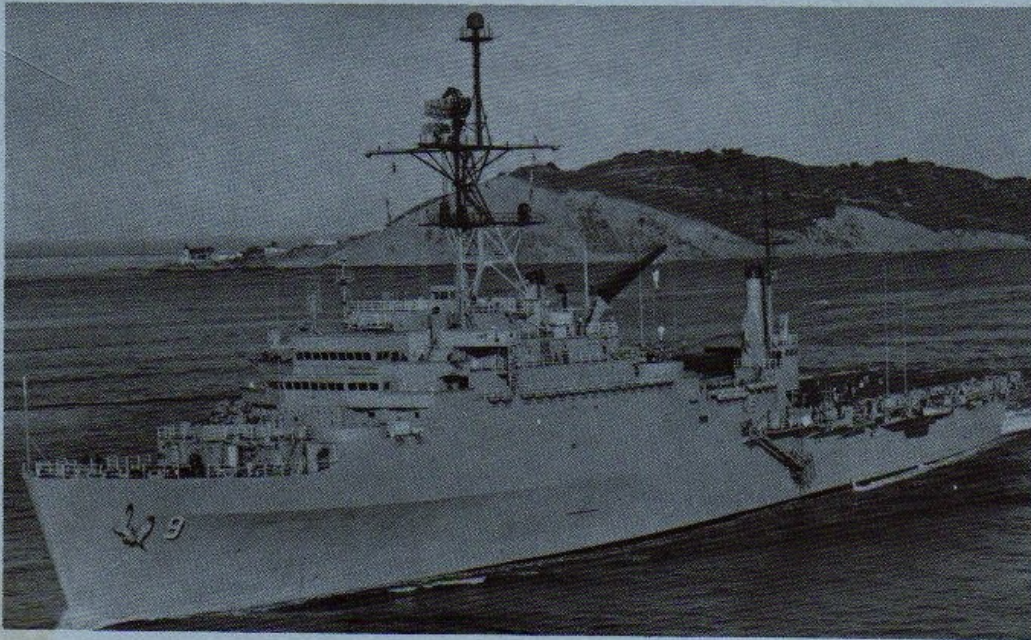
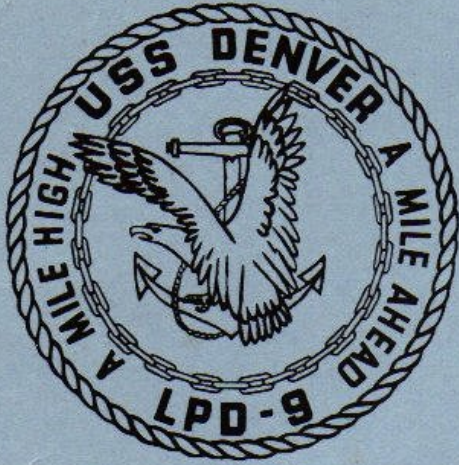


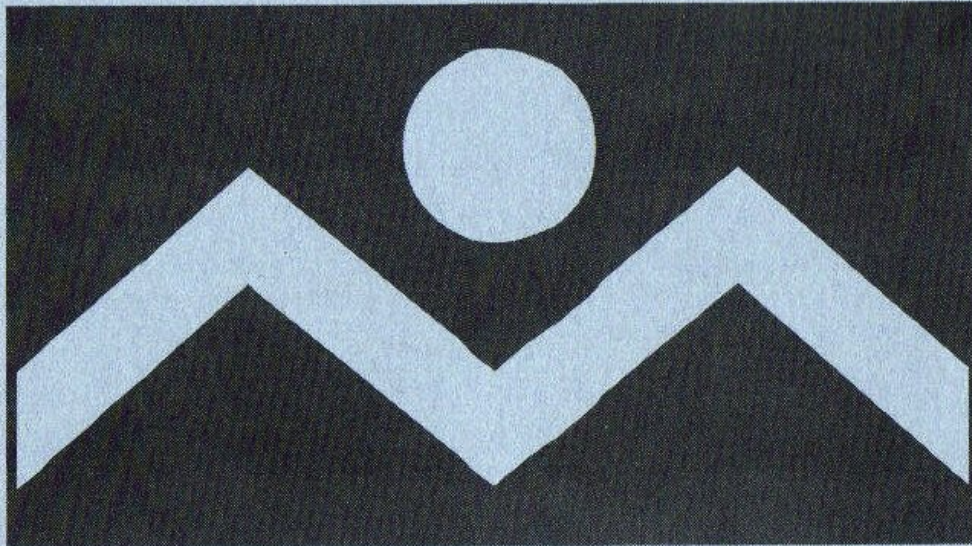
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# UNITED STATES SHIP DENVER (LPD-9)



*Welcome Aboard*





### *City Flag of Denver, Colorado*

The names of Amphibious Transport Docks are drawn from cities and named for early explorers of the United States. Denver, Colorado is named after James William Denver.

