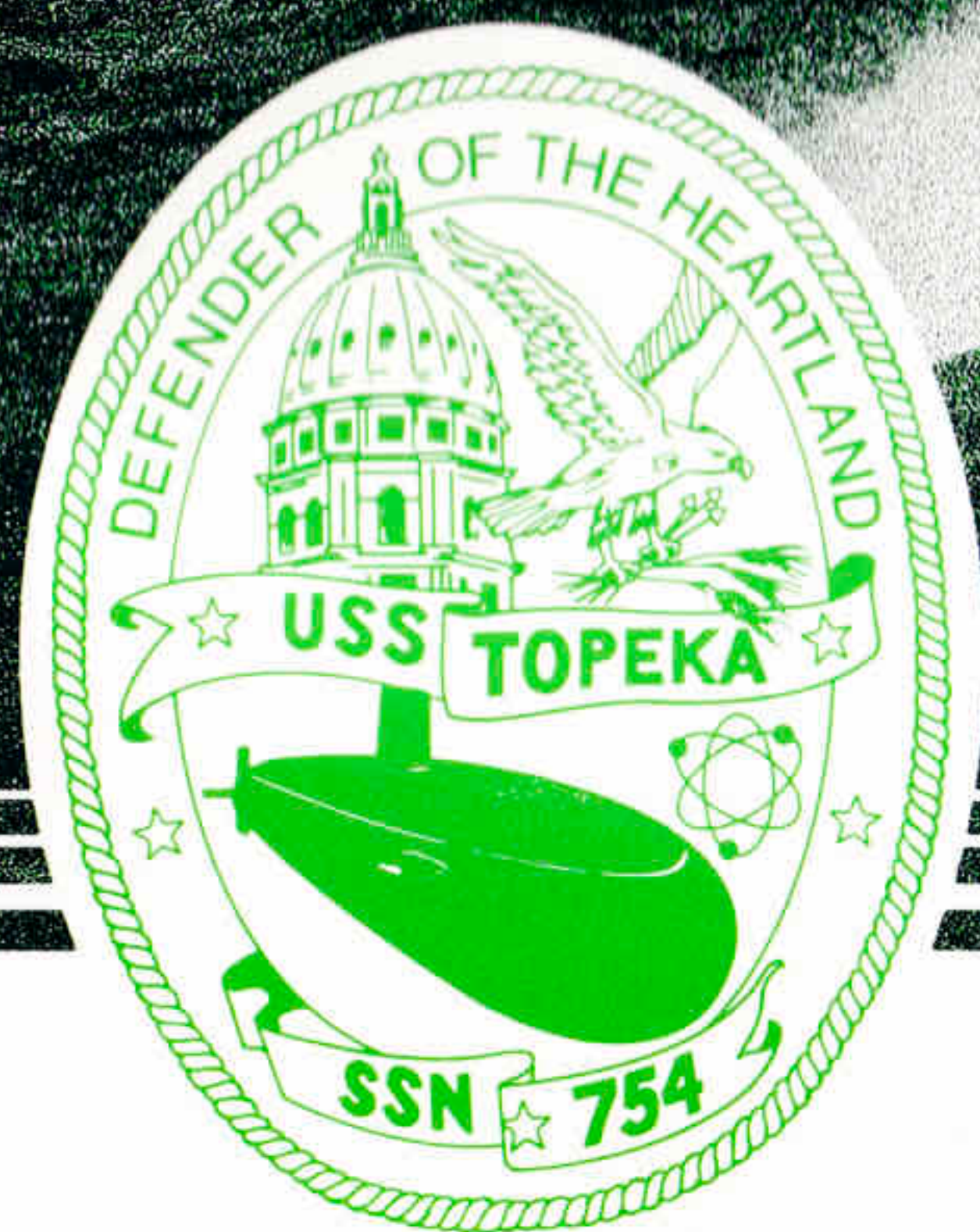
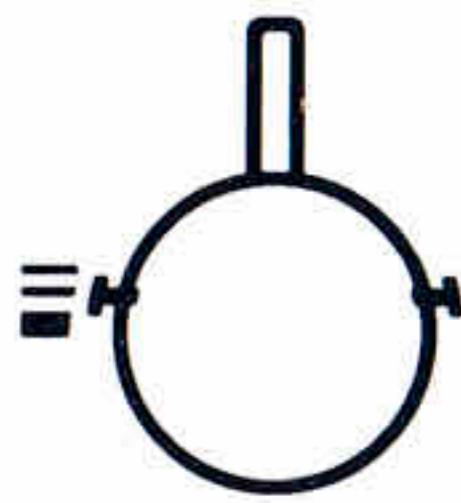


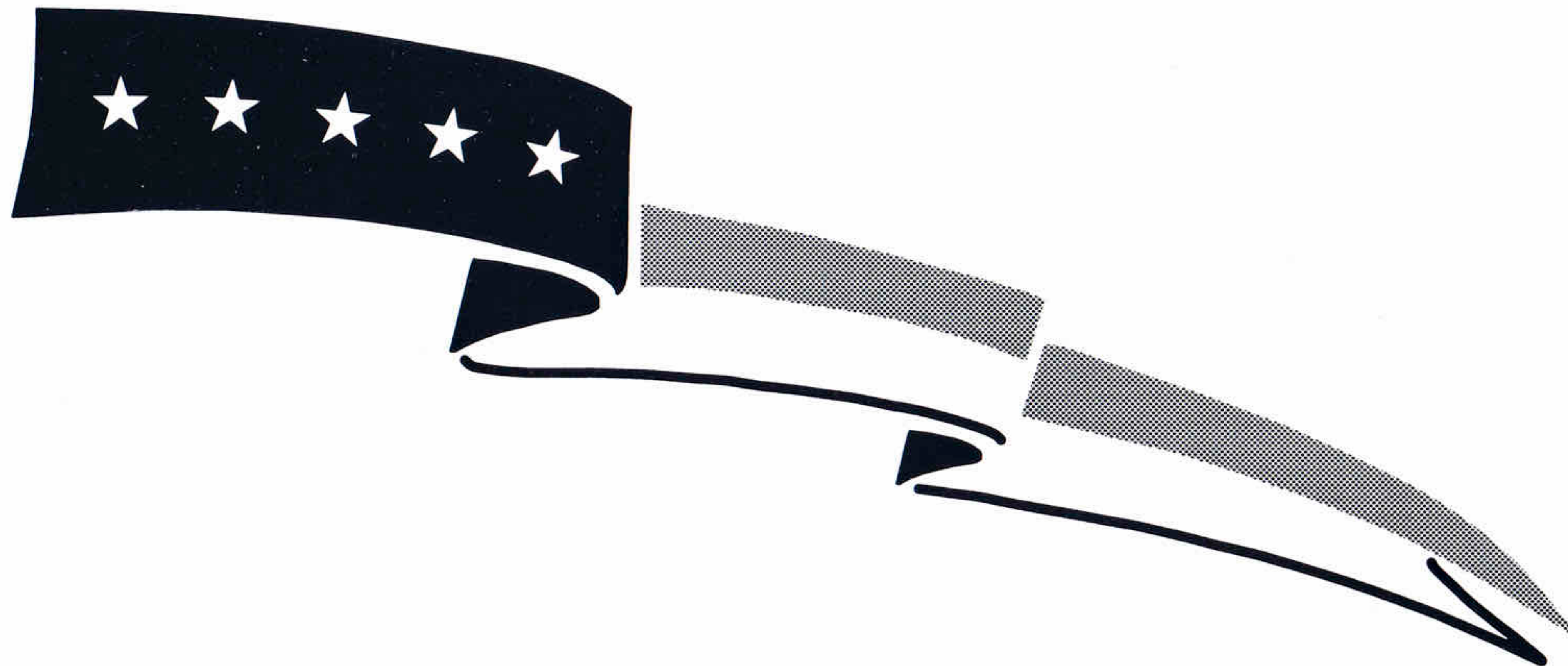


OCTOBER 21, 1989

**USS TOPEKA SSN754
COMMISSIONING**



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 TOPEKA (SSN754) 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-o'-war. It is believed to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertszoon 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 chastise 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.

COMMISSIONING PROGRAM

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY

INVOCATION

Lieutenant Thomas Logan, CHC, USN
Chaplain, Submarine Squadron Two

WELCOMING REMARKS

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN
Prospective Commanding Officer

SHIPBUILDER'S REMARKS

Mr. James E. Turner, Jr.
Vice President – General Manager
Electric Boat Division
General Dynamics Corporation

SUPERVISOR OF SHIPBUILDING REMARKS

Captain Norman J. Shackelton, USN
Supervisor of Shipbuilding
Conversion and Repair
Groton, Connecticut

CITY REMARKS

The Honorable Harry "Butch" Felker
Mayor of
Topeka, Kansas

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND REMARKS

Rear Admiral Walter H. Cantrell, USN
Deputy Commander for Submarines
Submarine Directorate
NAVSEA 92

STATE REMARKS

The Honorable Jim Slattery
United States Representative
State of Kansas

COMMISSIONING

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon, USN
Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN
Commanding Officer, *USS TOPEKA (SSN754)*

INTRODUCTION OF SHIP'S SPONSOR

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN

SHIP'S SPONSOR REMARKS

The Honorable Elizabeth Hanford Dole
Secretary of Labor

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon, USN

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

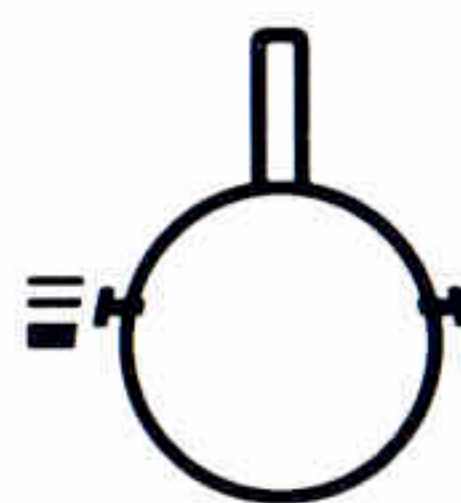
The Honorable Robert Dole
Senate Minority Leader, United States Senate

BENEDICTION

Lieutenant Thomas Logan, CHC, USN

MUSIC

Northeastern Navy Band



PRINCIPAL SPEAKER



**THE HONORABLE
ROBERT DOLE**

**SENATE MINORITY LEADER
UNITED STATES SENATE**

Robert Dole has served in the United States Senate for over twenty years. He is the Senate Minority Leader, Senior Senator from Kansas, and a member of the Senate's Finance, Agriculture, and Rules Committees.

Senator Dole's political career spans almost four decades. He was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives at age 26. Two years later he became Russell County's prosecuting attorney, and in 1960 he was elected to Congress. Senator Dole later became Republican National Chairman and President Gerald Ford's running mate in the 1976 Presidential election. From 1981 to 1984 Senator Dole was Chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee. He has been on the Agriculture committees since 1961.

During the second World War, Senator Dole left premedical studies at the University of Kansas to enlist in the Army. He became a platoon leader in the Tenth Mountain Division in Italy, but was gravely wounded in 1945. Three years later Senator Dole was honorably discharged from the Army with the rank of Captain. He then continued his education at the University of Arizona at Tucson, and at Washburn Municipal University in Topeka, from which he earned his bachelor's and law degrees.

Senator Dole has twice been decorated for heroic achievement. He has earned two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with Oakleaf Cluster.

A native of Russell, Kansas, Senator Dole is married to Elizabeth Hanford Dole, the United States Secretary of Labor. Senator Dole also has a daughter, Robin.

COMMISSIONING OFFICER

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon was born in San Diego, California, and raised in the Bremerton, Washington, area. He was graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1959 and holds a master's degree in computer science from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School. He also attended the National Defense University Flag and General Officer CAPSTONE course and the Harvard University National and International Security course.

Vice Admiral Bacon served in USS ISHERWOOD (DD 520), his first sea tour, until 1960. Following Submarine School and Nuclear Prototype training at Idaho Falls, he reported to USS HALIBUT (SSGN587) in 1961. While on board HALIBUT, Vice Admiral Bacon participated in five REGULUS missile deterrent patrols. His next assignments were in USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN642) as Engineer Officer during construction and two POLARIS patrols and then as Executive Officer of the USS HALIBUT (SSBN587). Vice Admiral Bacon commanded USS FLASHER (SSN613) and USS PATRICK HENRY (SSBN599) and then served as COMSUBPAC Prospective Commanding Officer Instructor until 1979, when he assumed command of USS HUNLEY (AS 31) at the deployed site in Apra Harbor, Guam. From 1980 to 1982, Vice Admiral Bacon served as Commander Submarine Squadron ONE, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He served as the Chief of Staff to Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet in 1982 and 1983. Vice Admiral Bacon was selected for Flag rank in January 1983. From June 1983 through July 1986, he served as the Director, Strategic and Theater Nuclear Warfare Division and Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans, Policy, and Operations) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations. He served from December 1986 to July 1988 as Commander Submarine Group EIGHT, Commander Submarines Mediterranean,



ROGER F. BACON
VICE ADMIRAL
U.S. NAVY

Commander Submarine Force Sixth Fleet, and Commander Area ASW Forces Sixth Fleet. In August 1988, he assumed duties as Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. He also serves as Commander, Submarines Allied Command Atlantic, a NATO post.

Vice Admiral Bacon is married to the former Joan D. Darby of Walnut Creek, California. They have two children, Roger and Jennifer.

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS**CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS**

Dear Captain Reichert,

Congratulations on the commissioning of United States Ship TOPEKA. An unusual distinction and a special responsibility fall upon you as the first commanding officer.

TOPEKA, the newest attack submarine in the fleet, embodies the most modern design and construction on the seas today. However, she cannot fulfill the role for which she was authorized by Congress, the defense of our nation, unless she is manned by a dedicated crew capable of operating and maintaining her to her fullest potential.

It is your responsibility to establish TOPEKA's capability. As your ship and crew perform, TOPEKA will develop a reputation that will endure over her years of service. Her character will depend, in no small measure, upon your leadership.

Your selection for this most important task is an honor and a responsibility. I have complete confidence you will execute it well.

Sincerely,

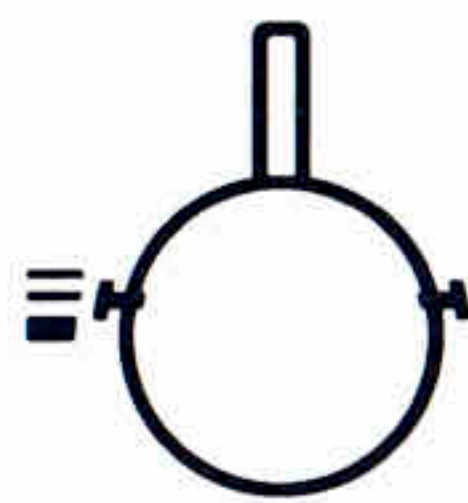
C. A. H. Trost
C. A. H. TROST
Admiral, U.S. Navy

Commander Timothy M. Reichert, USN
PCO, TOPEKA (SSN 754)
Groton, CT 06340



C.A.H. TROST
ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY





SPONSOR



THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE SECRETARY OF LABOR

Elizabeth Dole was sworn in by President Bush as the 20th Secretary of Labor in a ceremony at the Labor Department's headquarters on January 30, 1989.

As a member of the Cabinet, Mrs. Dole serves as the President's chief advisor on labor issues, as well as a key economic policy advisor. She guides a federal agency of nearly 19,000 employees, with a budget of more than \$31 billion.

Secretary Dole is responsible for protection of the wages, health and safety, and employment rights of working people; administering job training, unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation programs; promoting equal employment opportunity; collecting, analyzing, and publishing labor statistics; and strengthening free collective bargaining.

Prior to joining President Reagan's Cabinet, Mrs. Dole was Assistant to the President for Public Liaison at the White House. From 1973 until 1979, she served as a member of the Federal Trade Commission. Her public service has also included Presidential appointments as Executive Director of the President's Committee on Consumer Interests and as Deputy Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs.

Mrs. Dole was graduated with distinction in political science from Duke University, where she was president of the student government and elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She received her law degree from Harvard Law School and a master's degree in education and government from Harvard University.

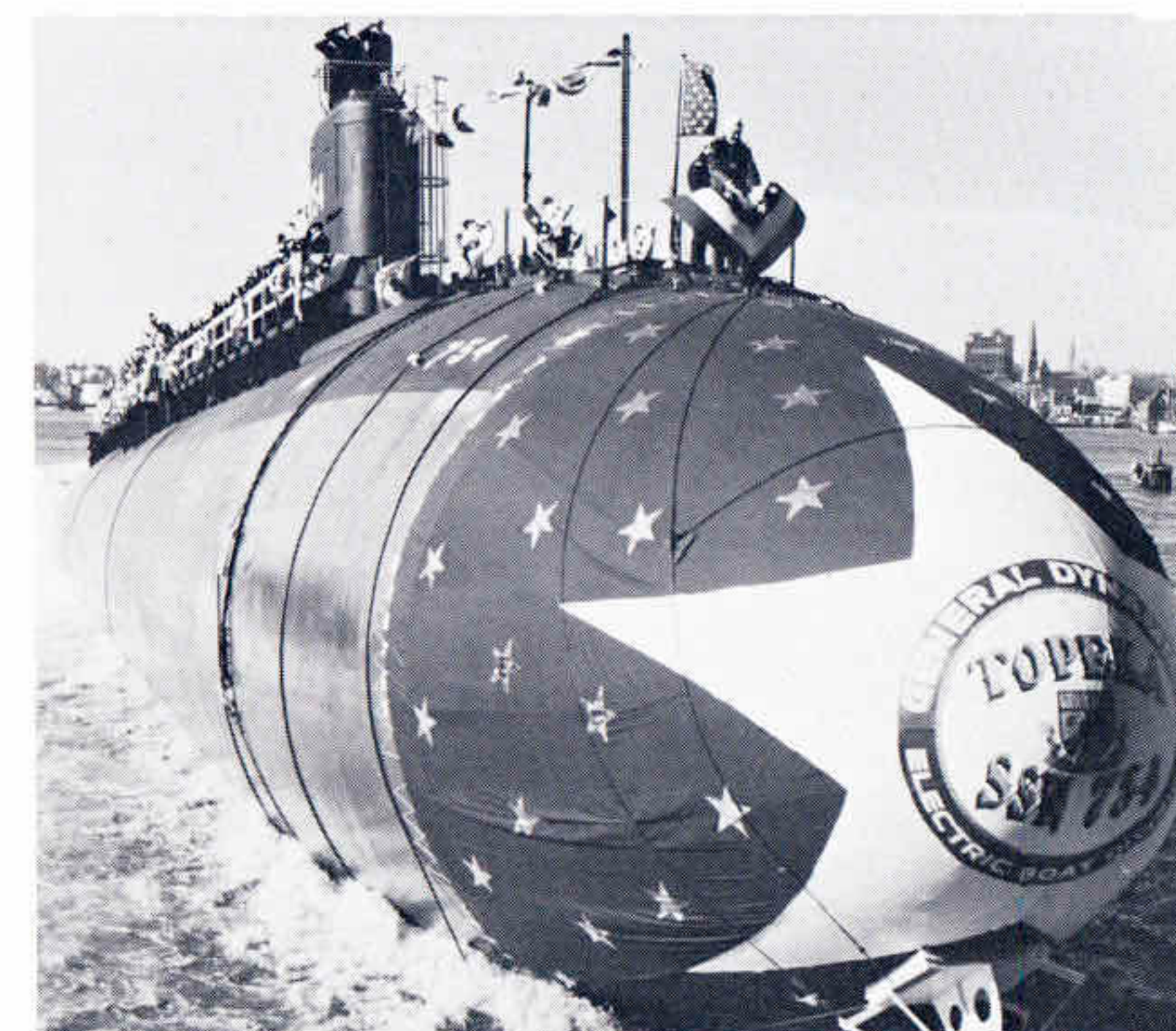
Mrs. Dole currently serves as honorary chairman of the Board of Overseers at Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center and is a member of the Harvard University Board of Overseers and of the Visiting Committee of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She recently received the Humanitarian Award from the National Commission Against Drunk Driving.

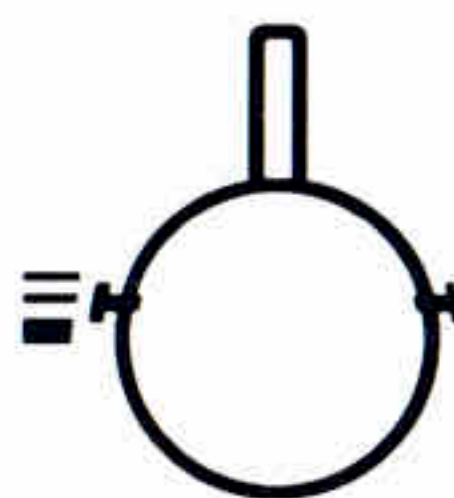
A native of Salisbury, North Carolina, Mrs. Dole was named in 1988 by the Gallup Poll as one of the world's ten most admired women.

TOPEKA LAUNCHING



"In the name of the United States
I christen thee TOPEKA.
May God bless her and
all who sail in her."
— The Honorable
Elizabeth Hanford Dole





COMMANDING OFFICER



TIMOTHY M. REICHERT
COMMANDER,
U.S. NAVY

Commander Timothy M. Reichert was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1947. He was graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, Denver, Colorado, in 1966 and received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned as Ensign, U.S. Navy in 1970. Following commissioning he completed Naval Nuclear Propulsion training at Nuclear Power School, Mare Island, California, and Nuclear Power

Training Unit in Idaho Falls, Idaho. In January 1972, he completed the submarine indoctrination course at the Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut.

Commander Reichert's first assignment was to the Precommissioning Unit for BATFISH (SSN681), an attack submarine under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, Groton, Connecticut. He left the USS BATFISH in 1974 and attended the Submarine Officer Advanced Course. In January 1975, he reported to USS PERMIT (SSN594) as Engineer Officer. In March 1977, he was assigned as Squadron Engineer for the newly formed Submarine Squadron Seven, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His next assignment was as Navigator for USS SARGO (SSN583) from August 1979 through October 1980. In December 1980, after completing the Prospective Executive Officer course, he reported to USS HAWKBILL (SSN666) as Executive Officer. From December 1983 until March 1986, he served as the Force Nuclear Power Officer on the staff of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In December 1986, following completion of the Prospective Commanding Officer Course, he reported as the Prospective Commanding Officer of TOPEKA (SSN754) under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division in Groton, Connecticut.

Commander Reichert is entitled to wear the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, Battle Efficiency Ribbon, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Commander Reichert is married to the former M. Christy Hopkins of Alton, Illinois. They reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut with their two children, Tisha and Timothy.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lieutenant Commander Kenneth G. Lombart, USN, was born and raised in Rochester, New York. He entered the United States Naval Academy in 1972, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. He was commissioned in June 1976.

Following commissioning, Lieutenant Commander Lombart completed Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Florida, and Nuclear Power Training Unit in Ballston Spa, New York. In February 1978, he completed the Submarine Officer Basic Course at Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut, and was assigned to the Gold Crew of USS ANDREW JACKSON (SSBN619), where he served in a variety of junior officer billets until January 1982.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart entered the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, in February 1982 and was graduated with a Masters in Science degree in Electrical Engineering in June 1984. Upon completion of the Submarine Officer Advanced Course and Poseidon Navigator course, he was assigned as Navigator/Operations Officer in the Gold Crew of USS DANIEL WEBSTER (SSBN626), where he served until August 1988.

Upon completing Prospective Executive Officer School and the Command Poseidon Weapons course, Lieutenant Commander Lombart reported to TOPEKA (SSN754), under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, Groton, Connecticut, as Executive Officer in December 1988.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart is entitled to wear the Navy Commendation Medal, the Battle Efficiency Ribbon with two "E's" in lieu of second award, the National

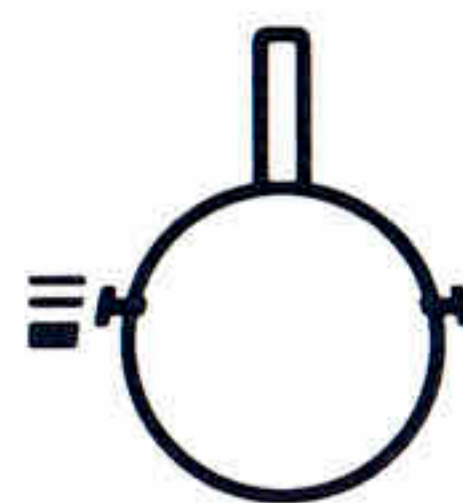


KENNETH G. LOMBART

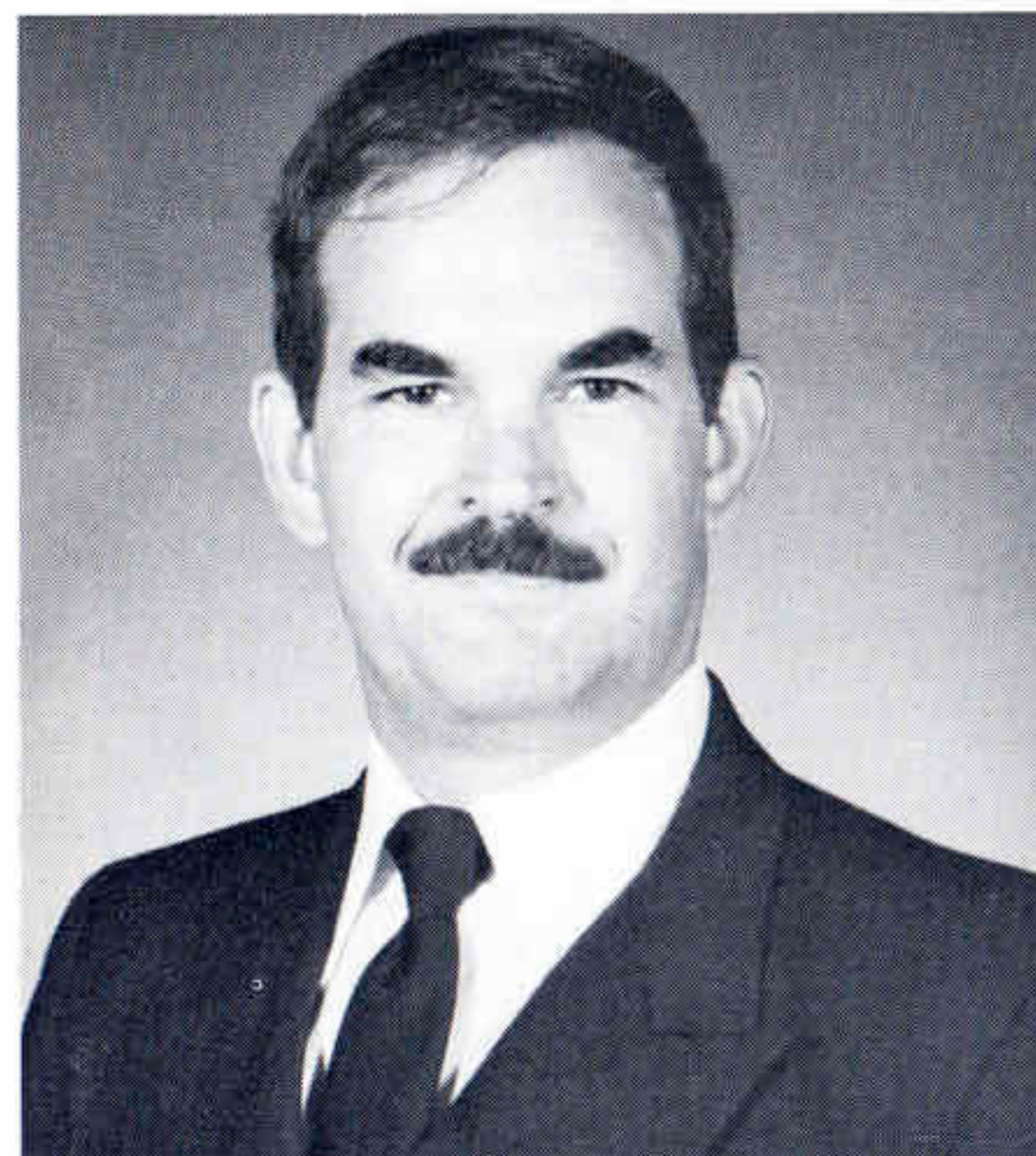
**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER,
U.S. NAVY**

Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Ribbon, and the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia recognizing thirteen successful patrols.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart and his wife, Kathy Ann Reichbach, reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.



OFFICERS



LCDR BRUCE A.
TROUTMAN
Springfield, PA
ENGINEER OFFICER



LCDR JOHN C.
MICKEY
Wellsboro, PA
NAVIGATOR/
OPERATIONS OFFICER



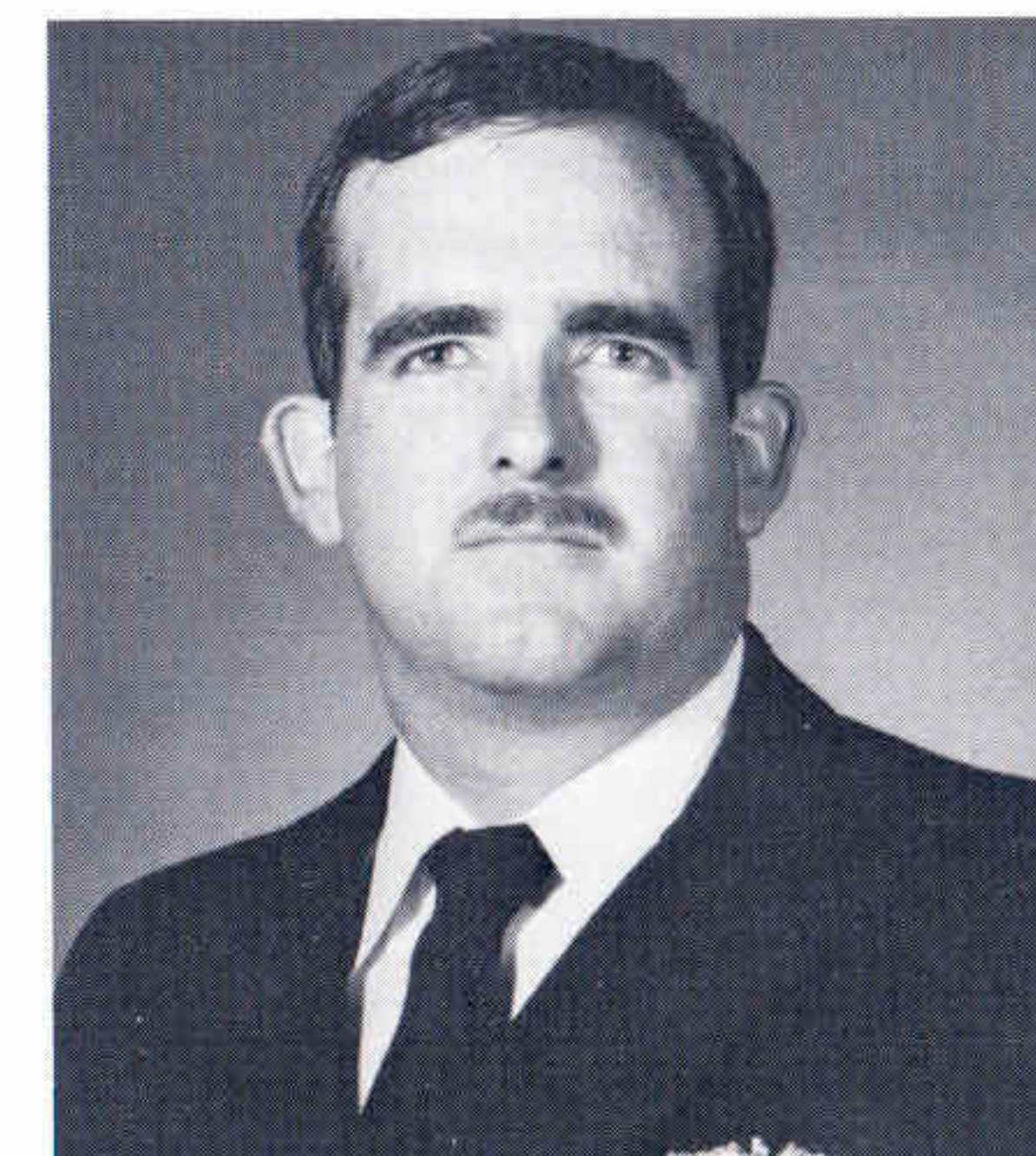
LT JEFFREY C.
MAYNARD
Warwick, RI
COMBAT SYSTEMS
OFFICER



LT JOHN F.
KLEKOTKA, JR.
Easthampton, MA
SUPPLY OFFICER



LT DAVID G.
WEGMANN
Davenport, IA
RELIEVING ENGINEER



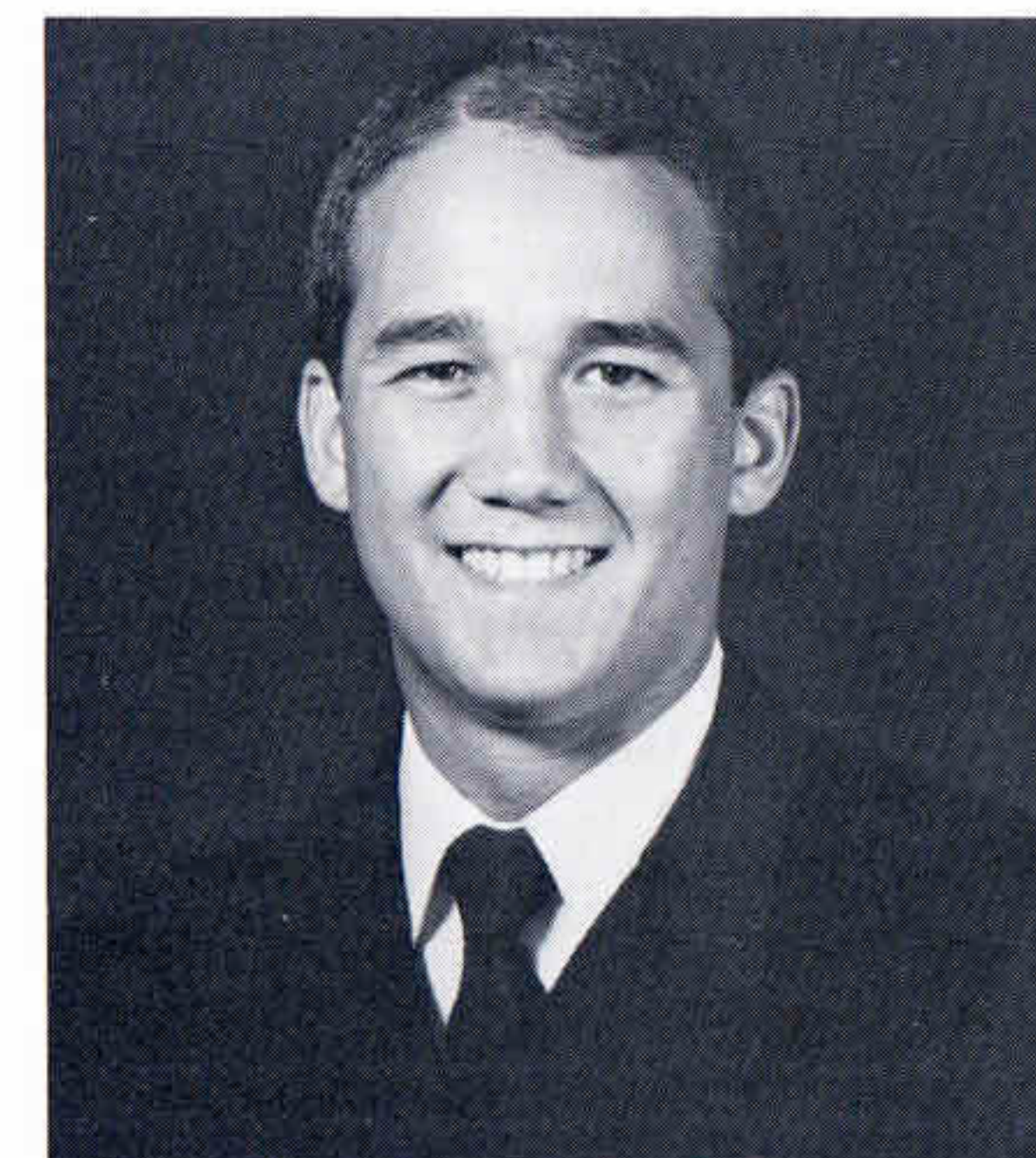
LT MICHAEL E.
DOYLE
North Kingstown, RI
DAMAGE CONTROL
ASSISTANT



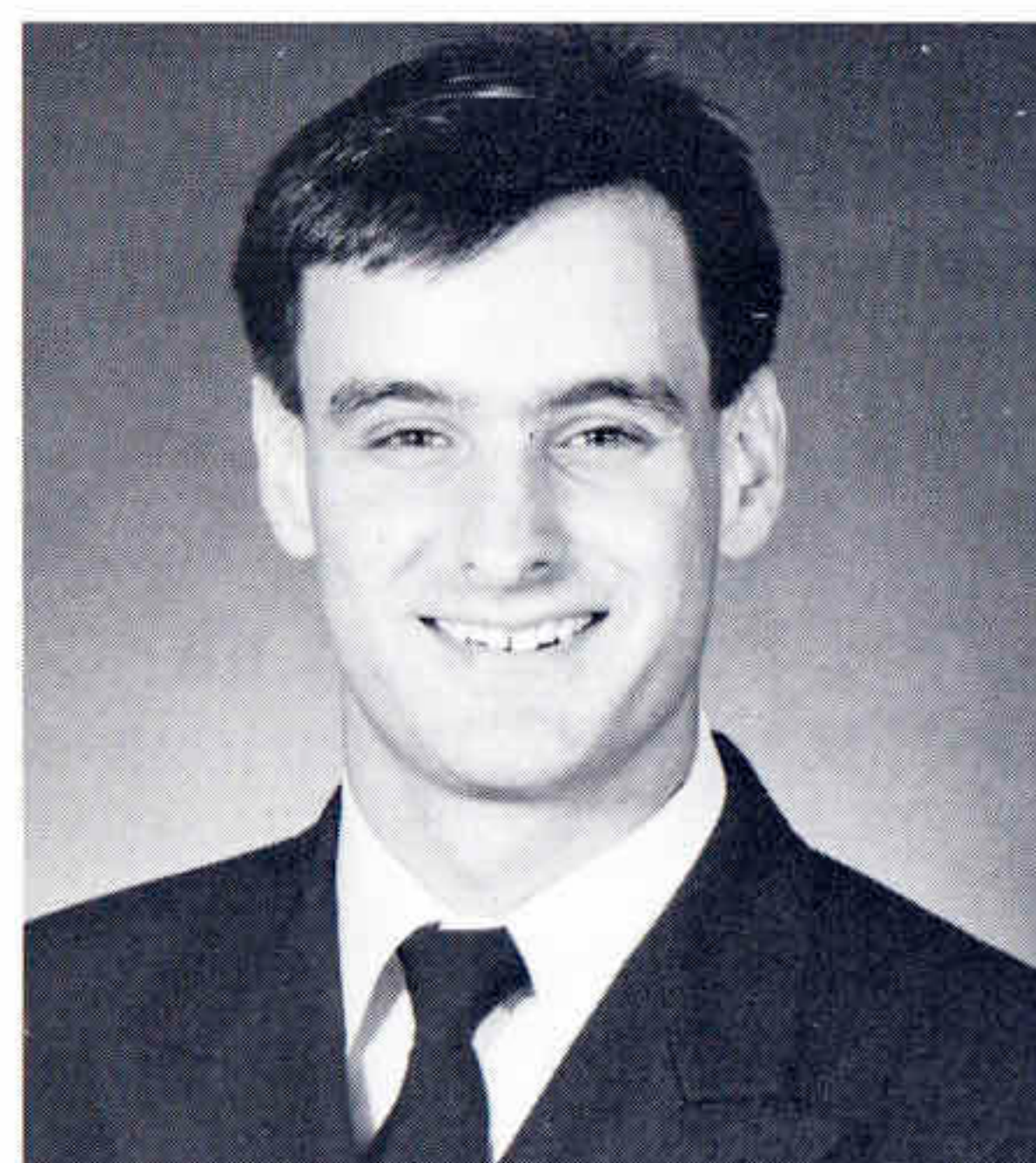
LT BYRON L.
WEST
Nelson, PA
SHIP COORDINATOR



LT DAVID P.
REBER
Anaheim, CA
SONAR OFFICER



LT ARTHUR W.
LARM
Norwalk, CT
COMMUNICATOR



LT CHRISTOPHER J.
KELLY
Toronto, CAN
MAIN PROPULSION
ASSISTANT



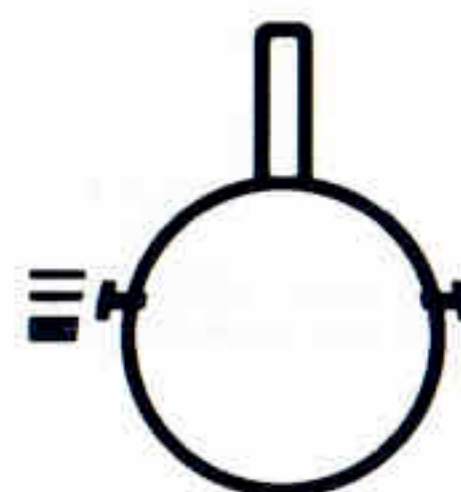
LT ANTHONY P.
ROBERTS
South Bend, IN
CHEM/RADCON
ASSISTANT



LTJG ANDREW J.
ROSS
Sodus, NY
ELECTRICAL OFFICER



LTJG ADAM T.
HARVEY
Golden, CO
REACTOR CONTROL
ASSISTANT



CHIEF OF THE BOAT



MICHAEL A. GILBERT

MASTER CHIEF ELECTRICIANS' MATE U.S. NAVY

Master Chief Michael A. Gilbert, a native of California, entered the Naval Service on 16 June 1965. Upon completion of basic training, he was assigned to IC "A" School in San Diego, California, with a follow-on assignment to USS POCONO (AGC-16) in Norfolk, Virginia. After Nuclear Power School and Basic Submarine Training, Master Chief

Gilbert served back-to-back tours on USS LAPON (SSN661) and USS SEAWOLF (SSN575). In 1977 he was assigned as Assistant Training Coordinator at the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, T.I., San Francisco, California. His next duty assignment returned him to the east coast to serve on USS SCAMP (SSN588). In 1984, while serving as a Navy Instructor/Curriculum Development Specialist at Naval Submarine School, Groton, Connecticut, Master Chief Gilbert was selected by Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet, to attend the Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officers Academy at Montgomery, Alabama, as the Navy's Atlantic Fleet Representative to Class 84C.

In December 1984, Master Chief Gilbert was assigned to USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER (SSBN656) (BLUE) as the Chief of the Boat. During this tour he was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for outstanding professional leadership associated with an extensive shipyard overhaul, Demonstration and Shakedown Operations (DASO), and two strategic deterrent patrols. In December 1986, he reported for duty as Chief of the Boat, Precommissioning Unit TOPEKA (SSN754).

In addition to the Navy Achievement Medal, Master Chief Gilbert holds the following awards: Presidential Unit Citation, three Navy Unit Commendations, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, two Navy "E's", five Good Conduct Medals, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.

Master Chief Gilbert is married to the former Mary Frances Nadeau of West Hartford, Connecticut. They presently reside with their daughter, Cynthia, in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.

CHIEFS



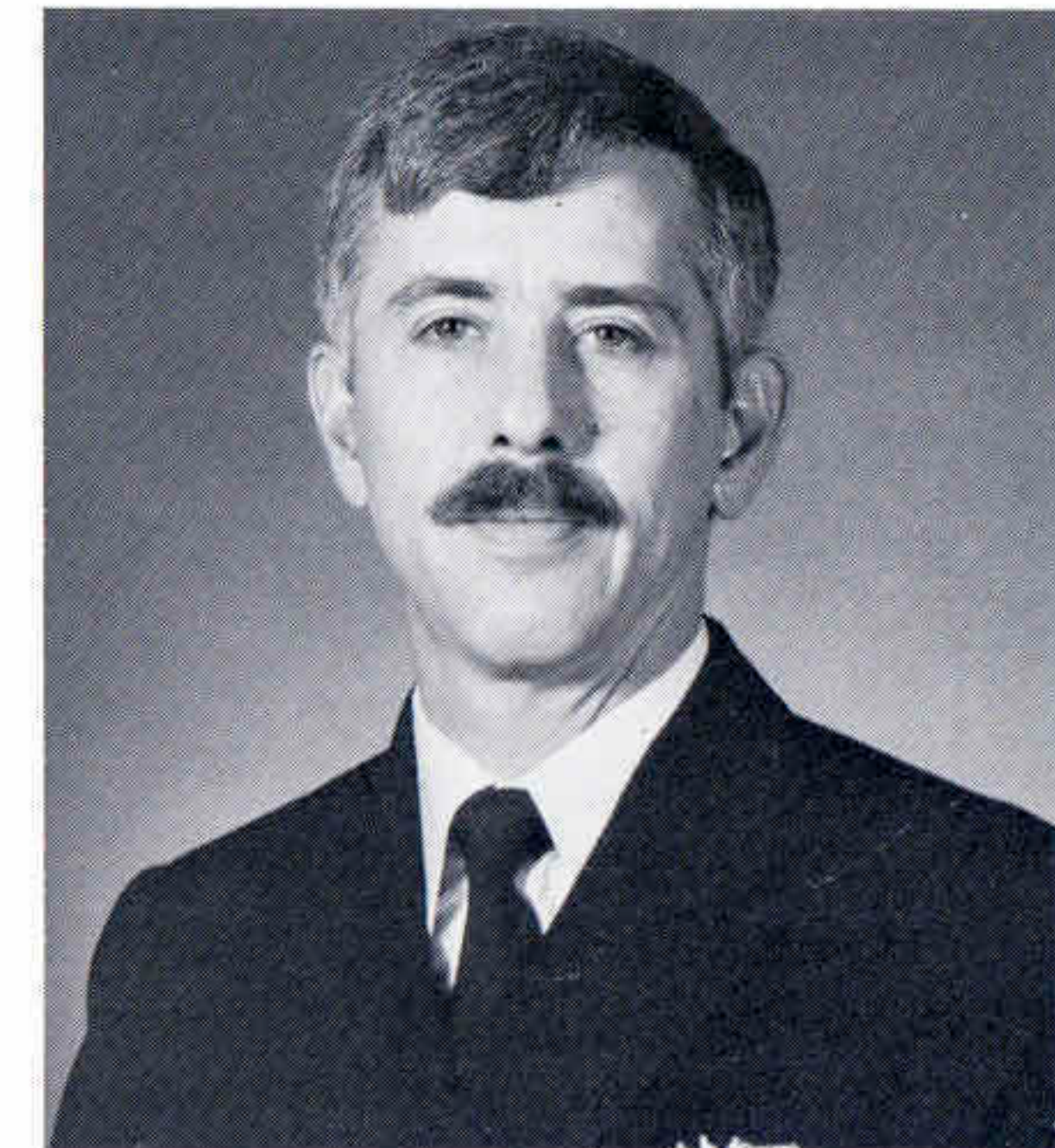
ETCS(SS) RALPH E.
PRITCHARD
Orlando, FL

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
ENLISTED ADVISOR



STSCS(SS) RICHARD K.
SHEWBRIDGE
Franklin, OH

SONAR DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) THOMAS W.
VALENTEEN, JR.
Allentown, PA

MACHINERY DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



ICC(SS) MICHAEL E.
SCHULTZ
Salisbury, MD

ASSISTANT SHIP
COORDINATOR



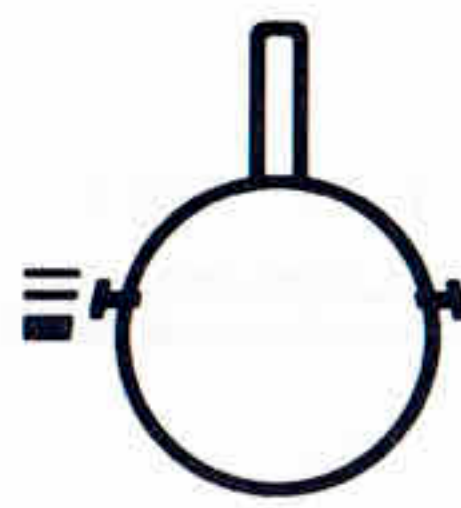
RMC(SS) DANIEL L.
RATLIFF
Muncie, IN

RADIO DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) JEFFREY S.
THOMPSON
Little Falls, NY

AUXILIARY DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



CHIEFS



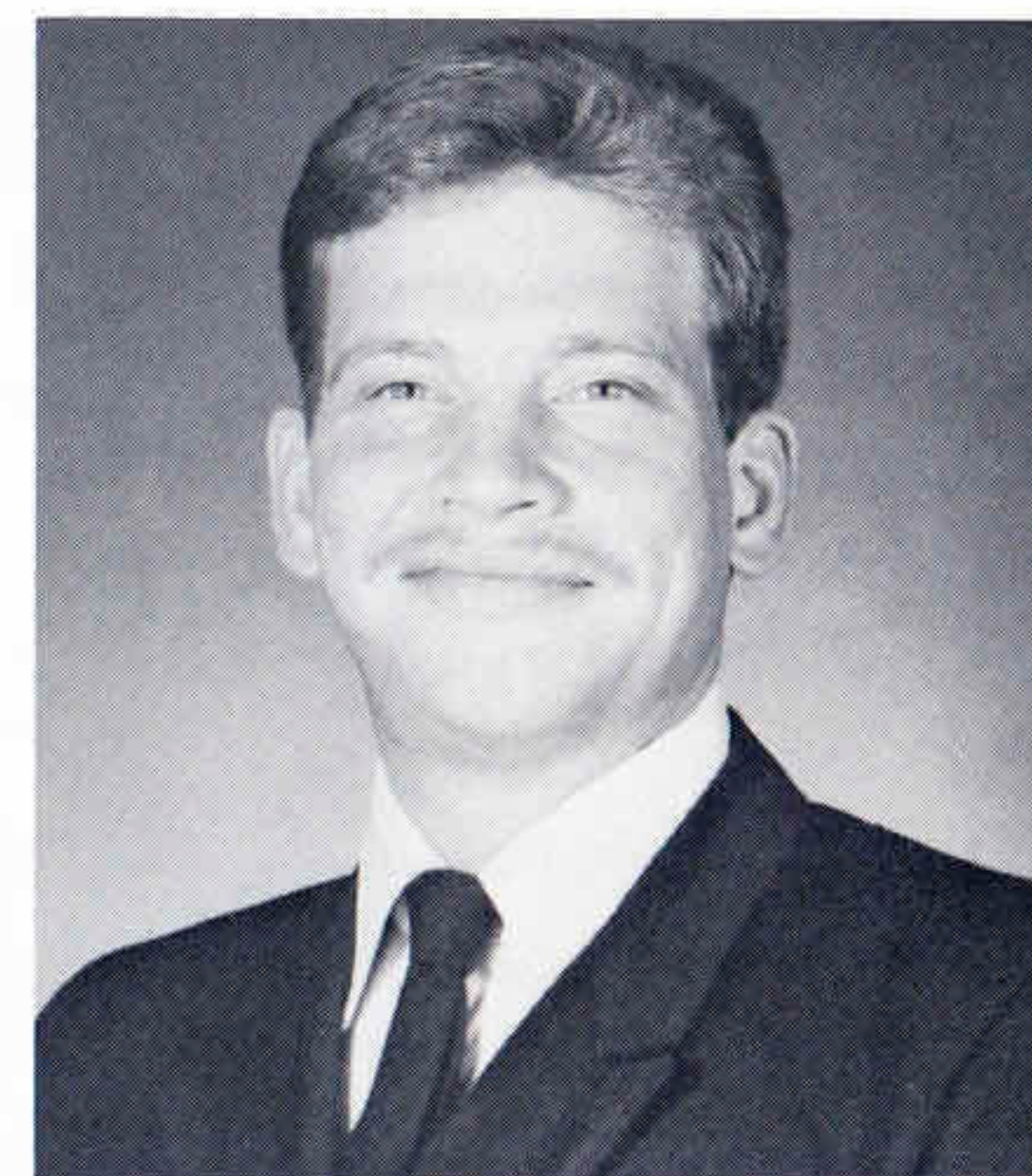
QMC(SS) GEORGE D.
CRONIN
Ledyard, CT

ASSISTANT
NAVIGATOR



ETC(SS) CHARLES E.
KUHN
Alma, WI

REACTOR CONTROL DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



TMC(SS) PETER J.
BERNS, III
Brooklyn, NY

FIRST LIEUTENANT



HMC(SS) ERICH P.
JUNGER
Navajo Reservation, AZ

SHIP'S CORPSMAN



EMC(SS) BARTON J.
BOTT
Brooklyn, NY

ELECTRICAL DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) BRIAN G.
SWITZER
Beaverton, OR

3-M COORDINATOR



ETC(SS) ROBERT W.
MONEY
Dallas, TX

R. C. DIVISION ASSISTANT
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



ETC(SS) TODD R.
VEILLETTE
Waterbury, CT

ELECTRONICS DIVISION
LEADING PETTY OFFICER

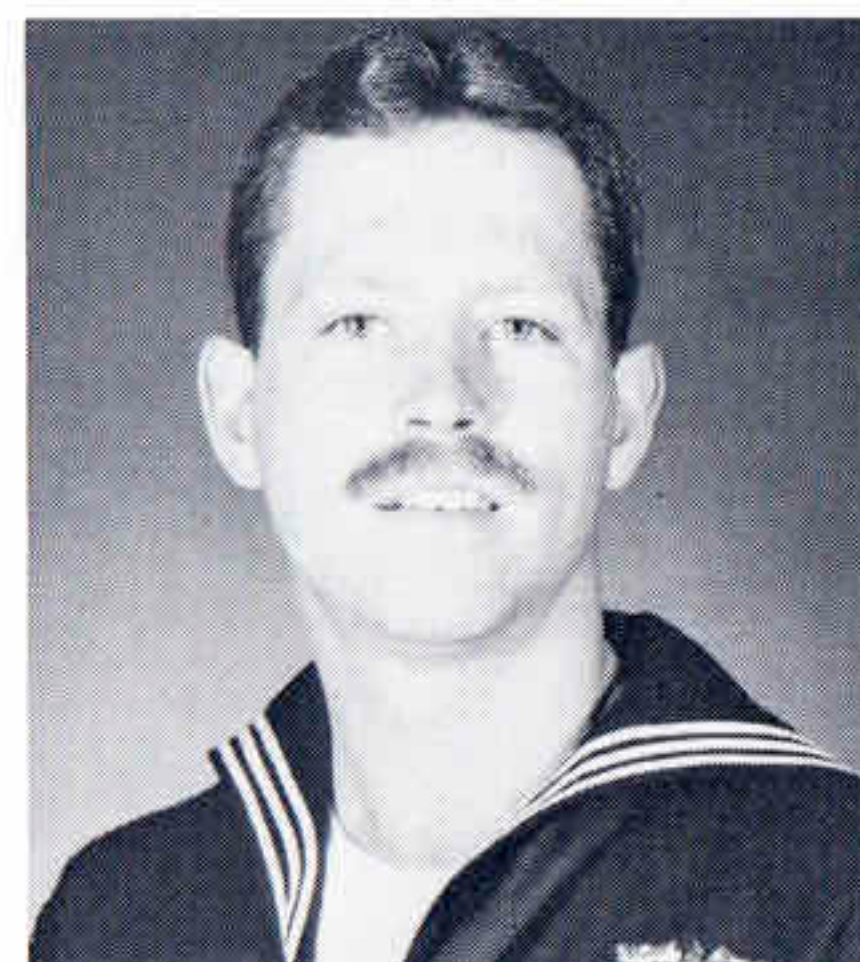
SHIP'S CREW

FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN (GUNS) (FTG)

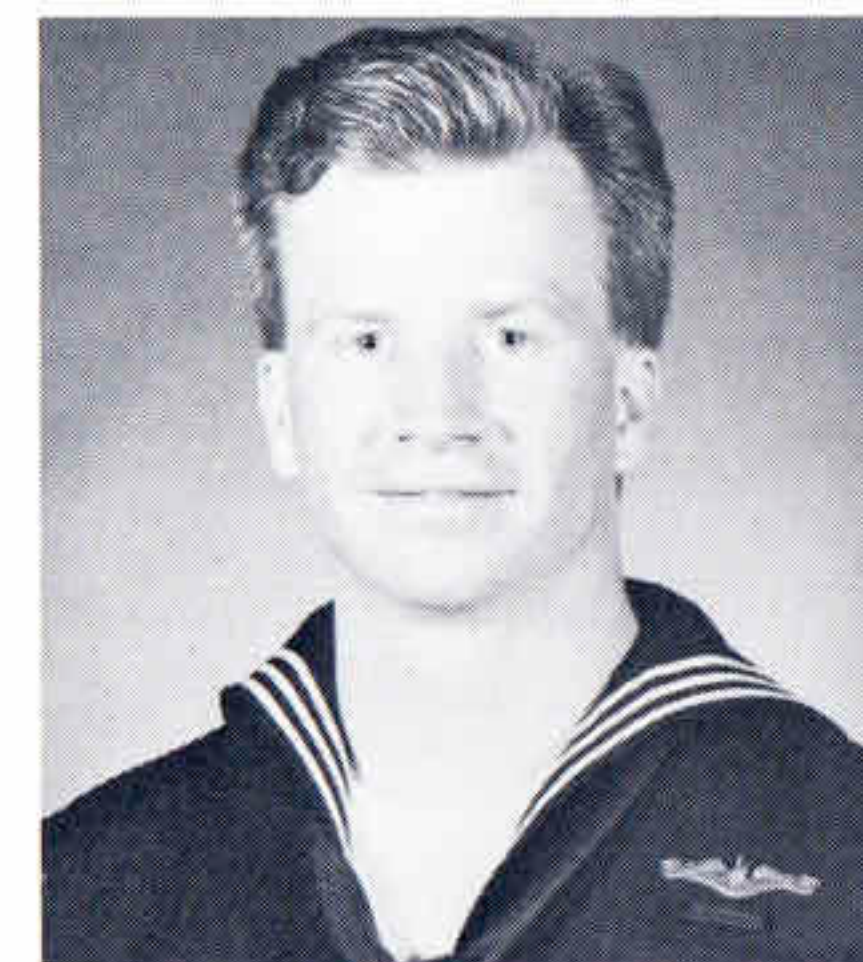
Torpedo Fire Control Division



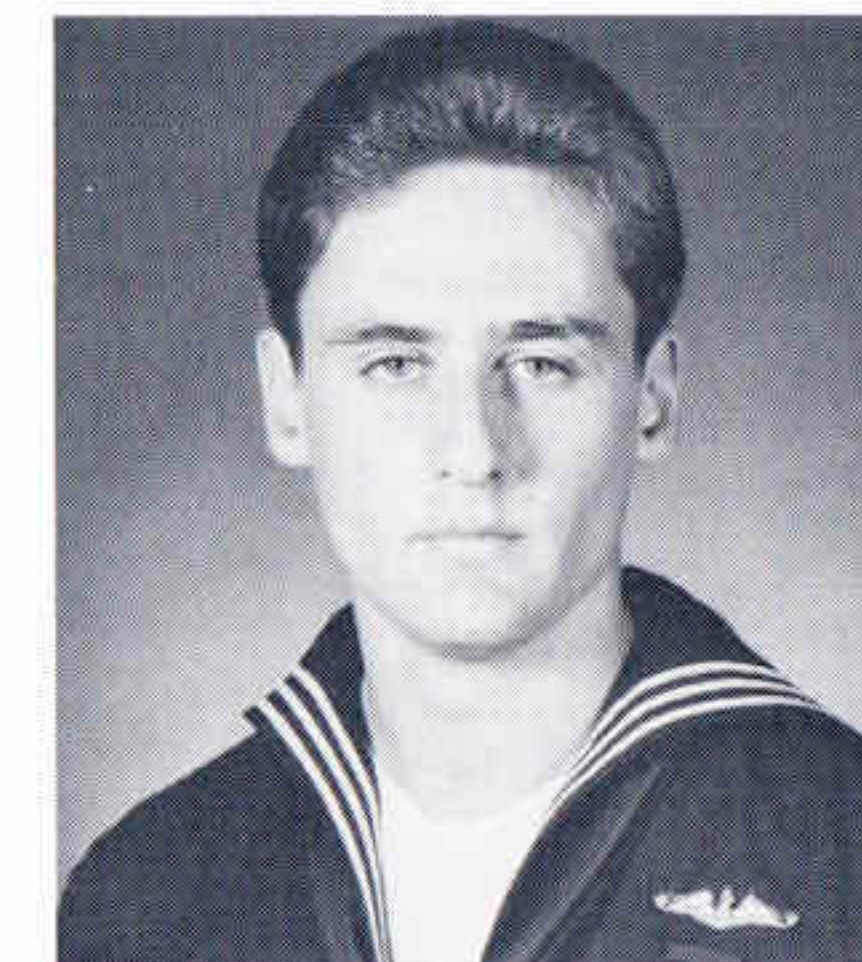
Operate and maintain electronic equipment to analyze information from ship sensors. They aid the Officer of the Deck in tactical decision-making.



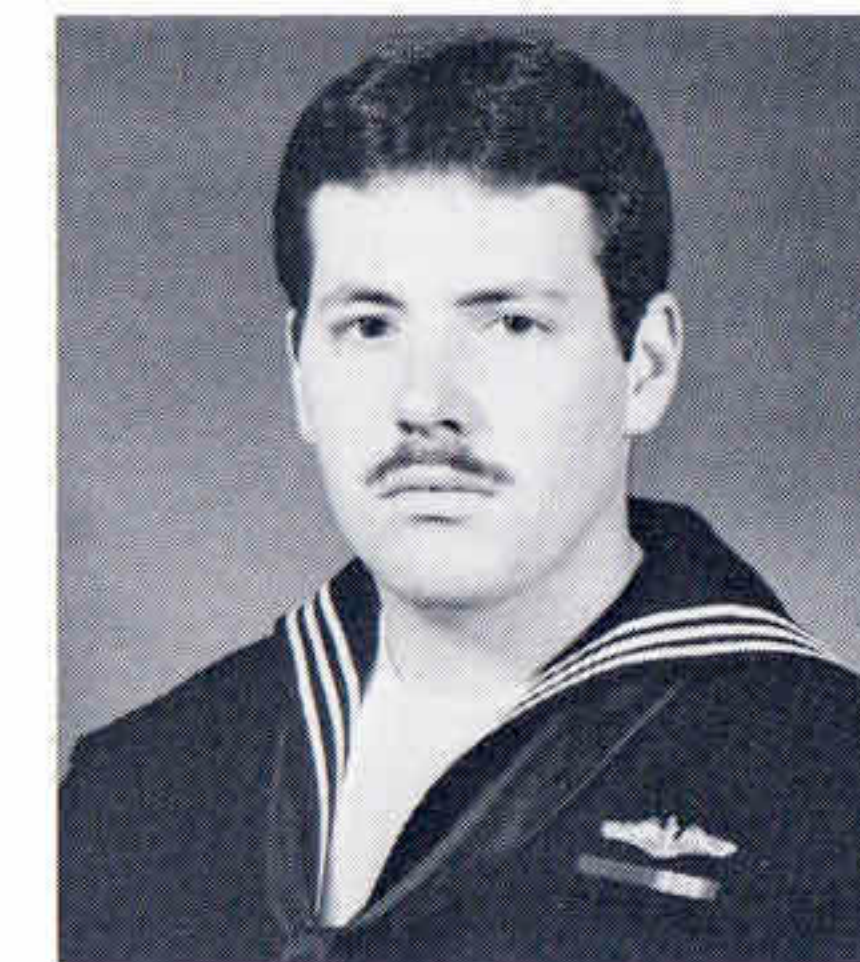
FTG2(SS) WARREN S. CROSS
Ilion, NY



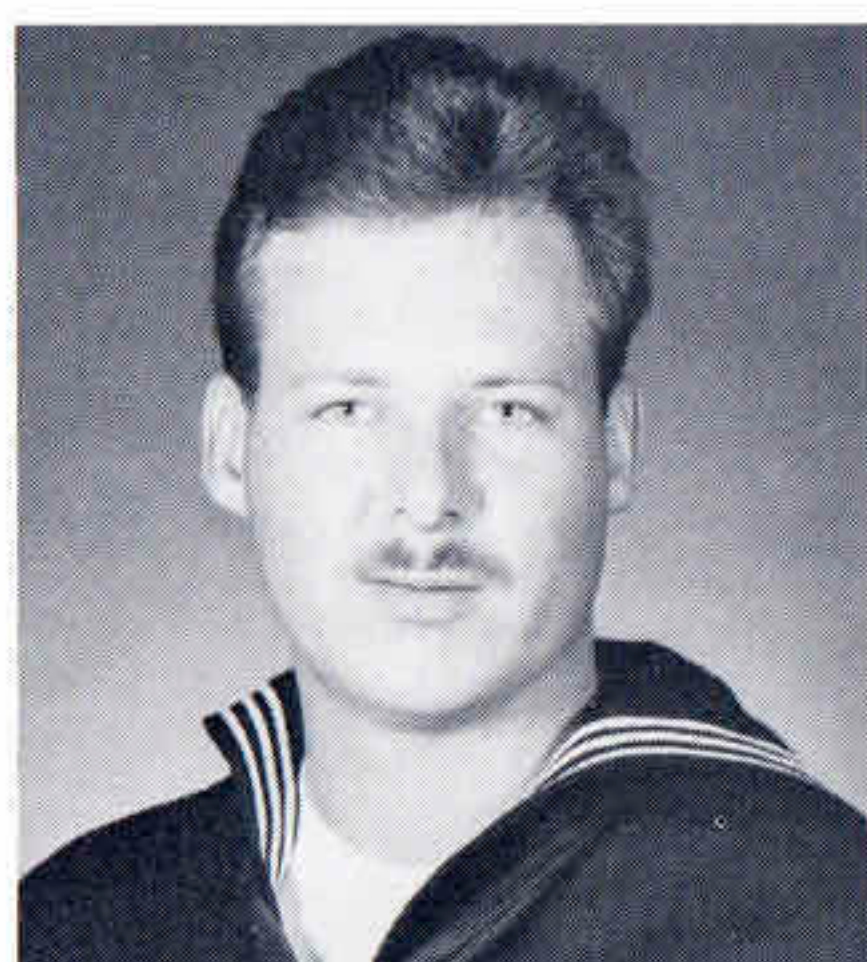
FTG2(SS) JEFFERY A. KLEIN
Eau Claire, WI



FTG2(SS) RICHARD J. ARNEY
Leesport, PA



FTG2(SS) KENNETH J. ROBERTS
Howell, NJ



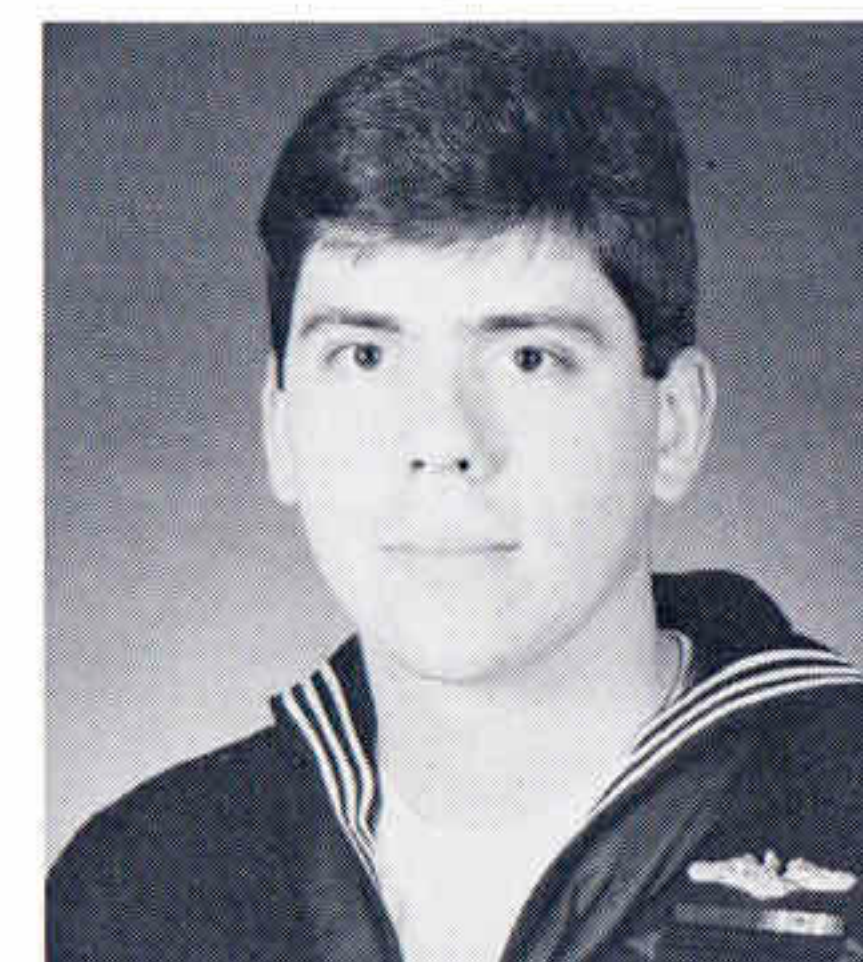
FTG2(SS) RICHARD J. DANAHER
Silver Springs, MD

MACHINIST'S MATE (MM)

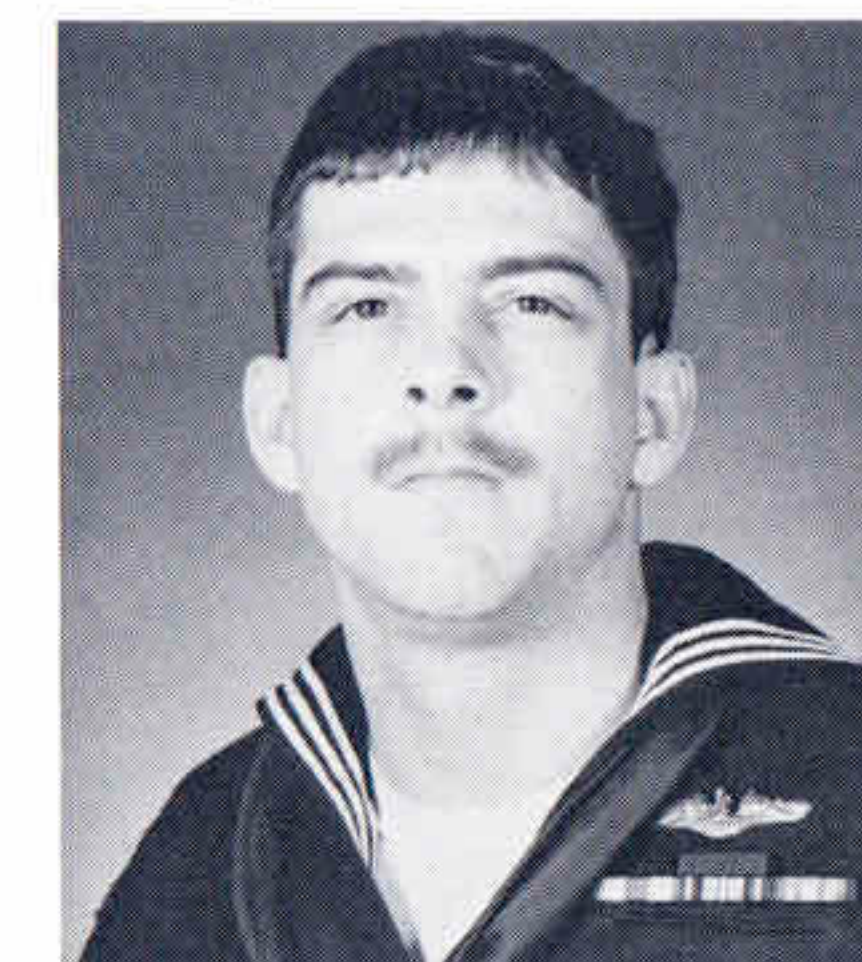
Auxiliary Division



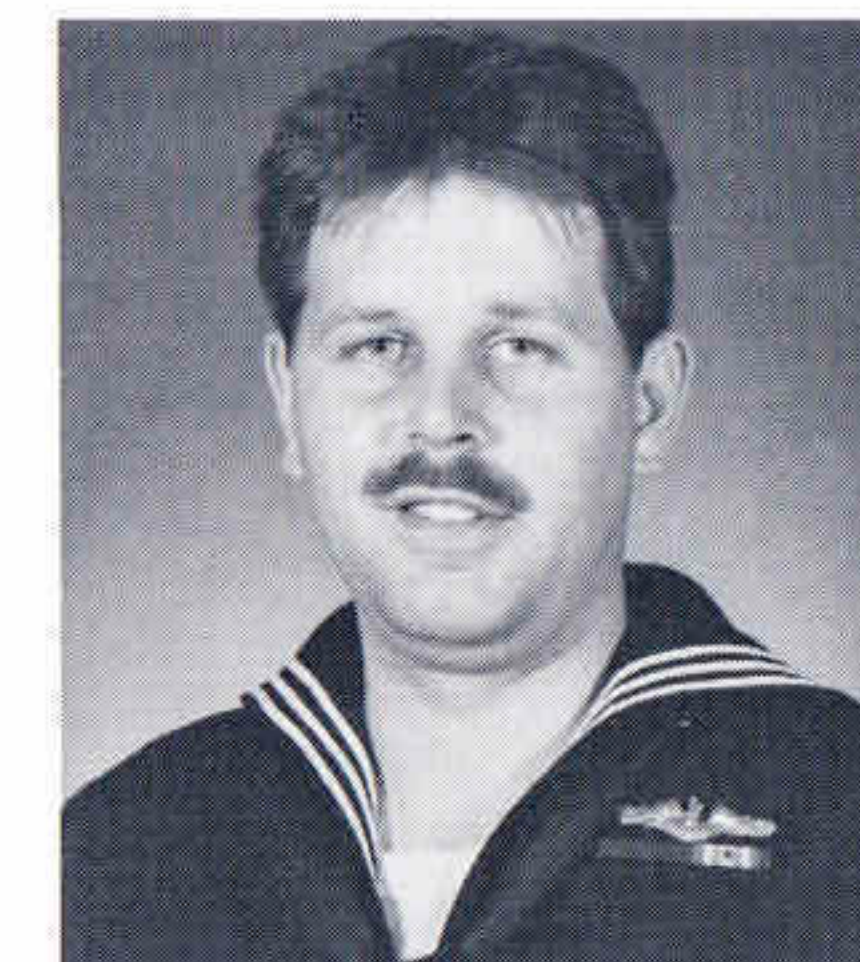
Operate and maintain ship support systems. These include hydraulics, oxygen manufacture, and steering and diving controls.



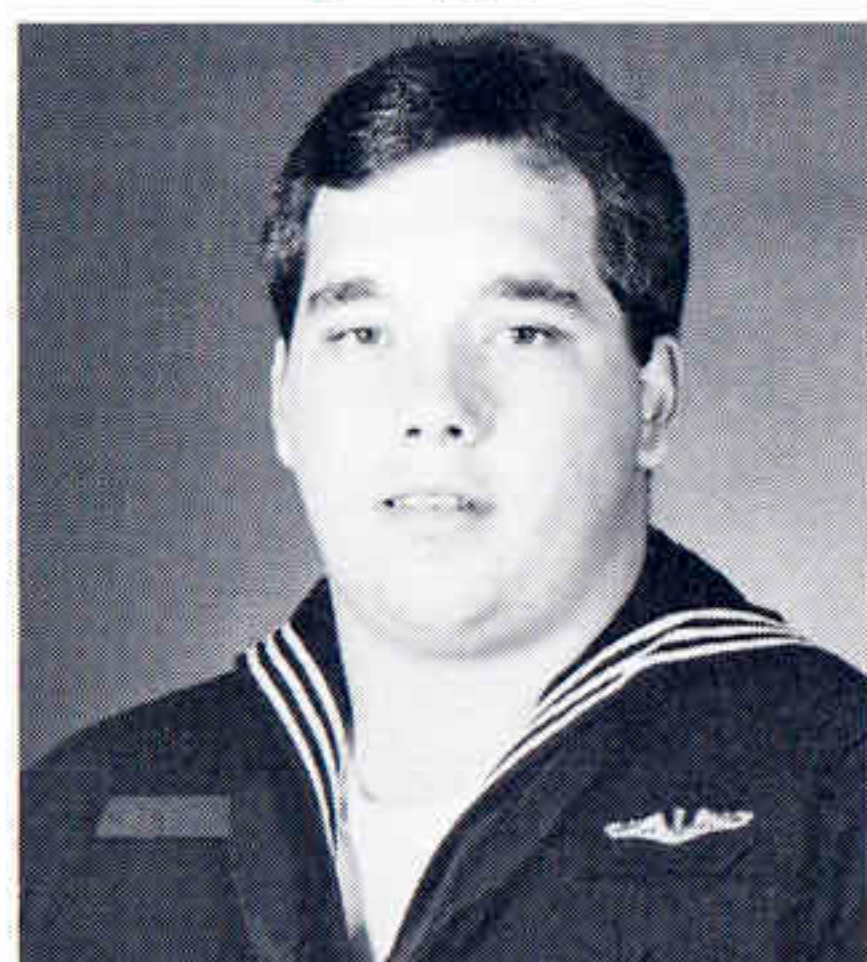
MM1(SS) DANIEL J. FREDRICKSON
Seattle, WA



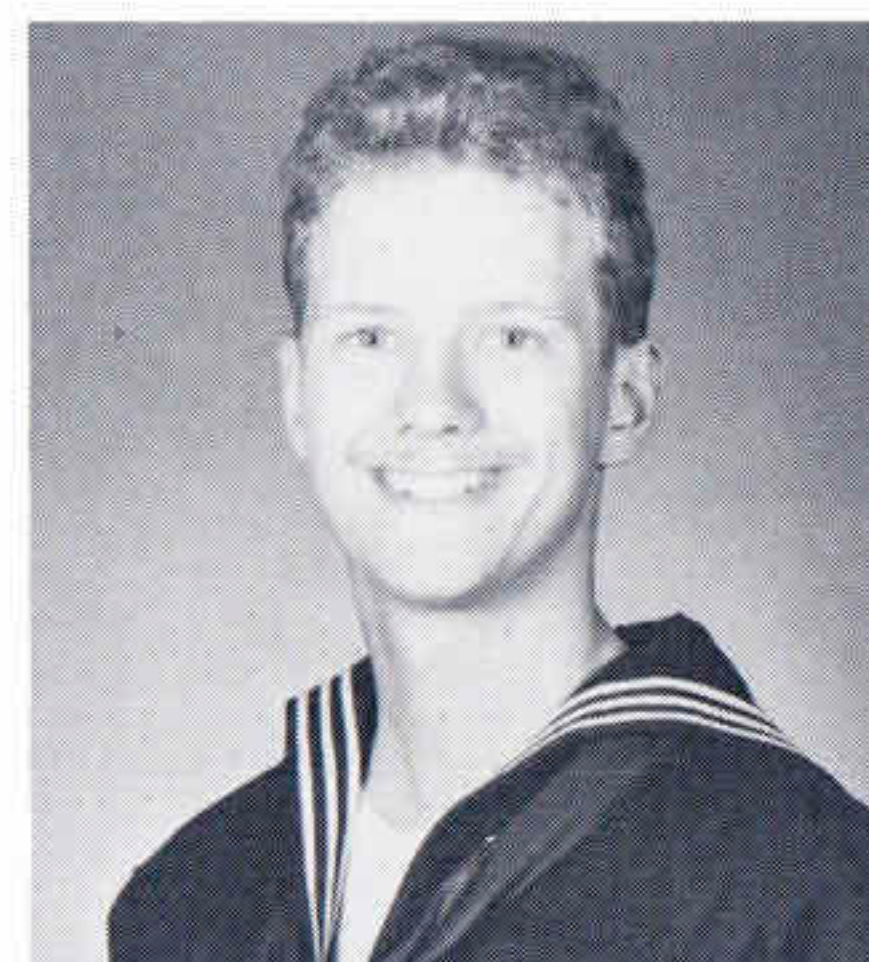
MM2(SS) SCOTT A. MILLER
Eaton, IN



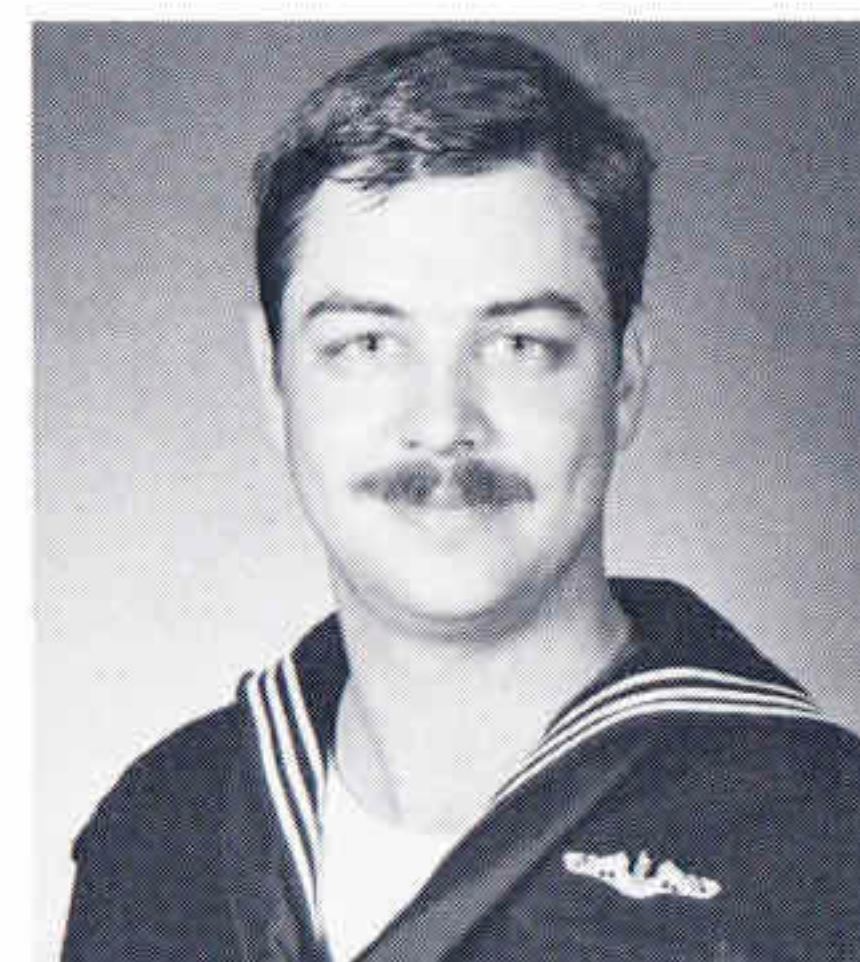
MM2(SS) ANTHONY G. BURKE
Spokane, WA



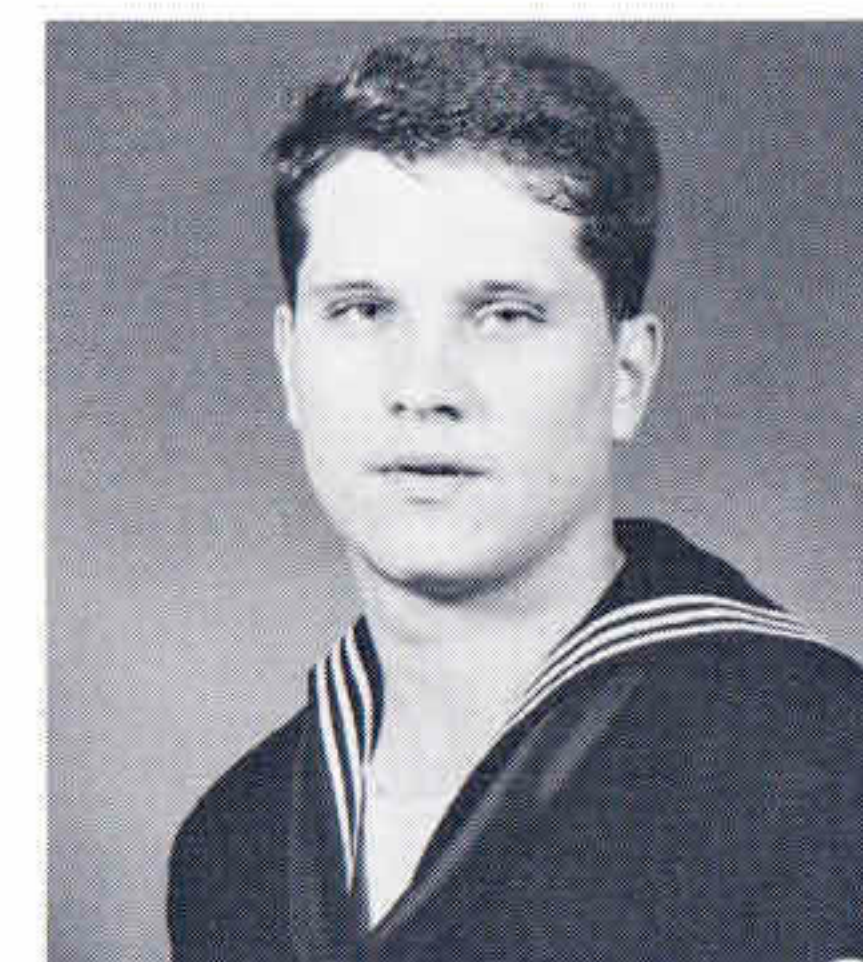
MM3(SS) JEFFREY M. DANSEREAU
Coeur D'Alene, ID



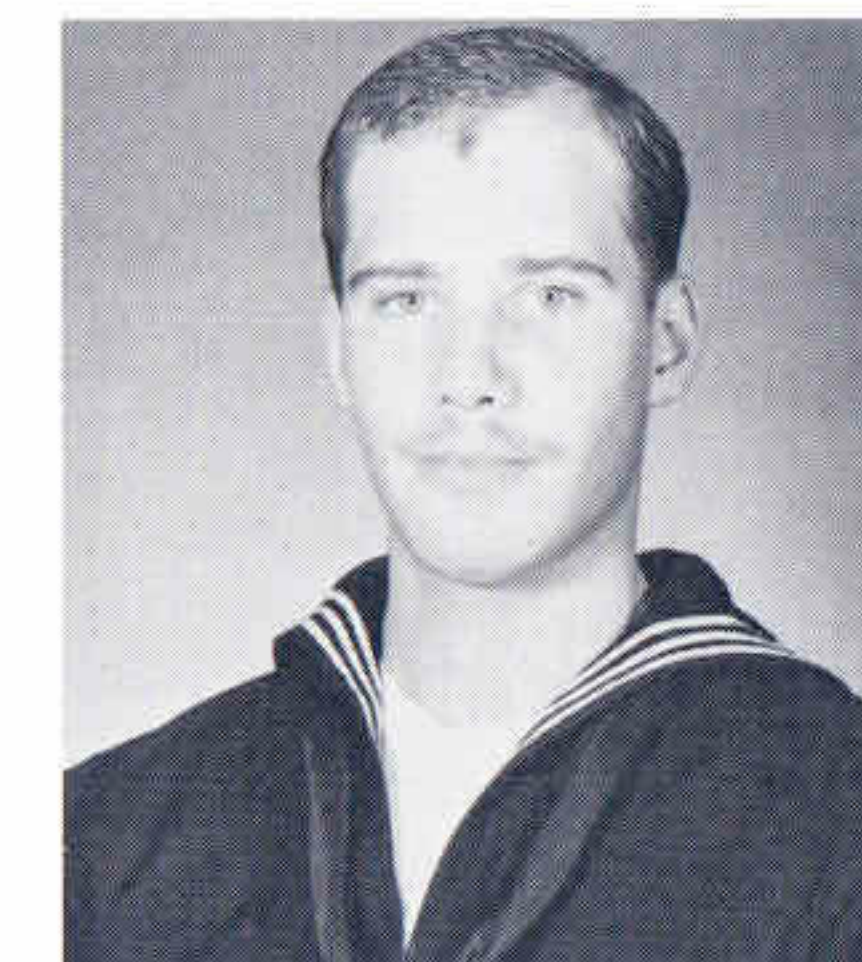
MM3(SU) SCOTT L. KELLER
West Lebanon, IN



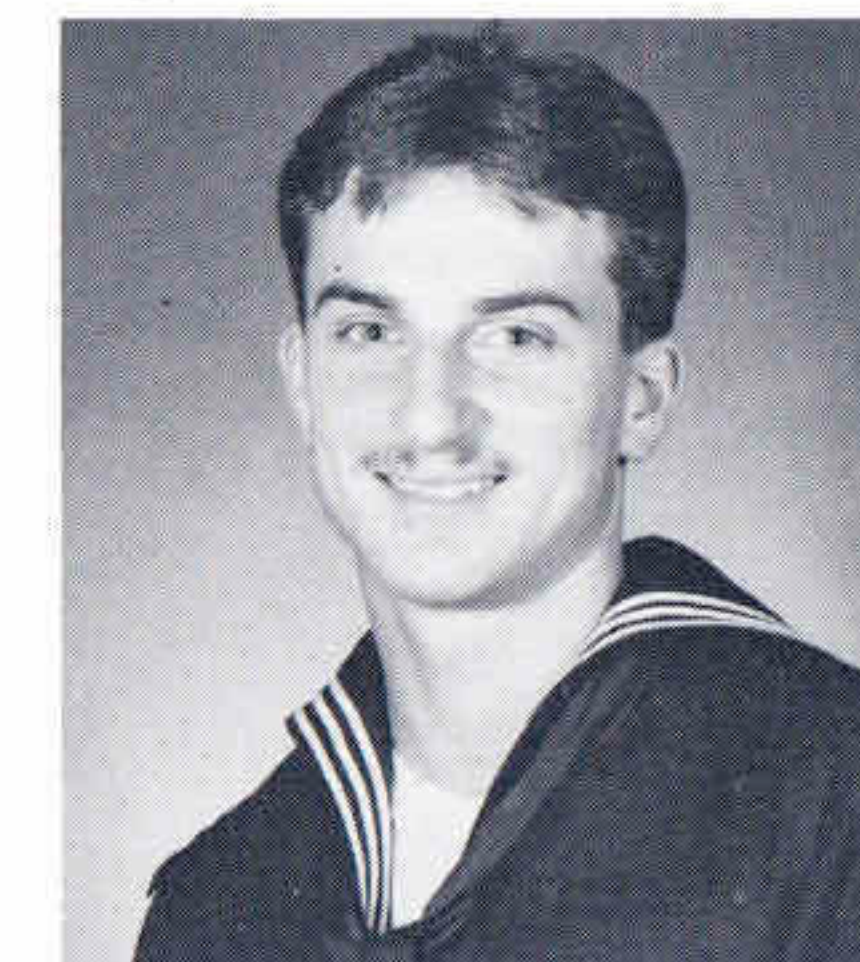
MM3(SS) MICHAEL J. CENCIA
Pittsfield, MA



