

WELCOME

ABOARD



## "WELCOME ABOARD"

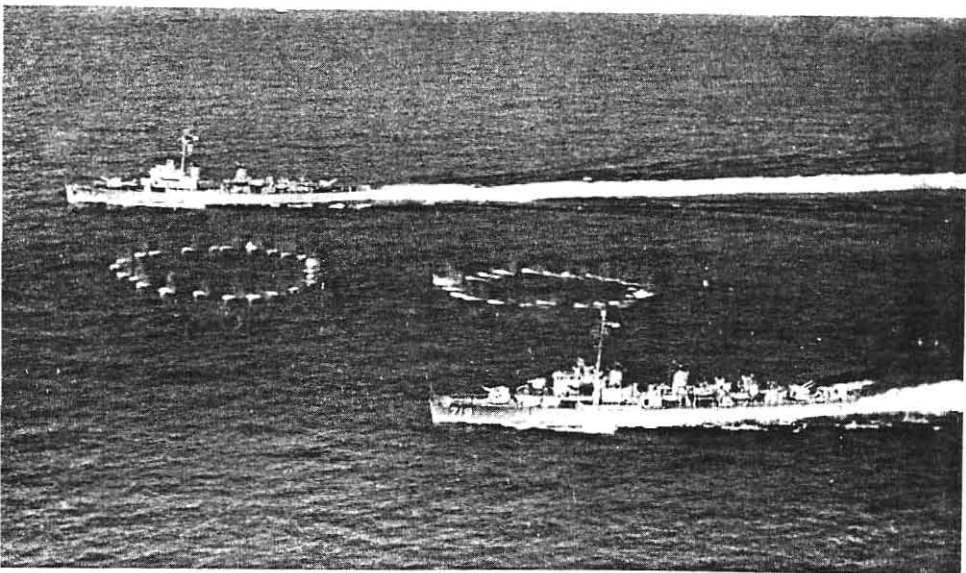
We are always pleased to have you visit ships of the Cruiser-Destroyer Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and we hope that your visit with a unit of the largest seagoing command in the world will be an interesting and informative one. If you have questions about what you see, by all means ask one of the Navymen nearby and he will do his best to answer your questions.

Statistically speaking, this ship is one of nearly 200 ships in the Atlantic Fleet Cruiser-Destroyer Force. The ships are manned and supported by approximately 52,000 men and, if their families were included, these people could make up a city approximately the size of Jacksonville, Florida.

Ships of the Force are homeported all along the Eastern Seaboard from Maine to Key West, with several ships homeported along the Gulf Coast. They operate in every ocean of the world, as far north as Iceland and as far south as Antarctica.

## CRUISER-DESTROYER FORCE,





# U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

## THE CRUISER-DESTROYER FORCE MISSION

With seventy percent of the earth's surface covered by water, maintaining control of the seas is of paramount importance. This mission falls largely to ships of the Cruiser-Destroyer Force, and to the officers and enlisted men who man them. Outfitted with the latest weapons and equipments, these ships are ready to repel any threat, be it on, under, or above the seas.

Cruisers and destroyers have many capabilities to help them carry out their vital mission. Among them are convoy and patrol duties, reconnaissance missions, coastal defense, shore bombardment, air defense, and antisubmarine warfare. They are also called on to evacuate personnel from trouble spots and to help in time of national emergency. Ships of the Cruiser-Destroyer Force are also employed in diplomatic roles the world over. When trouble flares, destroyers are invariably the first ships on the scene.

Ships of the Force, and the technically trained cruiser-destroyermen who man them, stand ready at all times to assure freedom of the seas.

# ***Ships of the Force***

The Cruiser-Destroyer Force is made up of approximately 200 ships, ranging from the 1,200-ton World War II destroyer escorts to the 10,670-ton heavy cruisers. These ships are divided into four basic types, with many different sizes and specialties within each type.

