JOHN D. H. KANE, Jr., CAPTAIN, USN

USS SPRINGFIELD (CLG 7)

USS SPRINGFIELD, commissioned as a light cruiser on 10 September 1944 at Boston, Massachusetts, was named jointly for the cities of Springfield Massachusetts and Springfield Illinois. Early in 1945 she headed for Pacific waters, and in March began 67 days of continuous fighting in support of the Okinawa campaign. In July of that year she participated in the final offensive of the war against the Japanese mainland, operating in anti-shipping raids and in coastal bombardments. From that time until placed in the Pacific Reserve Fleet in San Francisco in January 1949, SPRINGFIELD operated in the Far East and along the west coast of the United States.

In March 1957, the first stage of SPRINGFIELD's conversion to a Terrier guided missile cruiser was begun when she was brought under tow through the Panama Canal to the Bethlehem Steel Company Shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts. The conversion was accomplished there and at the Boston Naval Shipyard, where SPRINGFIELD was recommissioned as CLG 7 on 2 July 1960.

SPRINGFIELD departed for the Mediterranean on 4 December 1960, and ten days later at Palermo, Sicily, officially relieved USS DES MOINES as Flagship of Vice Admiral George W. Anderson, USN, Commander United States Sixth Fleet, with homeport at Villefranche-sur-Mer, France.

For the next two-and-one-half years, SPRINGFIELD carried out her Flagship duties in the Mediterranean, visiting the major Mediterranean ports in both the eastern and western basins, as well as many lessknown cities such as Dubrovnik and Split, Yugoslavia, Famagusta, Cyprus and Ajaccio, Corsica. She also participated in a number of Sixth Fleet and NATO operations. Between port visits and training exercises, SPRINGFIELD spent approximately one-third of her time in her homeport at Villefranche-sur-Mer, a beautifully picturesque fishing and resort village situated between Nice and Monaco on the French Riviera.

HERBERT H. RIES, CAPTAIN, USN

CHARLES GUTHRIE, CAPTAIN, USN, EXEC