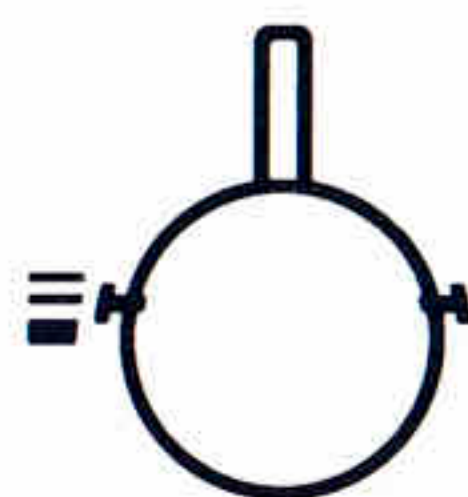
MM3(SU) TODD M. BEES
Warren, OH



MMFN(SU) PAUL D. MEYERS
Springville, NY



MMFN(SU) DEAN K. FRANCAZIO
Smyrna, DE



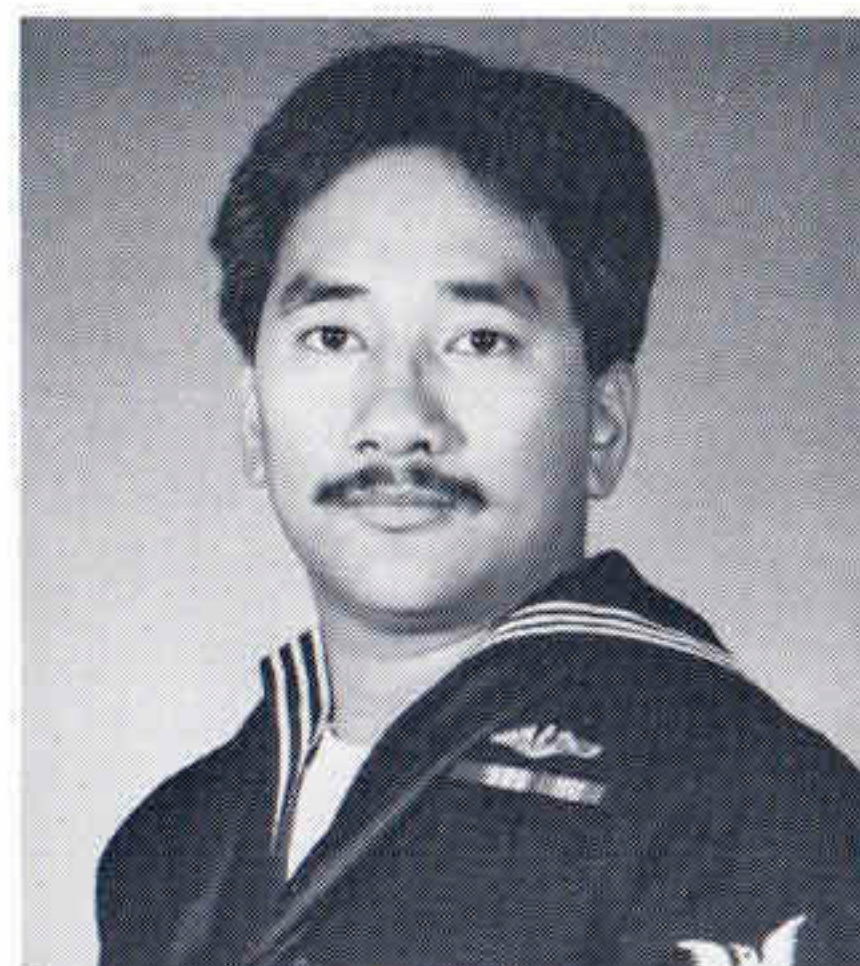
SHIP'S CREW

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (ET)

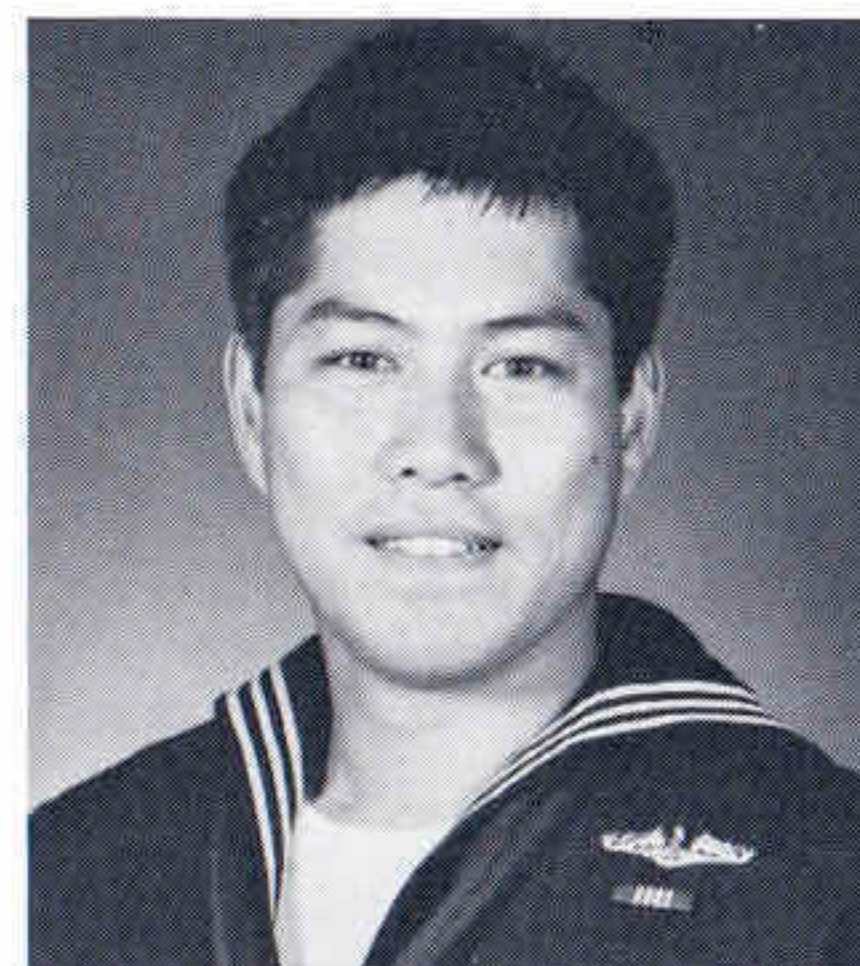
Electronics Division



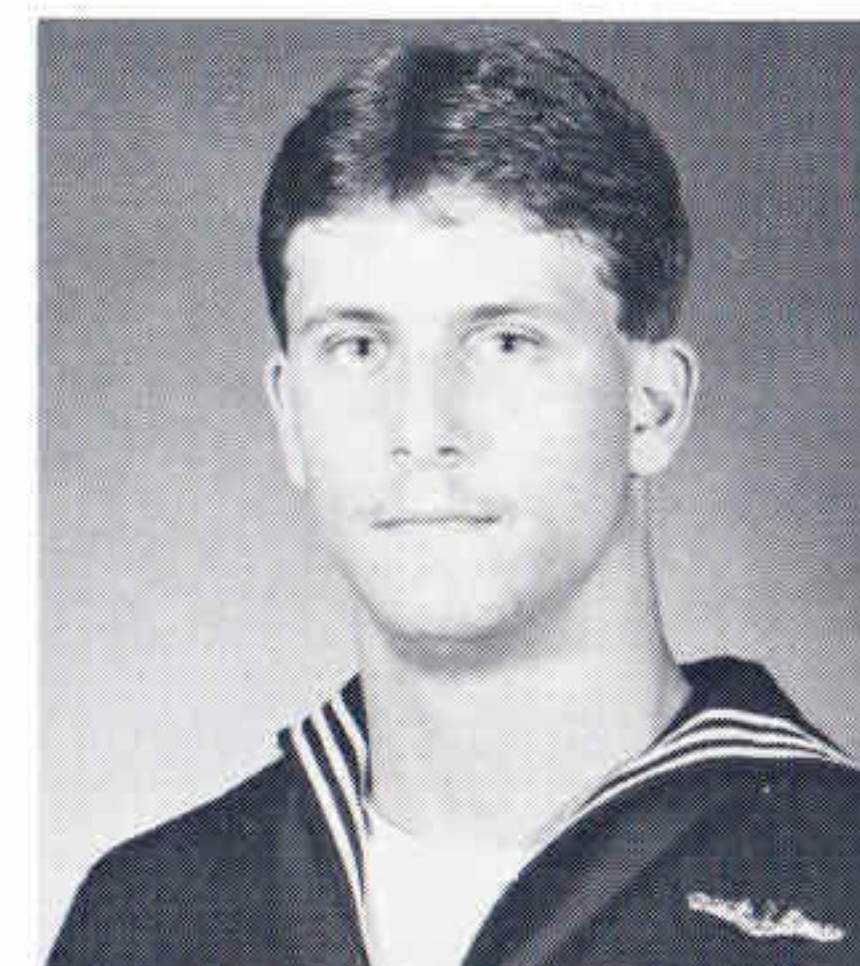
Maintain and repair electronic equipment onboard ship. They provide technical expertise required to keep the delicate electronic "eyes" of the ship at peak performance.



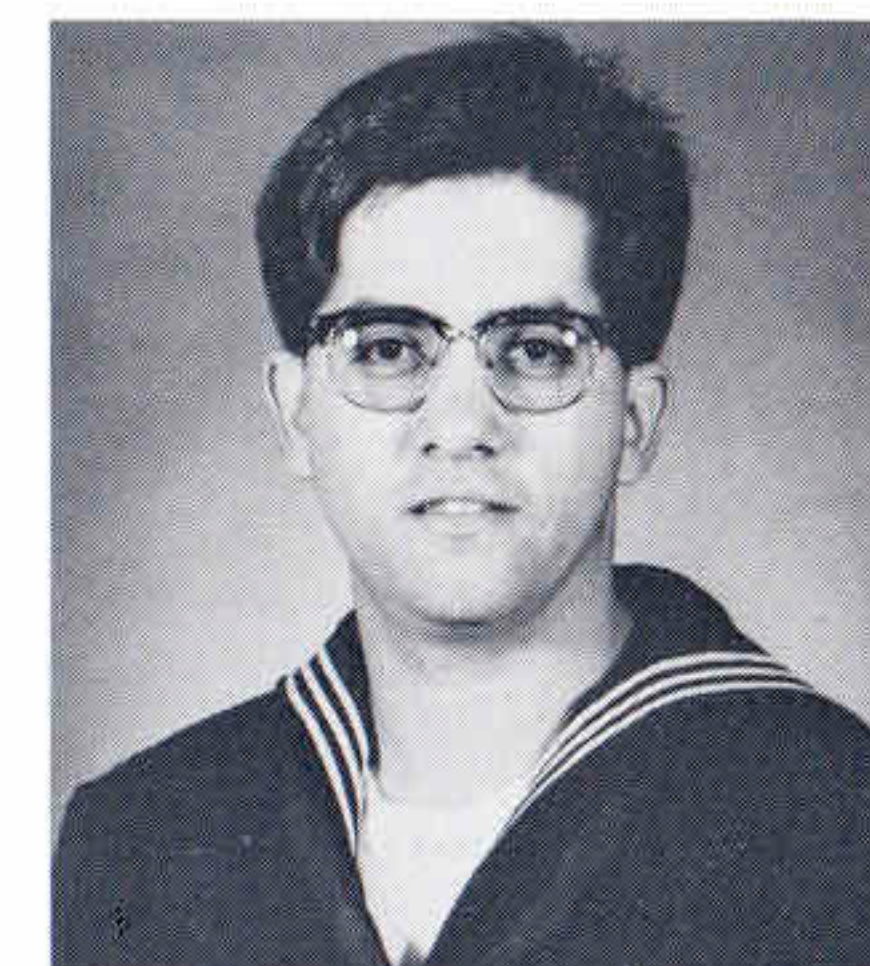
ET2(SS) STEVE R. C.
SALVANERA
Streamwood, IL



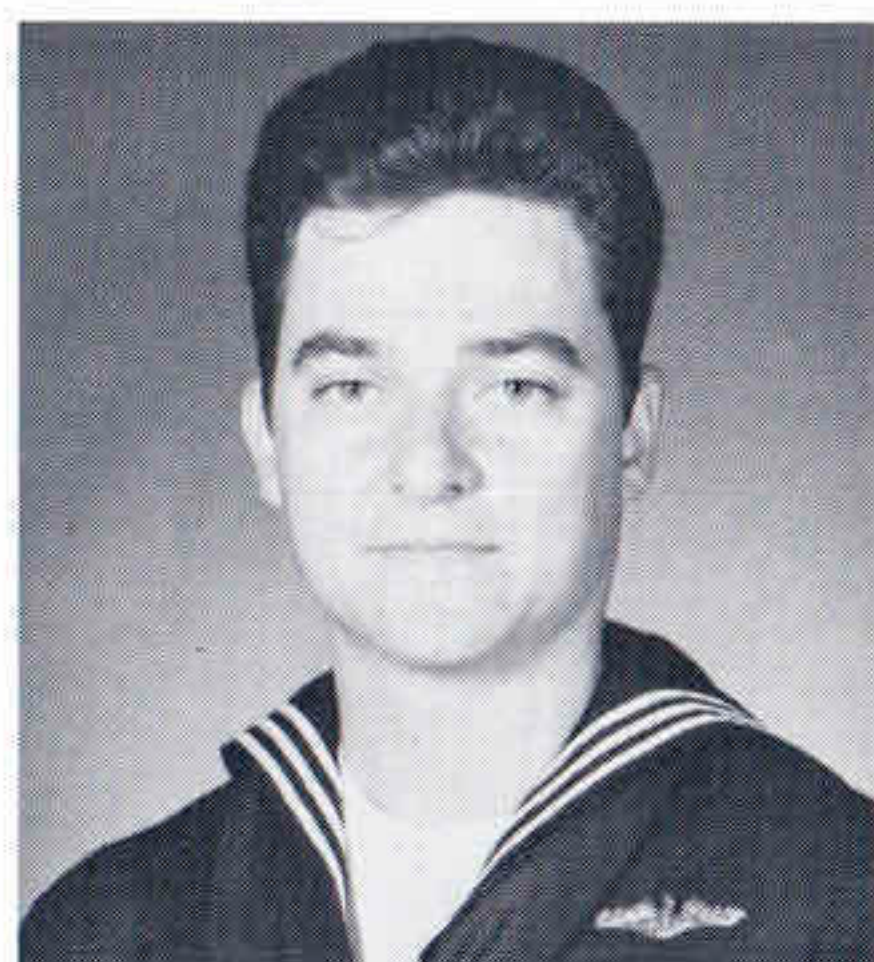
ET2(SS/DV) BILL K.
LUI
Buffalo, NY



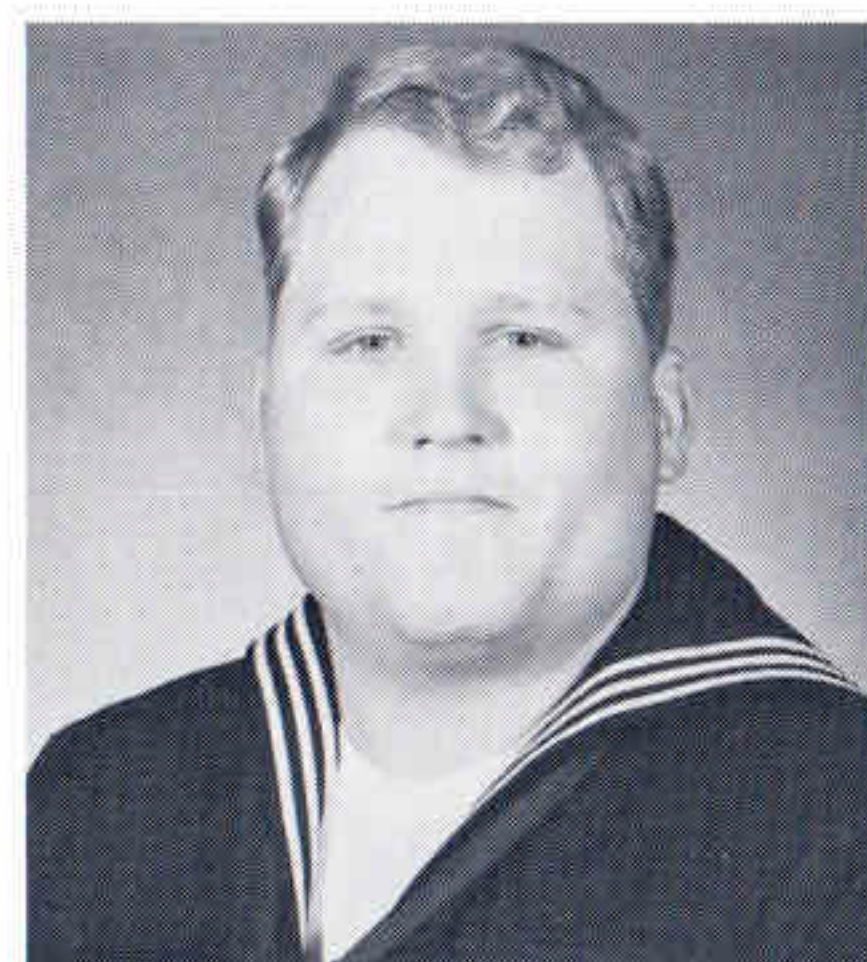
ET2(SS) JAMES J.
PUPPLO
Selden, NY



ET2(SS) GILBERTO R.
CRUZ
Mesa, AZ



ET3(SS) KEVIN J.
KUDEBEH
Yucca Valley, CA



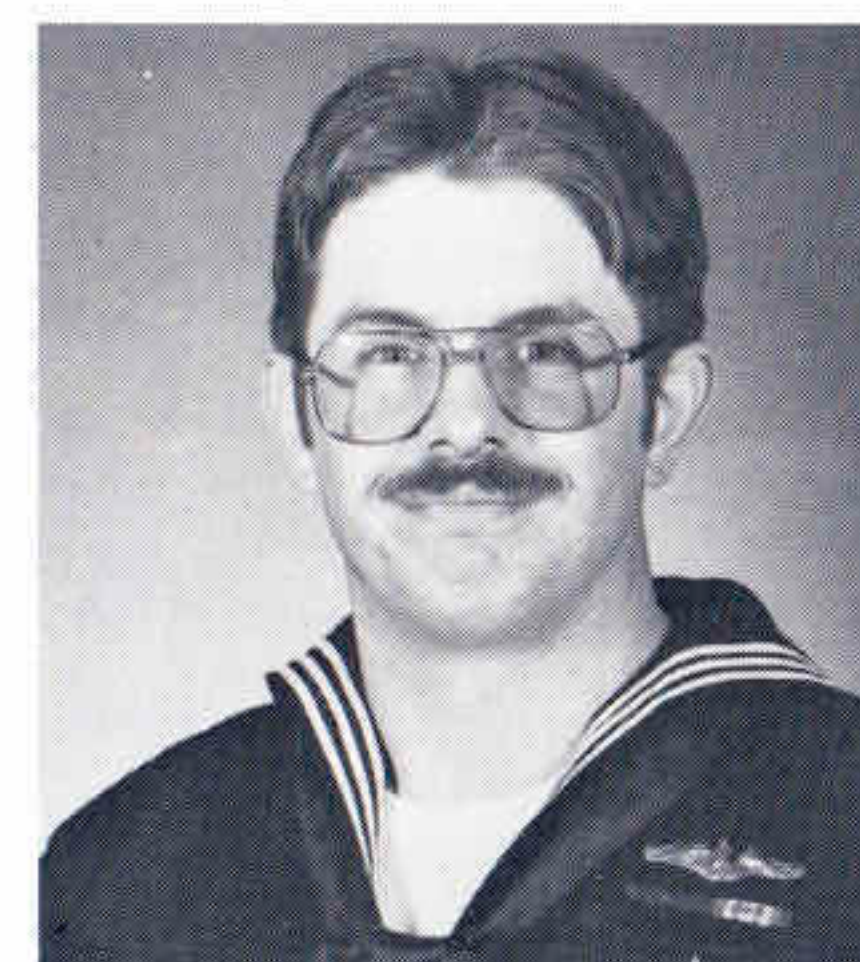
ET3(SU) JOHN B.
HANSER
Belford, NJ

MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (MS)

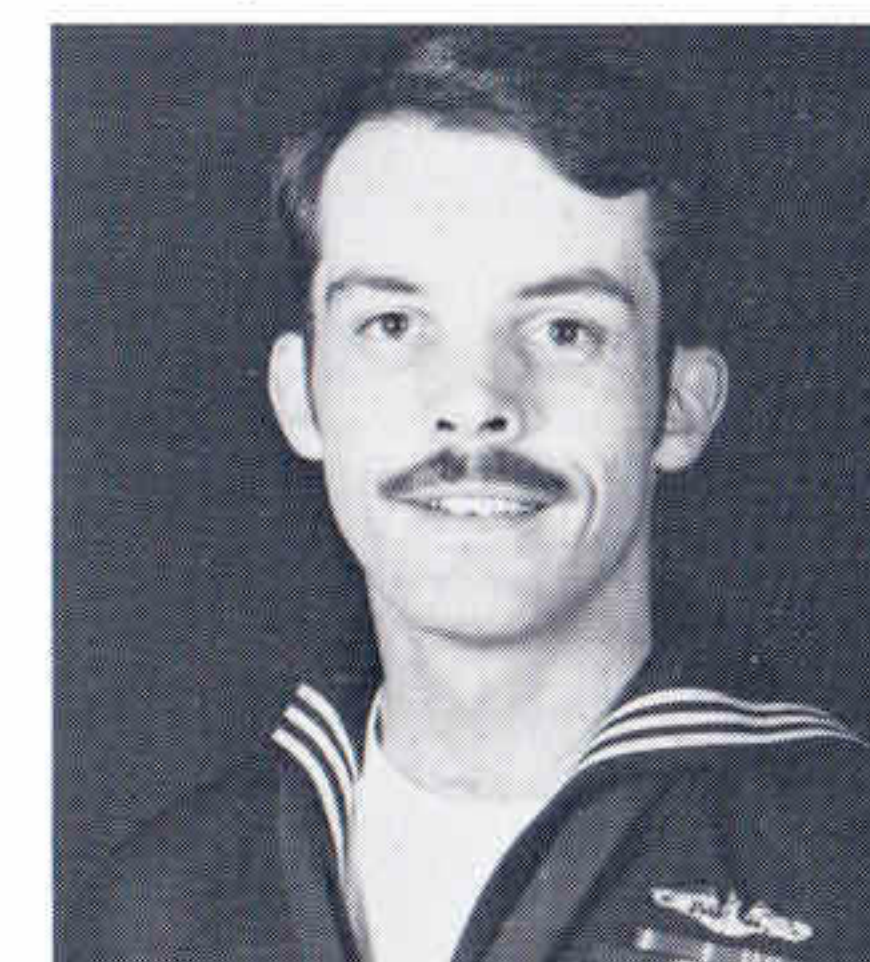
Food Service Division



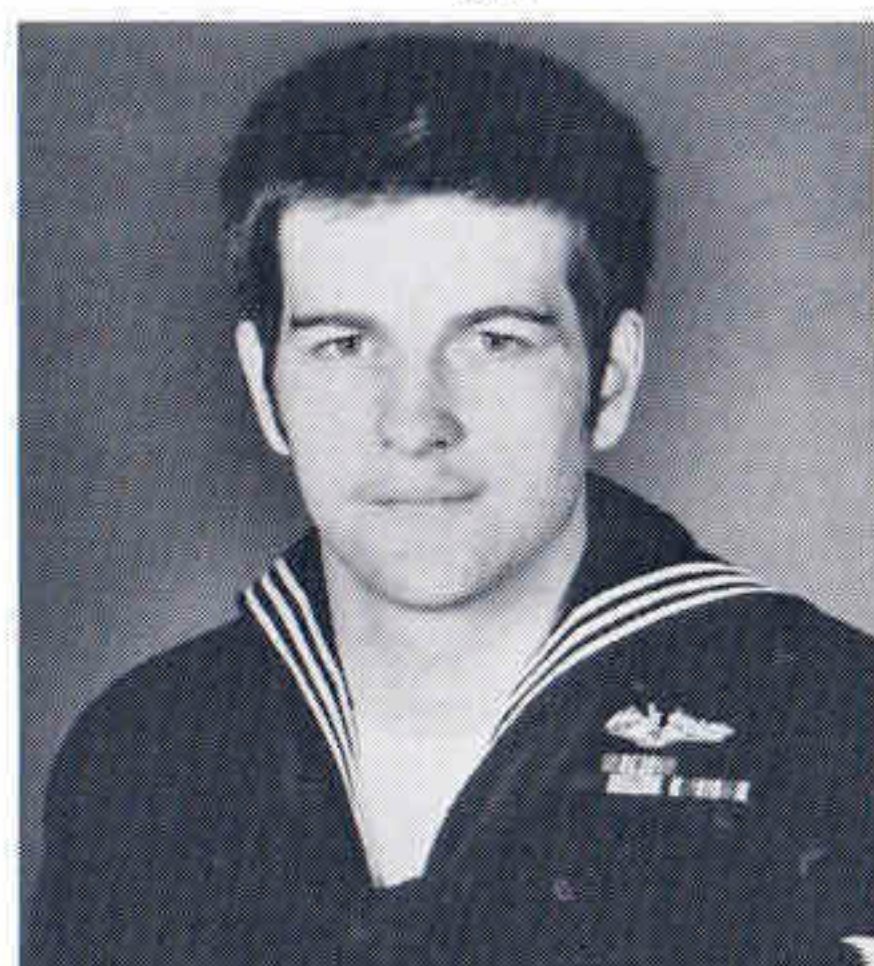
Operate and manage all kitchen and dining facilities aboard. They also maintain all food service financial records.



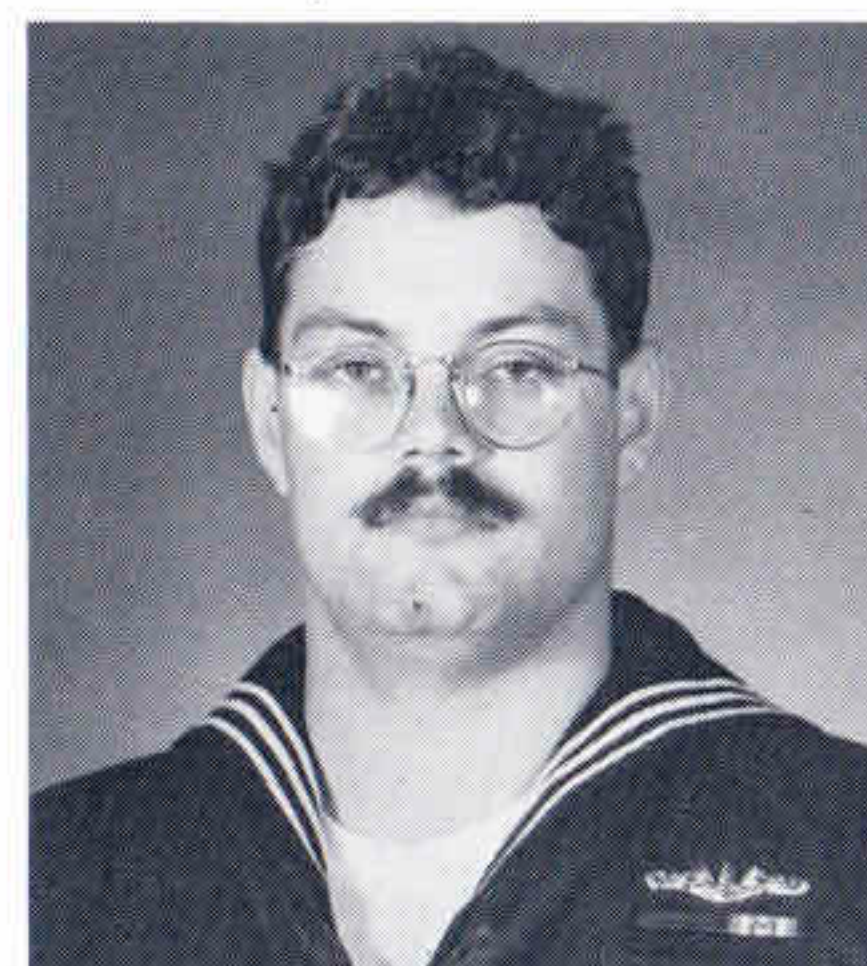
MS1(SS) PAUL W.
EMMONS
San Luis Obispo, CA



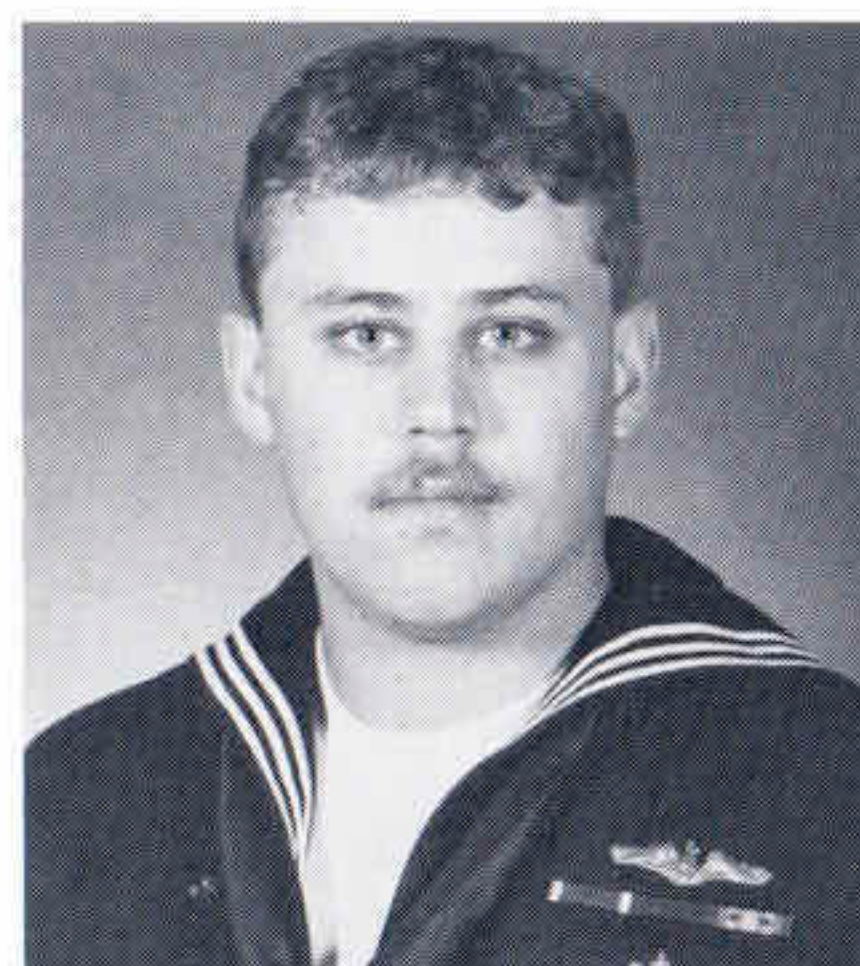
MS1(SS) HOWARD J.
CARR, JR.
Hardwick, VT



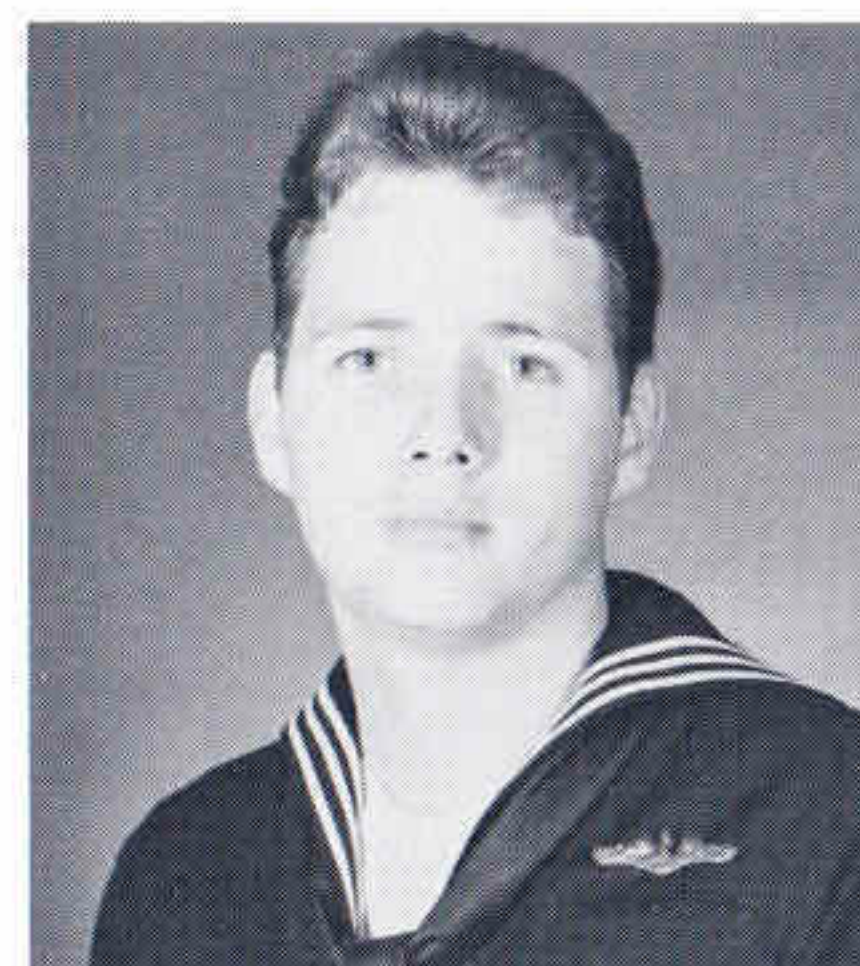
MS1(SS) STEVEN M.
HORNE
Far Rockaway, NY



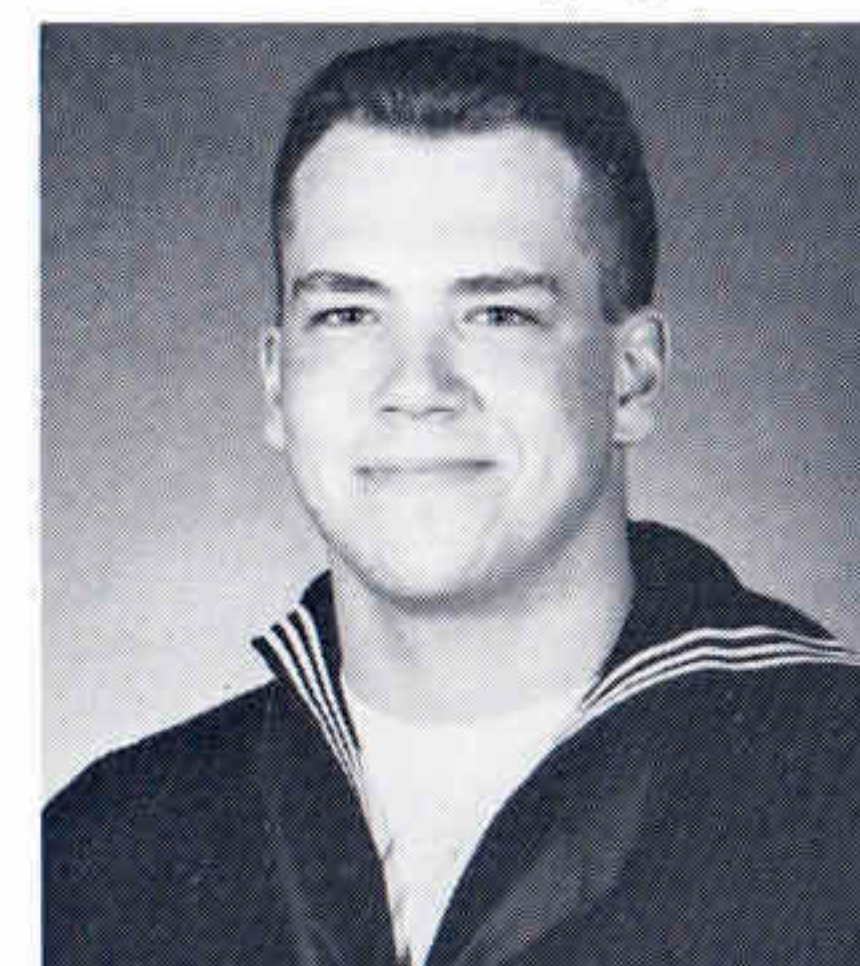
MS2(SS) JOHN E.
PFEIFFER
Columbia, MD



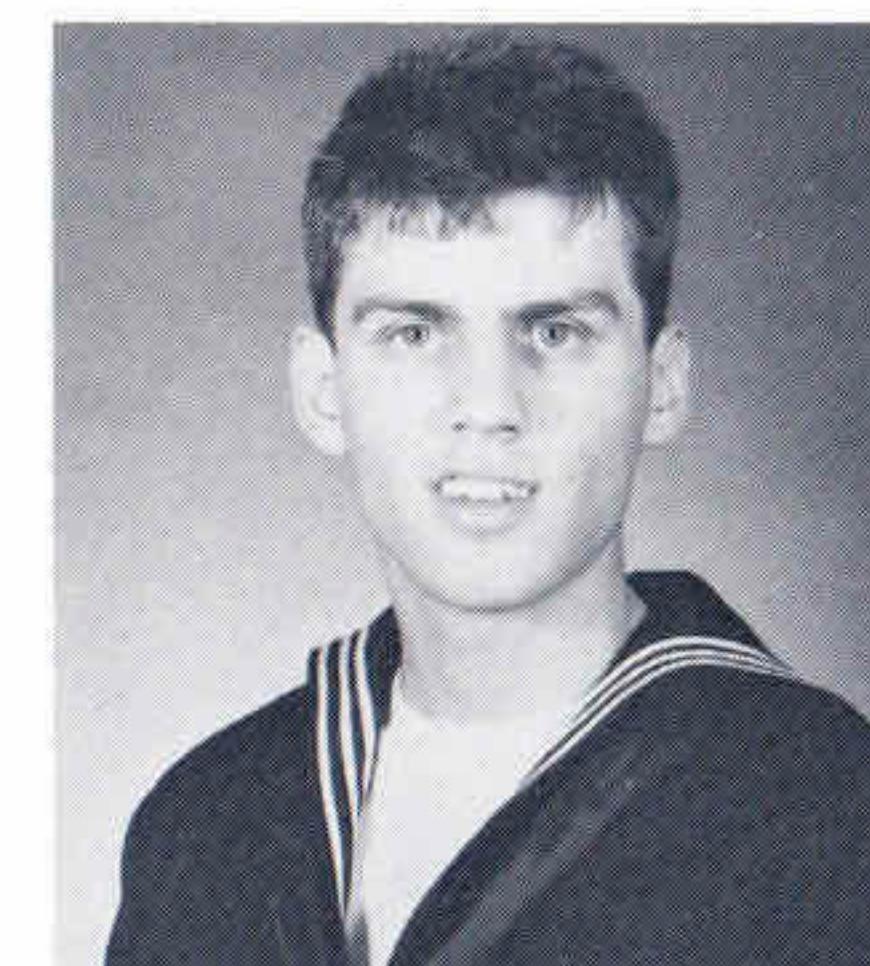
MS2(SS) THOMAS L.
PIFARI
Monrovia, CA



MS3(SS) MICHAEL S.
JOHNSON
Colrain, MA



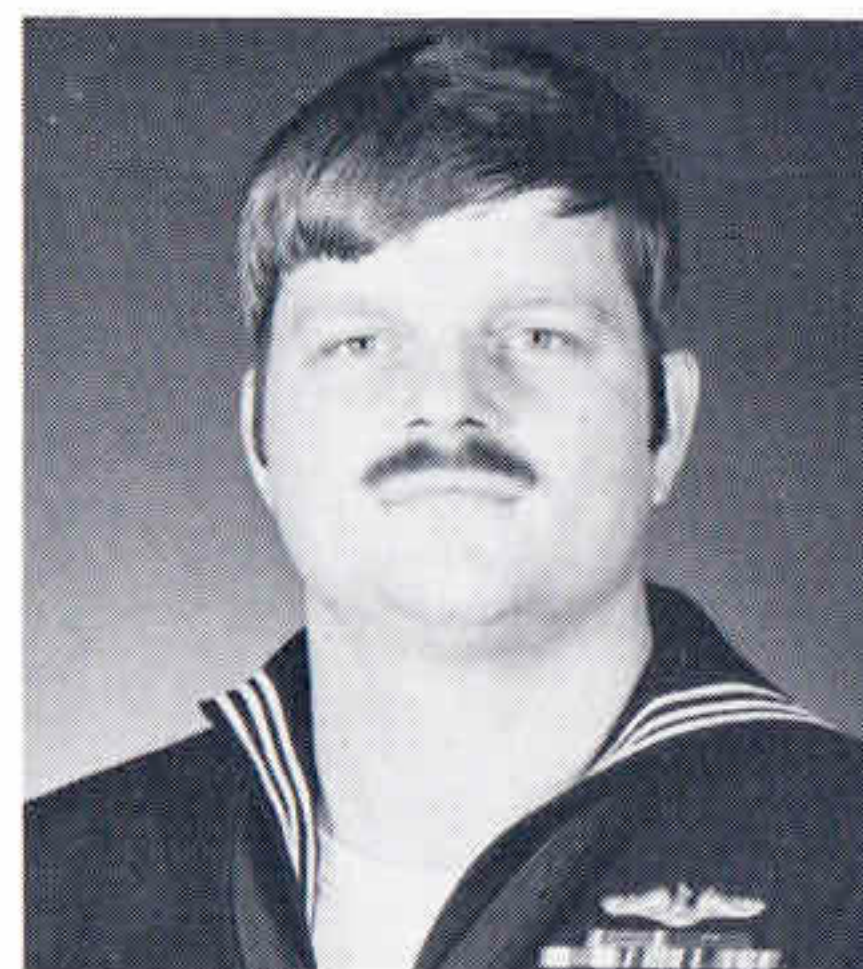
MSSN(SU) JOHN M.
LABBE
New Bedford, MA



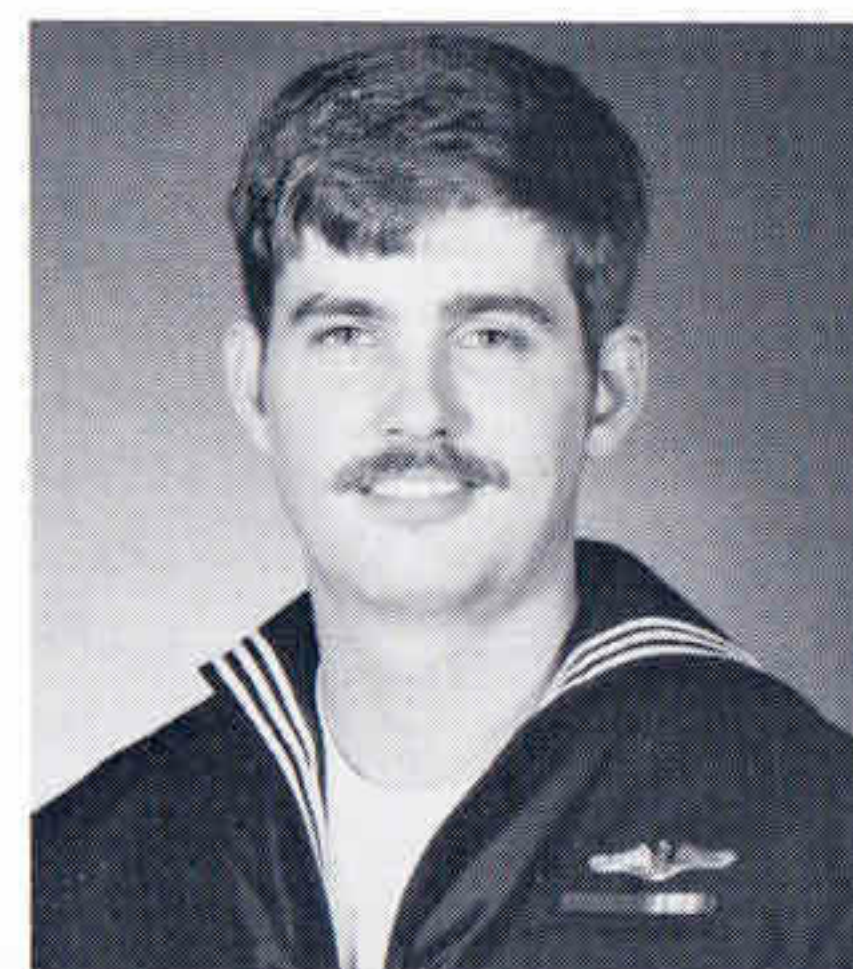
MSSN(SS) MATTHEW J.
SCHMIDT
Petersburg, AL

ELECTRICIANS' MATE (EM)*Electrical Division*

Operate and maintain the electrical power plant and associated equipment. They also manage the shipboard electrical safety program.



