

CAPTAIN HAROLD PAYSON, JR., became the ship's twelfth commanding officer in May, 1957, at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, Calif. His previous duty station was the Naval War College, Newport, R.I. There Captain Payson headed the Research and Analysis Department, the Strategy and Tactics Department and was Chairman, Naval Warfare Courses. He has been executive officer of two ships, the destroyer, USS PARKER and the USS ROANOKE, and has commanded three: USS LANG, USS SARASOTA, and this, his present command. During the time CAPT Payson commanded the destroyer LANG it participated in some of the most decisive campaigns of the Pacific War, including the Gilbert-Marshall, Carolines, Marianas, and Leyte Gulf actions. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal and Commendation Ribbon, both with Combat V's. U.S. Naval Academy, Class of 1931, and a Rhodes Scholar, CAPT Payson was a United Nations observer with the late Count Fokke Bernadotte during the Arab-Israeli war in 1948. He is married to the former Anna Marie Beck of Dresden Germany, and has three sons, Harold III, Charles Beck, and Raymond Perry.

