

SPEAR

POINTS

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USS L. Y. SPEAR VISITS ATHENS, GREECE





From The Captain

One of the best aspects of the Navy is the opportunity it provides to travel all over the world and visit many strange and different countries. There is a world of knowledge and experience available to each of us as we visit the various ports on this deployment.

In Alexandria, Egypt we visited a Moslem nation of the third world. Proud and challenged with the immense task of improving the standards of living for 20,000,000 million people. We saw the pyramids, the ruins of man's earliest civilization, and were amazed how they could be built without any modern tools. There was hope in the eyes of the people we met, even though the average Egyptian is twenty times more destitute than the poorest American. While our engines are talked to be traded places or exchanged, our visit and experience in Egypt provided us with a better understanding of current events, the problems faced by the third world nations and, hopefully, a better appreciation of how lucky we are to be Americans.

In Greece we visited a NATO ally and the most famous ruins in the world, the Acropolis. We had the chance to meet and see the friendly Greek citizens, to shop and to sample some of the famous Greek cooking. Greece is a relatively small nation, but its impact on modern history cannot be matched by any other country. There are the towns of Salamis and the founding of the Christian Church, the origins of modern medicine, philosophy, science and literature and lastly the home of the Olympic competition so popular today.

Our last port call is to Malaga, Spain. Again we shall see a different culture and way of life. Malaga is an ancient city, but just up the road is the famous, modern Spanish Riviera where the jet set gathers. Malaga Spain is a mixture of the European and African cultures blended into its own, unique way of life. Catholics, or the southern Spanish people are friendly and warm. Our visit to Spain should be memorable for each of us.

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DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting news items to this office for publication is the first and third Fridays of the month. If you want news from your division or special interest stories to be included in the paper, please have it in the editor's office at least two to three days before the deadline.

The SPEAR POINTS Staff welcomes and encourages any input from the crew to be edited, reviewed and printed in future issues. Any human interest stories, special events or something original like poetry will be accepted. Please keep articles short, clear and informative.

SPECIAL SERVICES MOVE

As we draw nearer to our arrival in Norfolk, Special Services will become very busy. For those personnel who are interested, please Norfolk Lager will be starting about as soon as we return to Norfolk. There will also be already in full swing and hopefully we will be able to raise a team from the SPEAR to the Lager.

For those members of the bowling team, competitive bowling will be starting about the first week in September.

When we get back to Norfolk we will be having several people returned to the annual Norfolk State Convention which is held every year. It takes alot of hard work to be able to compete in this and the people who represent the U.S. SPEAR are commended for their efforts.

Shortly after we get back to Norfolk we will be having several events take place for the entire year to get started with. We will be having an U.S. SPEAR Television Tapes Baseball night at the Post. Weekend trips are in the planning stages for Camp Drummers, Beach Gardens, Atlantic City, and other places of interest.

Another event that takes place is the annual U. S. SPEAR Christmas Party held in December. This year's party will be at Lake Wright Inn on December 6th. Last Year's party proved to be enjoyable for most of the SPEAR crew and we hope your mode of you will come out for this year's party.

I am more than willing to listen to any ideas from the crew. If you have an idea you would like to see take place, or an area you would like to visit or see know. If you would like to submit your ideas for consideration, contact me in the Atlantic Coast Locker or call me at extension 389. I am here to listen to you, like you, so let me know.

IT'S YOUR MATCHING

Now we left Norfolk, about five months have passed. Not only time will be waiting for most of us, we don't forget about your prized set of wheels. If you left your car or motorcycle with a friend or parked in a lot, make sure you take the time to get everything checked before you leave for a long drive home.

Visions from the drive and happiness to be home at last, can have an adverse affect on your driving. Remember when you get behind the wheel, you are doing the driving and people's lives are in your hands.

For all those welcome home parties, try to have a non-drinking friend drive you home. Use the one drink as a cue if you know you must drive. The Sherry host won't be waiting to hand you back from "FANTASY DRIVING" so take it easy.

You only have one life to live, so DON'T waste it in an accident!

SEVEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Our present self service store is seven years old 28 JULY 1983. When the store was opened in 1972 we did would have guessed it would someday be Deigo Garcia's favorite shopping place.

Now that we are closer to home, we will find the shelves fully stocked very soon. The outstanding service will continue and every attempt will be made to get all the materials and extras back on hand.

To those who make the ship's store functional we extend our appreciation and thanks.



OPERATION SELF HELP

In the past few months all of the berthing area aboard SPEAR has been subjected to "Operation Self Help."

Speedworking the attack has been ETC LEWIS credited to an "volunteer" from the Repair Department. Through diligence and hard work the Maintenance Team has made some very significant improvements in the living conditions aboard SPEAR.

"Self Help" first got underway with installation of privacy curtains, and as things progressed, full length mirrors were added. The major inconvenience came when they tore the desks and drawers apart to install the new curtains.

