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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69)
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From: Commanding Officer, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-05D2)

Subj: SUBMISSION OF COMMAND HISTORY (OPNAV Report 5750-1)

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Encl: (1) Command History for USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) for calendar
year 1987 1988
(2) End of deployment statistics by department for Mediterranean Cruise 1-88

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.


J.J. DANTONE

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CINCLANTFLT
COMNAVAIRLANT
Director of Naval History

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USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) COMMAND HISTORY - CALENDAR YEAR 1988

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USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

I. Mission of USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)

The mission of USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) is to provide sea-based tactical air power for the defense of America's right to freedom of the sea as well as the protection of United States sovereignty. As part of this mission, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) is capable of projecting tactical air power both over the sea and land, as well as providing tactical air defense and antisubmarine warfare capabilities.

II. Background

Named after the 34th President of the United States, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) is the third nuclear-powered aircraft carrier ever built. Originally named EISENHOWER on February 21, 1970, the ship was renamed DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER on May 25, 1970.

The keel of the ship (hull 599 as designated by Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company) was laid on August 15, 1970, and was authenticated by the late President's grandson, D. David Eisenhower II. Five years later, on October 11, 1975, Mrs. Mamie Doud Eisenhower, widow of the former President and ship's sponsor, christened the ship during launching ceremonies at the Newport News Shipyard.

On October 18, 1977, USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) was placed in commission at Pier 12, Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

III. Organizational Structure

- a. Immediate Senior Command is Commander, Naval Air Forces, Atlantic.
- b. The Air Wing assigned is Carrier Air Wing SEVEN (CVW-7).
- c. The commanding officer is Captain J. J. Dantone, USN, whose biography is attached.
- d. The executive officer is Commander D. C. Roper, USN, whose biography is attached.
- e. USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER's homeport is Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia.

USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS - CALENDAR YEAR 1988

1 - 10 Jan	Upkeep, Pier 12, Naval Station, Norfolk, Va.
11 - 25 Jan	Fleetex 1-88 (Puerto Rico Operating Area)
26 Jan - 28 Feb	Upkeep (POM), Pier 11, Naval Station, Norfolk, Va.
29 Feb - 2 Mar	CVW-7 Carrier Qualifications (Virginia Capes)
3 - 11 Mar	Underway, Transit Atlantic to Mediterranean 1-88
12 Mar	Inchop, Mediterranean Sea
13 - 14 Mar	Carrier Battlegroup Ops, Central Mediterranean
15 Mar	At anchor, Cagliari, Sardinia
16 - 17 Mar	Underway, Enroute Palma de Mallorca, Spain
18 - 24 Mar	At anchor, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
25 - 28 Mar	Western Med Operations
29 Mar - 4 Apr	At anchor, Toulon, France
5 - 10 Apr	Western Med Operations
11 - 17 Apr	At anchor, Marseilles, France
18 - 20 Apr	Western/Central Med Operations
21 Apr	Training Anchorage, Augusta Bay, Sicily
22 - 25 Apr	Western/Central Med Operations
26 - 30 Apr	At anchor, Cannes, France
1 - 5 May	Exercise Dragon Hammer 1-88, Phase I
6 - 8 May	Exercise Dragon Hammer 1-88, Phase II
9 - 14 May	Exercise Dragon Hammer 1-88, Phase III
15 May	Underway, Enroute Augusta Bay, Sicily
16 - 18 May	At anchor, Augusta Bay, Sicily
19 - 22 May	Western/Central/Eastern Med Operations
23 - 26 May	At anchor, Antalya, Turkey
27 - 29 May	Eastern/Central Med Operations
30 May - 3 June	Exercise Poopdeck
4 - 6 June	Central/Eastern Med Operations
7 - 8 June	Tunisian Phiblex
9 - 19 June	At anchor, Palma de Mallorca, Spain
20 - 24 June	Exercise Optimize 1-88

25 - 26 June	Underway, Enroute Naples, Italy
27 June - 5 July	At anchor, Naples, Italy
6 - 9 July	Eastern Med Operations
10 July	At anchor, Haifa, Israel
11 - 14 July	Exercise Juniper Falconry
15 - 16 July	At anchor, Haifa, Israel
17 - 25 July	Eastern/Central Med Operations
26 July - 1 Aug	At anchor, Livorno, Italy
2 - 7 Aug	Western Med Operations
8 - 14 Aug	At anchor, Cannes, France
15 - 18 Aug	Western Med Operations
19 Aug	Outchop Mediterranean Sea
20 - 26 Aug	Transit Atlantic Enroute Bermuda
27 Aug	At anchor, Bermuda
28 Aug	Underway, Enroute Norfolk, Va.
29 Aug - 26 Sep	Standdown, Pier 12, Naval Station, Norfolk, Va.
27 - 29 Sep	"Whiskey" anchorage, Norfolk, Va.
30 Sep - 1 Oct	ISE, Virginia Capes
2 Oct	"X-ray" anchorage, Norfolk, Va.
3 Oct - 31 Dec	Upkeep (SRA), Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Va.

USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69)

NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS - CALENDAR YEAR 1988

USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) began 1988 pierside at the Norfolk Naval Station. Many of her crew and officers were on leave enjoying the Christmas/New Year holidays, those on board preparing for the carrier's upcoming participation in Fleetex 1-88.

During the week January 4-8, Commander Cruiser-Destroyer Group Twelve, Rear Admiral Roland Guilbault and his staff moved aboard for the fleet exercise and upcoming Mediterranean cruise.

On January 6, the Religious Ministries Planning Conference for both the fleet exercise and Mediterranean deployment was conducted aboard IKE.

IKE was underway January 11 for a three-day carrier qualification period off the Virginia coast before heading south toward a rendezvous with the FORRESTAL battlegroup and the Puerto Rico operating area for war-at-sea exercises and FLEETEX 1-88.

Dr. Malcolm Muir, Jr., the first occupant of the Secretary of the Navy's Research Chair in Naval History, embarked January 14-15 as part of an all around tour of the surface units participating in the fleet exercise. Dr. Muir's research during his stay centered on the surface warfare community, in particular on surface warfare missile utilization.

On January 15, a commemorative service in remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was held on IKE's forecastle. About 125 crewmen attended to hear guest speaker MSC(AW) Conley White.

The Commander-in-Chief Atlantic Fleet, Admiral Frank B. Kelso II, visited IKE January 19 and addressed the crew via the ship's closed circuit television.

Prior to Admiral Kelso's visit, a helicopter from the embarked HS-5 squadron experienced a loss of transmission/oil pressure during routine flight operations. The pilot and crew set the helicopter down in the water. Fluid pressure was temporarily restored, while flight deck crews cleared the carrier's deck, enabling the pilot to land the helicopter safely on deck.

Two days later, January 21, IKE was visited by the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy (Policy), Mr. Dennis Shaw. Accompanied by his executive assistant, Mr. Shaw toured various ship's spaces, observed a late morning/early afternoon aircraft launch and recovery and held discussions with CCDG-12.

Five Spanish army observers embarked January 21 for an overnight visit and to observe Harpoon missile exercise firings in conjunction with FLEETEX 1-88.

After completing her involvement with the fleet exercise, IKE returned to pier 12 at the Norfolk Naval Station late afternoon January 26.

On January 28, IKE moved to pier 11 at the naval station. The move initiated IKE's month-long Pre-Overseas Movement (POM) period before her departure on

Mediterranean cruise 1-88. During POM, many crewmen went on leave to be with family and friends prior to IKE's six-month deployment.

Other crew members remained aboard to make final preparations for the long at-sea period, such as Reactor department personnel who performed major maintenance on reactor valves during the February POM period.

Four pre-deployment presentations for IKE's crewmen and their families were coordinated by Religious Ministries department, February 4, 9 and 16. Three dependent sessions were conducted at the Norfolk Naval Air Station theatre and a separate 'single sailor' lecture was held on IKE's forecastle.

On February 3, IKE's 'Express' basketball team lost a heartbreaker in overtime to USS SHENANDOAH, 78-74, but rebounded with a squeaker over USS SARATOGA, 52-50, at the Norfolk Scope February 4.

IKE's annual 'Gala' was held at the Virginia Beach Pavilion February 16, providing more than 2,500 crewmen and guests door prizes, dining and dancing.

On February 19, S-7 division personnel designed and installed a DPS-6 stand alone mini-processor to enhance IKE's automated data processing operations and online capabilities.

Just prior to the ship's departure for the Mediterranean, Captain James Brough relinquished his duties as IKE's Senior Medical Officer to Commander [REDACTED]

On February 29, IKE deployed for the Mediterranean fully loaded with stores and supplies stored below decks, 110 percent complement loaded in the conventional magazines and 100 percent range and 95 percent depth on aviation rotatable pool components.

IKE's deployment also marked a milestone for her Combat Information Center. The departure was the first ever for a carrier with the newly installed advanced combat direction system (ACDS) with improved operator consoles, automated displays and computer software.

March opened with a visit by some enlisted detailers from the Naval Military Personnel Command to discuss the NAVOP released regarding involuntary separation prior to EAOS.

The following day, March 2, Religious Ministries conducted burial at sea ceremonies for ADC Lawrence Archer, USN (ret.).

On March 3, IKE successfully completed the first underway replenishment of the deployment, delivering 154,000 gallons of fuel to USS STUMP (DD-987).

An advance party checklist was implemented March 5 to secure host nation cooperation on security matters during IKE's upcoming port visits in the Mediterranean.

Two days later on March 7, IKE completed the first major fuel onload, receiving more than one million gallons of JP-5 from USS CALOOSAHATCHEE (AO-98).