James Denver, born in 1817, taught school in Missouri and Kentucky and practiced law in Ohio. During the war with Mexico in 1847, he recruited a company for the 12th U.S. Volunteer Infantry and was commissioned a Captain. In 1850 he traveled to California to engage in trading. However, he was elected State Senator in 1852. A year later he was appointed California Secretary of State. While holding that office he was elected to the 34th Congress, and was subsequently appointed Chairman of the Special Committee on Pacific Railroads. At the close of his term in 1857, he was appointed Commissioner of Indian Affairs by President Buchanan. In the Autumn of 1857 he became Secretary of the Territory of Kansas, became Governor a year later and retired in 1859. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was commissioned Brigadier-General of volunteers by President Lincoln. After the war he opened a law office in Washington, D.C. In 1876 and 1884 his name was mentioned in connection with the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. He died in Washington, D.C. on 9 August 1892.



DENVER is officially rated as an Amphibious Transport Dock (LPD). This is a new "all purpose" amphibious class which employs the "balance load" concept. The LPD class is capable of carrying troops, cargo, assault craft and tanks. In addition they operate troop and cargo-carrying helicopters to project assault forces inland in support of the beachhead from the helicopter landing platform, CH-46, CH-53, COBRAS, and VSTOL.

The DENVER was built at Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction Company, Seattle, Washington and commissioned 26 October 1968. The keel for the DENVER was laid in February 1964 and she was launched on 23 January 1965.

The crew consists of approximately 420 enlisted and 25 officers. Over 750,000 repair parts are stored on board to permit all levels of maintenance while underway. The diesel and steam generators can produce sufficient electricity to light all the homes in a city the size of Tacoma. The evaporators have the capacity to distill over 30,000 gallons of water per day. DENVER has an official U.S. Post Office where the crew can purchase stamps and money orders, and mail letters and packages anywhere in the world. A large air conditioning plant cools all electronics spaces as well as all living, berthing, and dining areas. The overall length of DENVER is nearly twice that of a football field. DENVER's storerooms and refrigerators can hold enough food to feed her crew for 3 months without replenishing. She has a fully automatic laundry which provides daily service, three barber shops, and a general store which sells more than \$15,000 worth of clothing, candy, and merchandise per month.

The crew's galley is capable of serving over 3600 meals per day. A general purpose library is stocked with over a thousand books. There are several technical libraries containing over ten thousand technical books and trade journals. The pharmacy is supplied with the latest medicines and antibiotics and staffed by a doctor and six experienced hospital corpsmen. Facilities for all types of surgery are available.

### *Ship's Statistics*

Overall Length .....	570 feet
Breadth Molded .....	84 feet
Displacement .....	16,550 tons
Complement .....	900 troops
Speed .....	Over 20 knots
Armament .....	two 3" .50 cal. twin mounts
Propulsion .....	twin screw, steam turbine 24,000 shaft-horsepower





### **CAPTAIN ROBERT W. PEACHER**

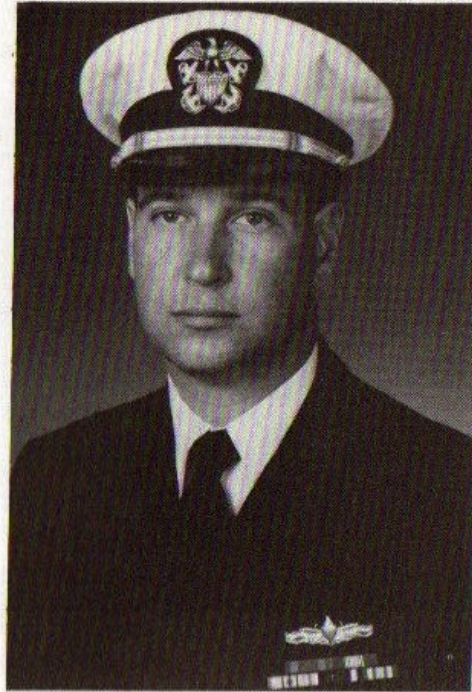
Captain Robert W. Peacher graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned an Ensign in June 1957. He was designated a Naval Aviator in December 1958.

