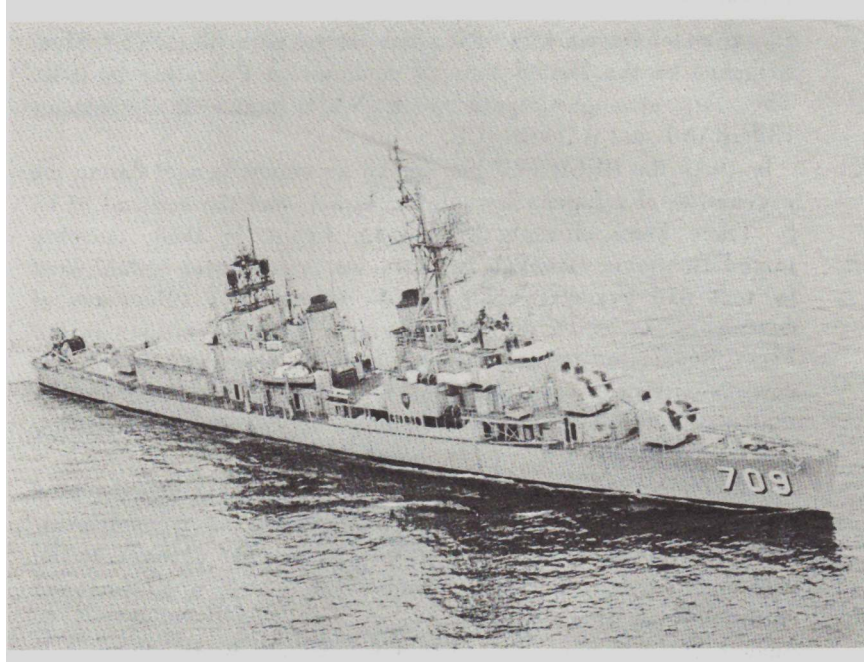


WELCOME ABOARD

USS HUGH PURVIS (DD-709)



DEFENDER'S DAY 1971

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

USS HUGH PURVIS (DD-709)

The USS HUGH PURVIS (DD-709) was named for Private Hugh Purvis, United States Marine Corps, who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service during the Korean Expedition of 1871. The ship is the first to bear the name of Hugh Purvis. She was commissioned in March of 1945.

The HUGH PURVIS has made ten trips to the Mediterranean. She represented the United States by attending the burial of King Christian of Denmark in 1947. She served with the SIXTH Fleet assigned to the United Nations mediator at Palestine in 1948. The ship also participated with NATO forces in Operations EMIGRANT and MAINBRACE.

In 1956, the HUGH PURVIS served as escort vessel during the evacuation of refugees from Haifa, Israel, and the removal of U. S. Truce Team officials from Gaza, Egypt. In 1958, the ship joined Destroyer Development Two, an organization established to test and evaluate equipment to improve the efficiency of destroyers. In March of 1960, she underwent alterations in the Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization Program, receiving new communications, radar, and sonar equipment.

She was further modernized in 1962 by the addition of the Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter System.

During the next six years, the HUGH PURVIS experimented with anti-submarine radar and variable depth sonar equipment, perfecting techniques and weapons now in use throughout the destroyer force. She also served as the Navy's host vessel during the America's Cup Races off Newport, Rhode Island. In August of 1967, she was awarded the Navy's Battle Efficiency "E".

In 1968, HUGH PURVIS underwent her regular overhaul period and trained at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in preparation for her upcoming Western Pacific Deployment. In August of 1968, she was awarded her second consecutive Battle Efficiency "E", and departed for the Far East.

From August 1968 until April of 1969, HUGH PURVIS provided carrier escort and gunfire support services in the seas off Viet Nam. She salvaged the USS SAFEGAURD (ARS-25), and later received the Meritorious Unit Commendation and Combat Action Ribbon for her service in the Western Pacific.

On returning to Newport, HUGH PURVIS left Destroyer Development Group Two to become a unit of Destroyer Division 102. In September of

1969, the HUGH PURVIS received her third consecutive Battle Efficiency " E", and in November she participated in the search for the survivors of the wreck of the SS KOA.

In the summer of 1970, the ship trained in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and in October left for her eleventh Mediterranean deployment. Since her return in May 1971, the ship has participated in several operations in the North Atlantic and the Caribbean.





CDR. A.G. HENNESSEY, JR. USN
Commander A.G. Hennessey, Jr. is a native of Philadelphia and was commissioned in June 1953 upon graduation from Villanova College: He has served aboard USS DELTA (AR-9), USS HORACE A. BASS (APD-124), USS NEOSHO (AO-143), USS SAMUEL B.ROBERTS (DD-823), and USS BRISTOL (DD-857). He

has previously commanded USS LITTLE (APD-60) and USS BEVERLY W. REID (APD-H9). He has been assigned to the Staff of Commander, Fleet Training Group, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and more recently has been the Head of the College Training and In-Service Procurement Branch of the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Commander Hennessey assumed command of USS HUGH PURVIS (DD-709) on July 10, 1970. Commander Hennessey is married to the former Jayne Cecelia Flannery of Troy, New York. Mrs. Hennessey is a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy Nurse Corps.