IKE entered the Mediterranean (in chop) March 12 with a new executive officer as Commander Kenneth Pyle received transfer orders and Commander Dan Roper assumed IKE's executive position.

Senor Manuel Garcia Fdez Palacios, a prominent Rota, Spain, businessman and personal guest of Vice Admiral Moranville, COMSIXTHFLT, embarked on IKE that same day for a two-day visit to tour the ship and to observe flight operations.

During IKE's transit through the Strait of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean March 12, Weapons Department set condition 'full bore'. IKE's security policy requires that her 50 calibre machine gun mounts be manned for all transits of restricted waters to counteract any possible threat from small craft in the area.

IKE's first conrep of the cruise was completed later that same day when the carrier received more than 500 pallets of supplies from USS SYLVANIA (AFS-2).

On March 13, more than 180 SeaOpDet personnel from various shore AIMDs were fully integrated into IKE's AIMD to provide intermediate level maintenance to support Air Wing Seven.

During the month of March, IKE's Medical Department was awarded the AIRLANT Blue 'M' recognizing the medical team as the best of the Atlantic Fleet carriers.

March 15 marked the first anchor drop of the deployment as IKE stopped at Cagliari, Sardinia, for the Mediterranean turnover with USS CORAL SEA (CV-43).

Two television crews from Belgium embarked aboard IKE March 16 for a carrier tour, video opportunities of flight operations and interviews with key officers, focusing their coverage of battlegroup operations on NATO's defensive options of Europe's southern flank.

Five Greek opinion leaders (three journalists and two organization leaders) embarked the following day, March 17, to acquire a better understanding of alliance defense doctrine and strategy through hands-on experience and direct observation aboard the carrier.

IKE's Medical team conducted an emergency medevac March 18 when an IKE sailor suffered a penetrating shrapnel injury to his eye. Using assets from the air wing, specifically an airborne E-2 for communications and a helicopter from HS-5 for transfer, arrangements were made with the appropriate shore facilities. Permanent loss of eyesight was avoided due to quick and efficient transfer of the patient.

IKE dropped anchor at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, later that morning for the crew's first port visit of the deployment and a week of rest and relaxation. IKE hosted approximately 370 guests of Senor Tume Bestard of the American Consulate in Palma, as well as 70 members of the Retired Spanish Officers Association, 25 members of the British/ American Club and 60 Spanish naval officers, government officials and national police for a carrier tour. Forty members of the Petra Dance Group were treated to a tour and the dancers returned the favor by performing in the carrier's hangar bay to the delight of IKE's crew.

Weapons Duty Officers and members of IKE's Marine Detachment conducted terrorist training scenarios with qualified command duty officers and assistant command duty officers March 20 during the Palma port visit. Four different terrorist-related situations were rehearsed to familiarize these key personnel with possible threats and defensive options.

Palma was the site of IKE's first USO show as the six band members of 'The Kicks' entertained the crew the evening of March 24 in the ship's hangar bay. The group stayed aboard for the night, toured the carrier March 25, remained overnight again and departed March 26.

During IKE's visit to Palma, Third Division personnel completed more than 485 liberty boat runs, carrying more than 9,800 passengers to and from the ship without mishap. As IKE departed Palma, several local community leaders, Navy leaguers and USO officials embarked for an afternoon to observe underway flight operations.

King Kruger, European *Stars and Stripes* Naples bureau chief, embarked March 27 for two days to produce various feature stories on the duties of a carrier in the Mediterranean. Kruger also familiarized key IKE officers with *Stars and Stripes's* operations and the ship's needs/desires from that publication.

On March 28, Lieutenant Commander [REDACTED], assistant SIXTHFLT chaplain, embarked aboard IKE for a two-week period to provide worship services for IKE's Jewish personnel.

IKE dropped anchor at Toulon, France, March 29 for a six-day port visit which was highlighted March 31 with an Evening Review on the carrier's flight deck and reception in the Hangar Bay. Approximately 350 foreign dignitaries and guests and 200 IKE officers attended.

During the month of April, IKE welcomed a new Senior Medical Officer aboard, Commander [REDACTED] as Commander [REDACTED] transferred to USS CORAL SEA.

Three Italian military officials embarked on IKE April 8-9 for a carrier tour and orientation briefings. The three officers, important liaisons between Naval Air Station Sigonella and the Italian government, sought a better understanding of battlegroup operations through first-hand exposure.

After completing a week of operations in the western Mediterranean, including the 'Aglow Charlie' exercise with anti-submarine warfare drills, shootout and opposed replenishment at sea, IKE stopped for her third port visit of the cruise at Marseilles, France.

Forty distinguished visitors and local media members from Marseilles flew out to the ship April 11 to observe IKE's anchoring evolution in the Marseille harbor.

