



MONTICELLOGRAM



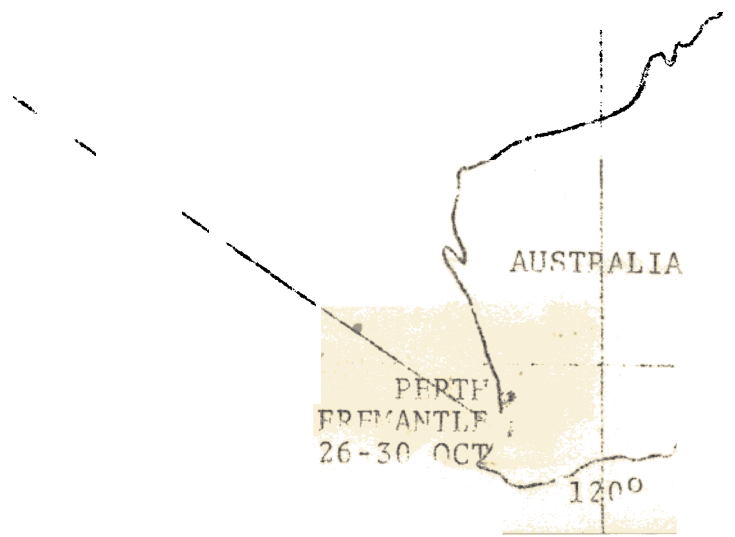
SECOND DIEGO GARCIA
VISIT EDITION

6 OCTOBER-22 NOVEMBER
1971

30°S

65°

90°



AUSTRALIA

PERTH
FREMANTLE
26-30 OCT

120°

NOTES FROM THE CAPTAIN

The map on our cover sheet and the "Port of Call" described here will give you an idea of the distance we've travelled and the places we've seen. The big story here is that at Diego Garcia we reached the end of the line out-bound, delivered our load, and since then we have been headed toward home.

Because of our extended stay at Diego Garcia, we now expect to reach San Diego on the afternoon of 19 December or the morning of the 20th - and that's less than a month away.

We have also now received our schedule for January thru March, and our overhaul is scheduled for San Diego. This means that MONTICELLO will be in port in San Diego almost continuously from January until early June, 1972. I know that's good news for all, after a very busy, steaming 1971.

Wishing all of you at home a happy Thanksgiving Day - we'll be thinking of you and of home.


W. SPANGENBERG

PORTS OF CALL

Fremantle. MONTICELLO spent four days in this beautiful Western Australia port. Located on the Indian Ocean, Fremantle is Western Australia's main port of commerce. Situated next to Fremantle is the growing city of Perth which is Western Australia's largest city. While in Fremantle, a large number of the crew took the opportunity to see the areas in and around Perth by taking advantage of the many tours available. On the

evening of 27 November, a Navy De reception was held at the residence of the American Consul in Perth, Mr. John A. LACEY. The party was jointly hosted by Mr. LACEY, The American Women's Club of Perth, and the officers of MONTICELLO. The same evening, a ship's company reception was held at the Flying Angel Club for Seafarers in Fremantle. On the morning of 30 November, MONTICELLO bade farewell to Australia and got underway for her next port of call, Diego Garcia.

Diego Garcia. Making a speedy and enjoyable transit across the South Indian Ocean, MONTICELLO arrived in Diego Garcia the morning of 5 November. The first order of business was to unload all the supplies and equipment brought from Port Hueneme, California. Due to the hard work of all hands the unloading was accomplished within a days time. Because of the lack of facilities at Diego Garcia, MONTICELLO's stay in Diego Garcia was extended from two to five days to provide dry dock services for several small craft that are critical to the operation of SeaBee cargo handling at Diego Garcia. While in Diego Garcia, most of us took advantage of the opportunity to go ashore and enjoy the swimming and sights. Since our last visit a number of significant changes have occurred on this small Indian Ocean atoll. The most striking were the addition of semi-permanent housing for the men stationed there, and the construction of a 3500 foot runway, which makes Diego Garcia readily accessible by aircraft for transport of people and lighter cargo. On the evening of 9 November, MONTICELLO departed Diego Garcia for her next fuel stop and port visit the oriental city of Singapore.

Singapore. MONTICELLO made a two day stop in this scenic city. Flanked by Malaysia on the north, and Indonesia on the south, Singapore is located at the crossroads of commerce for the orient. While in port many of our people were able to visit the nuclear powered aircraft carrier ENTERPRISE, which was in Singapore for a few days. ENTERPRISE is America's only nuclear aircraft carrier and is the largest warship in the world. After some busy days of shopping and sightseeing, MONTICELLO sailed for Vietnam early on the morning of 17 November.

