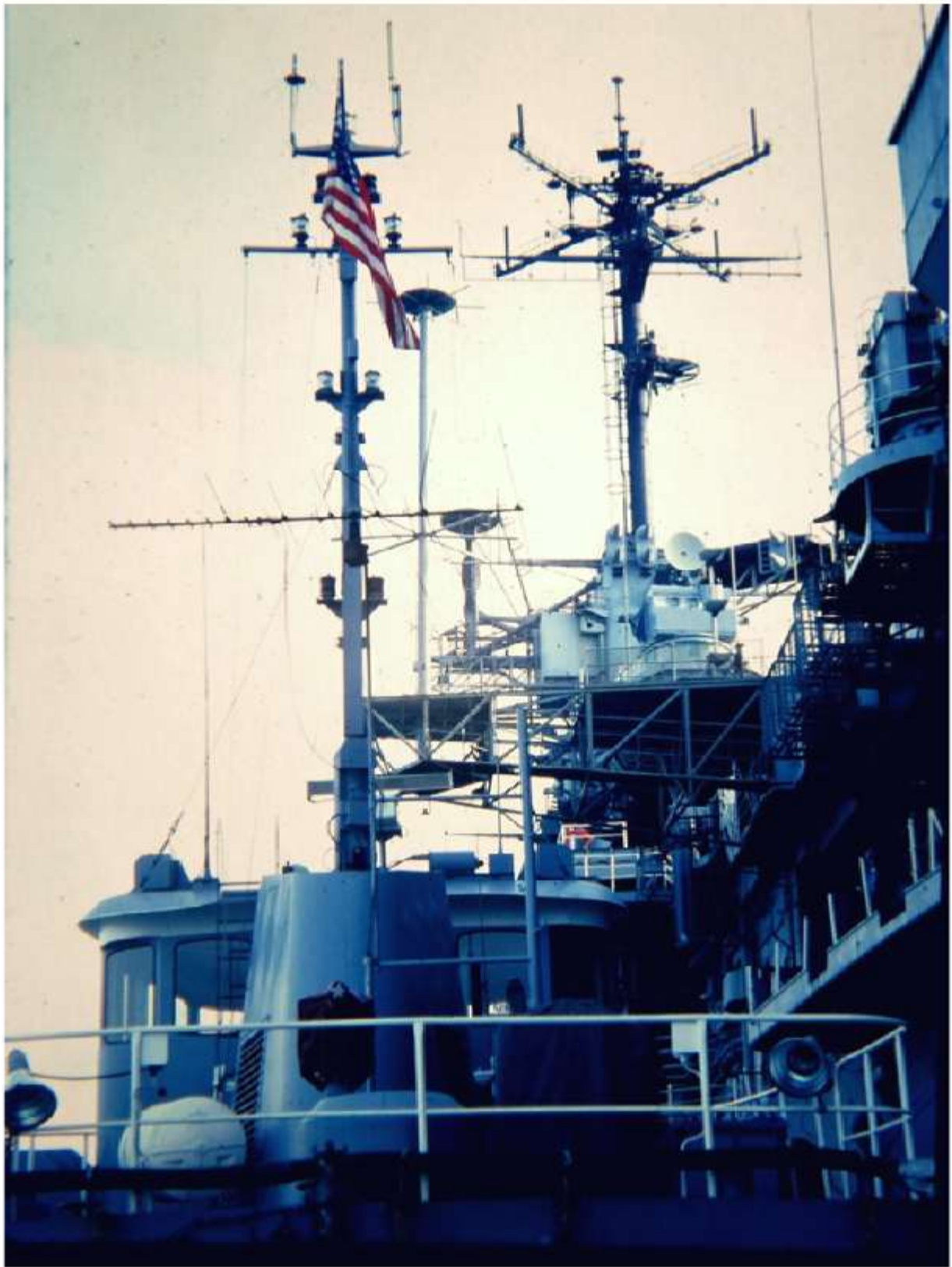






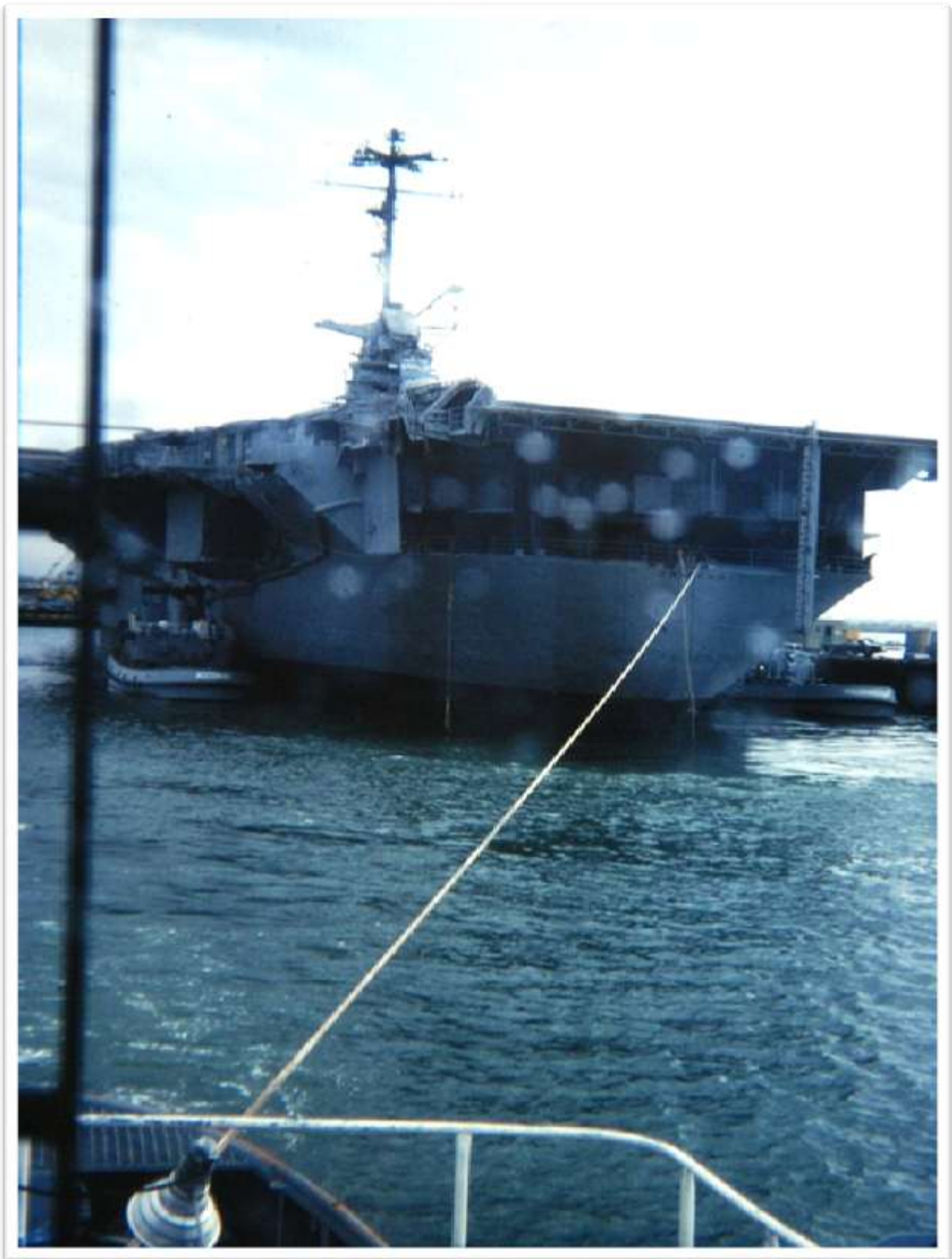
**NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY MARE ISLAND**





