

# COMMISSIONING



## UNITED STATES SHIP NEW YORK CITY SSN 696

NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE NEW LONDON  
GROTON CONNECTICUT

3 MARCH 1979









## THE COMMISSIONING CEREMONY AND PENNANT

The Commissioning Ceremony marks the acceptance of a ship as a unit of the operating forces of the United States Navy. At the moment the commissioning pennant is broken, USS NEW YORK CITY (SSN696) becomes the responsibility of the Commanding Officer, who, together with the ship's officers and men, has the duty of making and keeping her ready for any service required by our nation, whether we be at peace or at war.



The commissioning pennant has for centuries been the symbol of a man-of-war. It is believed to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. The Dutch Admiral, Maarten Harbertszoon Tromp, hoisted a broom at his masthead to symbolize his intention to sweep the English from the sea. This gesture was answered by British Admiral William Blake, who hoisted a horsewhip indicating his intention to chastize the Dutch. The victorious British thus set the precedent for a long, narrow commissioning pennant to symbolize the original horsewhip as the distinctive symbol of a ship of war.



The modern U.S. Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a union of seven white stars, and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly.





The initialing of the keel of NEW YORK CITY on December 15, 1973 by Mrs. James L. Buckley marked the start of construction on the eighth of the Navy's newest class of nuclear powered submarines. Principals for the keel laying ceremony were the Honorable James L. Buckley, former Senator from New York State, Ann Buckley, the Honorable J. William Middendorf, II, former Secretary of the Navy and Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, Director of the Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program.





# USS NEW YORK CITY

## SSN696



### NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID DECEMBER 15, 1973 AT GENERAL DYNAMICS' ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION

BY

**MRS. ANN BUCKLEY**

"MILITARY FORCES ARE NOT A LUXURY BUT A NECESSITY. SO LONG AS WE LIVE IN A WORLD IN WHICH SOME NATIONS FEEL A COMPULSION TO DOMINATE, OR INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHERS, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO MAINTAIN THOSE LEVELS OF DEFENSE THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR SURVIVAL."

**THE HONORABLE JAMES L. BUCKLEY**  
**United States Senator from New York**



### VITAL STATISTICS

KEEL LAID.....	15 November 1973
LAUNCHED.....	18 June 1977
LENGTH.....	360 Feet
BEAM.....	33 Feet
DISPLACEMENT .....	6900 Tons
COMPLEMENT.....	115 Enlisted 12 Officers





**SPONSOR**  
**Mrs. James R. Schlesinger**

Rachel Mellinger Schlesinger was born in Springfield, Ohio and grew up on a two-hundred acre family farm in Clark County. She graduated cum laude from Radcliffe College in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she had studied American history and literature. At Radcliffe, she won the *Mademoiselle* Magazine College Board Contest and, upon graduation, went to work for the magazine. Within two years she was editor of the College section of that publication.

In 1954, she married James R. Schlesinger. Dr. Schlesinger has served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, Head of the Central Intelligence Agency, Secretary of Defense, and, most recently, Secretary of Energy.

Mrs. Schlesinger's interest in education has led her to serve in several PTA's and to take a public stand on issues that affect the local schools. She also served on a county task force to set up criteria for expository writing and on the Arlington Scholarships for Teachers Board.

In addition to caring for the eight Schlesinger children and in managing a busy life in official Washington, Mrs. Schlesinger finds time to play the violin and to join her husband in a favorite pastime of bird watching on weekends.





NEW YORK CITY was christened by Mrs. James R. Schlesinger and launched on June 18, 1977, into the Thames River at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation. Principals present included the Honorable W. Graham Claytor, Jr., Secretary of the Navy; the Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan, Senator from New York State; and Admiral Hyman G. Rickover. The nucleus of the Navy Precommissioning Crew, which has formed at Electric Boat under the command of Commander James A. Ross, was on board to ride the ship down the ways.



# COMMISSIONING PROGRAM

## ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY

### INVOCATION

The Most Reverend Joseph T. Ryan  
Archbishop of the Military Diocese

### INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

The Honorable George A. Peapples  
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management)

### PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Honorable Joseph P. Addabbo  
United States Representative, Seventh Congressional District  
Queens County, New York

### INTRODUCTION OF BUILDER'S REPRESENTATIVE

Captain William L. Martin III, USN  
Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair, Groton

### REMARKS

Mr. P. Takis Veliotis  
General Manager, Electric Boat Division  
General Dynamics Corporation

### COMMISSIONING

Rear Admiral Carl A. Brettschneider, USNR  
Commandant Fourth Naval District

### ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND

Commander James A. Ross, USN  
Commanding Officer, USS New York City (SSN696)

### INTRODUCTION OF NEW YORK CITY REPRESENTATIVE

Rear Admiral Carl A. Brettschneider, USNR

### REMARKS

The Honorable Peter A. Piscitelli  
Representing the City of New York

### REMARKS

Commander James A. Ross, USN  
Commanding Officer

### BENEDICTION

The Most Reverend Joseph T. Ryan  
Archbishop of the Military Diocese

### MUSIC

Northeast Navy Ceremonial Band  
Under the Direction of MUC Terrance Chesson, USN





**PRINCIPAL SPEAKER**  
**The Honorable Joseph Patrick Addabbo**

Congressman Joseph Patrick Addabbo was born on 17 March 1925 in Queens County, New York. A graduate of Boys' High School, he attended City College and subsequently received his Bachelor of Law degree from St. John's Law School. Representing the 7th Congressional District, Queens County, he was elected to the 87th Congress and each subsequent Congress. Congressman Addabbo is a member of the House Appropriations Committee and Chairman of the Defense Subcommittee on appropriations. Married to the former Grace Salamone, he is a resident of Ozone Park, New York. The Addabbos have three children, Dominic, Dina and Joseph. Mr. Addabbo is active in numerous civic, religious and community organizations.