The curtain have proved to be quite an improvement, not only do they look a lot better, but you now have room to get everything you drop in the drawer with you.

All of this started out through inputs in the Captain's Suggestion Box. If you have an idea that you feel may help to improve living conditions, drop it in the suggestion box. Every time he helps.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRAIN?

Anyone wanting to trade, buy or sell comic books or science fiction books, please contact EC Services, EC Route 91-110-30-Q-Extension 605.



X-DIVISION UP CLOSE

There are so many questions of an administrative nature that face us every day. Fortunately, for us, there are personnel assigned to L.V. SPEAR whose job it is to make sure that the administrative functions of the ship flow smoothly. "Who is it?" you ask. The answer is X-Division. This department, directly responsible to the CO and headed by LTJG (EMER) with a staff of dedicated personnel, is proud to ensure that you receive the very best Personnel services available anywhere in the Navy.

There is not one aspect of your daily shipboard routine that is not, in some way, touched by the services of X-Division. From the time you check aboard, until the day you depart, you depend on X-Division to keep your records, process your mail, arrange for your advancement exams, prepare your bills and personnel attorney and process your awards and commendations.

Even before you arrived, you were affected by X-Division as you learned your welcome aboard letter. Your very first introduction into the L.V. SPEAR family was through "T" Division, a component of X-Division. Your last association with the ship will, more than likely, be through X-Division as they process your orders, and make arrangements for a flight, if necessary, to your next duty station.

Specific functions of this department include the Captain's office, under the control of YMC (EMER), Ship's Secretary. The Captain's office is responsible for the correct preparation of correspondence and directives prepared for the Commanding Officer's and Executive Officer's signatures. It controls all incoming and outgoing official correspondence, maintains a file of required Department of the Navy and L.V. SPEAR instructions. Additionally, this office is responsible for maintaining official personnel records, illness reports, and most official personnel administration.

The Medical Personnel Office, headed by CWIC (EMER) is charged with ship's receiving and assignment of newly reported personnel, all related transfers and recalls. For example since leaving Norfolk, Personnel has processed approximately 140 transfers and 174 recalls. Personnel is also responsible for the maintaining of over 1100 related personnel records, the processing of all related personnel for discharge or separation from naval service, including (EMER) EX Staff personnel. The processing of special duty requests, ED cards (approximately 300 since leaving Norfolk), related leave papers, the ordering and administration of all related advancement examinations and training courses are also the responsibility of the Personnel Office.





The Executive Assistants include the Chaplain, Safety Officer, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Command, Medical and Drug Abuse Coordinators, SM, Ship's Career Counselor, Command Master at Arms, and Educational Services Officer. The Executive Officer's special Task Force is responsible for ensuring that every aspect of personnel or administrative services performed on board is of the highest caliber possible.



LIBERTY IN SPAIN

LIBERTY IN MALAGA SPAIN

Among the many interesting and pleasant features of Spanish life, there are two that probably will have an immediate appeal for you. First, most goods, services, and entertainment are quite reasonable by our standards, although the cost of living is increasing rapidly.

Second, the pace is less hectic. The government has tried to end the long lunch periods and to get shops and restaurants to adjust their hours to accommodate visitors. However, the tourists themselves generally prefer the old Spanish ways, as do the Spanish people.

The three seasonal seasons of a year in these busy hot-weather towns during the period from 1950 to about 1955 allows visitors to go home for a hearty lunch and stroll afterward. In Spain a long lunch is eaten at midday and a light supper at night. The evening meal hours are much later than ours, certain hours are later at theaters, and businesses may open later in the evening.

SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS

There range from plush hotels to rustic inns. Hotels are officially graded by their accommodations and charge accordingly. There are five classes: *Los Luces*, *Primeras A*, *Primeras B*, *segunda* and *third class*.

To provide additional accommodations, the government operates *PUESTOS TURISTAS*, *ALBERGUES*, and *ALBERGUES*. If you are history minded, the *PUESTOS TURISTAS* will appeal to you, for these often are famous buildings; castles, palaces, or monasteries, converted into inns. The *ALBERGUES* cater chiefly to motorists. *ALBERGUES* are simple but adequate inns and are located in remote districts.

THE LANGUAGE

Some knowledge of Spanish will help you immensely in getting around and getting to know the Spaniards, although in the cities an increasing number of Spaniards speak English. Sign language, if you are forced to use it, is a poor substitute for Spanish. A good English-Spanish dictionary can be a real asset. Regional dialects exist, but you will be understood anywhere if you speak basic Spanish.



CITY AND COUNTRY

The business and social life of cities is pretty much the same everywhere. You can expect to find both the joys of such places, modern apartment and office buildings, as well as reminders of the past. Sidewalks filled with neatly dressed people, and shops displaying luxury goods are everywhere.

The majority of the Spanish people live on farms or in small towns and villages. The life of the farmer is often a back-breaking struggle with nature. Except in the north, rainfall is never adequate.

