

USS BARBOUR COUNTY
(LST-1195)

*Decommissioning
Ceremony*



Naval Station
San Diego, California
30 March 1992

USS BARBOUR COUNTY
(LST 1195)

As the first ship to be named for Barbour County, Alabama, USS BARBOUR COUNTY was an integral part of the modern 20 knot amphibious force. Propelled by six 16-cylinder ALCO diesel engines, which could be controlled either from main engineering control or the pilot house, BARBOUR COUNTY also had three diesel-electric generators and two boilers to provide steam for heating and cooking. In addition to these and other technical innovations, the ship was fully air conditioned and had roomy quarters for over 200 crew members and more than 350 Marines.

Nearly two football fields in length, over twice as heavy and with double the speed of LSTs of the old design, BARBOUR COUNTY's mission was still the same as an LST from World War II: to land wheeled and tracked vehicles on a hostile beach during amphibious operations. To accomplish this mission, BARBOUR COUNTY could either launch, while underway, 20 Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAVs) carrying Marine infantry troops from her stern gate, or drive bow first onto the beach, where the two large doors in the bow would open, and the 40 ton, 109 foot ramp stowed on the foc'sle was rolled forward and lowered to the beach. Jeeps, trucks, troops and tanks could then drive onto dry land without the need of normal harbor facilities. BARBOUR COUNTY was also capable of supporting an air assault by loading troops into helicopters from her flight deck.





CAPTAIN RICHARD S. CLOWARD
UNITED STATES NAVY
Commander, Amphibious Squadron NINE

Born in Baltimore, Captain Cloward is a longtime San Diego resident, having graduated with the 1960 class of Crawford High School. He was commissioned in 1964 via the University of New Mexico NROTC program.

First duties were in the Mine Force, serving in USS PLEDGE (MSO 492) and the Sasebo, Japan-based USS WHIPPOORWILL (MSC 207). Both ships spent extensive time supporting Task Force 116 (Market Time) Operations in Vietnam. This was followed by duty as Aide to the Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee, Brussels, Belgium. Returning to the United States, Captain Cloward served in Washington, D.C., in the Liaison Office of the U.S. Military Representative, NATO Military Committee. Next came duty at Georgetown University, where he earned a Masters Degree. Tours in USS SHREVEPORT (LPD 12) and as Executive Officer in USS FAIRFAX COUNTY (LST 1193) were followed by assignment to the Defense Language Institute, Monterey. Upon completion of Japanese Language training, Captain Cloward served as an Exchange Officer at the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Staff College in Tokyo. He then commanded USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195). From 1982 until 1984 Captain Cloward was Chief Staff Officer, Amphibious Squadron ONE. Selected as a Navy Federal Executive Fellow, he served at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, Washington, D.C., during 1984. Captain Cloward was then assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Policy), where he was Country Director for Spain and Portugal. Following that tour, he commanded USS CLEVELAND (LPD 7).

Among his awards are the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Expeditionary Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal with seven campaign stars, as well as authorization to wear the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Office of Secretary of Defense Identification Badges. A Specialist in Political-Military Affairs, he speaks French and Japanese.

A widower, Captain Cloward has two children: Haven, a daughter, age 22, and Paul, age 20.



COMMANDER JOSEPH B. WILKINSON
UNITED STATES NAVY
Commanding Officer, USS BARBOUR COUNTY
(LST 1195)

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Commander Joseph B. Wilkinson, Jr. graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1972. His first tour was aboard the USS BAGLEY (FF 1069), where he served as Gunnery Officer, First Lieutenant, and Navigator. During his tour, USS BAGLEY operated throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans. From there he went to Department Head School in Newport, Rhode Island. He then transferred to the commissioning crew of the USS DAVID R. RAY (DD 971), where he served as Weapons Officer.

Commander Wilkinson next received orders to the USS THOMASTON (LSD 28) as Operations Officer and again saw duty in the Pacific. Upon request he was then transferred to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington where he served as Head, Ship Manpower Requirements. In 1983 he returned to the west coast and reported aboard the USS BELLEAU WOOD (LHA 3) as Combat Systems Officer. From there he was assigned as the Executive Officer of the USS DENVER (LPD 9) and then to joint duty with U. S. Central Command in Tampa, Florida, as the Exercise Programs Officer. He assumed command of the USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195) in February of 1991. Under his command, USS BARBOUR COUNTY completed an historic deployment in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM in the Persian Gulf, and Operation SEA ANGEL in Bangladesh.

Commander Wilkinson's awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with gold star, the Navy Achievement Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze stars, and various campaign awards.



