



The Honorable George H. Waters
Mayor of National City, California

The Honorable Marc H. Morial
Mayor of New Orleans, Louisiana



Office of the Mayor
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George H. Waters - Mayor

August 11, 1997

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

As USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) is decommissioned after almost 29 years of faithful service, I would like to pause and reflect on the contributions which she and her crews have made to our great country.

USS NEW ORLEANS has boldly defended our national interests and the causes of world freedom and peace for three decades. She fought in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf when the need arose, serving with great distinction. When not required to fight, she laid down her arms and devoted herself to helping other people in places like Somalia and the Philippines. Wherever she went, she represented the United States well, showing the world our goodwill and commitment to the inalienable rights for which this country stands.

Over the years, the individual members of NEW ORLEANS' crews have also made significant contributions to all San Diego area communities. They volunteered for every imaginable charity and cause, took leadership roles in the community and provided solid role models for our youth. They have been good neighbors.

On behalf of National City, I am proud to congratulate and thank the officers and men of USS NEW ORLEANS for their many accomplishments in the service of our nation and community.

Best wishes for continued success.

George H. Waters
GEORGE H. WATERS
MAYOR

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CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

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MARC H. MORIAL
MAYOR

Captain R. C. Perkins, USN
Commanding Officer
USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11)
FPO AP 96627-1650

Dear Captain Perkins:

It is with both great pride and a heavy heart that I send my regards to the officers and crew of the United States Ship NEW ORLEANS (LPH 11) upon the occasion of her decommissioning. USS NEW ORLEANS has brought honor to the United States, her naval service and the city for which she was named. We will miss her sorely.

USS NEW ORLEANS has served her country with great distinction for almost 29 years. The third U.S. warship to bear the name, she upheld the legacy of her two ancestors by fighting boldly in two major conflicts. NEW ORLEANS has also served honorably during peacetime. She performed great humanitarian operations in many regions, including Somalia. She has recovered astronauts from four NASA missions. She has carried the flag over most of the globe, and with it the pride, goodwill and ideals of the United States of America.

The City of New Orleans is very proud of the heritage and accomplishments of USS NEW ORLEANS and her crews both past and present. The ship has reached the end of her commissioned service, but her honor, dignity and spirit will live in the hearts of the Sailors and Marines who served on her and the great people of New Orleans.

Sincerely,

Marc H. Morial
Mayor