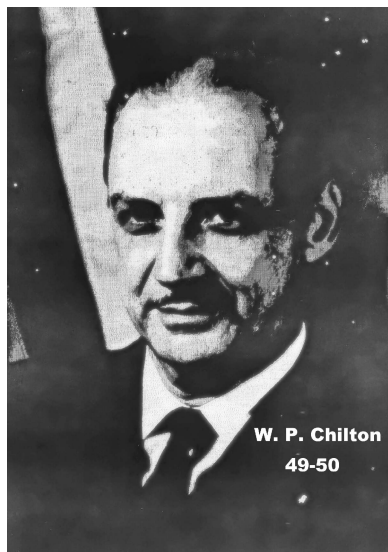


CAPTAIN WILLIAM P. CHILTON in command; Jul 1949 to Jan 1950



William Pierce Chilton Jr. was born 14 Nov 1905, at Montgomery, Alabama. His father co-founded Paragon Press of Alabama, which specialized in publication of university and high school yearbooks. In November 1904 he married Minnie Harvey Pickett. William Jr. attended Auburn University and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1927.

After he was commissioned, and through mid-1931, ENS Chilton served aboard the battleship USS COLORADO (BB 45), then the destroyers USS SICARD (DD 346), USS ROPER (DD 147), and USS RATHBURNE (DD 113) until 1934. From 1937-1939, LT W. P. Chilton served aboard the destroyer USS CRAVEN (DD 382) as Gunnery Officer along with LT Arleigh A. Burke as Executive Officer and ENS Amos T. Hathaway, another future CO of OKANOGAN, as Assistant Engineering Officer. LT Chilton served as Executive Officer aboard USS MAURY (DD 401) from 1939-1941. During most of World War II he was in the Navy Bureau of Ordnance engaged in Naval gun procurement and was promoted to LCDR.

As CDR, in 1943 he went to sea in staff planning and gunnery duties in Amphibious Group One, participating in the attacks on Saipan, Palau, Ulithi, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

He was awarded the Legion of Merit with Combat V in addition to the American Defense Service Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and American Campaign Medal. .

From 23 July 1949 through 29 July 1950, CAPT William Pierce Chilton Jr. served as commanding officer of the attack transport USS OKANOGAN (APA 220) during which time OKANOGAN was awarded the Battle Efficiency Pennant.

CAPT Chilton also served on the Pacific Fleet Staff at Pearl Harbor. His last assignment was in command of the USN Mine Depot in Yorktown. He entered service in July 1923 and in December 1957 retired after 35 years as a Rear Admiral to live in Virginia Beach, Virginia in the 3100 block of Shore Drive. Admiral Chilton was a member of St Paul's Episcopal Church, Norfolk; trustee and president of the Hermitage Foundation and a member of the Hermitage Auxiliary Foundation; past president of the Edgewater Association; and member and director of the English Speaking Union. He was also a member of the U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association, the Retired Officers Association, The Norfolk Society of Arts, and The Chrysler Museum.

RADM William Pierce Chilton Jr. died 27 Oct 1992. He was 86 years old. Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth Gresham Chilton. A memorial service was conducted at Westminster-Canterbury Chapel. Burial was in Arlington National Cemetery.