

COMMANDING OFFICER



OTTO W. SPAHR, III

Commander Otto W. SPAHR, III was born in Newport, Rhode Island, 20 May 1946, the son of Captain Otto W. SPAHR, Jr., USN (Ret) and Patricia Dwyer SPAHR. Commander Spahr graduated from the University of Florida in Gainesville in October 1968. His initial assignment was in USS SARFIELD (DD-837) during which he participated in Caribbean Exercises, Refresher Training and a South American Deployment (UNITAS X). Commander SPAHR then received orders to USS YORK COUNTY (LST-1175) as Engineer Officer. A deployment to the Mediterranean as well as numerous amphibious exercises in the Caribbean highlighted his second shipboard tour.

Commander SPAHR's first tour ashore was at the Recruit Training Command (RTC) in Orlando, Florida. He then attended Department Head School (Class 41) in Newport, Rhode Island graduating in October 1973. In December 1973 he reported to USS EDWARD McDONELL (FF-1043). Twenty-eight months on board the "EDDY MAC" included deployments to the North Atlantic (STANAVFORLANT) and the Mediterranean. Following this tour Commander SPAHR returned to Newport, Rhode Island as an instructor at the Division Officers Course at the Surface Warfare Officers School Command. Here he spent an equal amount of time instructing tactics and engineering related subjects.

Following his tour at SWOS, Commander SPAHR reported to USS AMERICA (CV-66) as Main Propulsion Assistant (MPA). After completing a complex overhaul in September 1980, AMERICA participated in six months of underway readiness exercises.

Commander SPAHR detached from USS AMERICA (CV-66) in March 1981 and assumed command of USS McCLOY (FF-1038) on 30 June 1981 while deployed to the Mediterranean. His two years in command of McCLOY included numerous Western Atlantic Special Operations, two Caribbean Exercises, two Eastern Atlantic Operations and a second extended deployment to the Mediterranean.

Commander SPAHR departed McCLOY in August 1983 for a billet on the Staff of the Deputy CNO for Surface Warfare (OP-03). He departed OPNAV in 1986 to assume command of USS MOOSBRUGGER (DD-980) homeported in historic Charleston, South Carolina.

Commander SPAHR is married to the former Sonya Cunningham of Melbourne, Florida and they have three children: Bryan, Jeff, and Cindy.