



**The Commanding Officer, USS Warrington (DD 843)
announces the Decommissioning of the Ship at the
United States Naval Base, Subic Bay,
Republic of the Philippines on the first of October,
Nineteen Hundred and Seventy Two.**

Program

ARRIVAL HONORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION ----- CAPTAIN J. W. CONTE, CHC, USN

INTRODUCTION OF ----- COMMANDER N. H. PETREE, JR., USN
(principal guest)

REMARKS ----- REAR ADMIRAL JOHN S. KERN, USN
COMMANDER CRUISER-DESTROYER
FLOTILLA NINE

REMARKS ----- COMMANDER N. H. PETREE, JR., USN

READING OF ORDERS ----- COMMANDER N. H. PETREE, JR., USN

DECOMMISSIONING AND
RELINQUISHING OF COMMAND ----- COMMANDER N. H. PETREE, JR., USN
CAPTAIN L. W. FISHER, USN
C.O. SHIP REPAIR FACILITY
SUBIC BAY

BENEDICTION ----- CAPTAIN J. W. CONTE, CHC, USN

DECOMMISSIONING



U.S. S. WARRINGTON

DD-843

1 October 1972



*Commander
Noel Harper Petree, Jr.,
U. S. Navy*

Born in Toledo, Ohio, Commander PETREE was commissioned an Ensign in the regular Navy in 1956 after graduating with an AB degree in Political Science from the University of North Carolina.

Following flight training at Pensacola and Corpus Christi he served successively from March 1958 through December 1962 in Fighter Squadron THIRTEEN and SEVENTY-FOUR flying the F4D Skyray, F9FCougar and F4B Phantom aircraft. He served as Squadron and Air Group Landing Signal Officer on board the USS ESSEX (CVA-9), USS SHANGRILA (CVA-38) and USS FORESTAL (CVA-59).

He then attended the Naval Postgraduate School of Monterey in the advance Air-Ocean Environmental curriculum from February 1963 to May 1965. His next three years were at sea, serving as Electronic Warfare/CIC Officer on the USS ALBANY (CG-10) and as Navigator on the USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) during that gun ship's first tour off Vietnam in 1967/68.

Commander PETREE was subsequently assigned to the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff where he served in the Operations (J-3) Directorate from 1968 to 1970. Following his tour in Washington he returned to sea on board USS HARRY E. YARNELL (DLG-17) serving as her, Executive Officer. He assumed Command of the USS WARRINGTON on 23 June, 1972 operating in support of the Commander Seventh Fleet in Southeast Asia from that time until the present.

Commander PETREE is married to the former Ruth Ann Piercy of Denville, New Jersey. The PETREE's have four children, ages four through eleven. Commander PETREE wears the Joint Staff Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, and the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon (USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148)).

History

A FRAM MK I conversion of a 2250 ton, long hull, general purpose destroyer, the USS WARRINGTON is the third ship to be named after COMMODORE LEWIS WARRINGTON, A naval hero of the war of 1812.

The first WARRINGTON (DD-30) was built in Philadelphia by William Camp and Son. She served in World War I and with the active and reserve fleets until sold in 1935.

The second WARRINGTON (DD-383), built in 1938 by the Federal Shipbuilding and Drydock Co., of Kearney, N. J. served in World War II until lost at sea in a severe hurricane off Cape Hatteras in September 1944.

The present WARRINGTON (DD-843) came down the ways of the BATH IRON WORKS, Bath Maine on 27 September 1945 and joined the fleet three months later.

In 1962, WARRINGTON was modernized and rejuvenated as a FRAM MARK I conversion in the Navy's Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization Program. In this conversion WARRINGTON's sure instructure was altered and every piece of machinery was overhauled. She also received the most modern anti-submarine weapons and electronics equipment.

Although she is primarily an anti-submarine warfare (ASW) ship, WARRINGTON retains the wide range of capabilities for which modern destroyers are designed. Those capabilities were proven during an around-the-world-cruise to the Western Pacific in 1966. At other times WARRINGTON demonstrated her versatility by aiding as a standby for manned space shots, host ship for America's Cup Races, and search and rescue operations, including the search for the USS THRESHER (SSN-593).

WARRINGTON has made fifteen trips across the Atlantic to Europe and the Mediterranean Sea. The most recent was in the winter of 1971, when she spent 2 months with the USS WASP (CVS-18) conducting ASW operations. WARRINGTON spent 2 months last winter in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba following her regular overhaul in the Boston Naval Shipyard.

The WARRINGTON set sail for Southeast Asia operations on 5 June 1972, arriving for duty on the gunline on 8 July. On July 17 the WARRINGTON sustained two underwater explosions off the North Vietnamese Coast, forcing the ship to be taken under tow to the U. S. Naval Base at Subic Bay. After an assessment of damage and estimation of repair costs, the decision was made by the Chief of Naval Operations to Decommission WARRINGTON in Subic Bay and strike the ship from the roles of United States Naval Vessels. The WARRINGTON was assigned as a unit of Destroyer Squadron 10 prior to decommissioning and homeported in Newport, Rhode Island.

USS WARRINGTON (DD-843)

Commanding Officers

CDR DON W. WULZEN, USN	DEC 1945 - SEPT 1947
CDR ROBERT A. PATON, USN	SEPT 1947 - JULY 1949
CDR ALBERT T. CHURCH, JR., USN	JULY 1949 - NOV 1950
CDR ALFRED F. GERKEN, USN	NOV 1950 - JAN 1952
CDR PRIDE C. BROWN, JR., USN	JAN 1952 - FEB 1953
CDR JOHN F. WEILDING, USN	FEB 1953 - OCT 1954
CDR CORWIN G. MENDENHALL, JR., USN	OCT 1954 - NOV 1956
CDR RAYMOND W. BAKER, USN	NOV 1956 - OCT 1958
CDR VINCENT L. MURTHA, USN	OCT 1958 - MAR 1961
CDR KIERK C. MILLER, USN	MAR 1961 - OCT 1961
LCDR ALBERT F. SHIMMEL, USN	OCT 1961 - JAN 1962
CDR PAUL C. BOYD, USN	JAN 1962 - SEPT 1963
CDR T. J. BRANTTON, JR., USN	SEPT 1963 - FEB 1965
CDR ROBERT G. WALKER, USN	FEB 1965 - JULY 1966
CDR WILLIAM ABROMITIS, JR., USN	JULY 1966 - NOV 1967
CDR EUGENE J. REIHER, USN	NOV 1967 - AUG 1969
CDR RICHARD F. ROCKWELL, USN	AUG 1969 - FEB 1971
CDR CHRISTOS ZIRPS, USN	FEB 1971 - JUNE 1972
CDR NOEL H. PETREE, JR., USN	JUNE 1972 - SEPT 1972