



**COMMANDING
OFFICER**

W. CLYDE MARSH

COMMANDER
United States Navy

Commander Marsh, a native of Wedowee, Alabama, a long-time resident of Smyrna, Georgia, received a direct commission as Ensign in the U.S. Navy following graduation from Alabama A and M University in June 1973. Commander Marsh's sea duty assignments include tours as First Lieutenant and Gunnery Officer in USS OZBOURN (DD 846); Gunnery and Missile Officer in USS PARSONS (DDG 33); and Operations Officer and Navigator in USS PRAIRIE (AD 15). Upon completion of Naval Destroyer School in 1980, Commander Marsh reported to USS MANLEY (DD 940) as Weapons Officer. His second department head tour was in USS PENSACOLA (LSD 38) as First Lieutenant and Combat Cargo Officer. While assigned to the PENSACOLA, Commander Marsh took part in the initial landing of Marines at Beirut, Lebanon, in 1982 and subsequent multi-national peace keeping forces and amphibious support operations in 1983. Commander Marsh's most recent sea assignment was as Executive Officer in USS ST. LOUIS (LKA 116) homeported in Sasebo, Japan from 1985 to 1987. During his tour, ST. LOUIS was honored for having the best Overseas Family Residence Program and also won consecutive Battle "E"

Awards, Seventh Fleet Amphibious (Top Gator) Award, and the Chief of Naval Operation's Surface Ship Safety Award. Commander Marsh's ashore tours include Fleet Combat Training Center, Atlantic where he served from 1983 to 1985 as Simulation Support Director and Combat Information Center Officer. Prior to reporting as Commanding Officer in USS SUMTER Commander Marsh served on the staff of the Chief of Naval Education and Training in Pensacola, Florida, as Surface Warfare's Engineering Branch Head from April 1987 to August 1989. As Engineering Branch Head, Commander Marsh was responsible for the management and oversight of all Navy surface main propulsion auxiliary, fire fighting, damage control and other engineering-related training programs. Commander Marsh has earned a Bachelor's of Arts Degree from Alabama A&M University and a Master's of Science Degree in International Relations from Troy State University. Commander Marsh's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Navy Unit Commendation and Battle Efficiency Award (3 Awards).