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK

## "The Big Apple"

It is fitting that the first naval ship to be named in honor of the City of New York is a submarine. It was in New York Harbor during the American Revolution that a submarine was first used as an offensive weapon in naval warfare. The TURTLE, a one-man submarine, was used in an unsuccessful attempt to sink a British man-of-war. In 1900, New York Harbor was the site of the initial sea trials of the USS HOLLAND, the Navy's first submarine.

New York City was first settled by the Dutch as New Amsterdam in 1626. The city remained New Amsterdam until 1664 when it was seized by the English and renamed New York in honor of the Duke of York, brother of King Charles, II, of England. On July 9, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was read to the American troops in the presence of George Washington near the City Hall. New York City became the first United States Capital under the Constitution (1789-1790). George Washington took the oath of office as the first President on the balcony of Federal Hall, Broad and Wall Streets. Until 1797 the city was also capital of New York State.

The founding of the Bank of New York in 1790 under Alexander Hamilton and the beginning of the Stock Exchange established New York City as the nation's financial center. Because of a magnificent natural harbor, the city soon developed into the leading seaport and international trade center of the United States. The city grew rapidly in the 1800's; it became and still is the nation's largest city. New York flourished in other areas becoming a national leader in business, manufacturing, communications, service industries, fashion, and the arts.

New York City has many notable landmarks — modern and historic. Among these are the New World Trade Center located in lower Manhattan, United Nations Headquarters bordering the East River, Statue of Liberty on Bedloe's Island in New York Harbor, and Fraunces Tavern in lower Manhattan where Washington bade farewell to the officers of the Continental Army after the Revolution. With its cultural and educational resources, famous shops and restaurants, places of entertainment, striking architecture, colorful nationality neighborhoods, and rich historic background, New York is one of the great cities of the world.





**COMMISSIONING OFFICER**  
**Rear Admiral Carl A. Brettschneider, USNR**

After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1951, Rear Admiral Brettschneider served on the destroyer USS KNAPP and the submarine USS DOGFISH. While on inactive duty from 1956 to 1964, he served with two Naval Reserve submarine divisions. Upon his return to active duty, he served on the aircraft carrier USS INDEPENDENCE. Subsequently, he was Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Training Center, Philadelphia, Pa., after which he served in the office of the Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Naval Reserve. He next served as Assistant Chief of Staff for Naval Reserve and Training at the First Naval District Headquarters in Boston. In 1973, he was assigned to the staff of the Commander Navy Recruiting Command and later was Officer in Charge of the Navy Recruiting Exhibit Center. In 1975, he became Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel for Naval Reserve.

Rear Admiral Brettschneider became the Commandant, Fourth Naval District, on September 15, 1978.

During his inactive duty period, he attended Harvard Business School and worked in the book publishing field.







## **COMMANDING OFFICER**

### **Commander James A. Ross, USN**

Commander James Andrew Ross was born in El Paso, Texas, and was raised in Denver, Colorado. He graduated from the University of Colorado where he received degrees in Electrical Engineering and Applied Mathematics. He was commissioned in 1962 as an Ensign in the United States Navy under the NROTC program.

After attending Nuclear Power School, Nuclear Prototype Training, and Submarine School, Commander Ross reported to the commissioning crew of the USS ULYSSES S. GRANT (SSBN631) (GOLD) at General Dynamics Corporation, Electric Boat Division. He then served as an instructor at the U.S. Naval Nuclear Power School, Mare Island, California.

During a tour as Engineer Officer, USS JAMES MONORE (SSBN622) (GOLD), he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement Medal. Commander Ross has also served on the staff of Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, as a member of the Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, and as Executive Officer, USS HADDOCK (SSN621). Following Prospective Commanding Officer training, he served as the Tactical Systems Director of Submarine Development Group Two.

Commander Ross established the USS NEW YORK CITY (SSN696) Pre-commissioning Unit at General Dynamics Corporation, Electric Boat Division, on 2 May 1977.

Commander Ross is married to the former Miriam Eileen Carroll of Detroit, Michigan. They currently reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut with their two sons, James, Jr., and Jonathan.





