



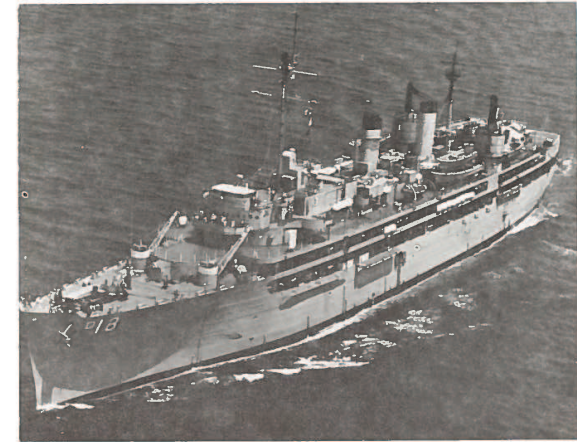
Ship's Mission

For nearly fifty years, USS SIERRA has carried out the essential mission of fleet support -- keeping the fleet combat ready.

In her long and productive career, SIERRA has served the cruisers and destroyers of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets in an extensive variety of functions. To carry out her mission, she has shops and laboratories to perform any ship repair task short of a major overhaul. For example, SIERRA can change the propellers of a destroyer without dry-docking, pour large steel castings, accomplish heavy machine and structural steel work, wind large electric motors, repair watches, binoculars, and electronic circuit cards, or calibrate the most intricate and sophisticated electronic equipment.

SIERRA carried enough food to feed her own crew of over 950 men and women and a dozen destroyers for three months. On short notice, she can feed hundreds of other sailors, supply them with any necessary apparel from black shoes to white hats, repair and dry clean their uniforms, and provide them with consumables from soft drinks to shaving cream.

Deep in her vast storerooms, SIERRA carried over 55,000 separate kinds of repair parts in order to be prepared for virtually any eventuality. What she did not carry, she may well have been able to make. Her motto stemmed from this versatility: "The Ship With the Helping Hands"



USS SIERRA (AD 18) SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

Overall length - 530 feet

Beam - 73 Feet

Draft - 25 feet

Displacement - 17,000 tons

Speed - 17 knots

Propulsion - 400lb Steam System

Compliment - 40 Officers, 950 Enlisted

Awards Received

China Service Medal

American Area Campaign

Asiatic - Pacific Area Campaign

National Defense Service with Two Bronze Stars

World War II Victory

European Occupation

Southwest Asia Ribbon with Bronze Star

Humanitarian Service (Two Awards)

Battle Efficiency "E" Award (Eight Awards)

Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (Ten Awards)