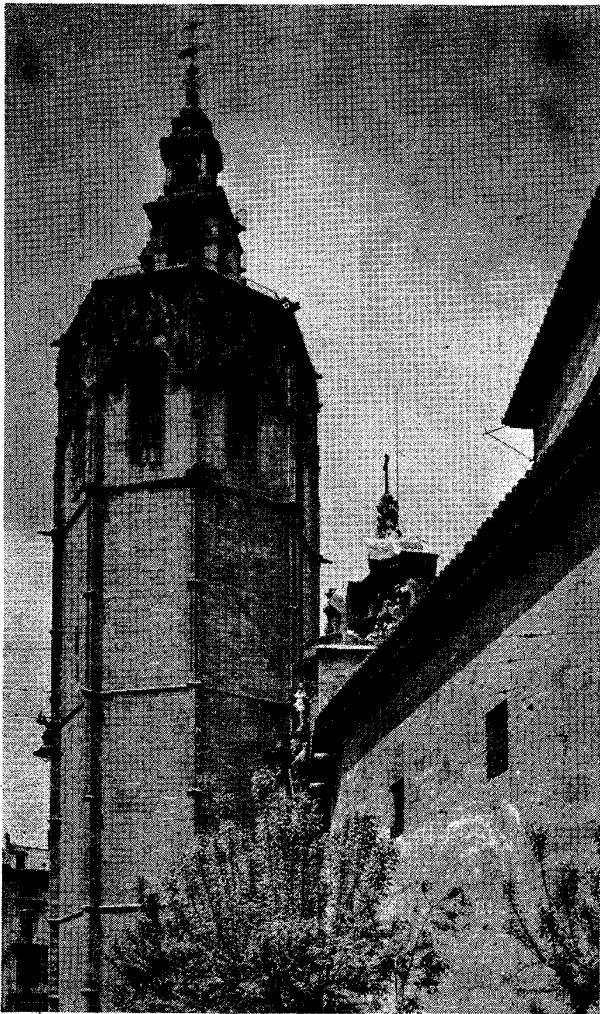




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NOTICE TO ALL HANDS

RETAIN THIS BOOKLET. DO NOT THROW IT AWAY. EACH TIME WE RETURN TO CARTAGENA, YOUR PIO OFFICE WILL ISSUE A SUPPLEMENT WHICH CAN BE ATTACHED TO THIS BROCHURE.

CARTAGENA, SPAIN

GENERAL INFORMATION: The city of Cartagena stands on a small plain between a large, semicircular bay to the south and an extensive expanse of low, flat ground to the north. The port, latitude 37°-35' N, longitude 00°-59' W, is on the flank of important Mediterranean sea routes, which makes it an operating base of great value. Mountains almost hem the city in on the south and to the southwest, and southeast the relief rises to over 950 feet.

The harbour of Cartagena is one of the most attractive, and safe, in the world; ships can moor at the docks in a depth of 26 feet of water. It is the 3rd ranking port in Spain for exports-imports (almost 3 million tons), after Bilbao and Gijon, and before Barcelona; the 1st. ranking in exports alone, with more than 2,700,000 tons (mostly iron ore).

The major importance of the city has always lain in its almost landlocked harbor and in the mineral wealth of the adjacent coastal sierra. Today, it is the center of naval defenses of the Iberian Mediterranean coast, the naval base being second only to the one in El Ferrol. The Mediterranean Squadron of the Spanish Navy maintains headquarters at the Cartagena Naval Base. A submarine school and small submarine flotilla are also located there. Facilities exist for servicing naval vessels up to cruiser size and for building naval vessels up to the size of destroyers. The naval base suffered severe damage during the civil war, but it has gradually been repaired, and an extensive enlarging and improvement program is slowly being carried out. The command of all Spanish Naval Forces in the Mediterranean is vested in the Captain General of the Cartagena Naval District, whose rank is Admiral.

