

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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I.N.S. VIKRANT ARRIVES IN ALEXANDRIA

Four-day Goodwill Visit

Alexandria, October 17, 1961

I.N.S. Vikrant, the Indian Navy's Aircraft Carrier, commanded by Capt. P.S. Mohindroo, arrived at Alexandria yesterday on a four-day goodwill visit. On entering the harbour, the Vikrant fired a 21-gun salute to the flag of the United Arab Republic. The gun salute was returned from Fort El Sal and the war naval ships in the stream also paraded guards as Vikrant sailed past each of them. The Vikrant, now on her way to India, was accompanied by I.N.S. Rajput, the senior ship of the Indian Navy's 11th Destroyers Squadron, commanded by Capt. I.K. Puri.

Immediately after the carrier had berthed alongside, Capt. Mohindroo and Capt. Puri, accompanied by Col. R.D. Hira, Indian Military Attache, called on the Governor of Alexandria, Mr. S. Abdul Latif, the Commander-in-Chief of the U.A.R. Navy, Vice-Admiral S. Ezzat and the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Azim Hussain. The two Commanding Officers also called on the Commanding Officer of the Northern Zone and the Director-General of Ports and Lights.

These calls were returned at noon by these dignitaries coming on board the Vikrant where they were received with appropriate marks of respect. The exchange of courtesy calls was followed by a luncheon party held by the U.A.R. Navy for the visiting officers at the Officers' Club, where the guests were received by the Commander-in-Chief of the U.A.R. Navy.

Later, in the evening, a delightful reception was held on board the Vikrant which was attended by a distinguished gathering of prominent citizens, high ranking Service and civilian officials and others. The

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U.A.R. Navy has got up a crowded programme of sports and sight seeing for the visiting ship's companies during their stay in Alexandria. It includes visits to Cairo, the Pyramids and the Sphinx and to some historical places in Alexandria.

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