

DECOMMISSIONING  
CEREMONY



**USS TULARE**  
**LKA-112**

10 JANUARY 1980

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# USS TULARE (LKA-112)

Naval Air Station, Alameda, California  
15 February 1980

## PROGRAM

*Invocation*

Commander John W. Berger, CHC, USN

*Introduction of the Principal Speaker*

Captain Richard V. Dalton, USN  
Commander Destroyer Squadron Twenty Seven

*Principal Speaker*

Rear Admiral Edward W. Carter III, USN  
Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Three

*Reading of Decommissioning Order*

Commander James P. Breece, USNR  
Commanding Officer

*Presentation of Commissioning Pennant*

*Close the Ship's Log and Secure the Watch*

*Benediction*



## REAR ADMIRAL EDWARD W. CARTER III, USN

Born in Winston Salem in 1928, RADM Carter was raised in Asheville, North Carolina. He enlisted in the Navy in 1945 for two years prior to entering the U.S. Naval Academy from which he graduated in 1951. RADM and Mrs. Carter, the former Billie Jane Waltemeyer of Baltimore County, Maryland, have four children: Betsy, Michael, Patrick, and Rebecca.

RADM Carter served onboard USS SANBORN (APA-193) and USS LST 528 prior to training staff duty at the Amphibious Warfare School, Little Creek. After serving as Gunnery Officer on USS R.K. HUNTINGTON (DD-781), he studied at and received a Masters of Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June 1959.

Following tours as Fire Control Officer on USS BOSTON (CAG-1) and as a student at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, RADM Carter reported to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations in July 1962 as Assistant for Surface Missile Systems. He next was assigned as Executive Officer of USS FARRAGUT (DLG-6) followed by two years in USS LONG BEACH (CGN-9) as Weapons Officer. In July 1967 he reported as a student to USAF Air War College. RADM Carter assumed command of USS TOWERS (DDG-9) in July 1968. In July 1970 he reported to Headquarters, Naval Ordnance Systems Command as Director, Weapons Systems Integration Division, and he was assigned additional duty as the first Deputy Director of the Chief of Naval Material's Tactical Digital Systems Office. RADM Carter assumed command of the USS BIDDLE (DLG-34) on 3 July 1972. He was selected for promotion to the grade of Rear Admiral in January 1974 and assumed that rank upon his relief as Commanding Officer of USS BIDDLE in August 1974. In September 1974, RADM Carter assumed duty as Director, Surface Combat Systems Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. From June 1976 to June 1978, he served as Deputy Commander for Weapons, Systems and Engineering in the Naval Sea Systems Command with additional duty to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Executive Manager for Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technology and Training. RADM Carter assumed command of Cruiser-Destroyer Group THREE on 11 May 1979.

RADM Carter, who is a designated Naval Ordnance Engineer and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officer, is decorated as follows: Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars in lieu of second and third awards, Bronze Star Medal with Combat V, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Navy Distinguished Service Order, (Second Class), the Navy Unit Commendation Award, two Meritorious Unit Commendation awards, and the Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation with Gallantry Cross.



## CAPTAIN RICHARD V. DALTON

### United States Navy

Captain Dalton was born 8 March, 1930 in Manila R.P. Son of Rear Admiral and Mrs. C.M. Dalton, USN (Ret) of San Diego, Captain Dalton was graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1953. His first assignment was in USS BREMERTON (CA-130) until 1956 during which time he made two deployments to the Far East.

In 1956, he transferred to USS WATTS (DD-567) as gunnery officer and ASW officer, with a deployment to the Far East and Taiwan patrol duty before becoming Aide and Flag Lieutenant in 1958 to Vice Admiral R.E. Libby, Commander First Fleet, with headquarters in San Diego. He was assigned in 1960 as Commanding Officer, USS TOMBIGBEE (AOG-11) homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and took his first ship to the Far East. In 1962, he left TOMBIGBEE for Washington, D.C. and duty in the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Officer Promotion Plans Division of the Plans and Policy Section.

After two years in BUPERS he was given command of USS IMPLICIT (MSO-55), homeported in Long Beach, California. While CO of IMPLICIT, he deployed to the Far East and spent eight months on Market Time Operations in the South China Sea and in the Gulf of Thailand off the Coast of South Vietnam until 1966. Upon returning from the Far East, Captain Dalton attended the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School at Monterey, California where he was a student in Engineering Science and Government and Politics of Southeast Asian Countries. This was followed in 1967 by a tour as Commander Mine Division Eighty One, homeported in Panama City, Florida. This duty included a deployment with his four Ocean Minesweepers to the Mediterranean Sea for operations with the Sixth Fleet.

