



**CLOSURE
CEREMONY**

PHILADELPHIA, PA

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Special thanks to Captain Jon C. Bergner, USN, Richard Owens, Richard Becker, Jane Dash, Robert Shannon Jr., Michael Mally and *The Philadelphia Inquirer*



The U.S. Navy's First Shipyard

Scheduled Events

Military Aircraft Flyover

Arrival of Official Party

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Chaplain James N. Herndon, CDR., USNR

Opening Remarks & Introduction of Guest Speakers

*Capt. Jon C. Bergner, USN
Commander, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard*

Keynote

*Vice Adm. George R. Sterner, USN
Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command*

Remarks

*Dennis A. Cribben
Comptroller, Philadelphia Naval Shipyard*

Closing Remarks

Capt. Jon C. Bergner, USN

Reading of Closure Orders & Closing Out of Log

Capt. Jon C. Bergner, USN

Flag and Log Presentation

Benediction

Chaplain James N. Herndon, CDR., USNR

Departure of Official Party

Capt. Jon Clark Bergner, the son of retired Rear Adm. and Mrs. Allen A. Bergner, was born in Vallejo, Calif. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1962 and accepted a fleet appointment to the United States Naval Academy two years later. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned an ensign in 1968.

His initial tour was in the *USS Lowry* (DD-770) as an Anti-submarine Warfare Officer and Main Propulsion Assistant. In 1970, he attended the Naval Post Graduate School, where he received a Master of Science in operations analysis with a major in mathematics. Later,

he attended the United States Destroyer School and was assigned to the *USS Rich* (DD-820) as an Engineering Officer.

Capt. Bergner became an Engineering Duty Officer in 1977 and was assigned to PNSY. Following this assignment, he became a Type Desk Officer for the Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic. His next assignment was as a Repair Officer in the *USS Vulcan* (AR-5), followed by a stint as Head of the Ship System Department, Board of Inspection and Survey, Atlantic in Little Creek, Virginia.

In 1986, he assumed the duties of Commanding Officer, COM-NAVSURFLANT Readiness Support Group in Newport, Rhode Island. In 1988, he returned to PNSY as the Repair Officer and, one year later, became the Production Officer. Capt. Bergner was assigned to Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, D.C., where he was Deputy Director of Naval Shipyard Operations Group. In 1992, he became PNSY's 21st Commander. Under his command, the shipyard was awarded the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation for excellence.

His honors include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with one gold star in lieu of second award, Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars in lieu of third award, Navy Achievement Medal and Navy Unit Commendation.

Capt. Bergner is married to the former Debra Rae Whitehead of Pocatello, Idaho. He has two sons, Jeffrey and Gregory.



Capt. Jon C. Bergner, USN



Vice Admiral
George R. Sterner, USN

Vice Admiral George R. Sterner was commissioned in 1962 following graduation from Pennsylvania State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering. He holds a Master of Science in operations research from the Naval Post Graduate School and is a graduate of the Defense Systems Management Course. In 1995, he was named an Alumni Fellow of Pennsylvania State University.

Vice Admiral Sterner's sea assignments include tours of duty aboard the submarines *USS Tullibee* (SSN-597), *USS Kamehameha* (SSBN-642), *USS Archerfish* (SSN-678) and *USS Henry L. Stimson* (SSBN-655). He commanded the attack submarine *USS Sturgeon* (SSN-637) and the Trident submarine *USS Florida* (SSBN-728/GOLD).

His shore assignments include duty on the staff of the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; Branch Head for Submarine Tactical Weapons of the Chief of Naval Operations Staff; Mark 48 Advanced Capability (ADCAP) Torpedo Program Manager; and Program Executive Officer for Submarine Combat and Weapons Systems. Within Naval Sea Systems Command, he has served as Assistant Deputy Commander for Combat Systems Engineering and Technology and as Vice Commander. He became Commander of Naval Sea Systems Command in 1994.

His honors include the Legion of Merit with three gold stars, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars and the Navy Commendation Medal with one gold star.

A native of Ambler, Pa., Vice Admiral Sterner is married to the former Louise Terpak of Simpson, Pa. They have two children, Susan and Robert.



Comptroller
Dennis A. Cribben

Dennis A. Cribben, Comptroller, has been a member of the Comptroller Department at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard for 31 years. As a native of Philadelphia, he grew up in the shadow of the shipyard.

In 1963, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from La Salle University, where he majored in accounting (with a minor in finance), and later pursued graduate studies in management at Villanova University.

At the shipyard his job entailed administering the law, policies, regulations and directives involving all shipyard financial operations. He managed budgeting, accounting, disbursing and financial reporting.

Over his accomplished career, he amassed experience in financial analysis and management, labor and overhead-cost analysis while developing a thorough working knowledge of Automated Data Processing (ADP) system development and auditing techniques.

As Comptroller of one of the U.S. Navy's largest industrial facilities, he managed the shipyard's annual business operation of more than \$500 million. He was responsible for a \$10 million bi-monthly payroll system, \$10 million monthly payments to contractors and an annual overhead budget program of more than \$200 million. He supervised an 80-member staff.

He also has worked as an Auditor for the California State Board of Equalization and the Philco Finance Corporation, and as an Assistant Manager of Food Fair Stores, Inc.

Mr. Cribben, 54, is married to the former Joanne Barone, of Philadelphia, and lives in Mount Laurel, NJ. They have three children, Dennis Jr., Sean and Jennifer.



