



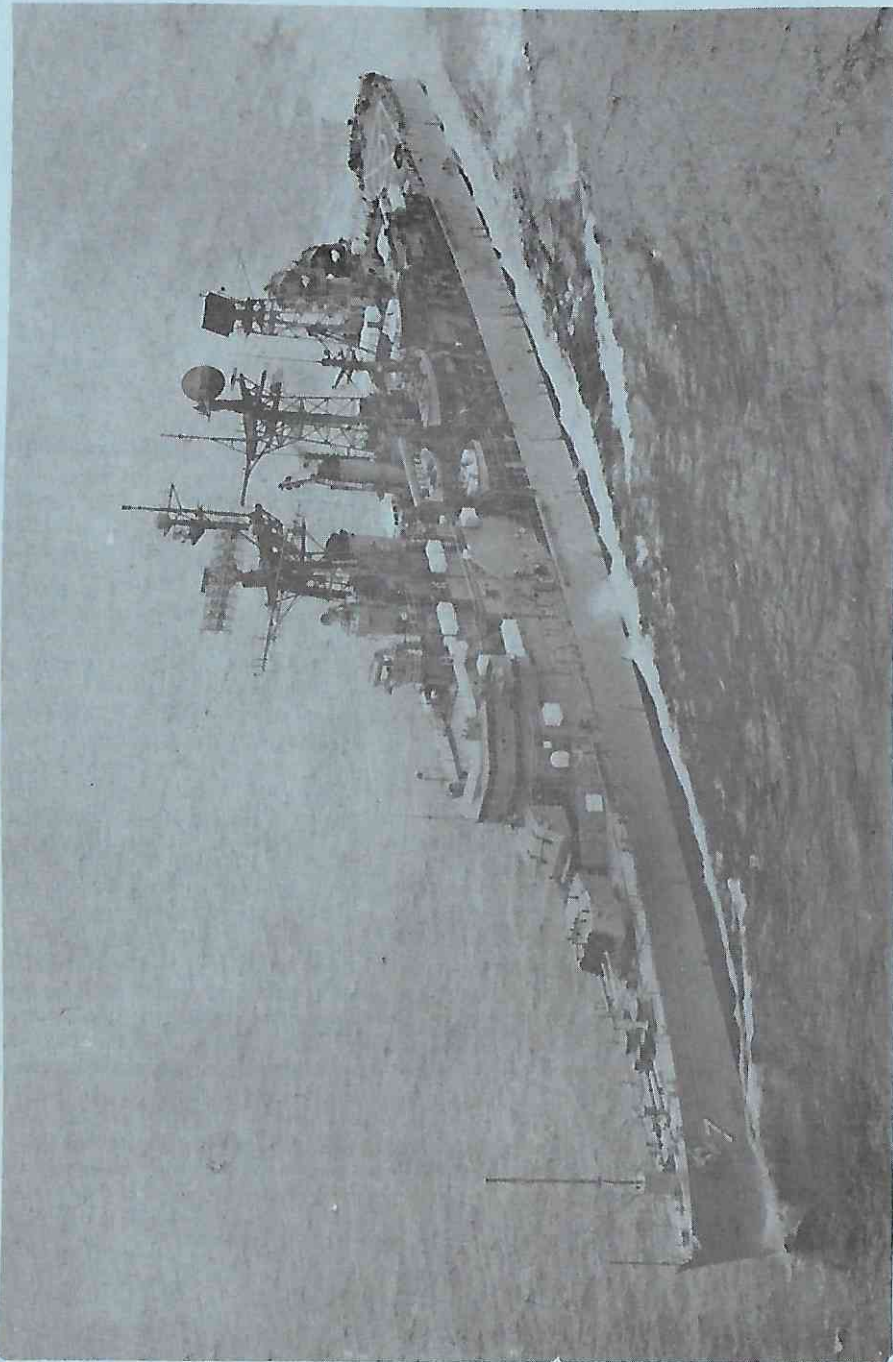
USS SPRINGFIELD CLG 7

Norfolk



*Change of Command
12 July 1968*

Flagship U.S. Second Fleet



Change of Command

at which

Captain Herbert H. Ries, USN
will be relieved by
Captain Lando W. Zech, Jr., USN

as

Commanding Officer
USS SPRINGFIELD (CLG-7)

Norfolk, Va.
12 July 1968



Captain Ries---

Captain Herbert H. Ries, USN

Captain Herbert H. RIES assumed command of USS SPRINGFIELD on December 12, 1966. A native of Iowa City, Iowa, Captain Ries entered the Naval Academy and was graduated in June 1942.