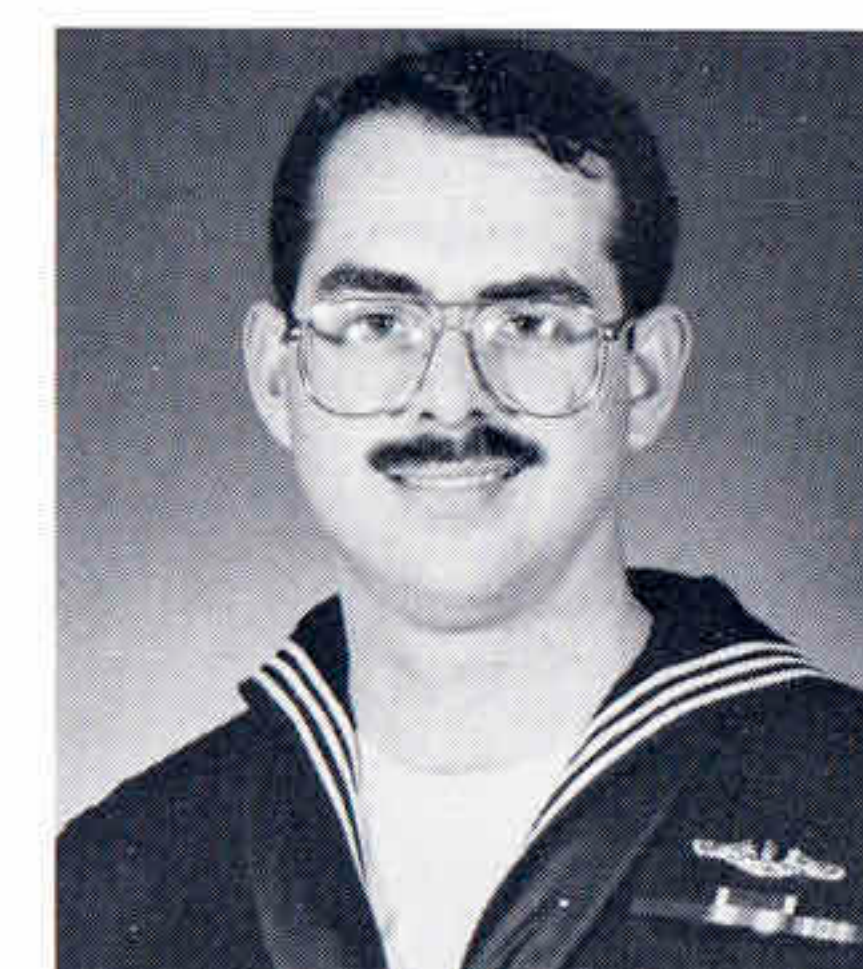
EM1(SS) ERIC C.
BAATZ
Edwardsburg, MI



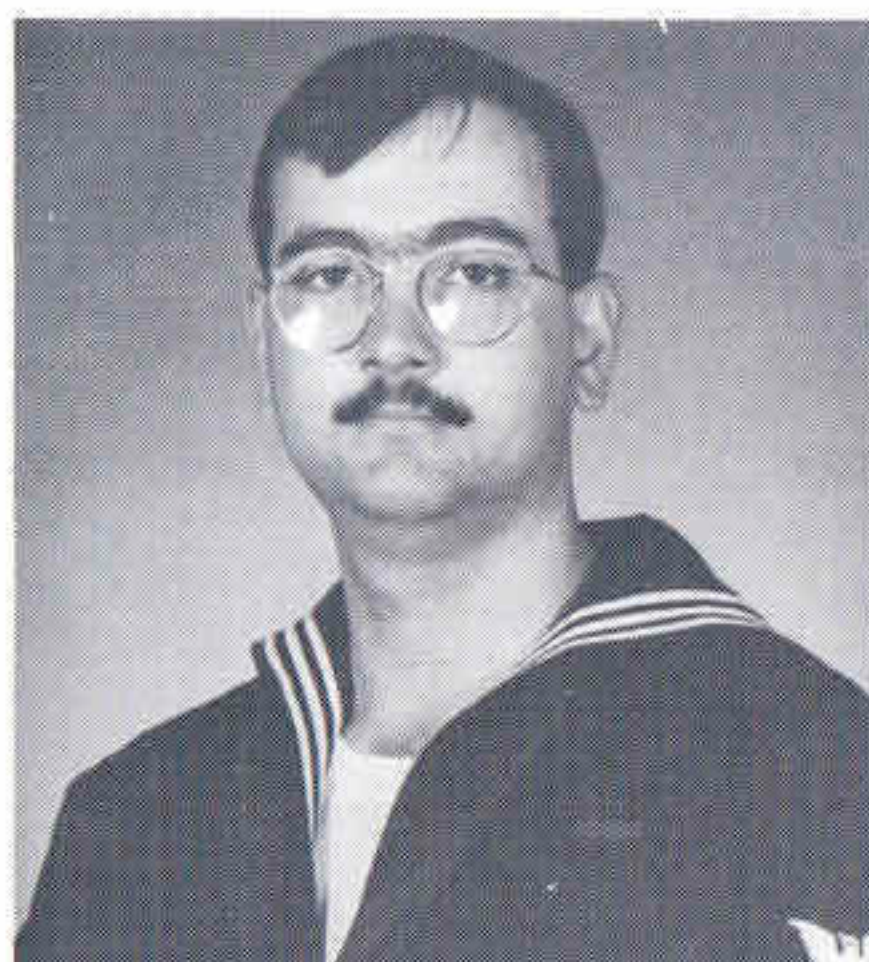
EM1(SS) ALAN L.
NETTLES
Austin, TX



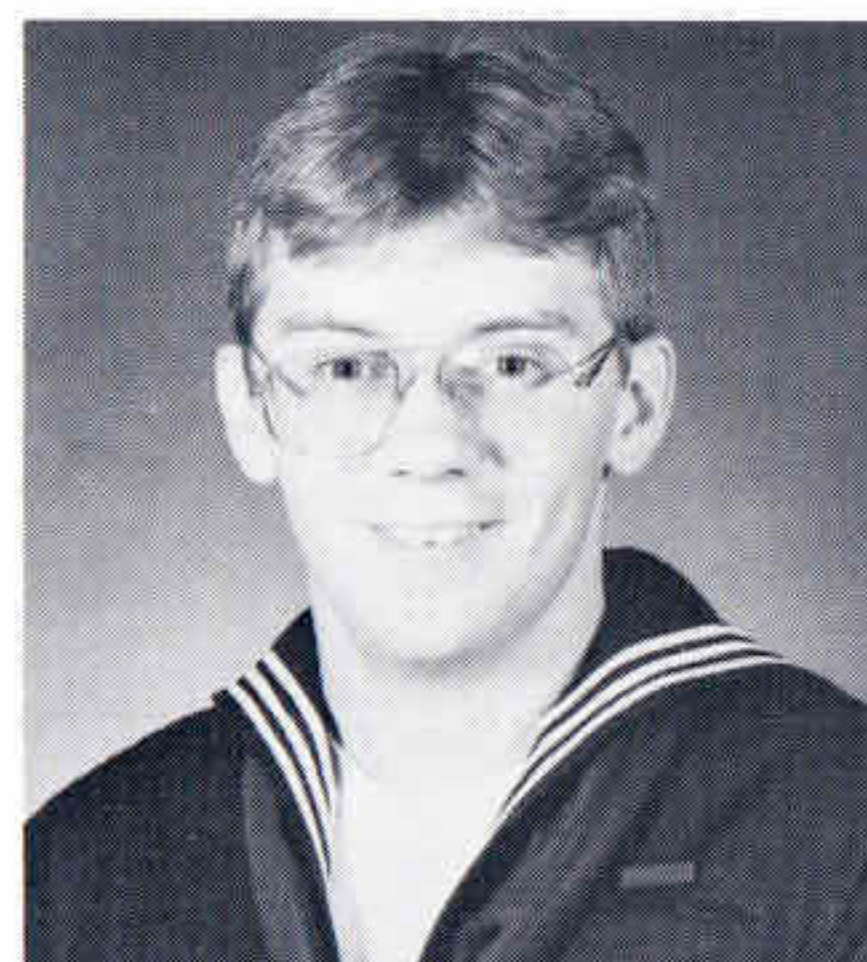
EM1(SS) JEFFREY A.
RUNG
Niagara Falls, NY



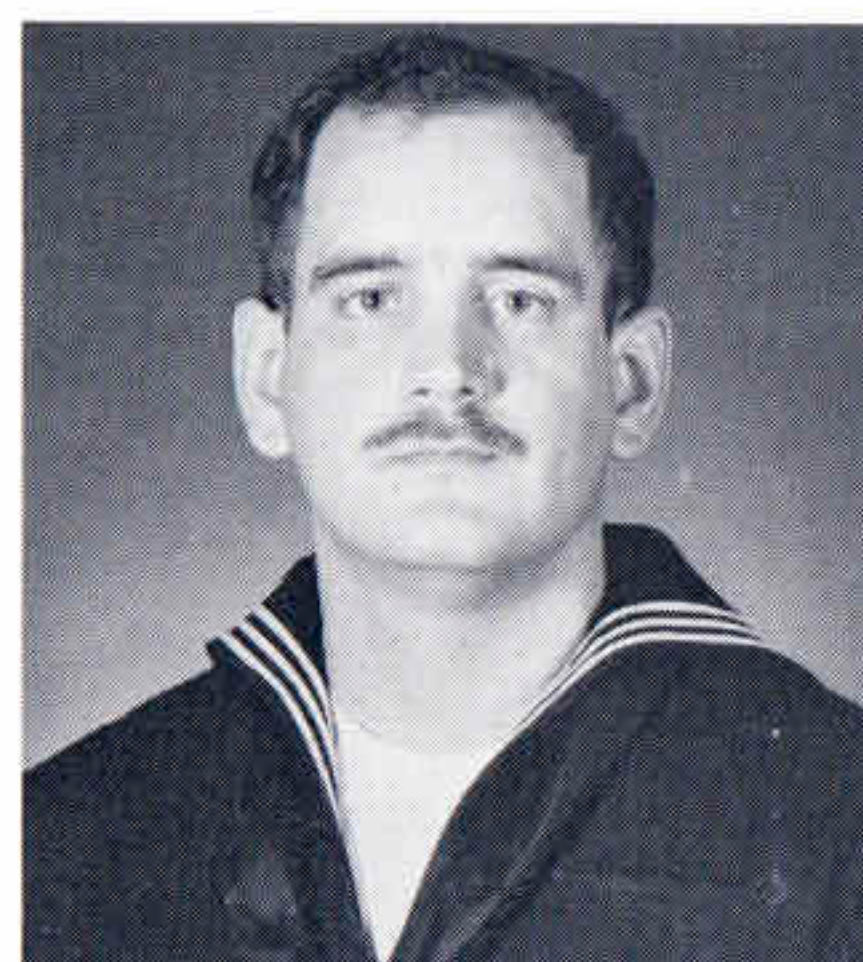
EM1(SS) KEITH A.
ROGERS
Austin, TX



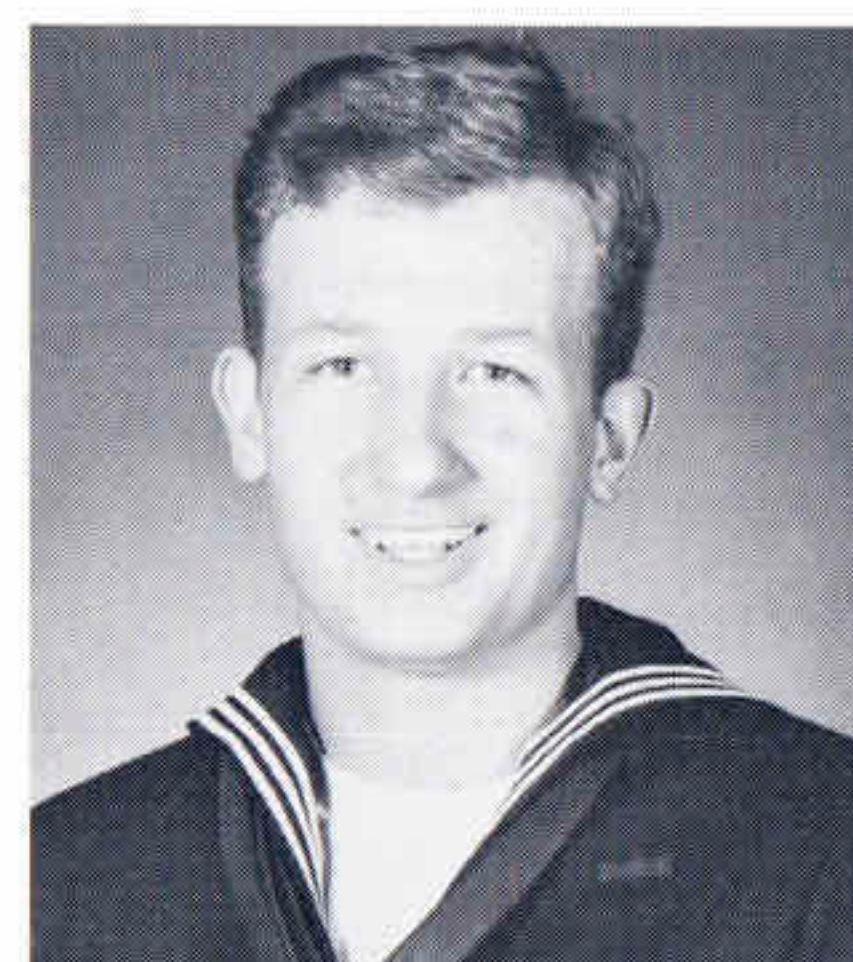
EM1(SU) TODD L.
CUTSFORTH
Waterloo, IA



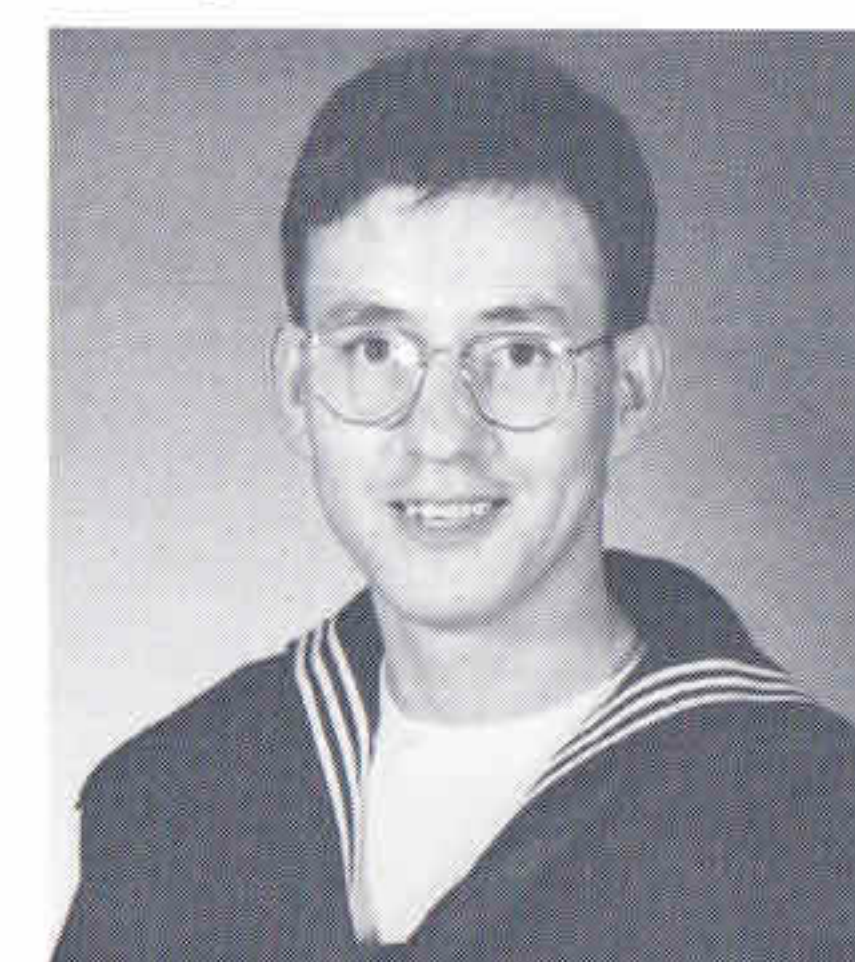
EM2(SU) KEITH A.
MARSON
Seattle, WA



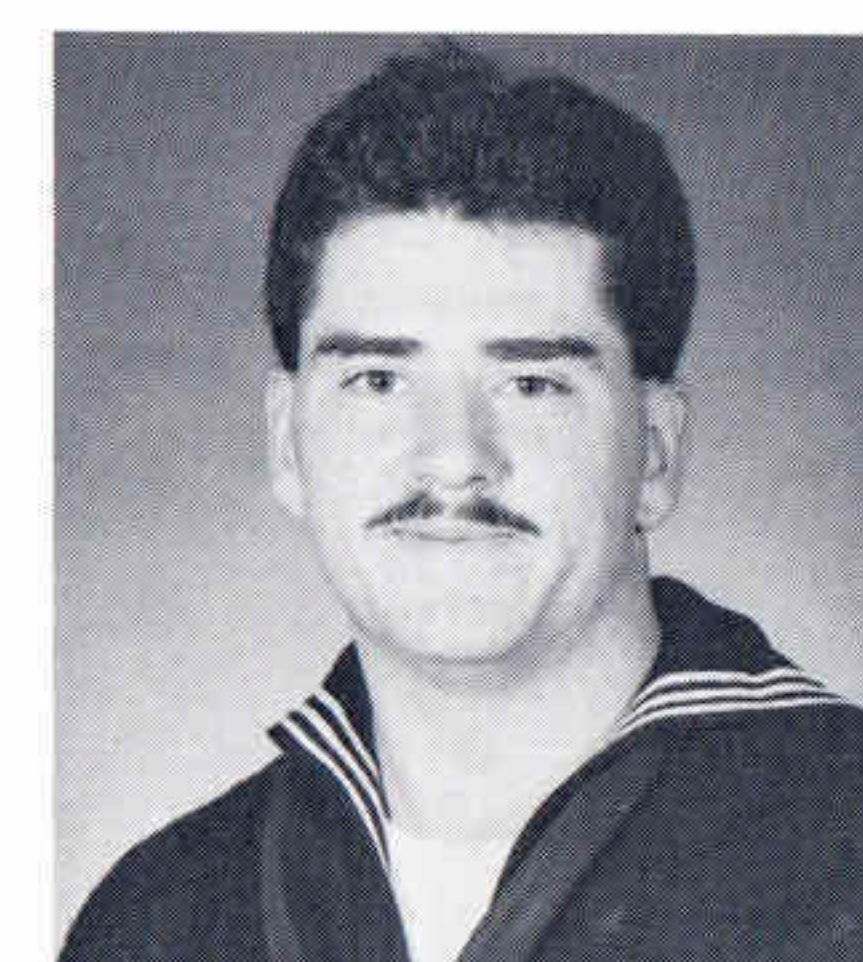
EM2(SU) RODNEY L.
FRANCIS
Farmington, MO



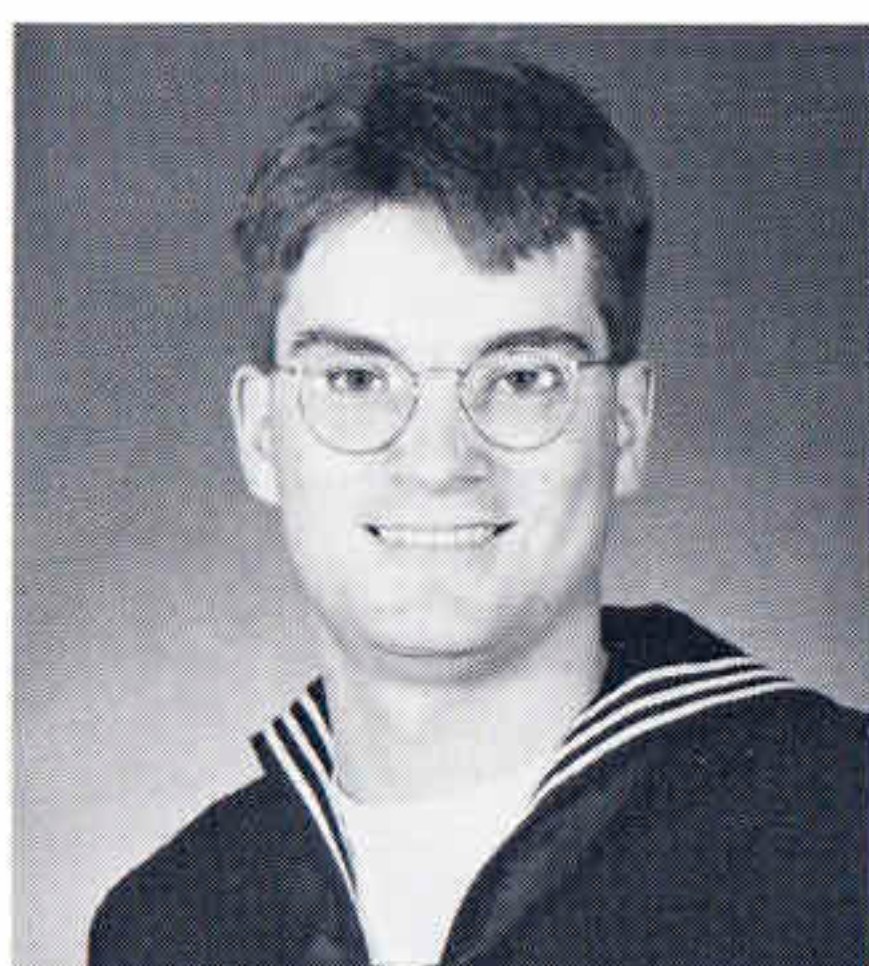
EM2(SU) JOHN P.
FIEBICH
St. Charles, MN



EM2(SU) STEPHEN
ZAWACKI
Dupont, PA



EM3(SU) EDWARD T.
ODONNELL
Stanfordville, NY

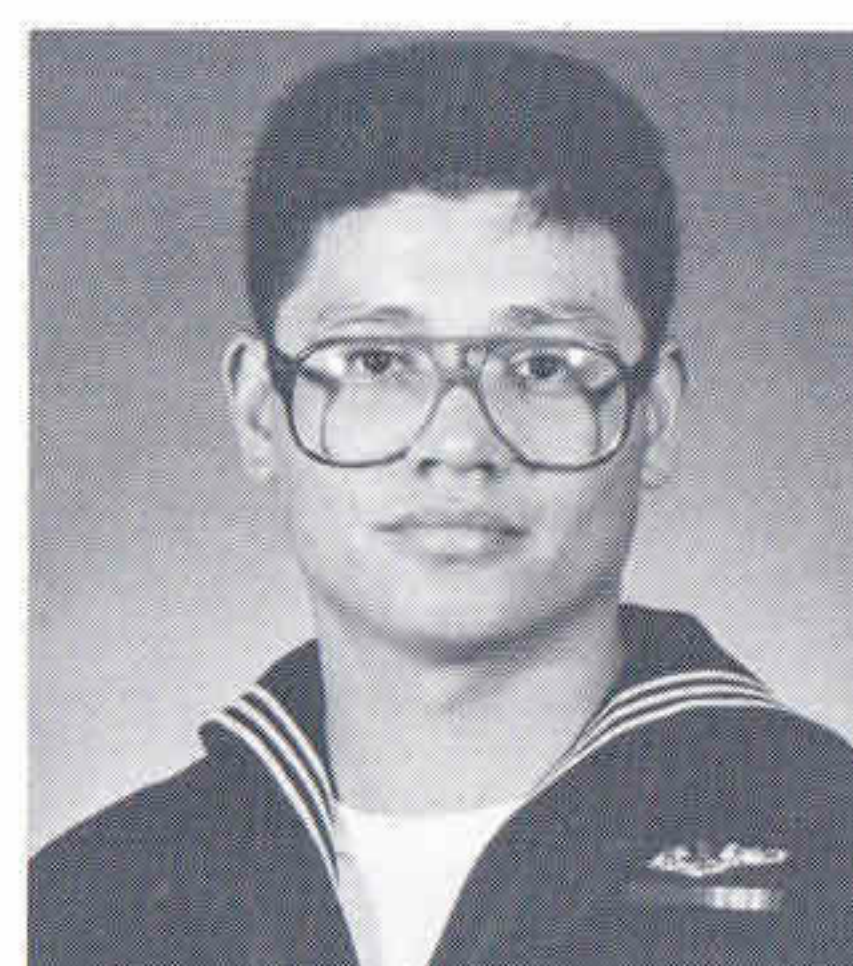


EM3(SU) DALE L.
NICHOL
Sagertown, PA

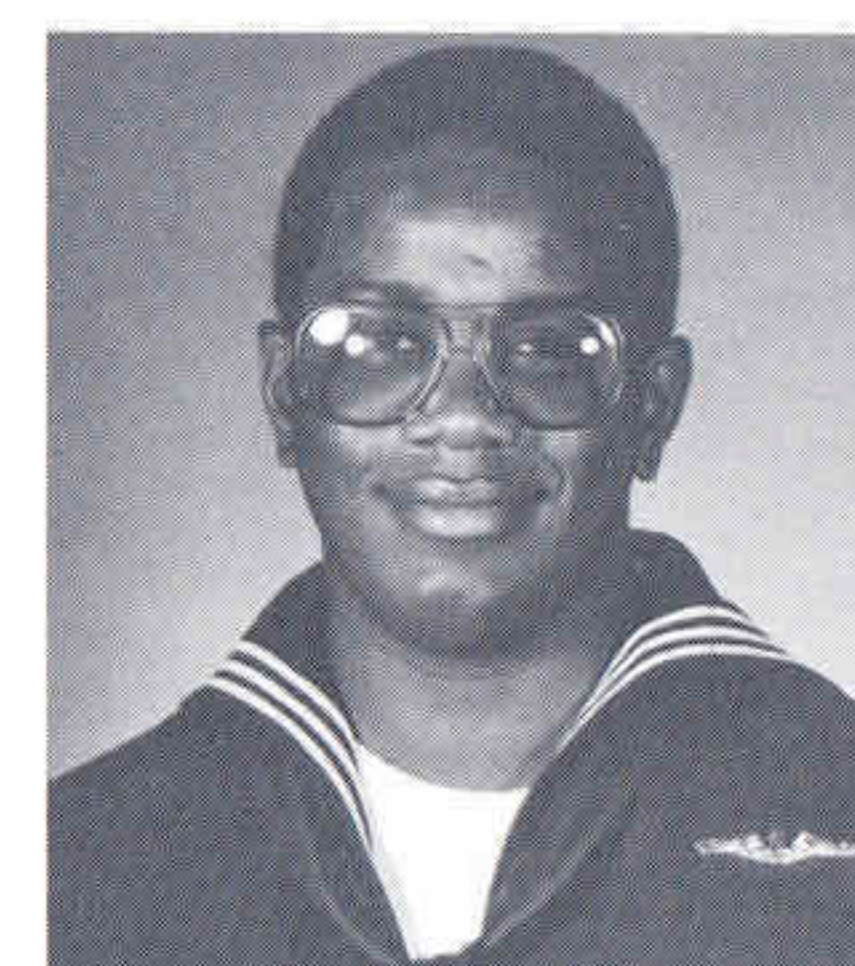
YEOMAN (YN)
Executive Department



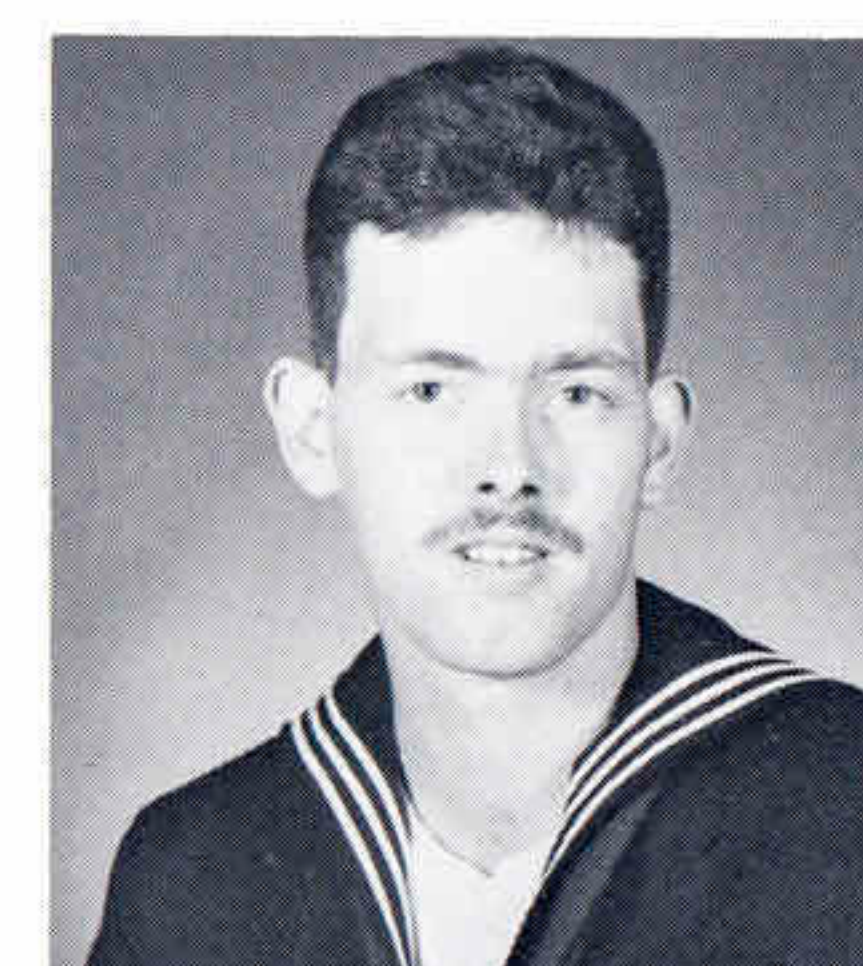
Perform clerical, administrative and secretarial duties, and serve as reporters for courts martial. They are primary assistants to the Executive Officer.



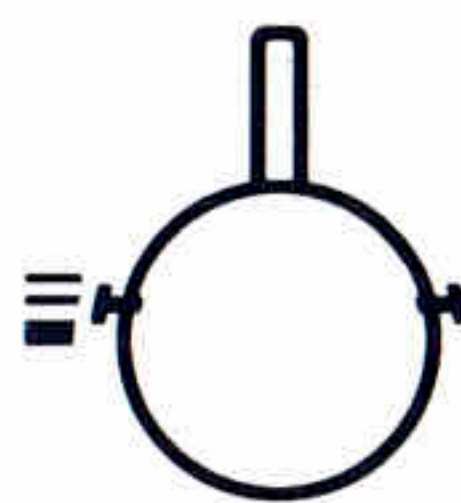
YN2(SS) ARTURO
HERNANDEZ
Chaparral, NM



YN3(SS) WILLIAM T.
HARRIS
Seattle, WA



YN3(SU) BRIAN P.
DAUGHERTY
Mt. Pleasant, TX



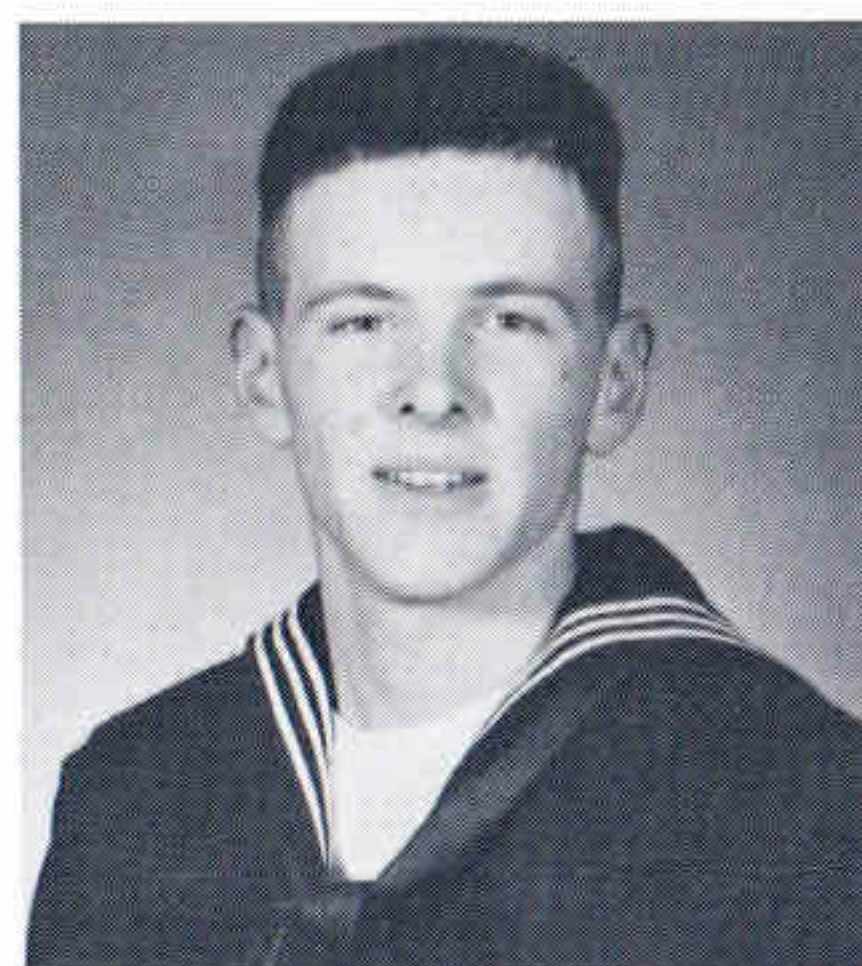
SHIP'S CREW

SEAMAN/FIREMAN (SN,FN)

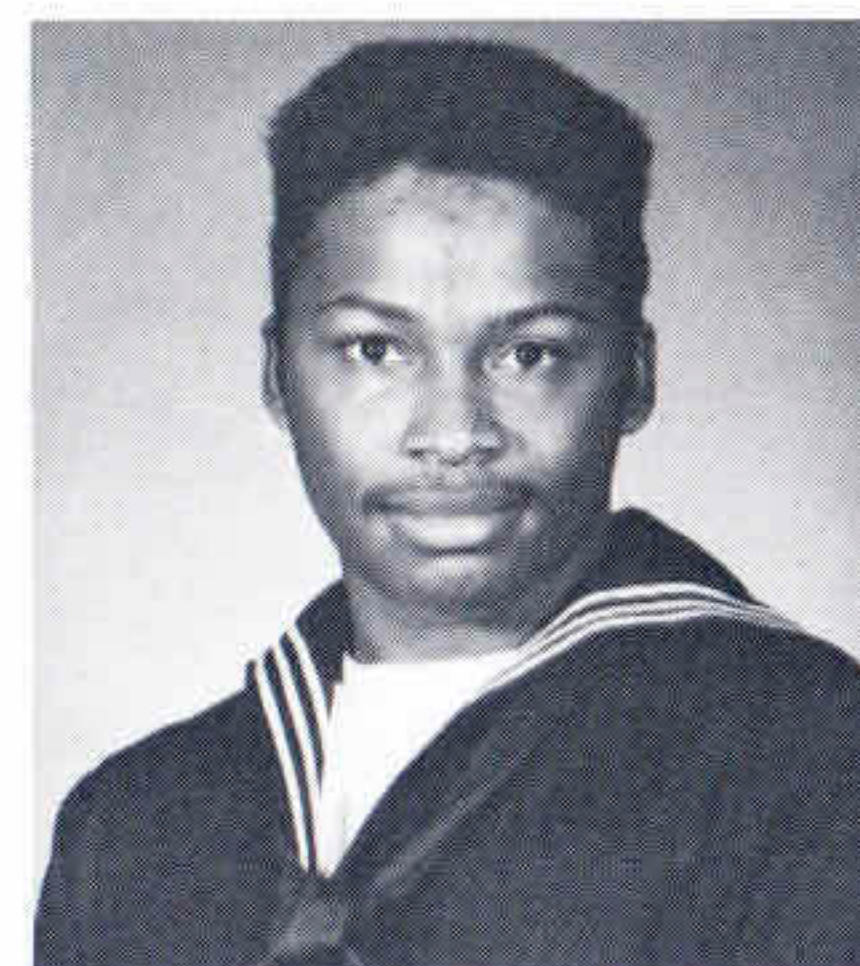
Deck Division



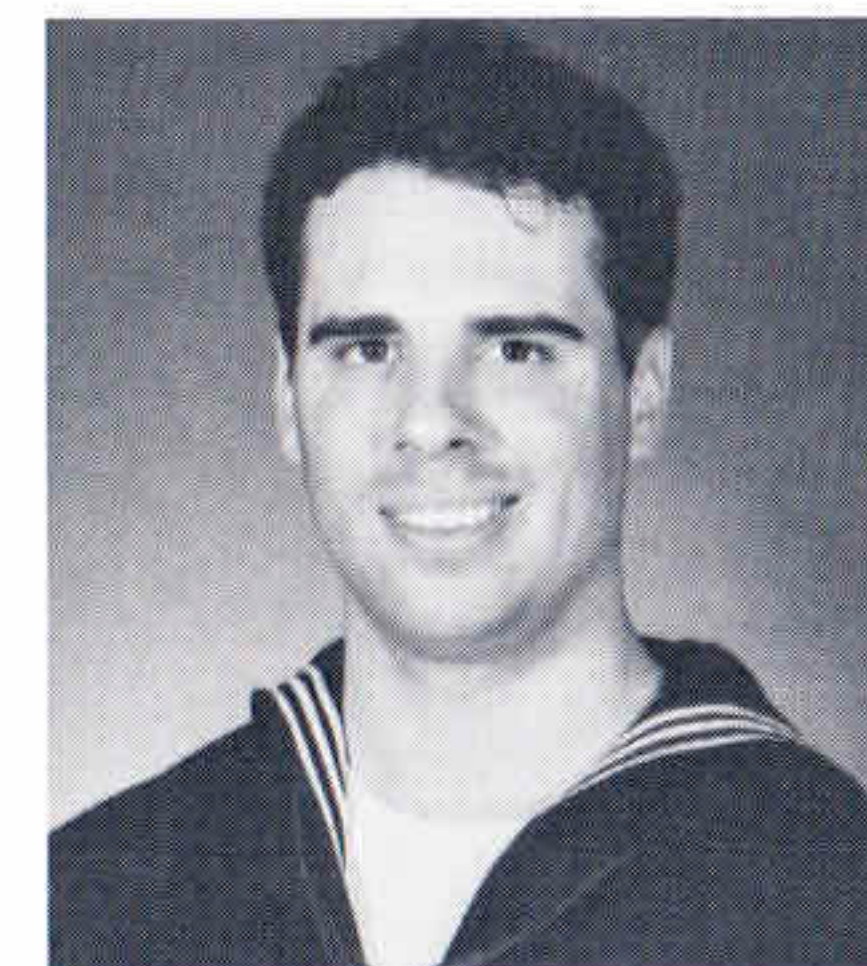
Serve as ship control party members, assist Food Service, handle ordnance, and maintain the ship's topside and superstructure. They have no technical training.



SA(SS) KEITH R.
GRIESSES
Hackensack, NJ



SA(SU) ANDREW N.
CHATMAN, JR.
Baton Rouge, LA



SA(SU) JASON D.
MOORE
Lake Tahoe, CA



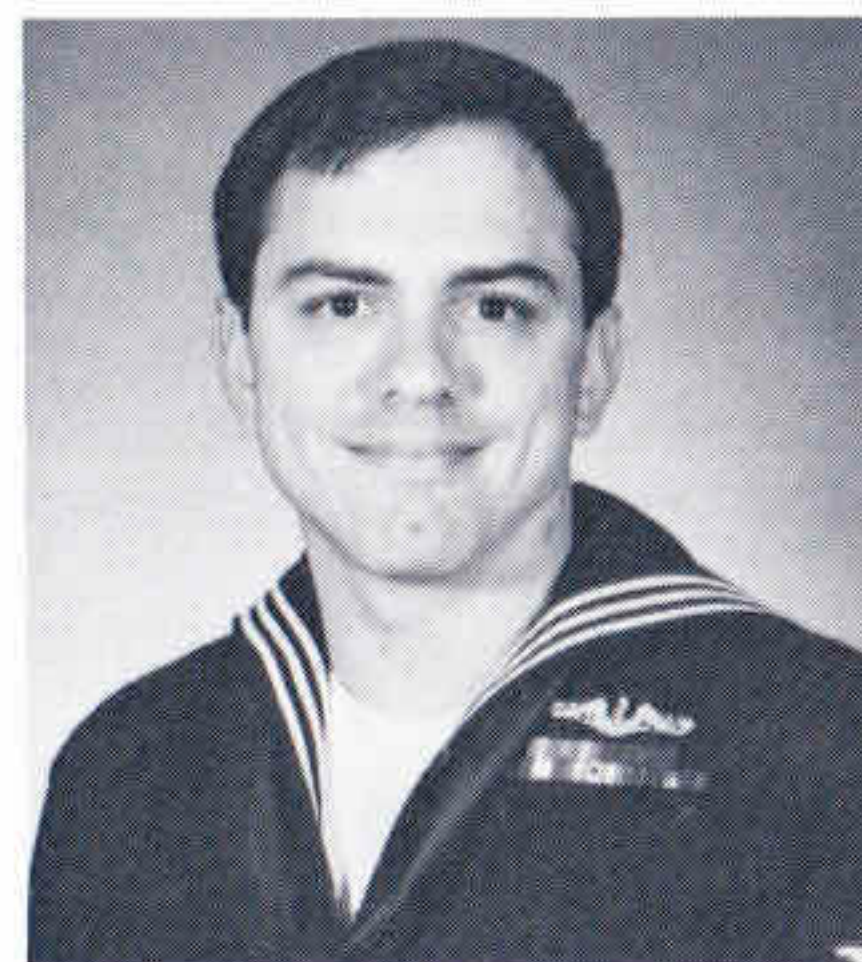
SR(SU) NEIL C.
HOGANS
Mt. Vernon, NY

MACHINIST'S MATE (MM)

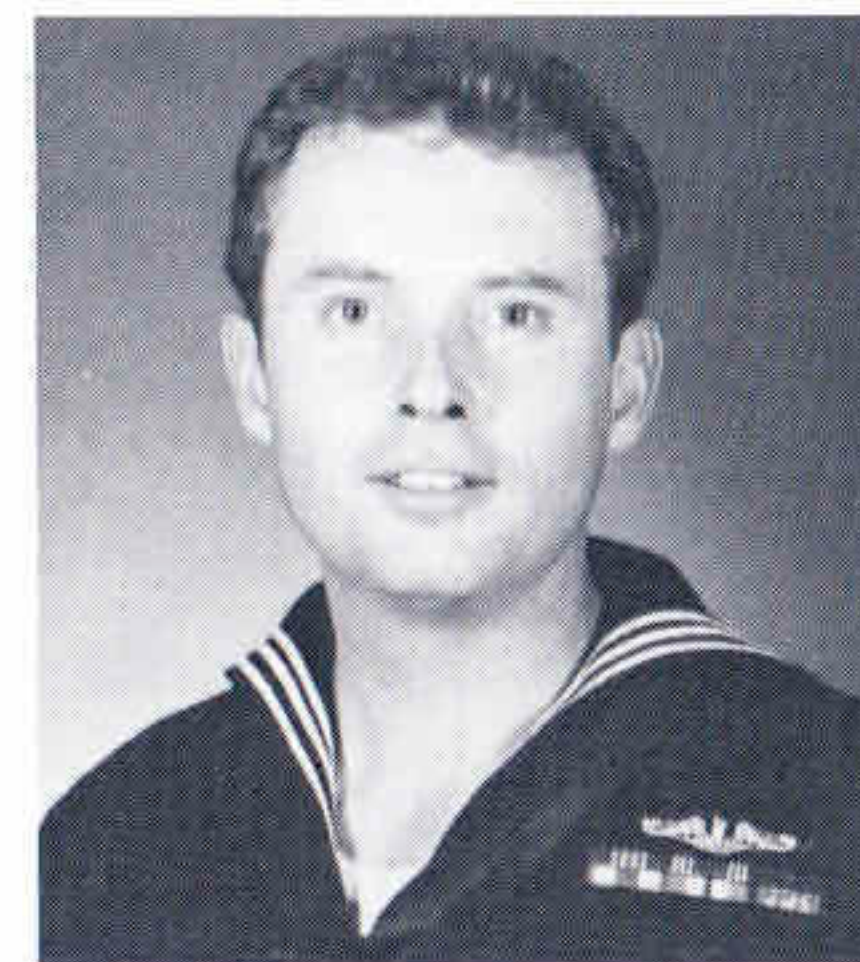
Machinery Division



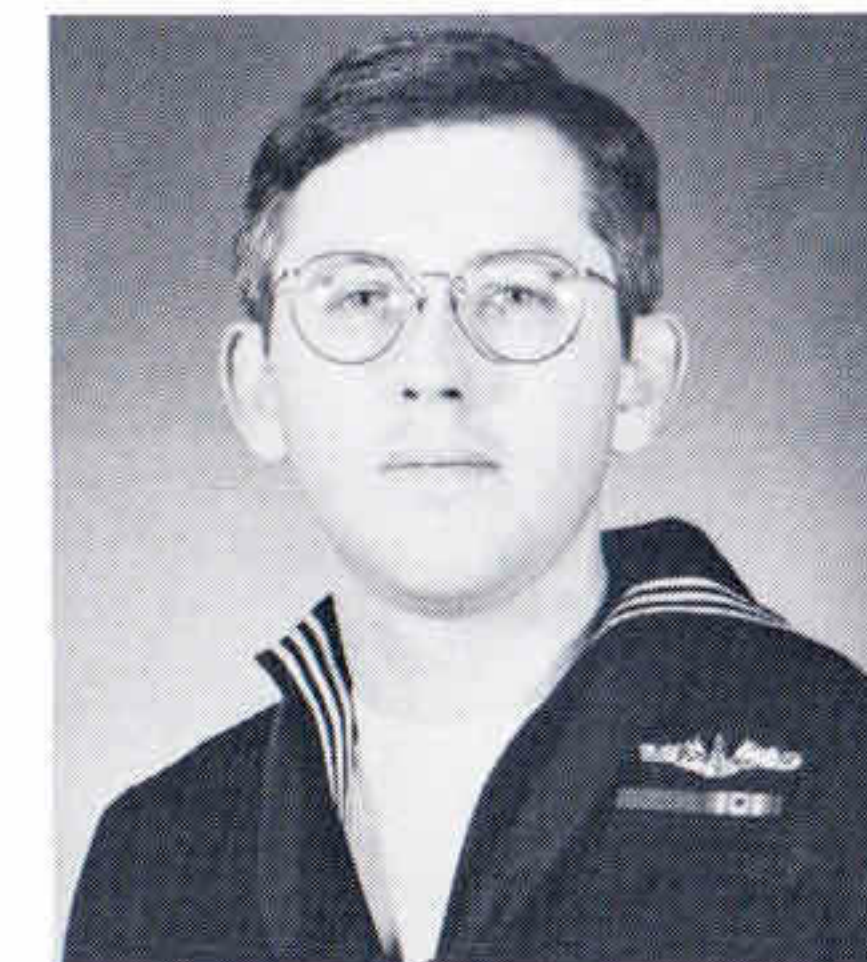
Responsible for the ship's main propulsion plant. They monitor primary and secondary plant systems.



