTSEN**



**HMS JUPITER**



**USS CHARLES F. ADAMS**





We spent only one day in Bermuda to refuel. Captain Robert W. Allen, USN, the Force Commodore, broke his flag on USS **CHARLES F. ADAMS** and we departed for Port Everglades, Florida.



During our visit to Port Everglades, Captain Allen would be relieved as Commodore. As a farewell gesture to their departing Commander the ships of the Standing Naval Force executed a sailpast in his honor.



# Port Everglades

The first sight most of us remember of Port Everglades, Florida is our reception committee, a brass band complete with majorettes. The people of Fort Lauderdale, especially the U.S. Navy League, worked hard to make the Standing Naval Force feel welcome and succeeded in making our visit there one of the most unique and memorable of all our port calls.



During our visit we hosted more than 35,000 visitors.



The Ft. Lauderdale skyline by day...



...and night

# Standing Naval Force

## Change of Command



On January twentieth Captain Robert W. Allen, USN was relieved by Commodore John D.E. Fieldhouse, RN, as Commander, Standing Naval Force, Atlantic. Present at the Change of Command Ceremony were NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, Admiral Charles K. Duncan, USN, and United States Ambassador at Large, David M. Kennedy.



The Old International Guard







Admiral Duncan inspects the New International Guard.



Two generations of Standing Naval Force Commanders, Commodore John D. E. Fieldhouse and Captain Robert W. Allen.

The ships of SNF made several short stops at the U.S. Naval Station at Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.



Swim call at Vieques Beach near Roosevelt Roads

## San Juan.



During our first visit to San Juan **HMS JUPITER** departed Standing Naval Force amid the traditional shower of water, flares, and confetti and returned to her homeport in Plymouth, England

**JUPITER** was relieved by **HMS AURORA**.

