

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Crew Mustered

Guests Arrive - Selections by Band

Participants Arrive

Invocation

Remarks by Captain Kincaid

Reading of Captain Kincaid's Orders

Presentation of Commissioning Pennant

Reading of Captain Willett's Orders

Captain Willett relieves Captain Kincaid

Remarks by Captain Willett

Remarks by Guest Speaker

National Anthem

ROCKBRIDGE IN SEA POWER

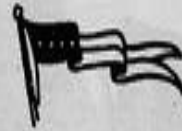
The Attack Transport ROCKBRIDGE was launched on 28 October 1944 and commissioned the same year under the command of Captain William W. CONE.

Thereafter, she participated in evacuation operations at Iwo Jima, and underwent air attacks off Okinawa after transportation of Army personnel to that island. Following Japanese surrender, she joined the "magic carpet" fleet in bringing home discharged servicemen.

ROCKBRIDGE also served in the Bikini Atoll tests; played a rescue role in relief of earthquake stricken Zante, Greece, 1951; and landed Marines at Beirut, Lebanon in 1958.

At present ROCKBRIDGE has held the Amphibious Award and the Engineering "E" for ten consecutive years.

Change of Command



U.S.S. ROCKBRIDGE (APA-228)

28 JUNE 1967

1000

U.S. Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia



CAPTAIN JOHN R. KINCAID

Captain KINCAID, a native of Victor, West Virginia, and a graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology, enlisted in the Navy in 1942 as a Seaman. He was later appointed an Aviation Cadet, graduating from Flight Training in 1943.

After a tour with Fighter Squadron 10 aboard USS ENTERPRISE, he served in the Pacific, shooting down five enemy aircraft and assisting in the destruction of several others. He also assisted in the sinking of enemy ships and destruction of ground installations. Throughout the war he flew cover and close air support for amphibious operations.

From 1948 to 1950 he was Commanding Officer of the Flag Administrative Unit, COMNAVAIRLANT, and subsequently served as the Personnel Officer for NAS Norfolk and NAS Pensacola.

Following this was a tour as Executive Officer of VA-115 aboard USS KEARSARGE, after which he served on the staff of COMNAVIPAC and in the office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

In 1957 and 1958 he commanded VA-146 (jet) aboard USS RANGER, participating at this time in a good will tour of South America. Before becoming Navigator and later Executive Officer of the USS ROOSEVELT (CVA-42) he graduated from the Armed Forces Industrial College.

Captain KINCAID wears the Distinguished Flying Cross with one gold star, the Air Medal with two gold stars, the Navy Unit Commendation Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and various theater and campaign medals.

He is married to the former Miss Helen Skags of Ansted, West Virginia. He leaves for duty with the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.



CAPTAIN ELBERT H. WILLETT

Captain WILLETT, who was born in Eufaula, Alabama entered the United States Naval Academy in 1942 after having attended Marion Military Institute for a year. Upon graduating from the Academy in June 1945 he was assigned to the USS INDIANA (BB-58) in the Pacific Fleet. In the summer of 1946 he was ordered to Submarine School in New London, Connecticut. Upon completion, he was assigned to USS SARDA (SS-488) followed by tours of duty on board USS TORISK (SS-423) and on the Staff of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

In 1952 he was assigned to USS SEA LEOPARD (SS-483) in Norfolk, Va. Captain WILLETT in the summer of 1954 reported to the Staff of Commander Fleet Air Wings, U.S. Atlantic Fleet as the Submarine Liaison Officer. Subsequent to this tour of duty he was ordered to the U.S. Naval War College, Newport, R.I., as a student in the Command and Staff Course. Upon the completion of this schooling in 1957 he became Executive Officer of USS ATULE (SS-403).

In 1958 he reported to USS JALLAO (SS-368) as Commanding Officer. Following this command tour Captain WILLETT was assigned to the Plans Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Washington D.C. In 1962 he became Flag Secretary to Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet and in July 1964 assumed command of Submarine Division SIXTY-TWO. In September 1965 he reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations for a tour of duty in the Politico-Military Policy Division as Head of the Arms Control and United Nations Branch.

Captain WILLETT and his wife, the former Jean Daly Lloyd are natives of Anniston, Alabama and are the parents of five children.