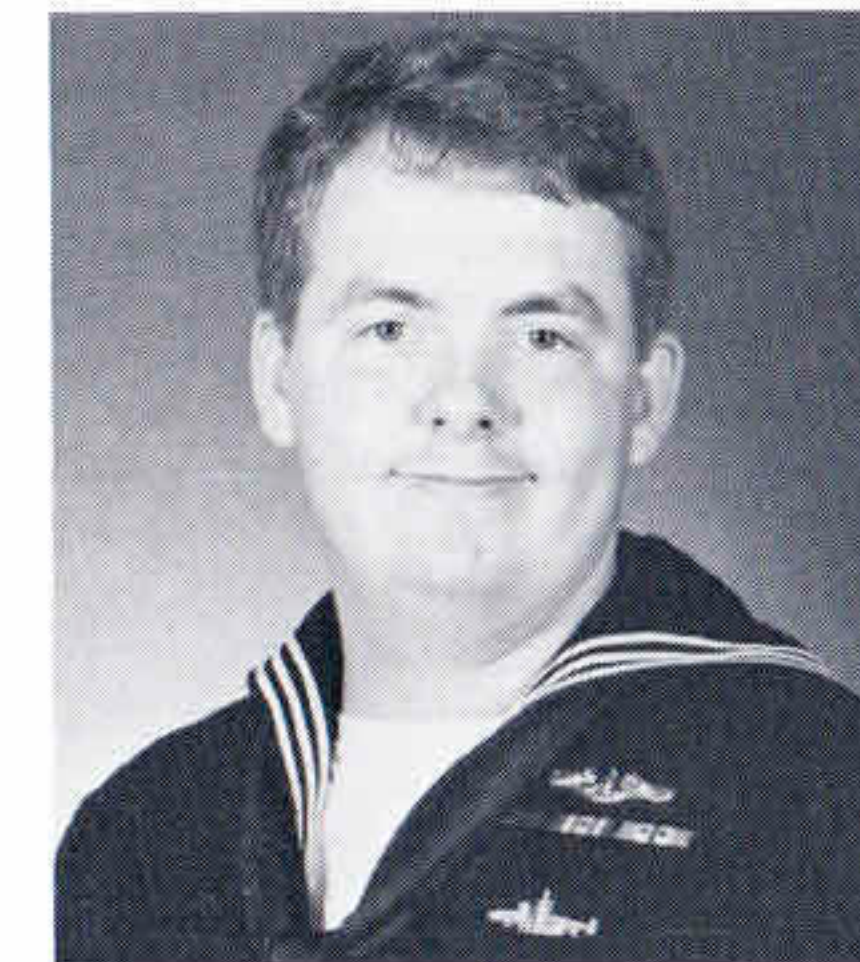
MM1(SS) MELVIN J.
SIMON, JR.
New Iberia, LA



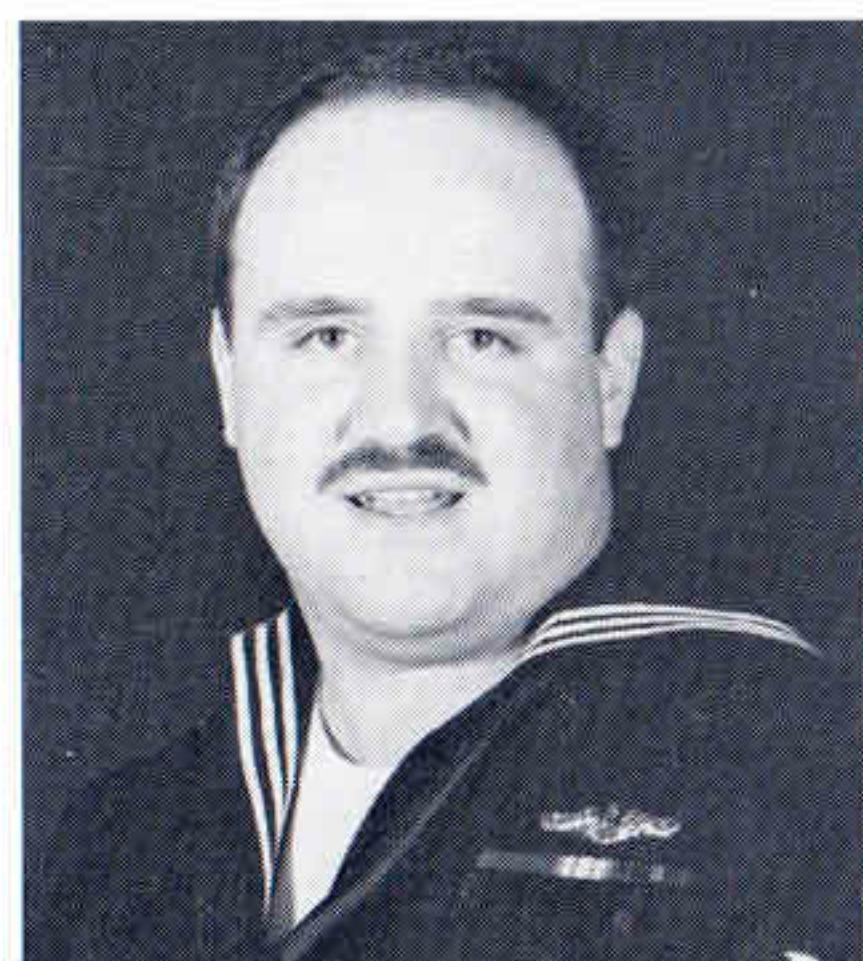
MM1(SS) JAMES A.
BREEN
Queens, NY



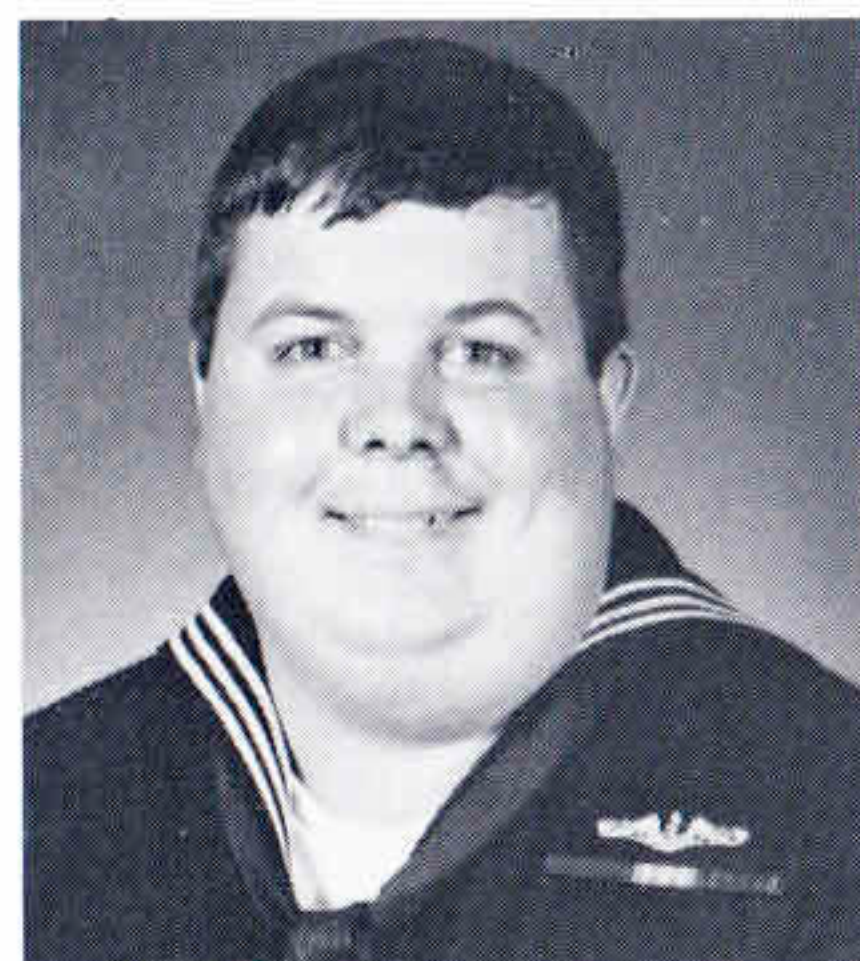
MM1(SS) JEFFERY L.
HAKE
Eaton, OH



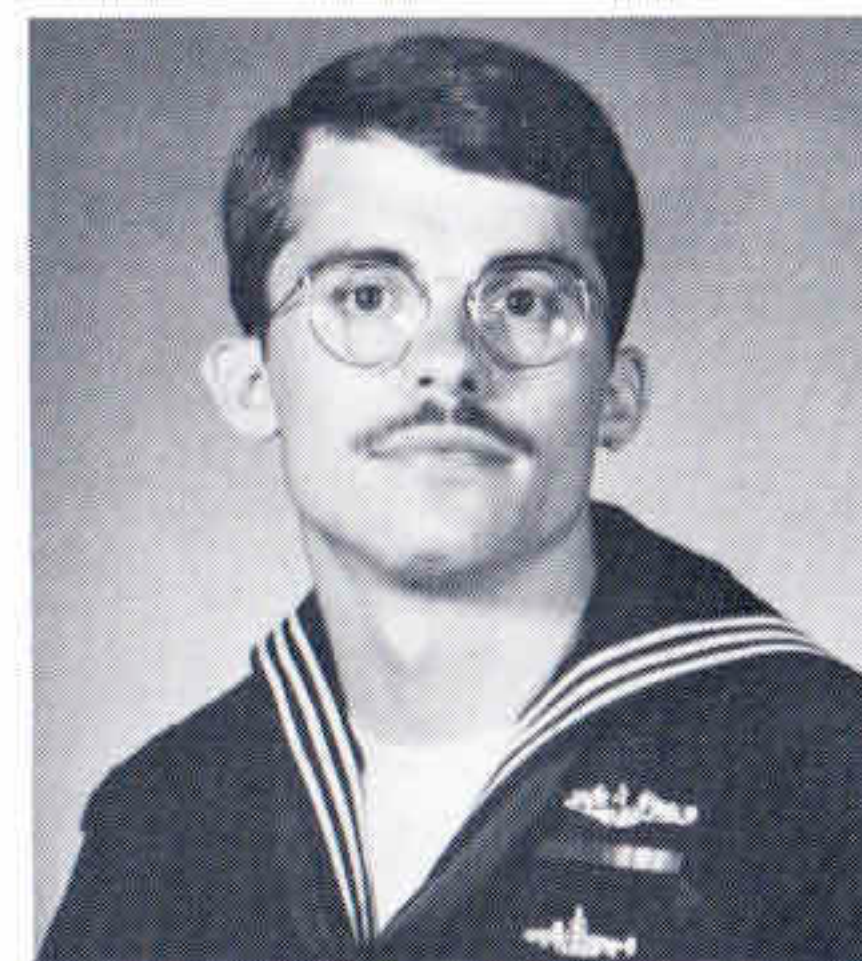
MM1(SS) LARRY D.
RISTAU
Olathe, KS



MM1(SS) JOSEPH M.
SNELL, II
Petersburg, WV



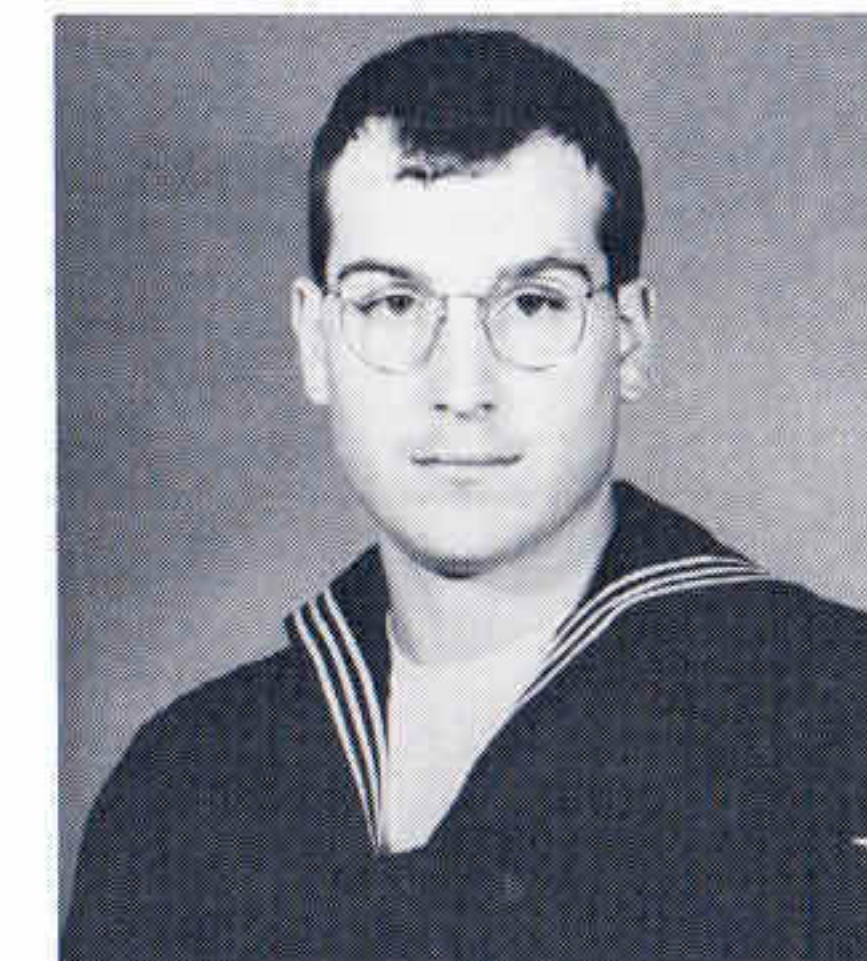
MM1(SS) HENRY R.
SUMMERS
Delta Junction, AK



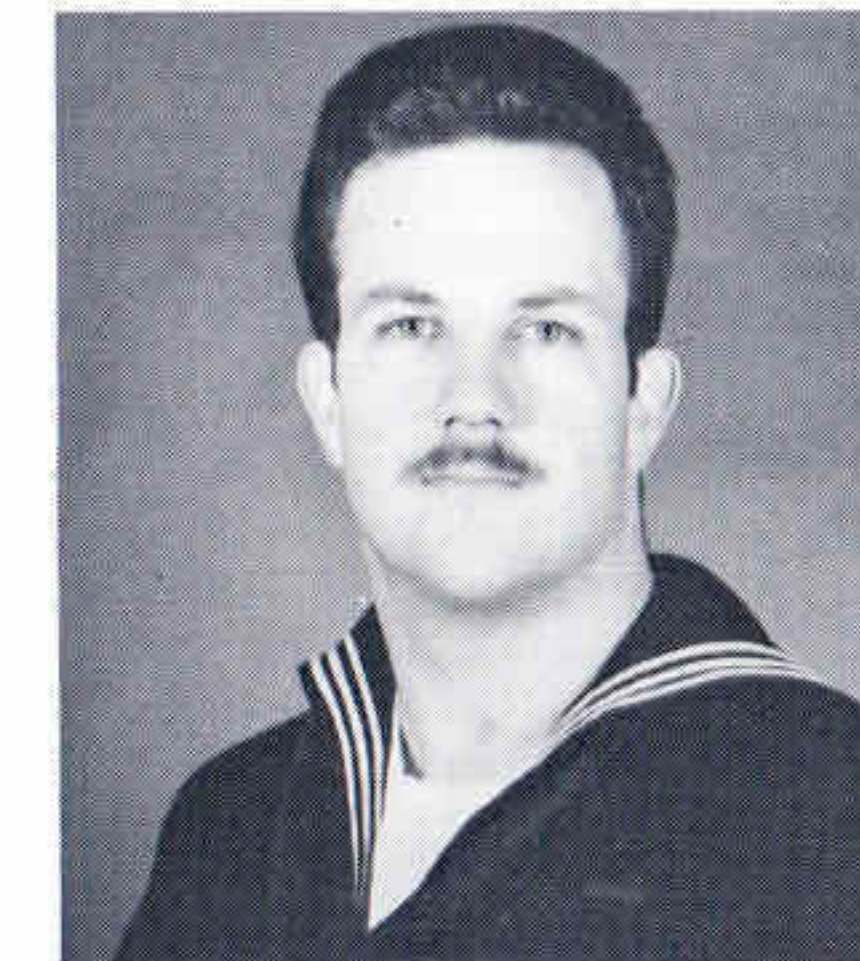
MM1(SS) MICHAEL T.
FRANKENBERRY
Mountain Lake, MN



MM1(SU) ALFRED C.
MEADOWS, III
Galax, VA



MM2(SU) JOHN W.
MOCK
Milton, DE



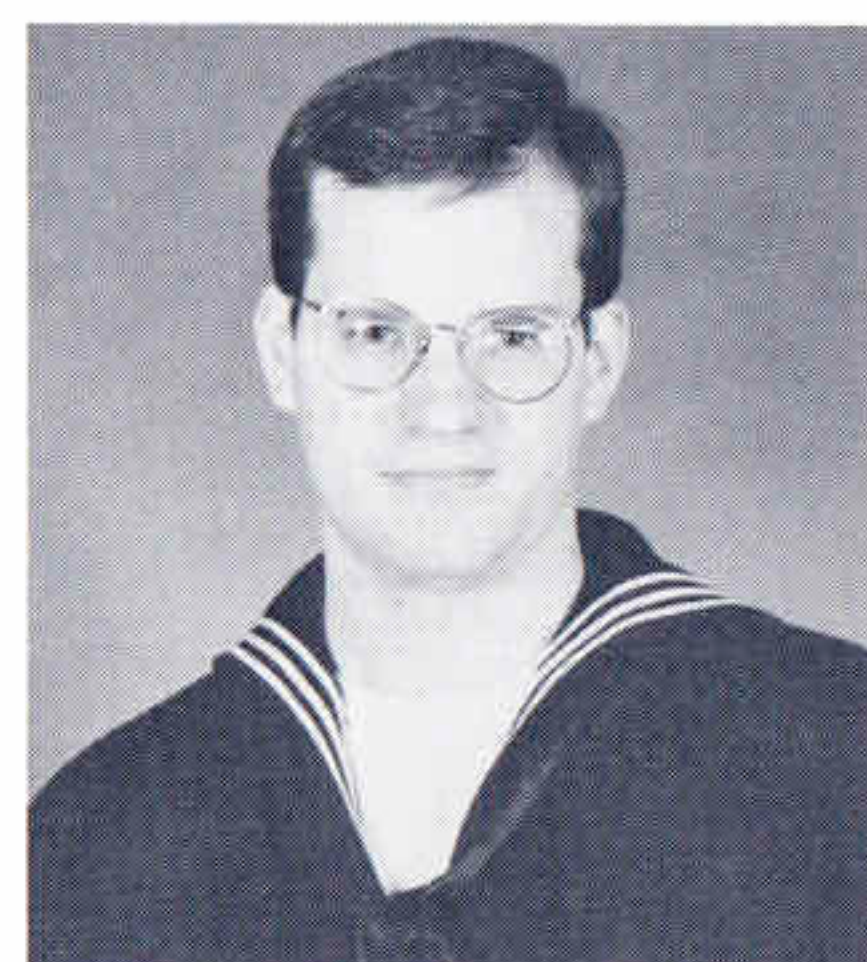
MM2(SS) KARL J.
EDWARDS
Burnsville, MN



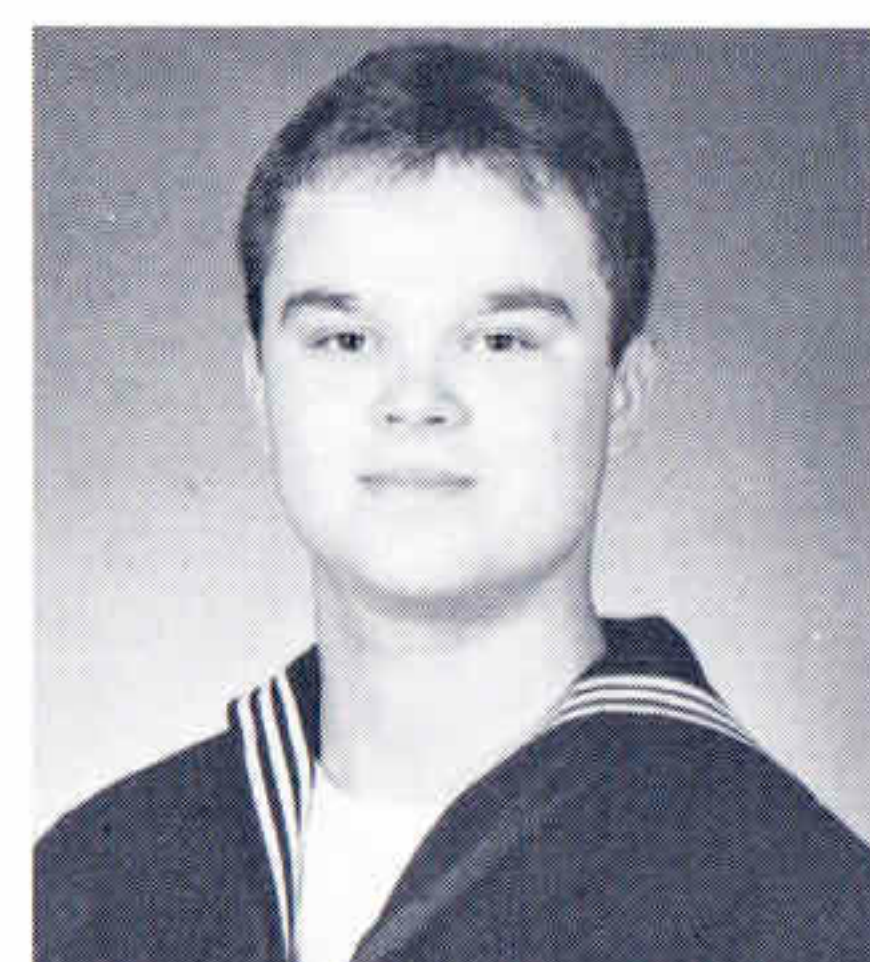
MM2(SU) NICHOLAS J.
GAFES
Drexel Hill, PA



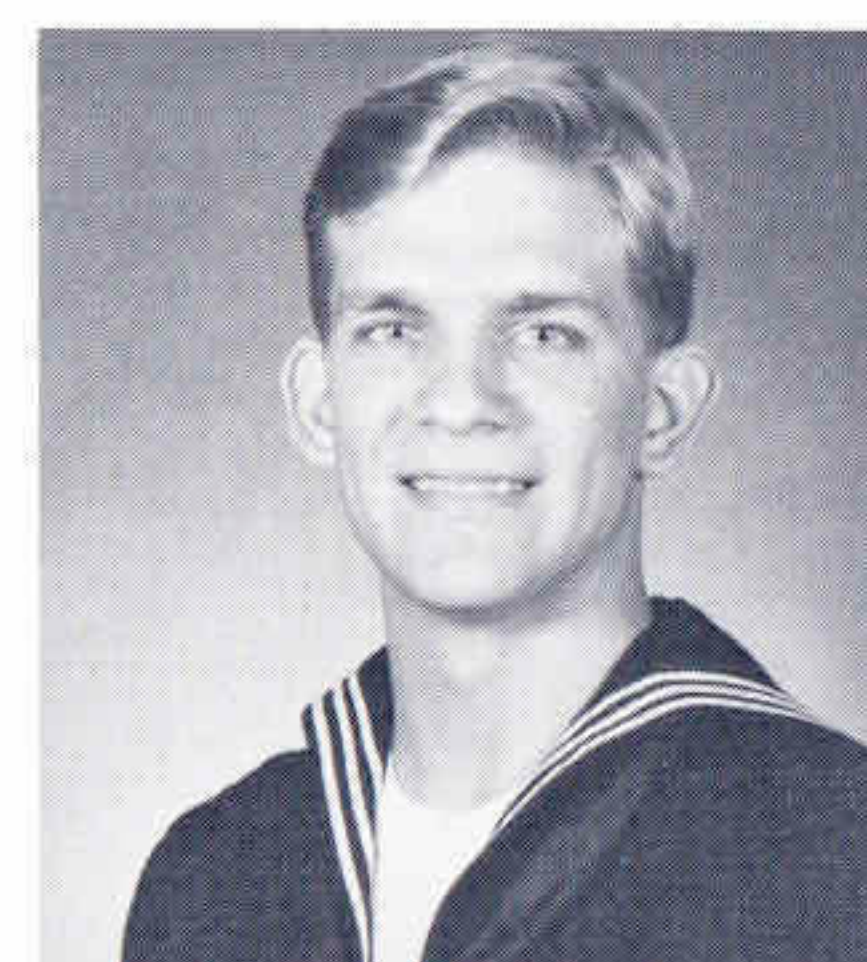
MM2(SU) MICHAEL D.
LANDRY
Jeanerette, LA



MM2(SU) THOMAS L.
BLODGET
Winter Park, FL



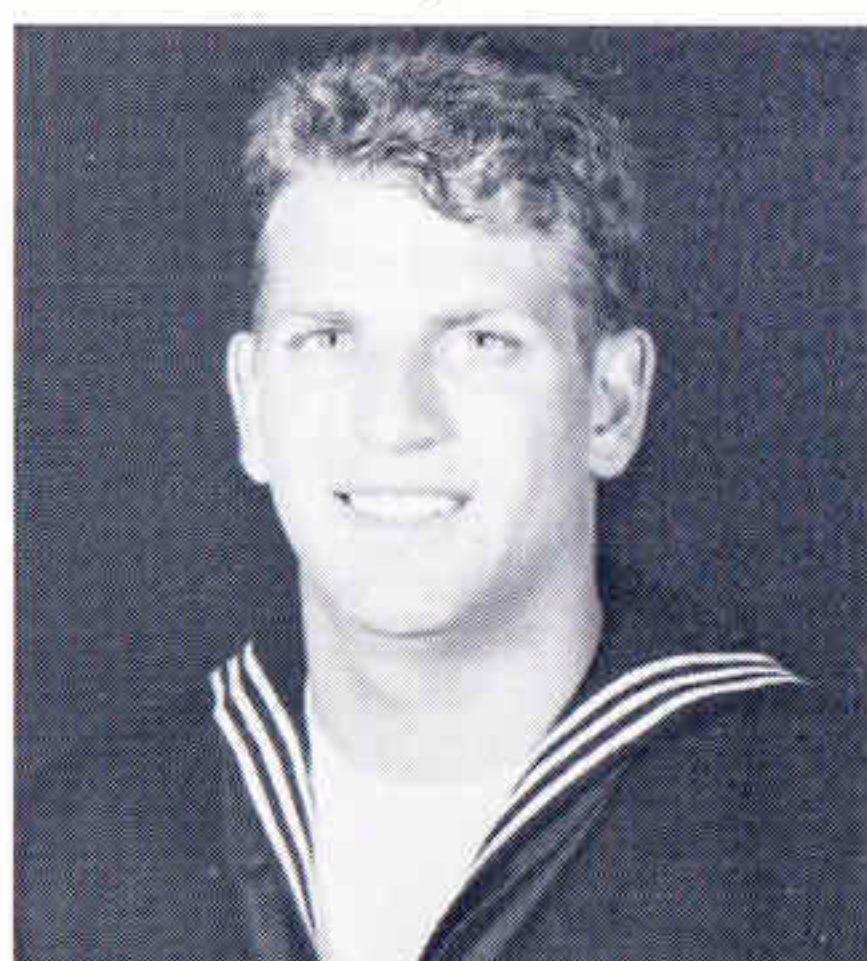
MM2(SU) WILLIAM R.
MYERS
Bridgetown, IN



MM3(SU) LAWRENCE A.
WACHTER
Winter Park, FL



MM3(SU) SCOTT E.
WIRTH
Wilsonville, OR



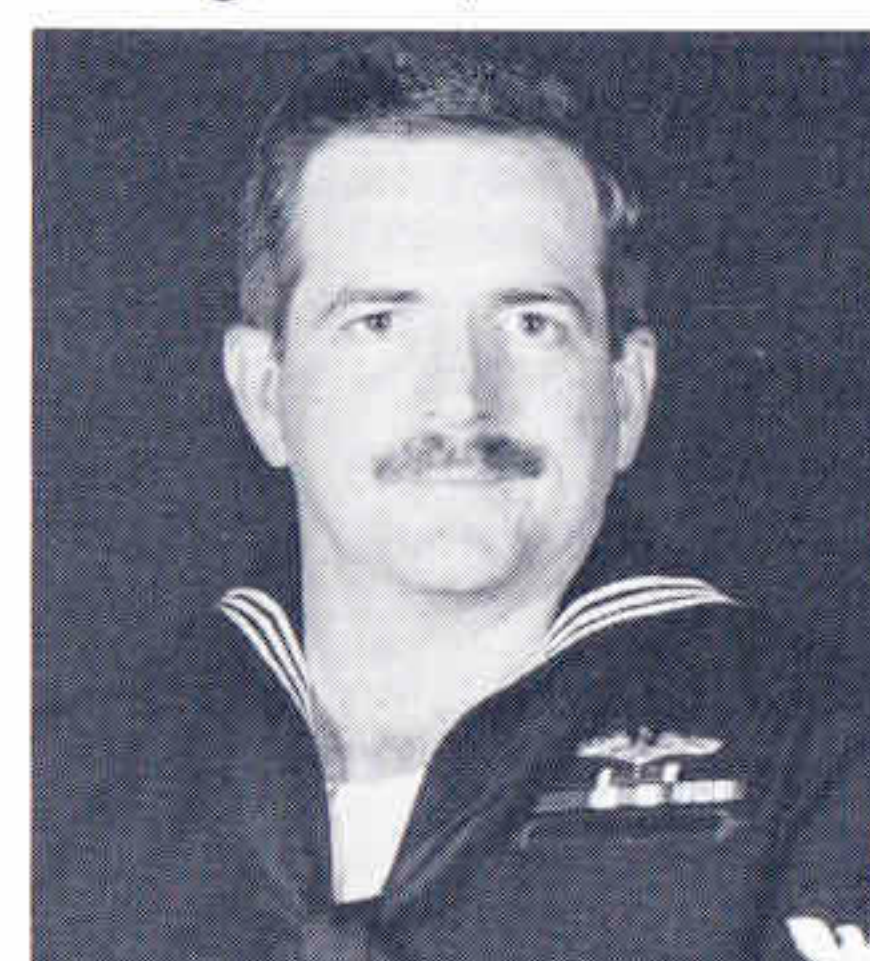
MM2(SU) JOHN J.
LALLI, III
Virginia, MN

STOREKEEPER (SK)

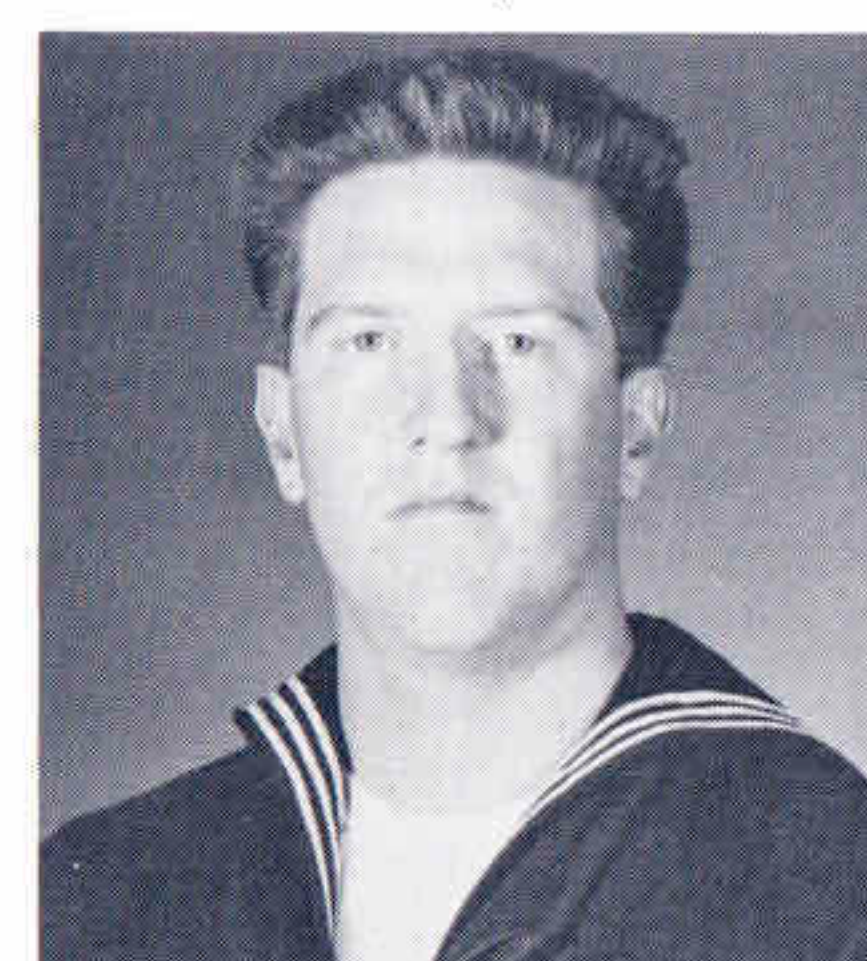
Stores Division



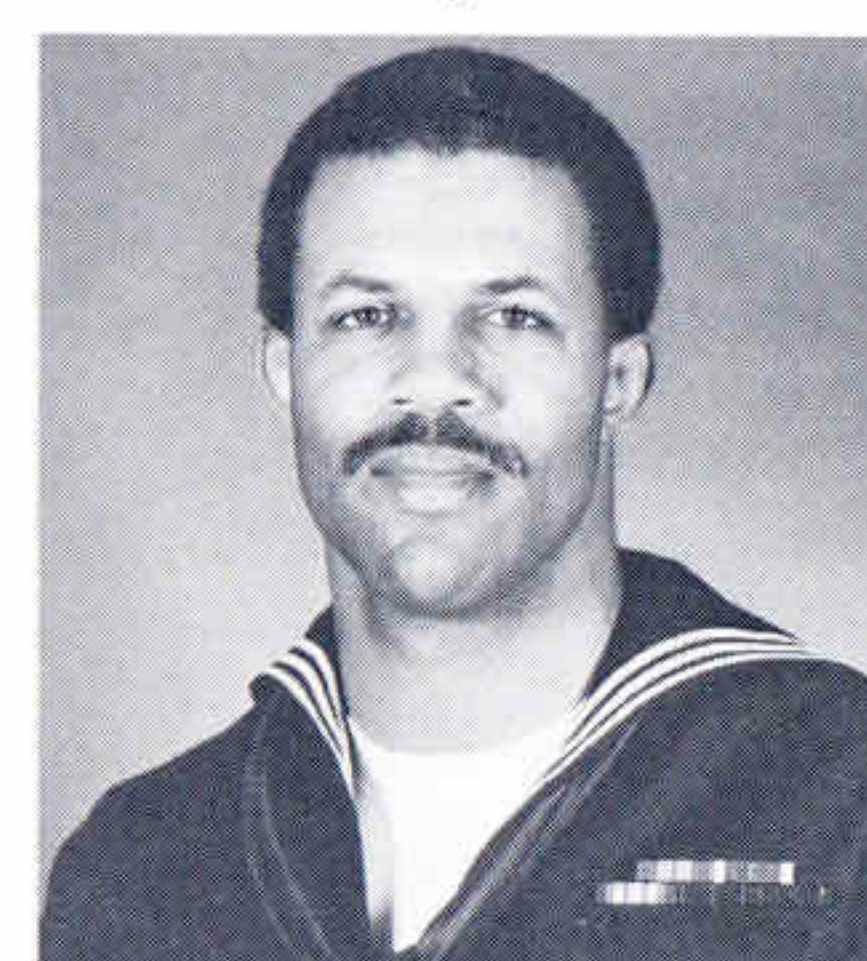
Responsible for the management, stowage, and requisitioning of repair parts and consumables. They manage the ship's financial records and provide logistics support.



SK1(SS) ROBERT E.
DAVIDS
Glen Ridge, NJ



SK3(SS) RICHARD L.
ROBERTS
Crystal Springs, MS



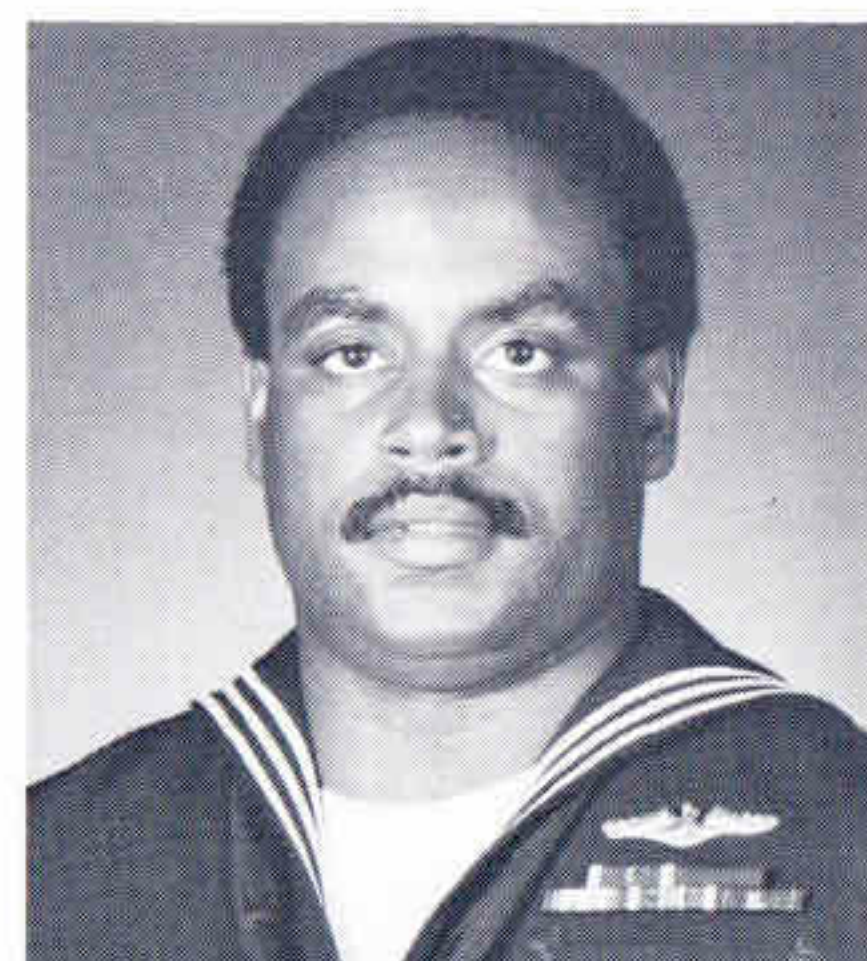
SK3(SU) CHRIS D.
INGRAM
Los Angeles, CA

RADIOMAN (RM)

Communications Division



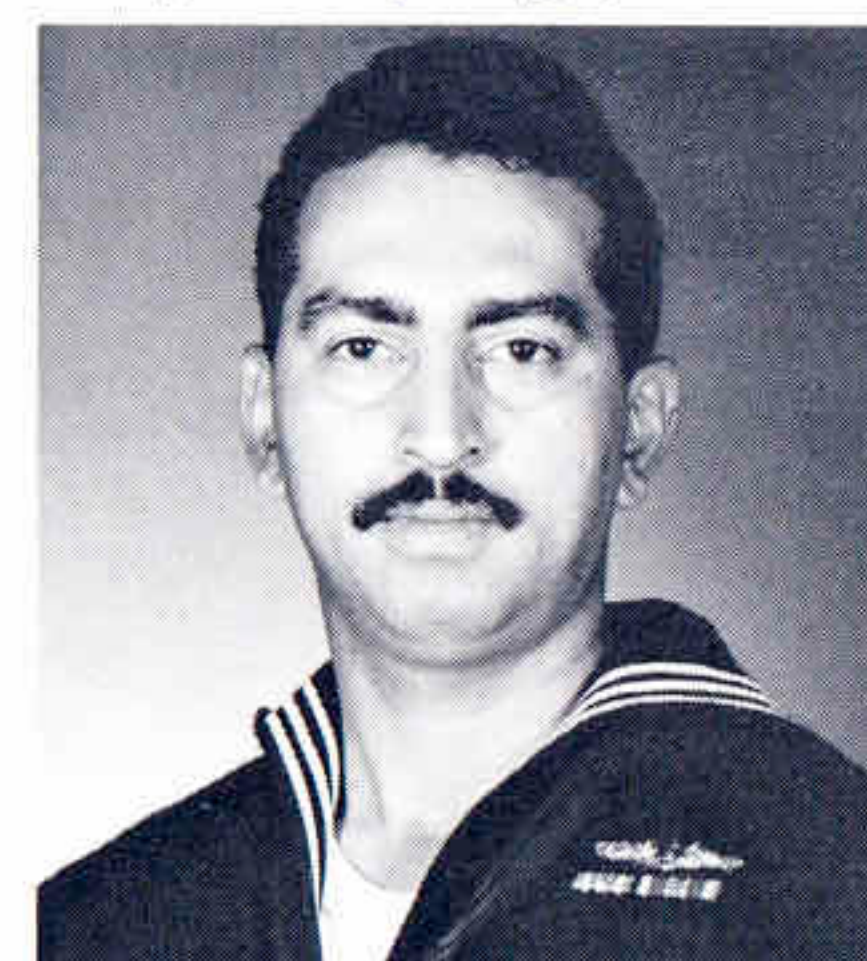
Operate the Navy's radio communication system. They transmit and receive messages for fast and secure communications.