After commissioning and receiving his aviation designation, Captain Peacher reported to Attack Squadron 52 at Naval Air Station, Miramar, CA in January 1959 and made three Western Pacific deployments on the USS TICONDEROGA (CVS-14) and one South American deployment on the USS LEXINGTON (CVS-16). He was then ordered to Commander Naval Air Forces, Korea, as Aide and Flag Lieutenant. In March, 1964 Captain Peacher was ordered to the Naval Post Graduate School at Monterey, CA where he underwent instruction in Communication Engineering. Following this instructional period Captain Peacher reported to the Defense Communications Agency in Washington, D.C., where he served as Chief of the Allocations and Engineering Branch. In November, 1967 Captain Peacher was ordered to Attack Squadron 144 where he served as Operations and Maintenance Officer and made two Western Pacific deployments on the USS BON HOMME RICHARD (CVA-31). In July, 1971 Captain Peacher reported to the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base graduating as a Distinguished Graduate. Following this tour Captain Peacher was ordered to Attack Squadron 212 as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer and made a Western Pacific cruise aboard the USS HANCOCK (CVS-19). In May, 1973 he was ordered to the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C. and also graduated as a Distinguished Graduate. Subsequently, he was ordered to OPNAV where he was assigned to OP-06 as the Command and Control Policy Officer and later as the Chief of the National Policy and Command Relations Branch (OP 602). Captain Peacher was then ordered in June, 1976 to the USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64) as Operations Officer. In August, 1977 he assumed the duties as Executive Officer of the USS CONSTELLATION (CVA-64). In October, 1978 he reported to OPNAV where he was assigned as the Head of the CV Acquisition Branch (OP 552). In March, 1979 Captain Peacher was assigned as the Executive Assistant to DCNO Air Warfare (OP 05). On March 17th, 1981 Captain Peacher assumed command of the USS DENVER (LPD-9).

Captain Peacher's decorations include the Silver Star with one Gold Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Silver Stars and two Gold Stars, the Bronze Star with Combat "V", the Meritorious Service Medal with one Silver Star, the Air Medal with one Silver Star and four Gold Stars, forty-one Strike Flight awards, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, and the Navy Commendation Medal with four Gold Stars.

Captain Peacher is married to the former Carolyn Lee Boles of Midland, Texas. They have two sons; Alexander and Brent.





### **LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ROBERT C. GIFFEN**

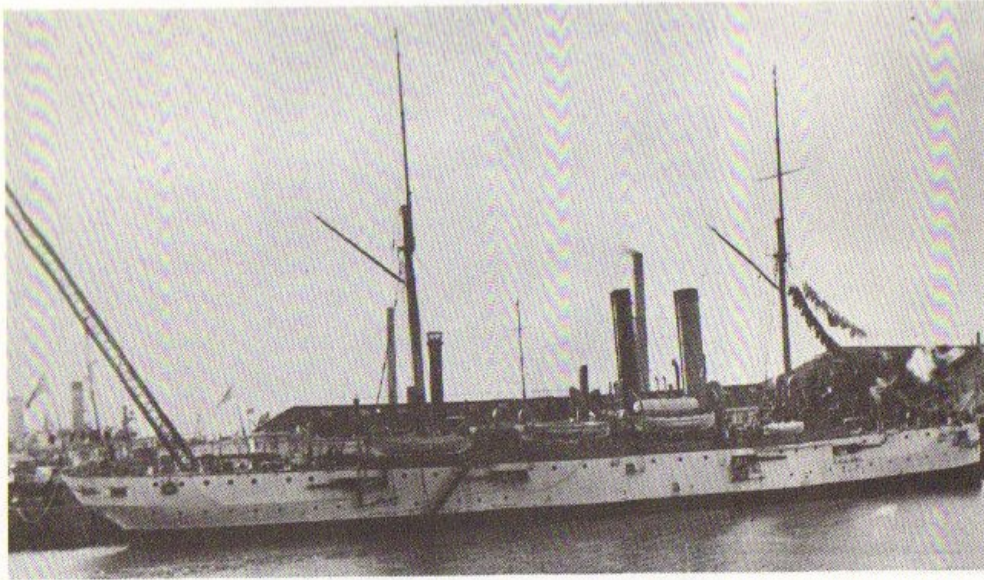
Lieutenant Commander Robert C. Giffen attended the University of Virginia where, as a Regular NROTC Student, he was commissioned in June 1970.

