



## 1966

Fram MK 1 overhaul was officially completed at midnight 23 February.

The early part of 1965 was spent completing various inspections and other preparation for the forthcoming deployment. On 6 March, Craig departed San Diego for what was planned to be a four month cruise in the Far-East.

The rapid deterioration of the Viet Nam situation modified Craig's destiny. From 8 April until 2 July, Craig supported the aircraft carriers of the 7th Fleet during their strikes against the enemy, turning in highly commendatory service. Repair, Maintenance and Operational procedures normally never considered for accomplishment at sea became normal routines.

The highlight of Craig's cruise came on 20 July 1965 when she was designated commander of the then newly forming Naval Gunfire Support Unit in Viet Nam. The mission of this unit was to provide gunfire support for various U.S. Military Operations and to indoctrinate Republic of Viet Nam military forces in the employment of naval gunfire support. During the next 20 days, Craig fired over 3300 rounds of 5 inch illumination and high explosive projectiles at the enemy with devastating results. Records were made and broken on a daily basis, not only in rounds expended, but in rearming at sea as well.

Craig is currently the holder of the Majorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award for Pacific Fleet Warships, and boasts among its many other achievements, the Battle Efficiency Awards for Operations, Weapons, and Engineering.