Destroyer escorts are the smallest ships of the force. Their jobs range from radar picket patrol to convoy escort and Reserve training duties. Escorts have grown through the years, from 1,200 tons in World War II to the latest 3,524-ton *Brooke* class. Some of the later escorts include such features as guided missiles and nuclear power.

The destroyer, which comes in varying sizes, is larger than her little sister, the destroyer escort, and she carries a bigger punch. Ships of four classes of these destroyers -- *Gearing*, *Allen M. Sumner*, *Forrest Sherman*, and *Charles F. Adams* -- comprise fifty percent of the Force. Many of the older destroyers have undergone an extensive modernization under the Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization Program, designed to lengthen their useful life and add new equipment and weapons.

Job specialties of the destroyer include antisubmarine warfare, shore bombardment, and anti-air warfare, among others. The latest additions to the destroyer family are armed with supersonic surface-to-air guided missiles, antisubmarine rockets, rapid-fire, dual-purpose guns, and homing torpedoes. The newer guided missile destroyers of the *Belknap* class displace nearly 8,000 tons, more than three times the size of World War II destroyers.

The big puncher of the fleet is the cruiser. With her multiplicity of weapons, she has replaced the battleship as the fleet's heavyweight in firepower. Typical of these ships is the heavy cruiser *Boston*. Armed with two twin Terrier missile launchers, as well as two triple turrets of six-inch guns and twin five-inch 38-caliber guns, she displaces 10,670 tons and is longer than two football fields placed end to end.

Rounding out the force are the destroyer tenders. Their mission is to provide services to destroyers and escorts operating beyond the reach of shipyard facilities. They keep other ships of the force operating by providing supplies and maintenance.



