

U.S.S. DES MOINES

Flagship Sixth Fleet

Mediterranean Cruise

1956

CADIZ and GIBRALTAR

INTRODUCTION

This book introduces our last two ports in the cruise of 1955-56--Cadiz and Gibraltar.

As we introduce these ports, we are tempted to become nostalgic, It has been a fine cruise and we have enjoyed many wonderful ports, made many new friends and increased our knowledge and understanding of the Mediterranean world. With this book we say goodbye to Barcelona and Villefranche, Beirut and Rhodes, Izmir and Naples, Algiers and Mers El Kebir, Cadiz and Gibraltar. Each has contributed to our pleasure and, in its unique way, given us many new experiences. We have learned much from their culture and traditions, and the memory of our visit will remain with us as we return to our homeland.

We have been proud of our Navy, too. Our sailors have represented our country well, and, for the greater part, nobly, We hope that the people of the countries we have visited will remember us with friendship.

We have been proud to carry the flag of the Sixth Fleet and it is with a measure of regret that we shall leave the Staff behind. We hope that it will be smooth sailing on the Newport News. To Vice Admiral Ralph A. Ofstie and his Staff, we tender our very best wishes.



CADIZ, SPAIN

****CADIZ****

Cadiz, an important seaport and naval base, is located in southwest Spain on the Atlantic Ocean. It is picturesquely situated on a low, five-mile long peninsula projecting northwest from the mainland. The Straits of Gibraltar are about 50 miles southeast. The latest census places the population at 103,000. Some sources state that Cadiz is one of Spain's most handsome cities. Certainly there are evidences of past beauty in her Cathedral, Churches, monuments, and statues. Many buildings are of Roman and Moorish architecture.

The origin of Cadiz is lost in legend. Earliest records indicate that the Phoenicians founded a town here in 1100 B.C. on the site of an Iberian settlement. Its name was Gadir, meaning fortress. The Greeks subsequently colonized southwest Spain and the area passed by conquest into the hands of the Carthaginians in 238 B.C.. The Romans took Cadiz in 237 B.C., and Spain became a Roman province. As the Roman Empire disintegrated, Southern Spain became subject to the Vandals who bestowed their name, Vandalusia, (now Andalusia) upon the province of which Cadiz is the Capital. The Vandals were driven into Africa by the Visigoths who in turn were forced out of southern Spain by the Moors. Cadiz was captured in 1262 A.D. by Alfonso X of Castile, after nearly 700 years of Moorish occupation, and somewhat later, Ferdinand V and Isabella, made Cadiz an integral part of the Spanish Crown.

Although Christopher Columbus sailed from Palos on his epic voyage, he also departed from Cadiz and nearby Puerto Santa Maria on several voyages in the course of his explorations.

Following the discovery of America, Cadiz reached its peak, enjoying a virtual monopoly of trade with Spanish America. It was the headquarters for the Spanish treasure fleet and armadas, and was western Europe's wealthiest port. Upon the loss of Spanish colonies, the trade of Cadiz was ruined and it has never regained its former importance.

Today Cadiz is an important outlet for the production of southwestern Spain.

The combination of fishing and fish processing is the city's major industry. Salt making, shipbuilding, preparation of tobacco products and an airplane factory constitute the remainder of its leading manufactures.

****RESTAURANTS****

Listed in order of preference:

Trocadero, Avenida de Seville.
El Telescopio, 14 Zorilla.
El Anteojo, Alameda de Apodaca.
El Cantabrico, La Laguna
La Providencia, l Gaspar del Pino.

*****PLACES OF INTEREST*****

SANTA CATALINA: A former Capuchin Convent whose chapel contains Murillo's great masterpiece, the Betrothal of Saint Catherine, in the painting of which the great artist fell from the scaffold and was mortally injured.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

THE CATHEDRAL: and many local Churches house treasures in arts.

JERE DE LA FRONTERA: A nearby town of interest.

PUERTO SANTA MARIA WINERIES: Across the bay from Cadiz.