LAND OF THE BULLFIGHT

The bullfight is Spain's number-one spectacle. The Spaniards consider it a drama, requiring courage, skill, and grace. They understand every detail of the ritual involved and shout "OLÉ" when it is performed well.

The bull (*TOROS*) and the matador play leading roles in the drama, but the cast also includes *Picadores*, mounted on horseback and *Banderilleros*. The death of the bull during the performance and is called "The Moment of Truth."

The bullfighting season runs from Easter to October. Cost for admission is approximately 1,000. Seats in the box are less expensive than seats in the stands, but obvious masses. Most cities and towns have a bull ring, called the *Plaza de Toros*. Bull fights are held on Sunday afternoons and on all holidays.

TO ENJOY

SPORTS

The leading sport is association football (*SOCCER*). Another Spanish favorite is *Basque PELOTA*. It is more familiar to Americans as *LA MANA*, a name the Basques gave it. Basketball and football are fairly new sports in Spain, but they are growing in popularity. There are many good tennis courts, and a few exclusive golf clubs.

Water-sports beaches provide water sports and sunbathing the year round and the highest mountains offer fine skiing. Game is more plentiful than in other parts of Europe, and fishermen can try for trout or salmon in the streams or deep sea fish in the Mediterranean or Cantabrian Seas. However, regulations on hunting and fishing and licensing requirements must be followed by all.



NIGHT LIFE

In Malaga there is the renowned El Puente de Plata at El Alcaz Lujan. All towns along the Costa del Sol have more than a few bars and clubs where local residents as well as tourists go.

The American Club has headquarters upstairs of the Bar Central in Plaza Amalida and is open 1000 to 0200 daily.

There is dancing at the Club Taba, Carretera de Cadix, in Torremolinos. It runs around the club from 1100 to 0400. There are two other good night clubs in the Torremolinos complex. The Madrugal in Benalmadena Costa lights off the main road and Los Yachmen in Boca de San Pedro. Several hotels feature nightly shows, i.e. Pui España, Marbella Station.

BEACH BEINGS

Though not Spain there are excellent beaches and beautiful country side. The highlights and the good food are among beach resorts.

Walking tours can be taken to the Cathedral, the Alhambra, Gibralfaro Castle and through the shopping areas. Bus tours outside of Malaga, Granada, Seville, and Madrid are available. In general, due to heavy tourism in the area, buses are expensive but well run.

Granada is about three hours drive from Malaga, over steep-winding mountain roads. The Alhambra at Granada is a legacy to Moorish occupation. It is a Moorish Royal Palace of intricate repetitive patterns, with vines, courtyards, gardens, and fountains. Many people speak of it as the eighth wonder of the world. Another interesting place in Granada is the Hall of Mirrors (CIBULAS) that were once falling places for pursued Valgutha and later Moses, and is now an shrine of Oppen.

Granada is one of the oldest towns in Spain and is known for its Roman ruins. It was the last stronghold of the legendary Moorish Rumbis and scene of the last great rising of the Moors against Ferdinand and Isabella. It is perched above a rocky cliff one thousand feet deep. Spanned by three bridges, its setting is unforgettable. The outstanding bridge is the Puente Nuevo (1571), from whose balconies gazed you can have a fantastic that bird view of the gorge that divides the town.

ANOTHER SPEAR FIRST

We showed the USS LT SPAR, an proud to proclaim a new role for the Navy. Justly named Field Day Technicians, they can be found throughout the ship accepting, installing, shipping parts and the painting and leveling.

Keep up the good work P.D.T.s, when we pull up to the pier in Norfolk, we will look as good as anyone will think we have been in the yards for five months.



CRUISE-CYCLASIS

There has been quite a stir lately about a relatively new program which began in December 1959.

The "new kid on the block" is the United Surface Warfare Specialist Program, which has attracted quite a few talented and dedicated people aboard SPAR.

As with most programs that take a little extra effort, there are probably a lot of people who are interested, but have heard all of the latest rumors. You have probably heard everything from, "It's all change control work" to "write a new book of 'Sea-Rites'."

It's true you do have to be ODPB Qualified, and you have to learn some of the weapons and weapons systems, but you also have ship's administrative responsibilities, deck assembly, ship handling, survival equipment, bridge equipment, engineering plant operation, flight deck safety, and shipboard protocol in that order, which is not a hard view of the United Surface Warfare Program.

Yes, it is a lot of work, but Education has "Dolphin", and Aviation has "Wings" which they are very proud to wear, and now surface sailors have the "Forward Collar" that they too can wear with pride.

Anyone can be a top performer, if you're interested, and don't mind getting both a little "extra effort". Don't ask your best buddy about the United Surface Warfare Specialist Program, ask THE DIRECTOR at the Royal Admiral's Office (RM 126) or go see LT-CDR Jones at Radson (RM 411).

You'll be glad you did!

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