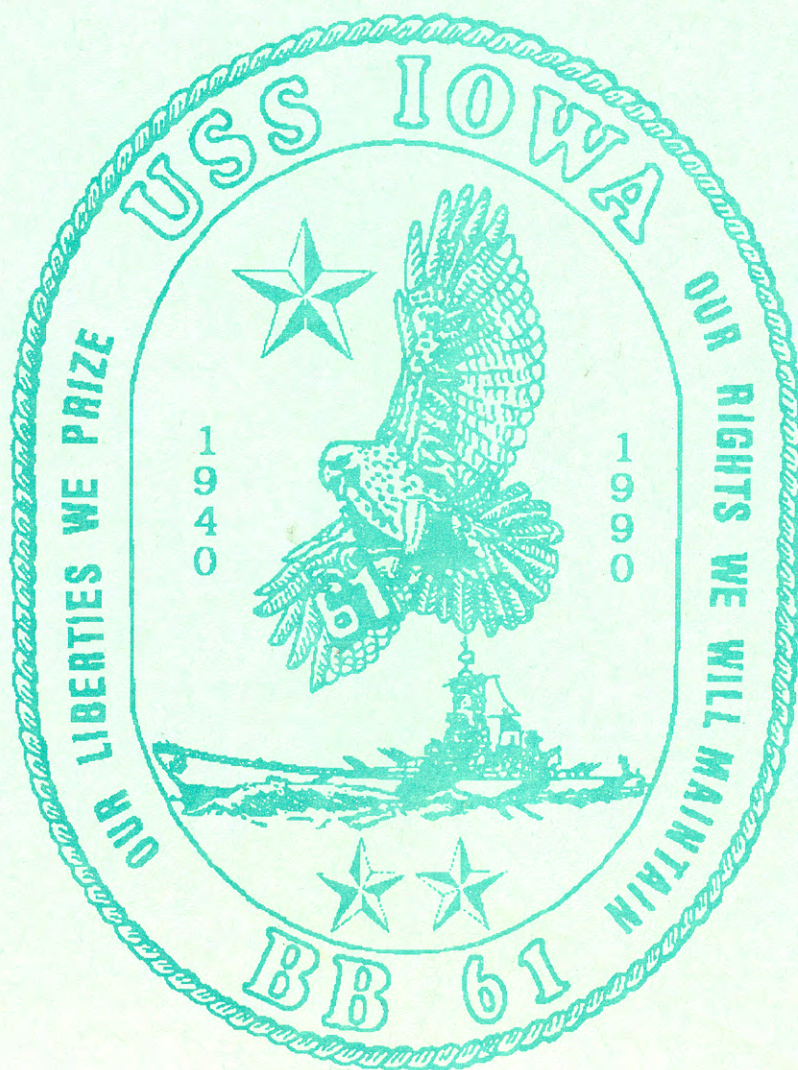


# *Schedule Of Events* *and* *Correspondence*





# Schedule Of Events

## *Arrival Of The Official Party*

### *Invocation*

*CDR Joseph C. Cappar*  
*Command Chaplain*

## *Introduction Of Guest Speaker*

*Vice Admiral J. S. Donnell III*  
*Commander Naval Surface Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet*