## COMMANDING OFFICER

EXECUTIVE OFFICER — LCDR JOSEPH P. CROCIATA

### Ward Room

LCDR R.A. Crotteau — Navigator  
LCDR S.J. Frasher — Engineer  
LT. R.W. Monks — Supply  
LT. M.J. Kane — Weapons  
LT. D.P. Helmer — Electrical  
LT. M.J. Grimsley — Asst. Engineer  
LT. T.R. Morse — DCA  
LT. D.A. Kalix — RCA  
LT. D.A. Scott — Communicator  
LTJG D.M. Ziebell — MPA  
LTJG J.C. Stuller — Sonar

### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

HMCS(SS) Biscoe  
YNC(SS) Hoffman  
YN2(SS) Cutillo

### SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

#### Food Service

MS2 Deguzman  
MS3 Mabe  
MSSN Petzolt  
MSSN Moore  
MSSN Walker  
MSSN Adams

#### Supply

SK1(SS) Manuguid  
SK3(SS) Crawford

### OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

#### Quartermasters

QM1(SS) Sulzer  
QM2(SS) Geiger  
QM3 Mann  
QM3 Akerson  
QMSN Koller

#### Communications

RMC(SS) Campbell  
RMC(SS) Moss  
RM1 (SS) Van Cleve  
RM2(SS) Donohoo  
RM3 Johnston  
RMSN Malcolm  
RMSN Garcia

#### Electronic Material

ETC(SS) Flynn  
ET1(SS) Philipps  
ETN2(SS) Guzman  
ETN2 Crist  
ETR3 Blackburn  
ETN3 Puckett

### WEAPONS DEPARTMENT

#### Fire Control

FTGC(SS) Williams  
FTG3 Kuehn  
FTG3 McNery  
FTG3 Witte



— CDR JAMES A. ROSS

CHIEF OF THE BOAT — ETCM(SS) LARRY R. LUTTRELL

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

### Torpedo

TMC(SS) Johnson  
TM1(SS) Cardinale  
TM1(SS) Tyler  
TM3 Holiman  
TMSN Walsh

### Sonar

STSCS(SS) Wasden  
STS1(SS) Bruhns  
STS1(SS) Curzio  
STS1(SS) Moss  
STS2(SS) Alford  
STS2(SS) Deisher  
STS2(SS) Dobson  
STS2(SS) Wilson  
STS3 Matthews  
STS3 Witt  
STSSN Goyco  
STSSN Whisennand  
STSSN Wright

### DS

DS1 Cushing  
DS2 Kersch

### Deck

FN Anderson  
SA Flanagan  
SA Seekings  
SA Foster  
FA Wear  
SR Donovan

### Machinery

MMCS(SS) Lewis  
MMC(SS) Russom  
MM1(SS) Askam  
MM1(SS) Ivins  
MM1(SS) Freed  
MM1(SS) Stafford  
MM1(SS) Strote  
MM1(SS) Beasley  
MM1(SS) Soer  
MM1(SS) Larose  
MM1(SS) Ellis  
MM1(SS) Purcell  
MM2 Rankin  
MM2 Gackstetter  
MM2 Werner  
MM2 Maiolini  
MM2 Holland  
MM2 Phalin  
MM2 Perry

### Electrical

ICC(SS) Ferguson  
EMC(SS) Kroha  
EM1(SS) Wheeler  
EM1(SS) Vogel  
EM1(SS) Truszcinski  
EM2 Kurtsinger  
EM2 Pyron  
IC2 Liddell  
EM2 Klepaski  
EM3 Montello

### Reactor Controls

ET1(SS) Jester  
ET1(SS) Marker  
ET1(SS) Bright  
ET1(SS) Reinhart  
ET1(SS) Doran  
ETR2 Danner  
ETN2 Neujahr  
ETN2 Vorlage

