



*Commander R. N. Downes, USN,*

was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1927. He was first ordered to the Idaho in August, 1943, as navigator, and was made executive officer in December of 1944. In his capacity as representative of former commanding officers he maintained the military and general efficiency of the ship in the best traditional manner. He was given command of the Idaho in November of 1945 with the job of placing it in the reserve fleet. It was under his guidance that this record of the Idaho was compiled and published.