

## U.S.S. BRISTOL (DD857)

The U.S.S. Bristol (DD857) will be commissioned at 1215 on 17 March 1945 at Bethlehem Steel Yard Outfitting Slip.

Uniform: Officers – Service Dress Blue Halter without gloves.  
Crew - Dress Blue with white hats.

Preparation: Quarters will be held by 1100 on regular division Parades. At this time set up special commissioning watches and rehearse commissioning ceremony.

Assembly Plan: See sketch.

### Commissioning Ceremony:

1200 Commissioning Officer arrives, met at Gangway by Prospective Commanding officer and escorted to Wardroom. Prospective Executive Officer calls crew to attention while Commissioning Officer proceeds to Wardroom. No honors given at this time.

Have Crew at Parade Rest.

1210 Call Crew to Attention

1215 Commissioning Officer and Official Party escorted by prospective Commanding Officer arrive at Speaker's Platform.

Talk by Commissioning Officer at end of which he directs the Commanding Officer to hoist colors and assume command. On orders from the Commanding Officer, the Executive Officer orders: "Ship's Company, Left and/or Right Face." After Ship's Company facing colors, Executive Officer orders: "Band, Sound off." On first note of National Anthem all officers come smartly to "Hand Salute." Crew remains in ranks at attention. Quarter masters Ensign, Jack and Commission Pennant. On last note of National Anthem "Hand Salute" is completed. Executive Officer orders: "Ship's Company, Right and/or Left Face."

Prospective Commanding Officer reads his orders to take command. He then reports to Commissioning Officer: "Sir, I accept the U.S.S. BRISTOL (DD857) and hereby assume command."

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The Commanding Officer orders the Executive Officer to "Set the Watch."

Executive Officer orders the watch to be set and instructs the Boatswain's mate to pipe the Watch; Watch and special details proceed to station ON THE DOUBLE with as little commotion as possible. The Executive Officer reports to Commanding Officer: "The Watch has been set, Sir."

The Commanding Officer asks the Chaplain to offer Invocation, upon which the Executive Officer orders: "Ship's Company, Right and Left Face", "Ship's Company, Uncover, Two". Upon conclusion of Invocation the Executive Officer orders: "Ship's Company, Cover, Two." "Ship's Company, Left and Right Face".

NOTE: Ship's Company to face Speaker's Platform during Invocation.

Commanding Officer makes a short speech, then invites guests to inspect the ship and have refreshments.

Executive Officer directs band to "Sound Off", and band plays "Anchors Aweigh".

Official Party leaves vicinity of Ceremony and Executive Officer orders: "Pipe down from Quarters". Visitors will not be allowed aboard until crew have gotten clear of Quarters Stations.

The Commissioning Officer will be accorded side honors appropriate to his rank on leaving the ship. Boatswain's mate and side-boys will stand-by. ALL MEN NOT IN RANKS WILL SALUTE.

No other officer will be accorded honors, EXCEPT if an officer senior to the Commissioning Officer or a Flag Officer is present.