

COMMISSIONING DAY

JANUARY 22, 1983

Placing any ship in commission, when she is accepted as a full-fledged member of the Naval community, is a big event; an even bigger event when she is *your* ship and she is USS TICONDEROGA. Witness the list of dignitaries who came to pay court to "Tico": Secretary of Defense Casper W. Weinberger; Senator John Stennis; Admiral James D. Watkins, Chief of Naval Operation; Admiral Wesley L. McDonald, Commander in Chief U.S. Atlantic Fleet; Vice Admiral Edward S. Briggs, Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic; Rear Admiral Richard C. Berry, Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Eight; Rear Admiral Wayne E. Meyer, Aegis Shipbuilding Project Manager; and Mr. Leonard Erb, President of Ingalls Shipbuilding.

But to all the people who worked and slaved months, even years, in a labor of love to bring *this* ship to life, commissioning was the fruition of a dream; a dream born in the fertile minds of architects and engineers, wet-nursed by the experienced craftsmen of Ingalls shipyard, and finally weaned by the Navy professionals who streamed on board during the impressive "come alive" ceremony. Thus TICONDEROGA was commissioned, and the thousands of family, friends and co-workers who shared this day with us will long remember the exultant shout of 331 plankowners as we claimed her as our own: "TICONDEROGA"!



Below: Navy Band

Left, above and below: The crew at Quarters



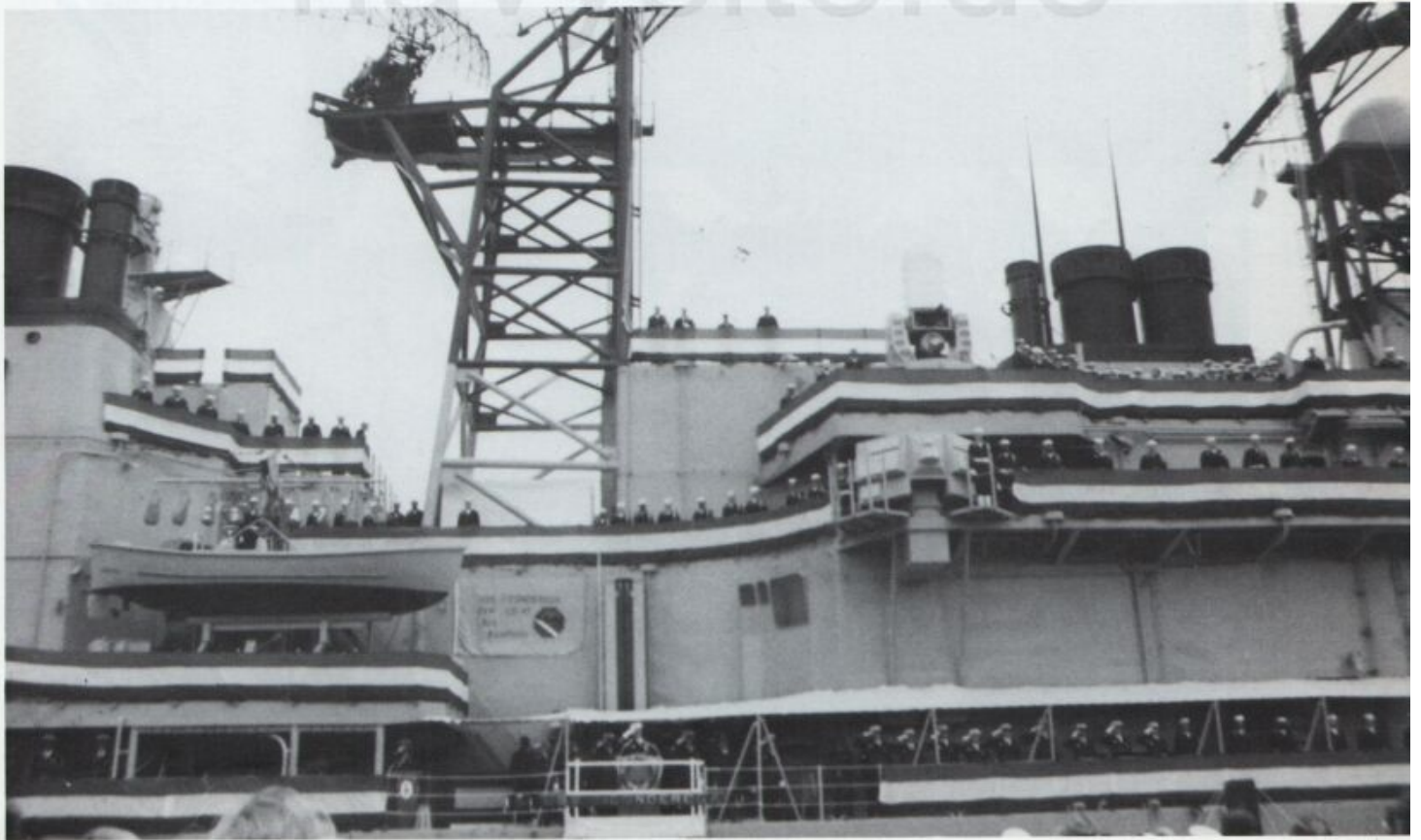


Color Guard



CO inspects the Honor Guard

TICONDEROGA during "come alive"



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Secretary Of Defense
CASPER WEINBERGER▶▶





◀ *First They Waited . . .*

FAMILIES
FRIENDS
GUESTS



▲ *Then They Attacked*