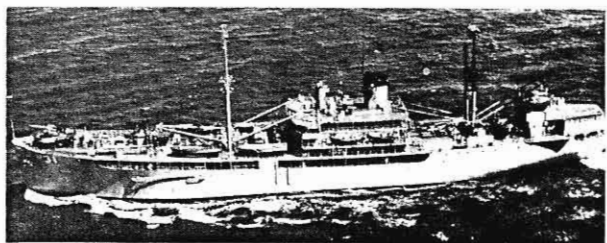
Destroyer Escort



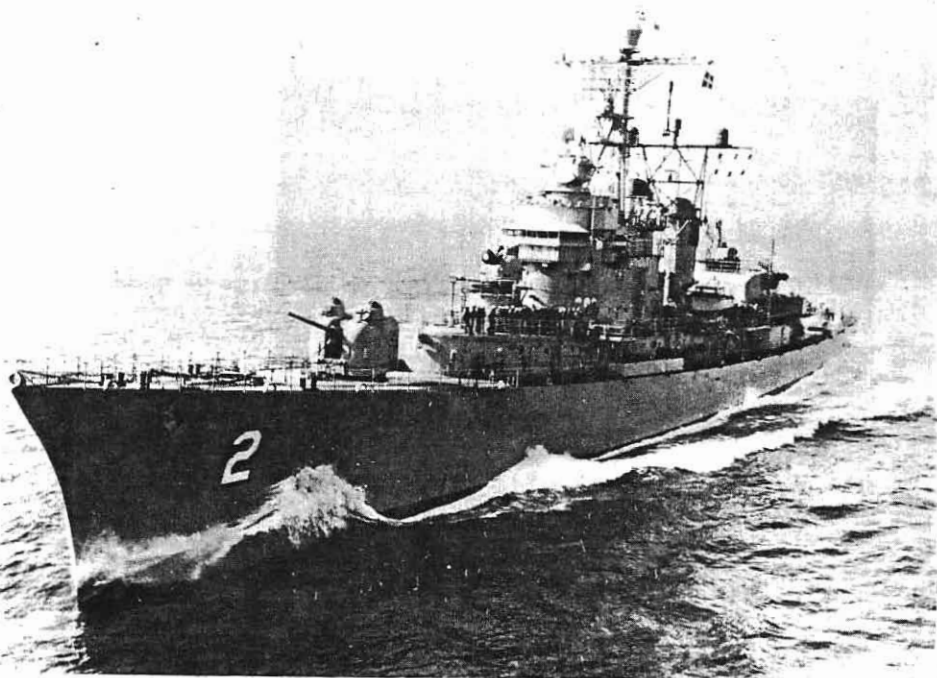
Cruiser



Destroyer



Destroyer Tender



*A destroyer is a lovely ship, probably the nicest fighting ship of all.*

*Battleships are a little like steel cities or great factories of destruction. Aircraft carriers are floating flying fields. Even cruisers are big pieces of machinery, but a destroyer is all boat.*

*In the beautiful clean lines of her, in her speed and roughness, in her curious gallantry, she is completely a ship, in the old sense.*

*John Steinbeck*



# WELCOME ABOARD

## USS NOA (DD-841)

**Introduction:** The Destroyer Noa is the second vessel to bear the name of Midshipman Loveman Noa, USN. The first was the torpedo boat destroyer, DD 343, later converted to APD 24 which was sunk during the battle of Pelelia, Palau Islands on September 12, 1944. It is interesting to note that the DD 343 carried an airplane during the period 1941-42, which was the first and possibly the only time a destroyer has carried an airplane in the history of the Navy.

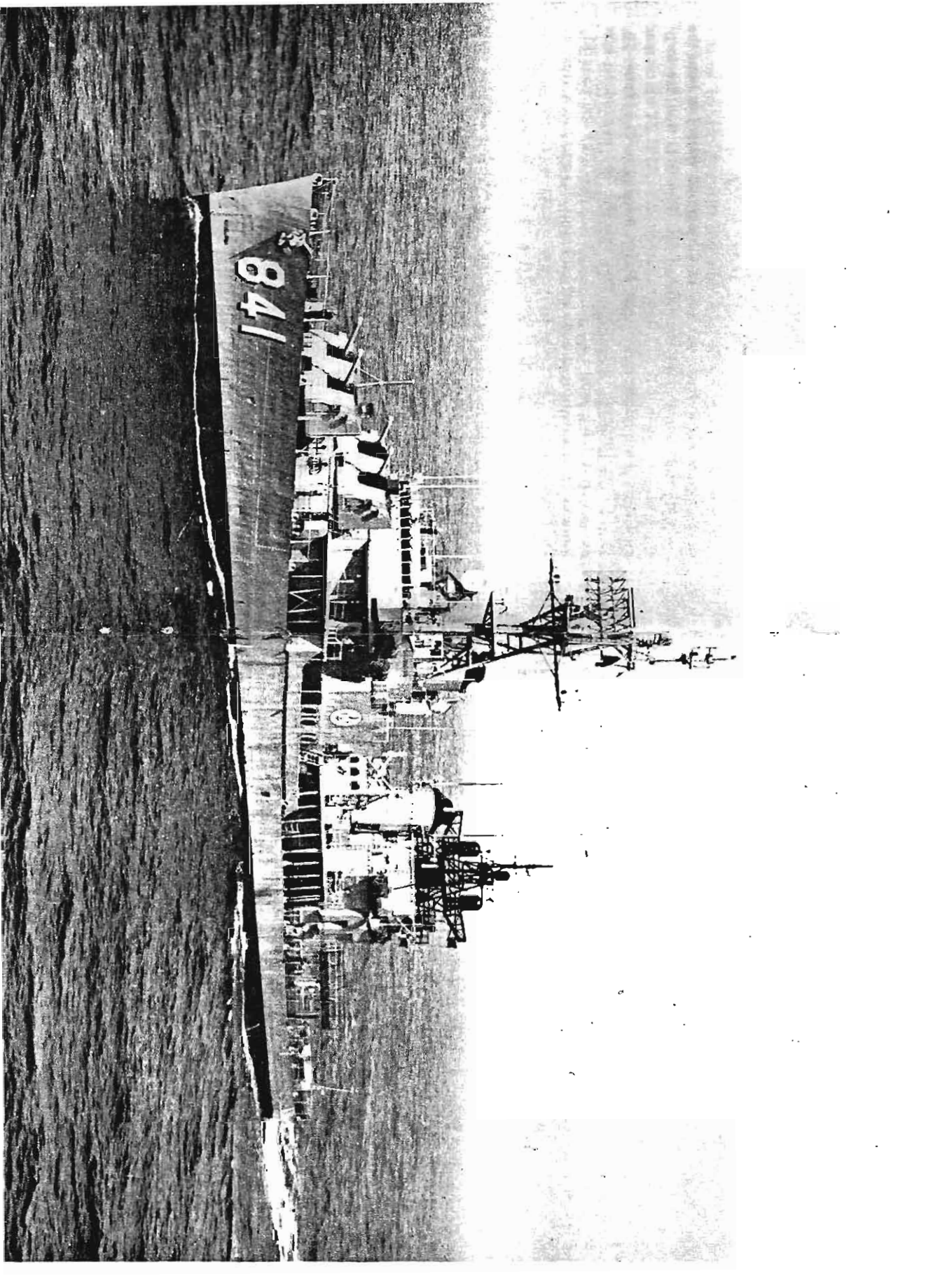
**Midshipman Loveman Noa:** Midshipman Loveman Noa, USN was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on October 5, 1878; appointed as a cadet to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1896 and graduated in 1900, Loveman Noa was sent to an Asiatic station on board the Marivieles. On October 26, 1901 Midshipman Noa with an armed crew of six men put off in a small boat from the Marivieles to watch for boats engaged in smuggling contraband of war from the Island of Leyte to Samar Island. The wind turned against them and they were forced to land in a small cove on the Island of Samar. While scouting the nearby woods, Midshipman Noa was stabbed by Filiuino insurgents and died on October 26, 1901 before aid reached him.

