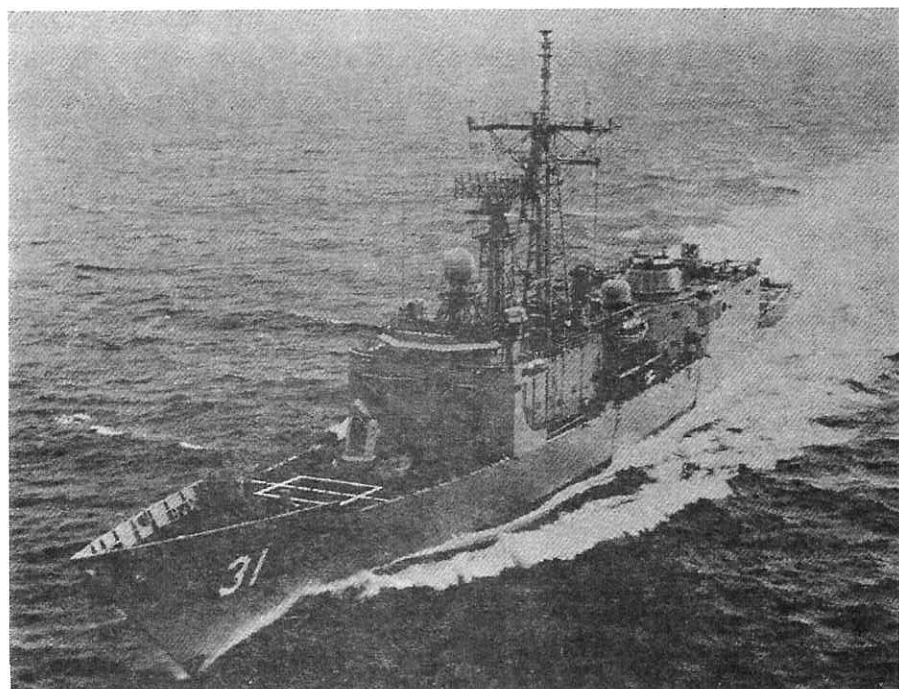
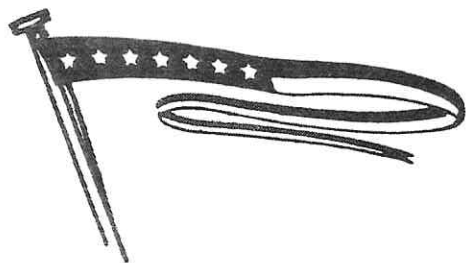
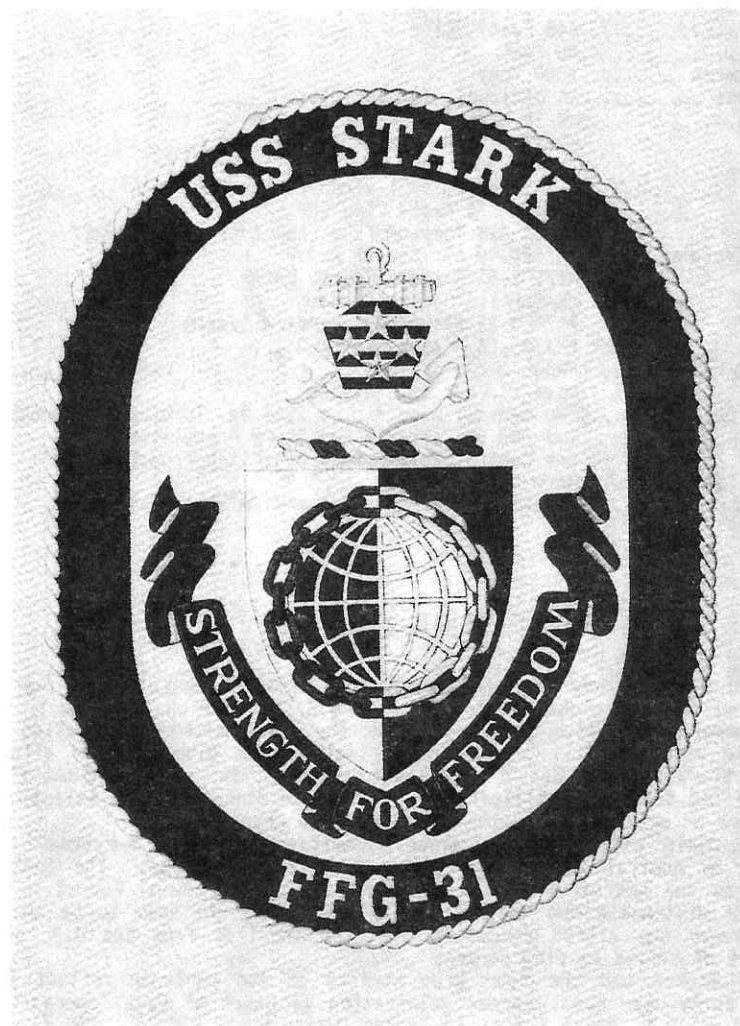




