



## PAPEETE, TAHITI

After a smooth, if somewhat warm, transit from Long Beach we arrived in Papeete in the early morning hours of 28 November. As the first U.S. military vessel to arrive in several years, GLACIER enjoyed a warm welcome from the French, who govern the islands of French Polynesia from Tahiti. Though initially required to wear our uniforms ashore, a French military band and an entourage of native dancers greeting us at the dock got liberty off to a good start. Many of us took one of several island tours offered, spent a day skin-diving along the coral reefs, or enjoyed the white sands and palms of a local beach.

Overall our call in Tahiti was far better than our expectations - the balmy weather, the tropical island, and the hospitality of the French and Tahitian people all helped make this visit a memorable one.

