



USS L.Y. Spear (AS-36)

NASSAU

Jan 3-14, 1983

From the Commanding Officer

The Spear's previous port visit to the island of Nassau had no incidents of ill-fate whatsoever, not so much as a parking ticket! We are expecting to land a mixed Shore Patrol force on this cruise, who will have nothing to do, but watch other crewmembers have a good time.

All crewmembers are encouraged to enjoy their time off, with several of their friends. Anyone seeing another crewmember who should return to the Spear, should help them return to the Spear.

The Bahamian laws are very strict. Anyone who gets into trouble while in Nassau, will have to pay a lot of money to get out of trouble! Anyone who lands in jail, while there is on their own. They will be left; and jail time in Nassau could be years! It will be extremely hard for us to assist them while we are on the way or back to Norfolk. So, if you happen to get into trouble, you are on your own.

Have a safe, and fun liberty in Nassau, but stay out of trouble.

The Bahamas have so much to offer! This booklet will help you understand the cultural differences between the islands and the U.S., and there are tips on all subjects.

Look closely at the exciting and out of ordinary activities you can indulge in while on liberty! Don't just spend all your liberty at the bars or casinos. Take advantage of the beautiful climate, beach and leaves that may interest you.

There are ferry boats located at the end of the pier and you can pick up additional guides and maps to help you get the most out of your liberty!

Have a great time in the Bahamas! You know what they say-"It's better in the Bahamas."

More importantly, lets be careful out there.





MAP OF
DOWNTOWN
NASSAU

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

REPORT

Christopher Columbus discovered the Bahamas in 1492 when he first landed in the Western Hemisphere on San Salvador Island.

The first permanent European settlement in the Bahamas was founded in 1647 by the Eleutheran Adventurers, a group of English and Bermudian religious refugees. Governments created by such private groups continued until 1717, when the islands became a British crown colony.

The first royal governor was Capt. Woodes Rogers, an ex-private who brought law and order to the Bahamas in 1718 by expelling the buccanniers who had used the islands as hideouts.

Since the war, the Bahamas has become a major tourist and banking center.

Bahamians achieved self-government through a series of constitutional and political steps, resulting in Independence on July 10, 1971.

GEOGRAPHY

The Bahamas is a series of long, flat coral islands in the Western Atlantic Ocean. The islands extend from about 30 miles off the southeast coast of Florida to a 750-mile arc down to the northern edge of the Caribbean. The area is slightly larger than New Jersey and Connecticut combined.

The name Bahamas may derive from the Spanish phrase *baja mar* or "shallow sea." On the island of New Providence, the highest elevation is 210 feet. The group consists of about 700 islands, 29 of them inhabited and more than 2,000 cays and dry cays.

Winter in the Bahamas extends from December through April. Temperatures are subtropical, ranging in the winter season from 80 degrees to 75 degrees.

PEOPLE

More than 70% of the population of the Bahamas live on either New Providence or Grand Bahama. Bahamians of African descent make up more than 85% of the population.

English is the main language of the islands. Some Creole is spoken among Haitian immigrants.

Education on the islands is required up to the age



TRAFFIC

The old British custom of driving on the left-hand side of the road had been practiced in the Bahamas since the advent of the horse and buggy. So, if you rent a car, many of them have the steering wheel on the left. Be sure to drive on the left-hand side of the road. Make sure you follow the strict slower speed limit laws. If you are walking where there is no sidewalk, walk on the right-hand side of the road.

BAHAMIAN POLICE

The U.S. Navy in Nassau has an excellent rapport with the Royal Bahamas Police Force. The police are ready to assist whenever needed. The police will not tolerate disrespect or disregard their authority. If stopped, a courteous "Yes Sir," or "No Sir" goes a long way.

There are strict laws in the Bahamas relating to the possession of dangerous drugs or firearms. Drugs, including marijuana, if found in your possession, will bring a fine of \$500 plus a jail sentence. There are no laws regarding cases of entrapment on the islands. It is not unusual for a policeman to pose as a drug peddler.

The laws are strictly and thoroughly enforced.

CURRENCY

If you should run across a Bahamian \$3 bill, it's okay. Bahamian paper money comes in half dollar, \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100 bills. Some people take the \$3 bill here as a souvenir.

Be careful not to confuse the \$3 with the \$5 bill, which is easy to do in dimly lit places, because of their similarity in color.

There is an extra Bahamian coin as well, the 1/2¢ piece, which is square with rounded edges and decorated with a hibiscus on the reverse. Bahamian currency and coins are distinguished by the variety and attractiveness of their design.

TAXES

There is no sales tax in the Bahamas, but there will be a 12% sales tax added to your hotel room bill.



HEALTH

All places which serve food and drink to the public—including native restaurants—are licensed and inspected by the Bahamian health authorities. Some visitors experience upset stomachs because of the difference in the drinking water and might prefer bottled water.

BUDDY SYSTEM

The use of the buddy system is highly encouraged especially during the hours of darkness. Nassau has a high crime rate and personnel who wander into dark alleys or unlit streets stand the risk of being robbed or even mugged.

