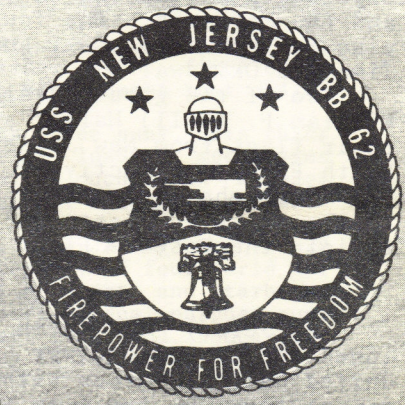
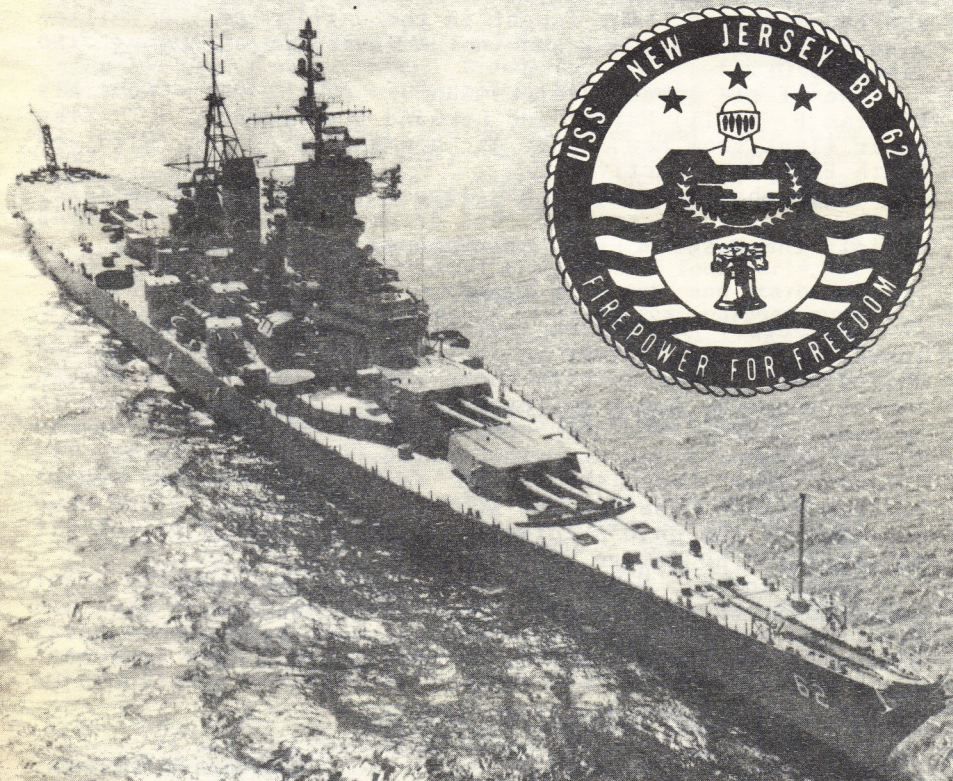


*Visited the ship at Alameda  
Naval Air Station 25 June 1969*

# Welcome

# Aboard!!



USS NEW JERSEY BB62



# THE NEW JERSEY STORY

## **from World War II . . .**

USS New Jersey is the first battleship in modern history summoned to serve in three wars. Although 25 years old at the time of her second recommissioning, the ship was outfitted with modern communications, navigation and weapons control systems that make her the best equipped battleship that ever put to sea.

Laid down at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in 1940, New Jersey was launched on Dec. 7, 1942 -- just one year after the attack at Pearl Harbor. She was commissioned on May 23, 1943.

The new battleship, second of four in the Iowa class, sped to the Pacific war theater early in 1944. She participated in operations in the Marshall Islands, New Guinea, and the Marianas. She fought in the battles of the Philippine Sea and Leyte Gulf and in the invasions of Luzon, Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Two of the great naval commanders of the war - Admirals William F. (Bull) Halsey and Raymond A. Spruance -- flew their flags from New Jersey as commanders of the Third and Fifth Fleets respectively.

After the war ended, New Jersey was attached briefly to the Atlantic Fleet and then decommissioned in June 1948 to join the Reserve Fleet at Bayonne, N.J.

## **to Korea . . .**

New Jersey was taken out of mothballs and recommissioned for her second war on Nov. 21, 1950. She supported United Nations forces with shore bombardment on two Korean combat tours -- April to November 1951, and from March to November 1953. The only combat death of a New Jerseyman in her three-war history occurred off Korea on May 21, 1951. A near-miss shellburst from a North Korean shore battery killed one man and wounded two others. In the same engagement, the ship's forwardmost turret took a direct hit but suffered no damage.

After Korea, New Jersey served with the Atlantic Fleet until 1957 when she joined two of her sisters -- Iowa and Wisconsin -- in the Reserve Fleet at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard. In August 1967, the decision was made to reactivate New Jersey so her long-range 16-inch guns could be brought to bear on targets in Vietnam.

