



### HENRY R. HAMNER

LT HENRY R. HAMNER, USN, KILLED IN ACTION IN APRIL, 1945, LENT HIS NAME TO THIS DESTROYER CHRISTENED LATER THAT YEAR. LT HAMNER, A NAVAL ACADEMY GRADUATE, RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION IN 1943. SUBSEQUENTLY HE SERVED AS AN INSTRUCTOR AT HARVARD OFFICER'S NAVAL TRAINING SCHOOL AND WAS STATIONED BRIEFLY AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA. SEA DUTY FOLLOWED ON THE **USS HOWORTH**. ABOARD THE DESTROYER, LT HAMNER TOOK PART IN THE MOROTAI LANDINGS, THE WESTERN NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGNS, THE PHILIPPINE LIBERATION, THE IWO JIMA INVASION, AT THE LANDING AT OKINAWA.

OFF OKINAWA, ON 6 APRIL 1945, THE **HOWORTH** WAS ATTACKED BY SIX JAPANESE KAMIKAZE AIRCRAFT.

LT HAMNER, THEN GUNNERY OFFICER, CONTROLLED HIS BATTERIES WITH SUCH SKILL THAT FIVE OF THE PLANES WERE DESTROYED. THE SURVIVING PLANE CRASHED INTO THE DIRECTOR, KILLING LT HAMNER. HE WAS POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED THE SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION.

### USS HAMNER

THE **USS HAMNER** IS A LONG HULL GEARING-CLASS DESTROYER. SHE WAS BUILT IN PORT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, AND LAUNCHED 24 NOVEMBER 1945. THE SHIP HAS MADE TWELVE FAR EASTERN CRUISES.

DURING THE KOREAN ACTION THE **HAMNER** TOOK PART IN THE BOMBARDMENT OF THE EASTERN COAST OF KOREA, PARTICIPATED IN THE LANDINGS AT INCHON, AND THE EVACUATION OF HUNGNAM. THE SHIP WEARS THE CHINA SERVICE MEDAL, NAVY OCCUPATION SERVICE WITH ASIA CLASP, KOREAN SERVICE MEDAL WITH FIVE COMBAT STARS, THE WORLD WAR II VICTORY MEDAL, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL, THE UNITED NATIONS SERVICE MEDAL, AND THE KOREAN PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION.

DURING THE SUBSEQUENT "PEACEFUL" YEARS, THE **HAMNER** HAS, WITH OTHER SHIPS OF THE PACIFIC FLEET, BUSIED HERSELF ON THE EASTPAC-WESTPAC CIRCUIT. COMBAT-READY, SHE HAS PERFORMED WELL HER MISSION IN THE FLEET.