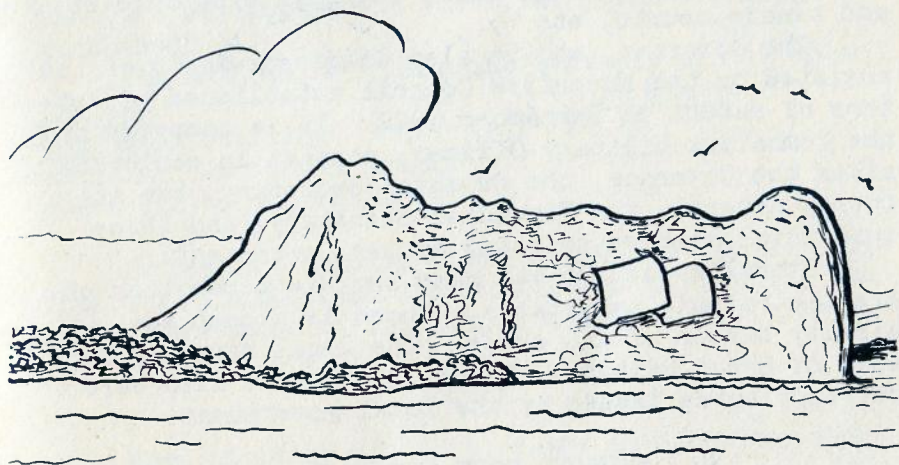
****CLUBS AND HOTELS****

HOTEL ATIANITICO
HOTEL ROMA
HOTEL LORETO

HOTEL PLAYA
HOTEL DEFRANCIA

The Atlantico and Playa are resort type hotels situated on the ocean. The others are more centrally located in the heart of Cadiz.

•GIBRALTAR.



Gibraltar, a British fortress and Crown colony at the western entrance to the Mediterranean, is situated in the Province of Andalusia in Spain and covers an area of 1 7/8 square miles.

The modern town of Gibraltar is of comparatively recent date, nearly all the older buildings having been destroyed during the great siege (1779-1783). The town lies, with most of its buildings crowded together, at the northwestern corner of the "Rock", and covers only about one-ninth of the area. A good deal of land has been reclaimed from the sea. Much of the town, in fact the entire business district, is on level ground, and the narrow streets and ramps that go up to the "Rock" only communicate with various private houses, barracks, etc. To the south of the town are the barracks for almost the entire garrison, such as those of the Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, etc., together with cricket and tennis courts, etc.

The Governor, who is also Commander-in-Chief, is assisted by the Executive Council established by letters of patent in September 1922. It is composed of the Combatant Military Officer, nearest in seniority after the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Financial Secretary, and three unofficial members selected by the Government.

Gibraltar is a naval base and has a position of great strategic importance. There is a deep admiralty harbor of 440 acres. The legal currency is that of Great Britain. Since 1914, there also were currency notes issued by the local government.

UPPER ROCK AREA

A large part of the Upper Rock area is open to British subjects as a park. Passports are required for visitors to enter the Upper Rock area.

Two main areas and certain small ones, clearly defined by fences and notices, are reserved for military purpose.

Cars and other vehicles are allowed on Queens Road from 2 p.m. to dusk on Wednesdays and Saturdays, and from 9 a.m. to dusk on Sundays. Cars are not allowed above the level of Queens Road without a special pass obtained from the Defense Security Officer.

Notices posted at the entrance gates give details of restrictions designed for the security and preservation of the place itself.

CUSTOMS AND CURRENCY

No person shall take ashore more than two packs of cigarettes or one tin (1 oz.) of tobacco in any one day. This rule will be strictly enforced.

It is illegal for personnel to bring dollars ashore, and it is also illegal for the Gibraltar public to accept dollars from service personnel.

Disbursing Officers of all ships will exchange dollars for the sterling currency needs of personnel. The rate of exchange is \$2.80 per pound sterling purchased.

The main units of English currency are as shown:

<u>English</u>	<u>U.S. Money</u>
One pound sterling	\$2.80
shilling (20 to the pound)	.14
pence (12 to the shilling)	.012

Prices are usually shown as follows: 3, 8s, 6d. The first figure indicates the number of pounds; the next, the number of shillings; and the third, pence.

TAXIS

When hired by distance, taxis in Gibraltar are pro-rated on a metered basis. A fixed price for the first mile and additional for each fractional mile thereafter. The rate is the same for one or two persons. An additional small fee is charged for each passenger over two regardless of distance.

If both driver and passenger agree, taxis may be hired by the hour at a flat rate.

ENTERTAINMENT

The language of Gibraltar is English, hence, the locating of places of entertainment is no problem. There are several movie theaters, fine hotels and restaurants in the colony. It is assumed that the recreational facilities of the British Navy will be available to you.

SHOPPING

There are branch stores in Gibraltar representing large English firms, such as Gieves and Alexandre. Most of the products of the British Empire may be purchased at Gibraltar. Of particular interest will be fine razors, the famous tweeds, woolens, shoes, cashmere sweaters, and sport clothing.