

COMMANDING OFFICER



A third generation Coast Guardman, Adrian Lorence Lonsdale was born on November 9, 1927, at Port Angeles, Wash., and received his high school diploma from the Puget Sound Naval Academy, Bainsbridge, Wash., in 1944.

He was graduated from the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., with a B.S. Degree and with a commission of Ensign on June 2, 1950.

During his first assignment of three years on board the Cutter WINONA, based at Port Angeles, he served in the North Pacific on ocean station patrol and search and rescue, on the Bering Sea Patrol and on missions to the Far East during the Korean War. From May 1953 to June 1954, he served as Operations Officer in the Cutter SEBAGO in the North Atlantic out of Boston, Mass.

After commanding the Coast Guard Loran Station on Attu Island, Alaska, for one year, he returned to Boston in August 1955, to serve as Search and Rescue Controller in the First Coast Guard District office. In February 1957, he became Executive Officer to the Captain of the Port Office in Boston.

From August 1959 to August 1961, he commanded the Cutter GENERAL GREENE out of Gloucester, Mass. During the next four years he served at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C., first as press officer and then as Assistant Chief, Public Information Division.

After attending the Armed Forces Staff

College, Norfolk, Va., from August 1965 to January 1966, he commanded the Cutter VIGILANT (WMEC - 617) out of New Bedford, Mass., on search and rescue and North Atlantic Fisheries Patrol among other missions.

From March 1968 to March 1969, he was assigned to Vietnam combat duty as Fourth Coastal Zone Advisor and as Commander, Gulf of Thailand Surveillance Group as well as Commander, Division 11 of Coast Guard Squadron One. For that service he was awarded the Legion of Merit. He also received the Bronze Star Medal for armed conflict in which he directed 29 Operation SEA LORD missions in November of 1968 into enemy areas previously untouched by allied forces.

After returning to the States, he commanded the Audio-Visual Liaison Unit (Hollywood) at Los Angeles, Cal., from June 1969 until that unit was disestablished the following year. In July 1971, he returned to Headquarters to serve as Chief, Maritime Law Enforcement Staff in the Search and Rescue Division.

CAPT. Lonsdale assumed command of the icebreaker EDISTO (WAGB - 284), based at Milwaukee, Wis., during early June 1972, and shortly thereafter (Dec. 1972), he assumed command of the Coast Guard icebreaker SOUTHWIND WAGB - 280 based in Milwaukee, Wis.

In addition to the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" Device for his Vietnam service, CAPT. Lonsdale also received the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, and the Vietnamese Honor Medal. Other campaign medals and ribbons include the American Defense and World War II Victory Medals, Korean Service, United Nations.

CAPT. Lonsdale has published articles and stories in national publications such as: True Boating, Popular Boating, Motor Boating, National Fisherman, Sea Frontiers, Naval Institute Proceedings, Sea Classics, and Treasure World. He has co-authored two books: **Voyager Beware** (Rand McNally), and **Guide to Sunken Ships** in American Waters (Compas). He is a contributing author to **Handbook of Ocean and Underwater Engineering** (McGraw-Hill).