

**UNITED STATES SHIP
WRIGHT (CC-2)**



Welcomes You Aboard

Welcome aboard the U.S.S. WRIGHT--the first of a new kind of naval vessel. The commanding officer, officers and men of the WRIGHT want you to enjoy your visit and hope you leave us feeling the time spent aboard has been well spent.

We know you will have many questions about our ship and her role in the Navy. This little pamphlet will answer some of them for you. And, of course, feel free to ask any questions you may have.

The U.S.S. WRIGHT (CC-2) is the second Navy ship designated a "Command Ship". The forerunner of WRIGHT, the USS NORTHAMPTON (CC-1), was commissioned in 1953 and is currently homeported in Norfolk, Virginia. NORTHAMPTON was the natural outgrowth of the command flagships found to be a necessary part of the vast naval operations of World War II. Aboard CC-1 are the facilities required to command major sea forces.

The WRIGHT -- vastly different in both appearance and operation -- is the first ship especially designed to provide the finest in mobile facilities and capabilities for command and control of our fighting forces of the future.

In order to provide top echelon commands and staffs with the equipment and facilities needed to command and control complex and detailed operations of modern warfare, the WRIGHT puts to sea with the most extensive communications center ever installed in a ship. Her "Voice of Command" can reach to the far corners of the world.

Her command spaces have facilities for theater-type presentations similar to those of command posts ashore, including projection equipment and huge motion picture screens. An entire wall is used to display large status boards and maps, mounted on tracks so that they may be easily rolled into view.

Called the "operational control" center, the ship's command spaces include rooms for war planning, briefs and conferences, presentation of maps and other graphic illustration material, and emergency action, should it become necessary. Also contained within the center are facilities for producing and displaying maps, photographs and other intelligence so necessary for accurate planning, as well as the vast facilities for receiving and transmitting of radio communications.

More than 200 officers and men are assigned to operate and maintain the communications equipment of the WRIGHT. The equipment itself--radio, teletypes and facsimile transmitters--can send voice, written text and pictorial information from the ship at the speed of light.

An entire room is given over to the ship's teletype printers, each of which can record incoming messages at 100 words per minute. Another room contains the power transmitters--the heart of the WRIGHT's communications system.

On the ship's antenna deck are arranged the largest, most powerful transmitting antennae ever installed on a naval vessel. The two tall "antenna masts" in the center of the deck reach 114 feet above the deck -- 156 feet above the water. The three "telephone pole" antennae on the port side of the ship, are made entirely of fiber glass. Tests indicate that they are four times as strong as steel masts of the same size, yet weigh only a third as much.

These five antennae, plus the two smaller upright antennae in the center of the antenna deck, are all for transmitting the WRIGHT's powerful radio signals. The smaller "fishing-pole" like antennae--called "whips"--found all along the side of the ship, especially aft of the main 'antenna' deck along the sides of the large open "flight" deck, are primarily for signals from other ships as well as aircraft and shore based communications stations.

The WRIGHT is in fact a floating city. Her population--the sailors and officers who keep the machinery of the city running--live and work year round in an air conditioned environment.

Electric power enough to supply a city of 10,000 persons is supplied by the ship's own service generators. She has a dial telephone system consisting of 277 phones. Her switchboard operator can handle four ship-to-shore calls.

The WRIGHT's supply department prepares and serves three meals a day to her more than 1100 officers and men. The crew consumes 2,900 pounds of food per day.

An extensive educational organization allows her officers and men, through USAFI (United States Armed Forces Institute), to take practically any course available in a creditable American high school or college.

The city has its own barber shops, library, stores, cobbler shop, tailor shop, soda fountain and motion pictures. At sea a daily newspaper is published.

The WRIGHT maintains its own police force, water department, courts, and Sunday Church services.

Four geared steam turbines, making a total of 120,000 shaft horsepower, push WRIGHT through the water at better than 30 knots. The ship is a little longer than 684 feet. Her beam (width at the widest point of her hull) is 77 feet and her extreme width on the antenna deck is 101 feet 11 inches. The WRIGHT displaces about 19,000 tons of water when she is fully loaded with stores and fuel.

We hope you enjoyed your visit as much as we enjoyed presenting our ship to you. The WRIGHT is our "home", so if you ever have the opportunity to visit us again -- our doors are always open to you.