



Honoring Our Vietnam War and Vietnam Era Veterans



February 28, 1961 - May 7, 1975



Town of West Seneca, New York

Name: FISCUS

ROBERT E.

Hometown: BUFFALO

Address:

- Vietnam Era
- Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: NAVY

Rank: MR3

Year Entered: 1963

Year Discharged: 1970

Unit / Squadron:

USS TIDEWATER (AD-31) / USS HARRY E. YARNELL (DLG-17)
 USS PARKER (DE-369)
 USS PURDY (DD-734)

Medals / Citations:

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL

Served in War Zone Theater of Operations / Assignment:

Service Notes:

Machinery Repairman Petty Officer 3rd Class Robert E. Fiscus was assigned to the Naval Reserve Surface Division (NRSD 3-60 (L))

Base Assignments:

Great Lakes Training Center, Illinois - Home of the United States Navy's only boot camp, located near North Chicago, in Lake County, Illinois / Naval Station Great Lakes is the second largest military installation in Illinois and the largest training station in the Navy

Brooklyn Ship Yard, New York - Purchased in 1801, and the property became an active US Navy shipyard five years later, in 1806 / The USS Ohio was the first ship built at Brooklyn Navy Yard and was launched on 30 May 1820 / In 1937, the battleship North Carolina was laid down / In 1938, the yard employed about 10,000 men, of whom one-third were Works Progress Administration (WPA) workers / The battleship Iowa was completed in 1942, followed by Missouri, which became the site of the Surrender of Japan on 2 September 1945 / On 12 January 1953, test operations began on Antietam, which emerged in December 1952, from the yard as America's first angled-deck aircraft carrier / At its peak, during World War II, the yard employed 70,000 people, 24 hours a day / The Brooklyn Naval Hospital, constructed 1830-1838, and rebuilt 1841-1843, was decommissioned in the mid-1970s and was one of the oldest naval hospitals in the United States / The Navy decommissioned the Brooklyn Ship Yard in 1966, but has become an area of private manufacturing and commercial activity

Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia - Norfolk Naval Base supports naval forces in the United States Fleet Forces



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Command, operating in the Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, and the Indian Ocean / In 1917 the Fifth Naval Headquarters was constructed at Norfolk and the Naval Operating Base (NOB) and other facilities were established / On 1 January 1953, the name of the naval base was officially changed to Naval Station Norfolk (NS Norfolk), after being known as the NOB / On 26 January 2017, NS Norfolk celebrated its one hundredth year of service

Miscellaneous:

After graduating from Bennett High School, Robert E. Fiscus enrolled at Erie County Technical Institute / Fiscus joined the Navy after graduation / After receiving an Honorable Discharge, Fiscus joined the West Seneca Police Department as a policeman / Fiscus retired after 31 years of service on the police force, attaining the rank of Detective / Robert Fiscus is a member of American Legion Post 735

USS Tidewater (AD-31) was a Shenandoah-class destroyer tender named for the Tidewater region of Virginia and was commissioned on 19 February 1946 / Between late 1951 and early 1954, the Tidewater operated exclusively along the eastern seaboard of the United States / In 1954, she headed across the Atlantic for her first deployment with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean / Over the next 13 years, the Tidewater made 10 deployments to the Mediterranean, alternating that service with 2nd Fleet duty along the Atlantic coast of the United States / Tidewater completed her tenth Mediterranean deployment on 2 May 1969 and resumed tender duty with the warships of the Atlantic Fleet out of Norfolk and remained so occupied through the end of the year and into 1970 / On 20 February 1971, The USS Tidewater was decommissioned and leased to the Indonesian Navy

