

# BANGKOK

30 May 1969—

After 42 days at sea a liberty stop even at French Frigate Shoals would have been a welcomed sight, but the four day stop in Bangkok was much better and greatly eased the tension among the crew.

The capital of Thailand was an exciting city to come upon with its beautiful Buddhist Monasteries situated along the 15 miles of the Mao Nam Chao Phraya River as we edged northwestward from the gulf of Siam. The Venice of the East, Bangkok uses the river as its main artery with thousands of canals and tributaries. Many floating shops, houses, barges, and large cargo vessels can be seen loading and unloading in the hot tropical climate, during the two and a half hour trip up the river.

Almost everyone in the SPENCER crew situated themselves around the plush hotels in Bangkok. "R&R" was the motto; fun and excitement were had by all.

