COMMISSIONING CEREMONY

USS NEW JERSEY BB 62

FIREPOWER FOR FREEDOM

PHILADELPHIA NAVAL BASE

6 APRIL 1968
To the officers and men of the USS New Jersey
With best wishes,
To the Prospective Commanding Officer and Ship’s Company of U.S.S. New Jersey, with all good wishes —

Paul H. Nitze
Deputy Secretary of Defense
4 April 1963
Dear Captain Snyder:

The recommissioning of USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) is an important event and an historical symbol of sea power. NEW JERSEY is unique in the American Navy and the navies of the world. Her role will be a major one, providing a powerful addition to our forces at sea and in support of those ashore.

Under your leadership, I am certain the skilled officers and men of NEW JERSEY will continue the illustrious tradition of this ship.

Congratulations on your new command, and you, your officers and men have my best wishes on the recommissioning of this fine ship and in all future operations.

Sincerely,

PAUL R. IGNATIUS

Captain J. Edward Snyder, USN
Prospective Commanding Officer
USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)
Philadelphia Naval Shipyard
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19112
Dear Captain Snyder:

On the recommissioning of USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62) I send congratulations and best wishes to you, your officers and men. May your tour of duty be rewarding, challenging and of enduring benefit to our country.

NEW JERSEY served well in World War II and the Korean conflict, distinguishing herself in actions from Kwajalein, Truk, and Saipan to Wonsan and Hungnam. Her mighty firepower proved indeed a bulwark of freedom. This fine ship now begins her third service career in defense against aggressors. I am sure that you who sail her will exemplify John Paul Jones' words that "men mean more than guns in the rating of ships." You and your crew are the inheritors of a proud tradition of service to country in peace and war. I am confident that in this third career NEW JERSEY will measure up to the highest standards.

On behalf of the Navy, I welcome NEW JERSEY once again to the fleet. May every good fortune be yours in the voyages ahead.

Sincerely,

T. H. MOORE
Admiral, U.S. Navy

To: The great crew of USS New Jersey (BB-62) with best wishes as you bring this great ship which will serve us well, Admiral, Chief of Naval Operations.
It is a sincere pleasure for me to have the opportunity to join with all the citizens of the State of New Jersey in wishing well to the officers and crew of the battleship New Jersey. I am reluctant to use this opportunity, however, merely to reflect upon the glorious history and the proud heritage of this great ship, but would rather direct my remarks to the future when once again this proud ship, which bears the name of a proud state, shall again serve this proud nation.

The sentiments that arise in us today I feel must be akin to those of the great British poet, Alfred Lord Tennyson, who, speaking through the character of Ulysses, expressed the desire not "to rust unburnished, not to shine in use." I believe that I express the joy and satisfaction of everyone knowing that once again this noble ship shall "shine in use."

Today I am filled with optimism and with confidence that, as in the words of Tennyson, "some work of noble note may yet be done." So as you go today go with the knowledge that you have the heartfelt appreciation of a grateful state and a grateful nation.

Take with you also the wish of this one man: that your mission shall be successful, that you shall hasten the coming of a lasting and abiding peace and that you all shall return safely to those you love.

April, 1968

Rear Admiral
Robert H. Speck, USN
Commandant, Fourth Naval District
FIREPOWER FOR FREEDOM

"Firepower for Freedom" is the motto of the battleship New Jersey.

The second ship of the line to bear the name New Jersey today enters the fleet for the third time, carrying on a proud heritage of service to country, and to the cause of freedom.

The big guns of the New Jersey (9-16"/50 caliber plus 20-5"/38 caliber naval rifles) are in the battleship tradition. Capable of delivering a 2700 pound projectile a distance of 23 miles, the New Jersey is suited to the several tasks at hand, from shore bombardment to direct artillery support for allied troops.

Originally commissioned on 23 May 1943, New Jersey reported for fleet duty in the Pacific shortly thereafter. Armored with a 17-inch steel belt, and designed for action, the ship subsequently participated in the Battles of the Philippine Sea and of Leyte Gulf, and fought to secure the Marshall Islands, Western New Guinea, the Marianas, the Carolines, Luzon, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. By time victory in the Pacific had been achieved, New Jersey had earned nine battle stars.

The Korean Conflict was the scene of New Jersey's next call to action. Winning four additional battle stars, the ship bombarded enemy installations and troop concentrations throughout the Korean peninsula in support of United Nations forces.

Since 21 August 1957, New Jersey has been part of the Inactive Fleet awaiting the day when a battleship would once again be needed to fight in defense of freedom.

Today's New Jersey is more streamlined, more habitable, more modern than ever before. New gunfire control computers, radar, and communications equipment have been installed; a helicopter platform is now part of the ship's fantail, and all of the living spaces have been air-conditioned.

