



GERALD H. KAFFER, JR.
Commander, U. S. Navy

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The popular and affable Commanding Officer of the McCAFFERY was born on March 29, 1924, in Denver, Colorado. He attended grammar and high school in Denver and then received an appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Commission as Ensign, USNR, in January 1944. CDR KAFFER has also studied Business Administration at the University of Denver Graduate School.

The Captain began his naval career aboard the USS GENERAL W. H. BUTNER (AP-113) on which he served as Assistant First Lieutenant, Assistant Navigator, and Communications Officer and was then transferred to the USS CORREGIDOR (CVE-58) as Communications Officer and later as Navigator.

In 1955 CDR KAFFER was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Commander, USNR, and later accepted a commission as Lieutenant, USN. He was then assigned to the USS AMMEN (DD-527) as Operations Officer. During this period the AMMEN completed two six-month deployments to WESTPAC with the Seventh Fleet. The ship was awarded the Operations "E" in 1957.

In January 1958 the Captain left the sea temporarily to serve as Assistant to the Commander Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois where he was promoted in March to Lieutenant Commander, USN. Two years later he was back at sea as Executive Officer on the USS CHARLES P. CECIL (DD-835).

The Captain's next assignment in July 1961 brought him to Destroyer School in Newport, Rhode Island where he assumed the duties of Academic Officer and Instructor in Operations. Here he attained the rank of Commander, USN in September 1962.

CDR KAFFER has earned the following campaign and service medals: Naval Reserve Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Navy Occupation Medal (Asia Clasp), China Service Medal (Extended), National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Merchant Marine Combat Bar, Merchant Marine Pacific War Zone Medal, and United Nations Service Medal.

CDR KAFFER is married to the former Miss Dorothy Ann Fisher of Denver. They have three daughters; Kathryn Mary, Carol Ann and Marian Patricia, and a son, Gerald Henry, III.

