

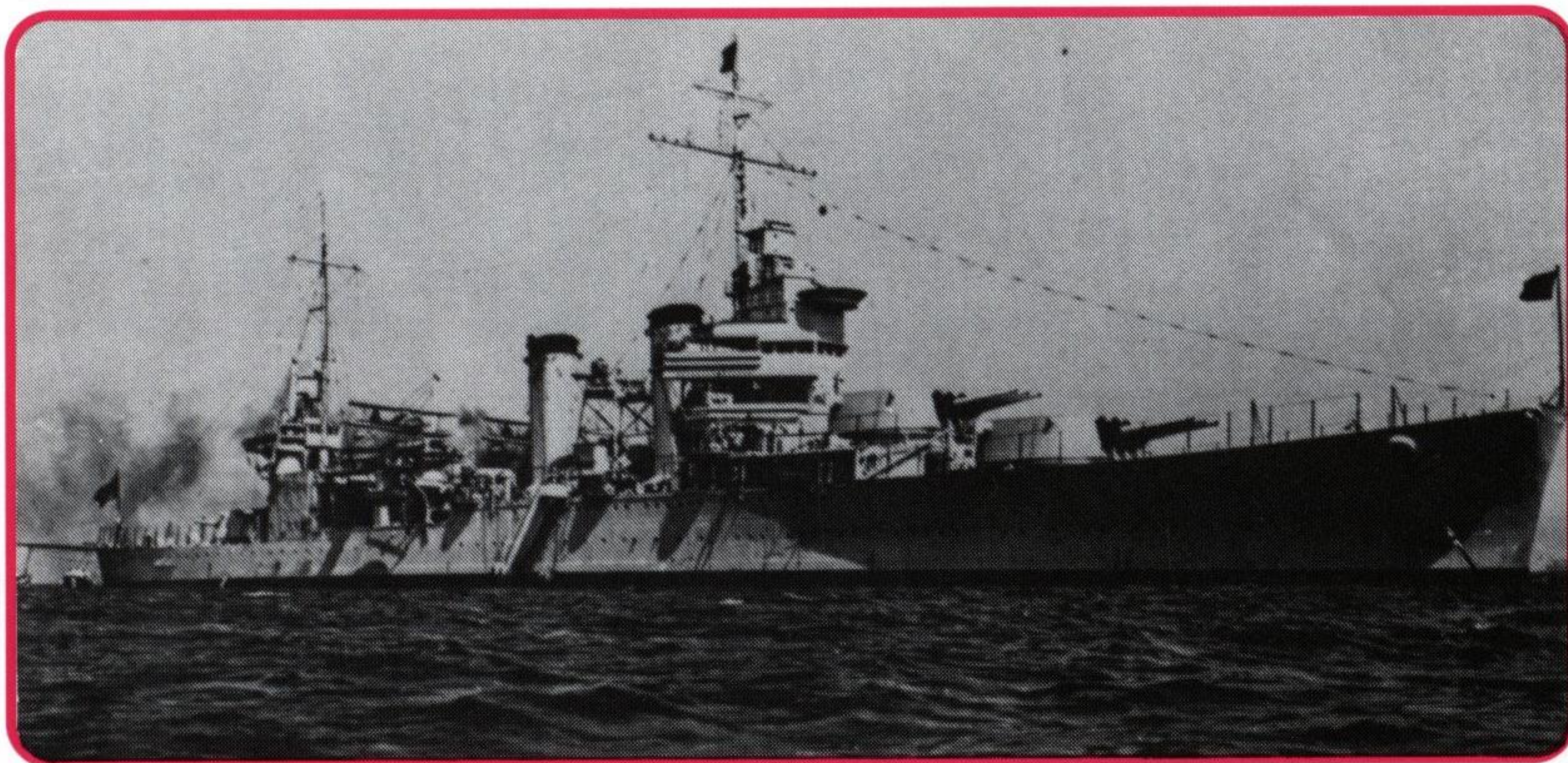
NEW ORLEANS deployed in 1980 and spent several months in the Indian Ocean during the Iran hostage crisis. After a major overhaul at Bremerton Naval Shipyard in 1981, she deployed on a summer 1982 RIMPAC followed by WESTPAC in January 1983. NEW ORLEANS again sailed the Western Pacific along with the Indian Ocean from May - December 1984 and participated in eight major amphibious operations. During the 1986 WESTPAC, she served on an alert status off the coast of the Philippines during that nation's elections. During that WESTPAC, she also served as the medical and communications support ship for President Reagan's Bali, Indonesia visit.

Upon return from that cruise, NEW ORLEANS underwent an extensive overhaul in San Francisco from October 1986 to September 1987. After returning to her homeport of San Diego, she participated in two major exercises and deployed on her thirteenth cruise of the Western Pacific. Significant accomplishments included exercises for a non-combatant evacuation operation contingency and a port visit to Perth, Australia coinciding with the Australian Bicentennial.

In 1989, NEW ORLEANS left for several EASTPAC deployments with port calls in Seattle, Washington for the Seattle Sea Fair and Mazalan, Mexico. She also participated in a humanitarian relief effort in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. In October, 1989 she entered a four-month overhaul in San Diego. During July 1989 - December 1990, NEW ORLEANS was designated the "Hallmark" ship of the COMNAVSURFPAC amphibious fleet by winning the Battle "E" award and six Mission Area Battle Excellence Awards. Upon completion of the 1990 overall period, she participated in several exercises, including an EASTPAC and RIMPAC 1990.

From 1 December 1990 - 28 August 1991, NEW ORLEANS sailed the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM as a member of the largest amphibious task force to deploy from the West Coast in 25 years. Significant accomplishments included the off-load of 1700 combat Marine forces on G-Day and Aviation Mine Countermeasure Operations in the North Arabian Sea, 10 nautical miles off the coast of Kuwait. For outstanding support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, she was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation and Southwest Asia Service Medal.

In November 1991, NEW ORLEANS entered a six-month DPMF availability in San Diego. NEW ORLEANS participated in TANDEM THRUST-92 in July 1992. In October of that year, she deployed for Fleet Week in San Francisco. NEW ORLEANS was again presented with the Battle "E" award in January 1993. On 3 September 1993 she sailed for a WESTPAC/Arabian Sea cruise and was diverted to the coast of Somalia to support and defend the humanitarian efforts of UNOSOM II. NEW ORLEANS was awarded the Armed Forces Expedition Medal for her efforts there.



**Her predecessor, USS NEWORLEANS (CA-32), survived Pearl Harbor and other attacks during WWII.**



**On November 18th, 1993 the NEW ORLEANS crew celebrated her 25th year as a commissioned ship.**