## *Guest Speaker's Remarks*

*Admiral Jerome L. Johnson*  
*Vice Chief Of Naval Operations*

## *Commanding Officer's Remarks*

*CDR J. P. Morse*

## *Reading Of The Decommissioning Directive*

*Vice Admiral J. S. Donnell III*

## *Casing Of The Colors*

## *Crew Departs Iowa*

## *Hauling Down Of Commissioning Pennant*

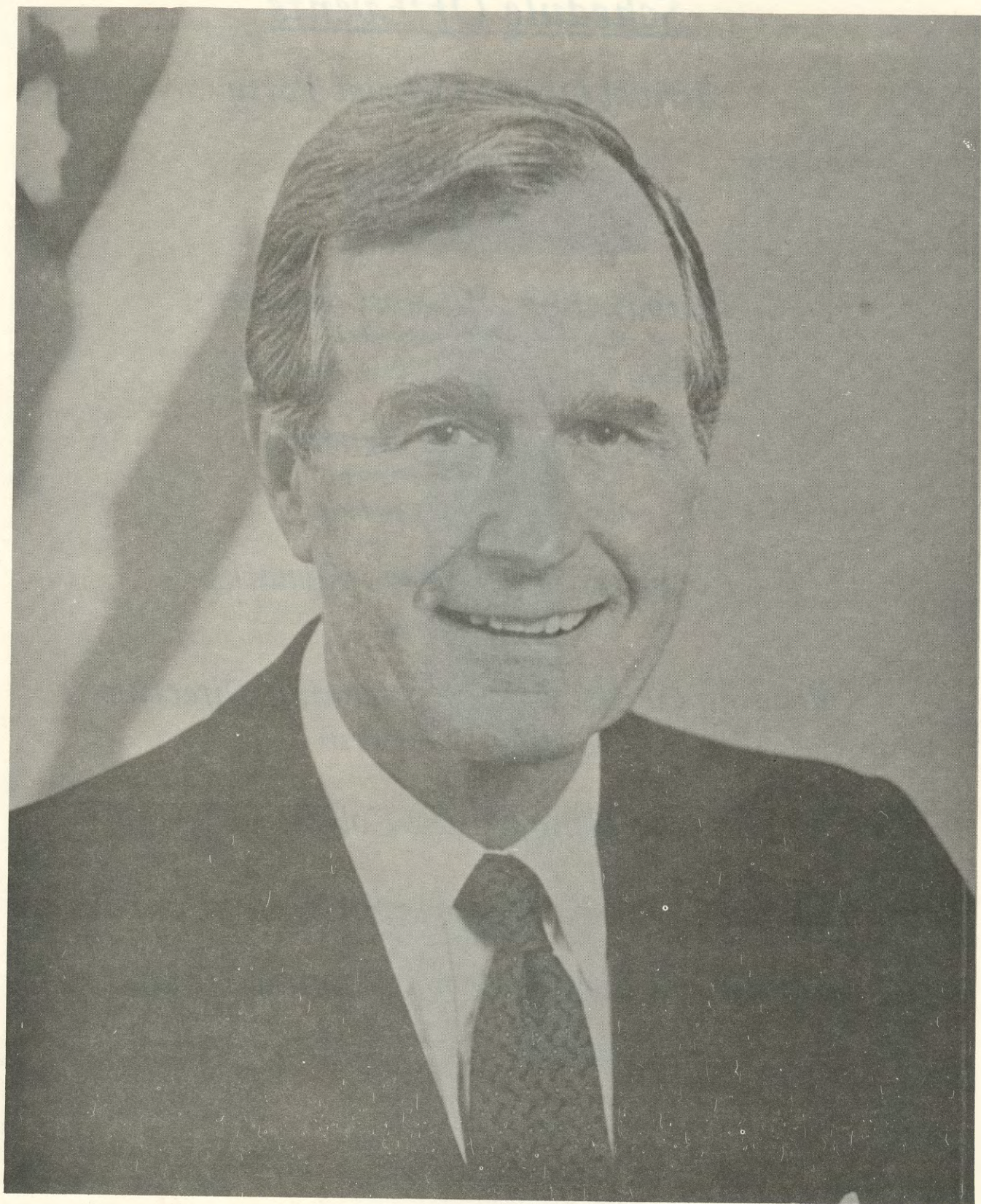
## *Secure The Watch*

## *Benediction*

*CDR Joseph C. Cappar*

## *Begin Tour Of The Former USS IOWA*





*George Bush*  
*United States President*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

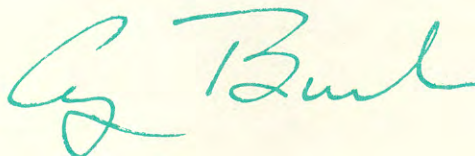
September 17, 1990

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to all those gathered for the decommissioning ceremony of USS IOWA (BB-61). This last day of "The Big Stick's" distinguished career provides a fitting occasion to commend her officers and crew, past and present, for their professionalism and for their devotion to duty.