Vung Tau, Vietnam. Arriving late on the afternoon of 13 November, MONTICELLO's crew put in some long hard hours to load retrograde material for shipment back to the states. After an expeditious onload, MONTICELLO proceeded to her next port of call, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong. Arriving on the morning of 22 November, MONTICELLO will spend 5 days in this British Crown Colony located on mainland China's doorstep.

ADVANCEMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
RD2	Robert J. PITCHER
BM2	James E. MINSNEW
CS3	Rogelio A. PASCUAL
BT3	Raymond PULIDO Jr.
SF3	Allen NICHOLS
MMFN	Robert WASZKIWICZ
BTFN	Merle U. PETERSON
FN	Phadol P. GARDLEY
FN	Richard J. ROEDER
FN	Sam F. WONG

WELL DONE IN DIEGO GARCIA

Since leaving Diego Garcia, several messages have come from various commands thanking MONTICELLO for the dry dock services we provided plus other miscellaneous services. One such message from Commanding Officer, Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet is quoted below:

"MONTICELLO SUPPORT FOR REINDEER STATION. AGAIN IN MARCH, MONTICELLO CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THE EXCELLENT SUPPORT GIVEN THIS VITAL PROJECT. THE EXTRA EFFORT EXTENDED BY MONTICELLO WAS VITAL AND MOST BENEFICIAL. WELL DONE AND SMOOTH SAILING."

Reference to March in the message refers to MONTICELLO's earlier participation in Project Reindeer Station in March of this year. To all of you at home go special thanks, because without your home support MONTICELLO could not perform in such excellent fashion.

NAVY DAY IN FREMANTLE

Navy Day was celebrated Wednesday 27 October, in Fremantle, Australia by men of MONTICELLO. With American and Australian colors flying, wreaths were laid at the memorial to Fremantle-based U.S. Navy submariners who were lost in World War II and also at a nearby Australian war memorial by the ship's commanding officer Captain Walter SPANGENBERG, USN. Mr. John A. LACEY, American Consul in nearby Perth, and Commodore James M. RAMSAY, Royal Australian Navy, naval officer commanding Western Australia, accompanied Captain SPANGENBERG before an honor guard of MONTICELLO crewmen. Also attending were Mrs. FLETCHER, Deputy Mayor of Fremantle, and Mr. PARKS, Fremantle Town Clerk.

SHIP'S BAND

While in Fremantle and Diego Garcia, the ship's band, "PASSAGE", made several guest appearances. In Fremantle, Australia, the band played at two receptions, first at the Fremantle Town Hall where a party was given by the ship's company. A second appearance was made on Navy Day at the Flying Angel Club for Seafarers in Fremantle. In Diego Garcia the band was a big success entertaining the SeaBees stationed on the island. The band frequently provides outstanding music for all hands during the evening hours while underway.

REST AND RELAXATION ABOARD

After a long hard inport work period at Diego Garcia, we took some time out for fun underway on 14 and 15 November. On the 14th, MONTICELLO held a swim call and a skeet shoot. The swim call was held by simply flooding and partially filling the after end of the well deck with about 7 feet of sea water, keeping the stern gate closed for the safety of the swimmers. While the swimmers enjoyed themselves many others participated in a skeet shoot. Clay pigeons were slung off the side of the ship as shooters attempted to hit them with shot-guns. On the afternoon of the 15th, a cookout was held on the mezzanine deck where everyone was able to get his fill of steaks and hot dogs. Music for the occasion was provided by the ship's band.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN SERVICE

A new Catholic chaplain has recently been appointed to PHIBRON THREE. The services of LCDR KOLLAS, CHC, USN are available to squadron personnel and dependents stateside at Building 29, Naval Amphibious

Base, Coronado, phone numbers 437-2781/437-2782/437-2783.

HOMEPORT CONTACT OFFICER

For those of you who live in the San Diego area and have a problem of an emergency nature, contact our Homeport Contact Officer who is LT(jg) Kenneth HEYME on COMPHIBRON THREE Staff. His phone number is 437-2781.

REACHING YOUR HUSBAND OR SON

You may reach anyone on MONTICELLO by telegram by sending your message via Western Union using this format:

RANK or RATE/FULL NAME,
SERVICE NUMBER/SOCIAL
SECURITY NUMBER
USS MONTICELLO (LSD-35)
APO SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 966

Don't forget the mail address either:

RANK/RATE, NAME IN FULL
DIVISION
USS MONTICELLO (LSD-35)
APO SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 966

Receipt of letters from home is one of the single most important morale factors aboard MONTICELLO so keep those cards and letters coming.