During World War II he served for 3 1/2 years in USS NELSON (DD-623) in the North Atlantic, European, Mediterranean and finally in the Pacific areas.

In 1946 he was ordered as Executive Officer USS DAMATO (DD-871) and in early 1948 assumed command of USS TERCEL (AM-386). From mid-1949 until 1951 he served as Aide to the Commandant ELEVENTH Naval District in San Diego, California. Following the assignment, having been promoted to the grade of Lieutenant Commander, he recommissioned the USS FORMOE (DE-509) as Commanding Officer. In 1953 he was ordered as Executive Officer of USS JOHN S. McCAIN (DL-3), a new frigate built at Bath, Maine.

Promoted to the new grade in 1955, Commander Ries served in the Bureau of Naval Personnel until early 1958 as Head of the Active Officer Promotion Branch. In 1958 he again reported to Bath Maine to commission a new destroyer, USS HULL (DD-945). After taking HULL to the Pacific Fleet as the first new destroyer to join that force since the end of World War II, Commander Ries was ordered as Prospective Commanding Officer, USS COONTZ (DLG-9), a new guided missile frigate built at the Puget Sound Naval Ship Yard. Commanding COONTZ for two years, Captain Ries was then ordered to the Naval War College at Newport, R.I. in 1962.

There followed a year's tour as Administrative Aide to the Chief of Naval Personnel in Washington, D.C. In July 1964 Captain Ries assumed command of Destroyer Division 182 and a month later assumed additional duty as Commander Destroyer Squadron 18. A fifteen month tour as head of the Executive Department at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, preceded his present assignment.

Captain Ries is married to the former Miss Carolyn KUEVER, daughter of Dean R.A. Kuever of Iowa City, Iowa. A son, Stephen, graduated last month from the Naval Academy and was commissioned an Ensign, A daughter, Gretchen, is a student at Bucknell University.

PROGRAM

Arrival of Guests

Officer ushers escort
guests to seats

Martial Music

"Attention"

Official party
approaches stand

Guests rise

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Guests are seated

Farewell Remarks

Reading of Detachment
Orders

Quarterdeck

Second Fleet Band

Bugler

Color Guard

Second Fleet Band

Chaplain Sire

Captain Ries

Reading of Orders

Captain Zech relieves
Captain Ries

Remarks

Captain Zech

Guest Speaker

VADM Semmes
COMSECONDFLT

Benediction

Chaplain Sire

Guests Rise

Martial Music

Second Fleet Band

Official party
leaves stand

Guests leave



Refreshments for officers and guests
on the forecastle

Refreshments for the crew in the
crew's messes

Captain Lando W. Zech, Jr., USN



Captain Zech

Captain Lando W. ZECH, Jr., son of Mrs. Lando W. Zech and the late Dr. Lando W. Zech of Seattle, Washington, was graduated from the United States Naval Academy on June 7, 1944. He was promoted to the rank of Captain on July 1, 1965.

Upon graduation from the Naval Academy he was assigned to the USS JOHN D. HENLEY (DD-553) and participated in the Mariana, Philippine, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa campaigns. After the war he was assigned to the USS HENRY W. TUCKER (DD-875).

Upon completing the course of instruction at the U.S. Naval Submarine School, New London, Connecticut in June 1948, he served in the submarines USS FLYING FISH (SS-229) and USS BACKFIN (SS-322).

In June 1952, he was ordered to the U.S. Naval Academy for duty as an instructor in the Executive Department. After leaving the Naval Academy, he reported aboard the submarine USS IREX (SS-482) as Executive Officer.

Captain Zech assumed command of the submarine USS SEA ROBIN (SS-407) in January 1956. A year later he took command of the revolutionary high speed submarine USS ALBACORE (AGSS-569) which he commanded until January 1958.

In July 1958, Captain Zech was graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College. He was next assigned to Washington, D. C. for a one year course of instruction in nuclear propulsion. Upon completion of this duty in June 1959, Captain Zech was assigned duties of Commanding Officer USS NAUTILUS. During the period of his command, NAUTILUS completed the first overhaul of a nuclear powered ship and subsequently steamed more than 60,000 miles. For his performance as Commanding Officer, USS NAUTILUS, Captain Zech received the Navy Commendation Medal.

After leaving NAUTILUS, Captain Zech attended courses of instruction in the Polaris missile system reporting to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, N.H., in November 1962 as prospective Commanding Officer (BLUE) of USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN-620). Following the commissioning in May 1964, Captain Zech commanded JOHN ADAMS until April 1965 when he was assigned as the Submarine and Nuclear Power Assignment / Placement Officer at the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

In July 1967 Captain Zech was ordered to the National War College where he completed the course of instruction in June 1968.

In addition to the Navy Commendation Medal, Captain Zech is eligible to wear the following decorations: American Defense, Asiatic-Pacific (4 stars), Philippine Campaign, American Theater Occupation, China Service, United Nations, Korean Service, WWII Victory, National Defense, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation and Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

Captain Zech is married to the former Josephine M. Kerr of Bristol, Rhode Island. He has five daughters, Janet, Joanne, Nancy, Carol, and Patricia.

Ship's History

The USS SPRINGFIELD was commissioned as a light cruiser on 10 Sept. 1944 in Boston, Mass., and was named jointly for the cities of Springfield, Mass., and Springfield, Ill. Early in 1945 she headed for Pacific waters and in March, began 67 days of continuous fighting in support of Okinawa campaign. In July of that year she participated in the final offensive of the war against the Japanese mainland, operating in anti-shiping raids and in coastal bombardments. From that time until placed in the Pacific Reserve Fleet in San Francisco in January 1949, SPRINGFIELD operated in the Far East and along the west coast of the United States.

In March 1957, the first stage of SPRINGFIELD's conversion to a Terrier guided missile cruiser was commenced when she was brought under tow through the Panama Canal to the Bethlehem Steel Company Shipyard in Quincy, Mass. The conversion was accomplished there and at the Boston Naval Shipyard, where SPRINGFIELD was recommissioned as (CLG-7) on 2 July 1960.

SPRINGFIELD departed for the Mediterranean on 4 Dec. 1960, and ten days later at Palermo, Sicily, officially relieved USS DES MOINES as Flagship of Vice Admiral George W. Anderson, USN, Commander U. S. SIXTH FLEET, with homeport at Villefranche-sur-Mer, France.

For the next two and a half years, SPRINGFIELD carried out her Flagship duties in the Mediterranean, visiting the major Mediterranean ports in both the eastern and western basins, as well as many less-known cities such as Dubrovnik and Split, Yugoslavia, Famagusta, Cyprus and Ajaccio, Corsica. She also participated in a number of SIXTH FLEET and NATO operations. Between port visits and training exercises SPRINGFIELD spent approximately one third of her time in her homeport of Villefranche-sur-Mer, a beautifully picturesque fishing and resort village situated between Nice and Monaco on the French Riviera.

On 11 May 1963, USS SPRINGFIELD was relieved as Flagship by USS LITTLE ROCK, to allow her to return to the United States for a needed period of maintenance and a few weeks of refresher training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. SPRINGFIELD returned to the Mediterranean and on 15 Dec. 1963, resumed her duties as Flagship, Commander SIXTH FLEET.



During the 37 months following SPRINGFIELD's return to the Mediterranean, the ship served as a goodwill ambassador for the United States in more than 40 ports in 12 different countries. SPRINGFIELD officers and men sponsored parties for orphans and school children throughout the Mediterranean, and hosted more than 42,000 visitors to the ship.

In addition to the all-important diplomatic mission, SPRINGFIELD has participated in many SIXTH FLEET and NATO exercises to maintain a high state of battle readiness. The ship has effectively served the dual role of giving constant assurance to our allies of the continuing friendship of the United States, and has participated as an active part of the forces which help protect that friendship.

On 12 Dec. 1966, in Bizerte, Tunisia, Captain Herbert H. Ries, USN, relieved Captain John D. H. Kane, USN, as SPRINGFIELD's commanding officer. A few weeks later, on 20 Jan. 1967, SPRINGFIELD's homeport was officially changed from Villefranche-sur-Mer, France, to Boston, Massachusetts.

On 28 Jan. 1967, USS LITTLE ROCK took over duties as SIXTH FLEET Flagship and SPRINGFIELD began her trip back to the U. S., stopping enroute at Portsmouth, England.

Arriving at Boston, Mass., on 16 Feb. 1967, SPRINGFIELD began a five-month yard period at the Boston Naval Shipyard. During the yard period, the ship's homeport was changed from Boston to Norfolk, Va., effective 1 Aug. 1967.

Following SPRINGFIELD's maintenance and upkeep period at Boston, the ship departed there to conduct underway training enroute to its new homeport.

SPRINGFIELD officially relieved USS NEWPORT NEWS as Flagship, Commander Second Fleet, at Norfolk on 1 Sept. 1967. Since that time SPRINGFIELD has participated in various fleet exercises and operations off the East coast and Caribbean areas.