The battleship IOWA and her crew have been a source of great pride for the United States. During the fifty years of her service, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps personnel have taken the IOWA across the oceans of the world in order to defend the cause of freedom and peace. She and her crew have participated in nearly every conflict and show of force, from World War II through Korea, in Lebanon, and in the Persian Gulf. Time and again, her presence signaled our resolve to protect our national security and the interests of our Allies.

As a former Naval officer, I feel some of the sadness you feel as we again bid farewell to this great ship. However, this is not the final call of her journey. She will again be placed in reserve so that, if needed in the future, she will be ready. Until then, the IOWA will live on in the hearts of all those who served aboard her and in the hearts of freedom-loving people everywhere.

The fine sailors of this grand ship have my best wishes for continued success and future happiness. On behalf of all Americans, I thank you for your dedicated service to our Nation. God bless you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Bush", is located at the bottom of the page.





THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY  
WASHINGTON

USS IOWA (BB-61) DECOMMISSIONING

As USS IOWA (BB-61) prepares for decommissioning, I extend heartfelt congratulations to the crewmembers for your many successes. Although saddened to bid farewell to an old friend, you can take justifiable pride in your ship's accomplishments throughout a most distinguished career.

USS IOWA bears a proud name in the history of our great Navy. From a wooden ship of the line to a battleship in the Great White Fleet to becoming one of the most powerful battleships ever constructed, the name IOWA has long been synonymous with peace and freedom. USS IOWA has proudly carried on the traditions of her namesakes from the Second World War to the present. Most recently, she participated in Eastern Mediterranean Contingency Operations off Lebanon, where her great strength and versatility were critical cornerstones of our planning. This great dreadnought's eleven battle stars testify to the great honor of her crewmembers--an honor undiminished by the passage of time.

As the "Big Stick" shifts colors one last time, those who have served aboard her for those fifty years can remember and celebrate a heroic past, rich with noble achievements that have inspired a Nation. You have my best wishes for continued personal and professional success.

