

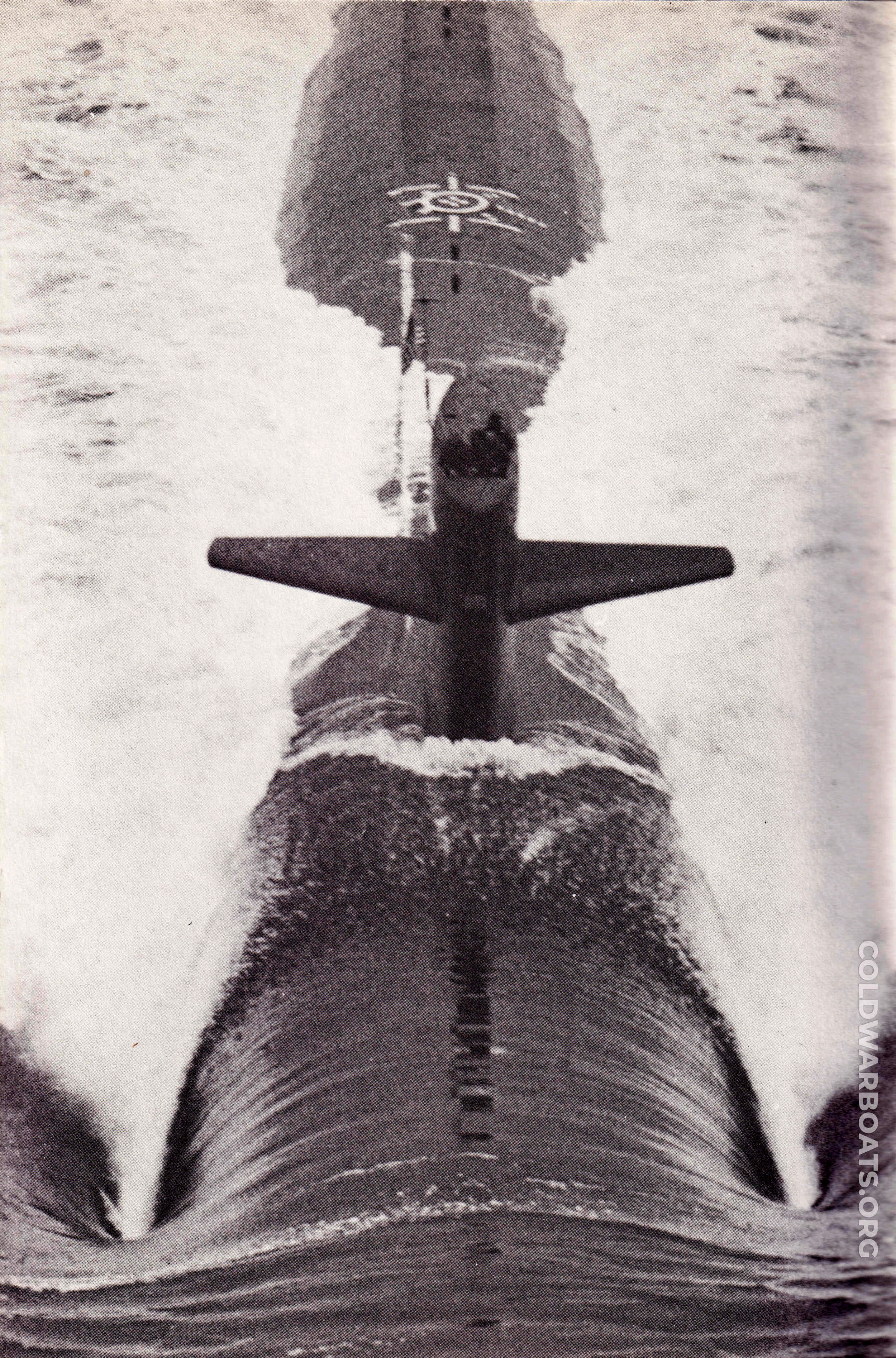
COMMISSIONING



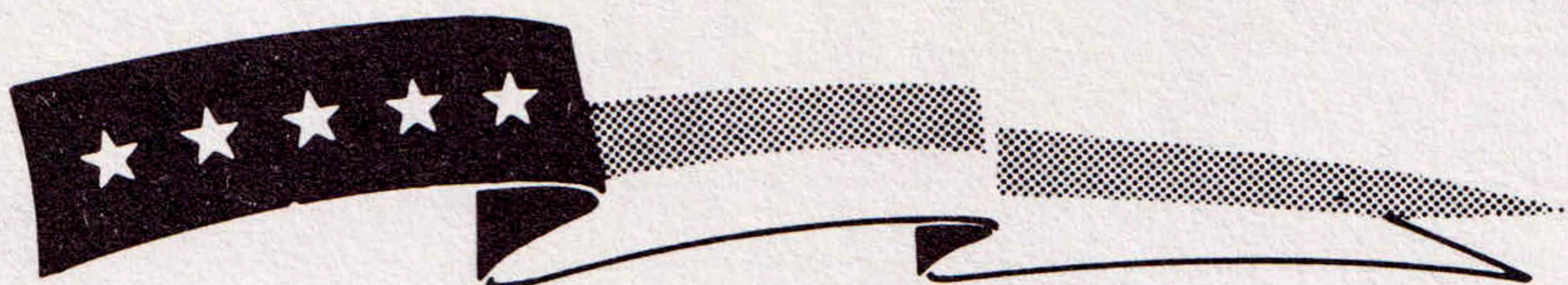
UNITED STATES SHIP
INDIANAPOLIS
SSN 697

NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE NEW LONDON
GROTON CONNECTICUT

5 JANUARY 1980



COLDWARBOATS.ORG



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 INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697)** 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.



