

## CAPTAIN WILLIAM R. LOOMIS, UNITED STATES NAVY

William Ray Loomis was born in Seattle, Washington, on October 2, 1919, son of Ray Harvey and Hazel Marie (Gunn) Loomis. He attended Washington State College at Pullman. Prior to entering active naval service, he was Supervisor at Southern California Prison, Chino, California. Appointed Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve on August 28, 1942, he subsequently advanced in rank to that of Captain, to date from January 1, 1963, having transferred from the Naval Reserve to the Regular Navy on June 28, 1946.

After receiving his commission in 1942, he had training at various schools until May 1943, when he joined Bombing Squadron SIX as Engineering and Gunnery Officer. As such he saw action in the Gilbert Islands on board the USS ENTERPRISE and in the Ryukyus, Wake and Japan on board the USS HANCOCK and is entitled to the Ribbon for, with star (in lieu of a second Ribbon), the Navy Unit Commendation awarded the USS ENTERPRISE and USS HANCOCK. Following the cessation of hostilities in August 1945, he continued duty with that squadron until October of that year, and the next month became Administrative Assistant to the Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida.

In June 1946 he reported as Executive Officer of the USS BURDO and in May 1947 became Executive Officer of the USS GANTNER. He assumed command of that attack transport in March 1948. Detached a month later, he next served as Flag Lieutenant and Aide to Commander Amphibious Group THREE and from July 1949 to April 1950 was a student at the General Line School, Newport, Rhode Island. Completing his instruction, he served as Officer in Charge of the Commanding Officer/Executive Officer Tactical Anti-Submarine Warfare Course at the Anti-Submarine Warfare School, San Diego, California until January 1952. He then had duty as Flag Secretary, later Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration, to Commander Allied Naval Forces, Southern Europe (redesignated Commander Naval Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe).

He was Executive Officer of the USS JOHN W. THOMASON from July 1954 to June 1956, and after instruction at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Virginia, was assigned in July 1956 to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. He remained there until May 1959, when he assumed command of the USS PARSONS. Detached in July 1961 he had instruction at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, until June 1962, when he reported for duty in connection with military personnel policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower), Washington, D. C. In July 1964 he assumed command of the USS GRIDLEY (DLG-21), and in May 1965 was designated Chief of Staff and Aide to Commander Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla THREE.

In addition to the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon with star, Captain Loomis has the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three operation stars; American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp; China Service Medal; National Defense Service Medal; and the Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

Capt. W. R. Loomis, USN

Page 2

Navy Office of Information  
Internal Relations Division (OI-430)  
31 August 1965