



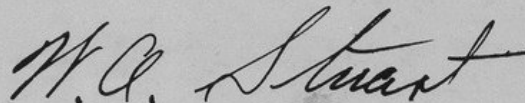
The Captain Speaks

It has been only a short time since the TICONDEROGA left the yard after conversion to an angled deck carrier. The improved fighting ability afforded by the angled deck makes this ship an important addition to the Pacific Fleet. I am sure you are all aware that it takes more than steam catapults, modern radar, an angled deck and 40,000 tons of steel to make a carrier into an effective fighting ship. The men who man her are the most important and vital component required to make a fighting ship. It requires men dedicated to the task at hand, endowed with those strong traits of character; honesty, loyalty, truthfulness, courage, devotion, and humor which have been a part of good sailors since the era of man began.

It is hoped that all of us are able to see beyond the daily routine and see our role and the role of our ship in their true perspective. We are citizens of the greatest nation on the face of the earth and members of the best Navy in the world. This nation and this navy did not come into being by mere chance or happenstance but were through the blessings of almighty God carved from a wilderness and built upon the courage, sacrifice, and devotion to duty by those who have gone before us. Ours is the rich heritage passed on to us by our forebearers. Today it is our task to patrol the ramparts that protect that heritage so that we may continue to enjoy those benefits of free men and pass on those benefits unalayed to posterity.

I need not remind you that we as members of the forces afloat are only days and perhaps hours from any troubled spot in the world. It behooves us to train and prepare ourselves to perform our jobs to the best of our ability so that we can perform any task that may be assigned to us. If each of us does his best at all times, we shall all be able to perform any assigned task successfully.

This book is a pictorial record of work and play aboard the TICONDEROGA. It is a book that will grow in intrinsic value to us over the years. May each of us look over this tour of duty as one of the most useful and enjoyable periods of service.



W. A. STUART
Captain, USN



CDR. Ralph F. Locke, USN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER