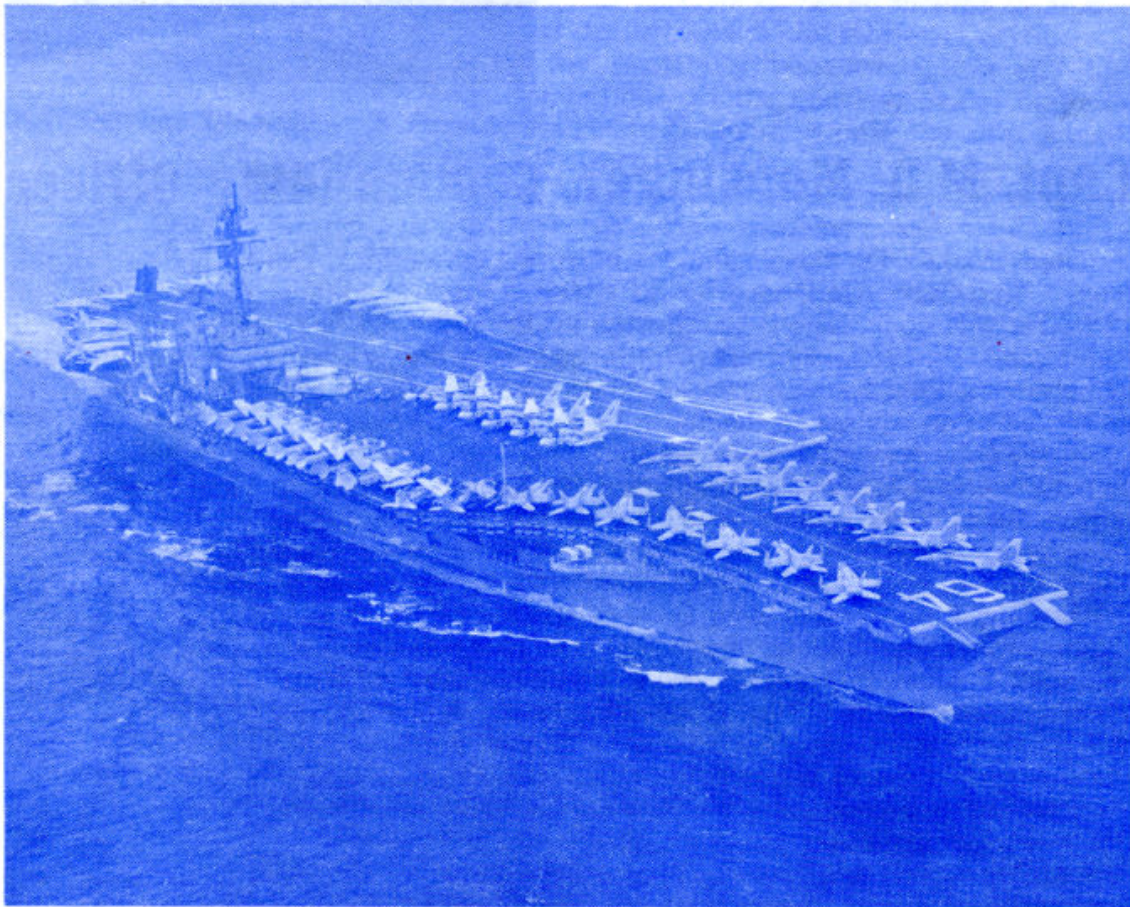


**WELCOME
ABOARD
'America's
Flagship'**



USS CONSTELLATION



**'Spirit of the Old,
Pride of the New'**

Dear visitors,

Welcome aboard "America's Flagship," the finest vessel in the fleet. As you tour USS CONSTELLATION, I am sure you will see why I am proud to serve as her commanding officer. The pride and professionalism of her crew shows in every corner of the ship. Feel free to ask any questions along the way, and our crew will be happy to answer them. It is my fondest wish that when you are finished with your tour, you will be as proud of "Connie" as I am.

Warmest regards,



M.D. MUNSINGER
Commanding Officer



Capt. M.D. Munsinger, Commanding Officer

Capt. Melvin D. Munsinger was born in Los Molinos, Calif., and graduated from Chico State College prior to entering the Naval Service in September 1958. He was commissioned an Ensign in January 1959 and designated a Naval Aviator in July 1960. His first aviation assignment was VAW-11 in August 1960. In February 1964, he was ordered to VA-122 as an instructor. During his tour, he served as an advisor to the South Vietnamese Air Force.

In 1967, he served with VA-97 flying the A7 Corsair Two. In February 1969, he returned to VA-122 as an instructor, departing in July 1970 for a year's study at the Naval War College where he earned a Masters Degree. The following year, he served as Maintenance Officer and later Operations Officer of VA-192. After a tour with COMLATWINGSPAC, Capt. Munsinger served as Executive Officer and then Commanding Officer of VA-113 from November 1973 to May 1976. From July 1976 through July 1978 he served as Executive Officer, Air Test and Evaluation Squadron Five. From January 1979 to July 1980, Capt. Munsinger commanded Carrier Air Wing NINE on board USS CONSTELLATION. In August 1980, he reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. From August 1982 to May 1984, Capt. Munsinger commanded USS SAN JOSE (AFS-7). He served as Chief of Staff for Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group One from July 1984 until October 1985.

On Dec. 13, 1985, Capt. Munsinger relieved Capt. John F. Calhoun as Commanding Officer of USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64), making him the 20th skipper of "America's Flagship."