## **and then to Vietnam .**

Recommissioned on April 6, 1968 in Philadelphia, New Jersey arrived June 11 at her home port of Long Beach, California.

Meeting all of the commitments laid down by the Secretary of Defense a year previously, New Jersey arrived off the coast of Vietnam on Sept. 29, 1968, and fired her first shots in combat in over 15 years the next day.



Until the Nov. 1st bombing halt, New Jersey added her massive firepower to the Navy's Operation Sea Dragon, harassing the enemy and destroying military supplies and invasion routes in North Vietnam. Following the halt in the bombing of North Vietnam, the dreadnought devoted her full energies to supporting Allied ground forces operating against the Communist guerillas and invaders in South Vietnam. During the next five months, the battleship fired more than 5,000 rounds of 16-inch ammunition at Communist positions and another 15,000 rounds of five-inch shells.

## *Firepower For Freedom*

The 16-inch guns of New Jersey's main battery are the most powerful in the world today. Each gun, with a barrel 65 feet long, can hurl a 2,700 pound projectile accurately onto a target more than 20 miles away. These projectiles are eight times heavier than those fired by the eight-inch guns of the heavy cruisers.

Our high - explosive 16-inch shells have penetrated more than 30 feet of solid rock. Broad-sides can be fired every 45 seconds to lay down a devastating bombardment that obliterates a distant target.

Each 16 - inch turret -- with its three guns, its thick armor plate, its powder and projectile loading mechanisms extending five decks below -- weighs as much as an average Navy destroyer. A minimum of 100 men are needed to man each turret.

To complement her main battery, New Jersey mounts 20 five - inch guns -- the combined firepower of four World War II destroyers -- in twin mounts on her port and starboard sides. These rapid-fire weapons serve as dual-purpose guns -- sending up streams of anti-aircraft flak and bombarding smaller coastal targets not requiring 16-inch fire.

## **THE DREADNOUGHTS IN HISTORY**

Heavily armored ships with massive guns, designed for speed and maneuverability, were conceived late in the 19th century. A worldwide "battleship race" was triggered by the launching of the first British battleship early in the 20th century. It was named HMS Dreadnought -- from the Biblical quotation "Fear God and dread nought." Others like her became known as "Dreadnoughts."

The first encounter between battleships was at Tsushima Straits in 1905, when Japan destroyed Russia's Baltic Fleet. By World War I, there were 100 battleships on the line. Fifty-eight of them slugged it out in the battle of Jutland in 1916.

In World War II, battleships not only squared off in combat at sea but protected troop convoys and provided anti-aircraft cover for carrier task forces. For European and Pacific invasions they provided shore bombardment -- an assignment that saw them in action off Korea in 1951-1953.

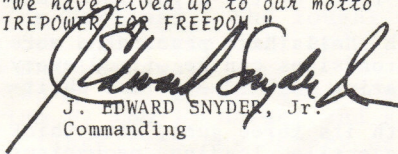
The U. S. Navy has built a total of 57 battleships. Twenty-three remained after World War II. All but four of these have been scrapped or made into museums. The Iowa, Wisconsin and Missouri remain in "mothballs" With the call for battleship firepower in Vietnam, New Jersey was found to be in the best condition for reactivation at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard.



**OUR MISSION: Provide massive  
gunfire support.**

"We have proven, in the past months, that New Jersey is able to do the job. Our 16-inch rifles have demonstrated -- time and time again -- that they are the most accurate heavy artillery pieces afloat today. They have continuously blasted enemy targets, first in North Vietnam and later in South Vietnam, that have defied every other type of weaponry in the Allied arsenal. New Jersey with her magnificent crew has proven, over and over, that they can deliver this fire continuously for 24 hours regardless of the weather.

"We have lived up to our motto  
-- FIREPOWER FOR FREEDOM."

  
J. EDWARD SNYDER, Jr.  
Commanding



## Facts About The New Jersey

Length, Overall.....	887 Feet, 8 Inches
Beam .....	108 Feet, 3 Inches
Draft Forward.....	33 Feet
Draft Aft.....	38 Feet
Displacement (Weight).....	58,000 Tons
Armor Plating.....	Up to 18 Inches
Maximum Speed.....	More than 32 Knots (36 MPH)
Armament.....	9 16-Inch In 3 Turrets, 20 5-Inch In 10 Mounts
Engines.....	4
Number of Propellers.....	4
Horsepower Total.....	212,000
Fuel Storage Capacity.....	2,500,000 Gallons
Ship's Company, World War II.....	120 Officers, 3,000 Enlisted
Ship's Company, Today.....	80 Officers, 1,556 Enlisted
Launched.....	7 December 1942
Commissioned.....	23 May 1943
Decommissioned.....	30 June 1948
Recommissioned.....	21 November 1950
Decommissioned.....	21 August 1957
Recommissioned.....	6 April 1968
Battle Stars.....	World War II 9, Korea 4
Combat Deaths..One Man Killed By Korean Shore Battery, 21 May 1951	
Enemy Planes Shot Down During World War II.....	8
Home Port .....	Long Beach, California
Home Yard.....	Philadelphia Naval Shipyard