DRESS

Generally, very casual clothing is acceptable during the day in Nassau. It is not considered proper to wear swimwear on Bay Street. For evenings, in the better hotels and restaurants and night clubs, dressy dresses and gowns are fashionable for ladies. Gentlemen are required to wear a coat and tie after 7 pm. The wearing of the Navy uniform of the day is highly encouraged.

SHOPPING

Bay Street in downtown Nassau is the primary tourist shopping area. There is no real best buy in the Bahamas and one should not assume prices to be cheaper than that of the U.S. or duty free.

Street Market, located in the Ministry of Tourism Building on Bay Street is the place for native and marketed items. Never accept the first price offered; they are negotiable.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

You may safely eat all Bahamian-grown fruits and vegetables. Some fruits such as papayas, guineas, tomatoes, mangoes, watermelons, sugarcappins, guavas and mangoes are delicious. Try them!

RESTAURANTS

Meals are expensive in Nassau. You can expect to pay \$15 for a meal in the better restaurants and hotels. Nassau—even the fast food chain prices are higher than that of the U.S.

HOTELS

Hotel prices are also very expensive. Balance accommodations range from \$175 to \$200 per person. Moderate range \$98 to \$175, Budget-\$54 to \$80 and Guest Houses are from \$30 to \$80.

BAR

All drinks are expensive, averaging from \$1.50 to \$2 for both beer and mixed drinks. Native nightclub usually charge a \$2 cover. At the two casinos in the Bahamas, coat and tie is common, although the uniform of the day is well received and casual clothes are permitted. Gambling prices: slots-\$4 to \$8, roulette-\$2, Blackjack \$1 and \$1. Between 1900 and 2100, betting minimums are reduced.

THEATERS AND CINEMA

Several movie theaters in town have American-made movies on the bill. The Shirley Street Theater is recommended, but reservations are required.

EATING FOOD

The following items are the Bahamian favorites: Peas 'n rice, conch salad, broiled fish 'n grits, ground conch, conch pizza, grilled lobster conch chowder, steamed turtle and guava duff, seaweed ice cream or Bahamian pineapple for dessert.

OFF LIMITS OFF LIMITS OFF LIMITS OFF LIMITS OFF LIMITS!

1. The area of Nassau known as "near the hill" is populated mainly by unemployed (usually illegal) Haitians, and entry to the area at night, assumes that one will be robbed and/or attacked. This area is located three blocks south of the downtown section.
2. The Las Vegas Bar is off limits.
3. Do not trespass on Government House grounds.
4. The rental of weapons/motocycles is absolutely prohibited. Two navy sailors have been killed or seriously injured as a result of motor accidents. It is forbidden!



MISC. everything under the sun

SEASPORTS

The Bahamian sea is the cleanest and clearest you will find anywhere in the world. You can enjoy being in it or on it, day or night.

BEACHES

An abundance of excellent beaches may be found on the north side of the island of New Providence (West of downtown Nassau). The majority of these beaches are public except those that front hotels. World-famed Paradise Beach can be reached by motorboat from the Prince George Wharf for \$2 roundtrip. Admission to the Paradise Beach is \$5 which includes a shower, locker and towel. If you are driving to the beach, the roundtrip toll across the Paradise Island Bridge is \$2.

WATERSKIING, MOTORBOATING, BOATING, PARASAILING

Nassau Beach Hotel (7-1711)

SCUBA, WATERSKIING, MOTORBOATING, PARASAILING

Alexander Beach Hotel (7-9211)

PARASAILING

You'll be wafted effortlessly into the air from a raft behind a fast powerboat and drift happily through the sky over the sea before a skilled driver brings you in for a landing back on the raft, where expert hands assure you touch down safely. Paradise Para-Sailing, Ltd. (6-3000)

SPORTS AND ATTRACTIONS

EXOTIC GARDENS-4 1/2 acres of tropical gardens, animals, waterfall, \$5 Located off Bay Street (7-1806)

ROBARIUM-Open 9 am-5:30 pm Mon-Sat. Reef fish, sharks, turtles, dolphins and sea slugs. 10¢/10, 15¢/10, 20¢ and 40¢ shows. (7-4886)

ROMANTIC GARDENS-16 acres of tropical flora and 600 species! Open 9 am-4:30 pm Mon-Fri. 50¢ admission fee (7-5875, 7-6480)

CARRIAGE TOURS-located at Raffles Square for approximately \$8 for a 1 1/2 day trip for two.

SPORTS

GOLF

Complimentary golf privileges may be obtained at Paradise Island Golf Course. Tee times will be arranged through the office of the Naval Liaison Officer.

DIVING

Sea Rivers at Sheraton British-Colonial (1-1300) and Underwater Tours, Ltd. 813-813 for scuba and 813-814 for snorkeling.

TRIPS

Cruises available at Sheraton Hotel through Naval Liaison Office.