Capt. Munsinger has been awarded the Silver Star, six Distinguished Flying Crosses, the Meritorious Service Medal, seven Air Medals, and the Navy Achievement Medal. He is authorized to wear the Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Commendation and several Vietnam decorations. He is one of the few aviators who has flown in excess of 500 combat missions and made more than 1,000 carrier arrested landings. He was the first pilot to have flown over 3,000 hours in the A7 Corsair Two aircraft.

Capt. Munsinger is married to the former Mary Elizabeth Hines of San Francisco, Calif. They have two daughters, Carrie and Kimberly.

USS CONSTELLATION's history reflects a quarter century of service for the U.S.

On Oct. 27, 1961, **USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)** was placed in commission in the United States Navy. At 25, **CONNIE**, as her crew refers to her, is five years older than the average age of her crew. She was named for one of the six frigates built by the Continental Congress in the late 1790's. The first of those frigates which made American naval history was named for the ring of 13 stars in a field of blue that formed a "new constellation" on the flag of the new United States.

The new ship was little like its namesake. Nearly four years prior to the commissioning, her keel was laid in the New York Naval Shipyard. **CONSTELLATION** is the second ship in the "modified Forrestal" class of aircraft carriers and the largest conventionally powered warship in the world.

Her career in the United States Navy has been a long and illustrious one.

In July 1962, **CONSTELLATION** departed from New York destined to sail around "The Horn" to her new homeport of San Diego. Seven months later she sailed west again, this time for her first deployment to the Western Pacific.

CONSTELLATION was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for actions off the coast of North Vietnam in November 1964. In 1968 President Lyndon B. Johnson paid the ship a visit prior to her fourth deployment to the Western Pacific.

In November 1968, **CONNIE** pilots flew the last strike missions into North Vietnam prior to the declaration of the bombing halt. In 1971, **CONSTELLATION** sailed from San Diego to begin her sixth combat deployment to Vietnam. Seven months later, **CONNIE**'s LT. Randy Cunningham and LTj.g. Willie Driscoll became America's first fighter aces of the war.

In 1973, **CONSTELLATION** received a Presidential Unit Citation from President Richard Nixon. In 1975, **CONNIE** underwent a complex overhaul, enabling her to carry the F-14 "Tomcat."

In 1978, **CONNIE** sailed west again, beginning her 11th deployment. **CONSTELLATION** was extended on station in the Persian Gulf because of the crisis in the Middle East. Her service earned her the Navy and Marine Corps Expeditionary Medals. While on her 12th deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans, **CONSTELLATION** set a new endurance record by remaining on station for 110 consecutive days.

In summer 1981, **CONNIE** played host to President Ronald Reagan. President Reagan presented the Presidential Flag to the ship and pro-claimed **CONSTELLATION** as "America's Flagship." **Connie** began her 13th deployment in 1981, returning to San Diego in May 1982.

In December of 1982, **CONSTELLATION** sailed to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wa. to begin a 14 month complex overhaul. During the overhaul, "America's Flagship" was modified to carry the new F/A-18 "Hornet."

The first carrier to deploy with the Hornet, **CONSTELLATION** set sail on her 14th deployment in February 1985. After a cruise that included visits to Singapore, Kenya and Western Australia, **Connie** returned to San Diego in August. For her crew's performance during this cruise, **CONSTELLATION** was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Like all American warships, **Connie** is American soil, representing the United States in any corner of the globe at a moment's notice. The power that she and her carrier battle group can project will keep **CONSTELLATION** a major element in the front line of America's defense well into the 21st century. Answering her country's call on the oceans of the world, **CONSTELLATION** truly lives up to her nickname, "America's Flagship... Spirit of the Old, Pride of the New."

USS CONSTELLATION (CV-64)

Original cost of CONSTELLATION
\$400 million

Dimensions of CONSTELLATION
270 feet wide and 1079 feet long

Flight deck area
4.1 acres

Height (in stories)
17 stories

Average draft
35 feet

Displacement
85,000 tons

Top speed
in excess of 30 knots

Engine specifications
Eight 1200 psi steam boilers
Four turbine engines
70,000 horsepower in each of four
propeller shafts; enough to turn her
21-foot manganese-bronze screws at
170 rpm

Turning circle
less than one mile

CONSTELLATION's population
5000 men, with the air wing aboard

Services for the crew
A complete hospital and dental
office, a bank, a tailor, a gas and
electric company, a water company,
five restaurants, a police
and fire department, three television
stations, a newspaper, seven stores,
and two barbershops

Number of meals served each day
over 20,000 each day, using 1,000
loaves of bread, 10,000 pounds of
vegetables, 5,000 pounds of meat,
and 3,000 pounds of potatoes

Number of catapults
four, each with the power to
accelerate a 30-ton aircraft from
zero to 160 miles an hour in just two
and a half seconds



AIR WING DATA

85 aircraft in nine squadrons of
Carrier Air Wing 14

Squadrons and aircraft
Fighter Attack Squadrons 25 and 113:
F/A-18 "Hornet"

Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron
EIGHT:
SH-3 "Seaking" helicopter

Attack Squadron 196:
A-6 "Intruders"

Airborne Early Warning Squadron
113:
E-2C "Hawkeyes"

Fighter Squadrons 21 and 154:
F-14 "Tomcat"

Electronic Countermeasures
Squadron 139:
Grumman EA-6B Prowler