887 feet in length, New Jersey is 108 feet wide at its beam, and has a draft of 38 feet. Four steam turbines, which generate 212,000 horsepower, can propel the 54,000 ton ship at speeds up to 33 knots.
The then Undersecretary of the Navy
James V. Forrestal
on the bridge of the
New Jersey, 23 July 1943

Admiral Raymond A. Spruance
and Chester C. Nimitz
confer on the quarterdeck, 8 April 1944

Admiral William F. Halsey
eating Thanksgiving Dinner
with the crew, 30 November 1944

New Jersey is moved to Pier 4 at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard
preparatory to reactivation, 11 June 1967

The ship in drydock, November 1967
U.S.S. NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

Commissioning Ceremony

PRELUDE

THE USS NEW JERSEY MARCH

The Navy Band
Lieutenant Commander Anthony E. Mitchell, conducting

ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

Distinguished guests escorted to the speakers’ platform
Appropriate honors will be rendered to the
senior official present.

INVOCATION

Commander Harold D. Bodle, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy
Chaplain, USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

WELCOME

Captain Floyd W. Gooch, Jr., U.S. Navy
Commander, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard

REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Rear Admiral Robert H. Speck, U.S. Navy
Commandant, FOURTH Naval District

ADDRESS

The Honorable Paul R. Ignatius
Secretary of the Navy

COMMISSIONING DIRECTIVE

Rear Admiral Robert H. Speck, U.S. Navy
Commandant, FOURTH Naval District

COMMISSIONING

The National Anthem, hoisting the National Ensign, the Jack
and the Commission Pennant

ACCEPTANCE OF COMMAND

Captain J. Edward Snyder, Jr., U.S. Navy reads his
orders and assumes command of the USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

SETTING THE WATCH

The Commanding Officer directs his Executive Officer
to set the Watch

RENDERING OF HONORS

The Commanding Officer orders the personal flag of the senior
officer present eligible for command at sea and the senior civil
official present to be broken with appropriate honors

PRESENTATIONS

The Honorable Richard J. Hughes, Governor, State of New Jersey,
presents Great Seal of the State of New Jersey

REMARKS BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER

Captain J. Edward Snyder, Jr., U.S. Navy

The USS NEW JERSEY MARCH is an original composition, written and scored in 1968 by Thom R. George, Musician First Class, United States Navy.
COMMANING OFFICER

Captain Snyder will be serving in his ninth Navy ship when he takes USS NEW JERSEY to sea in April after its recommissioning as the only battleship in service in the world.

Captain Snyder's career dates back to 1944 when he graduated 64th in his class of 914 at the U.S. Naval Academy. NEW JERSEY is the third ship which he has commanded.

While his sea duty includes assignments aboard cruisers and destroyers, it all started on a battleship more than 23 years ago. From Annapolis, he reported directly to USS PENNSYLVANIA as Signal Officer, and participated in various World War II actions including Leyte, Surigao Strait, Lingayen Gulf, Luzon, and at Buckner Bay in Okinawa. From PENNSYLVANIA, he had successive tours aboard heavy cruisers USS TOLEDO and USS MACON as Main Battery Assistant.

Captain Snyder served in five destroyers. He was Gunnery Officer of the USS HOLDER, Executive Officer of the USS EVERETT F. LARSON and USS HEERMANN, and Commanding Officer of the USS CALCUTTA (17 months) and USS BROWNSON (25 months).

Between assignments at sea, Captain Snyder had several tours directly involved with the Navy's special weapons projects. He spent 2½ years as a nuclear supervisor at Los Alamos (N. Mex.) Scientific Laboratory, and two years as Polaris Missile Re-Entry Systems Officer with the Lockheed Corporation in Sunnyvale, California. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School (1952), obtained a Master's Degree in Nuclear Physics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1955), and graduated from the Naval War College (1961).

Captain Snyder's previous assignment was as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research and Development). A specialist in oceanography and underwater engineering, he originated several technical publications on this subject, and, in 1967, received the Legion of Merit for major contributions to the Navy and to the National Oceanographic Program.

In addition to the Legion of Merit, Captain Snyder received the Secretary of the Navy Unit Commendation while serving in USS PENNSYLVANIA, the Secretary of the Navy Certificate of Commendation for his work with Polaris Missile Re-Entry Systems, and in 1967, the Navy League's Annual Rear Admiral W. S. Parsons Award for Scientific and Technical Progress.