In March 1969, Captain Dalton was ordered to duty with the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam headquarters in Saigon. He was assigned duties in the Combat Support Branch of the Surface Operations Division of the Joint Staff and dealt primarily with Riverine Warfare operations. Upon return to the United States, he attended the U.S. Navy Destroyer School at Newport, R.I. and the ASW School at San Diego, California. In June 1970, Captain Dalton again headed west and took command of USS LYMAN K. SWENSON (DD-729) in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of South Vietnam. Upon completion of that deployment he brought his ship back to San Diego in September 1970. He immediately took command of USS HULL (DD-945) and returned to the coast of South Vietnam where he spent a major portion of the deployment conducting Naval gunfire support at the DMZ with short periods in support of troops in the Mekong Delta. In March of 1972, Captain Dalton returned to Washington, D.C. where he spent 3½ years, first as a staff officer in the Career Motivation Plans and Programs Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel Branch. His final assignment in BUPERS was as head of the Congressional Liaison Branch. Returning to San Diego in 1975, Captain Dalton took command of Coastal River Squadron ONE where he remained for two years before taking command of Mine Squadron FIVE (NRF) in Long Beach, California in August 1977.

Captain Dalton is married to the former Mildred Patricia Reeves of Denver, Colorado. They have three sons, Rick (19), Robby (16) and David (15). Rick is now an NROTC Midshipman at the University of Southern California.

Medals and Awards: Bronze Star, Gold Star in lieu of second Bronze Star, Joint Services Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation, VNN Distinguished Service Order - Second Class, China Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, RVN Service Medal (4 Campaigns), United Nations Service Medal, and RVN Campaign Medal.



## COMMANDER JAMES P. BREECE

### United States Naval Reserve

Commander Breece was commissioned from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1961, having received a Congressional appointment from St. Louis County, Missouri. On commissioning he was assigned to USS JOHN A. BOLE (DD-755) where he served as Main Propulsion Assistant and Damage Control Assistant. Following the completion of Engineer Officer School he reported to USS MALOY (EDE-791) and served as Engineer Officer until 1965. This was followed by a tour as Operations Officer on USS EVANS (DE-1023) through 1966. His first shore tour was in Washington, D.C. in the Enlisted Distribution Division of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

Upon return to sea duty in 1969, Commander Breece served as Executive Officer on USS LAFFEY (DD-724) until 1971. In 1971 he left the Navy to work in the Maritime Shipbuilding and Shipping Industry on the Great Lakes. During this period he retained his commission as a Selected Reserve.

In January 1974, Commander Breece was recalled to active duty, and designated a TAR (Training and Administration Reserve) Officer. His initial assignment was Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Salt Lake City, Utah and U.S. Naval Reserve Facility, Provo, Utah. In October 1975, he was reassigned as Chief Staff Officer for Commander Destroyer Squadron 27. In May 1977, he was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Reserve Coordinator for the Surface Warfare Division. Commander Breece relieved as Executive Officer in September 1978 and as Commanding Officer on January 10, 1980. Following decommissioning of TULARF, Commander Breece is ordered as Commanding Officer, USS MAUNA KEA (AE-22).

Commander Breece's decorations include the Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medals, and Battle Efficiency "E" ribbon.

Commander Breece is married to the former Janie Warfield of Newark, Ohio. The Breece's reside in the Bay Area.



## HISTORY

The USS TULARE (LKA-112) was originally constructed by the Bethlehem Pacific Construction Steel Corporation at San Francisco, California in 1953 for the United States Maritime Administration. Her keel was laid on February 16, 1953 and launched and christened EVERGREEN MARINER on December 22, 1953 by Miss Carolyn Knight, daughter of the former California Governor Goodwin Knight.

The EVERGREEN MARINER never sailed in her civilian capacity. Just prior to delivery to the Maritime Administration, the United States Navy exercised its option under provision of the Subsidization Program and acquired ownership of the newly constructed ship. The task of converting the vessel into the Navy's largest and fastest Attack Cargo Ship was completed in the same shipyard and by the same company that built her. By January 12, 1956 the conversion was completed and the ship rechristened USS TULARE (AKA-112) in honor of Tulare County, California, a county in the south central section of the state. She is the first vessel in Naval History to be so named. The name Tulare is derived from the word "Tule", a large species of bullbrush found in Tulare County.

