



MAY 8 1969

The aircraft carrier *Ticonderoga* is 25 years old today, a fact that raises proud feelings. We can all take pride in the outstanding record of this gallant ship and her crew. There is a permanent niche in naval history.

We can also take pride in the fact that the *Ticonderoga*, designed for World War II, has remained in the nation's first line of defense. This is a real tribute to her crew—the fact that it has been able to establish a superlative record equal to that of more modern carriers in an age of jet planes.

The "*Tico*" will not be in her home port of San Diego for her birthday celebration because of a record breaking fifth deployment to Vietnam.

San Diego, representing the nation, owes her warm wishes today and a proud welcome when she returns.

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USS TICONDEROGA 25th ANNIVERSARY CRUISE 1944-1969

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