



COMMANDER

ROBERT R. BRINER

EXECUTIVE
OFFICER

USS
NEWPORT
NEWS
CA—148

Robert Rathbone Briner was born on 1 June 1932, in Newport, Rhode Island. After graduating from Marblehead High School, Marblehead, Massachusetts, in 1950, he entered the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where he graduated in 1954.

Following his commissioning as an Ensign in the U. S. Navy, he received orders to USS YARNALL (DD-54) as Navigator, First Lieutenant, and CIC Officer. From 1956 to 1958 he served on USS WIDGEON (MSC-208) in Sasebo, Japan as Executive Officer. His next assignment was to Norfolk, Virginia, as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to Commander Training Force Atlantic Fleet, from 1959 to 1960.

From 1961 to 1963 he was assigned to USS BLANDY (DD-943) homeported in his birthplace of Newport, Rhode Island, as Chief Engineer and Operations Officer. He was then ordered to Buenos Aires, Argentina as Assistant Naval Attache where he served until 1966.

His next assignment was as Executive Officer aboard

USS HAROLD J. ELLISON (DD-864) out of Norfolk. Following his tour on ELLISON, he was assigned to the Pentagon in Washington, D. C., where he served in the Department of Naval Operations as Head of Foreign Military Sales to Latin America. He then received orders to assume his first command aboard USS McCAFFERY (DD-860) in Bahrain, Persian Gulf on 18 July 1971.

Upon departing McCAFFERY, Commander Briner reported to USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) for duty as Executive Officer.

Commander Briner wears the China Service medal, National Defense Service medal with one bronze star, and the Armed Forces Expeditionary medal with one bronze star.

Commander Briner married the former Esther Louise Joyner in Kinston, North Carolina on 12 November 1961. They have three children: Denise Louise, Gay Elizabeth, and James Robert.