As an Attack Cargo Ship TULARE was the first ship of the type to be rigged with four large booms on her two quadruped masts capable of lifting loads as much as sixty tons, which includes some of the heaviest trucks and tanks now in the Marine Corps inventory. These "jumbo" booms and many smaller 10 ton booms provide the means for rapid handling of cargo. The concept of amphibious vertical assault was incorporated in TULARE by the construction of a 4,000 square foot flight deck. From this platform TULARE is capable of transferring cargo and personnel by helicopter.

Six large cargo holds, each equipped with quick opening roller hatch covers, permit the ship to carry at full capacity 310,000 cubic feet or 7,750 metric tons of cargo.

To augment her capabilities as part of an amphibious cargo ship, nine LCM-6 landing craft are nested aboard her six hatches. Each LCM-6 is capable of carrying either a large truck, two jeeps, or 120 combat ready troops. The ship off-loads cargo into her landing craft. These boats, having bowramps which may be fully lowered, race through the water to the beaches in a continuous cycle of unloading.

TULARE's overall length is 564 feet, while her beam is 76 feet. Her converted Mariner Class hull has a displacement of 18,000 tons when fully loaded and when commissioned was one of the fastest single screw ships in the world, capable of sustained speeds in excess of twenty knots for a distance of over 10,000 miles. TULARE is able to transit around the world at twelve knots without refueling.

TULARE saw service in the Vietnam conflict, during which she participated in amphibious operations and transported equipment and personnel from San Diego to DaNang. For her performance TULARE was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Vietnam Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Service Ribbon and Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with nine stars, which she proudly displays.

## HISTORY (cont.)

In July 1975, TULARE was transferred to Destroyer Squadron TWENTY SEVEN in the Naval Reserve Force and tasked with an additional mission of training her Selected Reserve crew toward mobilization readiness. Coincident with her transfer to the Naval Reserve Force, TULARE shifted homeport from San Diego to San Francisco. Since transfer to the NRF, TULARE has continued as an active amphibious asset participating in Fleet Exercises and meeting Marine Corps and Army training requirements, including completion of a recent employment to MIDPAC and participation in Operation Sea Thunder 79 with the Army 25th Infantry Division Artillery. This sustained outstanding performance has resulted in recognition by award of two consecutive Battle Efficiency "E" awards and departmental awards of Engineering "E", Operations/CIC "E", Communications "C" and the Amphibious Assault Award. Along with her campaign ribbons TULARE proudly displays the Battle "E" ribbon with two E's.

In recap, during her twenty-four years of commissioned service, TULARE successfully completed fifteen employments to the Western Pacific, embarked in excess of 5500 Marine Corps and Army Troops, unloaded and offloaded 480,000 tons of cargo and was assigned over 2000 officers and crewmen.

## AWARDS

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION  
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION  
VIETNAM PRESIDENTIAL  
UNIT CITATION

VIETNAM SERVICE RIBBON  
VIETNAM CAMPAIGN RIBBON  
(9 STARS)  
BATTLE EFFICIENCY AWARD  
(2 E'S)



COMMANDING OFFICERS  
OF  
USS TULARE (LKA-112)

Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> D.W. <sup>HILBY</sup> Todd, USN (37)	02 Jan 56 - Aug 56
Captain <sup>C.H.A.L.D.</sup> C.J. Mackenzie, USN (34)	Aug 56 - Sep 57
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> E.R. Crawford, USN (36)	Sep 57 - Sep 58
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> J.B. Rutter, USN	27 Sep 58 - Oct 59
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> L.J. O'Brien, USN (38)	07 Oct 59 - Dec 60
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> J.R. Schwartz, USN	17 Dec 60 - Mar 62
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> D.B. Ramage, USN (36)	Mar 62 - Jul 63
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> B.C. Byrnside, USN (41)	11 Jul 63 - Jul 64
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> W.E. Eder, USN	04 Jul 64 - Oct 64
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> S.J. Robinson, JR., USN (43)	30 Oct 64 - Oct 65
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> R.D. Thompson, USN	Oct 65 - Mar 68
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> T.B. Russell, JR., USN (46)	Mar 68 - Jun 69
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> J.P. Law, USN (48)	Jun 69 - Sep 70
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> W.B. Bagwell, USN	18 Sep 70 - Oct 71
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> G.R. Cheek, USN	Oct 71 - May 73
Commander <sup>CHALD</sup> V.R. Bussard, JR., USN	May 73 - May 74
Commander <sup>CHALD</sup> R.F. McCullough, USN	May 74 - Sep 76
Captain <sup>CHALD</sup> J.L. Roundtree, USN	03 Sep 76 - Jul 78
Commander <sup>CHALD</sup> J.B. McKinney, USN (44)	Jul 78 - Jan 80
Commander <sup>CHALD</sup> J.P. Breece, USNR (61)	Jan 80 - Feb 80