U.S.S. STARK
(FFG-31)

WELCOME ABOARD



THE FRIGATE/SHIP

Built by.....Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation, Seattle Washington
 Keel Laid.....24 August 1979
 Launched.....30 May 1980
 Commissioned.....23 October 1982
 Length.....445 Feet
 Beam.....45 Feet
 Displacement.....3600 Tons
 Complement.....14 Officers, 168 Enlisted
 Armament.....MK 15 Close-in Weapons System
 MK 13 Guided Missile Launcher
 -Harpoon anti-surface missile
 -Standard anti-aircraft missile
 76mm MK 75 Rapid Fire Gun
 Combat Systems.....MK-32 ASW Torpedo Tubes (two triple mountings)
 AN/SPS-49 Air Search Radar
 AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar
 MK-92 Fire Control System
 AN/SLQ-32 Electronic Warfare System
 AN/SQS-56 Digital Sonar
 SRBOC Decoy System
 Naval Combat Data System
 Propulsion.....Two General electric LM 2500 Gas Turbines (40,000SHP)
 Two 360 HP Electric Auxilliary Propulsion Units
 One Controllable Reversible Pitch Propellor
 Maximum Speed.....More than 28 knots
 Aircraft.....Capability to carry two medium size helicopters

THE CREST

Gold and blue are the colors associated with the Navy. The globe refers to Admiral Stark's global outlook of the U.S. Navy which began early in his Naval Career when, after graduation from the Naval Academy, he sailed around the world with the U.S. "Great White Fleet". The globe further alludes to Admiral Stark's World War I experience as commander of a torpedo flotilla which he led from the Phillipines to the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean which took an active part in the anti-Submarine campaign.

The chain encircling the globe symbolizes the U.S. two ocean concept foreseen by Admiral Stark while Chief of Naval Operations. The chain also alludes to the Admiral's service as commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe where his diplomatic and tactical abilities proved the Navy to be the vital link between the allied forces by insuring supplies from the U.S. and the transport of allied landing forces.

The anchor and the four blue stripes on the pentagon reflect Admiral Stark's forty-year Naval career culminating as Chief of Naval Operations and commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe during World War II. The four stars reflect his rank and the three Navy and one Army Distinguished Service Medals.

ADMIRAL HAROLD R. STARK, USN

"STARK" (FFG-31) is named for Admiral Harold R. STARK who served his country with distinction for four decades Born 12 November 1880 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, he attended the public schools and Harry Hillman Academy there before receiving his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. Following graduation in 1903, he served on many ships including the battleship USS MINNESOTA when she was part of the Battle Fleet which made the famous December 1907 to February 1909 cruise around the world.

In June of 1917 he reported for shore duty at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island. Shortly after the entry of the United States into WW I, Stark assumed command of Torpedo Flotilla, Asiatic Fleet but was transferred in November to the Staff of the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces operating in European waters for the remainder of the war. Stark earned a Distinguished Service Medal for boldly leading a squadron of small and old destroyers through monsoons from the Phillipines to Gibraltar. The ships arrived ahead of schedule and carried out an active role in the anti-submarine campaign in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

During the peace time years. His service included assignments as Aide to two Navy Secretaries, command of battleship WEST VIRGINIA, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance (1934-37) and Commander of Cruiser Division 3, Battle Force. Stark attained the rank of Rear Admiral on 2 November 1934 and was advanced to Admiral on 1 August 1939 following his appointment as Chief of Naval Operations on 1 April 1939.

Admiral Stark's second award of the Distinguished Service Medal was for acting with resolute decision to hasten the capital ship construction for the "Two Ocean Navy" which proved to be a key to victory in WW II. He instituted in cooperation with Great Britain effective trans-Atlantic convoy protection as well as the anti-submarine warfare measures which bridged the Atlantic from both North and South America. In March 1942, he took command of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, thereafter providing the primary liaison between the British and American navies for logistics for the British Isles, including the massive staging, training, and logistics for the 2,904 U.S. Naval ships and craft manned by 124,000 officers and men participating in the Normandy invasion. Although he did not participate in the actual amphibious assaults on the coast of Normandy in June 1944, his personal contributions by far exceeded his responsibilities, resulting in the award of a third Navy Distinguished Service Medal. General Eisenhower additionally presented Admiral Stark with the Army's Distinguished Service Medal for rendering brilliant and distinguished service, not only as a naval administrator, but as a skillful diplomatic emissary in relations with allied authorities which so greatly contributed to the liberation of Europe. In the fall of 1945 Stark was assigned to the Office of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., and served until he retired 1 April 1946. Stark's many U.S. awards and decorations were supplemented by a long list of honors from foreign governments including Britain, France, Brazil, Norway, Poland, the Netherlands and Belgium.

Admiral Stark continued to live in Washington, D.C. where he remained active in a variety of Navy organizations and clubs. He died 20 August 1972 at the age of 91. His wife, the former Katherine Rhodes also of Wilkes-Barre, predeceased him.



COMMANDER GLENN R. BRINDEL
COMMANDING OFFICER

Commander Glenn R. Brindel was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on 5 August 1943. He entered the Pennsylvania State University in September 1961 and was accepted into the NROTC Program. He was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree and commissioned an Ensign in the United States Navy in September 1965.

His initial assignment was aboard the USS MOUNTRAIL (LPA-213) as Deck Officer from October 1965 to March 1967. In April 1967, he reported aboard the USS GARRET COUNTY (LST-786) as First Lieutenant/Weapons Officer. The GARRET COUNTY was part of "Operation Gamewarden" in the Republic of Vietnam. His next duty station was the Naval Scientific and Technical Intelligence Center in Washington, D. C., serving as an intelligence analyst from June 1968 to December 1969. Completing this assignment, he was transferred to the U. S. Naval Destroyer School, Newport, Rhode Island as a student in preparation for his next assignment. In August 1970, he reported to the USS BUCKLEY (DD-808) as Weapons Officer. Upon completion of this assignment, he was again ordered to Vietnam as Liaison Officer with Vietnamese General Staff. In May 1973, he was ordered as Commanding Officer, USS CHEHALIS (PG-94). In June 1975, he reported for duty at the United States Naval Academy, where he served as an Instructor and a Company Officer. From October 1978 to April 1980, he served as Executive Officer of USS BIGELOW (DD-942). From May 1980 to July 1982, he served on the staff of the Director, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. From August 1982 until June 1984 he served as a Project Manager at the Naval Sea Systems Command.

Commander Brindel has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (2 awards), Navy Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit and Navy Unit Commendation, Combat Action Ribbon, and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with palm and Staff Service Medals.

Commander Brindel is married to the former Donna K. Page of Virginia Beach, Virginia. They reside in Orange Park, Florida and have one son, Jason.



BMCS VAL T. FISCHER
COMMAND SENIOR CHIEF

Senior Chief Fischer enlisted in the United States Navy on 31 January 1963 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He attended recruit training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Waukegan, Illinois. Upon completion of recruit training, he reported for duty to USS TRUCKEE (AO-147). He remained aboard from August 1963 until July 1966 at which time he was transferred to USS ESCAPE (ARS-6). He served one and one half years until his next transfer in January 1968 to HARBOR CLEARANCE UNIT 2 where he served as a Navy second class diver. In June of that same year he transferred to USS UTINA (ATF-163) where he served until October 1969. His next assignment took him to the U.S. NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, Danang, Republic of Vietnam. In December 1970 he found himself stationed in Spain at the U.S. NAVAL STATION ROTA SPAIN. After his three year shore tour at the Naval Station it was time to go back to sea and in February 1974 he began a tour of duty on USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67). In March of 1978 he transferred to USS LASALLE (AGF-3), on long term assignment in the Persian Gulf. Another shore tour began in April of 1979. The tour started at the U.S. NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS STATION, PUERTO RICO. It ended in December 1984 at U.S. NAVAL STATION ROOSEVELT ROADS, PUERTO RICO where he served as Chief of Police for the Naval Station. Senior Chief Petty Officer Fischer reported for duty to USS STARK (FFG-31) on 14 January 1985. He assumed the jobs of both Command Senior Chief and First Lieutenant.

BMCS Fischer's personal awards include: Navy Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, Battle Efficiency Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and Sea Service Ribbon.

Senior Chief Fischer lives with his wife Linda and their son in Jacksonville, Florida.