

# FLAG OPERATIONS OFFICER



**CAPTAIN R.J. COONTZ**

Captain Coontz reported to COMCRUDESFLOT EIGHT as Operations Officer in August 1971. Prior to his present assignment, he served in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Research and Development Assistant for Flag Command and Control Systems.

Captain Coontz graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949. His first tour of duty was USS MISSOURI (BB 63), where he served as Main Battery Assistant and Communications Battery Assistant. During MISSOURI's first tour in the Korean conflict, he acted as MISSOURI's airborne gunfire spotter, for which he was awarded the Air Medal. Captain Coontz's subsequent tours included CIC Officer School, Glenview, Ill.; Operations Officer, USS CHARLES S. SPERRY (DD-697); Commanding Officer, USS PCE 870; General Line School, Monterey, Calif.; Electronics Instructor, U.S. Naval Academy; Executive Officer, USS SELLSTROM (DER-225); NTDS R and D Assistant Computer Programmer, Navy Electronics laboratory and Fleet Computer Programming Center, San Diego, Calif; CIC Officer, USS CHICAGO (CG-11); Executive Officer, USS HALSEY (DLG-23); and Commanding Officer USS WEDDERBURN (DD-684), from which he went to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations and to his present billet. During his Naval career, Captain Coontz has had extensive tours of duty in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets.