

FAREWELL ATLANTIC . . .



Leaving the locks behind.



Downtown Balboa

AND ON TO LONG BEACH

15 January 1969—

The Pacific Ocean was indeed as calm, peaceful, and beautiful as Balboa had described it when he first gazed upon its waters. Warm and sunny weather prevailed as the SPENCER steamed north along the western coast of Mexico.

21 January 1969—

Upon arrival at Long Beach, "sunny California" greeted us with grey skies and chilly temperatures; by the time we had left, Southern California was in the midst of the worst flood disaster in years. A foreboding of things to come? . . .

While in Long Beach last minute telephone calls were made to our families. Quick liberty excursions were made to Disneyland or to the Sunset Strip (depending on a sailor's esthetic tastes). The Queen Mary, undergoing conversion to a floating hotel and restaurant, was photographed, and the Commander Eleventh Coast Guard District was entertained.

