



COMMANDING OFFICER

Captain

Daniel L. Banks, Jr.

Captain Daniel L. BANKS, Jr., was born in Sacramento, California, on 4 February, 1926. After graduating from Sacramento High School in February 1944, Captain Banks immediately entered the Navy's V-5 Flight Training Program at the State Teachers College in Dickinson, North Dakota. In 1945, he transferred to the NROTC Program at the University of Minnesota, graduating in June, 1946 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Naval Science and Tactics. Commissioned an Ensign, USNR, upon graduation, Captain Banks was assigned to a coastal minesweeper (YMX-436), where he applied for and was accepted as a member of the regular Navy in 1947.

After serving on an amphibious control patrol craft (PCC-1244), Captain Banks reported aboard the USS DENNIS J. BUCKLEY (DDR-808) where he performed duties in the Operations and Engineering Departments. In 1951, he was assigned to an Operational Development Force Detachment at Chesapeake Bay, Maryland, to assist in the evaluation of a British designed electronics display system. He then attended the Command Communications Course at the Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, California, before serving as the Communications Officer on the USS QUINCY (CA-71).

Returning to destroyers, Captain Banks served as the Operations Officer on the USS PARKS (DD-884). Following were two staff assignments, Assistant Operations Officer for Commander Cruiser Destroyer Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and Operations Officer for Commander Destroyer Squadron ONE. During the latter staff tour, he participated in the HARDTACK series of nuclear weapons tests and was with the SEVENTH Fleet forces during the Taiwan Straits Crisis.

In December, 1959, Captain Banks assumed command of the USS LEWIS (DE-535), the "mother ship" for the bathyscaph TRIESTE when the record-breaking dive was made in the Marianas Trench on 27 February, 1960. After deactivating the LEWIS, Captain Banks served as the Communications

Officer on the Staff of Commander Anti-Submarine Warfare Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. He then attended the U.S. Air Force Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base. This duty was followed by a two-year assignment as Head of the Weapons Section in the Anti-Submarine Warfare Division, on the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations.

Captain Banks' next tour of duty was as prospective and first Commanding Officer of the second ship of a new class of ocean escorts, the USS EDWARD McDONNELL (DE-1043). This was followed by a year's tour as a student at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. In 1967, he again joined the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, this time as Head of the Electronic Warfare and Intelligence Section of the Air, Surface and Electronics Warfare Division. As head of this section, Captain Banks was responsible for the Navy's Research and Development programs in Air and Surface Electronic Warfare. He served in this capacity until he was ordered to command the USS SAMUEL GOMPERS (AD-37).