

23 Dec 1975

From: LT L. S. CLARK, CHC, USNR, COMDESRON TWENTY-THREE  
To: VADM Emmett H. TIDD, USN, COMNAVSURFPAC  
Subj: Decommissioning Prayer for USS RICHARD B. ANDERSON

1. The following prayer is given as you requested:

Almighty and Eternal Father,

By your Holy Spirit be with this assembly gathered to retire a Fighting Lady from active service. For three decades exploits of USS RICHARD B. ANDERSON have been noted when destroyermen related tales of the sea. She has rendered consistent and faithful service in the cause of peace and freedom. Today her tour is over. May she continue to steam in the memories of the many who served aboard her in peace and war. For your protection and blessing upon the thousands who sailed in her as part of the RICHARD B. ANDERSON team we give you special thanks. Enable the shipmates presently aboard, even as they disperse, to contribute expertise and enthusiasm developed here to positions throughout the U. S. Navy and the world. And when, like United States Ship RICHARD B. ANDERSON, our colors are struck and our Logbook sealed, grant us safe haven and a peaceful harbor for the sake of Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Very respectfully,

  
L. S. CLARK  
LT, CHC, USNR