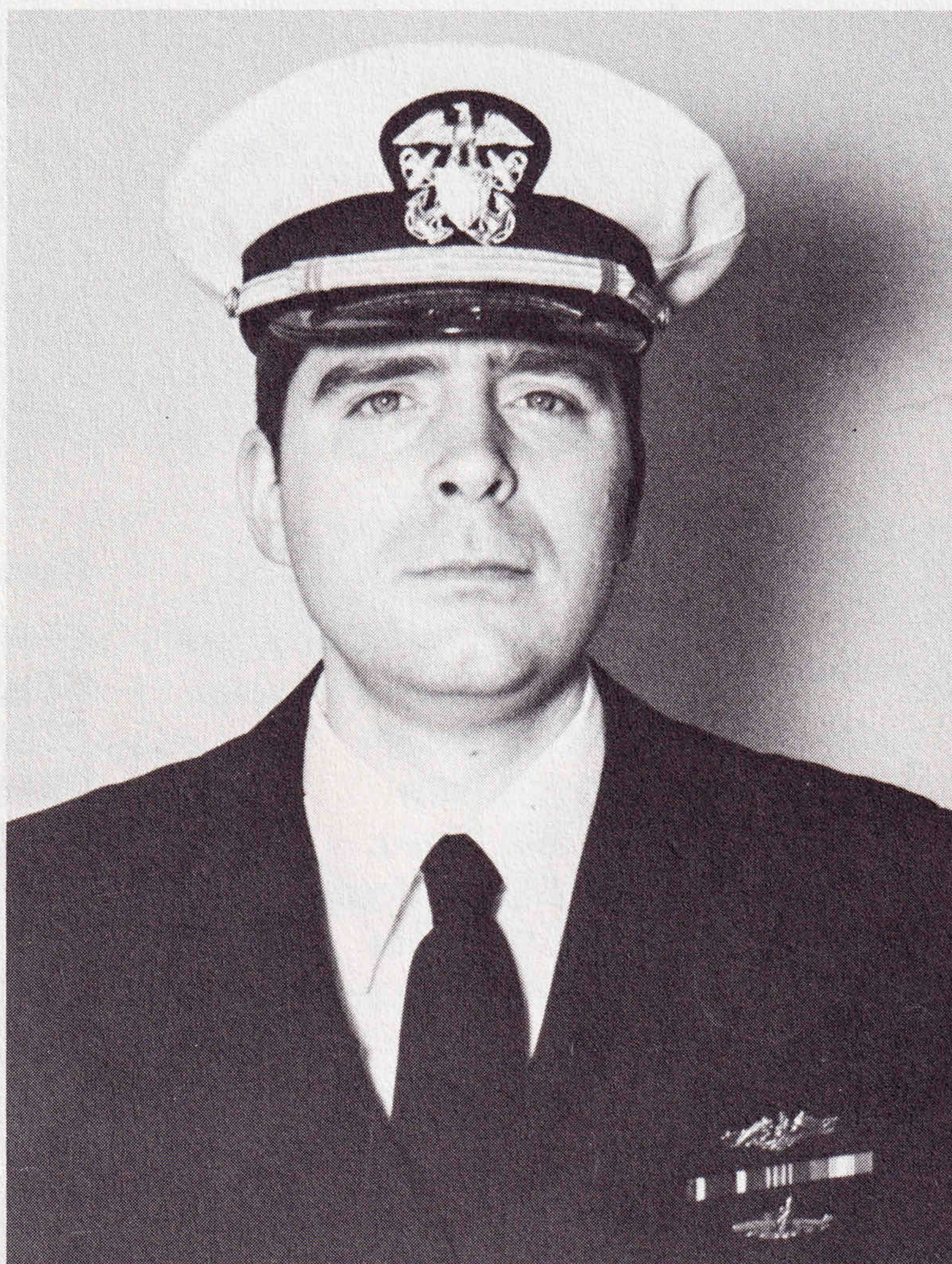
### Auxiliary

MMCS(SS) Mootry  
MM1(SS) Elliott  
MM1(SS) Burks  
MM2(SS) Campbell  
MM2(SS) McKinney  
MM2(SS) Rousseau  
MM3(SS) Tibbitts  
MM3 Schmidt  
MM3 Baranello  
MMFN Pena

### Interior Communications

ICC(SS) Tranchemontagne  
IC2 Elliott  
IC3 Doherty  
IC3 Slack  
ICFN Watson





**EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
LCDR Joseph P. Crociata**

Lieutenant Commander Joseph P. Crociata reported as Prospective Executive Officer of the NEW YORK CITY in May, 1977. A native of New York City, New York, he was commissioned as Ensign in the United States Navy after graduation from the University of Notre Dame in 1966.

Upon completion of nuclear power and submarine training in April, 1968, he was assigned aboard USS THOMAS A. EDISON (SSBN610) (BLUE) where he served as an Engineering Division Officer and Weapons Officer until August, 1971. His next assignment was a tour as Engineer Officer onboard USS PATRICK HENRY (SSBN599) (BLUE). He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal during the latter tour.

In December, 1974, Lieutenant Commander Crociata was assigned to the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Submarine Warfare, as the head of the Polaris and Poseidon Strategic Weapons Section, until his assignment to the NEW YORK CITY.

Lieutenant Commander Crociata is married to the former Jill Susan Patton of Montreal, Canada. They presently reside in Norwichtown, Connecticut, with their two children.