HISTORY: Cartagena (Carthago Nova) was built, or rebuilt, about 243 B.C. by Hasdrubal. It became the chief fortress of Carthaginian power in Spain, and owing to its gold and silver mines, an important source of wealth. In 209 B.C., the city was besieged and taken by the Romans, under whom it retained its former importance. The Goths pillaged the city in 425 A.D., but under their successors, the Moors, it became part of an independent principality and remained so until Jaime I, King of Aragon, finally restored it to Christendom in 1265 A.D. During the reign of Philip II, Cartagena was practically rebuilt, and the revival was of sufficient interest to attract the attention of Sir Francis Drake, who raided the fortress and carried off its guns. An extensive naval arsenal was constructed in the port area in 1733 to 1782, yet the city itself seemed to have steadily declined in population; in the early nineteenth century its industrial and commercial activities were hampered by the prevalence of epidemic diseases, and the abandonment of the arsenal and the rivalry of the port of Alicante contributed large factors in the decline of the city. By 1870, the population had decreased to about 26,000. Subsequently drainage of the adjacent Almarjar marshes by a canal running to the sea around the north and west sides of the city improved sanitary conditions; the opening of the railroads, the development of mining and metallurgical industries, and the construction of new dockworks all contributed to the city's revival. The town suffered greatly during the Spanish Civil War, undergoing the world's first blitz in 1937. The damage done is still noticeable. In April 1946, a new water supply system went into op-

eration, giving the city adequate supply of drinking water for the first time. Cartagena has a population of 43,104.

CLUBS AND BARS: The following clubs have extended privileges to officers during their stay at Cartagena:

Yacht Club, Casino, and Gran Bar.

The U.S. Naval Magazine has an EM Club which sells beer after hours and enlisted personnel from visiting U.S. Navy ships are welcome.

RESTAURANTS: Terraza Restaurant - Hotel Mediterraneo, Plaza de San Sebastian
Cartagena Restaurant - Calle de Mayor 29
Espana Restaurant - Calle del Canon
Calin - Honda
Candell - 41, Mayor
Cos de Mayo
Petit Fornos - Plaza de San Francisco
M. Pina - at the port
San Bernardo - Baths of San Bernardo

HOTELS: Mediterraneo Hotel - a second class hotel, Plaza de San Sebastian
Grand Hotel - a second class hotel
Cartagena Hotel - a third class hotel, 3, Plaza de Prefumo
Espana Hotel - a third class hotel, 2, Canon

ATHLETICS: The following athletic facilities are available:

One field suitable for two softball games or one baseball game, one basketball court, and one tennis court at the submarine base.

One field suitable for two softball games or one baseball game, two tennis courts, and one basketball court at Campo Junco. Campo Junco, located on the road to Los Molinos, is owned by the shipyard workers, but permission to use it can be obtained through the Spanish Navy.

One officer's tennis court, and six riding horses are available for use at the Naval Arsenal.

Three officer's tennis courts at the Cartagena Tennis Club located at No. 5 Twentieth Street.

There are athletic facilities at the U.S. Naval Magazine.

CHURCHES: There are no Jewish synagogues. There is one Protestant Church - the Chapel of the Brethren, 18 Calle de la Carcel, San Anton, a northwestern suburb of Cartagena. There are two Spanish speaking ministers. Sunday services: 1630 Holy Communion; 1800 Divine Service.

There are numerous Catholic Churches. The following are closest to the fleet landing:

Military Parish of Santo Domingo, Calle de Mayor and Calle de Aire.
Santa Maria, Calle de San Miguel.
Nuestra Senora del Carmen (Our Lady of Mt. Carmel), Calle de Carmen.
Nuestra Senora de la Caridad (Our Lady of Charity), Calle de la Caridad;
and San Vincent (most famous church in Cartagena).

Father Sabastian Gareau is available, upon request, to hear Catholic confessions and say Mass aboard ship. He is also available for conference or consultations. Reverend J.D. Gnooldston is available to conduct Protestant services on board ship.

TRANSPORTATION: Since Cartagena is a small city, no difficulty is experienced regarding transportation. Street cars and autobuses traverse the city at frequent intervals.