His first tour of duty was aboard USS PLUCK (MSO-464) where he served as both Supply Officer and First Lieutenant. Following that tour he attended Tartar Missile School and was assigned to USS CONYNGHAM (DDG-17) as Gunnery Assistant in March 1972. Leaving CONYNGHAM in February 1974, Lieutenant Commander Giffen reported to USS RICHMOND K. TURNER (CG-20) as Navigator and Personnel Officer, where he served until his assignment to the Surface Warfare Officer's School Department Head Course in January 1976. Eight months later, Lieutenant Commander Giffen reported to USS JESSE L. BROWN (FF-1089) as Operations Officer and operated for six months in the Mediterranean as a member of the NATO On-Call-Forces in that area. In May 1978, he was assigned to USS SURIBACHI (AE-21) as Engineer Officer. In February 1980 after 10 years at sea and extended deployments, he was assigned to the Naval Military Personnel Command in Washington, D.C. Lieutenant Commander Giffen assumed his present duties as Executive Officer of USS DENVER (LPD-9) in June 1982.

Lieutenant Commander Giffen's awards include the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy Achievement Medal, in addition to various campaign awards.

Lieutenant Commander Giffen is married to Ann Lallande of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.





The first DENVER, Cruiser No. 14, was commissioned 17 May 1904, Commander J. B. Murdock, USN, commanding. She was reclassified a gunboat (PG-28) in 1920 and then a Light Cruiser (CL-16), effective 8 August 1921.

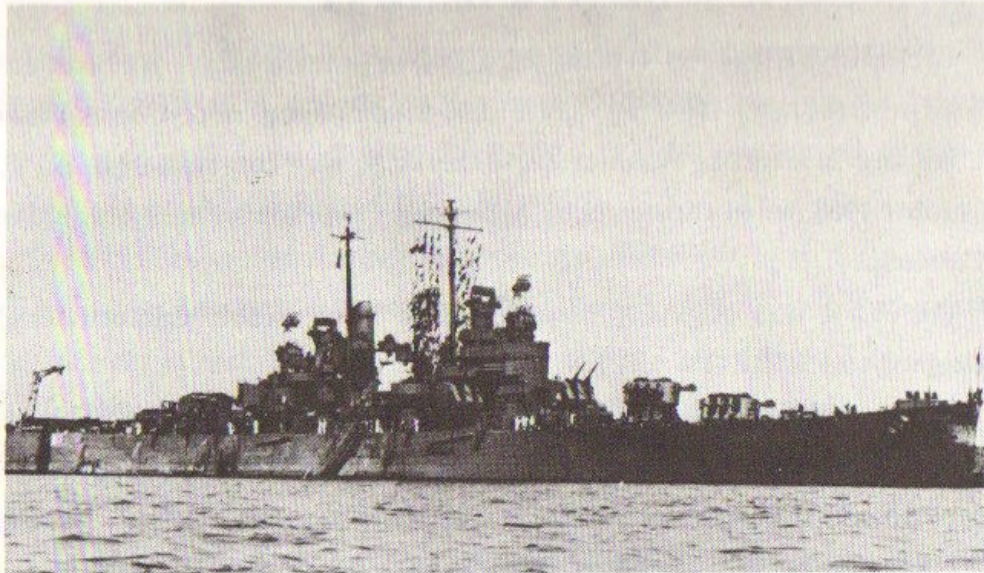
Between 15 July 1904 and September 1906, DENVER was involved in several operations, including cruises in the Caribbean and Haiti. DENVER also cruised the Atlantic coasts, helping to protect American interests from political disturbances in the West Indies.

1906 also saw DENVER's participation in the interment of John Paul Jones at the Naval Academy, and the September Fleet Review by President Theodore Roosevelt.

The cruiser participated in several operations before switching coasts in 1912, patrolling the Pacific coast from San Francisco to the Canal Zone, again protecting American interests. Five years later, DENVER returned to duty on the east coast, out of her old Philadelphia homeport.