**NAVIGATOR**  
**LCDR Robert A. Crotteau**



**ENGINEER**  
**LCDR Steven J. Frasher**



**WEAPONS OFFICER**  
**Lt. Michael J. Kane**





**Lt. Robert W. Monks**  
**Supply Officer**



**Lt. Michael J. Grimsley**  
**Assistant Engineer**



**Lt. Dale P. Helmer**  
**Electrical Officer**



**Lt. Thomas R. Morse**  
**Damage Control Assistant**





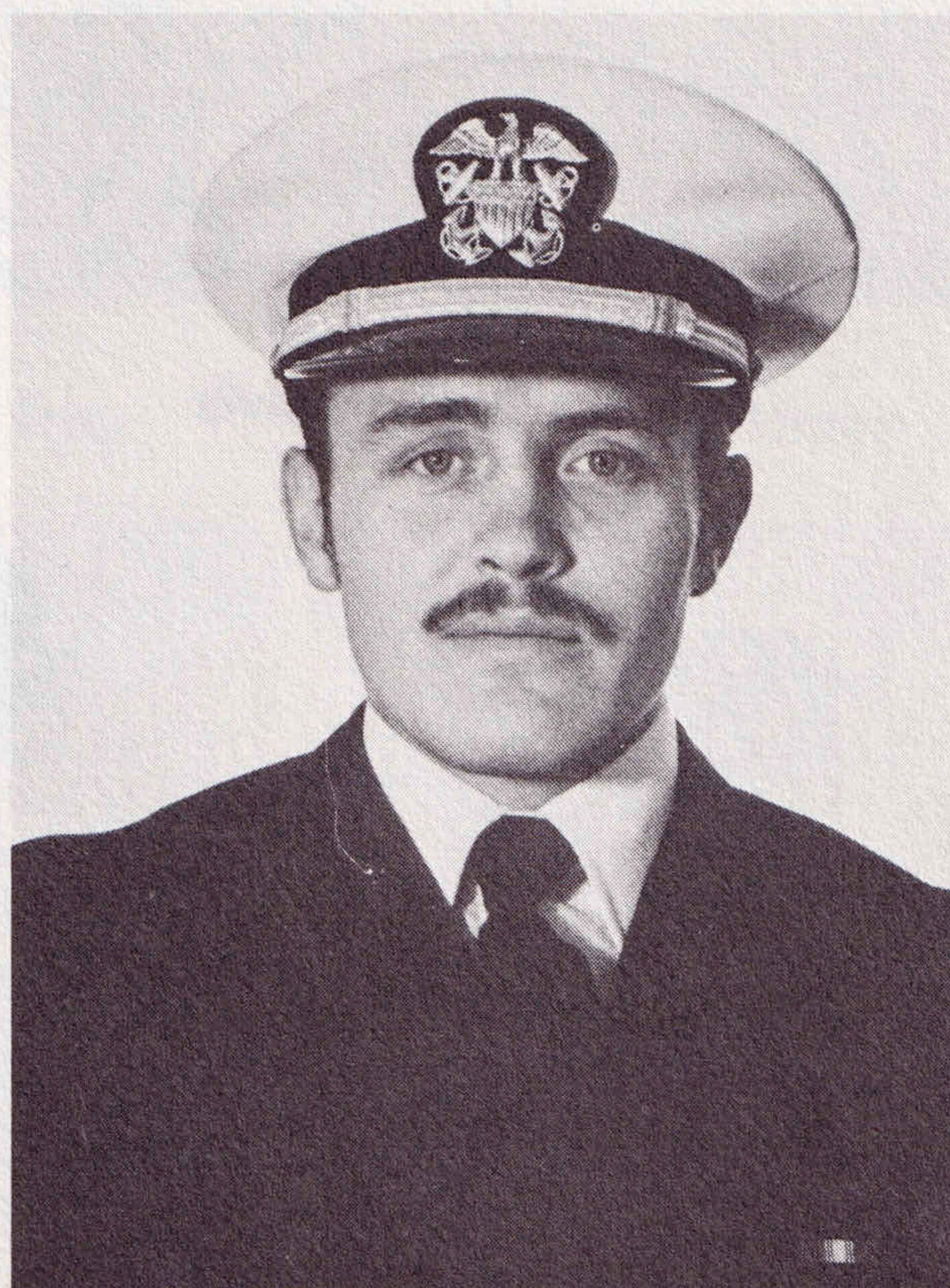
**Lt. David A. Kalix**  
**Reactor Controls Assistant**