USS GUAM (LPH-9)
View From Directly Above

Always Scaling New Heights

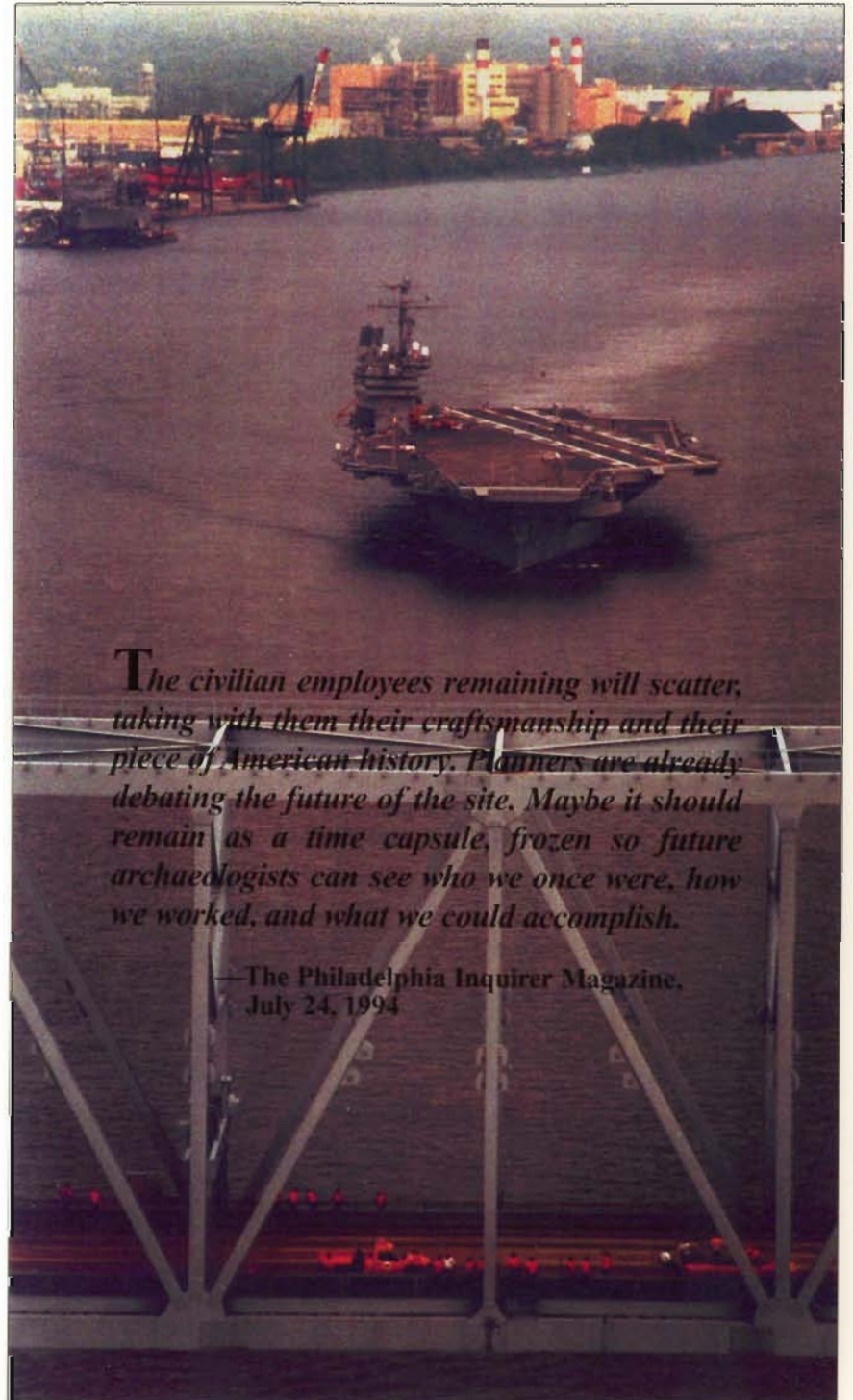
At nearly 200 years old, the great grandfather of U.S. Naval facilities is one of the nation's first concessions of an established military.

Beginning with the first vessel built for the Navy, the frigate *United States*, and peaking in World War II when we sent a staggering 280,000 tons of power to sea, PNSY helped establish the country as a superpower.

It represented the military muscle and manufacturing might that are symbolic of America in its prime. In its industrial heyday, the labor force turned out warships with almost the speed of a Detroit assembly line to produce American history's biggest fleet.

Through projects such as the *USS Guam* (above), a helicopter carrier in the 1960s, and finally the overhaul of the aircraft carrier *USS John F. Kennedy*, PNSY demonstrated unparalleled workmanship and an uncanny ability to complete the job, sometimes in record time, which became known as "the Philly finish."

Today when the flag descends from over the grand old shipyard, it will contribute to the end of a time when America prided itself on making its own goods for war and for peacetime.



The civilian employees remaining will scatter, taking with them their craftsmanship and their piece of American history. Planners are already debating the future of the site. Maybe it should remain as a time capsule, frozen so future archaeologists can see who we once were, how we worked, and what we could accomplish.

—The Philadelphia Inquirer Magazine,
July 24, 1994



Photo by Michael Mally

End of an era ...

**DEDICATED TO THE MEN AND WOMEN
WHO SERVED THE PHILADELPHIA NAVAL SHIPYARD**

1801



1996