

U. S. S. ROCKY MOUNT AGC-3



FLAGSHIP, SEVENTH FLEET

SHANGHAI, CHINA

NAVY DAY 27 October, 1945

1945 PhoM1/c Ken Kracht's WWII Photo Albums

Commander Seventh Fleet, Chief of Staff to Commander Seventh Fleet, Deputy Chief of Staff to Commander Seventh Fleet, and Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Heads of Departments, U. S. S. Rocky Mount.

Admiral Thomas Cassin Kinkaid, USN Commander, Seventh Fleet, Commander Western Control Forces.

> Rear Admiral Thomas S. Combs, USN Chief of Staff to the Commander Seventh Fleet.

Commodore Penn L. Carroll, USN, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Commander Seventh Fleet.

> Captain Benjamin Katz, USN Commanding Officer.

Commander Arthur E. Wills, USNR Executive Officer.

Commander Nils M. Carlsson, USNR Engineer Officer.

Lieutenant Commander Howard D. Lane, USNR Communications Officer.

Lieutenant Commander Creighton C. Flynn, USNR C. I. C. Officer.

Lieutenant John K. Mathieson, USNR Navigator.

Lieutenant John F. Head, (MC), USNR Medical Officer.

Lieutenant Robert W. Decker, (SC), USN Supply Officer.

Lieutenant (jg) John W. Saunders, USNR First Lieutenant,

Lieutenant (jg) Robert T. Kline, USNR Gunnery Officer. The United States Ship ROCKY MOUNT has a class designation number "AGC 3". AGC stands for "Auxiliary, General Communications". World War II found naval fleets and activities so numerous that they could no longer be directed efficiently from combatant type flagships as had always been the practice hitherto. Battleships and Cruisers did not have sufficient accomodations to house the large staffs of officers and men necessary to direct the complicated activities of modern naval warfare. They were also lacking in electronic facilities and space for the extremely complicated communication requirements of modern naval warfare. To meet these needs, the Navy Department developed a new type of ship with extensive equipment to act as an amphibious force flagship and headquarters and command ship. A considerable number of these ships was built, the ROCKY MOUNT being the third of this new type.

The ship was commissioned on 15 October, 1943 at Hoboken, New Jersey. She arrived at Pearl Harbor on 27 December, 1943, and since that time has never left the combatant area of the Pacific. The ship is named after the Rocky Mountains, and her sturdy performance since her departure from Pearl Harbor has well justified that name.

She has participated in the following operations:

1944

January-February, Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.

June-July, Saipan, Guam and Tinian, Marianas Islands

October, Leyte, Philippine Islands.

1945

January, Ling ayen Gulf, Philippine Islands.

March, Zamboanga, Mindanao, Philippine Islands.

May-June, Tarakan, Brunei Bay, Borneo.

The ship has carried the following distinguished officers during her many operations in the past two years.

Vice Admiral R. K. Turner, USN Commander Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet.

Lt. General H. M. Smith, USMC Commanding General Fifth Amphibious Corps.

Major General C. H. Corlet, USA Commanding General Seventh Army Division.

Rear Admiral R. L. Connelly, USN Commander Group III, Fifth Amphibious Force.

Rear Admiral Harry P. Hill, USN Commander Group II, Fifth Amphibious Force. Major General H. Schmidt, USMC Commander Northern Troops.

Brig. General G. B. Erskine, USMC

Rear Admiral Forrest B. Royal, USN Commander Amphibious Group Six.

Major General J. Bradley, USA

Major General Rapp Brush, USA Commanding General 40th Infantry Division.

Vice Admiral T. S. Wilkinson, USN Commander Third Amphibious Force.

Lt. General L. Eichelberger, USA Commanding General Eighth Army.

Major General J. A. Doe, USA Commanding General 41st Infantry Division.

Brig. General White, USA
Deputy Commander 13th Airforce.

Brig. General L. Barham, Royal Australian Army.

Major General Wooten, Royal Australian Army. Commanding General Ninth Australian Division.

> Admiral T. C. Kinkaid, USN Commander Seventh Fleet.

Although the ship has been exposed to bombs, torpedoes, and shells, she has come through all of her operations unscathed.

The wartime complement of officers and men required for both ship and staff is between 1100 and 1200. It has already been reduced approximately twenty five percent for demobilization purposes. More officers and men are being returned to the United States constantly.

Deputy Commander Bill Agricon.