Halfway through the Marseilles port visit, April 14, IKE hosted an Evening Review and hangar bay reception in honor of French Admiral Lehegaret with approximately 500 guests and foreign dignitaries and 150 IKE officers attending.

During the inport period at Marseilles, IKE's AIMD calibration lab began phase package 'E-8' adding calibration of aircraft/ship IFF and TACAN systems to their work package.

Pulling up her anchor April 18, IKE carried her western Mediterranean operations into the central area with European and Asian media representatives aboard for an overnight stay. A Fuji TV crew from Japan and several Dutch and West German journalists and photographers interviewed several key carrier officers and crew members, toured the ship and watched an air and surface power demonstration April 19.

Admiral J. B. Busey, CINCSOUTH, hosted the Spring Principal Subordinate Commanders' Conference on IKE April 19-20.

The carrier stopped at Augusta Bay, Sicily, for a two-day training anchorage April 21-22. While anchored, the crew observed a safety standdown and stood a command-wide personnel inspection.

Central Mediterranean operations, including an opposed sortie for the embarked air wing, continued April 23-25.

Cannes, France, was the setting for a week's port visit when IKE dropped anchor there April 26. While many crewmen hit the beaches of the French Riviera, IKE's maintenance officer and several others had to remain behind to start IKE's Work Definition Conference and make preparations for the carrier's post-deployment SRA period at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

Many IKE sailors extended a helping hand during the port visit when Religious Ministries organized a community relations project at Ma Maison, a home for the elderly in neighboring Grasse, France. About 60 crewmen performed yardwork and made minor repairs to the building structures during the April 28 visit.

Thirty students from France's National School of Administration (ENA), a school whose graduates occupy key French government positions, were welcomed aboard the ship the morning of April 29. The students, who are participating in a series of seminars dealing with various aspects of maritime strategy and policy, toured the carrier and were treated to lunch in IKE's wardroom.

IKE was a showplace that evening in Cannes as more than 1,200 guests were welcomed aboard the carrier for another Evening Review and reception. Invited guests attending the formal function included many foreign dignitaries and several international screen personalities attending Cannes's Market for International Programming (Television).

Prior to the Evening Review and reception, Eric Stanley, NBC international representative and NBC's international programming contact for the Armed Forces Radio and Television Service (AFRTS), came aboard the ship a few hours earlier for an orientation visit to AFRTS-TV. Topics discussed during his visit included timeliness of receipt of programming, airing of broadcast materials while ship is anchored in foreign ports and availability of satellite programming.

The following day, April 30, IKE's Supply team was rewarded with her first MATCONOFFSIXTHFLEET "Superstar" of the deployment for providing spare parts to units in the SIXTHFLEET battlegroup.

The honorable June Gibbs Brown, Inspector General for the Department of Defense, arrived on IKE May 1 for a two-day orientation visit. Recently confirmed as the DoD IG, Ms. Brown focused on no specific issues other than seeing the operational Navy.

IKE pulled up anchor May 2 and headed for one of her longest at sea periods of the cruise, two weeks of operations in the central and eastern Mediterranean participating in all three phases of exercise Dragon Hammer '88 with numerous NATO aircraft and ships. The medium-scale NATO live exercise involving air, land and naval operations took place in the eastern European countries of Italy and Turkey and in the Aegean, Ionian, Mediterranean and Tyrrhenian Seas.

Two prominent Austrian businessmen were flown aboard May 3 for a two-day carrier orientation visit. Vice Admiral Moranville, COMSIXTHFLT, was flown out via an S-3 helicopter prior to the businessmen's arrival to greet the pair.

During these international exercises, IKE hosted the Deputy Chief of Staff to CINCSOUTH, Italian Major General Baldi May 6 as he continued his tour of the various units participating in Dragon Hammer '88 and IKE's Reactor Department welcomed aboard the Nuclear Power Mobile Training Team for a three-day visit.

Five congressmen embarked aboard IKE May 7 for an orientation visit and briefings on Dragon Hammer. Dubbed "Project Quicklook," representatives Thomas Bliley of Virginia, Joe Skeen of New Mexico, Ron Packard and Al McCandless of California, and Larry Combest of Texas toured the ship and addressed key issues for the crew on a special television production after discussions with the embarked staff.

IKE's gauge calibration program was consolidated under AIMD calibration laboratory during this week of operations, combining the efforts of Engineering, Operations and Reactor Departments into one manageable, effective program.

May 11-12, IKE hosted five separate groups of visitors and Turkish media members for orientation visits on the battlegroup's operations in exercise Dragon Hammer '88. The groups included COMSIXTHFLT, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Naval Warfare and Mobility, the Project Leader for the Institute of Defense Analysis Air Superiority Studies and a dozen Turkish Air Force pilots.

