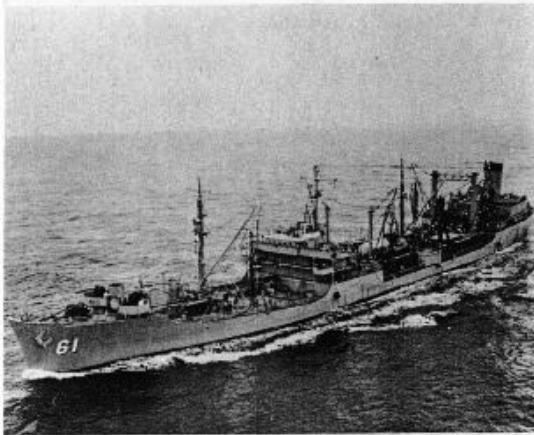


*Decommissioning  
Ceremony*



USS SEVERN (AO-61)

*1 July 1974*



### *Ship's Statistics*

LENGTH .....	553 Ft.
BEAM .....	68 Ft.
DRAFT .....	32 Ft.
GROSS TONNAGE .....	25,500
FUEL CAPACITY .....	5,500,000 Gal.
FRESH WATER CAPACITY .....	145,000 Gal.
PROPULSION .....	4 Foster Wheeler Boilers 2 Steam Turbine Engines

### *History of the Severn*

The SEVERN (AO-61) is a 553-foot Oiler whose mission is to provide units of the Navy, both at anchor and underway, with Navy Special Fuel Oil, Jet Fuel, Aviation Gasoline, Naval Distillate, bottled gases and drummed lubricants. In addition to the logistic support for which she is designed she has served as a Mother-Ship for submarines and mine-sweepers, has refueled blimps at sea and has transported and delivered at sea, almost everything from aircraft engines to vehicles.

The SEVERN is a working ship; and while her job is not glamorous, it is very important. Without fuel from oilers like SEVERN, the fighting ships and planes of the Navy would be unable to accomplish their missions. She has established a proud tradition of reliability, delivering her cargo when and where it is needed with efficiency and safety.

The SEVERN was built at the Bethlehem Steel Shipyard, Sparrows Point, Maryland, in 1944. She is named for the Severn River, which flows through Annapolis, Maryland. For the first two years after her commissioning in 1944, the SEVERN operated as a fresh water carrier. While undergoing an enemy air attack at Leyte in 1945, she was credited with shooting down a Japanese aircraft.

In 1947, the SEVERN was converted to an oiler. For the next three and one-half years she operated between Persian Gulf ports and Japan, Germany and the East Coast of the United States.

After a short period in the Pacific "Mothball Fleet" during 1950, SEVERN was recommissioned and sailed to Japan in early 1951. However, in April of that year she was transferred from the West Coast to the East Coast and her present homeport of Newport, Rhode Island.

Since her transfer to the East Coast, SEVERN has made eleven trips to the Mediterranean for operations with U.S. SIXTH Fleet, visiting such ports as Naples, Athens, Cannes, Barcelona and Rhodes. Her travels include several trips to the North Atlantic and Caribbean. She has participated in exercises with Spanish, Italian, Greek, French, British and Canadian ships.

The SEVERN completed her final deployment in August 1973. Since then she has been in a standdown status in preparation for this her last day as a commissioned vessel. Upon decommissioning, which will mark the end of thirty years of successful service to the United States Navy, SEVERN will be towed to Inactive Ship Facility, Philadelphia for strike.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER

ANTHONY M. RYBARCZYK



Lieutenant Commander Anthony M. Rybarczyk enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1954 and was serving as a first class petty officer when he received his appointment to Ensign through the Integration Program in 1961.

LCDR Rybarczyk served early tours as Operations Officer in the USS WALDO COUNTY (LST-1163) and as Executive Officer of USS DUVAL COUNTY (LST-758). In 1965, he reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations for duty as a communications planner on the Ship Characteristics Board.

After a tour as Operations Officer in USS WILLARD KEITH (DD-775), LCDR Rybarczyk was assigned as Commanding Officer of USS SUMNER COUNTY (LST-1148). During this tour LCDR Rybarczyk was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and the Meritorious Unit Commendation.