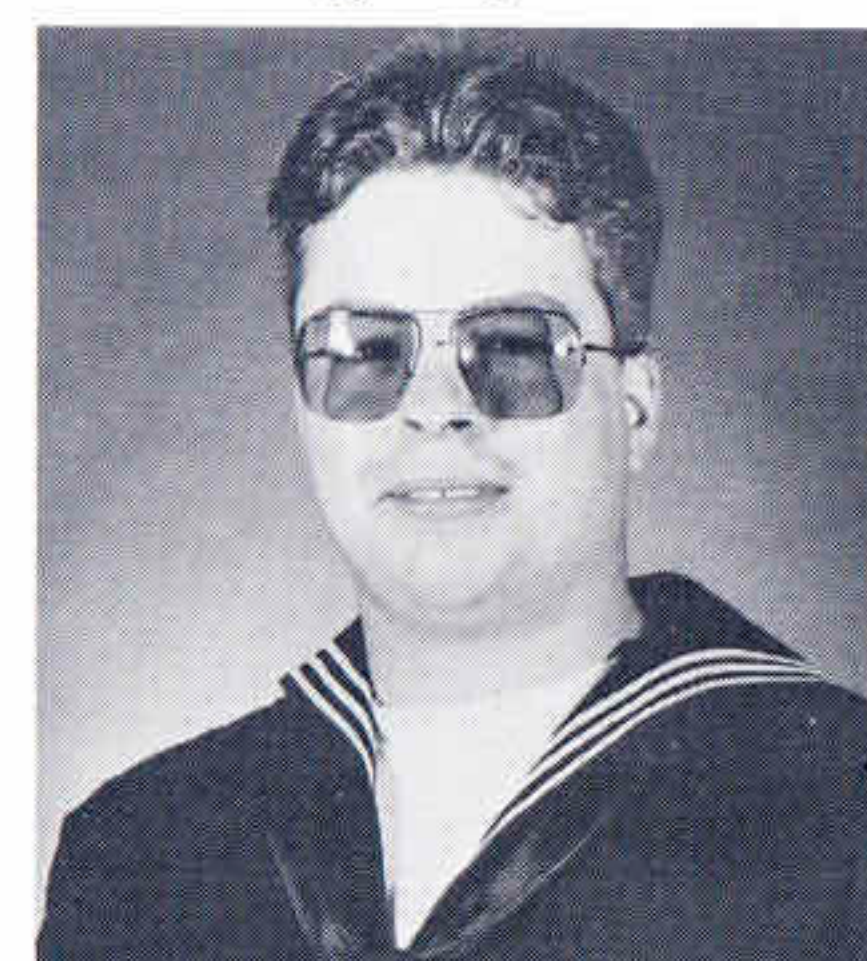
RM1(SS) RONALD
MARTIN
Bangor, ME



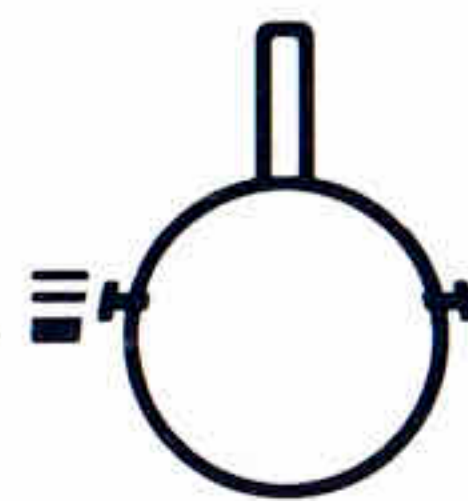
RM1(SS) GREGORY R.
KERN
Buffalo, NY



RM2(SS) JOHN
ALVAREZ
Cabo Rojo, PR



RM3(SU) MICHAEL E.
FRANK
Beallsville, OH



USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

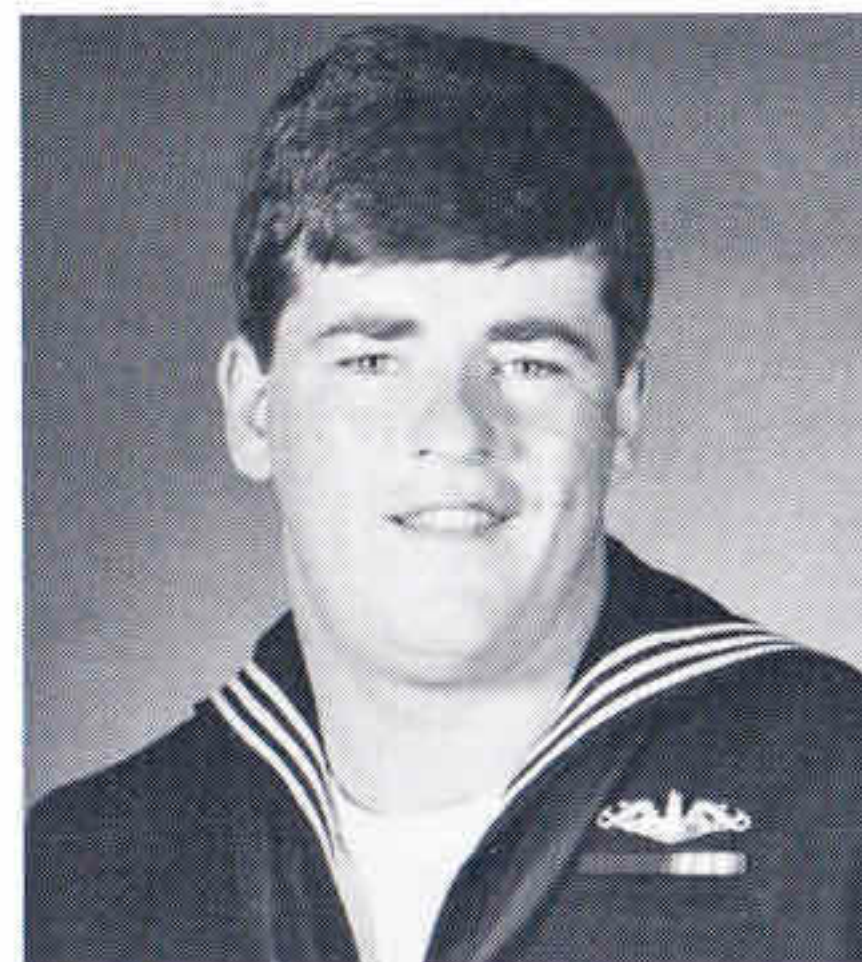
SHIP'S CREW

TORPEDOMAN'S MATE (TM)

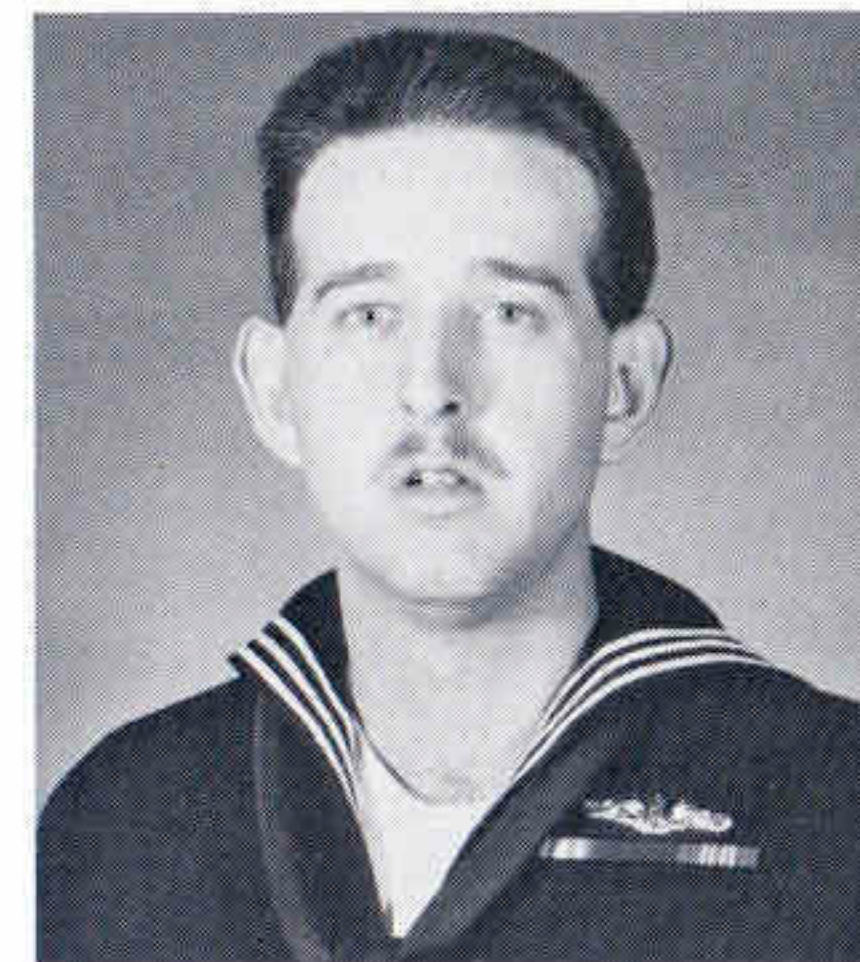
Torpedo Division



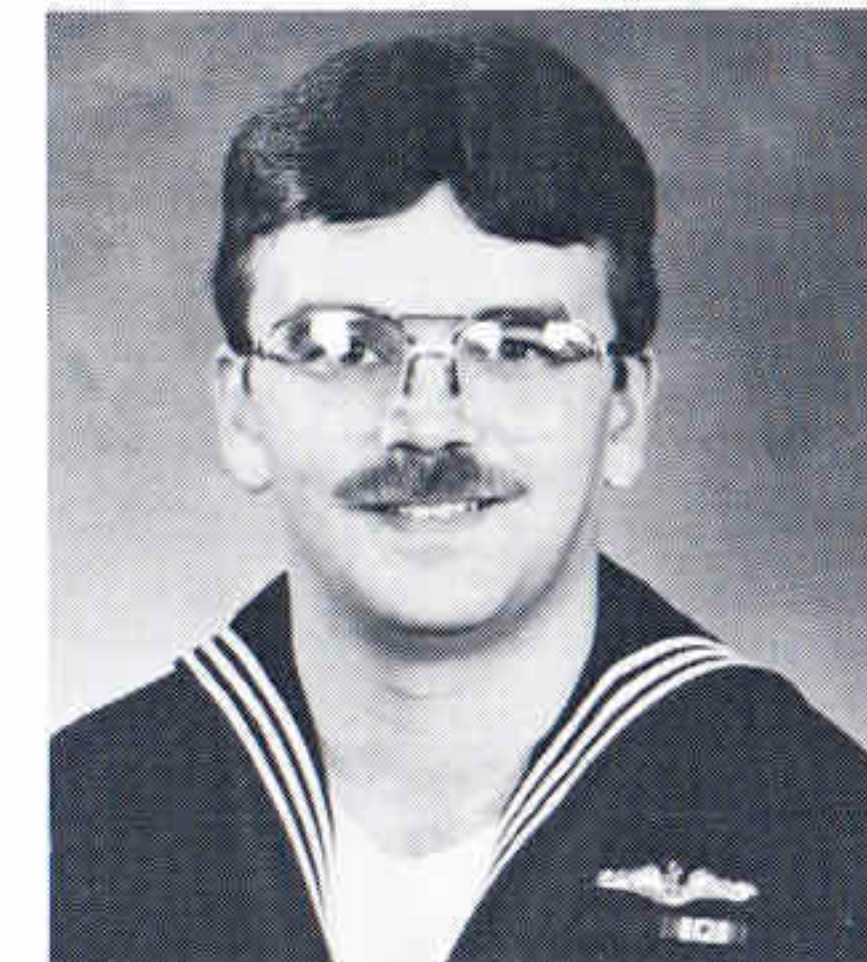
Maintain underwater weapons such as torpedoes and horizontal launch systems. Their expertise assists in the evasion of enemy ships.



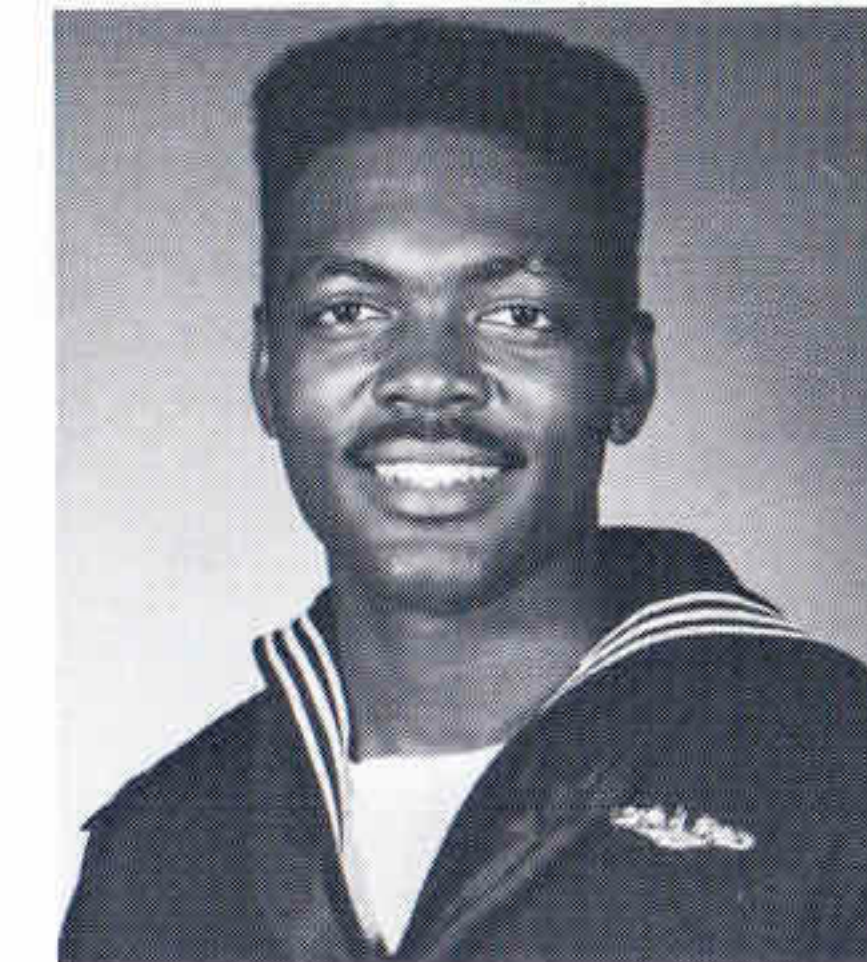
TM1(SS) THOMAS J. MILLS
Brooklyn, NY



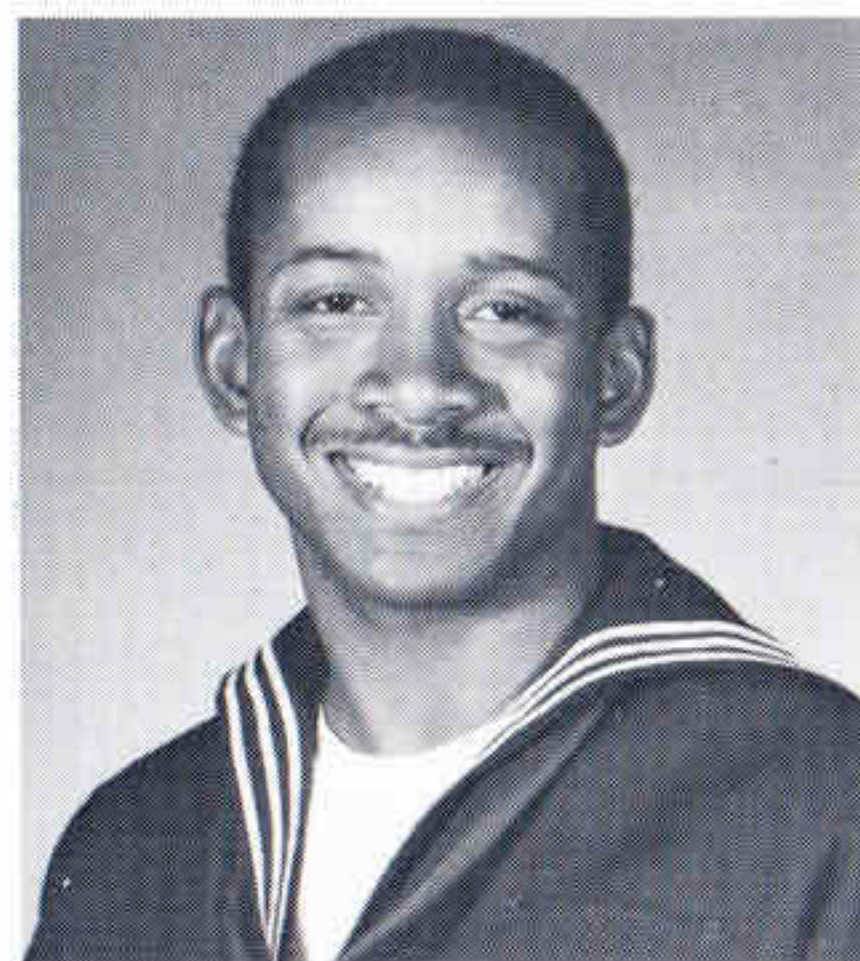
TM2(SS) GREGORY R. NICHOLS
Canton, OH



TM2(SS) MICHAEL P. LIDWELL, JR.
Ashville, PA



TM3(SS) RONALD D. McMILLAN
Denmark, SC



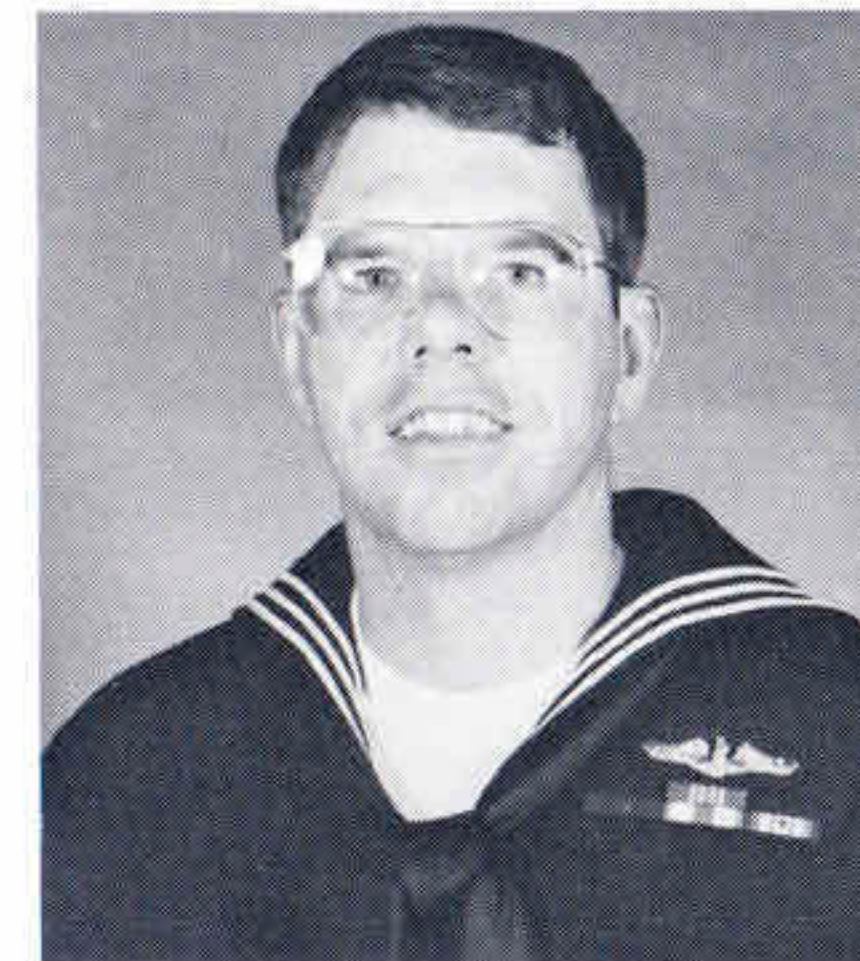
TM3(SS) DONALD L. RUSSELL
Pensacola, FL

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (ET)

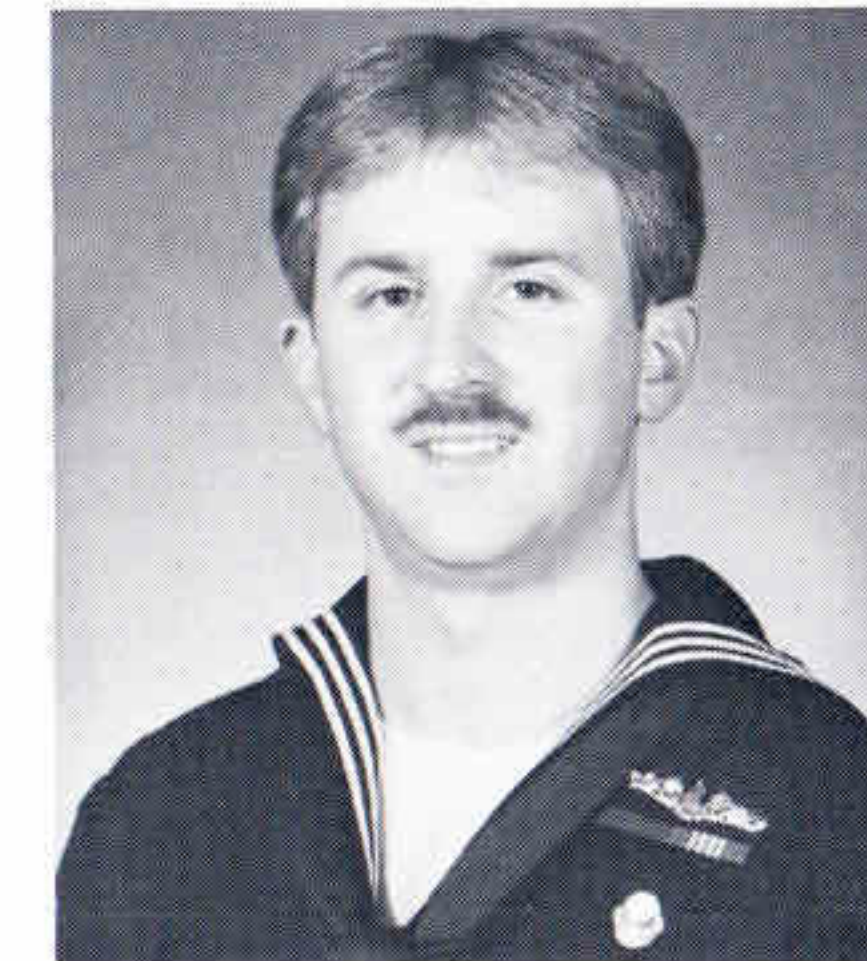
Reactor Controls Division



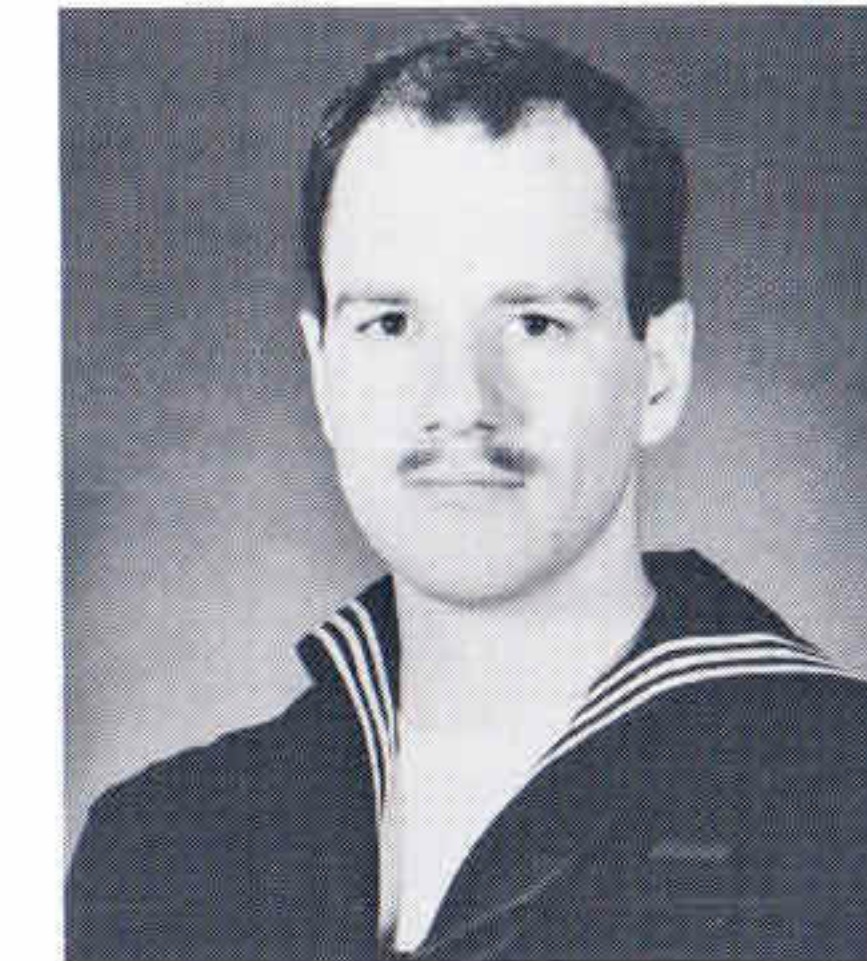
Operate and maintain reactor controls equipment, protective systems, and associated instrumentation.



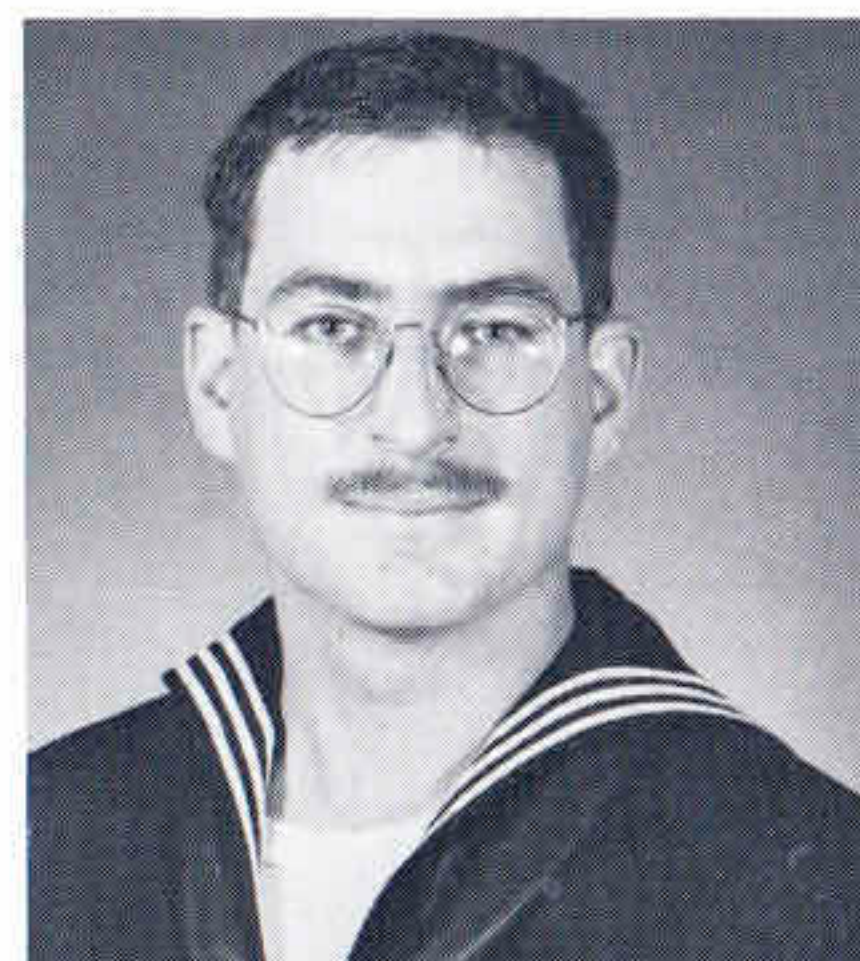
ET1(SS) SCOTT T. KELLEY
Ballston Spa, NY



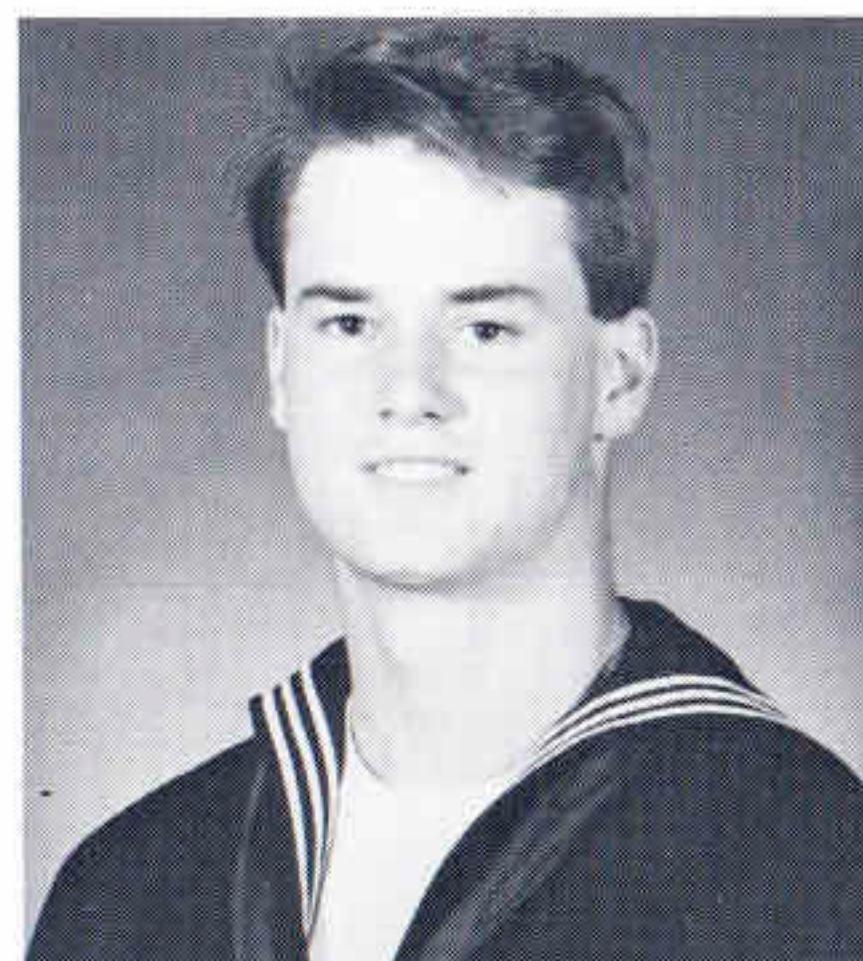
ET2(SS/DV) TIMOTHY J. COLLINS
Oswego, NY



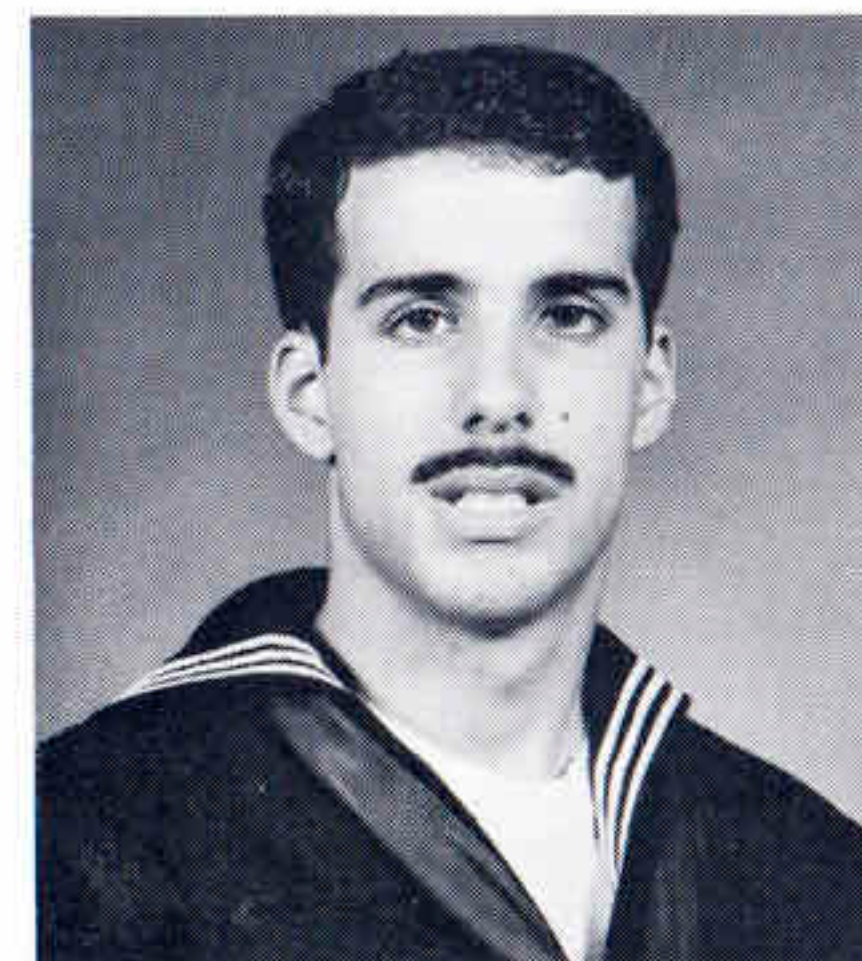
ET2(SU) GLENN L. GLIDDEN
Ashland, ME



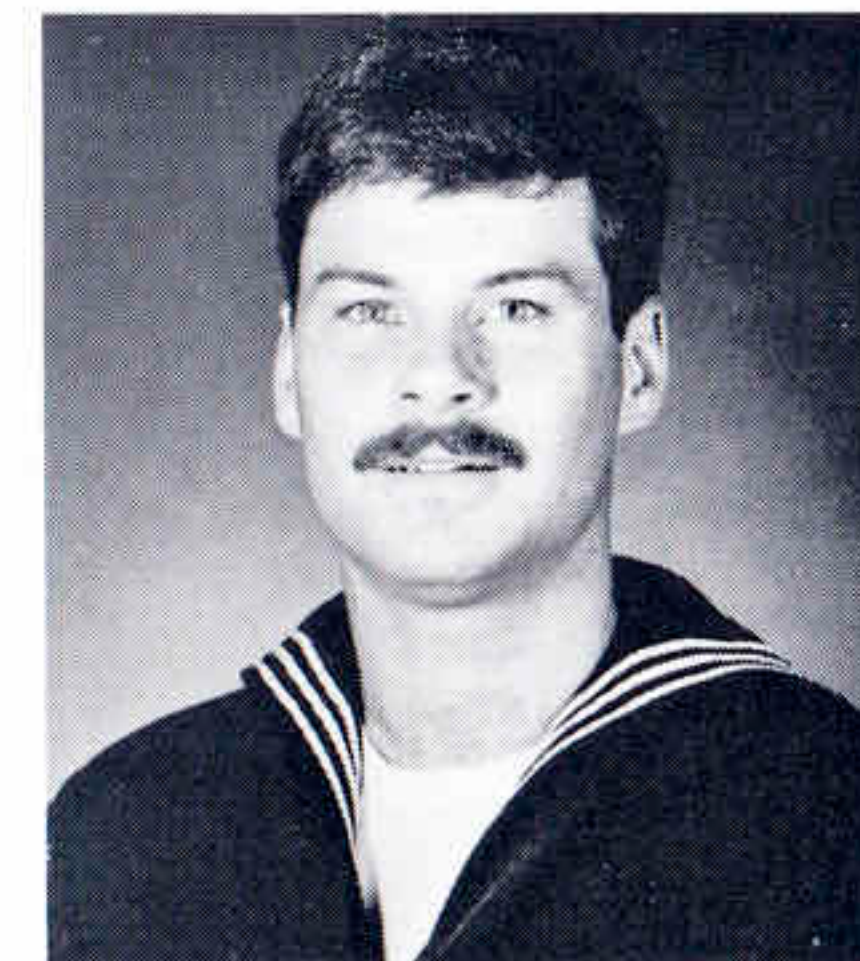
ET2(SU) WILLIAM G. MILLER
Bronx, NY



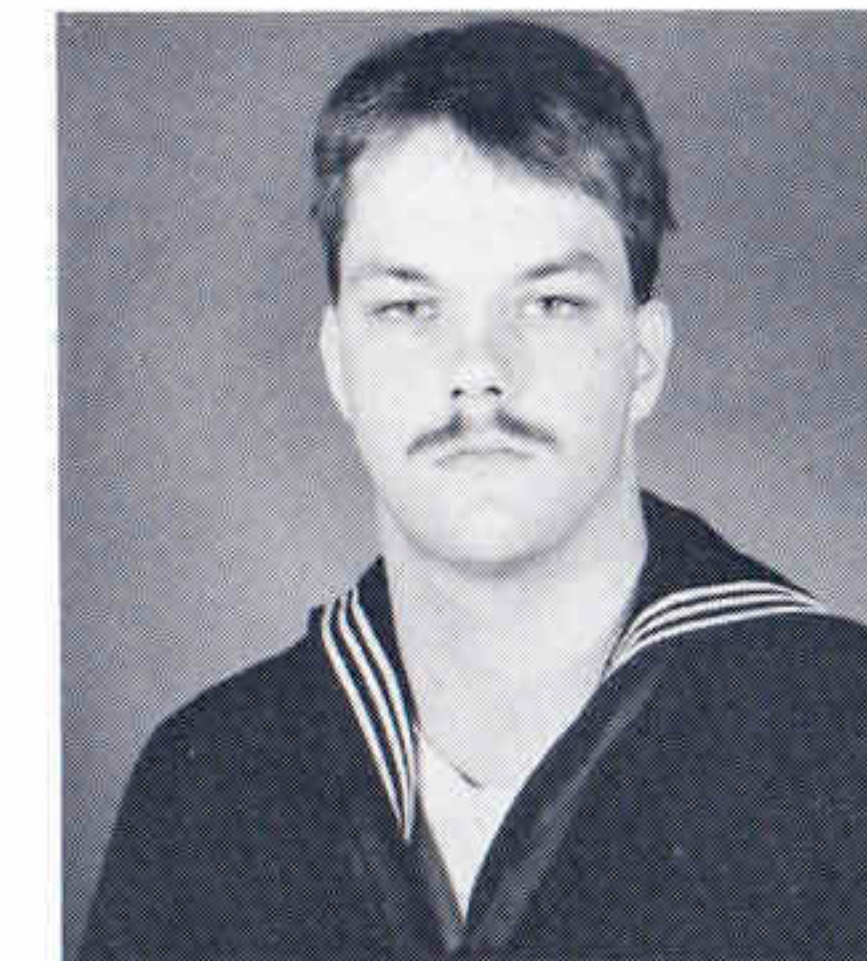
ET2(SU) STEVEN J. JACOBS
Fountain Valley, CA



ET2(SU) VINCENT M. GRIMALDI
Hyattsville, MD



ET3(SU) MICHAEL J. CHURCHILL
Elkland, PA



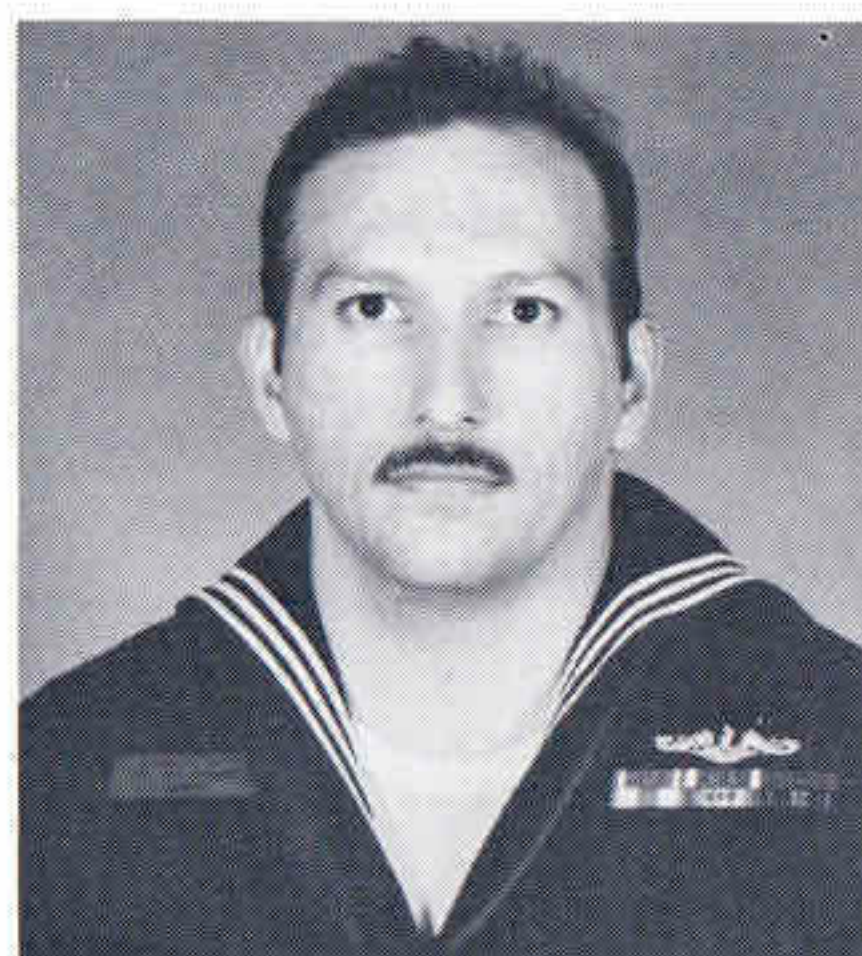
ET3(SU) JOHN WELLER
Central Islip, NY

SONAR TECHNICIAN (STS)

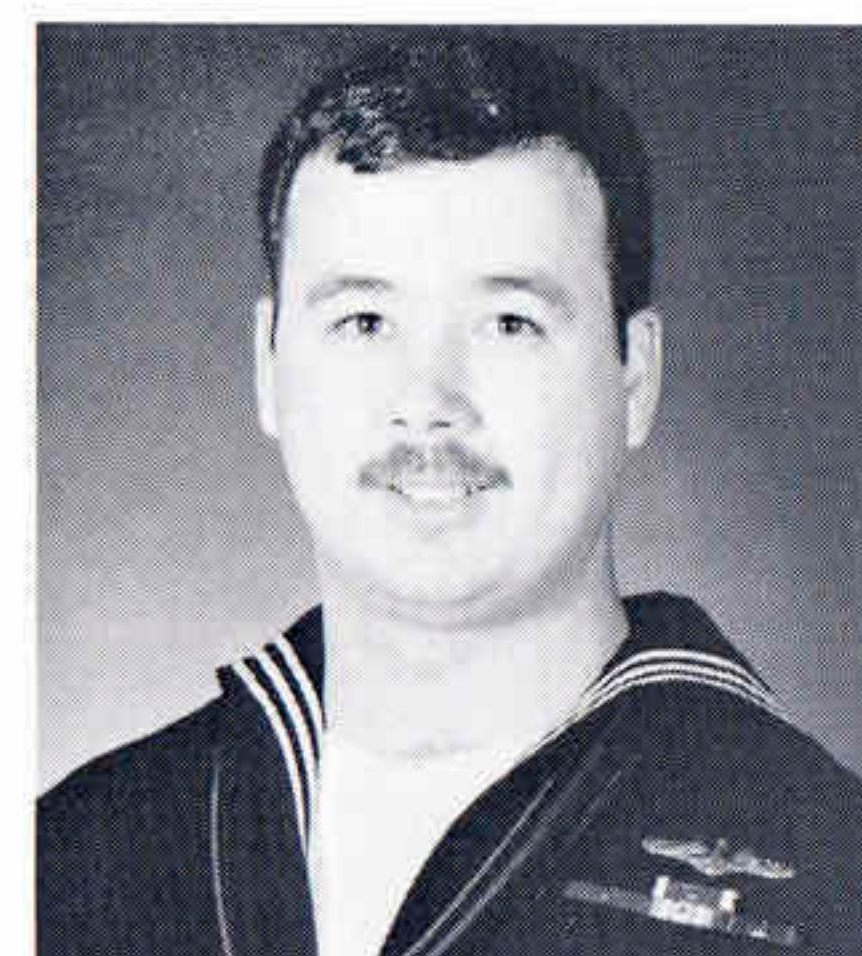
Sonar Division



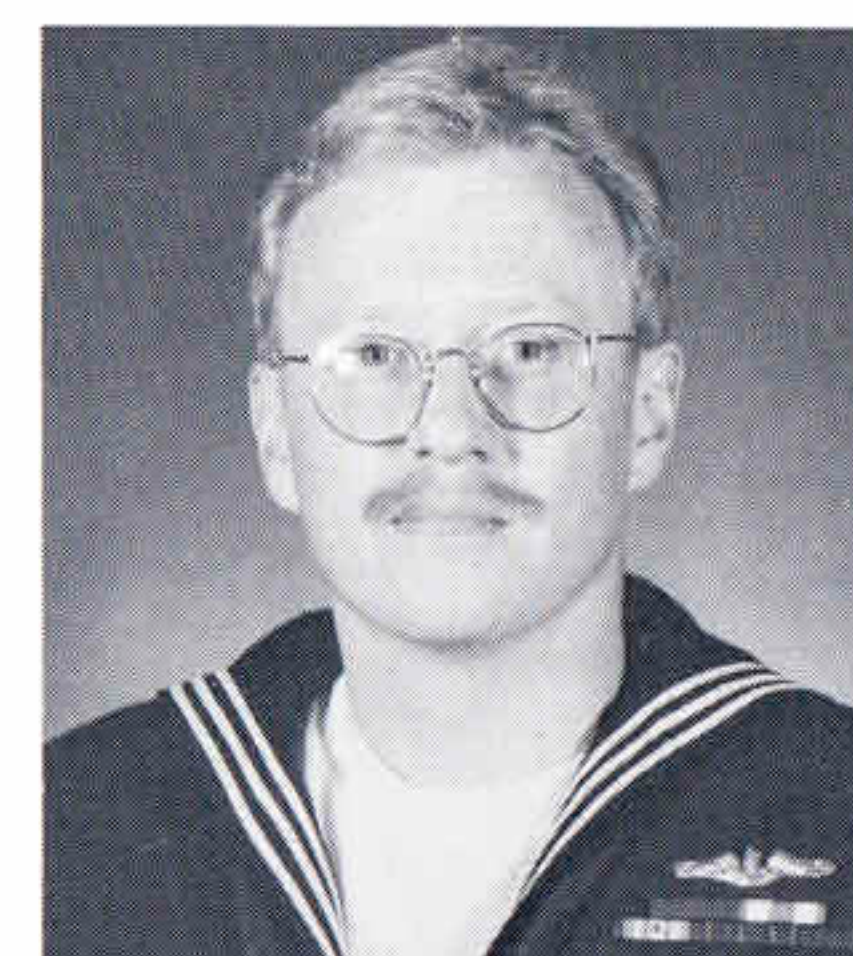
The "eyes and ears" of the submerged submarine. They use high-tech sonar systems to safely navigate the ship.