IKE took a short time-out from the strenuous at-sea period May 16-18 for a little shipboard fun and games at Augusta Bay, Sicily. The crew's short break began with the shipwide semi-annual physical readiness test. The PRT was followed by an organized damage control olympics as IKE's DC teams competed against other battlegroup unit teams. Meanwhile, other crewmen enjoyed an afternoon ice cream social and basketball tournament in the carrier's hangar bay. The second day of the anchorage at Augusta Bay was highlighted with a steel beach picnic on the carrier flight deck.

During the Augusta Bay anchorage, IKE hosted more than 400 visitors including sailors of the Italian Navy, members of the Italian Air Force and U.S. Navy personnel from NAS Sigonella.

Shortly before IKE pulled in anchor at Augusta Bay the evening of May 19, the crew participated in a four and half hour marathon bingo over the ship's closed circuit television system in a shipwide effort to raise money for Navy Relief.

The following morning, IKE returned to the eastern Mediterranean for additional at-sea operations before making another short port visit...this one to Antalya, Turkey May 23-26.

The day prior to IKE's arrival in Antalya, IKE embarked several civilian and military distinguished visitors from Antalya for an overnight tour and orientation. The group included the governor of Antalya and, being new to his position, provided the opportunity to generate Turkish support for the U.S. Navy's nuclear power visit program.

The Antalya port visit was showcased May 24 with an Evening Review and reception in honor of Turkish Governor Tezcan. More than 150 guests and 150 IKE officers were in attendance.

IKE departed Antalya on May 27 for exercises Poopdeck and Tunisian Phiblex '88, which took the carrier from the eastern to western operating areas of the Med. IKE embarked five Spanish media members May 31-June 1 to provide area media coverage for Poopdeck operations.

The end of May also marked the halfway point of the cruise. On May 30, Supply emphasized the special occasion with a 'Hump Day' meal and half-price sale on purchases from the ship's retail store.

And the following day, May 31, the Supply Department was given a second consecutive MATCONOFFSIXTHFLT Superstar.

As the five Spanish media members debarked IKE June 1, a group of Spanish officers were flown aboard to observe Spanish Navy/Air Force coordinated strikes against the supercarrier as the units continued their participation in exercise Poopdeck.

The following day, June 2, the Deputy Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe and other high European military officials embarked for a two-day carrier tour and to observe flight operations. Two members of the party, Sir Joseph Gilbert of the Royal Air Force, DCINCENT, and his Deputy Chief of Staff for Command Support, Major General Ivan Moriamne, were launched and recovered in an F-14 aircraft, in addition to their tour of the carrier.

On June 5, during a Sunday break from the operational pace at-sea, IKE crewmen participated in a second television broadcast bingo for Navy Relief. During the night's game, the winner of the Navy Relief lotto was announced. IKE's total contributions for the 1988 collection drive exceeded \$80,000, the largest donation total of any other Atlantic Fleet vessel.

Twelve local officials and civilian leaders from the Spanish city of Benidorm embarked on IKE June 8 for a tour and to watch flight operations. The visit was an effort to solidify excellent local relations evidenced during recent U.S. Navy ship visits to Benidorm.

On June 9, IKE experienced a confrontation with Greenpeace activists as preparations were being made to anchor at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, for a second time. IKE's Weapons Department initiated Operation Waterfall during the incident, manning salt water hoses on the carrier's weather decks to fend off the nuclear

protesters who neared the ship in zodiac-type rubber boats. IKE maneuvered strategically around the Greenpeace ship SIRIUS and anchored without a mishap.

During this ten-day port visit, more visitors came out to see and tour the ship than at any other Med port. IKE hosted an Evening Review and reception in honor of Spanish General Jose Valdes June 14. Approximately 400 local dignitaries and guests and 200 IKE officers attended.

The day before IKE was to depart Palma, Religious Ministries again orchestrated a community relations project by inviting youngsters from a local Palma orphanage aboard the carrier for a tour and lunch.

Completing the Palma visit on June 19, IKE headed to the central Mediterranean and exercise Optimize '88 for four days of operations with various NATO sea and air units.

Admiral Busey, CINCUSNAVEUR, sponsored a group for one-day embarks on board IKE May 22 and 23. The group included key military officials and Italian dignitaries from AFSOUTH, CINCSOUTH and the port city of Naples.

Marking the end of Optimize '88 June 24, IKE's Food Services Division dished up a special treat, 'Shrimpfest '88,' offering crew members the ocean delicacy cooked up in a variety of ways.

Five senior defense analysts from the French Institute of International Relations were embarked on board IKE June 26 for a tour and to watch flight operations.

The carrier then transitted to Italy for an eight-day stop at Naples, June 27-July 5, where several wives ventured to vacation with their special IKE sailors.

Religious Ministries again went to work organizing a community relations project in Naples. A group of IKE sailors journeyed to the Missionary Sisters of Charity Home June 30 to visit the residents and do minor repair work around the home.

Also on June 30, IKE's Supply Department received its third consecutive MATCONOFFSIXTHFLT Superstar.