**History:** USS Noa, homeported in Mayport, Florida, has served primarily with the U.S. Second Fleet. Noa has made numerous deployments to the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and has also made an around the world cruise. In 1960 Noa underwent extensive overhaul in the Fleet Rehabilitation and Modernization Program (FRAM). In addition to new and better equipped working compartments and living spaces for the crew, Noa received a sophisticated anti submarine weapons system, including ASROC (anti-submarine rocket), modern torpedos, and facilities for the DASH system (Drone Anti-submarine Helicopter). Two twin-mount 5 inch/38 guns were retained from her original weapons system.

In 1962, USS Noa recovered Mercury Astronaut Lt. Col. John H. Glenn, Jr., after he had completed his historic three orbit's around the earth.

Noa is 391 feet long, 41 feet in beam, and displaces 3,050 tons. Her steam turbine propulsion system enables her to cruise at speeds above 30 knots.









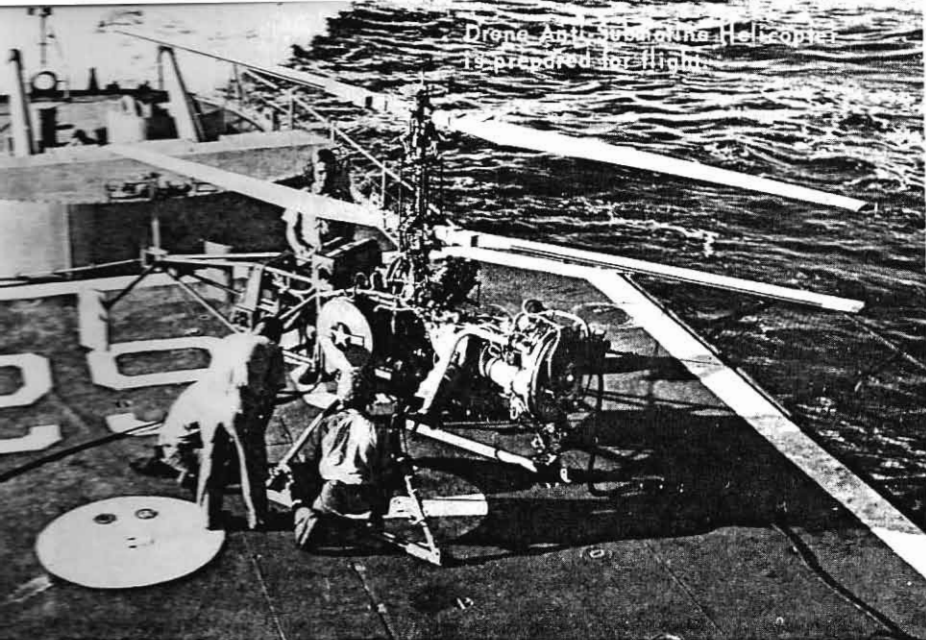
**Commander Horace D. Mann, Jr.**

Commander Mann was commissioned from the Navy's Officer Candidate School, Newport, Rhode Island, in March 1953, the same year his father retired after thirty-two years of active naval service. Before entering the Navy in 1952, CDR. Mann attended the University of North Carolina receiving the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Master of Education.

He has served with Assault Craft Unit Two at Little Creek, Va., was on the staff of Commander Naval Base, Norfolk, Va. and instructed in the NROTC Unit at the University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. CDR. Mann has been to sea in the destroyer escort Edmonds (DE 406), radar picket destroyer Rogers (DDR 876) and commanded the 442 foot tank landing ship DeSoto County (LST 1171). He recently completed a tour in OPNAV in the Pentagon and attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. prior to reporting to the Noa.

Commander Mann is married to the former Miss Elizabeth Jean Putnam of Oil City, Pennsylvania. They have three children: Karen Elizabeth 13, Bobbie Sue 11 and Horace D. III, 8.

Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter is prepared for flight.



## Weapons of the Force

The count is minus four and holding . . . the count is resumed at minus four...three...two. . .one. . .Missile Away, Missile Away.....

This would have been strange jargon indeed in 1902 when the first destroyer, *Bainbridge*, a 420-ton, coal-fired ship, was commissioned. But, since then, the destroyer has vastly increased her capabilities, and today missile countdowns aboard ship are common.

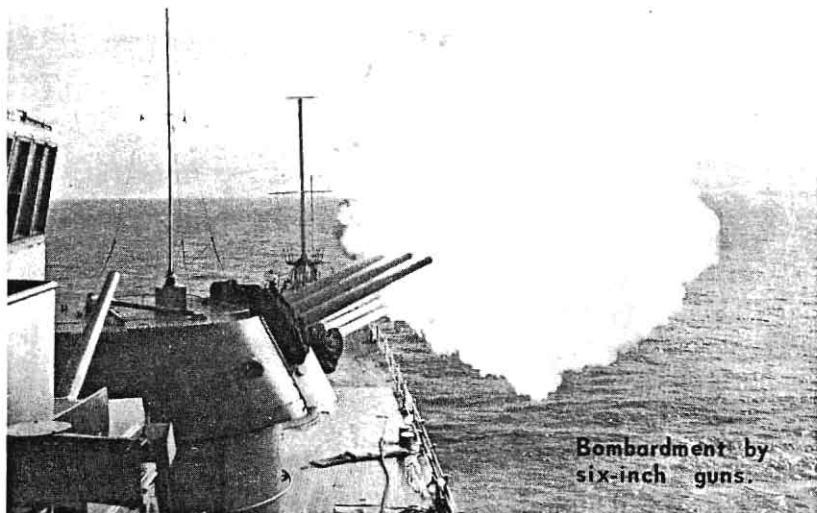
Today, shipboard components include such advances as nuclear power, variable depth sonar, missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads, and complex electronic equipment.