Captain Snyder was born October 23, 1924, in Grand Forks, N. D., the son of a Methodist minister. He attended high school in Baltimore prior to entering the Naval Academy. He is married to the former Mary Louise Dize, of Cynadfield, Md., and they have two children: a son, Joseph Edward Snyder, III, 22, a recent graduate of M.I.T., and a daughter, Anne Gibson Snyder, 18, a freshman at Mary Washington College in Fredericksburg, Va. The family temporarily resides in Fairfax, Va.
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COMMANDER JAMES S. ELFELT, UNITED STATES NAVY

James Sidle Elfelt was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on December 28, 1929, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Elfelt, and resided there until his graduation from the University of Minnesota in 1951. At that time he received his commission in the United States Navy.

Following commissioning he served three and a half years in Atlantic Fleet destroyers prior to reporting for duty as Commanding Officer of USS WARBLER, a minesweeper homeported in Sasebo, Japan. Shore duty in Washington, D.C. was followed by postgraduate work at Stanford University. His next sea tour included two years as Missile Officer of the heavy cruiser USS HELENA and two years in USS PRESTON as Executive Officer. Duty in PRESTON was followed by two years in the Officer Distribution Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

From August 1965 until June 1966 he was a student at the Naval War College. Upon graduation, he reported as Commanding Officer of the destroyer USS HENDERSON. In November 1967 he was ordered to the Fleet Training Center, Naval Station, San Diego, California for duty as Prospective Executive Officer in connection with the re-commissioning of the USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62).

Commander Elfelt holds Masters Degrees from Stanford and George Washington Universities.

He is married to the former Sally Dahm of St. Davids, Pennsylvania, and they have four children, Elizabeth, Helen, James, and Cordelia, residing in Los Alamitos, California.
USS NEW JERSEY (BB-62)

SHIPS OFFICERS

COMMANDING OFFICER
CAPTAIN J. EDWARD SNYDER, JR.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COMMANDER JAMES S. ELFELT

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

CDR HAROLD D. BODLE
LCDR JOHN P. BYRNE
LCDR JAMES W. SWEENEY
LT RICHARD H. KERR
LT KEITH L. WILCOX
LTG RICHARD S. ROCKWELL
ENS R. SCOTT CHEYNE
CWO-3 CLIFFORD C. HAYTER

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN
CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN
LEGAL OFFICER
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PERSONNEL OFFICER
TRAINING & EDUCATION OFFICER
ASSISTANT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
SHIP'S SECRETARY

NAVIGATION DEPARTMENT

LCDR JAMES F. SABIN
ENS STEPHEN C. BATES

OCEANOGRAPHER/NAVIGATOR
ASSISTANT OCEANOGRAPHER/NAVIGATOR

OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

CDR THOMAS McC. WALLACE
LCDR ELMORE K. HANNAH, JR.
LCDR RALPH C. KEMPER
LT WILLIAM W. WOODRUFF
LT CLARENCE W. SEAY, JR.
LT THOMAS L. TAYLOR
LTG THOMAS J. THORNTON
LTG DENNIS R. OLDSO
LTG JOHN D. TURNER
LTG LYNN L. ALB
LTG JEFFREY T. VERNALLIS
ENS RONALD M. KADERLI
ENS RICHARD D. BAWOL
CWO-2 FRED H. STOCKTON, JR.

OPERATIONS OFFICER
ASSISTANT OPERATIONS OFFICER
CIC OFFICER
ELECTRONIC MATERIAL OFFICER
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
ASSISTANT CIC OFFICER
ELECTRONIC WARFARE OFFICER
ELECTRONIC WARFARE OFFICER
ASSISTANT ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN
OIC DIVISION OFFICER
ASSISTANT OIC DIVISION OFFICER
ASSISTANT OE DIVISION OFFICER
ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN/TRAINING OFFICER

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT

CDR DONALD P. ROANE
LCDR ROBERT E. BAKER
LCDR LEROY A. SHORT
LT CARL J. ALBRECHT
LT GERALD R. LITTEL
LT JOHN P. JENKINS
LT A. JOHN ARMSTRONG

WEAPONS OFFICER
FIRST LIEUTENANT
ASSISTANT WEAPONS OFFICER
MAIN BATTERY OFFICER
FIRE CONTROL OFFICER
SECONDARY BATTERY OFFICER
TURRET 3 OFFICER

WEAPONS DEPARTMENT (Continued)

LT JOSEPH W. EDWARDS
LT ROGER B. GLEES
LT JOHN R. HARRIS
LTG BARRY S. BIRCH
LTG CHARLES L. WHITMAN
LTG JOSEPH MANDICH
LTG WILLIAM R. BEURET
LTG PHILIP S. WARDEN
LTG FRANCIS B. FABI
ENS WILLIAM E. JOHNSTON
ENS CHRISTOPHER REED
ENS RANDOLPH B. GILANI
ENS WAYNE K. GREENLEAF
ENS JOHN J. HAYES
ENS WALTER M. MIGRALE, JR.
CWO-3 JACQUEL E. V. CLEW
CWO-2 WILLIAM N. HUGHES
WO-1 RONALD S. FLOURE

