

VICE ADMIRAL EMMETT H. TIDD, UNITED STATES NAVY

Emmett Hulcy Tidd was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on October 6, 1923, son of Colonel Luzerne M. Tidd, U. S. Army, Retired and Mrs. (Vallie B. Williamson) Tidd. He graduated from Central High School, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, then attended the University of Oklahoma at Norman, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1945. He enlisted in the U. S. Naval Reserve as an Apprentice Seaman in December 1942 and while at the University of Oklahoma was a member of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Unit. Upon graduation, he was commissioned Ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve, February 24, 1945 and advanced progressively in rank to that of Vice Admiral, to date from 5 March 1974. He transferred from the Naval Reserve to the U. S. Navy in November 1953 while serving in the rank of Lieutenant.

After receiving his commission in 1945, he had duty training a pre-commissioning crew of the destroyer GYATT at Norfolk, Virginia, and upon commissioning of the USS GYATT (DD-712), July 2, 1945 joined her as First Lieutenant. After shakedown training in the Caribbean, that destroyer had a variety of duties in the Atlantic in addition to local operations with aircraft carriers in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean. He was detached from the GYATT in March 1946 and released from active duty. While on inactive duty, he was active in the Naval Reserve Training Program.

Ordered into active naval service (the first Naval Reserve officer recalled to active duty in Tyler, Texas, for the Korean hostilities), he reported in August 1950 for duty in connection with the reactivation of the USS FRANK E. EVANS (DD-752). That destroyer was recommissioned on September 15, 1950 and was in the first division of reactivated destroyers to reach Korea, arriving in January 1951. He was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V". "For meritorious achievement...while serving as Bombardment Intelligence Officer on the Staff of Commander Wonsan Bombardment and Patrol Element, during the periods from June 11, 1951 to June 19, 1951 and June 28, 1951 to July 13, 1951 ..."

During the period March 1952 to April 1954, he was in the Officer Procurement Office in the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Navy Department, Washington, D. C., after which he served as Operations Officer in the destroyer USS RADFORD (DDE-446). While on board that antisubmarine destroyer, he took part in the evacuation of Tachen Islands, located off the Chinese Coast. Detached from the RADFORD in April 1955, he next had duty as Operations Officer, Antisubmarine Warfare Officer and Gunnery Officer on the Staff of Commander Escort Destroyer Squadron ONE (subsequently redesignated Commander Destroyer Squadron TWENTY-FIVE), which was engaged in advanced hunter/killer experimental tactics in the Hawaiian and Western Pacific areas. In November 1956 he assumed command of the USS FORCE (MSO-455), and was engaged in special operations in the Pacific and Atlantic while deployed to Panama.

From August 1958 to June 1959 he attended the Command and Staff Course at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. From July 1959 to April 1961 he served in the Strategic Plans Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department. In May 1961 he assumed command of the destroyer USS RICHARD B. ANDERSON (DD-786). In April 1963 he took command of the guided missile destroyer USS CHARLES F. ADAMS (DDG-2) and in July 1964 was detached to return to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations for duty again in the Strategic Plans Division. "For meritorious service from July 25, 1964 to July 6, 1967..." he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Navy Commendation Medal.

In June 1968 he assumed command of the destroyer tender USS EVERGLADES (AD-24) and was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Third Navy Commendation Medal. "For meritorious service...from August 10, 1968 to December 10, 1968..." while deployed to the Mediterranean in command of that tender.

He reported in May 1969 as Chief of Staff and Aide to then Vice Admiral Zumwalt who was Commander United States Naval Forces, Vietnam and Chief, Naval Advisory Group, Military Assistant Command, Vietnam. "For exceptionally meritorious service...(in that capacity) from May 1969 to May 1970..." he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

In June 1970 he became Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations and the Vice Chief of Naval Operations for Decision Coordination, Navy Department and was awarded the Legion of Merit "for exceptionally meritorious service..." in that capacity. In August 1971 he assumed command of Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla SIX until his detachment in March 1972. In April 1972 he assumed command of the Navy Recruiting Command. On December 13, 1973 he was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the second award of the Distinguished Service Medal for his outstanding service as Commander, Navy Recruiting Command, which position he continues to hold.

In addition to the Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star, the Legion of Merit and the Navy Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars and Combat "V", Vice Admiral Tidd has the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon with star, the Naval Reserve Medal; American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; China Service Medal; National Defense Service Medal with bronze star; Korean Service Medal with three stars; United Nations Service Medal; and the Vietnam Service Medal. From the Republic of Vietnam, he has the National Order of Vietnam (Fifth Class), Gallantry Cross with Bronze Palm, the Republic of Vietnam Honor Medal (First Class) and the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device. He also has the Korean Presidential Unit Citation Badge.

His official home address is Tyler, Texas. He is married to the former Margaret E. Powell of Tyler, and they have two sons, Mark Luzerne and Kurt Walter Tidd, who in July 1974 will enter the U. S. Naval Academy with the Class of '79.

Vice Admiral Tidd enjoys boating (cruising), fishing and athletics.

Navy Office of Information
Biographies Branch (OI-0111)
21 March 1974