July in Naples brought many festive occasions for IKE sailors. The evening of July 1, the crew was entertained aboard the carrier by the pageantry of the Miss USA/USO show. The following weekend at Naples's Carney Park, the ladies repeated their show as IKE crewmen enjoyed the local Italian 'Festa Americana' in celebration of the American Independence Day.

Departing Naples July 5, IKE embarked 39 students from the NATO Defense College for a tour and to watch flight operations as the carrier headed for the eastern Mediterranean and combined exercises with Israeli forces in Juniper Falconry '88 July 10-21. Included in the exercise was a joint effort involving medical treatment of injured carrier personnel during a shipboard mass casualty drill. After a simulated flight deck fire on IKE, eight 'burn' patients were stabilized by the carrier medical team then flown to an Israeli Medical Center for definitive treatment.

Vice Admiral Moranville, COMSIXTHFLT, and two personal guests of the U.S. ambassador to France, were flown aboard IKE July 7 for a two-day tour and briefs on the joint U.S.-Israeli exercise.

Exercise Juniper Falconry also included two brief port visits to the Israeli city of Haifa, July 10-11 and July 15-17, where many IKE crewmen enjoyed tours to the Holy Lands and other local religious sites. During the second stop at Haifa, the evening of July 15, the local USO representatives organized a special fashion show for the crew. Twenty of Israel's most beautiful fashion models displayed a myriad of swimsuits and summer wear to the delight of the Navy crowd in IKE's hangar bay. The fashion show was preceded by an Israeli dance troupe from Tel Aviv, including young adults and children performing Israeli cultural dances.

IKE's Religious Ministries conducted memorial services during July for two carrier sailors who passed away. The first was held July 10 for ATAN Kenneth Zeidner of Fighter Squadron 142. The second service was conducted July 24 for AE3 Gilbert Morrishow of IKE's Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department.

Two student chaplains, Ensign [REDACTED] and Ensign [REDACTED], embarked aboard IKE July 12 for three and half weeks of on-the-job training as part of the Navy's Theological Student Program.

The carrier's Reactor Department welcomed a second visit July 17-21 by the Nuclear Power Mobile Training Team. Members of the training team assisted IKE's Reactor Divisions and other participants around the ship for the Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination scheduled to take place in mid-August.

Thirty-nine Israeli military members arrived on IKE via two CH-53 helicopters July 18. The visitors observed the completion of an underway replenishment evolution, followed by explanations of carrier operations, observations of flight operations and tours of various ship's spaces.

The following day, July 19, IKE and COMSIXTHFLT welcomed the Israeli Minister of Defense Yitzhak Rabin and 23 additional Israeli guests. Senior visitors first met with key U.S. Naval officers for specific discussions then both groups toured the ship and observed flight operations.

IKE's Deck Department completed the longest refueling of the deployment July 20. While alongside USS WACCAMAW, IKE took on more than one million, 700 thousand gallons of JP-5 jet fuel.

Completing Juniper Falconry July 21, IKE headed west for more operations in the central Mediterranean while transiting for a six-day port visit at Leghorn (Livorno), Italy beginning July 26.

The American Embassy Belgrade Chief of Mission, Mr. Joe Presel and his escort officer, Commander Theodore Laven, embarked on IKE July 23-26 for a carrier orientation visit. Mr. Presel, an arms control expert who has spent tours in Moscow and was a member of the MBFR negotiations team, is a full supporter of and has ensured the ongoing success of the U.S. Navy ship visit program in Yugoslavia.

Two members of a congressional staff delegation embarked on IKE July 25 for one day as part of a tour in the European theater to examine the Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence process to naval commanders and units operating in the Mediterranean Sea.

The month of July closed on a positive note as IKE's Supply Department was awarded its fourth consecutive MATCONOFFSIXTHFLT Superstar , establishing a new record of accomplishment for aircraft carriers.

During the port visit in Italy, IKE crewmen enjoyed the hospitality of the host communities of Leghorn and neighboring Livorno and visited the Leaning Tower in Pisa. The local U.S. Army installation at Camp Darby provided the carrier sailors an opportunity to shop at the military exchange and the use of other base facilities. Other venturesome crewmen travelled north to the larger Italian city of Florence and visited its many art galleries.

IKE departed Leghorn August 2 and headed west for more battlegroup operations before stopping along the French Riviera August 8 for eight days of liberty at Cannes, IKE's last port visit during her Mediterranean deployment.

During the transit to Cannes, IKE embarked Mr. Lee Huebner, publisher of the *International Herald Tribune* and a group of French political leaders for a tour and to observe flight operations August 6. In addition, Mr. Yves Debay, editor of *Raids*, a monthly French military publication, embarked to prepare a feature on carrier flight operations. During his research, Mr. Debay conducted interviews with the commanding officer, air officer and several pilots and flight deck personnel.

