

Commissioning Ceremony



The Prospective Commanding Officer reports readiness to proceed with Commissioning to the Commandant.

Invocation by the Chaplain.

The Commandant speaks.

The Prospective Commanding Officer directs the Prospective Executive Officer to "Sound Off."

Marine Guard presents arms, Band plays National Anthem, National Ensign hoisted at the gaff, Jack on the jackstaff and the Commission Pennant at the truck.

The Commanding Officer reads his orders and accepts command of the U. S. S. BENNINGTON.

The flag of the Senior Officer aboard is broken, the Commission Pennant lowered and the appropriate honors rendered.

The Commanding Officer directs the Executive Officer to "Set the Watch." Boatswain pipes and passes the word, "Set the Watch, First Section." Boatswain's Mates go forward on the double and pipe and pass the word, "Set the Watch, First Section."

Bagler sounds "Full Guard and Band" on bugle.

The Navigator takes first Watch as Officer of the Deck and reports to the Executive Officer when the Watch has been set.

Address by the Honorable Artemus L. Gates, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air.

The Executive Officer reports to the Commanding Officer that the Watch has been set.

The Commanding Officer orders "Pipe Down."

Retreat is sounded.

Guests invited to refreshments, proceed to the mess indicated on the ticket accompanying invitation.