



Subic Bay was the main base for most of the ships serving in the waters of Vietnam. It was also headquarters for Squadron Three of Market Time operations.

Our second day in port we had a material and personnel inspection by the Commodore of Ron Three, after which he gave an inspiring talk about our reason for being in Vietnam. Also, an officer from Naval Intelligence came aboard and gave an enlightening lecture about nearby Olongapo.

"NOW ALL E-4 AND BELOW LAY TO THE DOCK TO HANDLE STORES."

The base had a great deal to offer in the way of entertainment and shopping. Grande Island in the mouth of Subic Bay harbor had baseball diamonds, swimming pools, and golf courses. On the base itself there were two exchanges. The foreign exchange offered many good buys on stereos and cameras and the regular exchange sold all the necessities of life. Unfortunately for us, Subic Bay was a working port and liberty was not granted until 1600 each day.

The final preparations were made for the Vietnam Patrol and we awaited May 25.

