



## RELIEVED!

**27 September 1969—**

The TANEY arrived back from Japan and we headed back to Subic Bay for the last time. The Philippines greeted us with rain, but though rainy days are usually gloomy days no one on the SPENCER seemed affected. Everyone hurriedly took care of their last minute shopping, and the moods were gay as we went about our business. The afternoon of October 1, we saw the anxiously-awaited sleek form of the USCGC HAMILTON glide into the harbor and tie up alongside. We remembered clearly the day last February when we were in exactly their position, but now we were the old veterans and they were the rookies seeking advice. On October 6, the HAMILTON sailed for Viet Nam and we began our long trek back across the Pacific.

Our day had come! The SPENCER crew was at last returning to their wives, sweethearts, and loved ones. Ten SPENCER men would be seeing their new sons and daughters for the first time.