PROGRAM OF EVENTS



Band Selections
San Diego Navy Band

Arrival of Official Party

Parade the Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Introduction of Principal Speaker
by
Commanding Officer

Remarks by Principal Speaker
CAPTAIN RICHARD S. CLOWARD
UNITED STATES NAVY
Seventh Commanding Officer
USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195)

Remarks and Reading of Decommissioning Order
COMMANDER JOSEPH B. WILKINSON, JR., USN
Commanding Officer
USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195)

Presentation of Gift to Ship's Sponsor
Mrs. John Victor Smith

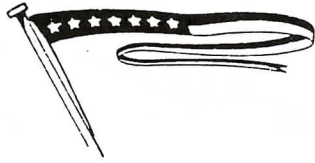
Hauling Down of Commission Pennant

Presentation of Commission Pennant
to Commanding Officer
RMCN(SW) Francis P. Nikolao, USN

Securing the Watch

Benediction



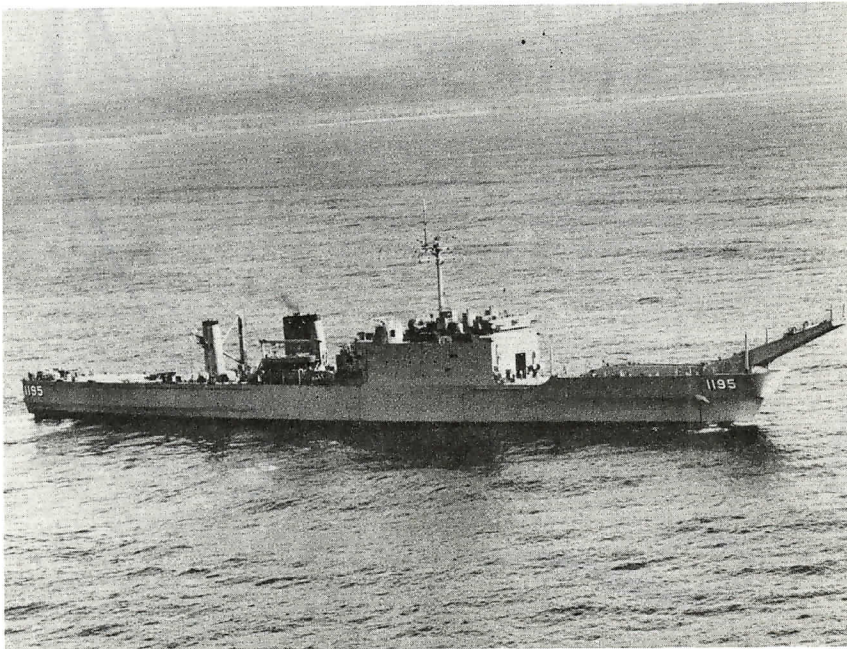


THE COMMISSION PENNANT

The Commission Pennant is the symbol of a man-of-war. It is said that when the Dutch Admiral Van Tromp defeated an English fleet in 1652, he cruised with a broom at his masthead to signify that he had swept his enemies from the sea. When the positions were reversed the following year, the British admiral hoisted a long streamer from his masthead to show that he had whipped his adversary. Thus the narrow "coachwhip" pennant has been adopted by all nations as the distinctive mark of a ship of war.

DECOMMISSIONING CEREMONY

Each unit of the Navy holds two unique ceremonies during the course of its existence. The commissioning ceremony bears the promise for a bright future, and the decommissioning ceremony, signifying the end of an era, honors all of the men and women who have given their time, their energy, and, for some, their lives, to fulfill and surpass the aspirations held by those who stood in the commissioning ceremony. The ceremony is not prescribed specifically by Navy regulations, but rather, is an honored product of Naval tradition. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal and impressive—a solemn occasion on which we pause to reflect upon the rich heritage of each ship and the United States Navy.



USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST-1195)

Keel Laid 15 August 1970
Launched 15 May 1971
Commissioned 3 February 1972



Length 522 Feet
Length from Derrick Arms to Stern 554 Feet
Overall Length, Bow Ramp Extended 588 Feet
Draft (Full Load) 15 Feet 2 Inches
Breadth 69 Feet 9 Inches
Displacement (Full Load)..... 8302 Tons
Maximum Speed 23 Knots

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195)

