

COMMANDING OFFICER

CAPTAIN THOMAS D. PAULSEN

Captain Thomas D. Paulsen was commissioned an Ensign and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland in June 1960. During his first eight years of service, he served in two Atlantic Fleet submarines, USS Corporal (SS-346) and USS Theodore Roosevelt (SSBN-600). During the two tours of duty, he completed division officer and department head assignments. From 1968—1970, he attended the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, Calif., and was awarded a masters degree in computer science.

In July 1970, he reported for duty as Executive Officer of the submarine USS Sailfish (SS-572), based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Following a short tour as a watch officer on the staff of Commander, Submarine Force, Pacific, he was ordered to the cruiser USS Reeves (CG-24), as Executive Officer. In July 1975, he assumed command of the frigate USS Whipple (FF-1062).

Captain Paulsen reported to the staff of the U.S. Seventh Fleet Commander in August 1977 as Fleet ASW Readiness and Surface Operations Officer. During his three-year tour of duty, the staff was embarked in the guided missile cruiser USS Oklahoma City (CG-5) and the Amphibious Command ship USS Blue Ridge (LCC-19), both operating from Yokosuka, Japan.

His previous assignment was Director, Professional Development Division, U.S. Naval Academy. Captain Paulsen assumed command of USS Blue Ridge in Yokosuka, Japan, on 6 January 1984.



Captain Paulsen is authorized to wear the following awards and decorations: Meritorious Service Medal with one star; Navy Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; Battle Efficiency Ribbon with three awards; Expeditionary Service Medal; National Defense Medal with one star; Vietnam Service Medal with two stars; and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with two stars.

Captain Paulsen is married to the former Marbeth Hirsch of Westbury, Long Island, New York. They have three daughters: Kare, Kendel, and Kate.