KEEL LAYING

The initialing of the keel of INDIANAPOLIS on 19 October 1974 by Mrs. William G. Bray, marked the start of construction on the tenth of the Navy's newest class of nuclear powered submarines. Principals at the keel laying ceremony were Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, head of the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Program, shown with Mrs. Rickover; former Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable J. William Middendorf II; and the Honorable William G. Bray, former congressman from Indiana, and the late husband of the sponsor.

USS INDIANAPOLIS

SSN 697

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID OCTOBER 19, 1974 AT GENERAL DYNAMICS' ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION
BY

MRS. WILLIAM G. BRAY

"THE NEED FOR A STRONG NAVY DATES BACK TO THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION. THE NEED IS STILL THERE; A NUCLEAR NAVY IS
ESSENTIAL TO GUARANTEE OUR NATIONAL SECURITY."

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM G. BRAY
United States Representative from Indiana

VITAL STATISTICS

KEEL LAID..... 19 October 1974
LAUNCHED..... 30 July 1977
LENGTH..... 360 Feet
WIDTH..... 33 Feet
DISPLACEMENT..... 6900 Tons
COMPLEMENT..... 115 Enlisted
12 Officers



SPONSOR
Mrs. William G. Bray

Mrs. William G. Bray, the former Esther Debra, was born in Huntington County, near Warren, Indiana. She earned a B.S. degree in business and an M.A. degree in education from Indiana University, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters degree in 1973 from Marian College in Indianapolis. She later taught in high schools, at Ball State University, and at Indiana University.

As wife of the late former Congressman from the sixth district in Indiana, Mrs. Bray worked with her husband in many civic interests. She has served as state parliamentarian for Tri Kappa, member of the Board of Directors of the YMCA, PEO Sisterhood, United Church of Christ, and county president of the Federation of Clubs.

Mrs. Bray has served as both a member and secretary of the Indiana State Board of Higher Education. She frequently speaks throughout her home state to educational, civic, political, business, and religious groups.

She has been a member of the Indiana Republican State Central Committee, precinct committeewoman and vice-committewoman, State Party Leader in the American Legion Auxiliary's Girls State Program, and educational director for Girls Nation.

A member of many professional and honorary organizations, Mrs. Bray has been a consultant and director for workshops in the fields of business, office management, and secretarial training.

Mrs. Bray has one son, Richard, who practices law and lives in Martinsville, Indiana with his wife and three children.



LAUNCHING

INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) was christened and launched by Mrs. William Bray on 30 July 1977, into the Thames River at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation. Principals at the launching ceremony were the Honorable W. Graham Claytor, Jr., Secretary of the Navy; Admiral Hyman G. Rickover; and Senator Richard G. Lugar of Indiana. Also in attendance were members of the USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA-35) Survivors Association, for whom this ceremony had a deep significance since the Cruiser INDIANAPOLIS was sunk on 30 July 1945. The nucleus of the Precommissioning crew, under the command of Commander Harry P. Salmon, Jr. was on board the ship to ride down the building ways.

COMMISSIONING PROGRAM

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY

●

INVOCATION

LCDR W.D. Aders
Chaplain Corps, USN

●

INTRODUCTION OF BUILDER'S REPRESENTATIVE

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

●

REMARKS

Mr. Gary S. Grimes
Deputy General Manager, Electric Boat Division
General Dynamics Corporation

●

COMMISSIONING

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

●

ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND

Commander Harry P. Salmon, Jr., USN
Commanding Officer, USS Indianapolis (SSN697)

●

GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

The Honorable William H. Hudnut, III
Mayor of the City of Indianapolis

●

INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

The Honorable Joseph A. Doyle
Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Manpower, Reserve Affairs and Logistics)

●

THE PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The Honorable Andrew Jacobs, Jr.
United States Representative, Eleventh
Congressional District of the State of Indiana