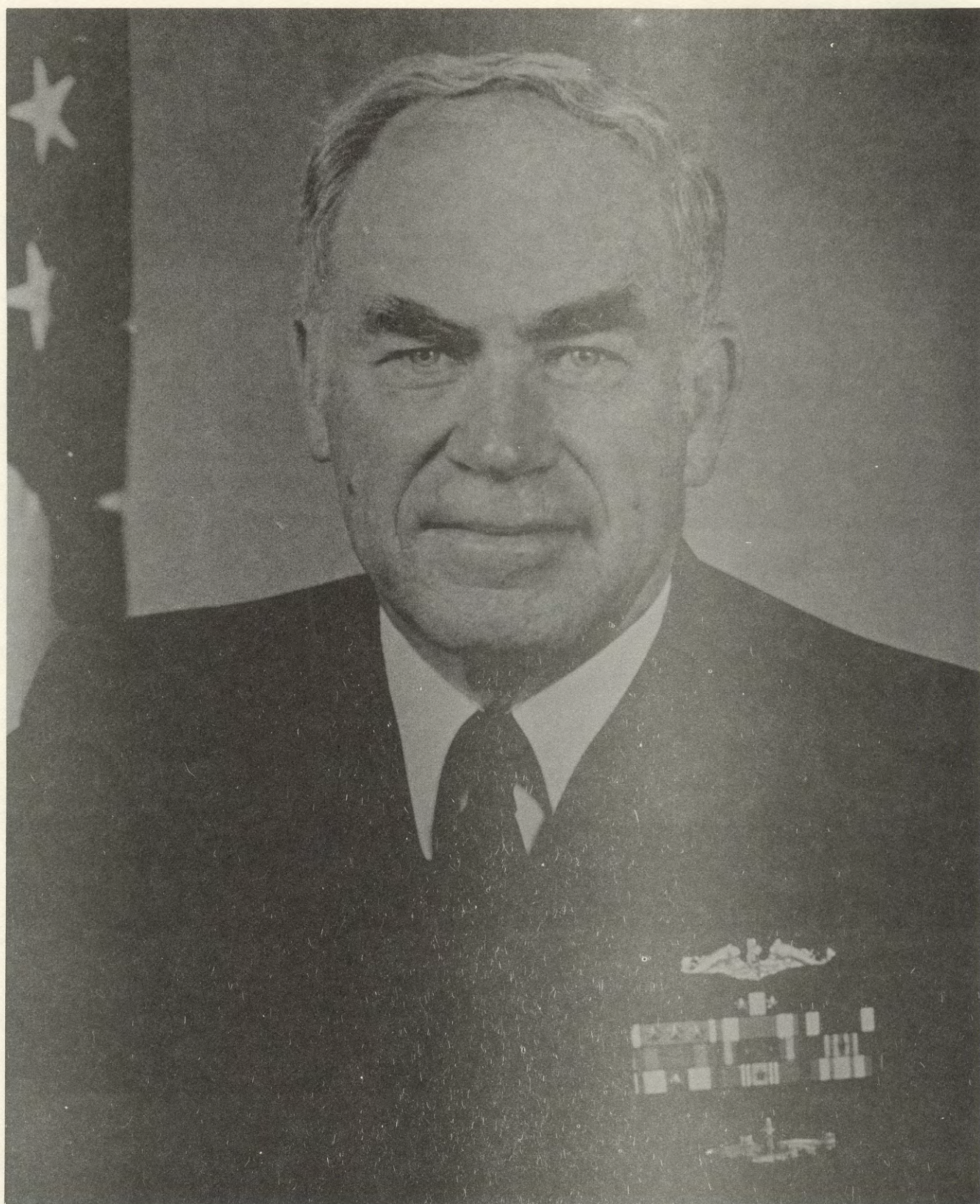
H. Lawrence Garrett, III





*H. Lawrence Garrett III*  
*Secretary Of The Navy*





*Admiral Frank B. Kelso, II*  
*Chief Of Naval Operations*





## CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

As you prepare to decommission USS IOWA, I congratulate current and former crew members for your historic contributions to our nation's security. It is always difficult to bid farewell to an old friend, but each of you can take justifiable pride in your fine ship's accomplishments throughout a distinguished career.

USS IOWA has served our country well, from the Second World War till today, earning 11 battle stars in two major conflicts and acting as a deterrent during many smaller ones. The battleship has answered every call to action through deployments to Central America, the North Atlantic, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. USS IOWA, and the proud crews that steamed her, have not failed this nation.

This ceremony today is not the final call of USS IOWA's journey -- the spirit of the mighty battleship will live on in the hearts of all those who served aboard her. And, when all is said and done, you will have the distinguished honor of saying, "I was an IOWA sailor."

Sincerely,

*Frank B. Kelso, II*

FRANK B. KELSO, II  
Admiral, U.S. Navy





## COMMANDER NAVAL SURFACE FORCE

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET  
NORFOLK, VIRGINIA 23511

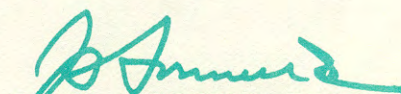
As USS IOWA nears her third decommissioning ceremony, the occasion offers a forum to reflect on this mighty dreadnought's accomplishments during the past 47 years. From transporting President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the Tehran Conference in 1943, to her last Mediterranean cruise in 1989, IOWA and her crew have always served with distinction. Her eleven battle stars attest to her valor and courage.

USS IOWA wasted no time in earning special recognition after she returned to active duty in April of 1984. IOWA was named the best all-around ship in the U.S. Atlantic Fleet for fiscal year 1984 and was presented the coveted Battenberg Cup Award.