CAPTAIN HAROLD PRESTON STREETER

OCT 65 - OCT 66

## SHIP'S CREW USS TULARE (LKA-112)

Executive Officer – LT W. L. Roberts, USN (74) #6

Engineering Department

Engineering Officer – LT R. Hundley, USN

MPA – ENS P. S. Craig, USN

ENCM Lesneski	BTFA Barnes	EM2 Asido
BTC Taylor	BTFA Hall	EM2 Timmer
HTC Calkins	BTFN Landmesser	HT2 Roberts
MM1 Milton	BTFN Smith	HT3 Bruun
EN1 Craker	EMFN Barnes	HT3 Page
MR1 Centeno	EMFN Rillon	HT3 Wentworth
MM2 Luper	HTFN Hayes	IC3 Lang
MM2 Miller	FN Gibson	BT3 Price
EN2 Bradshaw	FA Locke	BT3 Siber
BT2 Costales	FR May	MM3 Reyes
BT2 Sarne	FA Jones	MMFN Buck
BT2 Siber	FA Trenerry	MMFN Stevens
EM2 Destura	MMC Rodriguez	ENFN Runge
HT2 Deremer	BIC Nutbtock	MRFN Muenzel
HT2 Stillingner	HTC Moller	BTFN Gabin
BT3 Surface	EN1 Gaddi	BTFA Kimberly
MM3 Brown	EN1 Rodriguez	BTFR Orr
MR3 Strong	MM2 Castellano	BTFN Watkins
IC3 Schexnayder	MM2 Mathe	EMFN Larkin
EM3 Elliot	MM2 Simmons	EMFN Rudolph
EN3 Harty	EN2 March	FN Dahl
MM3 Risner	BT2 Nicholas	FA Kreklow
MMFN Cortez	BT2 Bruno	FR Marseille
FNFA McGuire		FN Musselwhite
ENFN Wilges		FA Schubert

## SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Supply Officer – ENS W. H. Miles, III, USNR

Assistant Supply Officer – ENS E. T. deGuia, USNR

MSC Dimaano	SK3 Thompson	MS2 Ocomen
MS1 Pacumio	MS3 Kane	MS2 Wulf
MS1 Aguilar	SH3 Capistrano	SK3 Morris
SK1 Metz	SK3 Sauler	SH3 Hurst
DK2 Blaquera	MSSN Shaw	DK3 Pascua
MS2 Sayo	MS1 Kueder	MS3 Remund
SK3 Fisher	MS1 Cuyo	SH3 Sanders
SH3 Horton	SH1 Barnes	MSSN Franklin
	DK1 Foronda	

## DECK DEPARTMENT

First LT – LT L. L. Hallman, USN

Gunnery Officer – LTJG P. C. Bohren, USNR

BMCS Humfleet	SN Peacock	SN Aguilar
BM1 Blaydes	SN Plaschko	SN Culver
BM2 Bratton	FN Roach	SA Hart
BM2 Odell	SN Silva	SN Juchno
GMG2 Ryan	SN Thompson	SA Lathrop
BM3 Jefferson	PNSN Rolen	SA Mead
SA Chambers	BMC Simmons	SA Patrick
SA Friscia	GMG1 Wells	SN Perry
SA Javier	BM2 Murray	SR Ramos
SR Knesel	BM2 Woods	SN Rozier
FN Madison	BM3 Libersat	SN Stokes
SN Mills		SN Wright

## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

Operations Officer - LT J. T. Carroll, III, USN

Navigator - LT J. F. Mundy, USN

CIC Officer - LTJG C. H. Weiss, USN

QMC Colcleasure

HMC Von Hoven

HM1 McTier

RM1 Dettman

PN1 Jaurigi

YN1 Hales

OS1 Dunn

SM2 McCormick

OS2 Flores

ET2 Wilges

QM3 Talavera

RM3 Caldwell

PN3 Jones

YNSN Lewers

SMSN Waline

OSSN Nakielski

RMSN Krepfle

PNC Coats

MA1 Krysz

ET1 Clark

QM1 Dolan

YN1 Charchan

YN1 DeAndrea

QM2 Rott

OS2 Perry

ET2 Higman

PC3 Lugo

OS3 Creagh

YN3 Morris

PNSN Bertram

QMSN Back

OSSN Brown

RMSN Hastain

RMSN Scott