Religious Ministries organized a return to the Ma Maison home for the elderly in nearby Grasse, France, August 11 to continue work on their community relations project began during the first port visit.

August 11 on the ship, IKE's Dental Department hosted ten local French dentists for a tour of the carrier and dinner in IKE's wardroom. During the visit, the French dentists viewed a slide presentation covering the present materials, ideas and techniques of dentistry in the U.S. The visit was given favorable coverage in the local French press.

The local USO chapter and IKE's Special Services coordinated a dance and reception for the carrier's crew in the hangar bay August 12. About 600 guests, mostly female, attended and danced with IKE's crewmen decked out in their dress white uniforms.

One day after leaving Cannes, August 16, IKE completed a 'blue water' turnover with USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67), initiating the end of the nuclear carrier's stay in the Mediterranean.

August 19 and 23, Religious Ministries held two separate sessions of pre-marriage classes for 42 crewmen who planned to marry shortly after IKE's return to homeport Norfolk.

Before outchopping the Mediterranean operating area August 19, IKE's Reactor Department completed the Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) August 18-20 with an overall grade of average. During the preparatory months

prior to the actual exam, IKE's Engineering personnel responded to more than 630 Propulsion Plant Casualty Control Drills.

IKE's Medical team completed its competitive exercises for the Battle Efficiency award in August. The Medical Department personnel scored a perfect 100 percent on ten of ten drills for the second consecutive cycle.

During IKE's last two weeks of the Mediterranean deployment, representatives from Norfolk's Navy Family Service Center were flown aboard for "Return and Reunion" presentations August 19-27. The lectures were designed to assist crew members in coping with changes and renewal of family relationships upon the carrier's return home. These sessions were held one-on-one, if desired, and were aired via the ship's closed circuit television system providing sailors the opportunity to anonymously phone in their questions.

IKE's Safety Department organized the embark of a Virginia State trooper during the carrier's transit home. The highway patrolman conducted drive-safe lectures to the carrier crew and routinely shuttled to other ships in the battlegroup with his safety information.

While transitting the Atlantic Ocean, IKE assumed the role as battlegroup oiler, completing ten underway replenishments with the accompanying fleet units in just six days.

IKE arrived at Bermuda August 27 to embark several hundred male family members and friends of her crewmen for a two-day 'Tiger Cruise' during the final leg of her transit back to Norfolk Naval Station.

While waiting for the 'tigers' to arrive, IKE hosted a group of fourteen distinguished visitors from Bermuda, including the Sir James Astwood, Chief Justice Supreme Court, the U.S. Consul General, the commanding officer of NAS Bermuda and other Bermuda government civilian officials.

Transportation for the 'tigers' had been arranged via chartered flights from NAS Jacksonville and Norfolk NAS for the guests to fly to Naval Station Bermuda and meet the carrier. The guests were transferred from the naval station to the anchored carrier via IKE's two 50-ft. utility boats and two 40-ft. personnel boats. Some 'tigers' were given the chance to take the helm during their boat runs.

The "tigers'" first evening on board initiated the ship's homecoming celebrations as IKE's Supply Department put on a special steak and lobster dinner and special sales in the ship's retail store. IKE's PO1s provided a helping hand by serving the meal and by dishing up special-ordered hard ice cream for dessert.

During those last two days, IKE's male guests were treated to a firsthand look at daily shipboard life and a special air power demonstration by IKE's embarked airwing before the aircraft were flown off to their respective homeports August 28.

August 29 was a special day to the carrier's crew as IKE began her transit through the Chesapeake Bay to greet the crewmen's waiting loved ones at the head of pier 12, Norfolk Naval Station. The morning began with a short visit by the Secretary of the Navy. The honorable William Ball was flown out to the ship with Commander, Naval Air Forces Atlantic, Admiral Dunleavy, to speak to the crew about their successes during the past six-month Mediterranean deployment.

The homecoming was temporarily delayed as IKE was involved in an unfortunate accident while transiting the bay...a collision with the anchored Spanish freighter URDULITZ. IKE's starboard side amidship struck the freighter's bow, resulting in more than a million dollars worth of structural damage to the supercarrier and an undetermined amount of damage to the Spanish ship. IKE's navigation team, headed by Captain Gary Beck, recovered on the bridge and continued the ship's heading to the pier and the carrier's six-month deployment homecoming.

A month-long post-deployment standdown period commenced when IKE assumed her berth at pier 12 August 29 as many crewmen departed the ship on leave accompanying their waiting loved ones home.

The month of September was spent pierside with the ship's crew preparing for its upcoming Selected Restricted Availability in the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth.

IKE underwent an AIRLANT 3M inspection September 14-16. The carrier's final grade of 92 was the highest of any East Coast carrier.

The IM-4 division personnel of AIMD moved more than 400 pieces of support equipment to St. Julien's Creek for repair and rehabilitation September 12-16. AIMD also began offloading numerous test benches and peculiar support equipment for A-7 and S-3A aircraft September 15 to begin the transition to the new F/A-18 and S-3B aircraft.

