



COMCRUDESFLOT 3

Thomas Joseph Rudden, Jr., was born in Newark, New Jersey, on 19 August 1915. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1935, graduated with the class of 1939, commissioned Ensign and subsequently advanced to the rank of Rear Admiral on 10 August 1965.

Following graduation from the Academy, he was assigned to the USS CALIFORNIA. The CALIFORNIA was badly damaged and sank in 16 feet of mud, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. By April of 1942, she was pumped, raised and in drydock for repair. He was awarded a letter of Commendation with Ribbon for his actions during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Serving aboard the USS CLEVELAND he saw action

in: Guadalcanal, New Georgia, Green Island, Siapan, Tinian, Guam and Palau. For his services he was awarded a bronze star on his Commendation Ribbon.

From February 1947 until October 1952 he served as Executive Officer of the USS GURKE and Commanding Officer of the USS McCOOK and CASSIN YOUNG, he became the Commanding Officer of the USS GALVESTON in 1963.

His selection to the rank of Rear Admiral was approved by the President and was promoted 1 November, 1965.

On 19 January 1968, Rear Admiral Rudden became Commander Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla THREE.