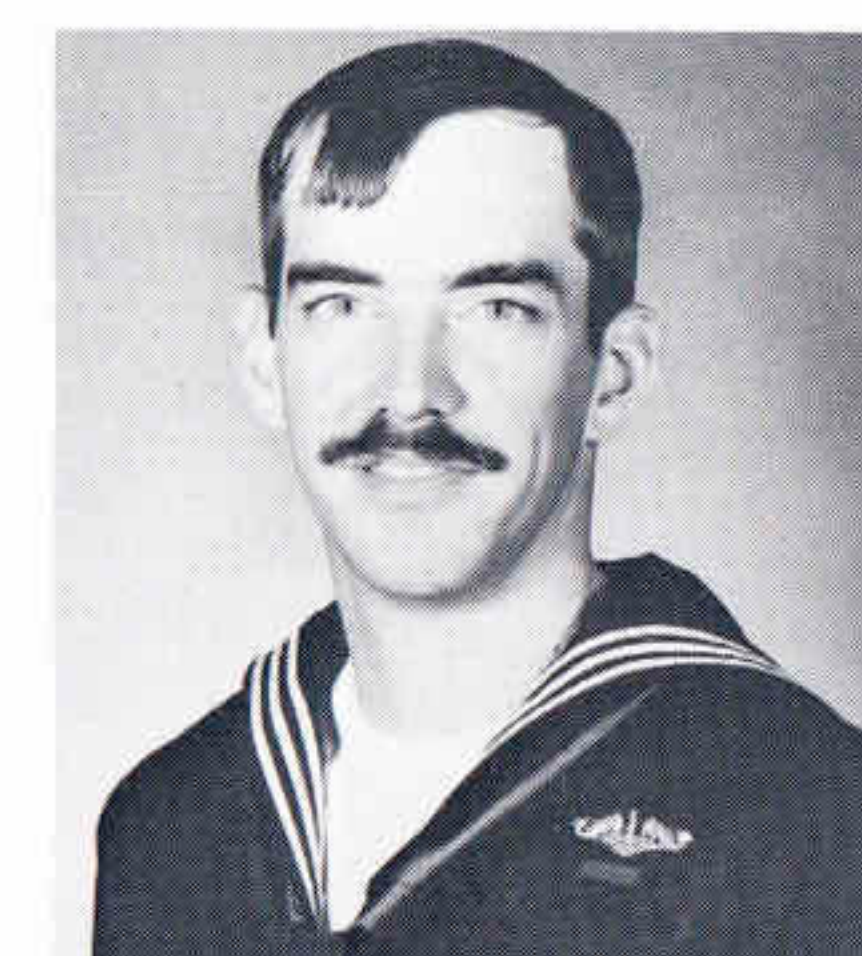
STS1(SS) CAESAR
HERNANDEZ
South El Monte, CA



STS1(SS) ROBERT M.
BROWN
Vallejo, CA



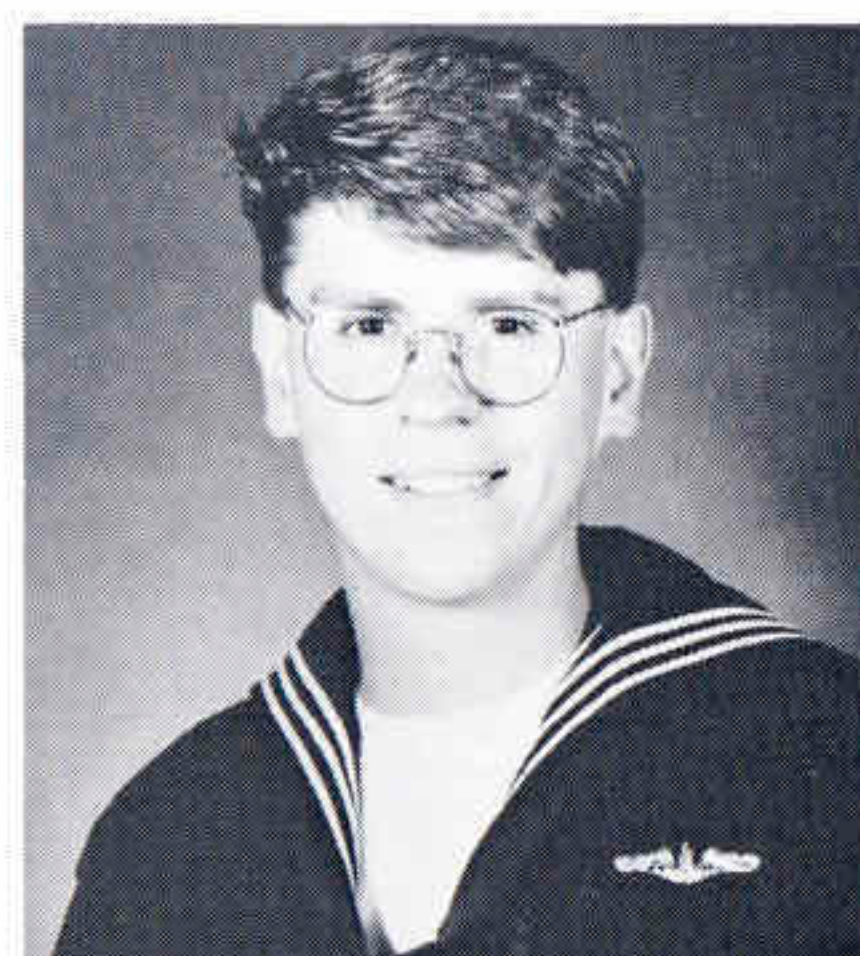
STS2(SS) GORDEN S.
JENNINGS
Port Orchard, WA



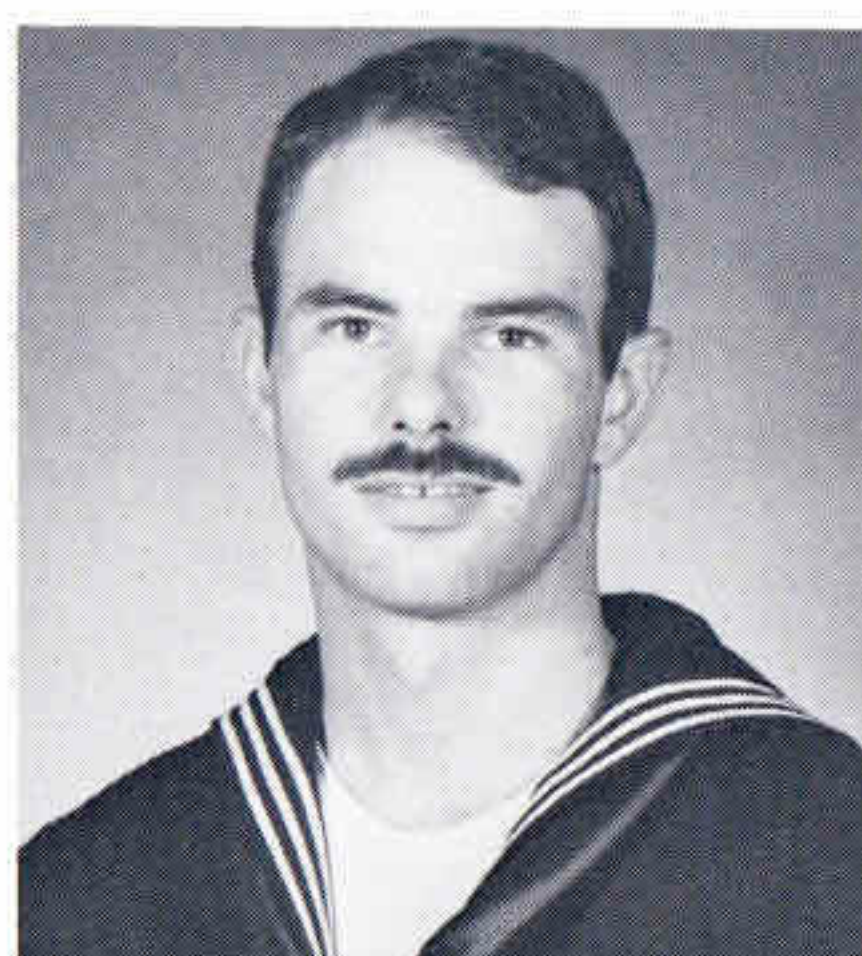
STS2(SS) STEVEN R.
PITKIN
Watertown, NY



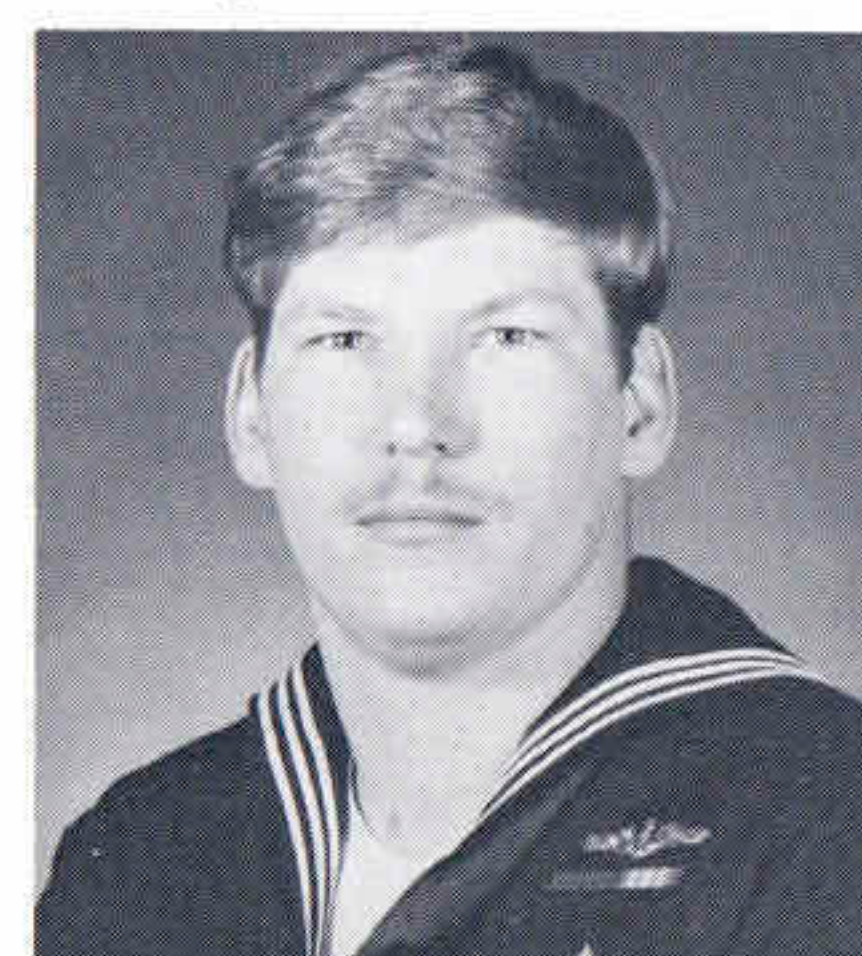
STS2(SS) FRANCIS L.
DEMATTO
Summit Hill, PA



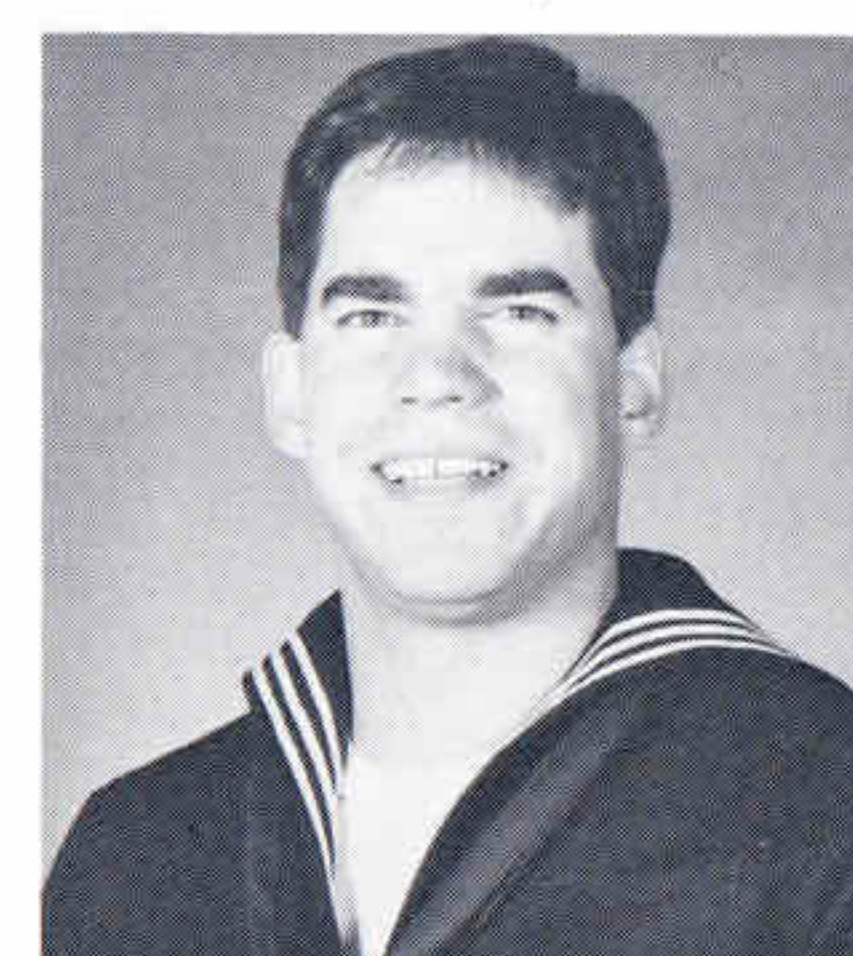
STS2(SS) SCOTT W.
BRUBACH
Tacoma, WA



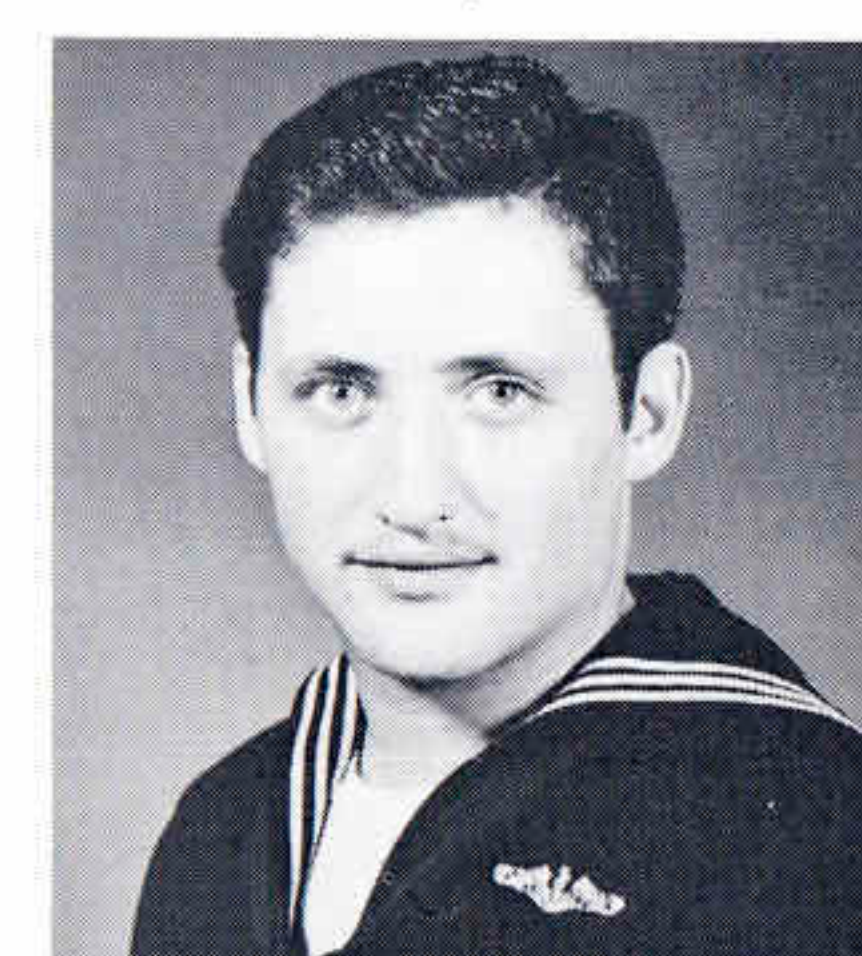
STS2(SS) MICHAEL J.
WILLETTE
Claremore, OK



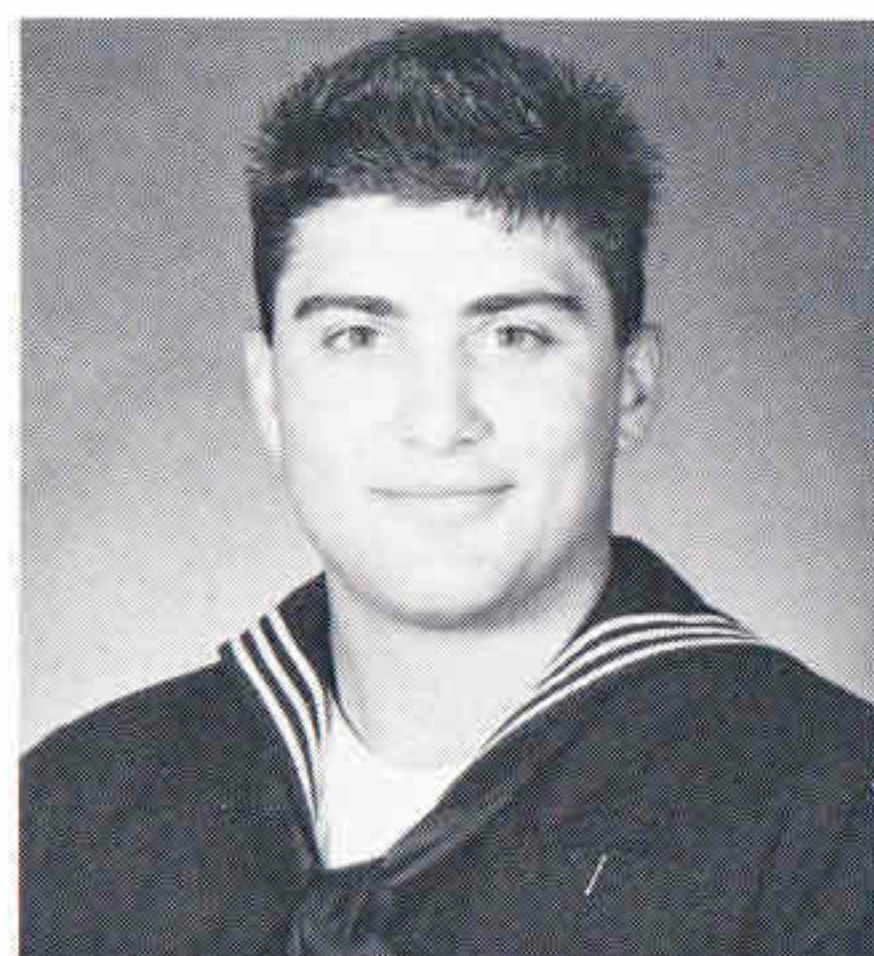
STS2(SS) ROBERT A.
WIERZ
Hawthorne, FL



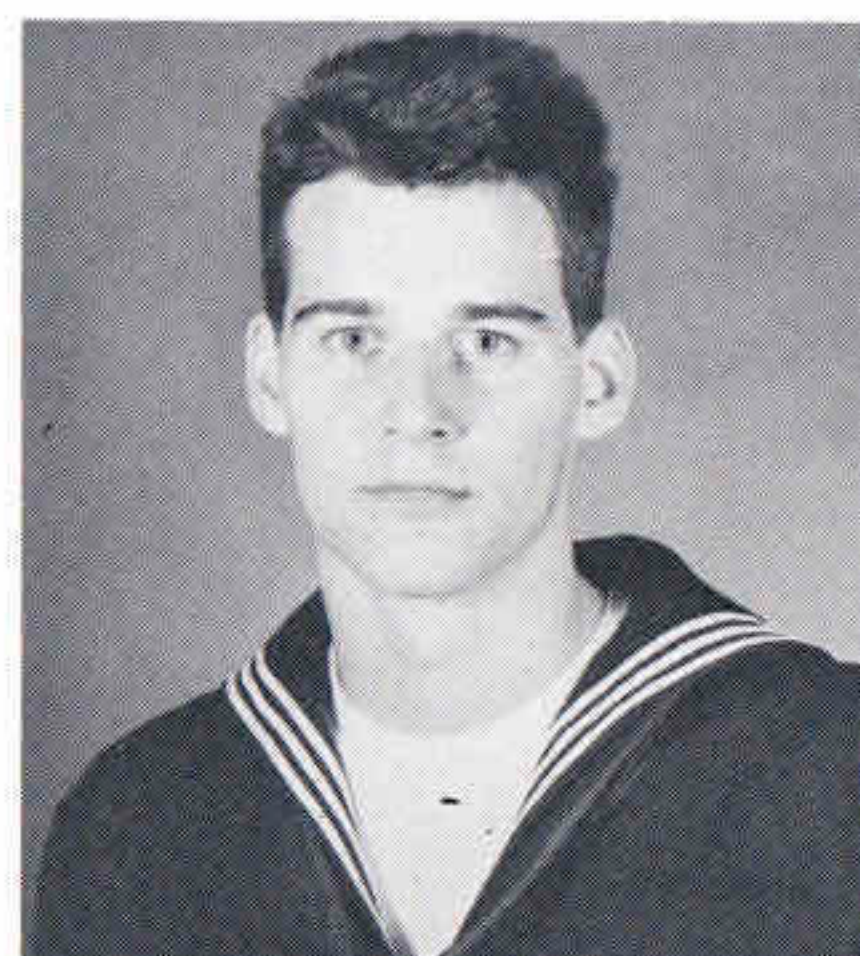
STS2(SS) RODNEY D.
KURTZ
Bethlehem, PA



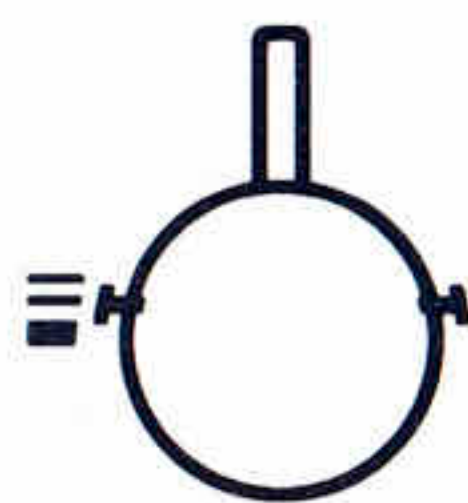
STS2(SS) TIMOTHY M.
KAYSER
Des Moines, IA



STS3(SS) LOUIS M.
TOMASSO, JR.
Miami, FL



STS3(SU) PAUL A.
HOSTETTLER
Summit, NJ



SHIP'S CREW

QUARTERMASTER (QM)

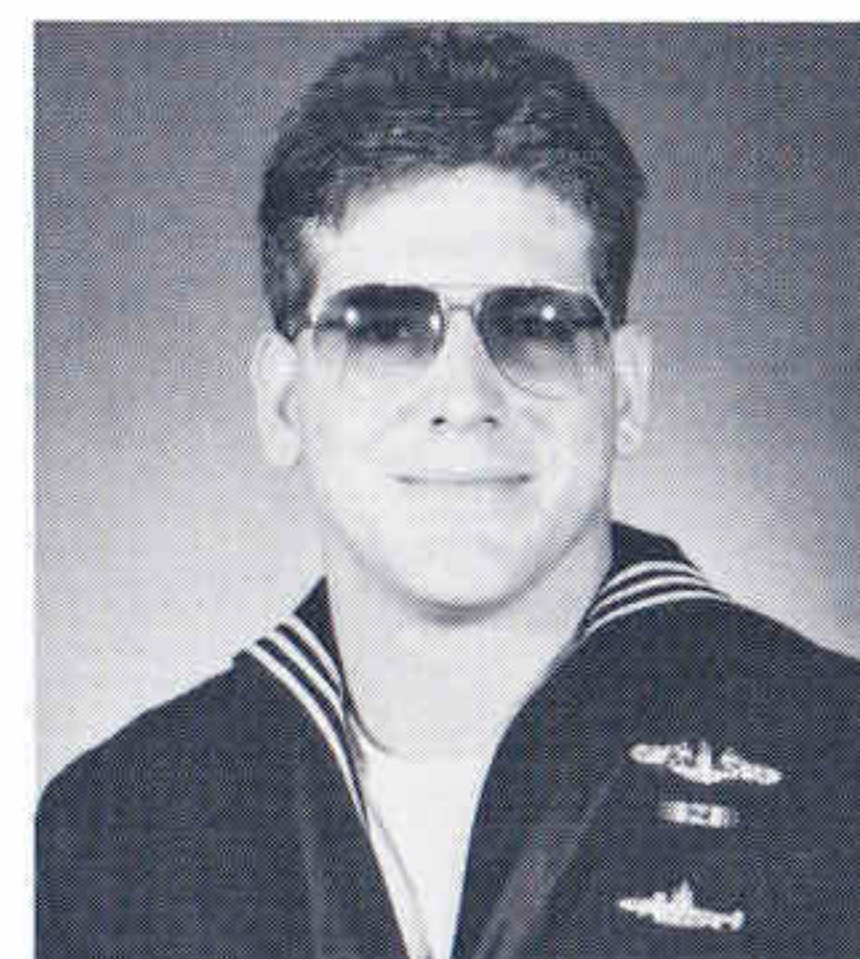
Navigation Division



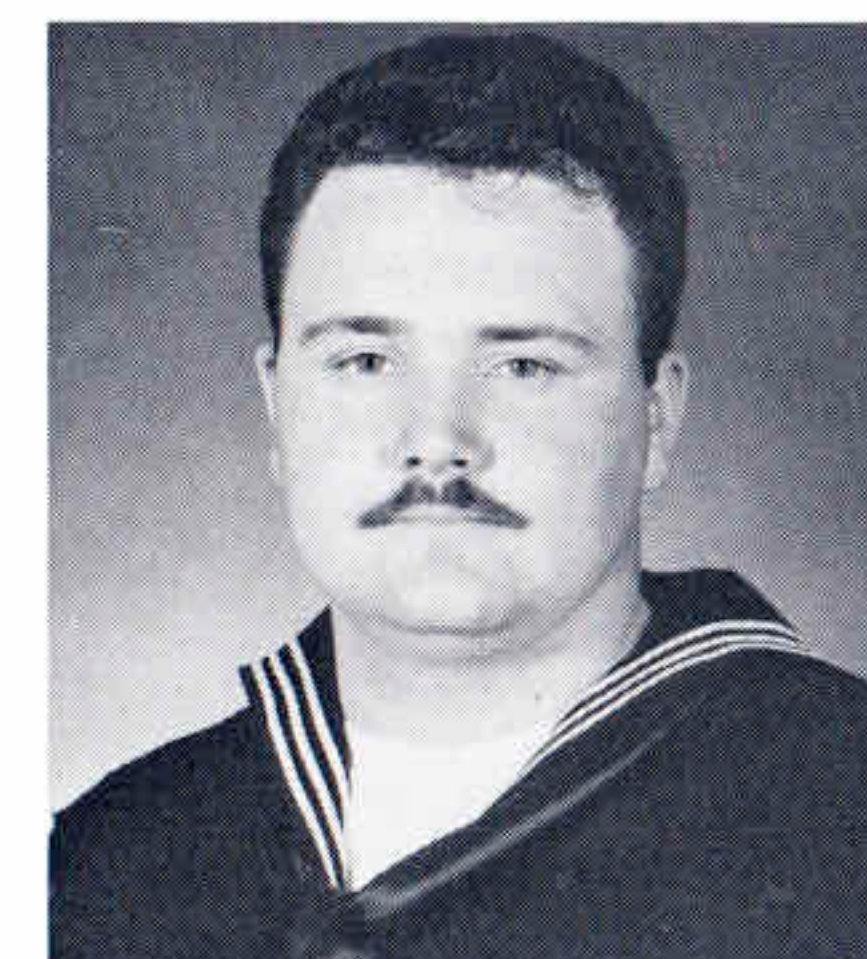
Stand watch as assistant to officers of the deck. Maintain all navigation charts and publications and provide navigational expertise.



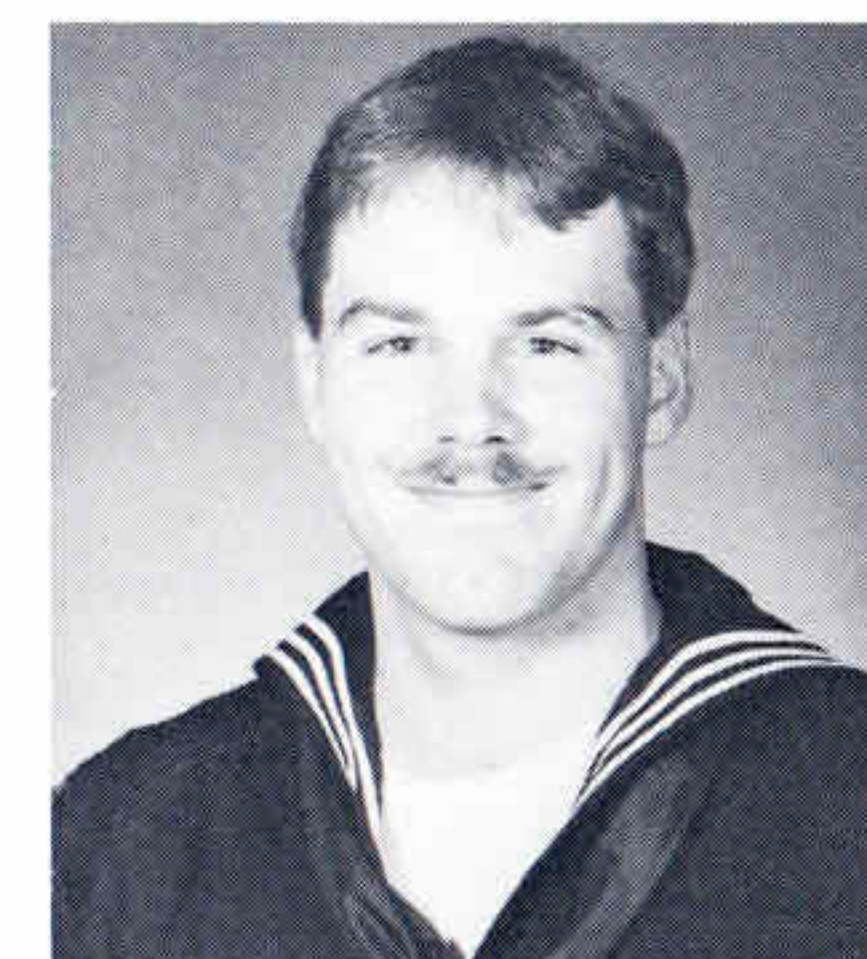
QM1(SS) MICHAEL R.
BELIVEAU
Las Vegas, NV



QM2(SS) ROBERT J.
COLOSI
Medway, MA



QM3(SS) MICHAEL L.
KUYKENDALL
Hubbard, TX



QMSN(SS) ROBERT S.
WOOLLIS
Cazenovia, NY

INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN (IC)

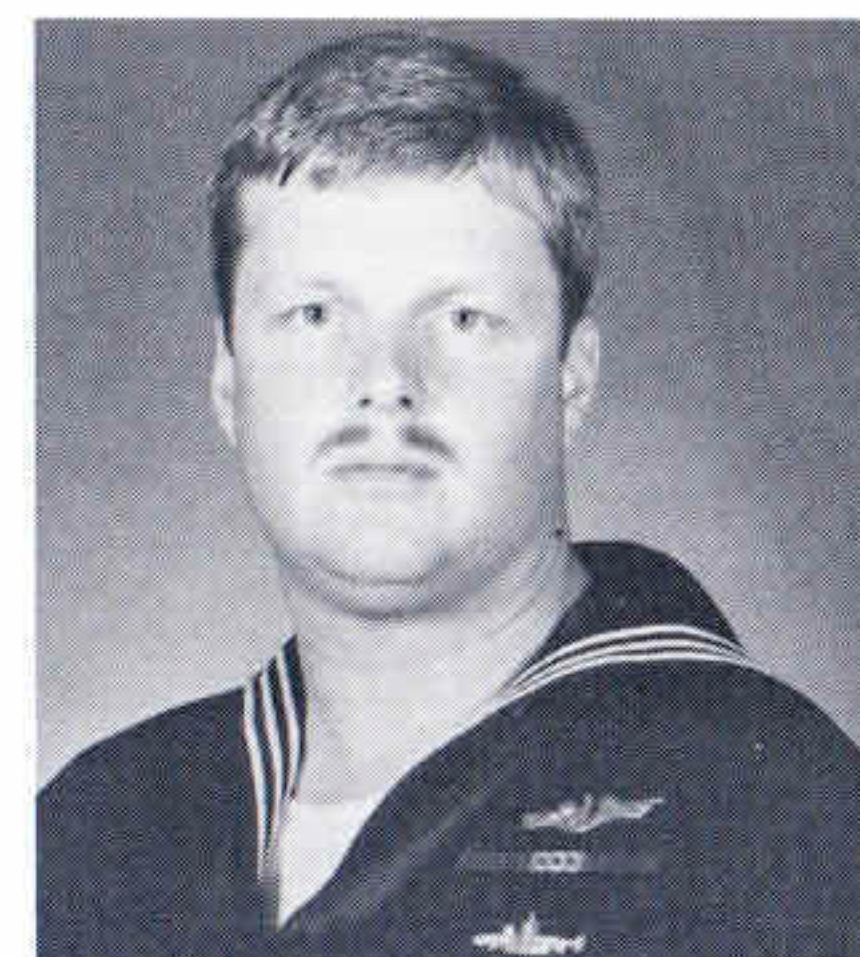
Interior Communications Division



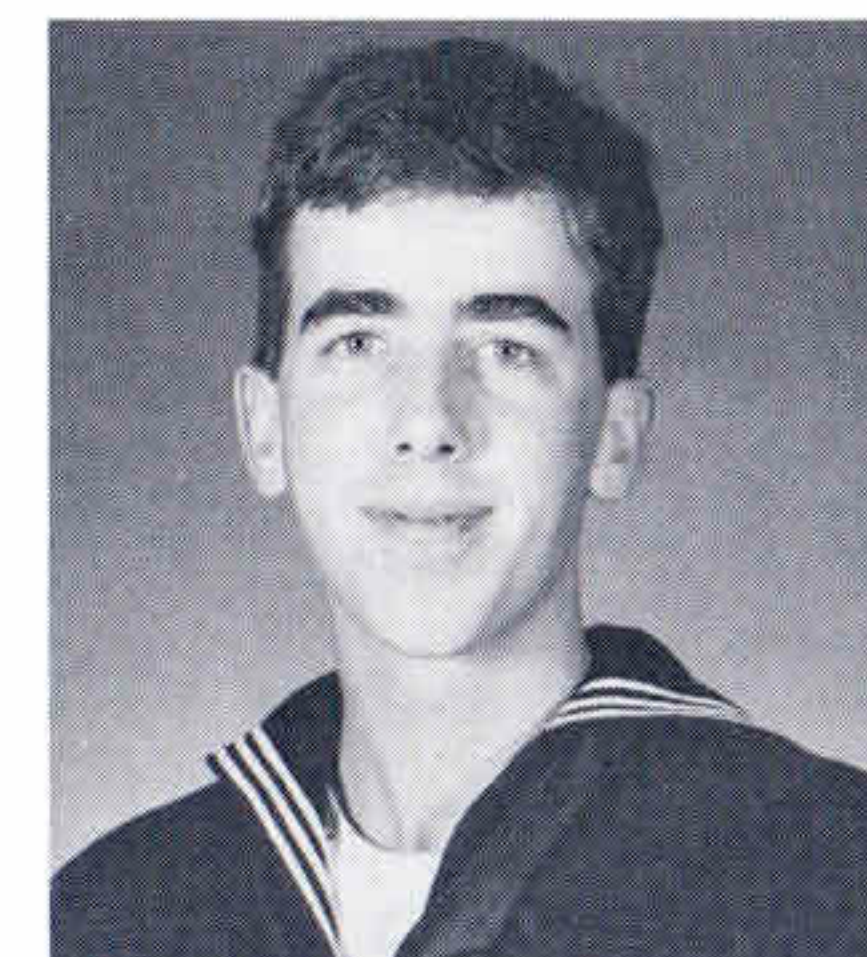
Operate and maintain a watch on warning systems and electronics which control dive and surface maneuvers.



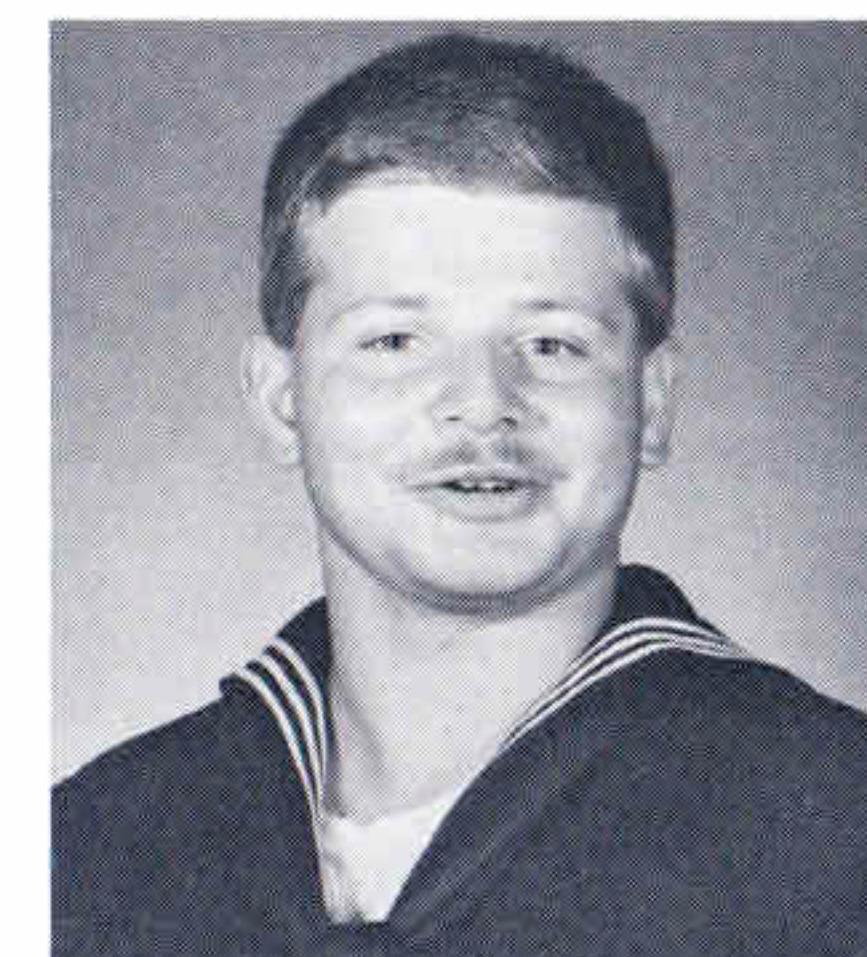
IC1(SS) THOMAS
MALONE
Queens, NY



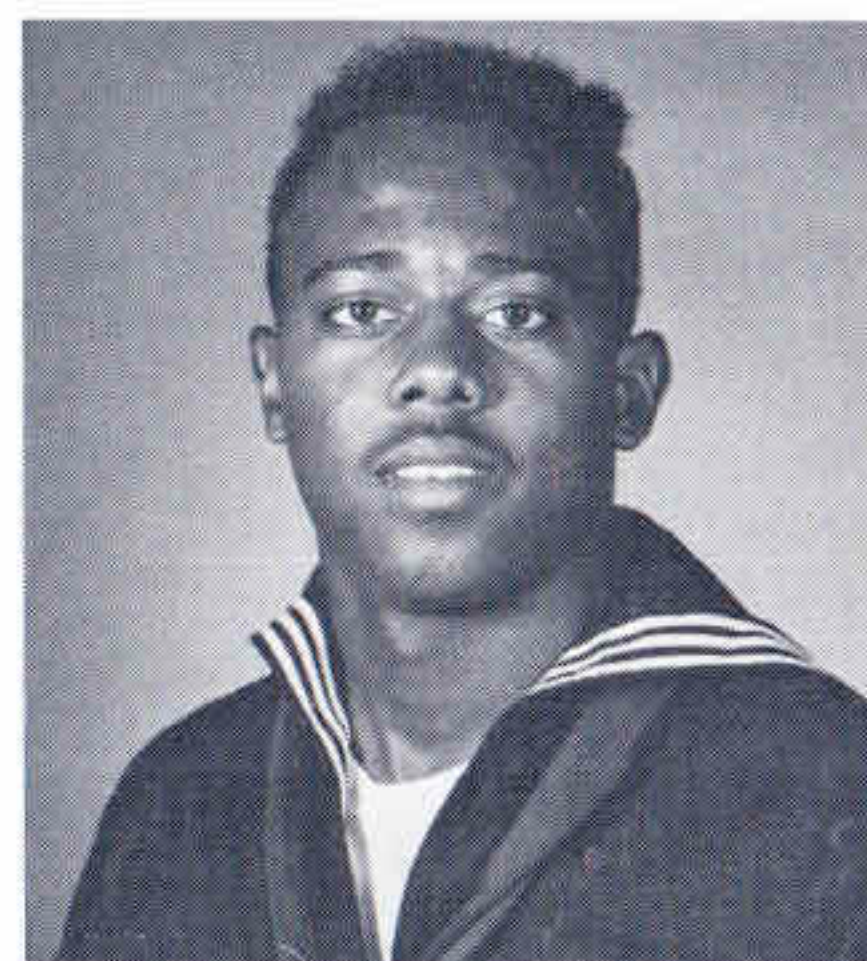
IC2(SS) RYAN K.
HIGGINS
Indialantic, FL



IC3(SS) JEREMY Q.
SHATTUCK
Fresno, CA



ICFN(SU) TIMOTHY C.
KANTUREK
Alton, IL



ICFA(SU) KEENAN R.
MOSLEY
Houston, TX

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

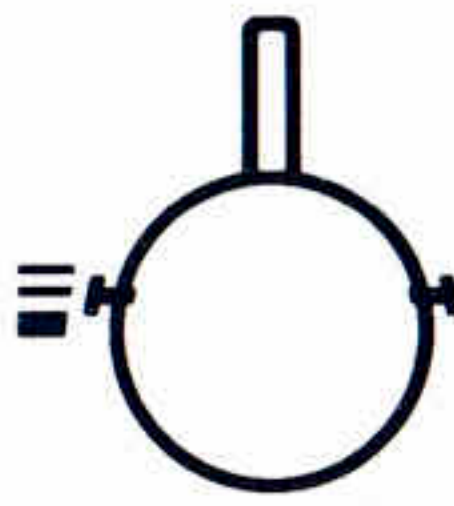
There are many people who have been assigned to TOPEKA Precommissioning Unit throughout the construction period and have departed for various reasons. Their efforts contributed directly to the successful completion of this fine ship, and we bid them fair winds and following seas.