DENVER participated in many more local and coastal operations, her last ceremonial function being participation in the commemoration of the sinking of the MAINE, from 14 to 19 February 1929. She returned to Philadelphia afterward where she was decommissioned 14 February 1931 and sold on 13 September 1933.





The second DENVER (CL-58) was built between 1940 and 1942, commissioned 15 October 1942, Captain R. B. Carney, USN, commanding.

DENVER proved very efficient early, sailing from Philadelphia on 23 January 1943, arriving in the New Hebrides 14 February. The new cruiser first saw action in the bombardment of Vila, Solomon Islands on 6 March. During this same action, DENVER's force sank two Japanese destroyers and participated in the invasion landing of New Georgia.

The same year, DENVER sortied from Port Purvis with M-39 to intercept an enemy force attempting to disrupt the landing at Cape Terekina, Bougainville, a move which proved successful.

During those operations, DENVER received the Navy Unit Commendation award.

DENVER participated in several other operations throughout the remainder of 1943 and throughout most of 1944. She returned to the Philippines in 1945, providing support for various operations.

DENVER received eleven battle stars during the war. They included awards for efforts in the Solomon Islands, New Georgia, Feasbury, Bougainville, Marianas, Western Carolina Islands, Leyte, Luzon, Manila Bay, Borneo Operations, The Consolidation of the Southern Philippines and the Third Fleet Operations against Japan. DENVER was placed out of commission 7 February 1947 and sold 29 February 1960.



## DENVER HISTORY

USS DENVER (LPD-9) is the third ship to bear the name. Her keel was laid in February 1964 by Lockheed Shipbuilding and Construction Company in Seattle, Washington. DENVER was commissioned on 26 October 1968, being christened by Mrs. John Love, wife of the Governor of Colorado.

DENVER was originally homeported in Long Beach, California and assigned to PHIBRON SEVEN.

In January 1970, one year after her arrival in Long Beach, DENVER made her first deployment to the Western Pacific. After her initial nine month deployment, she made several short overseas deployments in early 1971 in support of redeployment of forces in Southeast Asia.

In July 1971 DENVER was administratively reassigned to PHIBRON FIVE and changed homeport to San Diego. Three months later DENVER commenced a ten month deployment during which she was distinguished by her rescue of five downed pilots and one merchant seaman in four separate events while supporting numerous combat operations in Vietnam. DENVER was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for her accomplishments during this deployment.

Upon returning to the United States, DENVER commenced her first overhaul in Long Beach. She returned to WESTPAC in August 1973 for her fifth deployment, returning home seven months later. The next 12 months were spent close to home conducting extensive training both for standard shipboard evolutions and for large numbers of embarking midshipmen.

April 1975 found DENVER enroute to the Western Pacific for what proved to be her busiest deployment ever. DENVER assumed a key role in the emergency evacuation of Vietnam, receiving over 7500 refugees transported by helicopters and surface craft of all types of subsequent eastward transportation. DENVER herself carried over 500 refugees in addition to an overflowing complement of evacuated Marines to the Philippines.



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In Mid-1976 DENVER began her second overhaul, again in Long Beach. In early 1977 after completing overhaul DENVER participated in the operational evaluation of USS TARAWA (LHA-1) and a midshipman training cruise to Alaska and Canada.

DENVER began her seventh deployment in mid-September, participating in several multi-national exercises. She followed that up with her eighth deployment in early 1978.

Since her return in September 1979, DENVER has remained very active. In early December, she participated in the filming of the major motion picture "Raise The Titanic".

The new year brought training exercises for the Battle Efficiency Awards (the Engineering Departmental Excellence Award, the Air Departmental Excellence Award, Operations Departmental Excellence Award, and the Assault Boat Operations Award were accorded the respective departments for their achievements during the 18 month competitive cycle commencing 1 January 1979). The DENVER transitted from San Diego to Mazatlan, Mexico in company with the USS OGDEN (LPD-5) returning to San Diego the first of March 1980.

On 7 March 1980, DENVER began her third overhaul in her homeport of San Diego. Upon completion of the overhaul on 7 November 1980 DENVER conducted successful sea trials and two very successful underway training periods, to Seattle and San Francisco. The remainder of 1980 was utilized conducting shipboard training exercises in preparation for deployment.

