

U.S.S. LYMAN K. SWENSON DD-729

The SWENSON, named for Captain Lyman K. Swenson who commanded and went down in the cruiser JENSEN at the Battle of Savo Island in Nov., 1942, was commissioned at the Boston Navy Yard on May 2, 1944. She joined Task Force 38 in October and proceeded to combat duty in the Pacific. The battle for Leyte Gulf was her christening action. Later, the SWENSON was a part of the forces conducting the sweeps against Formosa, Luzon, Hong Kong and Okinawa. She supported air strikes against the Japanese home islands and participated in torpedo attacks against enemy shipping. Between wars, the LYMAN K. operated on patrol duty with the Seventh Fleet in the Far East and was ready for action when the Korean hostilities began. She served four tours in Korean waters, always in the heart of battle and earning laurels wherever she operated. Destroyer Division 91, of which SWENSON was a member, received the Navy Unit Commendation and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation for its outstanding part in making the Inchon Landings a success. The LYMAN K. returned to the U. S. in Nov., 1950 after four months in Korea. She had steamed 20,815 miles and had fired 6,036 rounds of five-inch ammunition, more than a thousand rounds per gun in her four months of campaigning. The SWENSON performed escort, bombardment, lifeguard, support, and patrol duties during her four sorties into Korean waters, each with distinguished success. Between 1951 and 1960, the SWENSON returned to the Western Pacific annually for cruises averaging six months on station. On June 27, 1960, she entered the Mare Island (Calif.) Naval Shipyard for a seven-month overhaul which provided her with greatly enhanced capabilities for the role she plays in anti-submarine warfare as flagship for Commander Destroyer Division 92.

