

# SHERMAN'S HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Sherman is named for one of the greatest financial Secretaries of the Treasury and a dedicated public servant – John Sherman, who spent forty years of his life in the service of our country. Elected to both houses of Congress, he followed such level-headed fiscal policies that he was selected as Secretary of the Treasury by President Hayes. After leaving the Treasury Department, he served as Senator until 1897 during which time he was responsible for the passage of the Anti-Trust Law of 1890 and the Sherman Act which set forth the silver standard for the country.

Sherman's term in office as Secretary of Treasury was from 10 March 1877 to 3 March 1881. It was during his administration that the Life Saving Service was first set up as a full bureau under the Treasury Department.

The Cutter Sherman, the sixth in the 378' class and the second cutter to bear the name, was launched on 23 September 1967 and commissioned on 3 September 1968. Even before she assumed "In Commission Active" status on 11 February 1969, the Sherman was rather active in rescue work. On 1 February 1969, while still on her shakedown training, she figured in a successful medical evacuation of a stricken U.S. citizen at Gonaves Island, Haiti. The "medevac" operation involved the night landing of a Navy helicopter on the Sherman while she was underway. It was the first such operation performed by a 378'. While returning from training the Sherman proved her readiness by rendering critical assistance to a sinking freighter in heavy weather southeast of Nova Scotia.

Within a few months after assuming Active Status, Sherman was commended as the Number One Oceanographic Vessel in the Coast Guard for her extremely successful and useful Oceanographic Projects: Gravo (STD) and the Greenland Labrador Section.