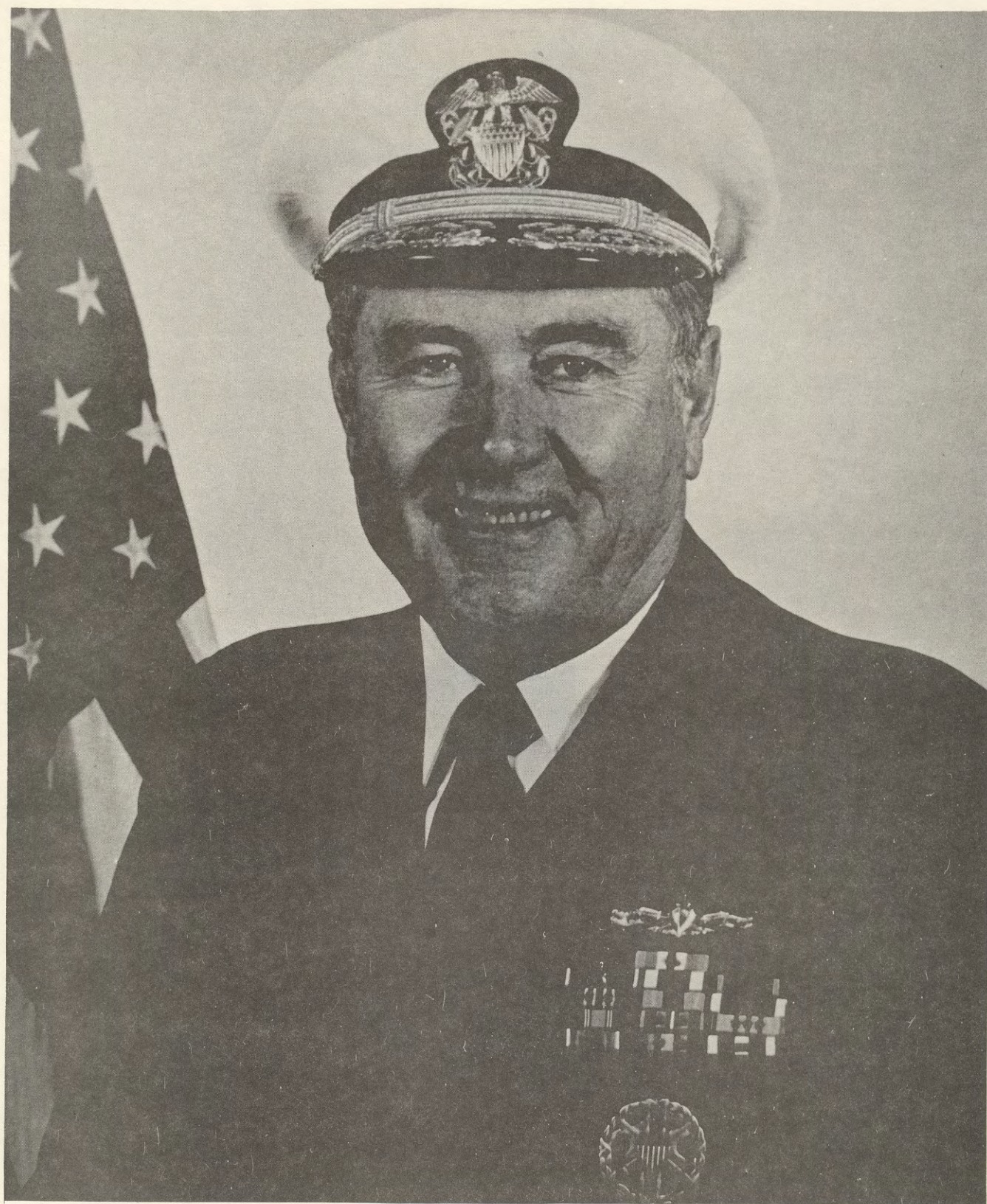
This decommissioning ceremony ends yet another chapter in IOWA's proud history and affords me one more opportunity to extend my genuine appreciation and congratulations for a most distinguished career. Every IOWA crew member, both past and present, can take great pride in the noble achievements of this fine ship, "their" ship.

USS IOWA will live on as a memorial to those living and dead, who served her, their Navy and their nation with pride. IOWA sailors, we salute you.

Sincerely,

  
J. S. DONNELL III  
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy





*Vice Admiral J.S. Donnell III  
Commander, Naval Surface Force  
U.S. Atlantic Fleet*