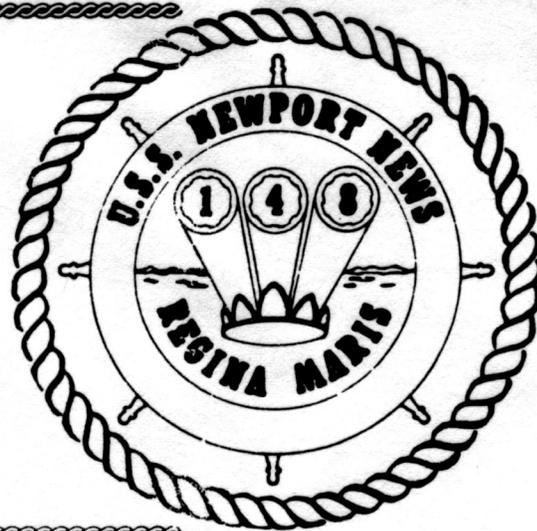


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ABOARD THE USS NEWPORT NEWS ---"We'll be home tomorrow", were the words heard from the 1147-man crew of USS NEWPORT NEWS today, as she approached the Virginia Capes, one day away from her home port of Norfolk, Virginia.

(-more-)

2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2

"We'll be home tomorrow"

NEWPORT NEWS, the world's largest heavy cruiser and formerly Flagship for Commander SECOND Fleet in the Atlantic, returns to Norfolk, Virginia May 13th after seven-and-a-half months service in the Vietnam war.

Traveling some 13,000 miles to return home, NEWPORT NEWS left the Pacific with a proud record of accomplished missions. Being stationed in the Gulf of Tonkin, the big cruiser conducted numerous gunfire strikes against Communist military targets both north and south of the Demilitarized Zone, and she proved herself a potent addition to SEVENTH Fleet's Cruiser-Destroyer Force.

It was the first time in her 19-year history that NEWPORT NEWS fired in combat, and she set a Vietnam naval gunfire record by firing over 55,000 rounds of ammunition at inland targets, enemy supply boats, and in tactical support of the Third Marine Division ashore.

The only U. S. Naval vessel in commission bearing rapid-fire eight-inch guns, NEWPORT NEWS is able to strike at targets 13-miles away, and can fire 90-rounds of eight-inch projectiles before the first ones hit the ground.

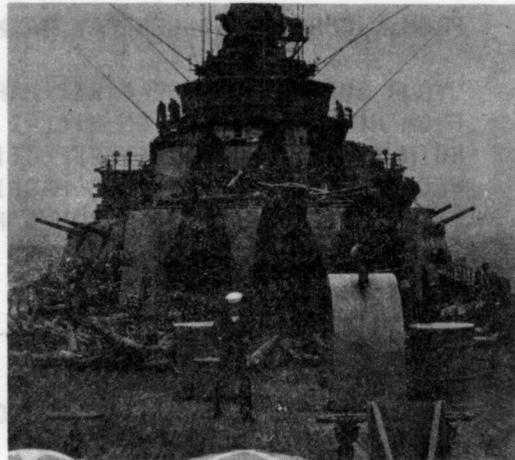
Upon arrival NEWPORT NEWS' crew is scheduled for a 30-day rest and relaxation period. NEWPORT NEWS is commanded by Captain Edwin K. Snyder, USN, and her Executive Officer is Captain Robert T. Ruxton, Jr., USN.

--USN--

Misc -



SUPPORTING OUR FORCES AT THE DMZ
FOLLOWING ARE SOME OF THE MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM THE DMZ



The above photos picture mounds of empty powder casings strewn about NEWPORT NEWS' forward gun mounts and turrets following gunfire support missions off the DMZ. Below, crewmembers work to clear the netting below Turret 2 of the empty brass casings in order to prepare for further strikes against enemy positions.