

## hello and goodbye

FORRESTAL returned to Norfolk from the GTMO Bay Cruise to the accompaniment of its own band music and the cheers and waves, and not a few tears, of family and friends waiting on the pier to greet her. Dependents streamed aboard to welcome "the sailor home from the seas." FORRESTAL spent the next few months participating in squadron qualification and weapons evaluation exercises off the Virginia Coast, as families alternated between smiling hellos and tearful good-byes. The pace of preparations increased to a feverish pitch and once more supplies were being piled box on crate on barrel in the deep holds. The final days before the Mediterranean Cruise came and went, and in January, once more families lined the pier for a last word and a last look until September. Ahead—long days at sea and the attractions of picturesque foreign ports while deployed with the Sixth Fleet . . . behind . . . loved ones, family, all the familiar things that mean home.