USS Harry E. Yarnell (DLG/CG-17), a Leahy-class guided missile cruiser, named in honor of Admiral Harry E. Yarnell (1875–1959) / Commissioned on 2 February 1963, the Yarnell was originally called a "destroyer leader" or frigate and in 1975 she was designated a cruiser in the Navy's ship reclassification / She was the second of the "double-end" Leahy-class guided missile frigates to join the fleet / In April 1963, the Yarnell participated in the search for the USS Thresher (SSN-593), the nuclear submarine later found 8,000 feet down on the Atlantic Ocean bottom / She made her first Atlantic crossing on 8 September 1964 and crossed the Arctic circle on 21 September 1964 / The Yarnell served in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean before being deployed back to the Mediterranean in early 1967 / From 1973 through 1980, the Yarnell operated off of Western Europe and the Mediterranean / The USS Harry E. Yarnell was decommissioned 20 October 1993, and sold 14 April 1995 for scrapping at Quonset Point, RI, but the scrap contract was terminated 1 December 1996 and the hulk returned to Philadelphia for storage / Scrapping was ultimately completed in April 2002

USS Thaddeus Parker (DE-369) was a John C. Butler-class destroyer escort acquired by the U.S. Navy during World War II / Commissioned on 25 October 1944, the ship was named in honor of Thaddeus Parker who was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart medal and the Silver Star Medal for his actions during the Guadalcanal campaign / The primary purpose of the destroyer escort was to escort and protect ships in convoy, in addition to other tasks as assigned, such as patrol or radar picket / During World War II, Thaddeus Parker was assigned to an antisubmarine screen in the vicinity of Peleliu and served as an air-sea rescue ship in Kossol Roads in the Palau / She rescued a Marine pilot on 19 May and saved another on 18 July / On 27 June 1945, she shelled enemy installations at the Koror Naval Base / Thaddeus Parker was at Okinawa when hostilities with Japan ceased and placed out of commission, in reserve, on 31 May 1946 / Post-war, she returned home proudly with one battle star to her credit / In March 1951, during the Korean War, Thaddeus Parker was placed back on active duty /



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Between 1953 and 1957, the Thaddeus Parker operated in Europe and the Atlantic seaboard / Thaddeus Parker was activated for the Cuban crisis, operating off Cuba from 2 October 1961 to 1 August 1962, before being decommissioned again and returning to the Reserve fleet at Port Newark, New Jersey / Almost a decade later, the Thaddeus Parker was decommissioned and struck from the Navy list on 1 September 1967 / The USS Thaddeus Parker was sold for scrap on 9 July 1968

The USS Purdy (DD-734), an Allen M. Sumner-class destroyer, was commissioned on 18 July 1944 and is the only ship of the United States Navy to be named for Lieutenant Commander Frederick Warren Purdy, who was awarded the Silver Star for his rescue efforts while the destroyer USS Strong was sinking on 5 July 1943 / During World War II, The Purdy arrived at Leyte 17 March 1945 to rehearse the invasion of Okinawa / The Purdy helped screen transports during the Okinawa invasion / A bomb from a downed Japanese plane pierced the plating of the USS Purdy and exploded to kill 15, seriously wound 25, and cause extensive damage / After extensive repairs, the Purdy sailed in European waters from September 1948 to January 1949 / During October 1951 and January 1952, the Purdy operated off the coast of Korea / In 1957, the Purdy was deployed to Chile and to Europe in 1958 before sailing to the Dominican Republic in 1961 to support U.S. efforts to maintain stability in the Caribbean / In 1962, she helped implement the Cuban Quarantine during the Cuban Missile Crisis / From 1965 to 1970, the Purdy trained naval reservists, served as a school ship for Naval Destroyer School officer students, and tested and evaluated new equipment / The Purdy was decommissioned on 1 July 1973 and sold as scrap in June 1974 / The USS Purdy earned one battle star during World War II and 3 during the Korean War



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Name: **FURMAN**

LESLIE R

Hometown: WEST SENECA

Address: EMPORIUM AVENUE

Vietnam Era

Vietnam War Veteran

Service Branch: MARINE CORPS

Rank: CPL

Year Entered: 1960

Year Discharged: 1963

Unit / Squadron:

7TH COMMUNICATIONS BATTALION

Medals / Citations:

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Served in War Zone **Theater of Operations / Assignment:**

Service Notes:

Corporal (E-4) Leslie R. Furman served as a Radio Operator trained in Mobile Radio Communications (MRC) / Corporal Furman also served in the Reserves from 1963 through 1966

Base Assignments:

Parris Island, South Carolina - Marine Corps Recruit Depot (MCRD) Parris Island is a Marine Corps. military installation located within Port Royal, South Carolina. MCRD Parris Island was established on 1 November 1915 and designated for the training of enlisted Marines. Male recruits living east of the Mississippi River and female recruits from all over the United States report to Parris Island to receive their initial training

Camp Geiger, South Carolina - Camp Geiger is part of the Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune complex, and is home to the United States Marine Corps School of Infantry East for all Marines recruited through the Eastern Recruiting Region / Located about 10 miles south of Camp Lejeune, Camp Geiger was named in honor of General Roy Geiger, who was a Marine aviator and commander of the I Amphibious Corps, III Amphibious Corps, and the Tenth United States Army during World War II / Camp Geiger is one of two School of Infantry (SOI) locations where new Marines are instructed on modern Marine Corps infantry tactics in order to conduct expeditionary combat operations

Camp Lejeune, North Carolina - Located in Jacksonville, North Carolina, construction on Camp Lejeune was begun in 1941 and named in honor of the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, John A. Lejeune / As a military training facility, the Camp's 14 miles of beaches make it a major area for amphibious assault training, and its location between two deep-water ports (Wilmington and Morehead City) allows for fast deployments



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Camp Pendleton, California - Located in San Diego County, Camp Pendleton was established in September 1942 to meet the immediate need for additional amphibious force training facilities during World War II / Camp Pendleton was named in honor of World War I Major General Joseph H. Pendleton who had long advocated the establishment of a West Coast training base / The camp provides year-round training for Marines in addition to all other branches of the U.S. military

Twentynine Palms, California - The Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), also known as 29 Palms, is a United States Marine Corps base located adjacent to the city of Twentynine Palms in southern San Bernardino County, California / During World War II, 29 Palms served as a naval auxiliary air station and redesignated on 6 February 1953 as a Marine Corps Training Center

Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii - Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH), formerly Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay and originally Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay, is a U.S. Marine Corps facility and air station located on the Mokapu Peninsula of windward O'ahu in the City & County of Honolulu / Naval Air Station Kaneohe Bay was built by the Navy in 1939 and in 1951, the Marines assumed control of the air station activities when naval aviation moved to Barbers Point Naval Air Station / The Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay was commissioned on 15 January 1952

Miscellaneous:

Leslie Furman graduated from Eden High School and prior to joining the Marine Corps, Furman worked at Loblaws in Hamburg as a Meat Cutter Apprentice / After his Honorable Discharge, Furman was employed by Bethlehem Steel Corporation as a Class A Welder until the plant closed in 1983 / Les Furman later went to work for Eastern Railway Services, repairing locomotive cranes until his retirement / Furman is a Life Member of the Marine Corps League - Detachment 239 and a member of American Legion Post 735 / Furman is also a member of ABATE of New York which promotes Motorcycle Safety, Awareness, & Education and an adviser with the Erie County Sheriff's Explorer Post #505

The 7th Communication Battalion, activated in 1957 at Camp Pendleton, California with the mission to establish, maintain, and defend communication networks and services simultaneously for Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) command elements (CE), Marine component headquarters, and/or a Combined/Joint Task Force headquarters (C/JTF HQ) in order to facilitate a commander's ability to command and control forces / The 7th participated in the Vietnam War from 1966-1969 operating first from Chu Lai and later Da Nang and assigned to the 1st Marine Division until 1972 / The 7th Communications Battalion also participated in operations Eagle Pull and Frequent Wind at the official conclusion of the Vietnam conflict from December 1974 to May 1975.