TURRET 1 OFFICER
TURRET 2 OFFICER
STARBOARD BATTERY OFFICER
ORDNANCE OFFICER
FM DIVISION JUNIOR OFFICER
PORT BATTERY OFFICER
1ST DIVISION JUNIOR OFFICER
WEAPONS DEPARTMENT TRAINING OFFICER
SECONDARY BATTERY FIRE CONTROL OFFICER
WEAPONS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/SM OFFICER
5TH DIVISION JUNIOR OFFICER
4TH DIVISION JUNIOR OFFICER
ASSISTANT SECONDARY BATTERY FIRE CONTROL OFFICER
3RD DIVISION JUNIOR OFFICER
SHIP'S BOATSWAIN
ORDNANCE GUNNER
FIRE CONTROL GUNNER

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

CDR WILLIAM J. SWEET
LCDR LEE R. CRAIG
LCDR JOHN E. HUBITSKY
LCDR NORMAN C. WETTSTEAD
LT JAMES R. DENNEY
LT CHARLES R. HAULINSON
LT HENRY F. NOHR
LT JERRY A. LEWIS
LTG LYNDEN W. WILSON
CWO-2 ROY E. FREEMAN
CWO-2 WAYNE L. CAMPBELL
WO-1 BILL H. PARTAIN
WO-1 GARY F. BLANCHARD
WO-1 JOHN D. DEARDSCH
WO-1 RAYMOND J. KEHOE

ENGINEER OFFICER
MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT
DAMAGE CONTROL ASSISTANT
ELECTRICAL OFFICER
REPAIR OFFICER
MAIN ENGINE OFFICER
ASSISTANT ENGINEER
ASSISTANT ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN
ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN
AUXILIARY TECHNICIAN
SHIP REPAIR TECHNICIAN
MAIN ENGINE TECHNICIAN
BOILER TECHNICIAN
IC/CLUO TECHNICIAN

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

CDR DOMINIC V. CEFALU
LCDR EVERETT C. SMITH
LTG CHARLES E. KELLY, JR.
ENS GEORGE J. SKAFF
WO-1 JAMES A. ADAM
WO-1 ROSS M. SNOW

ASSISTANT SUPPLY OFFICER/SUPPLIES OFFICER
SALES/SERVICE OFFICER
DISBURSING OFFICER
ASSISTANT STORES OFFICER
FOOD SERVICE OFFICER

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

CDR JAMES I. QUINN

MEDICAL OFFICER/SURGEON

DENTAL DEPARTMENT

CDR PAUL E. FARRELL
LT RONALD T. NELSON

DENTAL OFFICER
ASSISTANT DENTAL OFFICER
**The Crew (Continued)**

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<th>Name</th>
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THE CREW (Continued)

Williams, Robert J. ... SM2
Williams, Bobby G. ... SM1
Williams, W. E. ... ET3
Williams, C. ... BM3
Wilmore, R. D. ... MMF
Wilson, Sam M. ... CS1
Wilson, Albert C. ... BM3
Wilson, F. B. ... MM3
Wilson, J. D. ... QM3
Wilson, G. J. ... SA
Wishovena, Robert J. ... SA
Wisch, M. J. ... SN
Wittman, Bruce J. ... SA
Woodford, G. O. ... MM3
Wolcott, Arthur L. ... MM3
Woods, E. N. ... CS3
Worden, Franklin L. ... SN
Worthington, Robert ... SN
Wozniak, Joseph S. ... BT2
Wright, R. R. ... MM3
Wright, Richard L. ... EM3
Wu, T. ... SN
Wyckoff, G. K. ... GMG3
Yeager, James L. ... HM3
Yenitz, Thomas J. ... SA
Yoder, Donald L. ... FTG3
Yohn, Roger T. ... SN
York, Arthur P. ... BT3
Young, John M. ... BT1
Young, Larry J. ... BM3

Z
Zager, Jeremy L. ... SA
Zaneitch, L. P. ... SN
Zaspal, M. L. ... EFP
Zavala, David ... RME
Zeugfius, Daniel ... SN
Zenyuch, D. ... SN
Zimmer, Paul J. ... SA

THE SHIP'S CREST

THREE STARS. The State of New Jersey was the third state of the union. In addition, the present re-commissioning is the third time the USS NEW JERSEY will be placed in service.

HELMET AND SHIELD. Elements from the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey.

GOLD OLIVE BRANCH AND 16” TURRET. Symbolize the role of the USS NEW JERSEY as a guardian of world peace.

LIBERTY BELL. A National symbol for freedom located in Philadelphia, the city where USS NEW JERSEY was built.

WAVES (each side of shield). Heraldic symbols for the sea.

FIREPOWER FOR FREEDOM. The ship's motto.