HEALTH SPA

Sabana Beach (1-1711, ext. 1213)

CRUISES AND TOURS

Donald Green Sightseeing Boat Co. (1-4443), Glass-bottomed boat tours at Prince George Dock (1-3871). Richard Mann Tours offer a variety of sight-club tours (1-1484). Yellow Bird 3-hour cruise allows you to relax at beautiful beaches complete with drinks, calypso music and dancing; Island Flight-Balmoral Island, \$15 per person, including with BBQ lunch, games, beaches and a cash bar. 3 cruises daily (1-7481) SE Calypso-Cruise to Stone Lagoon Island, beach, bar and water sports, full day or dinner cruises (1-1477,8). Half-day cruise with Bartley's Underwater Wanderland, Ltd., walk on the ocean floor, glass-bottomed boat, (1-1300, 1-8284)

RESTAURANTS

The Blue Lagoon-at Club Lido, 88-3-6:30 pm, free bar drinks and entertainment (1-3400)

Bridge 10-11:45 pm, 2 for 1 drinks, John Clarke Trio 7:30 pm-1 am

Underwater Wanderland-dinner and moonlight cruises, (1-1477, 1478)

Pink Restaurant-Downtown Bay Street with Sings Ice Cream Parlour

Bayside-Sheraton British-Colonial Hotel Beach-Lounge 11-1 am, dinner 4-10:30 pm, (1-1300)

The Beach-Paradise Island Shopping Center-Over 10 varieties of pizza, 11-2 am.



ENTERTAINMENT

BAR/NIGHTLIFE

Back Room Disco-Balnear Beach/Cable Beach, "High Voltage" band 10 pm-2 am, Jambos every night except Tuesday. Plans-11 midnight-1 am (7-3481)

Dreadnaut Club-opposite 'Ocean Spray' Hotel, featuring the king of drums, Freddie Taylor, 8:30 & 10:30 pm

Emerald Bar-Emerald Beach Hotel, 88-5-2 pm Thu. & Fri.

The Green Shutter's Inn-Side English pub featuring fine imported beers, 88-3-7 pm Mon.-Fri. at Bowen Square (5-5381)

Naaman Beach Hotel-Old Island Bar, live band 9 pm-2 am, Sam Kay featuring Kara Stephens, 88 4-7 pm, 2 for 1 drinks

Paris Bar-Oberon British-Colonial Hotel. This lively night spot was the setting for the latest James Bond film, "Never Say Never Again." Open 11-2 am, live music 8:30, 88 5:30-7 pm Mon. & Fri.

Rosita's Rebel Room-Sent to Atlantic Hotel, west of Bay Street. Fabulous native shows, (7-4481,7)

Windward Barb-Fleet House Hotel-warm & friendly, 11 am-1 am

Club Waterloo-located on Eastern Rd near Montage Beach, 88-4-8 pm, (7-1100) Check and Roll some nights

RECOMMEND-The Europa Hotel 'Ocean Spray'-good drink prices, the owner is very good to callers.

PARADISE ISLAND NIGHTLIFE

Club Land'er Wine Lagoon Lounge-Calypso music, 88-3-6 pm, Open 5 pm-1 am, (6-2400)

Club Pastiche-Disco, just off Paradise Island Casino Gallery Bar-Top Island combo, (8-2000)

Le Cabaret Theater-Paradise Island Casino-Top name entertainment and lavish shows (6-5000)

Remedios Lounge-Melissia Towers, Nonstop dancing, (4-5000)

Troubadour Lounge-Paradise Towers, Top name entertainment and disco, (8-2000)

The Grand Hotel-de Paris, Disco 3-8pm, Tues.-Sun., Lounge 5 pm-2 am, Live music by 'Savvy' 9 pm-1:30 am, Tues.-Sun., 88-3-1 am Wed.-5-2 am, all drinks \$1.50. The Lobby Bar-Beleza Bar at place 12 noon-8pm (4-0011)

CASINOS

Remember the uniform of the day is considered appropriate for the nightlife.

Paradise Island Resort & Casino-Britannia Towers/Panathina Towers. The Cabaret, with a Las Vegas type review charges \$17.50 for the cocktail show and \$10.00 for the dinner show.

The Flamingo Casino-Cable Beach. Live show 10:30.-11:30 pm. Free casino lessons-4 pm

Transportation

TAXI

The maximum fares are set by the Government and all taxis are required to have meters in good working condition. General rates - 1 or 2 passengers: \$1.20 for first one-fifth mile, 30¢ for additional quarter mile. \$1.50 for additional passenger. Hourly rate: 3 passengers \$12, larger cabs \$15 per hour. There is a 20¢ waiting charge for general rented taxis.

CITY BUS

Usually run 8:00-10:00 daily. 50¢ per person. Free-quoted by the locals.

BICYCLES

Samson Bicycle at the corner of Bay and East Streets charges \$1 per day with a \$10 deposit.

WATER SKIS/SKOOTERS

COMPLETELY FORBIDDEN-AGAINST THE BAHAMIAN LAW.

AUTO RENTAL

Avia (2-2899) Avia (at airport). Approximately \$10 per day with a minimum deposit of \$40.

BOATS-ORANGE SKIFFS

At Nassau Square for \$8 per hour for two passengers.-
MOTORBOAT

Prince George Dock. 45¢ per person for two or more passengers.

STYLISH ADVERTISING TO ENJOYING A



SPORTS

tours

New

Providence

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HONOLULU



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