**N/V Skenandoa YTB-835 outboard the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34**

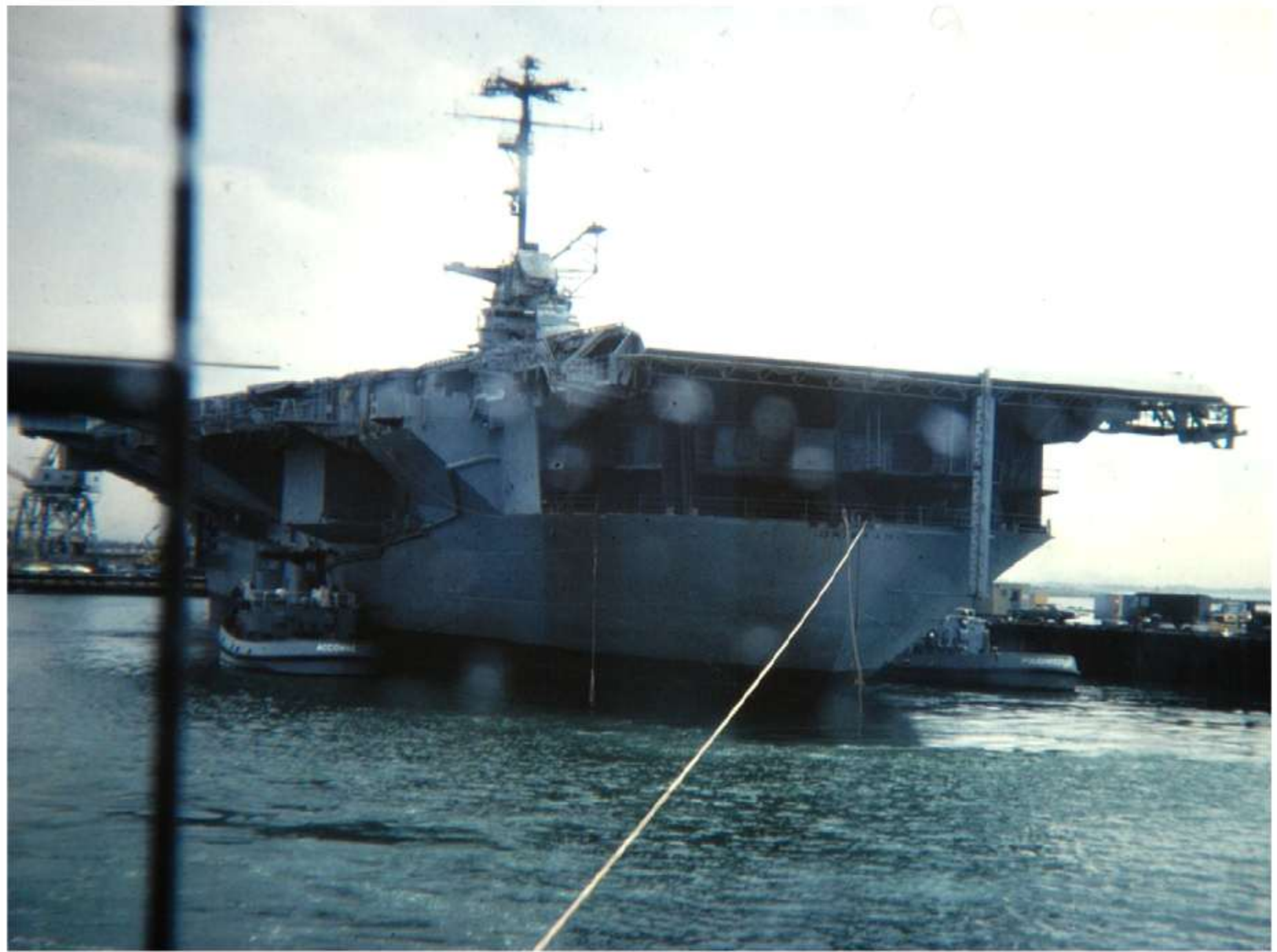
**The Naval Support Activity Mare Island, Vallejo, California worked with the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) and provided the then new N/V Skenandoa YTB-835 to assist the Pilots and tugs from the Treasure Island, San Francisco, CA Port Services Division on a special NAVSEA project. The NAVSEA project was to tow the x-USS Oriskany CVA-34 from the Naval Air Station, Alameda, CA to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, utilizing the then new concept of towing ONLY with 1,200 feet of 14" circumference Samson Ocean Systems Double Braided Nylon.**