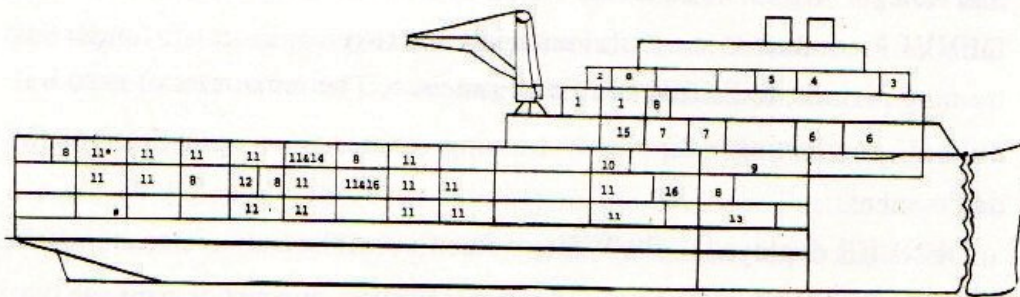
DENVER deployed to the Western Pacific and the Indian Ocean in June of 1981. DENVER visited many foreign countries during her cruise as part of her deployment. DENVER also participated in many amphibious exercises with an embarked Marine Assault Unit, which was concluded with a joint exercise with Australian and New Zealand forces in Kangaroo '81. DENVER returned from her 1981 deployment in December of 1981.



## Former Commanding Officers of the USS DENVER (LPD-9)

<p>CAPT HERBERT W. CARR 26 OCT 1968 UNTIL 25 FEB 1970</p> <p>CAPT ROBERT E. BODAMER 09 JUNE 1970 UNTIL 24 MAY 1973</p> <p>CAPT HARRY T. JENKINS 16 JAN 1974 UNTIL 11 SEP 1975</p> <p>CAPT ROBERT E. KLEE 18 FEB 1977 UNTIL 01 DEC 1978</p>	<p>CAPT JOHN L. KAUTH 25 FEB 1970 UNTIL 09 JUNE 1970</p> <p>CAPT LOWELL F. EGGERT 24 MAY 1973 UNTIL 26 JAN 1974</p> <p>CAPT DONALD S. JONES 11 SEP 1975 UNTIL 18 FEB 1977</p> <p>CAPT VINCENT E. COOKE 01 DEC 1978 UNTIL 17 MARCH 1981</p>
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### *Inboard Profile*



#### LEGEND

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Troop Officer Billeting       | 9. Laundry                              |
| 2. Officer/GySgt barber shop     | 10. Troop Administrative Office         |
| 3. Meteorological Equipment Room | 11. Troop Billeting Office              |
| 4. Flag Operations Office        | 12. Troop Barber Shop                   |
| 5. Flag Administrative Office    | 13. Armory                              |
| 6. CPO Quarters                  | 14. Battle Dressing Station (Med Evacs) |
| 7. Ship's Store                  | 15. First Class Mess                    |
| 8. Head                          | 16. Starboard Debark Doors              |
|                                  | * Helicopter Debark Station             |



*Ports and Cities Visited by the*  
**USS DENVER (LPD-9)**

**UNITED STATES**

Seattle, Washington  
San Francisco, California  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii

**CANADA**

Vancouver, British Columbia

**MEXICO**

Mazatlan, Mexico  
Acapulco, Mexico

**JAPAN**

Okinawa, Japan  
Ora Wan Bay, Okinawa, Japan  
Iwakuni, Japan  
Buckner Bay, Okinawa, Japan  
Sasebo, Japan  
Yokosuka, Japan  
Naha, Okinawa, Japan  
Numazu, Japan  
Okina Diato Shuma, Japanese Island

**TAIWAN**

Keelung, Taiwan

**REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES**

Subic Bay, Republic of Philippines  
San Fernando, Republic of Philippines  
Manila, Republic of Philippines

**AUSTRALIA**

Sydney, Australia  
Perth, Australia

**SRI LANKA**

Columbo

**KOREA**

Pusan, Korea  
Pohung, Korea  
Inchon, Korea

**UNITED KINGDOM**

Diego Garcia, United Kingdom  
Hong Kong, United Kingdom

**KENYA**

Mombasa, Kenya

**SINGAPORE**

Singapore

**THAILAND**

Bangkok  
Sattahip

**REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

Da Nang  
Vung Tau



