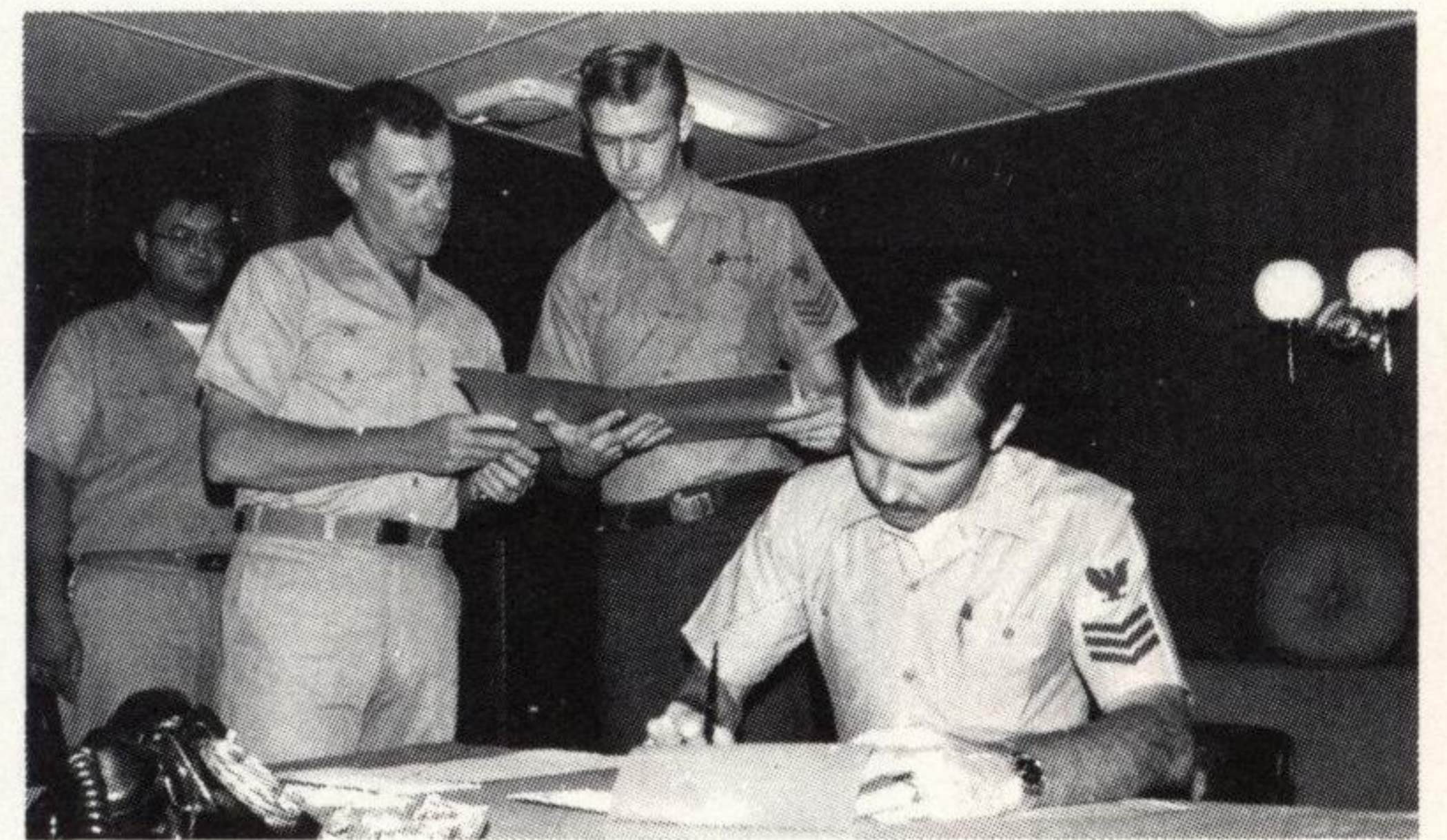


Captain E. W. Hays, USN COMMANDING OFFICER

Captain Hays, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bert W. Hays of Giltner, Nebraska, graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1953. Since then his career has included several and varied tours of sea duty, mostly in the Pacific Fleet, commencing with the USS MENIFEE (APA-202) during the Korean conflict and most recently with the USS KNOX (DE-1052) operating off the coast of Vietnam. Other tours have included Operations Officer, USS RAYMOND (DE-341), operating out of Newport, Rhode Island; pre-commissioning detail and initial crew as Missile Officer of USS TOPEKA (CLG-8); pre-commissioning detail and first Weapons Officer of the USS HOEL (DDG-13); and Executive Officer of the USS COONTZ (DLG-9). Command tours for Capt. Hays were in Pearl Harbor based destroyers WILHOITE (DER-397) and KNOX (DE-1052).

During the time set aside as shore duty, Captain Hays attended the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey following the Ordnance Engineering Curricula; two years instructing First Class Midshipmen at the U. S. Naval Academy; and two years with the Naval Ordnance Systems Command Headquarters in Washington, D. C.



Message from the Captain

This book is about people. The fine destroyermen who have made WORDEN the smart ship she is today and established the reputation of WORDEN throughout the fleet. In the years ahead, whether we advance in the Navy or progress in civilian life, this book will help us recall the memories of the way WORDEN did it and remember our many good friends and shipmates. As a crew of many fine men, WORDEN has surely shown "Can do" and "The job is done".

E. W. Hays