Following 25 years of service, USS Oriskany CVA-34 was decommissioned on 30 September 1975 and laid up for long-term storage in [Bremerton, Washington](#), where the carrier was maintained as a mobilization asset.

N/V Skenandoa YTB-835 stretched out on 600' of 8" circumference Samson Ocean Systems Double Braided Nylon towing hawser. The N/V Accomac YTB-812 is made-up power to the port quarter with the N/V Poughkeepsie YTB-813 made-up to the starboard quarter of the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34.





**N/V Skenandoa YTB-835 taking a strain and working the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 out of her berth.**



**N/V Poughkeepsie YT-813 now “tucked-up” under the starboard bow of the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34.**



**N/V Accomac YTB-812 made-up power to the port quarter of the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34.**





The Harbor Tugs Large (YTB's) under the direction of the Civil Service Pilot from Treasure Island are maneuvering the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 out to the USS Brunswick ATS-3 (Super Tug). Treasure Island is in the background.





Easing the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 towards the stern of the USS Brunswick ATS-3 with a “pusher-boat” from Port Services Treasure Island to run out a messenger attached to the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34’s anchor chain to the USS Brunswick ATS-3 for connection to the nylon towing hawser.

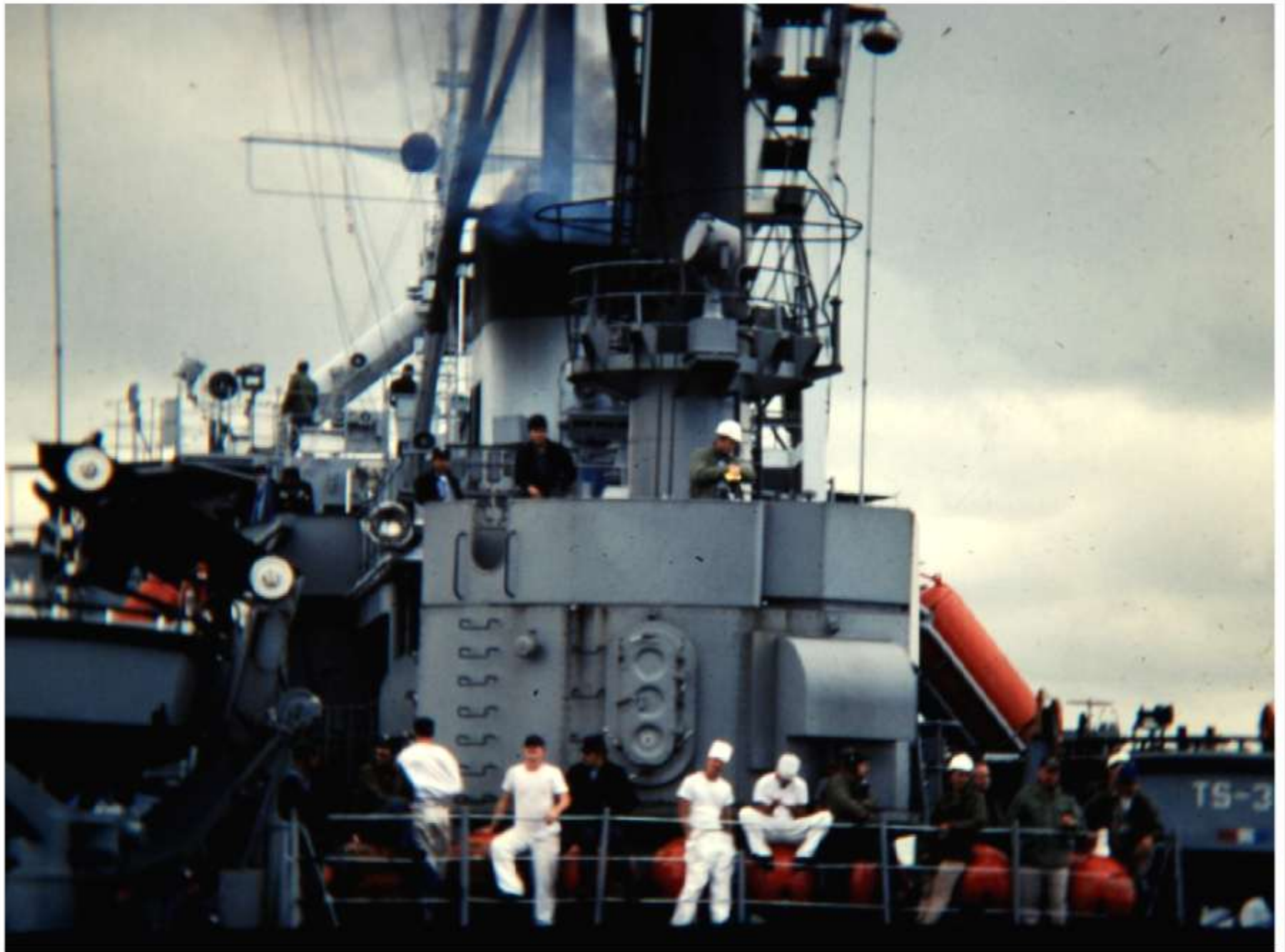


Port Services Treasure Island pusher-boat crew making ready the messenger. Note size of the anchor chain.



Ship's Bos'n on board the USS Brunswick ATS-3 (Super Tug) making final inspection of the tug's towing gear as the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 is maneuvered into position.





USS Brunswick ATS-3 crew members “watching the show.” The man in the white helmet on the upper level is the Naval Sea Systems Command engineer responsible for the CNO Special Project.



