

Greek Boys, Girls Visit WASP

The little Greek girl in a white silk dress was carried safely in the arms of a U.S. Marine. Her eyes sparkled with awe as she looked about the WASP.

This young girl was part of a group of 100 Greek orphans who visited the WASP on June 14, while the ship was anchored at Rhodes.

The visitors -- 50 boys and 50 girls from the Rhodes Orphanage operated by the Greek Orthodox Church of Rhodes -- were guests of the Marine Detachment, "X" Division, and Air Antisubmarine Squadron THIRTY-ONE (VS-31) which is embarked in the WASP.

First item on the agenda for the young visitors was chow. By twos and threes, the children were escorted through the general mess line, filling up their trays with roast beef, mashed potatoes and all the trimmings.

After dinner, the group assembled on the WASP's hangar deck for a presentation ceremony during which the Orphanage was given two gifts. One was a movie projector from the men of VS-31. The other gift was \$170, from the Marine Detachment, "X" Division and the officers of Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron ELEVEN (HS-11), to be applied toward the purchase of a washing machine. Then, amid squeals of laughter,



V. E. WHITE, AB3, V-2 DIV., SHOWS VISITORS ABOUT FLIGHT DECK
125 Greek Orphans visited the WASP at Athens

the children took two elevator rides up to the flight deck and then to the mess deck to enjoy some movie cartoons before completing their visit to the WASP.

Much the same scene was repeated on June 21 when 125 Greek orphans visited the ship while she was anchored at Athens.

The visitors -- 25 children from the Catholic Orphanage, 80 from the Lannion Orphanage and 20 from the Hadjikyriakou Orphanage -- were guests of the WASP's Air Department.

The orphanages were presented with a total of 16,000 drachmas (approximately \$530) from the men in the Air Department's divisions.

FROM _____
____ DIVISION
U.S.S. WASP CVS-18
c/o F. P. O. NEW YORK, N. Y.

6c
FIRST CLASS
12c
AIR MAIL



