

***Little Rock (LCS-09) 1 January 2021***

2200-0200 (CONT)

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The page now has turned, one more trip round the sun  
Twenty-Twenty now over, all hope for better times to come.  
It had started out marvelous, we stood on the pier  
LITTLE ROCK's maiden deployment, "Bon Voyage!" we all cheered.  
From a far distant land, across the ocean it came  
A new virus spread quickly before most knew its name.  
Worldwide borders shutdown, all travel suspended  
Normal routines broke down, the world was upended.  
Working from home, we read NAVADMINS a plenty  
Social distancing and masks, a "new norm" in two thousand twenty  
As we sat idle, thinking this could not get worse.  
Poor LITTLE ROCK was stricken with the freedom class curse  
Broke down in Fourth Fleet, she limped home to port  
The off-crew rallied on her, and lent their support.  
Drydocked in Jacksonville, Bae Shipyard now home  
Up high we sit on the 4Krail's landlocked throne.  
For months now cold iron, the plant status remains  
Leaving an eerie silence in the engineering domains.  
Fire Main and Power One receive from the pier  
Without water and sewage, onboard it's austere.  
The CO, the XO, the SEC have no fear or dread  
While LT [REDACTED] as CDO serves in their stead.  
The shipyard stands still on this dark cloudy night  
As the waning moon peeks with 95% of its light  
From high on our perch 2021 ring through  
Fireworks surround us with our panoramic view  
With great anticipation we bid 2020 adieu  
You've tested us deeply, but this we'll get through.  
As watch soon will end, I must finish here  
I wish each and everyone a peaceful and prosperous New Year