



**CAPTAIN ERNST M. CUMMINGS, USCG
COMMANDING OFFICER
USCG BARQUE EAGLE
JULY 14, 1983 - AUGUST 30, 1988**

Captain Ernst M. Cummings, USCG is a native of Westerly, Rhode Island. He is a 1963 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut.

Following graduation from the Academy, Captain Cummings was assigned as Operations Officer on the Cutter **MARINAC**, out of Staten Island, New York. He then commanded the **CAPE STRAIT** out of Rockaway, New York and the **POINT**

GRACE, which operated from Cat Lo, Vietnam. Following a combat tour in Southeast Asia, Captain Cummings briefly served as Security Officer at Coast Guard Training Center, Groton, Connecticut and was then assigned to the Academy as a Nautical Science Instructor and Head Sailing Coach. In 1969, he became the Executive Officer of the Cutter **BLACKHAWK**, a buoy tender stationed at Sangly Point, Philippines. Upon his return to the United States, Captain Cummings took command of the Cutter **TANANGER** in Alameda, California. His next assignment was as Executive Officer of the Vessel Traffic System, San Francisco from 1972 to 1973. He then attended the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, prior to taking command of the Cutter **IRIS**, a buoy tender homeported in Astoria, Oregon. From 1976 to 1978, he commanded Coast Guard Base San Francisco and from 1978 to 1980, he commanded Group San Francisco. Captain Cummings then went on to command the Cutter **VIGILANT** stationed in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Prior to his assignment as Commanding Officer, **USCG BARQUE EAGLE**, Captain Cummings attended the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. During his tour, he led **EAGLE** on several historic voyages including the 1984 visit to Quebec City, commemorating the 350th Anniversary of the province's founding, and the 1986 Parade of Sail into New York Harbor celebrating the Statue of Liberty's Centennial. In 1987, Captain Cummings and the crew of **EAGLE** set sail on the training barque's longest cruise — an eight month, more than 32,000 mile voyage to Australia. **EAGLE** represented the United States in celebrating the Island Continent's Bicentennial. He has the distinction of being America's Tall Ship captain longer than anyone in the vessel's history.

Captain Cummings has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with combat "V", a Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V", two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, a Coast Guard Achievement Medal and various unit and service decorations.

Captain Cummings is married to the former Mary O'Connell of Cranston, Rhode Island.