Port Services Treasure Island pusher-boat crew running out the messenger and passing the messenger to the crew of the USS Brunswick ATS-3.





USS Brunswick ATS-3 crew hauling in the messenger and chain as the YTB's maneuver the bow of the xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 closer.





**“Close enough for you?” Crew of the USS Brunswick ATS-3 hooking up the nylon towing hawser. The nylon towing hawser was special ordered from Samson Ocean Systems and was 1,200 feet long, 14” in circumference with encapsulated eyes which included the then new Nylite Rope Connectors.**



Crew of the USS Brunswick ATS-3 making final connections with the special rope connector and the anchor chain.





USS Brunswick ATS-3 crew ensuring connections are secure.





Heave around.



Connection made. Slacking out nylon towing hawser.





**USS Brunswick ATS-3 ahead dead slow paying out nylon towing hawser.**



**USS Brunswick ATS-3 taking a light strain with hard right rudder steering for the Golden Gate Bridge.**





**USS Brunswick ATS-3 adding turns and steering for the Golden Gate Bridge.**



**Bow YTB's are released. "Anyone care to tight rope walk between the Brunswick and Oriskany. It's only 1,300 feet."**





**xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 passing under the Golden Gate Bridge for the last time.**



**xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 under tow provided by the “Super Tug” USS Brunswick ATS-3 for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, WA.**





All photographs taken during the CNO Special xUSS Oriskany CVA-34 Towing Project in 1976 were taken by (then) BMC Ray F. Longaker Jr. as U.S. Navy Tugmaster (NEC-0161) of the N/V Skenandoa YTB-835 assigned to the Port Services Division, Naval Support Activity, Mare Island, Vallejo, CA.

The hallmark of the ALL U.S. Navy tugs is: "SERVICE TO THE FLEET."