CDR David A. Gove	MMCM(SS) Thomas Barnhart
LT Michael G. Munroe	MM1(SS) James M. Sturgill
LT Wesley W. Lyon	STS1(SS) Matthew H. Allgood
LT Darren E. Chase	MM1(SS) William A. Herrick
SKCS(SS) Russell A. Snyder	RM3(SU) William H. Brim
ETC(SS) Mark A. Gauthier	FTG1(SS) David W. Hodges
ET2(SU) George A. Stewart	MM2(SS) Thomas Tobin
ET2(SU) Lazarro D. Castillo	CWO2 Anthony W. LaPorta, Jr.
ET2(SU) James A. Belz	MM1(SS) Daniel D. Travers
MMC(SS) William E. Bowerman	TMSN(SU) William C. Kenyon
MM1(SS) Thomas J. Hanson	ET1(SS) Gordon J. Heeres
MMC(SS) Robert H. Renard	MM1(SS) John H. Gray
IC1(SS) Gregory P. Minns	MM1(SS) Blaine E. Burns
QMCS(SS) James L. Kendall	FTG1(SS) Doner D. Caldwell
YNC(SS) Edward D. Patterson	STS2(SS) Edwin H. Engelmann
TM1(SS) Johnnie M. Kirk	EM2(SU) William E. Geibel
HMC(SS) John J. Ryan	STS2(SU) Robert T. Bassham
ET1(SS) Donald L. Wiley	RM3(SU) Andrew C. L. Shutt
IC1(SS) David F. Mitchell	SK1(SS) David C. Graves

* * * * *

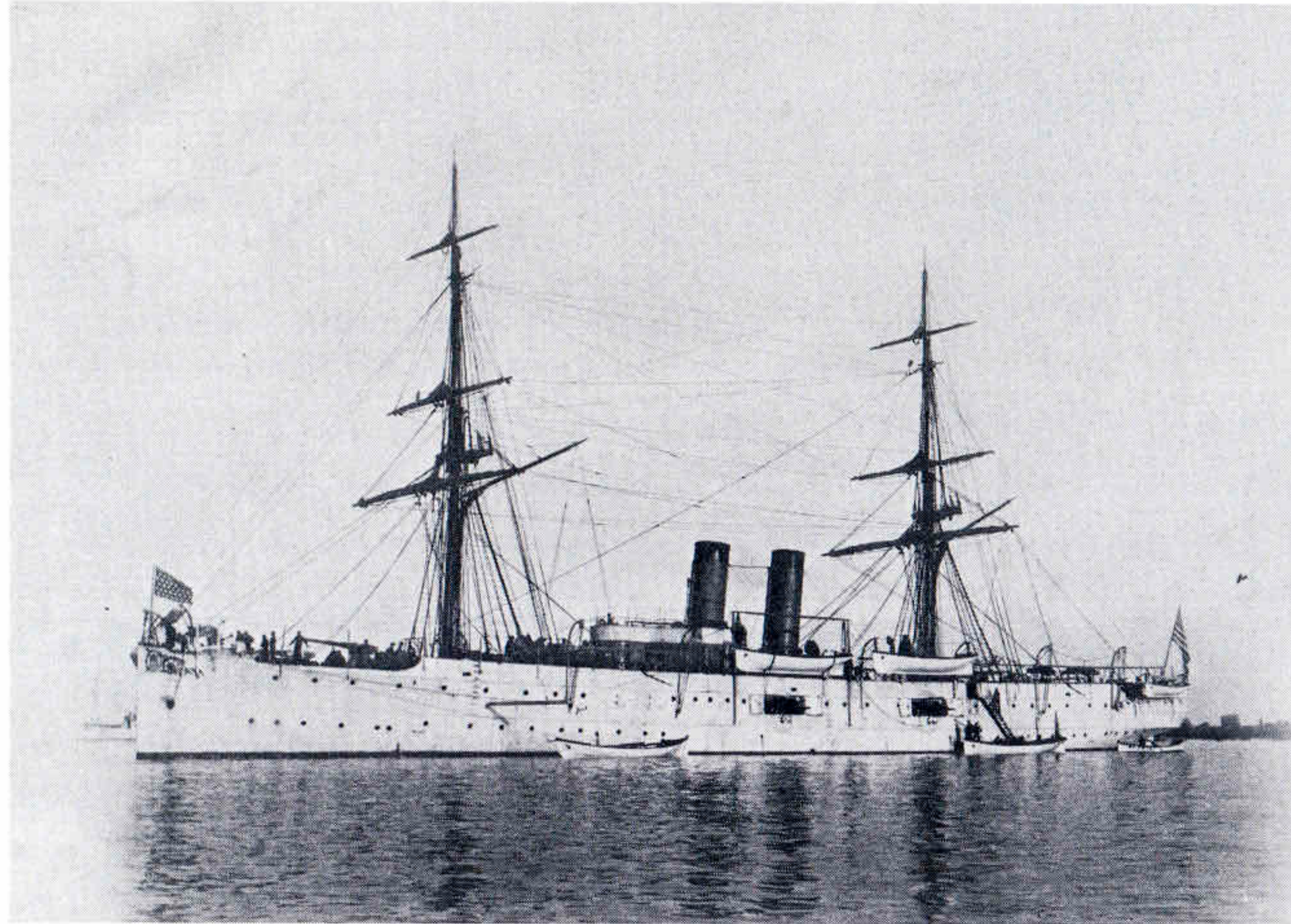
The crew of the USS TOPEKA (SSN754) wishes to acknowledge and thank the members of the USS TOPEKA (CL-67) reunion group whose actions directly contributed to a third naval ship proudly bearing the name of the city of Topeka, Kansas.





HISTORY OF SHIPS NAMED TOPEKA

Two previous ships of the fleet have been named for TOPEKA, the Capital City of Kansas.

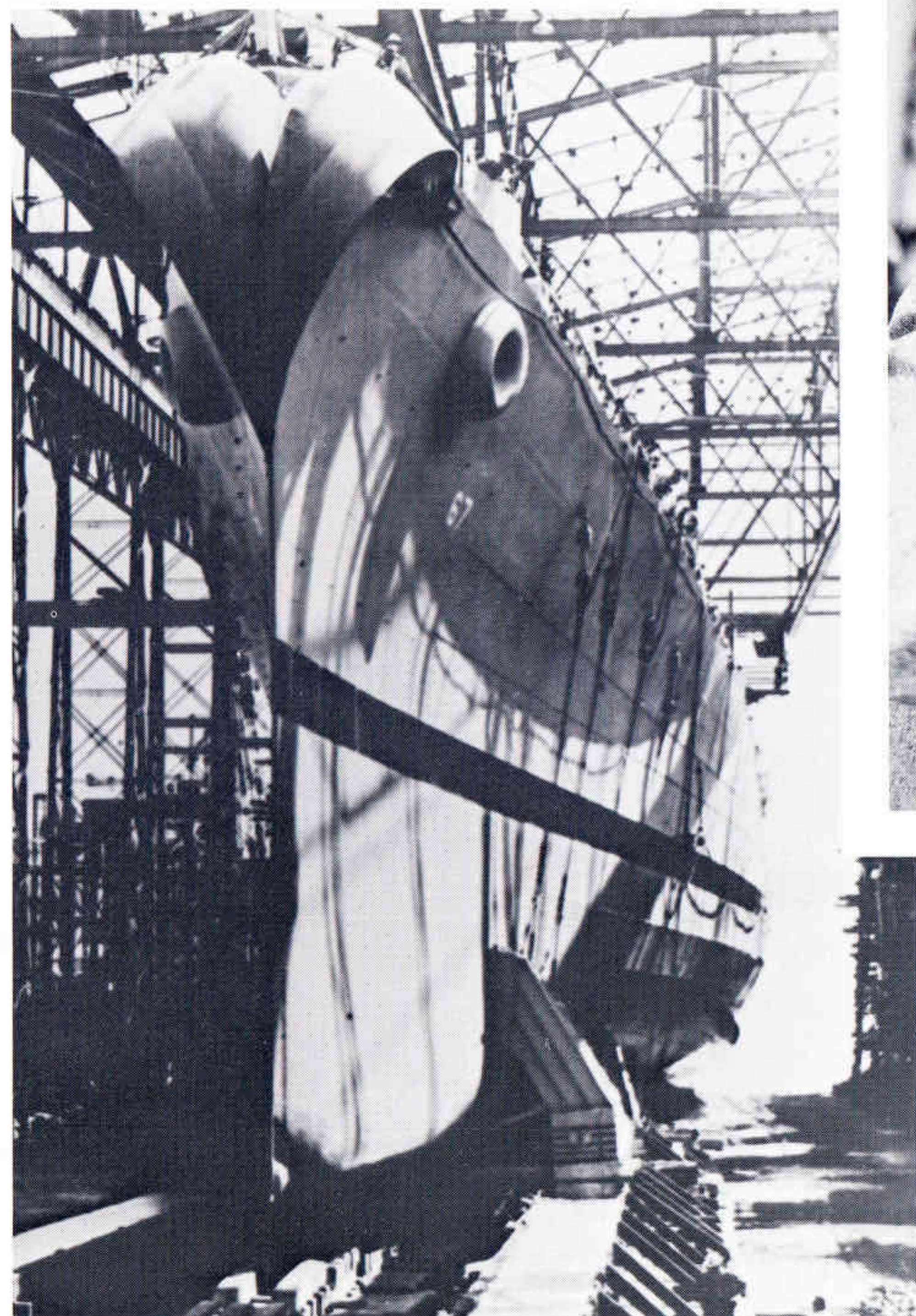


The gunboat TOPEKA . . .
over two decades of service
in the U.S. NAVY.

The first TOPEKA (PG 35) was a gunboat built under the name of Diogenes by G. Howaldt of Keil, Germany, in 1881. She was purchased by the U.S. Navy on 2 April 1898 from the Thames Iron Works of London, England and placed in commission the same day. On 15 February 1899, TOPEKA was placed out of commission at the Boston Navy Yard.

After 18 months of inactivity, the gunboat was recommissioned at Boston on 15 August 1900. In August 1905 she returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She was placed out of commission the next month, and served as a prison and station ship at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. In June 1916, she was towed to New York for recommissioning on 14 July 1916, and assigned duty as receiving ship at New York until again being placed out of commission in September 1916. She was recommissioned for the last time at Boston in March 1919, then placed out of commission on 2 November 1919 and put up for sale. TOPEKA was sold in May 1930, to Union Shipbuilding Company of Baltimore, Maryland.

The Second TOPEKA, a Light Cruiser (CL67), was built by Bethlehem Steel Company of Quincy, Massachusetts. Her keel was laid 21 April 1943, and she was launched 19 August 1944 under the sponsorship of Mrs. Frank J. Warren, wife of the Mayor of Topeka, Kansas. The ship was placed in commission at Boston on 23 December 1944. TOPEKA was initially used as a ship escort in the Western Pacific and later joined several battle groups operating in the Pacific near the end of World War II. TOPEKA's rescue efforts saved two British Pilots downed in Ishinomake Wan during August 1945. She was placed out of commission in reserve at San Francisco, 18 June 1949. On 15 April 1957, she arrived at New York Navy Shipyard for conversion to a Guided Missile Light Cruiser (CLG-8). Her hull classification and number were changed to CLG 8, effective 23 May 1957. TOPEKA earned two battle stars during World War II and three more during the Vietnam conflict.



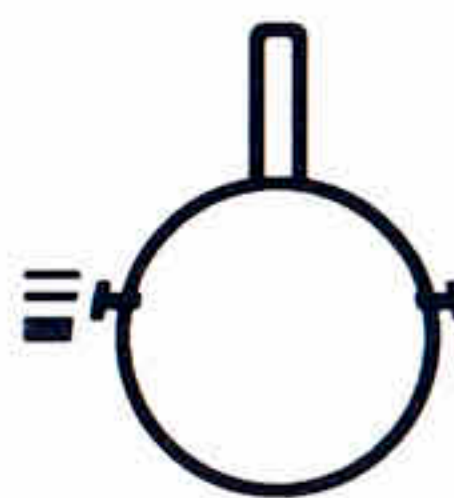
The TOPEKA is launched in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1944.



Former Topeka Mayor Frank Warren and his wife both take part in the launching ceremonies.



The second TOPEKA . . .
a "five-star cruiser" through WWII and Vietnam.



USS TOPEKA COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

George E. Erickson, Jr., is Chairman of the USS TOPEKA Commissioning Committee, formed to promote a long-lasting relationship between the citizens of Topeka and crew members of USS TOPEKA. Mr. Erickson is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a Commander in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps of the Naval Reserve. He is a practicing lawyer appointed by former Topeka Mayor Douglas S. Wright, continued in service by present Topeka Mayor Harry Felker.

The committee has roughly one hundred members representing people in and around Topeka, and as far away as Connecticut. While active and retired regular and reserve naval officers and members are committee members, there are also Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and National Guard representatives, as well as many civilians without military background. There are members of both sexes of many ages. Sub-committee Chair assignments include men and women, and some serve on more than one sub-committee. A number of sub-committees are devoted to operational functions, finance, historical matters, hospitality, and other functions.

No focus upon military rank is made within the committee. At a composite function, one might find a housewife and an active enlisted man leading deliberations by a group including a retired general officer, a drilling reserve commander, a utility company employee, and a school teacher.

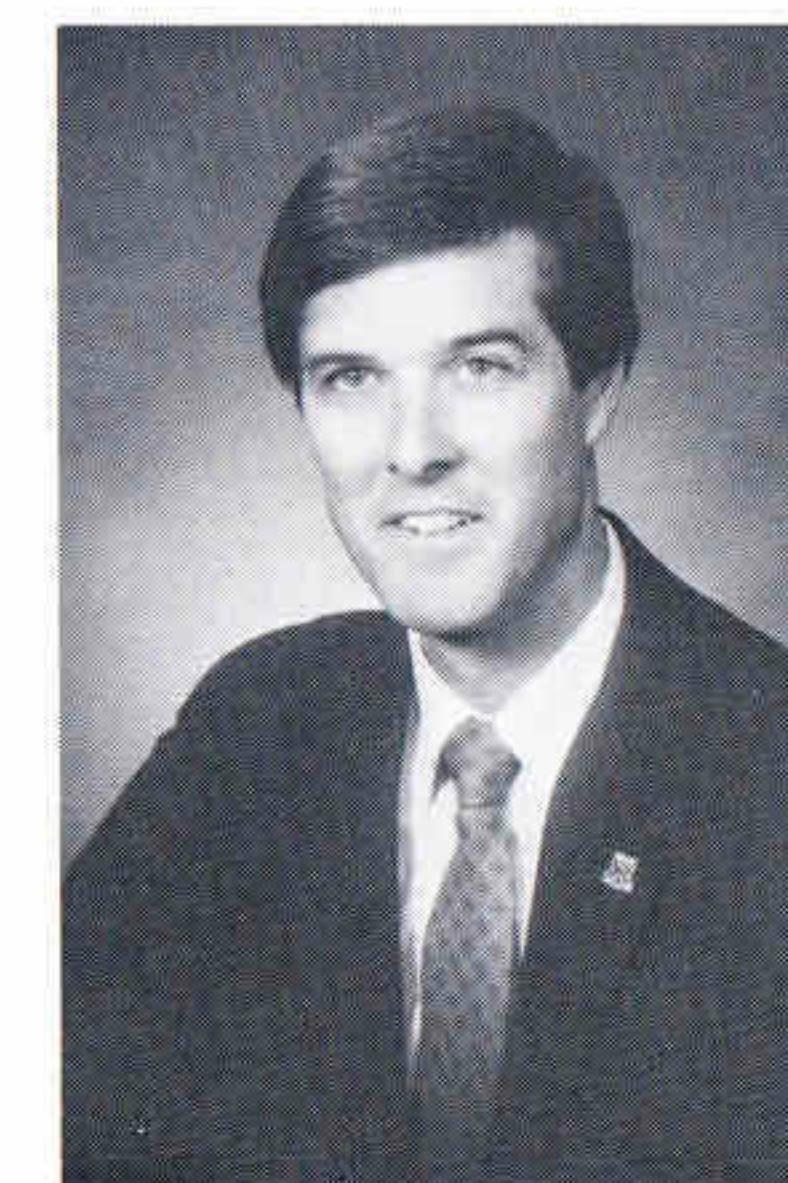
Members of the print and electronic press are participating members, as are representatives of the Mexican-American and Black communities and Churches.

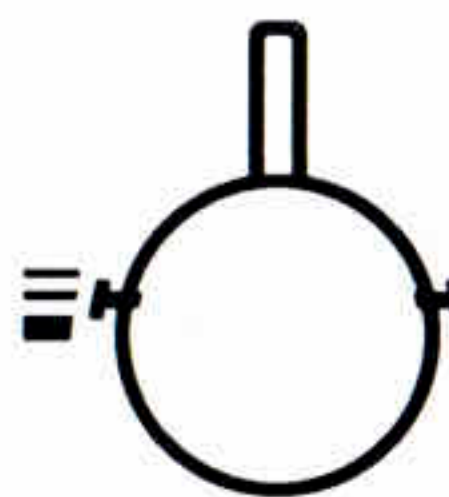
The committee has promoted a great number of activities focusing upon crew members who have traveled to Topeka. They have participated in the Mexican Fiesta; Black History Month; athletic events; school presentations; visits to the VA Hospital, Capper Foundation, and Kansas Neurological Institute; appearances before the Kansas Legislature; and visits to area museums, businesses, and other points of interest. Some crew members lived in individual Topeka homes during their visits.

Activities were financed through modest appropriations by the city, contributions from businesses and individuals, profits from the sales of USS TOPEKA baseball caps and t-shirts, and contributions of effort and money by committee members, and Topeka citizens, crew members and families.

The relationship between the city and ship will continue. The ship will receive the Sunday *Topeka Capital-Journal* newspaper and *Metro News* weekly paper as long as it is in commission. There will be a permanent exhibit at the Combat Air Museum. Historical material will be held by the Kansas Museum of History and Topeka Public Library. Material will be regularly forwarded to the ship concerning life in Topeka. Crew members will be members of the "Kansas Navy" and Combat Air Museum. An effort will be made to bring crew members to Topeka in the future.

The people of Topeka are immensely proud to have a third US Naval ship named after the city.





THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

Topeka, the capital of Kansas, features a blend of agriculture, industry, transportation, and government. Topeka is located on the Kansas River. Its name allegedly came from an Indian word meaning "a good place to dig potatoes," but some scholars dispute that.

The earliest settlers arrived in the area in the early 1840s. The city was incorporated in 1857, following the promotional efforts of nine founders of the Topeka Association. One of the nine, Dr. Charles Robinson, became the first Governor when Kansas was admitted to the Union as the 34th state in 1861. This action was preceded by years of bitter conflict between abolitionists and pro-slavery forces, but Kansas was finally designated a free state.

Cyrus K. Holliday, one of the nine founders and the first Mayor of Topeka, formed the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad shortly after the Civil War. Always a key city in this operation, Topeka is now the headquarters of the Santa Fe's Eastern Lines and is the home of one of the country's largest shop facilities.

The building of Forbes Air Force Base and a large Goodyear Tire and Rubber plant during World War II contributed to Topeka's rapid growth in the 1940s and '50s. Although the air force base eventually closed because of military needs, new industry and expanding state government helped Topeka maintain its diverse economy.

Topeka native Charles Curtis, who served under Herbert Hoover, is the only Vice-President of the United States of Indian descent. Curtis was the grandson of an early settler who married an Indian woman.

Another famous Topekan is the late Alfred M. Landon who was the 1936 Republican nominee for President and was an unofficial advisor to a number of presidents in subsequent years. Mr. Landon celebrated his 100th birthday in September, 1987, shortly before his death.

The Menninger Foundation, located in Topeka, is internationally known as a center for treatment of mental illness. Many outstanding health professionals have trained there or are presently on the staff. The foundation's west campus includes a mental health museum and a large collection of Indian artifacts.

The state government complex includes the Capitol Building with a number of murals depicting the state's history and the attractive Hall of Justice Building. The governor's mansion is at the west edge of the city.

The world-famous Topeka Zoo features a unique tropical rain forest and includes many species of mammals and birds in natural settings.

Washburn University, the nation's last remaining city-supported institution of higher learning, continues to serve an increasing number of students despite its proximity to two large state schools. Its list of law school graduates includes many prominent attorneys and government figures. Washburn's basketball team won the 1987 national small college (NAIA) championship.

The recently opened Expocentre features a number of well-known rock and western musicians in concert and is home to the Topeka Sizzlers of the Continental Basketball Association. A large auto racing complex near the former air base opened in August, 1989.

MAYOR OF TOPEKA

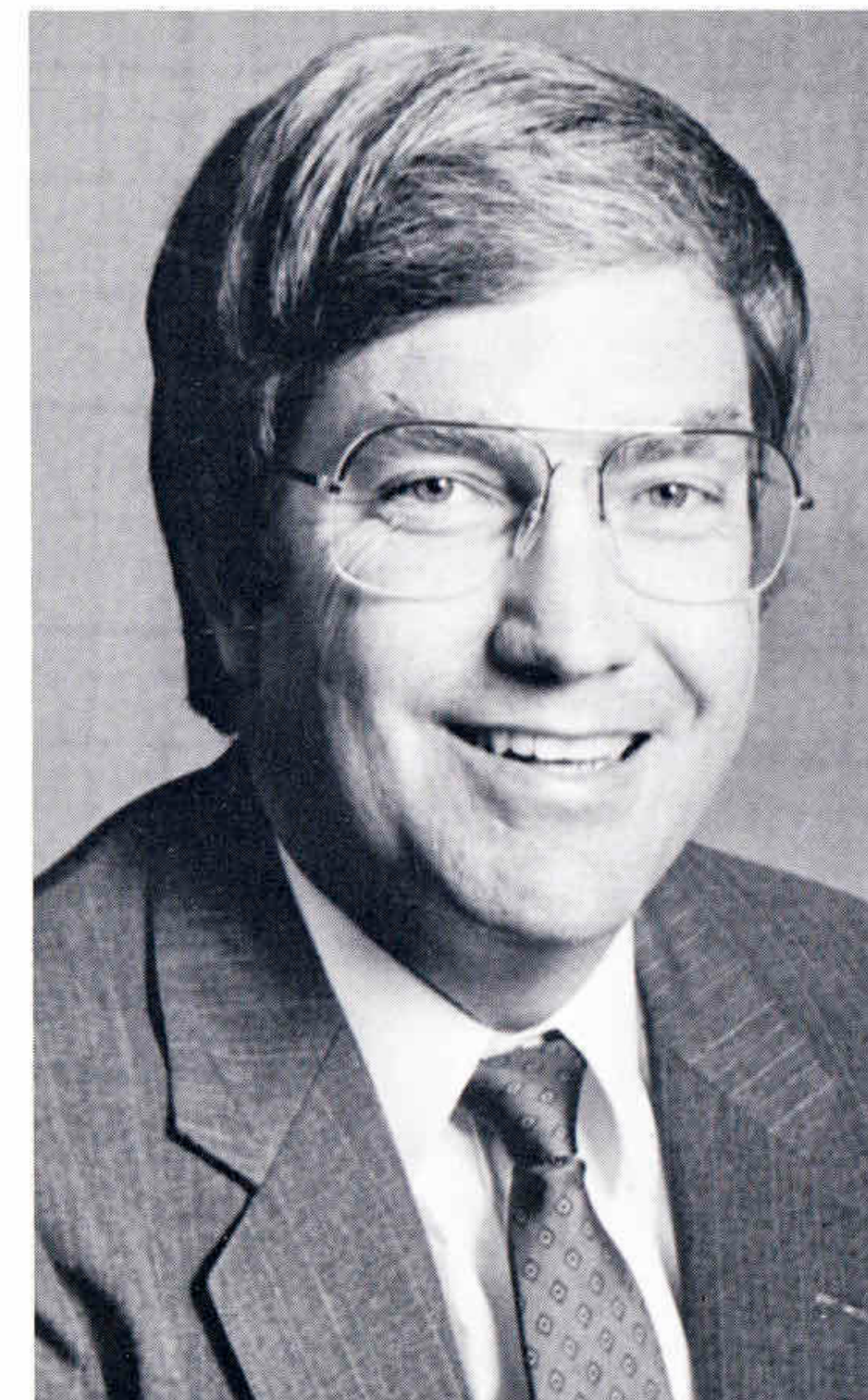
Harry "Butch" Felker, 43, is mayor of Topeka, Kansas. A lifelong Kansan, Butch is a graduate of the Topeka public school system, Topeka's Washburn University (Bachelor of Political Science Degree, 1969) and Washburn University's School of Law (Juris Doctor Degree, 1972). He is a Vietnam-era veteran of the United States Navy.

Butch began his public service career in 1975, when he was elected Topeka's Park Commissioner. He won re-election five times, serving until a reorganization of the Topeka city government abolished the position.

Subsequently, Butch served as Director of Economic Development for the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and as director of sales for the Topeka Sizzlers, a professional basketball franchise.

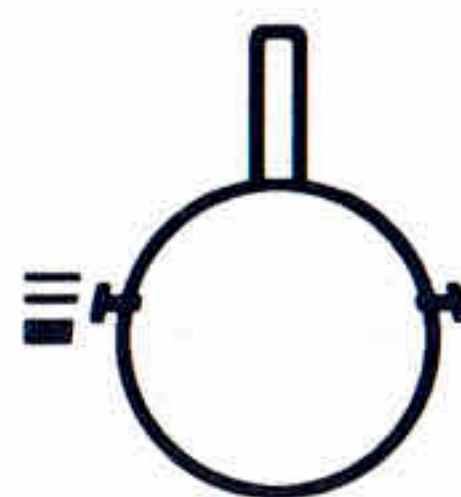
Butch serves on the boards of directors of the Friends of the Topeka Zoo, the Greater Topeka United Way, and the Topeka Park and Recreation Advisory Board. He is a member of the Railroad Days Committee, the Festival of Carols Committee, the Washburn University Alumni Association, and the Downtown Optimists Club.

His wife, Paula, is a teacher at Pauline South Middle School. The Felkers have one daughter, Tammy, 16, and two sons, Josh, 5, and Joe, 4.



**THE HONORABLE
HARRY "BUTCH" FELKER**

**MAYOR OF
TOPEKA, KANSAS**



SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

USS TOPEKA (SSN754)

DISPLACEMENT	
Surfaced	6127 Tons
Submerged	6904 Tons
LENGTH	362 Feet
HULL DIAMETER	33 Feet
COMPLEMENT	
Officers	14
Chief Petty Officers	17
E-6 and Below	103
Total	134



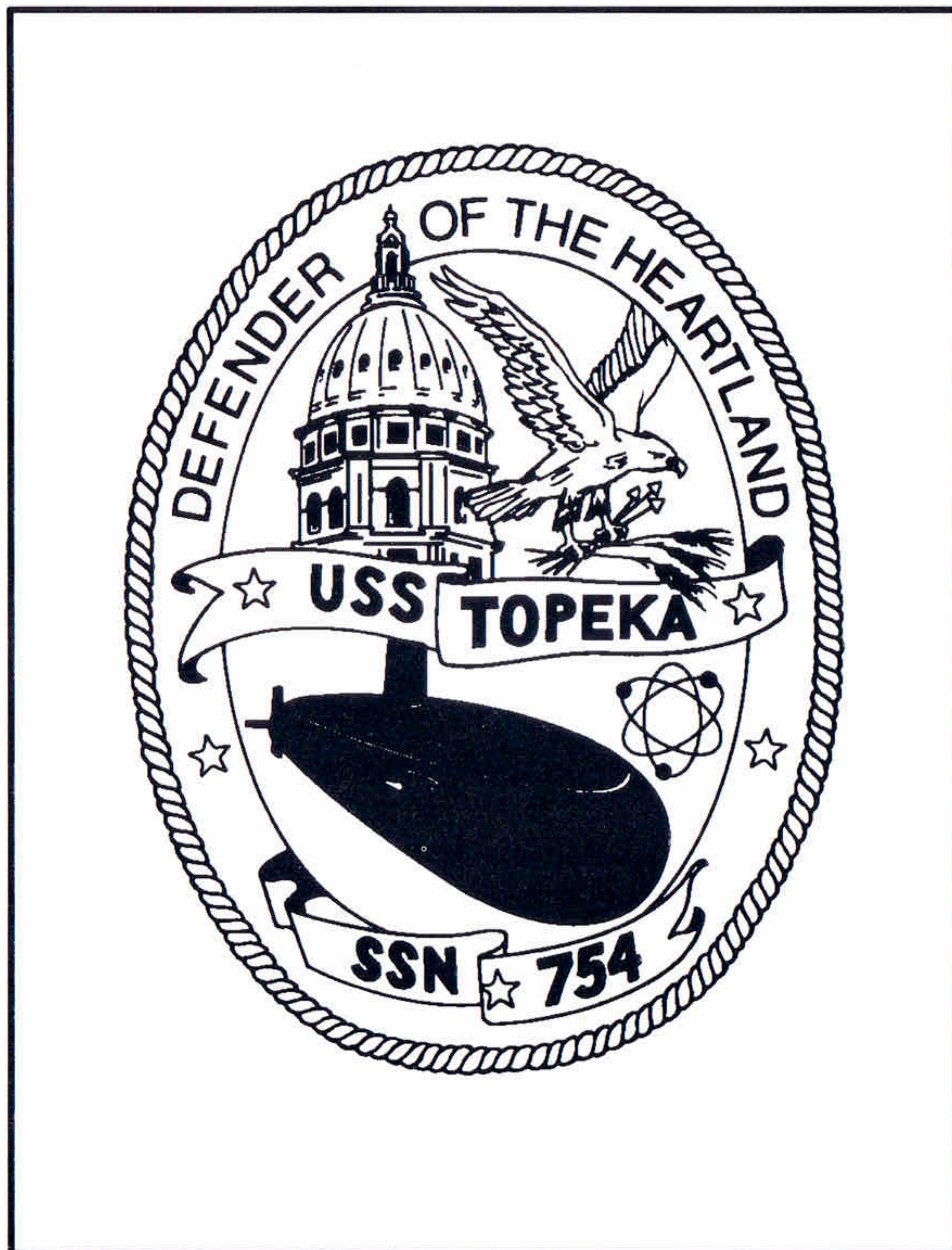
43rd SHIP OF THE LOS ANGELES CLASS

USS TOPEKA is the fourth ship of the "improved" LOS ANGELES Class, the Navy's newest and world's best nuclear-powered attack submarines. These ships are the most advanced undersea vessels of their type in the world. Their missions include locating and destroying surface ships and submarines, reconnaissance, mine planting, and operations with special warfare elements.

This 360-foot, 6900-ton ship is well equipped to accomplish these tasks. Faster than her predecessors and equipped with

the highly accurate AN/BSY-1 sonar and weapon control system, the ship can be armed with sophisticated Mark 48 and ADCAP torpedoes, as well as HARPOON anti-ship missiles. USS TOPEKA can also launch multi-purpose TOMAHAWK cruise missiles from vertical tubes located in the bow or from her torpedo tubes. Other significant improvements include: full under-ice operational capability, improved ship quieting, onboard over-the-horizon targeting capability, two towed sonar arrays, and retractable bow planes.

SHIP'S INSIGNIA

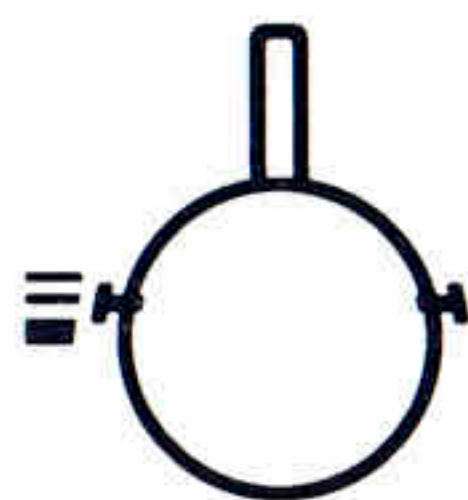


Military Units have historically employed emblems as a means of organizational identification. Designed during the new construction period, the chosen insignia becomes an integral part of the ship's ongoing history. Closely associated

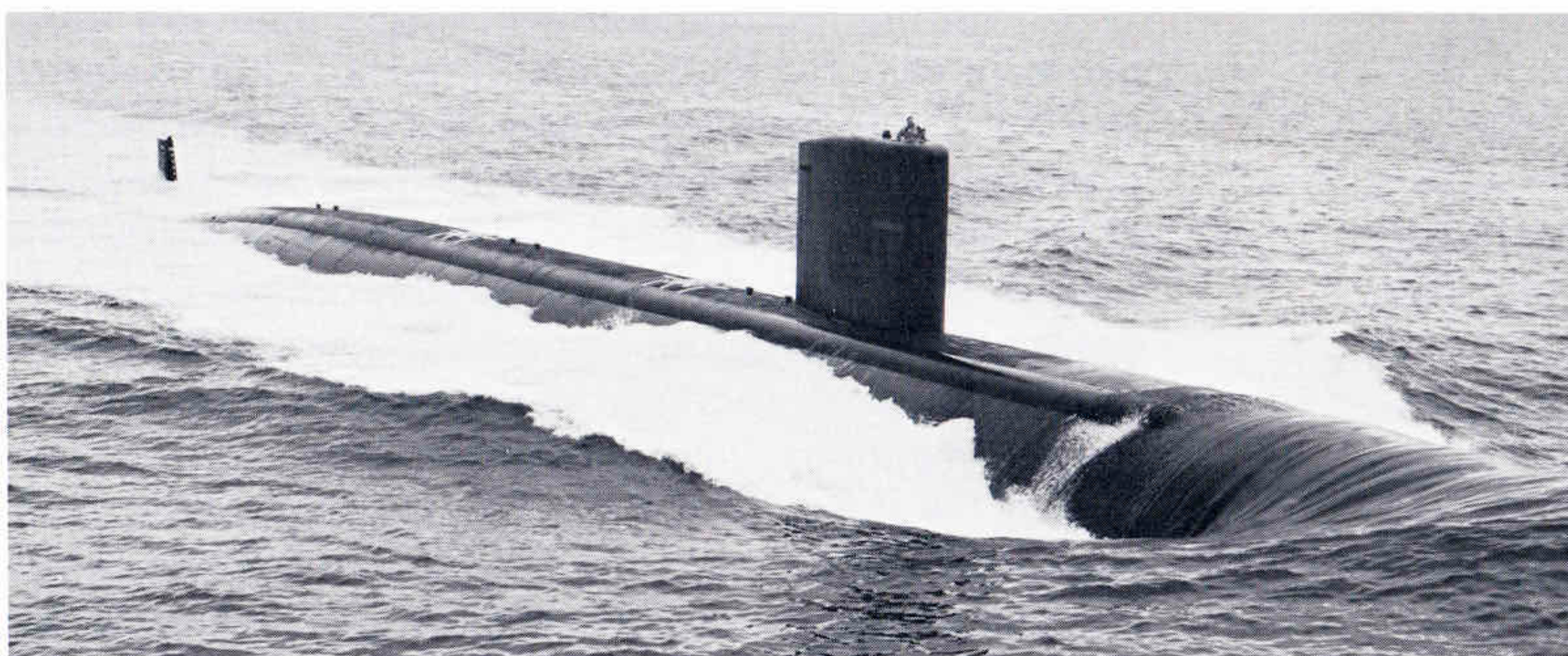
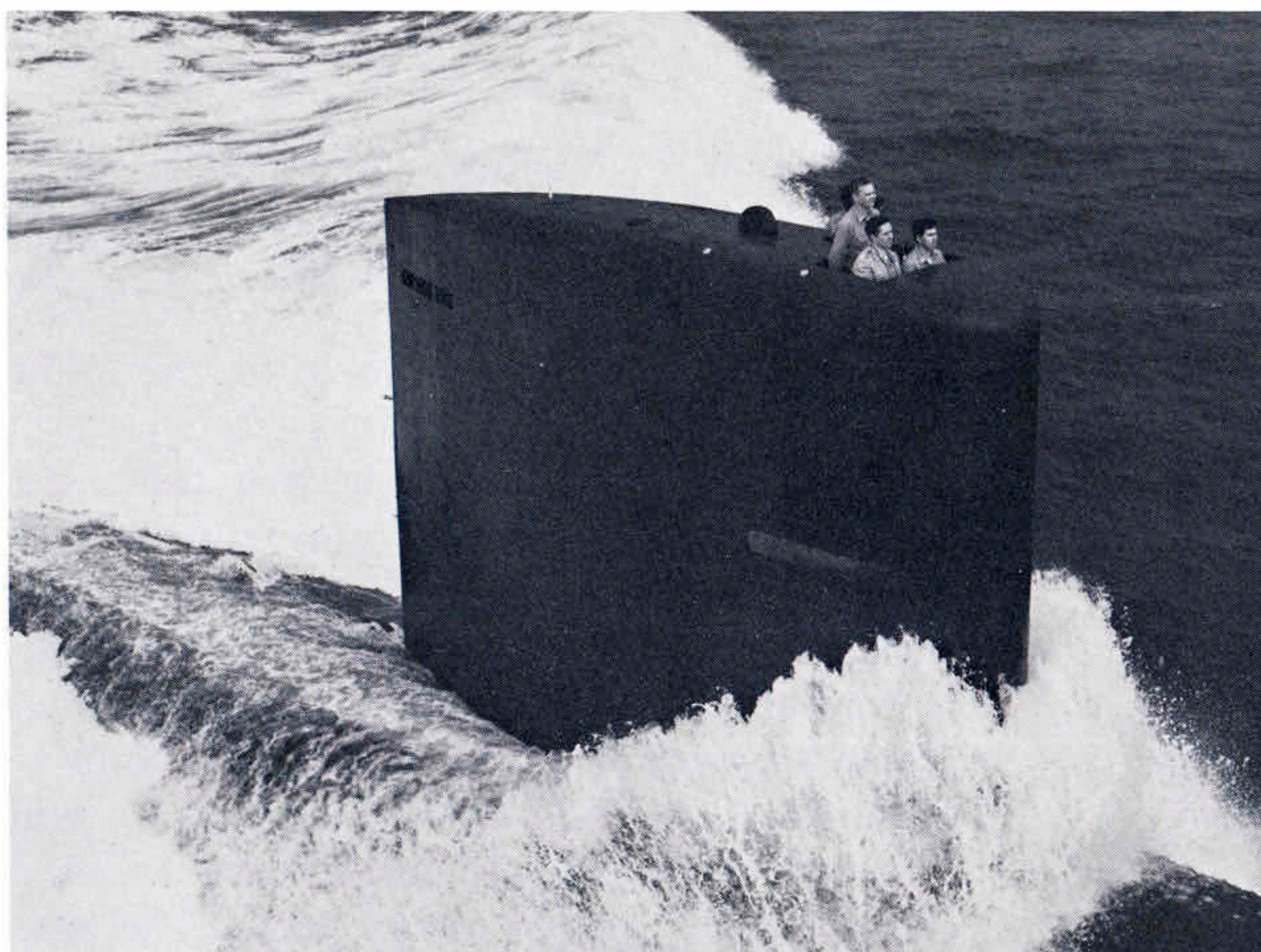
with the crew and its reputation, the emblem is proudly displayed on a wide variety of official documents and memorabilia.

USS TOPEKA (SSN754) has selected the emblem illustrated on the front cover as its official INSIGNIA. Symbolism chosen for the crest includes:

The **Capitol Building Dome** is the predominant landmark in Topeka, the center of Kansas state government and a local symbol of democracy. The **Red Tailed Hawk** is commonly found around Topeka and represents the spirit of freedom displayed by the city's founding fathers during early settlement and the Civil War. The hawk is a silent, swift, and fierce hunter as is USS TOPEKA (SSN754). The **arrows** represent a tribute to the Caw Indians who originally inhabited the area. They also illustrate TOPEKA's willingness to use force when necessary to defend herself, "the heartland", and the nation in times of war or peace. The **wheat stalks** are symbolic of the region's strong agricultural base, and combined with the arrows, represent the fact that the Caw Indians were basically hunters and farmers. The **five stars** represent the City's founding fathers, similar to those depicted on the center band of the official city crest. The **submarine** is one of the improved 688 design and depicts the two most prominent visible features which set her apart from many of her predecessors: vertical launch missile tube hatches and bow planes. The **nuclear symbol** represents the ship's nuclear propulsion capability, with the three orbiting electrons symbolic of SSN754 as the third United States Ship to proudly bear the name TOPEKA. The **green and gold** come from the predominant colors of the city flag and crest, while the **light blue** is the natural background color for the elements in which the hawk and submarine exist.



TOPEKA SEA TRIALS



PRAYER

“Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave:”

We are a peaceful people;
We do not choose to war.
But tyranny pervades this earth,
And batters freedom's door.

We regret the need for weapons
To guard our nation's shore.
We pray some day that casualties
Won't be used to keep the score.

But 'till that day, we launch the ships
To warn our foes, we pray,
That the price tag on aggression
Is too high for them to pay.

God, You have a subtle way
To remind us of Your part:

We chose this place, but You picked
The time for us to start.

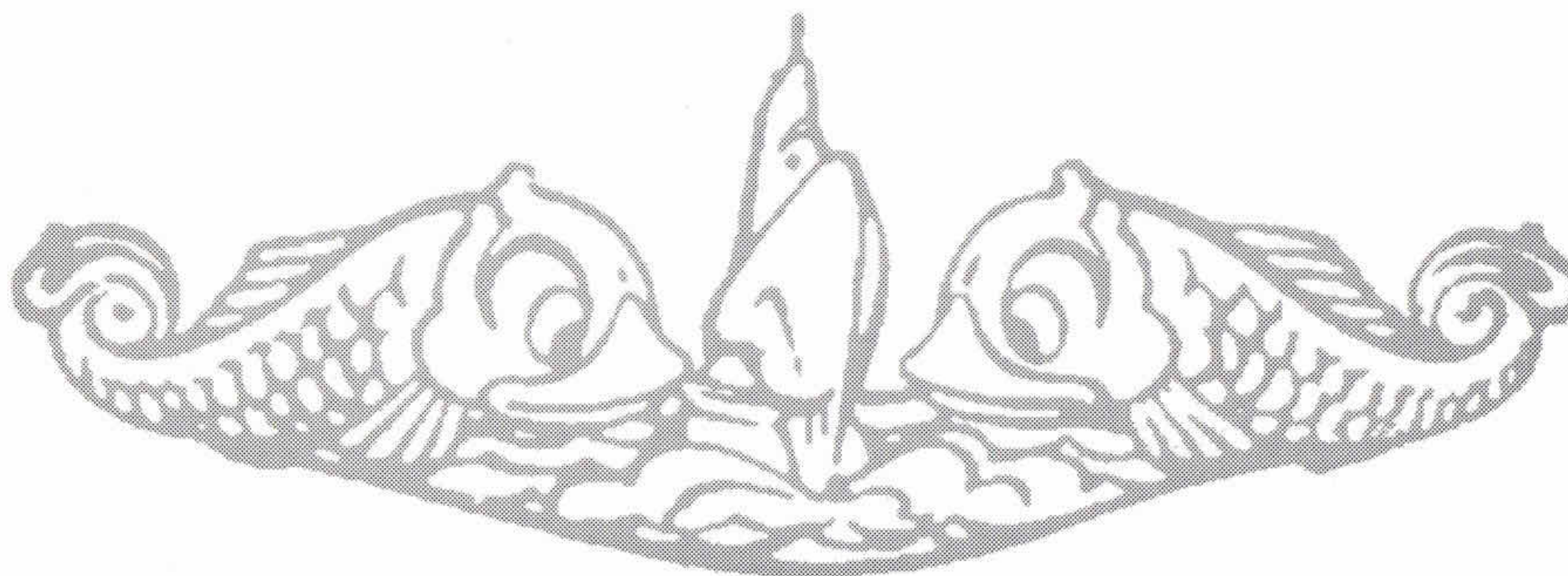
It's only when the tide is high
This sub can start its slide;
Men have built the submarine,
But You control the tide!

So bless the officers and the men
And keep them free from harm;
Let them ride beneath the waves,
Resting on Your arm.

We pray in the Name of the Christ
“Who bids the mighty ocean deep,
its own appointed limits keep.”

AMEN

Reverend Frederick S. Hollomon





USS TOPEKA

ATTACK SUBMARINE

NAMED IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
TOPEKA, KANSAS

BUILT BY
GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat Division

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

KEEL LAID MAY 13, 1986
LAUNCHED JANUARY 23, 1988
COMMISSIONED OCTOBER 21, 1989

CHRISTENED JANUARY 23, 1988
BY THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE



USS TOPEKA SSN 754

THE THIRD SHIP OF THE FLEET TO BEAR THE NAME

CL-67/CLG-8
1944-1969



PG-35
1898-1929

BLOCKADE OF CUBA, SPANISH-AMERICA WAR	1898
TRAINING SHIP-1ST NAVAL DISTRICT, N.Y. W.W. I	1918
TRAINING SHIP-4TH NAVAL DISTRICT PHILA. PA.	1929
ATTACK ON RYUKU ISLANDS W.W. II	1945
ATTACK ON SAGAMI NADA (TOKYO), W.W. II	1945
GULF OF TONKIN INCIDENT, VIETNAM	1964
COMBINED CRU-DES. GROUP 7TH FLEET, VIETNAM	1965
GULF OF TONKIN GUNFIRE SUPPORT, VIETNAM	1965