●

REMARKS

Commander Harry P. Salmon, Jr.
Commanding Officer

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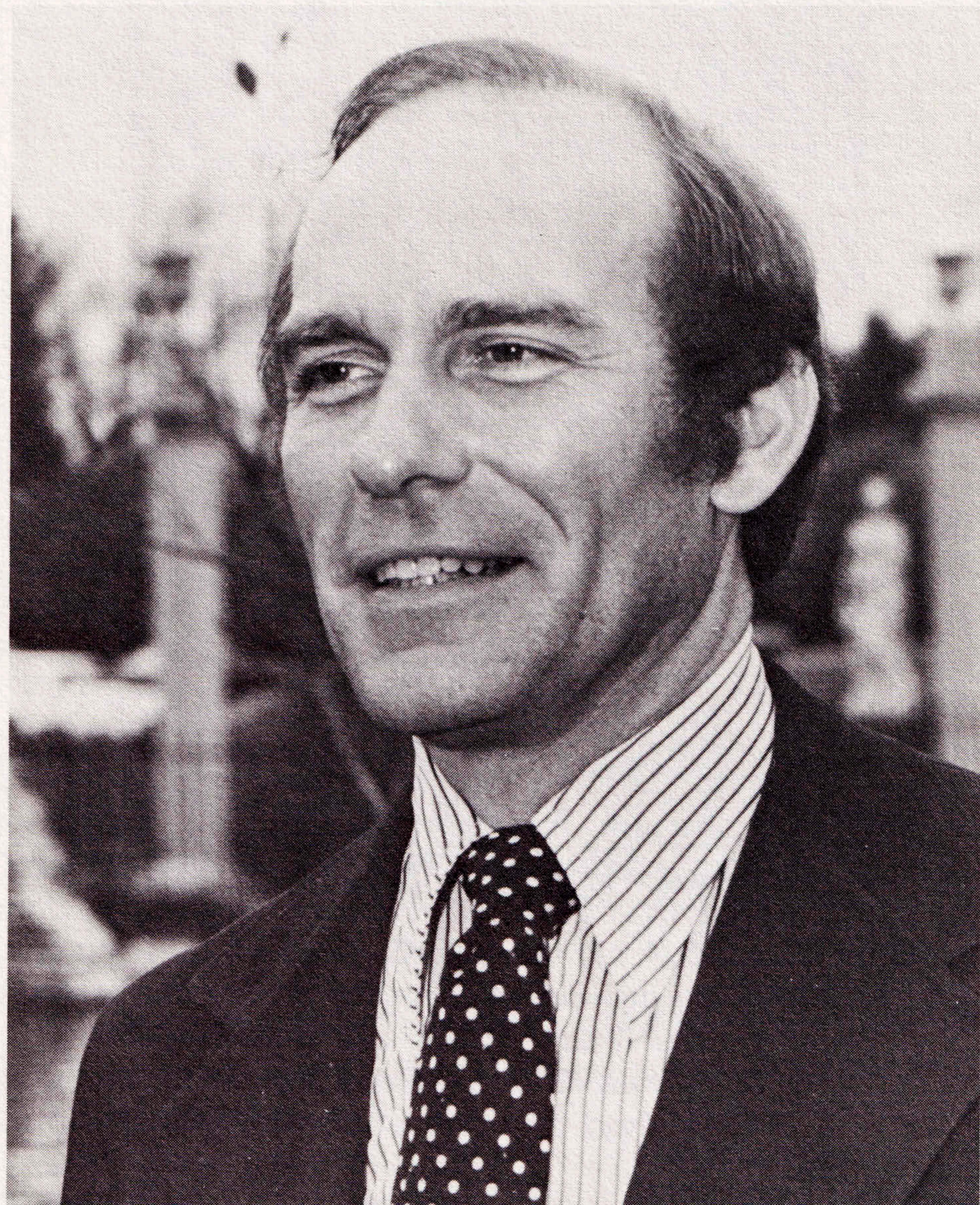
BENEDICTION

LCDR W.D. Aders, CHC, USN

●

MUSIC

United States Coast Guard Band
Under the Direction of LT L.J. Buckley, USCG



PRINCIPAL SPEAKER
The Honorable Andrew Jacobs, Jr.

The Honorable Andrew Jacobs, Jr. was born in Indianapolis, Indiana on February 24, 1932. A graduate of Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, he served in the United States Marine Corps from 1950-52. In 1951, he deployed with an infantry company to Korea. After completing his military service, Congressman Jacobs continued his education at Indiana University, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in 1955 and a Bachelor of Law degree in 1958. Since becoming a member of the Indianapolis Bar Association in 1958, he has been a practicing attorney. He served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1959 to 1960 and in 1964 he was elected to his first term in the United States House of Representatives. He is currently a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, the Social Security Subcommittee and the Oversight Subcommittee. Congressman Jacobs is married to the former Martha Keys. He is a member of SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral and of the American Legion.

USS INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697)

USS INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) is named for the capital of the State of Indiana. Indianapolis is the geographic and population center of Indiana, as well as a major industrial and transportation center for the Midwestern United States. Indianapolis boasts many fine cultural, educational, and recreational facilities. The ship's emblem, displayed on the cover, has, as its central figure, the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, which is located in Midtown Indianapolis.

USS INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) is the Third Naval Ship to be named for the "Circle City": the First was a transport during World War I. The Second USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA 35) was a heavy cruiser which participated in many of the major Pacific operations as the FIFTH Fleet Flagship during World War II.

USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA 35) entertained President Roosevelt several times during the 1930's and also delivered the first atomic bomb to the Island of Tinian in the Pacific. On her return voyage, she was the victim of a torpedo attack by a Japanese Submarine. Over one thousand officers and men entered the water, but only 316 survived five days of exposure, fatigue and delerium before being rescued.

The first rescue ship to arrive was a Destroyer Escort commanded by LCDR W. Graham Claytor, Jr., the Deputy Secretary of Defense. The emblem chosen to represent USS INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) embodies many symbols that are rich in history and significance, both to the Nation and to the people of Indianapolis. The central feature of the ship's emblem is the representation of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, the most prominent landmark in the City of Indianapolis. It was dedicated in 1902 to the memory of Indiana war dead. The gold star and letters "CA 35" are a tribute to the memory of the sailors who gave their lives in the sinking of USS INDIANAPOLIS (CA 35). The checkered background of the emblem symbolizes the Indianapolis 500, the world's most famous motor race.