Vice Admiral Dunn, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations - Air, visited the carrier September 21.

Capt. Beck was relieved of his duties as IKE's commanding officer September 27 based on the findings involving the August 29 collision with the Spanish freighter in the Chesapeake Bay. Capt. J. J. Dantone assumes the duties as IKE's new skipper.

IKE left pier 12 September 27-30 for 'whiskey' anchorage in the Elizabeth River channel for a weapons off-load. The removal of nearly two tons of ammunition in the three-day period was one of the final preparatory stages before IKE's entrance into the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

IKE's magazines were inspected by members of the Ordnance Handling Safety Team September 30 and rated as outstanding.

Prior to transiting the Elizabeth River for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, IKE was underway in the Virginia Capes operating area for ISE September 30 through October 2.

As IKE entered the shipyard October 3 for a five-month Selected Restricted Availability (SRA), Maintenance Department grew from a mere 30-man unit to a 300-man department. New divisions were formed; Maintenance Rehab, Firewatch, Tool Issue, Quality Assurance and Shipyard Work Package joined SIMD/LSC.

Communications guard was shifted from IKE's Communications Department to NTCC Portsmouth October 3 as preparations began for the removal of the ship's message processing and distribution system. Removal of the MPDS system

commenced October 5 and structural changes were planned for the installation of the new NAVMACS V5 processing/distribution system.

A week into the shipyard period, AIMD transitioned to the automated manpower management program October 10 significantly reducing the hours involved in tracking and monitoring the more than 400 departmental personnel.

Two days later on October 12, AIMD IMRL completed the transition to a Zenith 248 computer data base system, enhancing the accountability and tracking of more than 9,800 pieces of support equipment.

The Weapon Department's ammunition ledgers were balanced out at 99.9 percent accuracy October 15 with SPCC as per current CNO directives.

IKE's Supply Department successfully completed its annual Supply Management Inspection October 28.

During the latter part of November, IKE lost five crew members within a five-day span to two separate alcohol-related automobile accidents. Memorial services for the five sailors were held November 21 and 22 by IKE's Religious Ministries. ASE2 Ronald Probst of Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department was remembered in the first service. The four sailors of Air Department's V-4 division, AN Thomas Brennan, AN James Wood Jr., ABF3 Patrick Schneggenburger and ABF3 Gregory Zuvich were remembered in the second.

Capt. Dantone and IKE's Safety Department initiated an extensive training program focusing on the hazards of drinking and driving. Educational efforts included the display of a wrecked car at the carrier's brow. The car, which was privately donated and had been involved in a separate alcohol-related, death-resulting accident, served crewmen as a grim reminder of possible results of drinking and driving as they departed the ship on liberty.

A surprise fleet accounting and disbursing center cash verification and pay account audit greeted IKE's Disbursing Office personnel November 28. The results were impeccable as IKE was rated as having the best disbursing office of all Atlantic Fleet carriers.

To boost shipboard morale and the spirit of teamwork, IKE crew members challenged the crewmen of neighboring USS SARATOGA to a series of sporting events, December 5-8. The carrier sailors competed in tennis, softball, basketball, bowling, boxing and volleyball. Although, USS SARATOGA topped IKE in the series, the purpose of the challenge was fulfilled.

IKE sent a bomb build-up detachment to Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, December 5-19, to assist Air Wing Seven and to make further preparations for workups in calendar year 1989.

IKE's Welfare and Recreation funded a special Christmas Gala December 9 at the Virginia Beach Pavilion. At the ship's Christmas party, more than 2,000 crewmen and their guests enjoyed dinner, dancing and door prizes to the music of two live bands.

The two weeks preceding Christmas, IKE's PO1 Association members conducted a canned goods collection drive in an effort to provide food for the needy during the

holiday season. The Association purchased several turkeys to go with the canned food and presented the items to the Portsmouth Chapter of the Salvation Army for distribution.

In mid-December, AIMD was awarded the NAS Oceana SeaOpDet Excellence Award for providing the best management and support to SeaOpDet personnel of all Atlantic Fleet carriers.

A shipwide holiday standdown period commenced December 19 with up to 50 percent of the crew departing on leave for Christmas. The other half planning to take holiday leave for New Year's.

Just two days before Christmas, December 23, Supply completed its inventory of aviation reparable and critical repair parts. The department posted the lowest potential financial adjustments of any Atlantic Fleet carrier.

By the end of the year, December 31, AIMD had completed the rehabilitation of more than 100 shipboard compartments during the first half of the SRA period.

During SRA, Engineering worked extensively on the chilled water, reboiler and firefighting systems. Their departmental personnel continued the rehabilitation of the ship's auxiliary boiler and repair work stemming from the August 29 collision and subsequent damage to the #2 aircraft elevator.