Foremost of the missiles is Talos, carried aboard cruisers. It is 30 feet long and has a range of more than 65 miles. This missile can carry either a nuclear or conventional payload.

Terrier, like Talos, is capable of surface-to-air or surface-to-surface delivery. It is 27 feet long, has a range of 15 miles and is carried aboard cruisers and destroyers.

Tartar, an anti-aircraft missile, is carried aboard cruisers, destroyers and escorts. This 15-foot missile has a range of ten miles.

The destroyer's role in antisubmarine warfare is similar to



**Bombardment by  
six-inch guns.**

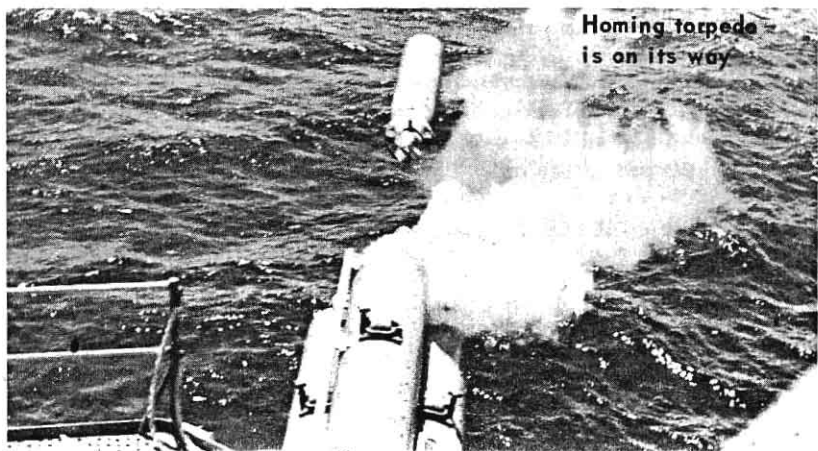
her World War II antisubmarine warfare missions, but new weapons and techniques have made the destroyer a more potent and dangerous adversary than ever before.

In World War II, the destroyer had to pass directly over a submarine to drop her depth charges, or "ash cans." Today, antisubmarine torpedoes -- small, high-speed, electric-powered units which seek out their targets acoustically -- are common weapons on destroyers.

Another new weapon is the

Antisubmarine Rocket, a one-thousand pound missile, carrying either a homing torpedo or depth charge. Called ASROC, it gives the destroyer an attack range that can be measured in miles instead of yards. ASROC is launched like a missile and travels to the target area through the air. It then enters the water and seeks out its target.

Hedgehogs are mortar-type projectiles which are fired in groups of 24 or 48. They land in a circular pattern and explode on contact. Their combined



**Homing torpedo  
is on its way**

explosions produce a shotgun-like effect on a submarine caught within the circle.

Finally, there is the Drone Antisubmarine Helicopter, called DASH. This is a small, radio-controlled, unmanned helicopter, capable of carrying either homing torpedoes or depth charges to the area of an enemy submarine.

Detection methods have changed, too. Today, sonar is the ears of a ship. Conventional sonar equipment is located on the keel of a ship to transmit a sound and receive its echoes. Variable Depth Sonar, the latest advance, is lowered beneath the "thermal barrier", a barrier created by layers of water of different temperatures. The thermal barrier was a favorite hiding place for submarines, but lowering the VDS device from the stern of a ship has rendered the submarine's best hiding place virtually useless.

Not to be forgotten are the ships' three, five and eight-inch guns. These are radar and computer controlled and can be used against either air or surface targets. They are effective against surface shipping, and can provide gunfire support for amphibious landings, and support search and destroy operations.

Taken together, these weapons enable the men of a ship to wage any kind of warfare, limited or general, in practically any place, against any aggressor.



Talos missile  
on the way.

# *a personal glimpse*

hard-working . . . . .



competitive . . . . .



well-traveled . . . . .



homesick . . . . .



lively . . . . .



helpful . . . . .



well-fed . . . . .



lonely . . . . .



and, always glad to be home.