Circumscribed around the monument, in the foreground of the emblem, are electron rings, symbolic of the Nuclear Power which enables USS INDIANAPOLIS to go faster and deeper, with greater endurance than previous ships.



COMMISSIONING OFFICER
Rear Admiral Carl A. Brettschneider, USNR

After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1951, Rear Admiral Brettschneider served in 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 in 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 Harry Paul Salmon, Jr.

Commander Harry P. Salmon, Jr., was born in Mount Holly, New Jersey, and raised in Pitman, New Jersey. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1963.

After attending Nuclear Power School, Nuclear Prototype Training, and Submarine School, he made four Polaris patrols in USS JAMES MADISON (SSBN627) (GOLD). He then served at the United States Naval Academy as a Company Officer and as Aide to the Superintendent. During this tour he earned a Masters of Science degree in Personnel Administration at George Washington University.

During a tour as Engineer Officer, USS SKATE (SSN578), he was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal during an Arctic operation. During a second Engineer Officer tour on USS SEAWOLF (SSN575) he was awarded a gold star in lieu of a second Navy Achievement Medal. Commander Salmon then served as Executive Officer of the commissioning crew of USS RICHARD B. RUSSELL (SSN687). Following Prospective Commanding Officer training he served briefly as Mark 48 Torpedo Tactical Development Officer at Submarine Development Squadron TWELVE.

Commander Salmon established the INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) Precommissioning Unit at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation on 30 August 1977.

Commander Salmon is married to the former Doris Elsa Porch of Pedricktown, New Jersey. They currently reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut, with their children Jeffrey, Karen, Dana and David.

COMMANDING OFFICER -

EXECUTIVE OFFICER - LCDR THOMAS R. KENT

Wardroom

LCDR James W. Metzger — Engineer
LT. Robert J. Trabona — Navigator
LT. Paul E. Normand — Communicator
LT. Niel E. Rondorf — Weapons
LTJG James A. Petersen — MPA
LTJG John E. Sutton — DCA
LTJG Steven J. Perris — RCA
LTJG Scott A. Spencer — Electrical
LTJG Michael Watson — Torpedo
ENS Charles J. Marden, Jr. — Supply
ENS Lewe Stanaland — Electrical (R)

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

YNC (SS) Howard W. Kigge, Jr.
YNSN (SS) Randolph P. Lewis

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Auxiliary

MMC (SS) Gary A. Deboer
MMC (SS) James S. Scally
MM1 (SS) Richard B. Cowles
MM1 (SS) David W. Ginapp
MM1 (SS) Thomas A. Johnson
MM2 (SU) John A. Batakis
MM2 (SS) Arthur D. Glover
MM3 (SU) Robert A. Heim, III
MM3 (SU) Russell R. Watts
MM3 (SS) David W. Kemph
MMFN (SU) Lloyd A. Leverette

Reactor Controls

ETC (SS) Lucien H. Hinson
ET1 (SS) Terry W. Specht
ET2 (SS) Duane E. Lehman
ET2 Gregory K. Swanson
ET2 Ralph E. Pritchard
ET2 Michael R. Manard
ET2 James E. Rupert
ET3 Jon Van Wert

Machinery

MMCS (SS) James T. Steinke
MMC (SS) John R. Mowka
MM1 (SS) Richard D. Acker
MM1 (SS) Michael G. Selland
MM1 (SS) John R. Thompson
MM1 (SS) Richard D. Williams
MM1 (SS) Donald H. Wright, Jr.
MM1 Michael T. Ashley
MM2 Carl G. Bates, II
MM2 Donald G. Boucher
MM2 Gregory J. Corna
MM2 Robert J. Cummings
MM2 James A. Dillard
MM2 Ronald W. Holcomb, III
MM2 David A. Lomber
MM2 Brent "J" Wegher
MM2 Earl J. Wright
MM2 Charles A. Christian
MM2 Stephen A. Murphy
MM3 James A. Devoe
MM3 Mitchell L. Wekamp

Electrical

EMCM (SS) Robert C. Sykes
EMC (SS) Robert C. Evans
IC1 (SS) Robert L. McClellan
EM1 (SS) Robert D. McBride
EM1 (SS) Russell W. Kelley
EM2 John P. Earl
EM2 David E. Faulkner
EM2 Steven R. Lashley
IC2 Matthew L. Selman
EM2 Carl J. Miller
EM3 Arthur T. Arehart
IC3 Gary R. Goodin
EM3 Timothy L. George
EM3 Steve R. Kirker

Interior Communications

IC1 (SS) Larry W. Myer
IC2 (SS) Noel T. Hernberger
IC2 (SU) Kerry T. Slane
ICFA (SU) Blane A. Gordon

CDR HARRY P. SALMON, JR.