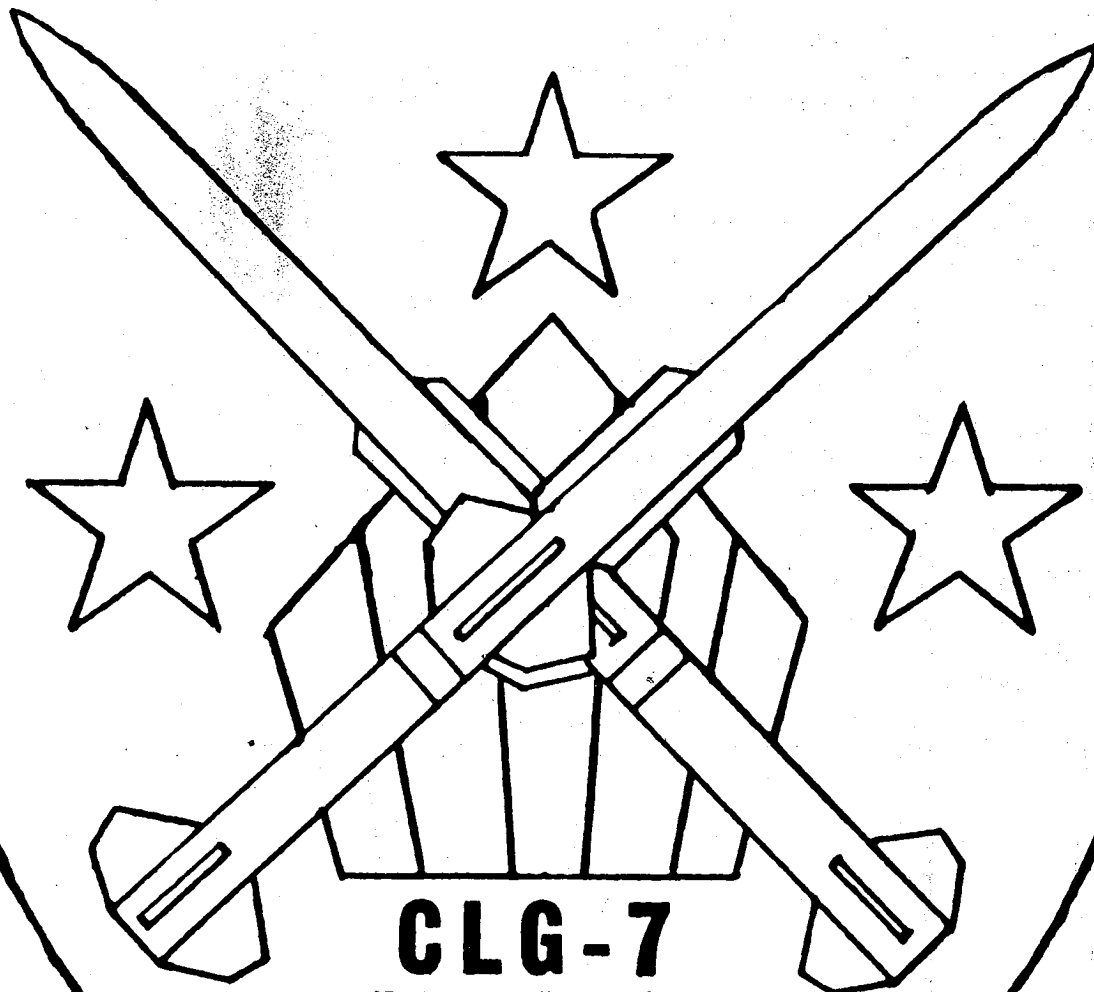
Taxis are old and dilapidated but serviceable and are the best means of transportation. Civilian taxis are not allowed in the U.S. Naval Magazine area.

For ships anchored off ALGAMECA GRANDE COVE the Naval Magazine may furnish bus transportation from the landing to downtown and back. Navy busses cannot be used for tours out of the town of Cartagena. However, the Naval Magazine public works officer is able to arrange very good rates on chartered civilian busses.

TOURS AND POINTS OF INTEREST: The destruction of 1936-1939 has robbed the town of most of its artistic interest. Ancient fortresses atop each of the four hills surrounding the town may be seen, and one, the Castillo de la Concepcion, offers an excellent view of the city and the harbor. All four fortresses are in ruins. The Cathedral Santa Maria la Vieja, built in the thirteenth century in Gothic style, demolished during the Civil War and partially restored, contains archeological curiosities. At the Spanish Naval Base there is a replica of Christopher Columbus' flagship Santa Maria on which he crossed the Atlantic in his famous voyage of discovery.

SHOPPING: Normal shopping hours are usually 0900 until 1300 followed by a lunch hour siesta. Stores open again from 1600 until about 1930 on all weekdays that are not holidays. Various shops in town offer excellent values in souvenir items such as: leather goods, especially hand tooled boxes, tailor-made suits, silver and tin plaques, paintings, perfumes, and excellent gloves.

USS SPRINGFIELD



CLG-7

From: Public Information Office
To: All Hands

Subj: Cartagena Visit

1. It is requested that all personnel offer, on this form, comments concerning our visit to **Cartagena**.
2. This form must be turned in to the PIO Office by **27 January 1962**.

| | NAME | ADDRESS (IF KNOWN) | GENERAL COMMENTS |
|----------------------|------|--------------------|------------------|
| HISTORICAL SIGHTS: | | | |
| MUSEUMS: | | | |
| RESTAURANTS: | | | |
| STORES: | | | |
| HOTELS, PENSIONS: | | | |
| FESTIVALS: | | | |
| SPORTS EVENTS: | | | |