CDR JOHN C. SHIMMING, USN
February 1972 – July 1973

CDR THOMAS D. CARROLL, USN
July 1973 – July 1975

CDR CHARLES W. CLARK, JR., USN
July 1975 – July 1977

CDR ROBERT H. SISSON, USN
July 1977 – March 1978

CDR PHILIP R. GIVEN, USN
March 1978 – June 1978

CDR TOMMY D. GREESON, USN
June 1978 – June 1980

CDR RICHARD S. CLOWARD, USN
June 1980 – June 1982

CDR JOHN T. DONNELLY, JR., USN
June 1982 – September 1984

CDR THOMAS E. SEGO, USN
September 1984 – October 1986

CDR WILTON R. STEWART, USN
October 1986 – December 1988

CDR ROBERT E. ANNIS, USN
December 1988 – February 1991

CDR JOSEPH B. WILKINSON, JR., USN
February 1991 – March 1992

**USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195)
DECOMMISSIONING CREW**

OFFICERS

CDR J. B. WILKINSON	Commanding Officer
LCDR J. M. BEAVER	Executive Officer
LT T. M. SEXTON	Chief Engineer
LT M. J. TARTAL	Operations Officer
LT D. P. LARSEN	Supply Officer
LT F. W. HINSON III	Combat Information Center Officer
LT S. H. EARLEY	Navigator
LTJG T. T. COOK	First Lieutenant
LTJG D. C. ALMER	Disbursing Officer

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

RMCM(SW) F. P. NIKOLAŦ	Communications Officer
ENCS(SW) K. S. KAPPEN	Auxiliary Division LCPO
BMC(SW) J. A. SUNESON	Deck Department LCPO
GMC(SW) C. A. RODGERS	Gunnery Officer
SKC(SW) G. A. CLEGG	S-1 Division Officer
ICC(SW) J. E. UNDERWOOD	Interior Communications Division LCPO
EMC J. C. APPLEYARD	Electrical Division LCPO
DCC G. D. HARRINGTON	Damage Control Assistant

BARBOUR COUNTY CREW

EN1 ANNIUK	SK1(SW) ATENCIO	BM1(SW) BUSSKOHL	PN1 DELROSARIO
GMG1(SW) ELMER	ET1 ENGEL	HM1 EWING	EM1 FLORIMON
MS1 FUNE	MS1 HARRELL	SM1 HARRY	QM1(SW) LARKIN
SH1 MASCARDO	RM1 POWELL	YN1 REYNA	MS1 SALDANA
BM1(SW) SHILTS	SK1 SMITHWICK	EN1(SW) TESTERMAN	DCFA ACOSTA
OS2 AKIN	BT3 ANDERSON	YNSN ARMSTRONG	QM2 BENSON
SN BORA	HT3 BONILLA	BMSN BRADLEY	EM2 BROWN
SA BROWN	BM3 BUCKNOR	SA CARDONA	EMFN CHAPMAN
SA CRUZ	ET2 CYPERT	IC3 DAVIS	RM3 DAVISON
ENFN DELCAMPO	YNSA DUPIRE	FA DURONSLET	ET3 EDDY
FR ELLENWOOD	OS2 FALCONE	ET3 GILL	DC2 HANCOCK
SN HAWS	FA HALL	SH2 JACKMAN	DC2 JOHNSON
FN KINSER	FN KRZYSKA	MM3 KUSHNER	SN LEVASSEUR
EMFA MALAN	SA MALDONADO	FA MARRIOTT	FA MCALEXANDER
FR MCGILL	SR MENDOZA	EM2 MINK	SR PHILLIPS
EN3 PITTMAN	DC3 RAUSCH	SA SALESKY	SA SCHIMPELER
RM3 SILCOX	BM3 SMITH	FN SMITH	SN SORESENSEN
ENFN TELLES	FR THOMAS	SN WALTON	MS3 WATSON
YNSA WHITFIELD	FA WHORRALL	BM3 WILLIAMS	EN3 WILLIAMS
SN WINTERS	HTFR WOLLAM	EMFA WORMWOOD	SA ANDREWS
ENFN ARCHULETA	SN BACON	MSSA BITAR	BMSN BRACKINS
GMGSA CREER	EM3 DEJESUS	SA EASTERN	OS2 FIFE
GMGSA GAY	GMG2 HUG	GMGSN JACKSON	QM2 JACOBS
IC3 LAUK	EN3 LINTON	SA MEJIAGUANDIQUE	EMFA MCNUTT
ENFA MORALES	MS2 POPE	EMFN POWELLS	FA PRATHER
FA SCHULTZ	FA TRAN	SA WAINES	

The challenge of the future is a personal one . . . It goes to the heart of each of us who wear the uniform of the United States Navy. I am sure that with the knowledge that we are serving our country in a very important way, we can move together into the future with an increased sense of pride and determination.

– VADM Nels C. Johnson, USN (Ret.), at the Commissioning Ceremony of USS BARBOUR COUNTY (LST 1195), 12 February 1972