CHIEF OF THE BOAT – ENCM(SS) JERRY S. GILSTRAP

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

Electronic Material

ETC (SS) Robert G. Paddock
ET2 (SU) Christopher Clark
ET3 (SU) Archibald R. Pflugh
ET3 (SU) Keith J. Woolley
ET3 (SU) Dale E. Parker

Quartermaster

QMC (SS) Thomas M. Fontana
QM1 (SS) James A. Clarke
QM2 (SS) Vincent F. O'Connor
FA (SU) Michael J. Ritterson

Radio

RMCS (SS) Richard C. Kopplin
RM1 (SS) David G. Pipes
RM2 (SU) John G. Baumgarten
RM3 (SS) Thomas G. Gaskill
RMSN (SU) Raymond Garcia
RMSN (SU) David W. Teemer

Data Systems

DS2 (SU) Brian K. Larson
DS3 (SU) Hector A Mejia

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT

Torpedo

TMC (SS) Roger A. Smith
TM1 (SS) John W. Jochum
TM2 (SS) Scott M. Thompson
TMSN (SU) Glen A. Davis
TMSN (SU) Daniel J. Archibald

Fire Control

FTG1 (SS) Bruce E. Mulford
FTG2 (SU) Edward E. Hobson
FTG2 (SS) Jeffrey A. Littell
FTG2 (SU) James Ellington

Sonar

STSCS (SS) Robert E. Labonte
STS1 (SS) James M. Henderson
STS1 (SS) Robert D. Young
STS2 (SS) James V. Laming
STS2 (SS) Bernard W. Fezer, Jr.
STS2 (SS) William W. Wristen
STS3 (SU) David C. Roberts
STS3 (SU) Thomas F. McTamaney
STS3 (SU) David J. McKay
STS3 (SU) Jack D. Watts, Jr.
STSSN (SU) Edward A. Jahn
STSSA (SU) Mark J. Waller
STSSA (SU) Edward T. Matheny

Deck

FA (SU) Anthony J. Fox
SA (SU) Kenneth W. Granthem
SA (SU) James A. Wuhrman
FA (SU) Guy E. Dalgren
SA (SU) Franklin B. Withers

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Stores

SK1 (SS) Barry L. Henry
SKSN (SU) Michael P. Fontes
SKSN (SS) Melvin Benjamin

Food Service

MS1 (SS) Edward R. Welch
MS1 (SS) John V. Peterson
MS2 (SS) William C. Harris
MS3 (SS) Gregory P. Spanbauer
MSSA (SU) Bruce J. Kimsey
MSSA (SU) Mark R. Krob
MSSA (SU) Russell S. Williams
MSSA (SU) William H. Barton

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

HMC (SS) Steven B. Walton



**EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LCDR Thomas Richard Kent**

Lieutenant Commander Thomas R. Kent reported as Prospective Executive Officer of the INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697) in August 1977. A native of Ithaca, New York, he was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy after graduation from the United States Naval Academy in 1967.

Upon completion of nuclear power and submarine training in March 1969, he was assigned aboard USS THOMAS A. EDISON (SSBN610) (GOLD) where he served as an Engineering Division Officer until October 1971. His next assignment was as an instructor in the Navigation Department at the United States Naval Academy. During this tour he received a Masters of Science in Business Administration from George Washington University.

In April of 1974, Lieutenant Commander Kent was assigned as Engineering Officer of USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN642) (BLUE), until his assignment to the Precommissioning Unit, INDIANAPOLIS. He was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal during his tour on KAMEHAMEHA.

Lieutenant Commander Kent is married to the former Carol Anne Ford of Centerville, Maryland. They presently reside in Kaneohe, Hawaii, with their two children, Thomas and Ted.



ENGINEER
LCDR James W. Metzger



NAVIGATOR
LT Robert J. Trabona



WEAPONS OFFICER
LT Neil Rondorf



SUPPLY OFFICER
ENS Charles J. MARDEN, JR.



