



Commanding Officer

Commander Jack W. BOWEN was born March 23, 1928, in Myers, Kentucky, the son of Mr. & Mrs. Arnold C. BOWEN. Following graduation from Carlisle High School, Carlisle, Kentucky in 1945, where he was a letterman in football and baseball, he attended the University of Kentucky for one year prior to entering the Naval Academy in 1947.

Having graduated from Annapolis in the Class of '51, he served a two year tour of duty aboard USS BON HOMME RICHARD (CVA 31), followed by a one year tour as Instructor of American History at the Naval Preparatory School, prior to reporting aboard USS TURNER (DDR 834) as Chief Engineer in May of 1954. His next assignment was on the staff of Military Sea Transport Service in Washington from May, 1956, to August, 1958. Commander BOWEN's first command extended from October, 1958, to June, 1960, when he served as Commanding Officer of USS LINCOLN COUNTY (LST 898). This was followed by two years as a student at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, where he received a BS in Electrical Engineering. Having completed his postgraduate education, Commander BOWEN once again assumed duties as Chief Engineer, this time for three years aboard USS GALVESTON (CLG 3), then serving as flagship for Cruiser-Destroyer Flotilla NINE. In April, 1965, he once again returned to Washington to serve on the staff of CNO, in the Ships Material Readiness Division (OP 43). Commander BOWEN's last assignment prior to assuming command of USS HERBERT J. THOMAS (DD 833) was as Chief Engineer of USS TICONDEROGA (CVA 14) from April, 1967, to October, 1968. He received a Navy Commendation Medal for his service aboard TICONDEROGA during combat operations in Vietnam in the Spring of 1968.