

CAPTAIN GRISWOLD T. ATKINS, UNITED STATES NAVY

A specialist in ordnance, Griswold Terry Atkins graduated from the Naval Academy with the Class of 1930 and between 1936 and 1939 attended the course in ordnance engineering at the Naval Postgraduate School. In the interim he had duty afloat in the battleships MARYLAND and COLORADO and in the destroyer WHIPPLE.

In the summer of 1939 he joined the battleship TENNESSEE, which was tied up in "battleship row" at Ford Island, T. H., when the Japanese attacked the Naval Base, Pearl Harbor, on December 7, 1941. Far more fortunate than most of the ships there, the TENNESSEE was damaged but was able to proceed, under her own power, to Bremerton, Washington, for repairs. In May 1942 he joined the newly-commissioned battleship ALABAMA, which had shakedown duty with the British Home Fleet at Scapa Flow, and in August 1943 reported as Plate Battery Officer at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia.

During 1946 and 1947 he had consecutive command of the attack cargo ships PRENTISS and RANKIN, after which he had duty as Head of the Armor, Projectiles, Bombs, Rockets, Warheads and Ballistics Section in the Bureau of Ordnance. He was Ordnance and Gunnery Officer on the staff of Commander Service Force, Pacific Fleet between 1950 and 1953, followed by an assignment as Chief of Staff, Aide and Operations Officer on the staff of Commander Cruiser Division 4.

For a year, 1954-1955, he commanded the destroyer tender YELLOWSTONE and in October became Program Director (Ammunition) in the Planning and Progress Division, Bureau of Ordnance. In February 1958 he was ordered to duty as Commanding Officer of the Naval Powder Factory, Indian Head, Maryland and in August of the same year was designated Commanding Officer of the Naval Propellant Plant, Indian Head.

NAVY - Office of Information
Biographies Branch
1 April 1959

CAPTAIN GRISWOLD TERRY ATKINS, UNITED STATES NAVY

PERSONAL DATA:

Born: 28 December 1909, Annapolis, Maryland
Parents: Captain A. K. Atkins, USN, Ret. and Mrs. Frances
(Terry) Atkins.

Education: Severn School, Boone, Maryland; U. S. Naval
Academy, Annapolis, Maryland (BS, 1930); Postgraduate
School, Annapolis, Md. (ordnance engineering, 1936-1939)

PROMOTIONS:

Commissioned Ensign, USN, 5 June 1930
Lieutenant (junior grade), USN, 5 June 1933
Lieutenant, USN, 30 June 1937
Lieutenant Commander, USN, 30 June 1942
Commander, USN, 15 October 1942
Captain, USN, to date from 1 July 1948

MEDALS AND AWARDS:

American Defense Service Medal
Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal
World War II Victory Medal
Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp
China Service Medal
National Defense Service Medal

CHRONOLOGICAL TRANSCRIPT OF NAVAL SERVICE:

Jul 1930 - Jun 1932 USS MARYLAND (Fire Control)
Jul 1932 - Dec 1935 USS WHIPPLE, (Ass't Engineer and Torpedo
Officer)
Jan 1936 - Apr 1936 USS COLORADO (5th Division Officer)
Jun 1936 - Jun 1939 Postgraduate School, Annapolis, Md. (student)
Jul 1939 - May 1942 USS TENNESSEE (Plotting Room Officer)
May 1942 - Aug 1943 USS ALABAMA (Main Battery Ass't & Ass't
Gunnery Officer)
Sep 1943 - Dec 1945 Naval Proving Grounds, Dahlgren, Va. (Plate
Battery Officer)
Jan 1946 - May 1946 USS PRENTISS (CO)
May 1946 - Mar 1947 USS RANKIN (CO)
Apr 1947 - Mar 1950 Bureau of Ordnance, Navy Dept. (Head of
Armor, Projectiles, Bombs, Rockets, War-
heads and Ballistics Section)

Capt. G. T. Atkins, USN

Mar 1950 - Jun 1953 Staff, Commander Service Force, Pacific
(Ordnance & Gunnery Officer)
Jun 1953 - Sep 1954 Staff, Commander Cruiser Division 4 (Chief
of Staff, Aide & Operations Officer)
Sep 1954 - Oct 1955 USS YELLOWSTONE (CO)
Oct 1955 - Bureau of Ordnance (Program Director,
Ammunition, Planning & Progress Division)
27 Feb 1958 (orders) Naval Powder Factory, Indian Head, Md. (CO)
27 Aug 1958 (orders) Naval Propellant Plant, Indian Head, Md.
(CO)

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