COMMUNICATOR
LT Paul E. Normand



MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT
LTJG James A. Petersen



DAMAGE CONTROL ASSISTANT
LTJG John E. Sutton



REACTOR CONTROLS ASSISTANT
LTJG Stephen J. Perris



ELECTRICAL OFFICER
LTJG Scott A. Spencer



ELECTRICAL (R)
ENS Lewe Stanaland



TORPEDO OFFICER
LTJG Michael Watson



CHIEF OF THE BOAT
ENCM (SS) Jerry S. Gilstrap



EMCM (SS)
Robert C. Sykes



RMCS (SS)
Richard C. Kopplin



STSCS (SS)
Robert E. Labonte



MMCS (SS)
James T. Steinke



TMC (SS)
Roger A. Smith



QMC (SS)
Thomas M. Fontana



EMC (SS)
Robert C. Evans



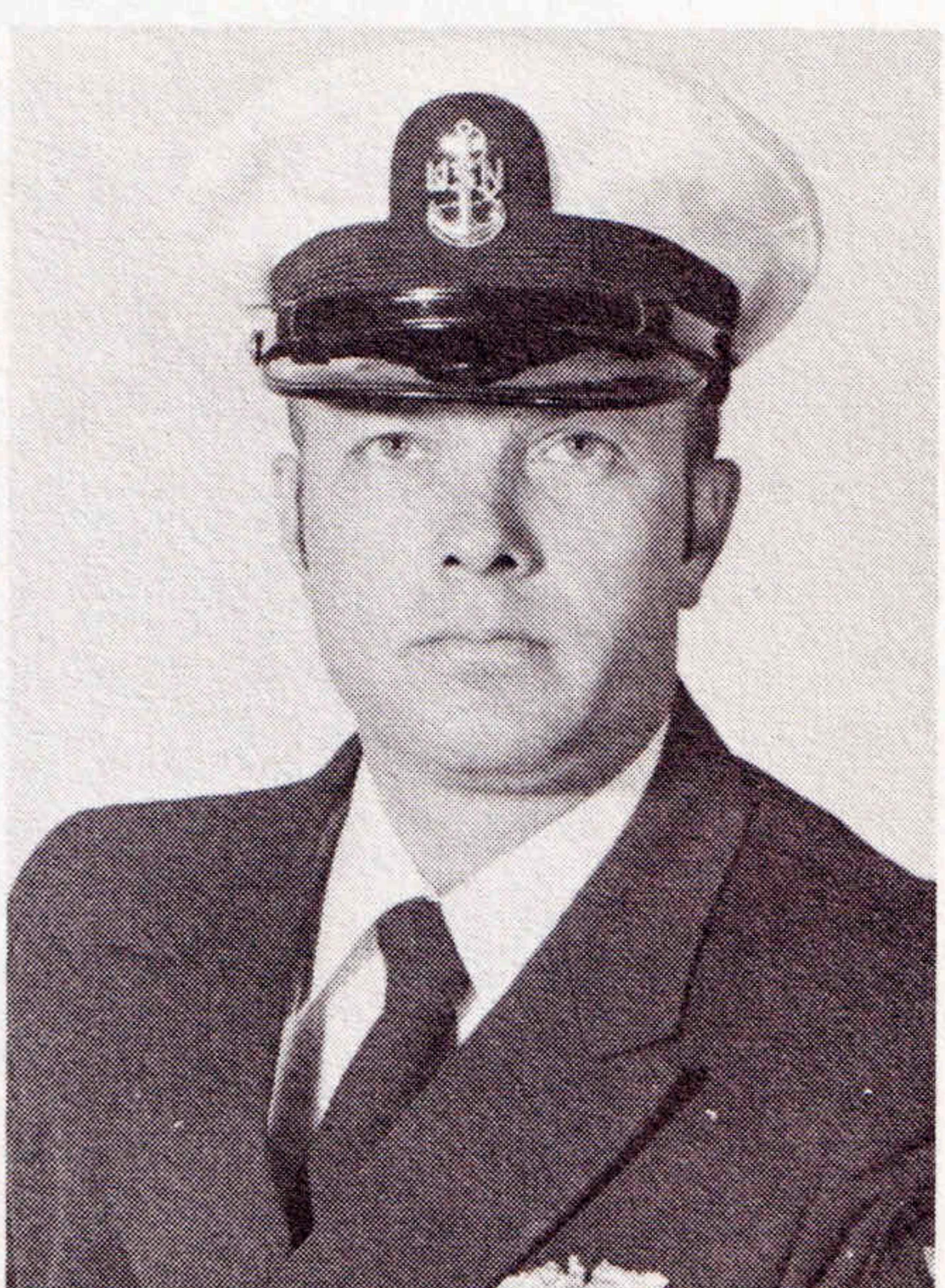
MMC (SS)
John R. Mowka



ETC (SS)
Lucien H. Hinson



ETC (SS)
Robert G. Paddock



HMC (SS)
Steven B. Walton



YNC (SS)
Howard W. Kligge, Jr.



