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VICE ADMIRAL WILLIAM P. MACK, UNITED STATES NAVY

William Paden Mack was born in Hillsboro, Illinois, on August 6, 1915, son of Commander A. R. Mack, USN, Retired, and the late Mrs. Josephine Paden Mack. He entered the U. S. Naval Academy on June 8, 1933, on Presidential appointment (at large), and while a Midshipman was a member of the Baseball, Basketball and Plebe Football Teams. He was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science and commissioned Ensign in the U. S. Navy on June 3, 1937, and through subsequent advancement attained the rank of Vice Admiral, to date from January 28, 1969.

On graduation from the Naval Academy in June 1937, he was assigned to the USS IDAHO (BB-42), and served as a junior officer in all departments of that battleship until December 1938. In December 1939 he joined the USS JOHN D. FORD (DD-228), and was serving as Gunnery Officer of that destroyer at the outbreak of World War II in December 1941. The JOHN D. FORD was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Distinguished Unit Citation for service during the Java Campaign.

From October 1942 until November 1943 he served as Aide and Flag Lieutenant to the Commander Amphibious Force, Pacific, attached to the USS PENNSYLVANIA, which won the Navy Unit Commendation for service in the Pacific Area from May 4, 1943 until February 10, 1945.

He assisted in fitting out the USS PRESTON (DD-795), and served as her Executive Officer from her commissioning in March 1944 until October of that year, the latter months of that period participating in Pacific operations.

In October 1944 he assumed command of the USS WOODWORTH (DD-460), and remained in command of that destroyer throughout the last months of hostilities and until April 1946.

From May 1946 until June 1949 he served as Officer in Charge of the U. S. Naval School (Academy and College Preparatory) at Bainbridge, Maryland. He next commanded the USS ANDERSON (DD-786) for eleven months, then had Staff duty, successively, as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations to Commander Destroyer Flotilla ONE, and as Assistant Readiness Officer on the Staff of Commander Cruisers-Destroyers, Pacific. Detached from the latter assignment in May 1953, after participating in operations in Korean waters under the United Nations Command, he reported in June 1953 to the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., where he served for two years as Commander Detail Officer in the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

He was a student at the National War College, from July 1955 until June 1956, and in July became Commander Destroyer Division TWENTY-TWO. A year later he returned to the Bureau of Naval Personnel for duty, and on October 8, 1958, was transferred to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, to serve as Assistant Director, Special Projects, General Planning Group. On April 2, 1959 he was named Naval Aide to the Secretary of the Navy and served in that capacity until April 1961, when he became Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-EIGHT.

In June 1962 he was assigned to the Office of the Special Assistant for Counterinsurgency, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D. C., and on August 19, 1963 reported to the Office of Information, Navy Department, assuming the duties of Chief of Information on August 22. On May 15, 1966 he assumed command of Amphibious Group TWO and from March 1967 until January 1969 was Chief of Legislative Affairs, Navy Department. He next served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), Washington, D. C., and on June 18, 1971 became Commander SEVENTH Fleet. He was ordered detached in February 1972 for duty as Superintendent of the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

Vice Admiral Mack was married to Ruth McMillin of Long Beach, California, on November 11, 1939. They have two children, William Paden Mack, Jr., and Margaret Ellen Mack. Their home town address is 550 Alameda Boulevard, Coronado, California.