



USS NATOMA BAY CVE-62

# USS NATOMA BAY CVE - 62

## Casablanca Class

*One of fifty Ships*

**Builder : Kaiser (Vancouver) Nordberg**

**Laid Down As : HMS BEGUM**

**Launched : 1 - 5 - 43**

**Renamed : USS Natoma Bay 4 - 3 - 43**

**Note : CVE - 36 was transferred to the Royal Navy in her place.**

**In November of 1943 CVE - 62 operated in the Pacific, transporting aircraft and crews to Hawaii.**

**January of 1944 she became the Flagship of CARDIV 24, TG - 51.2; Marshall Islands.**

**March of 1944 = TF - 37; Kavieng, Solomons.**

**May 1944 = Pearl Harbor**

**June 1944 = Transported aircraft to the Marianas**

**July 1944 = Covered the West Coast**

**September 1944 = Pilot qualifications for squadron VC - 81**

**October 1944 = Third Fleet, TG - 77.4; Philippines; Flagship of TU-77.4.2 ( Taffy 2 ) at Leyte, battle off Samar**

**December 1944 = Duty off Mindoro**

**January 1945 = CARDIV 25; Luzon landings**

**February 1945 = TU - 52.2.1; Iwo Jima**

**June 1945 = Okinawa**

**7 June 1945 the NATOMA BAY was damaged by Japanese Kamikaze, then went to Guam. Effectively putting her out of the Pacific War.**

**August 1945 = went back to the West Coast**

**November - December 1945 = "Magic Carpet" mission from the Philippines**

**February 1946 = Transferred to the East Coast**

**20 May 1946 = Withdrawn from service; Reserve Fleet**

**Reclassified : CVU - 62 1955 Sold 1960 for Scrapping.**

## Service :

**The USS NATOMA BAY provided Anti-Submarine and combat air patrols for the invasion of the Marshalls. Then she sent air strikes against Kavieng, New Ireland, while the area was being neutralized. Then CVE - 62 sent strikes to support the attacks in**

**cont.**