MMC (SS)
James S. Scally



MMC (SS)
Gary A. Deboer

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT



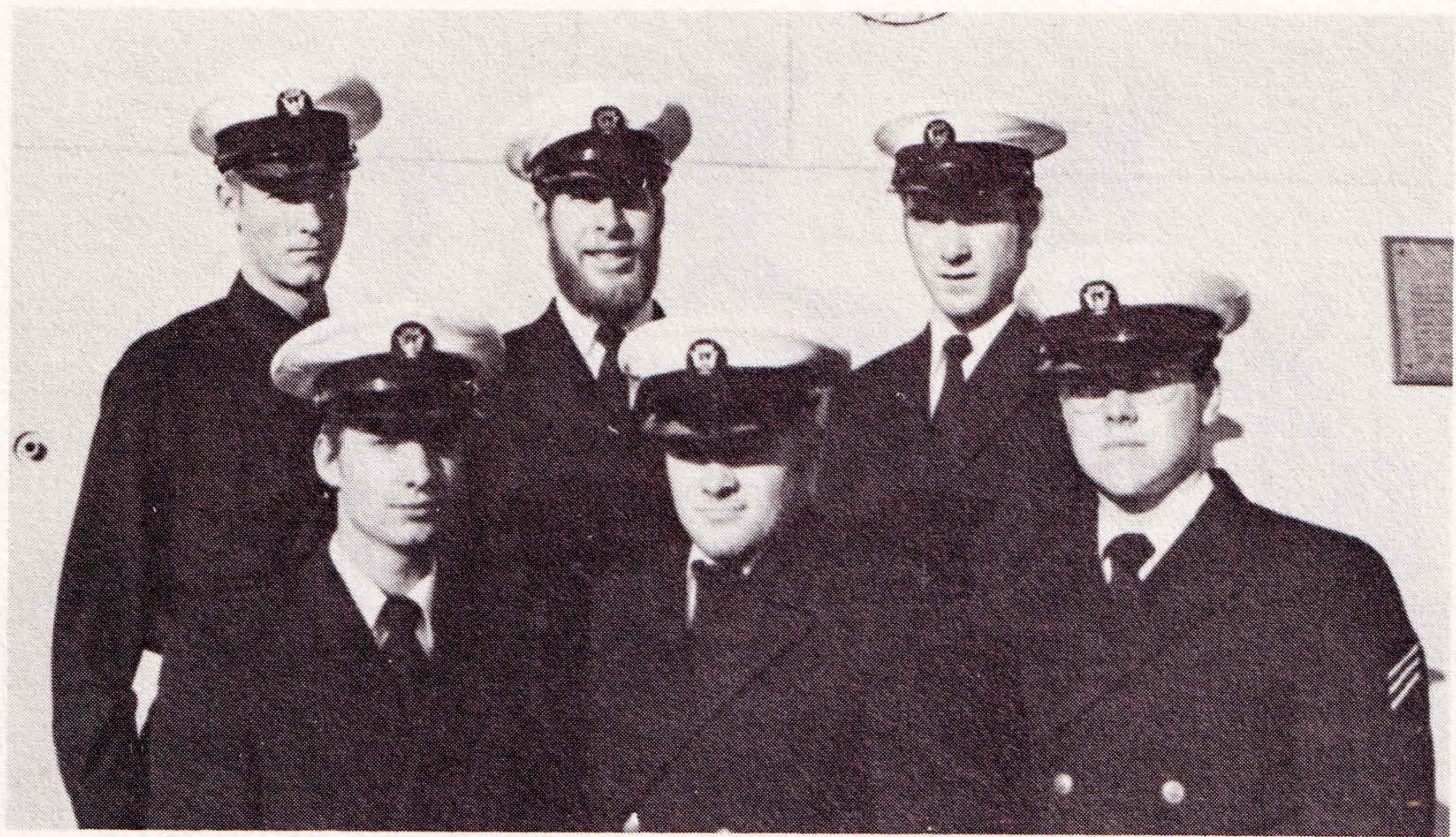
Sonar Division



Torpedo Division

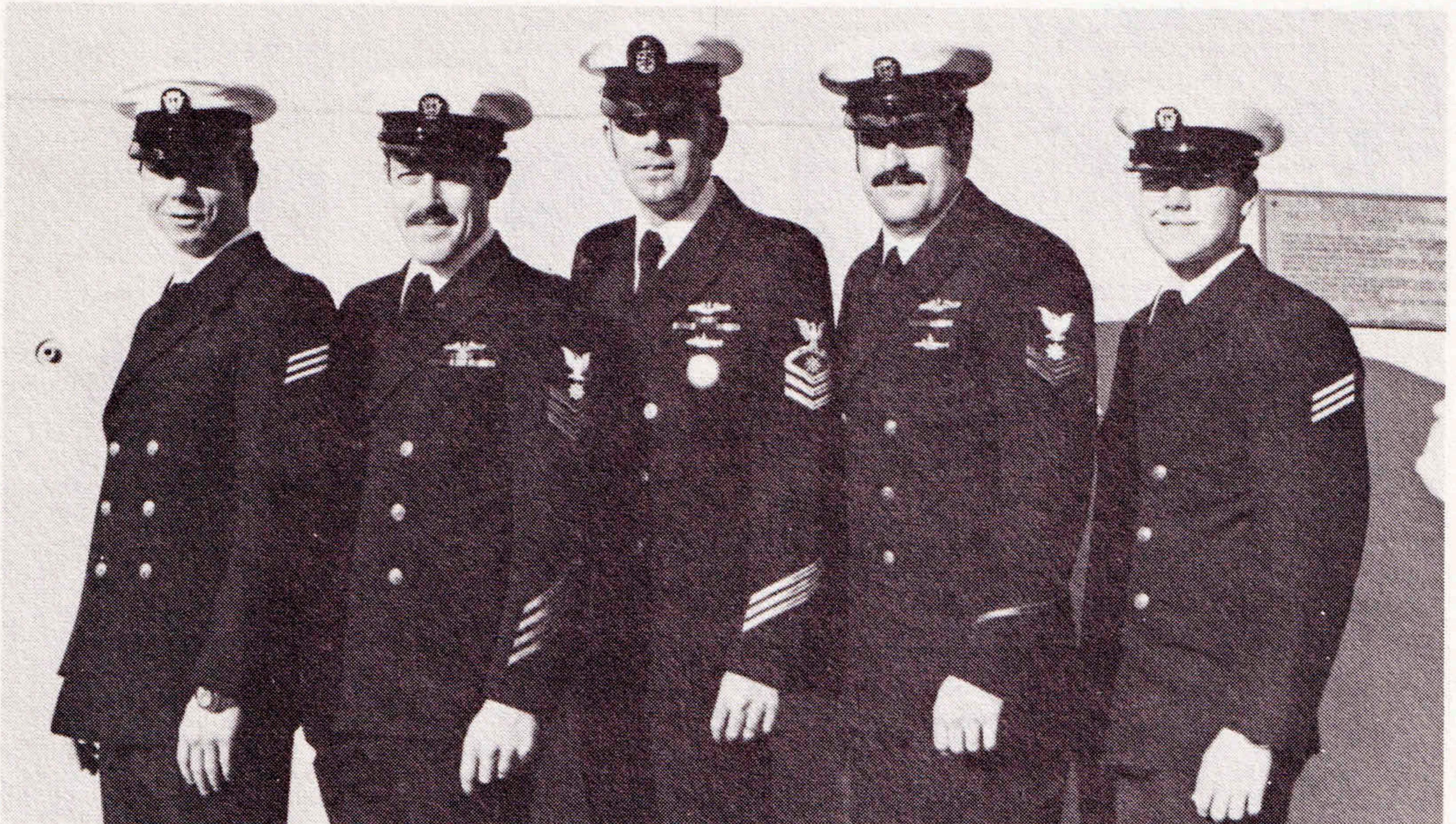


Fire Control Division



Deck Division

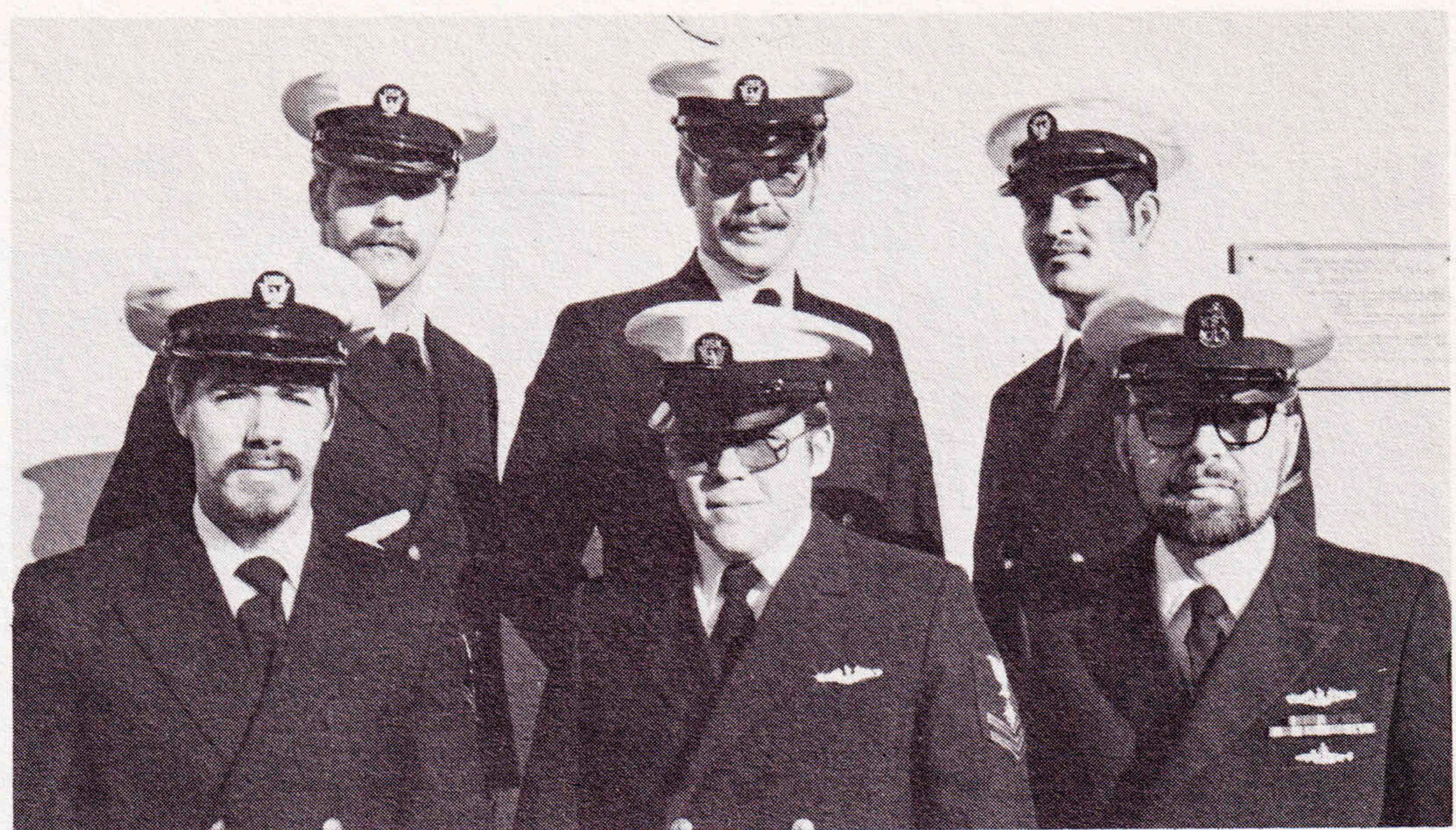
OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT



Quartermaster Division



Radio Division



SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Electronic Material Division



Food Service Division



Stores Division

WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Many people labored long and hard as members of the Indianapolis 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.

LCDR	G.F. GUPPY
LT	F.J. BRASCO
ENS	J.A. GOLDENBERG
MMCS (SS)	S. HILL
MMCS (SS)	H. KRAUSE
ETC (SS)	C. FEENEY
RMC (SS)	N. JONES
STS1 (SS)	D. COURANGE
YN1 (SS)	F. SMITH
ET1 (SS)	C. WARREN
MM1 (SS)	J. CLARK
MM2 (SU)	T. HEFNER
LT	S. MAAS
LT	R.M. KEICKHAFER
ENS	S. MCINNIS
TMCS (SS)	J. CHAPPELL
SKC (SS)	G. KRAUS
STSC (SS)	E. KRAHNER
MMC (SS)	D. BLANKENSHIP
MM1 (SS)	R.L. WILLIAMS
MM1 (SS)	C. FULLER
EM1 (SS)	D. FITZGERALD
IC1 (SS)	M. CATHEY
MM2 (SS)	S. LEHRER
QM3 (SU)	D. GRIFFIN
MM3 (SU)	T. CICIORI
ET3 (SU)	P. FRANCIS
IC2 (SS)	R. BARNES
RM1 (SS)	GARY C. FICKES
TM1 (SS)	JOHN C. GORDON