In 1969, LCDR Rybarczyk was again assigned to duty in the Office of CNO, this time in the Amphibious Readiness Branch of the Strike Warfare Division.

LCDR Rybarczyk is a 1972 graduate of the College of Naval Command and Staff, U. S. Naval War College, and a 1973 graduate of the University of Rhode Island. He reported aboard USS SEVERN for duty as Executive Officer in August 1973.

LCDR Rybarczyk assumed command of USS SEVERN on 1 April 1974 and upon decommissioning will report to the Staff of the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island for duty.

LCDR Rybarczyk is married to the former Peggy Powers of Ardmore, Pennsylvania. They have three children, Judy 10, Anthony 4, and Barbara 2. They presently make their home in Portsmouth, R. I.

LIEUTENANT

JAMES O. FOLEY



Lieutenant James O. Foley has served aboard USS SEVERN (AO-61) from July 1972, first as Engineer Officer then relieving as Executive Officer in May of this year.

He was born in Mason County, Kentucky, graduating in 1966, and was commissioned from Officers Candidate School in 1969.

Following his commissioning, he reported for duty as an instructor in physics and thermodynamics at the Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Illinois. He subsequently served aboard the USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CVA 67) from January 1971 to May 1972 as Assistant Electrical Officer, and Propulsion Division Officer.

Upon decommissioning, Lieutenant Foley will report to the Naval Recruiting Station, Buffalo, New York for duty.

## Commanding Officers

LCDR. O. R. REES	JUL. 44 - FEB. 46
CAPT. M. H. McCOY	FEB. 46 - NOV. 46
CAPT. D. W. KNOLL	NOV. 46 - OCT. 47
CAPT. H. E. DAY	OCT. 47 - NOV. 48
CAPT. J. C. HAMMOCK	NOV. 48 - APR. 50
LCDR. H. A. GUTHRIE	APR. 50 - JUL. 50
CAPT. H. E. TOWNSEND	DEC. 50 - JUL. 52
CAPT. G. W. GREGOR	JUL. 52 - JUL. 53
LCDR. E. G. HATCHELL	JUL. 53 - AUG. 53
CAPT. O. F. HAGBERG	AUG. 53 - AUG. 54
CAPT. T. R. VOGEELEY	AUG. 54 - JUL. 55
CAPT. J. C. BENTLEY	JUL. 55 - DEC. 56
CAPT. C. B. LANGSTON	DEC. 56 - FEB. 58
CAPT. D. M. McCAMPBELL	FEB. 58 - DEC. 58
CAPT. E. B. PARKER, Jr.	DEC. 58 - OCT. 59
CAPT. F. R. MOORE	OCT. 59 - OCT. 60
CAPT. H. G. REEVES, Jr.	OCT. 60 - SEP. 61
CAPT. R. P. KLINE	SEP. 61 - OCT. 62
CAPT. V. R. KITTRELL	OCT. 62 - DEC. 63
CAPT. W. T. HOLMES	DEC. 63 - JAN. 65
CAPT. B. J. ROBINSON	JAN. 65 - MAR. 66
CAPT. C. H. CARROLL	MAR. 66 - JUL. 67
CAPT. A. H. VITO	JUL. 67 - FEB. 68
CAPT. W. J. MILLER	FEB. 68 - MAY 68
CAPT. C. F. RICHELIEU	MAY. 68 - AUG. 69
CAPT. H. A. HOY	AUG. 69 - JAN. 70
CAPT. C. E. RAY	JAN. 70 - APR. 71
CMDR. C. W. LEARNED, Jr.	APR. 71 - SEP. 72
CMDR. I. M. WILTSE	SEP. 72 - APR. 74
CMDR. A. M. RYBARCZYK	APR. 74 - JUL. 74