**Lt. David A. Scott**  
**Communicator**



**LTJG David M. Ziebell**  
**Main Propulsion Assistant**



**LTJG James C. Stuller**  
**Sonar**





**CHIEF OF THE BOAT**  
**ETCM(SS) Larry R. Luttrell**



**MMCS(SS)**  
**Dave R. Lewis**



**STSCS(SS)**  
**Charles L. Wasden**



**MMCS(SS)**  
**Alex S. Mootry**



**MMC(SS)**  
**Randall B. Russom**



**HMCS(SS)**  
**Thomas R. Biscoe**





**ICC(SS)**  
**Wayne N. Ferguson**



**FTGC(SS)**  
**Richard A. Williams**



**ETC(SS)**  
**Kevin Flynn**



**RMC(SS)**  
**Michael J. Campbell**



**RMC(SS)**  
**Philip E. Moss**



**YNC(SS)**  
**John D. Hoffman**



**TMC(SS)**  
**Sherman A. Johnson**



**ICC(SS)**  
**George R. Tranchemontagne**



**EMC(SS)**  
**Timothy J. Kroha**



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT



Auxiliary Division



Interior Communications Division

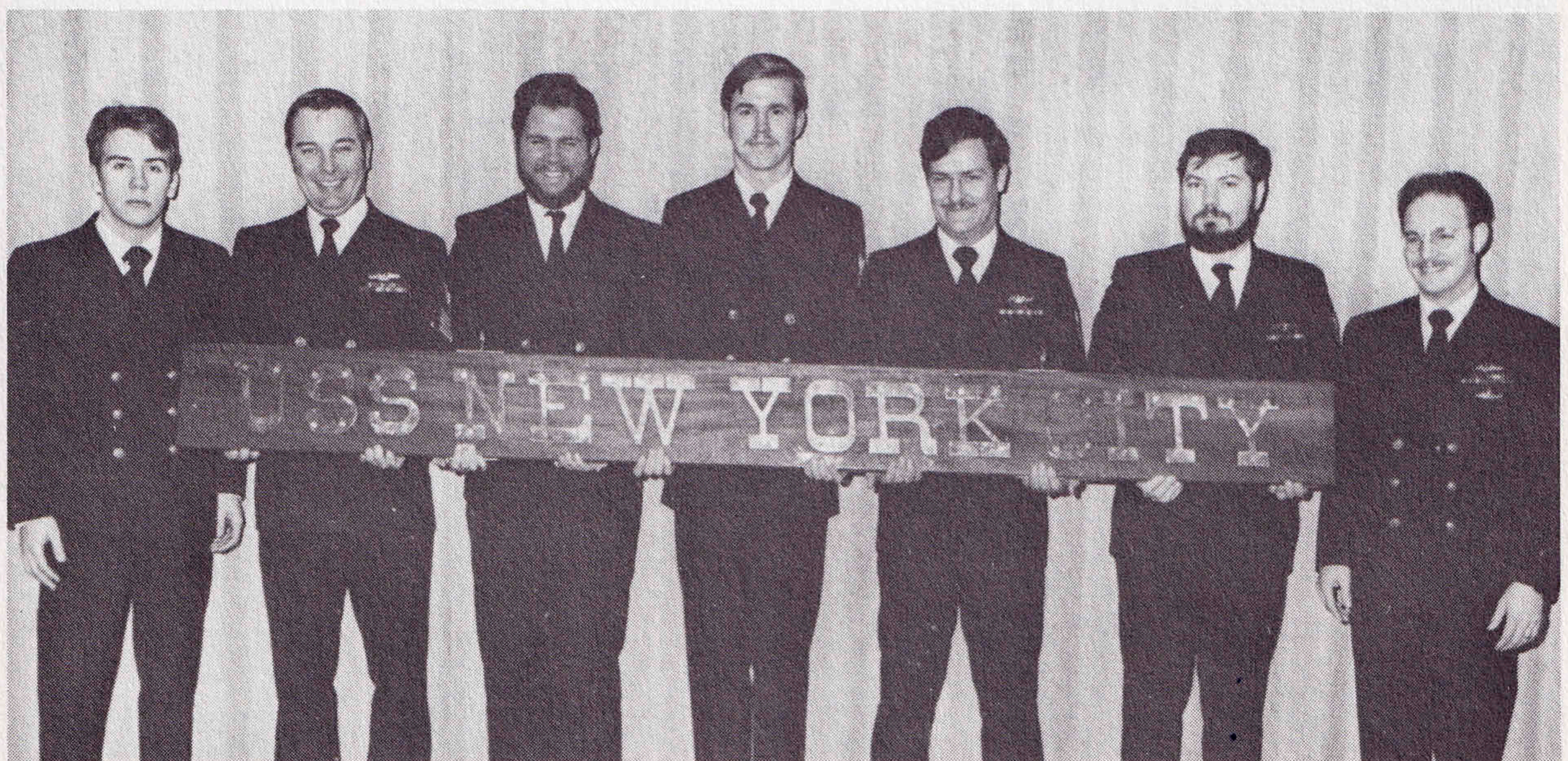




**Machinery Division**



**Electrical Division**



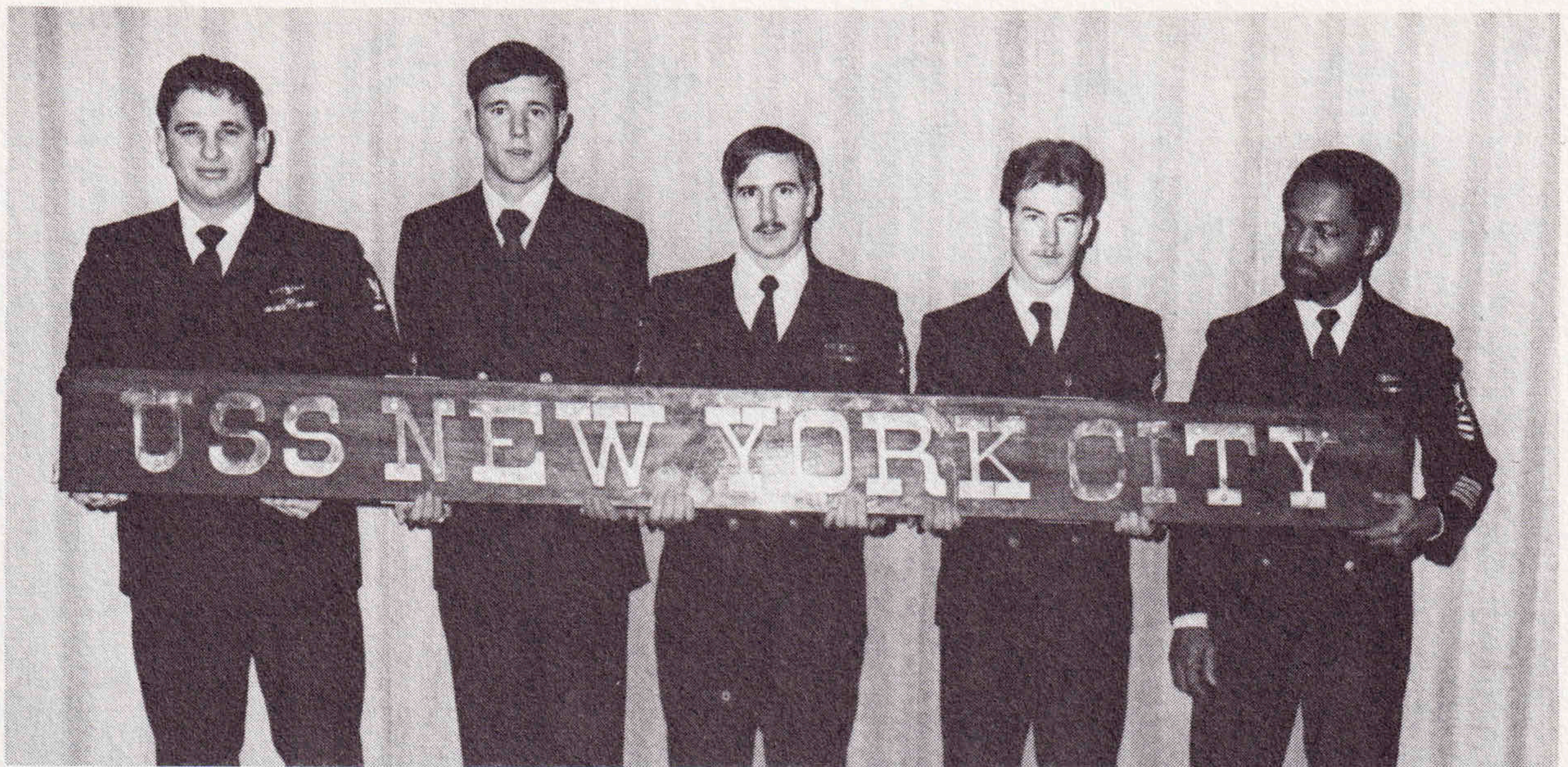
**Reactor Controls Division**



## WEAPONS DEPARTMENT



**Sonar Division**



**Torpedo Division**



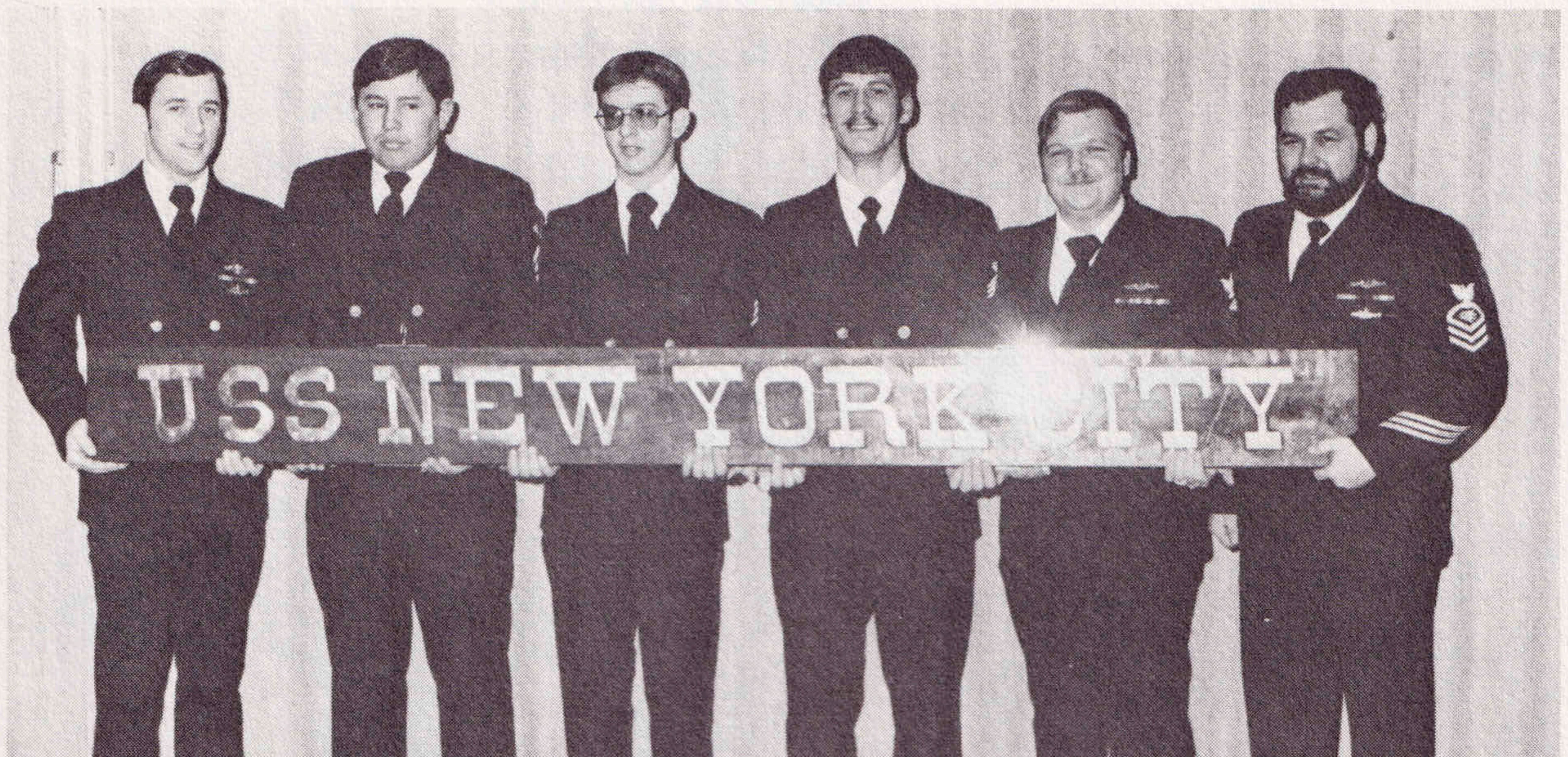
**Fire Control/Data Systems Divisions**



## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT



Quartermaster Division



Radio Division



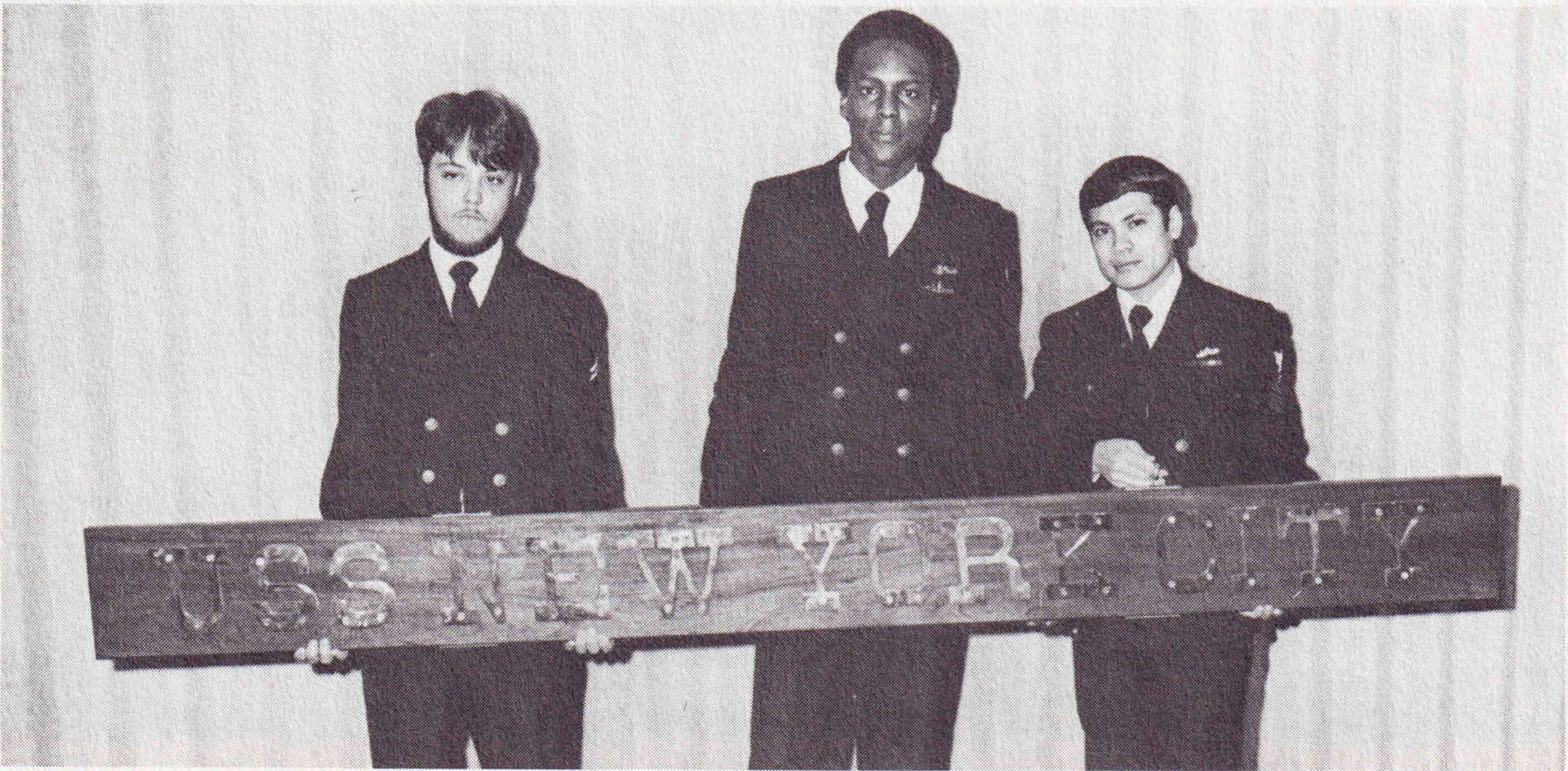
Electronic Material Division



SUPPLY DEPARTMENT



Food Service Division



Supply Division



## WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Many people labored long and hard as members of the New York City's precommissioning crew but have since been transferred for duty elsewhere and are not part of the commissioning crew. This page recognizes the significant contributions that they made in the construction of this fine ship.

EMC	Dennis Demots
ETC	Earl E. Courtney
RMC	Lawrence D. Yaeger
MSC	James T. Rhoads, Jr.
MM1	Charles E. Taulbee
IC1	Ronald R. Roth
MM1	Joseph B. Broskey, Jr.
EM1	Michael G. Flower
MS1	Lorenzo U. Ocheda
RM2	David L. Wright
MM2	Kim R. Luginbuhl
FN	Anton Vogel