## Schedule of Events

### INVOCATION

Commander Robert E. Gordon, CHC, U. S. Navy

### REMARKS

Lieutenant Commander Anthony M. Rybarczyk, U. S. Navy

### GUEST SPEAKER

Captain Martin "M" Zenni, U. S. Navy  
Commander Service Squadron TWO

### DECOMMISSIONING

### BENEDICTION

Captain Robert E. Gordon, CHC, U. S. Navy

### BENEDICTION

Commander Robert E. Gordon, CHC, U. S. Navy

## *Officers of the Severn*

First Lieutenant ..... LTJG Dennis M. Mahoney  
Operations Officer ..... LTJG Louis A. Cavaliere  
Supply Officer ..... LTJG Michael A. Robinson  
Disbursing Officer ..... LTJG Lawrence J. Morse  
Communications Officer ..... ENS John P. Rogers  
Engineer Officer ..... ENS James W. Loadwick  
Main Propulsion Assistant ..... CW02 David L. Kaufman

## *Chief Petty Officers*

Chief Machinist Mate Daniel P. Daylor  
Chief Radioman Bernie R. Hawbaker  
Chief Storekeeper Manuel D. Lujan  
Chief Hospital Corpsman William F. Tedesco

## *Decommissioning Crew*

MM1 S. R. ALINA  
MM2 J. F. ALLEN  
SN W. S. ATKINS  
BM1 G. R. BARTHOLD  
SN L. S. BAUTISTA  
SN S. BLACKWELL  
SN D. W. BORRELL  
SN R. W. BOUCHER  
EM3 J. A. BROOKS  
FN J. C. BRESNOK  
BM3 K. B. BURK  
EN2 K. BYRD  
SD2 E. A. CASTRO  
FA B. R. CLEMENTS  
YN1 P. W. CONNOR  
SN G. A. COOK  
BM3 W. H. COTY  
SK3 R. J. DARBY  
HT2 G. L. DIXON  
FA J. R. DIXON  
MR3 E. G. DYSON  
SN C. W. ENTREKIN  
EM1 P. D. FINK  
MM3 W. J. FRASER  
SN L. W. GOGGINS  
GMG1 K. L. GOODWIN  
SH1 E. L. GREEN  
SN R. A. HARRELSON  
BM3 E. A. HEISELMAN  
ETN3 J. M. HILL  
SM3 R. J. HITCHCOCK  
FN W. X. HOLMES  
EN1 D. J. HUCKABONE  
SN G. S. JAMES  
FN C. W. JONES  
BM1 J. V. JUNG  
PN2 F. H. KEENEN  
FA M. A. I FONARD  
BM2 C. G. LYNCH  
SN T. E. LYNCH  
YN3 P. E. MAIERS  
IC2 R. A. MARION  
BM3 D. A. MCLAIN  
SK3 R. H. MEADE  
FA J. C. MOONEY  
SN P. V. NAEGER  
SN C. L. NORRIS  
ICFA S. M. NURMELA  
FN R. D. PALMER  
YN2 F. J. PHARIS II  
SA C. D. REDD  
BT3 T. J. REGAN  
FN J. M. RHINE  
FA W. A. RIES  
RM3 H. RUFFIN  
SN A. R. RUTLEDGE  
SA V. L. SALAMAT  
DK2 J. C. SANCHEZ  
CS1 R. B. SMASHEY  
PN1 M. STIDHAM  
SN R. A. TAUCHER  
IC3 J. D. THOMPSON  
BT3 R. F. TIRITILLI  
BM3 A. L. TORRES  
CS1 J. D. TOFT  
SDSN R. N. VERGARA  
CS3 R. L. WHYK



### *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arms hath bound the restless wave,  
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep,  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea!

O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard,  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walkedst on the foaming deep,  
And calm amidst its ragedidst sleep;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea!

Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood o'er,  
On the chaos dark and rude,  
And biddest angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion peace;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee  
For those in peril on the sea!



### *The Commission Pennant*

The origin of the commission pennant is said to date back to the 17th century, when the Dutch were fighting the English. Admiral Tromp hoisted a broom at his masthead to indicate his intention to sweep the English from the seas. The gesture was soon answered by the English who hoisted a horsewhip, to indicate his intention to chastise the Dutch. The British carried on their boast and ever since, the narrow, or coachwhip pennant (symbolizing the horsewhip) has been the distinctive mark of a ship of war and has been adopted by all nations.