

USS Albany Recommissioned



Lt. Cmdr. Jane Barton, USNR, of Esperance, a member of the Naval Reserve public relations company, discusses the Albany's recommissioning with Captain Ben B. Pickett, commander of the cruiser.



Continued from Page A-1
cial side that carefully considered, authorized and appropriated the funds, and then the skilled artificers who rebuilt and installed the equipment."

Buffeted by Wind

Winds with gusts up to 45 miles an hour buffeted the white capped harbor and many of the spectators elected to forego the outdoor seating arrangements and viewed the ceremonies from automobiles and buses along the pier.

The Albany High School band played several selections during the ceremonies.

Leaden skies above the massive grey silhouette of the Albany accented her somber purpose. So did the four Talos missiles—two fore and two aft—which were run out on their launchers at the climax of the ceremonies.

They angled toward the sky as a 13-gun salute thundered forth, its echoes rolling out to the sea which the Albany will ply in defense of its nation.

Crew Lines Decks

Dress uniformed men of the Albany lined her decks and snapped smartly to attention as the ensign, jack and commission pennants were raised and the official Boston Naval Shipyard band played the Star Spangled Banner.

Welcoming remarks were

made by Capt. Frank B. Jones, USN, Commander, Boston Naval Shipyard, and brief words were expressed by Rear Admiral Joseph H. Wellings, USN, Commandant, First Naval District.

Assuming charge of the guided missile, Cruiser Albany was Capt. Ben B. Pickett, USN, who served on the staff of the Commander in Chief, U. S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, based in London, England.

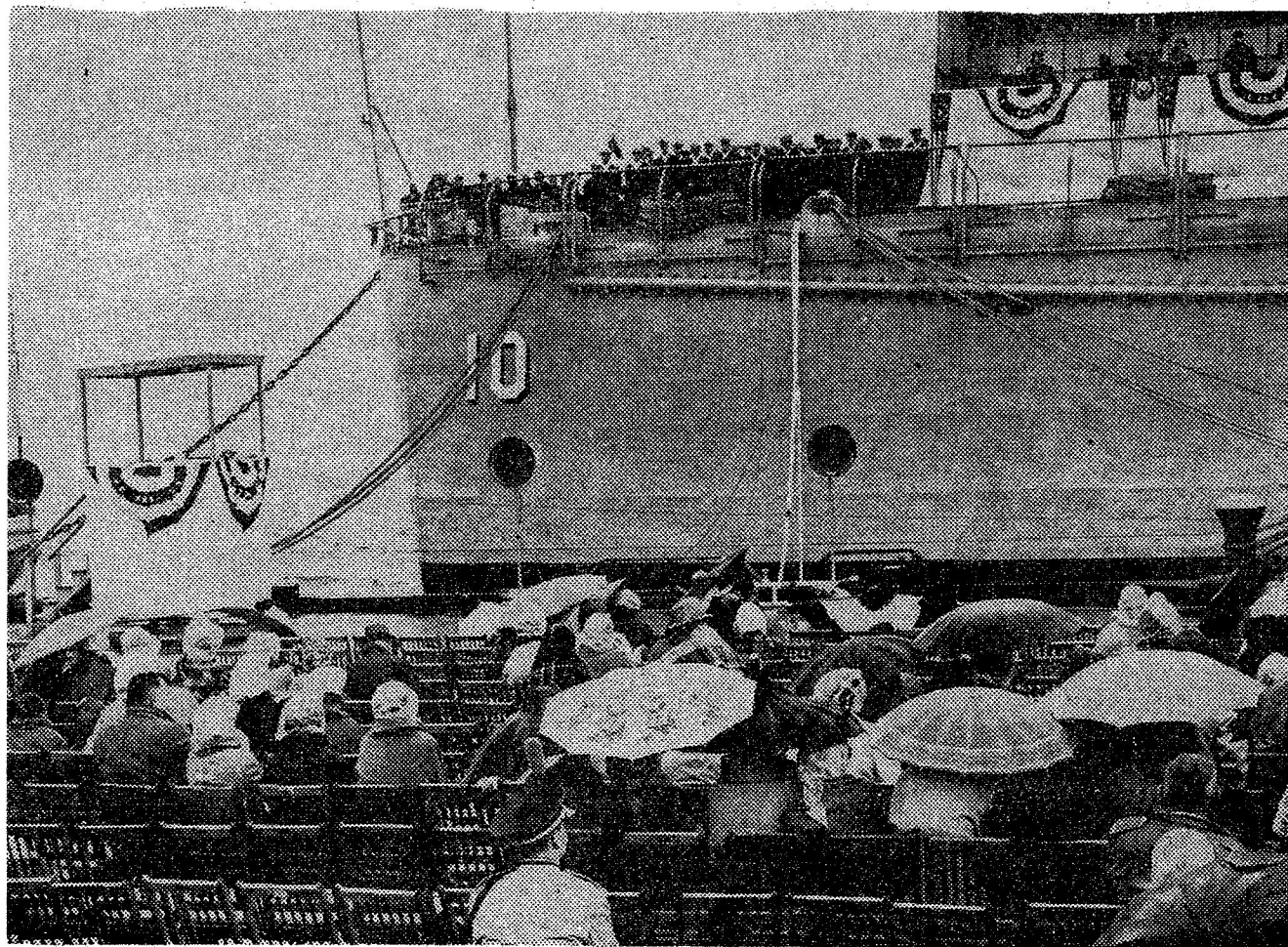
The present Albany was commissioned in 1946 after citizens of Albany "bought" the cruiser with their purchase of \$40 million in War Bonds.

4 Area Men in Crew

The recommissioned Albany has a complement of 70 officers, 1,000 men and 39 U. S. Marines, who are used for security reasons and for ceremonies.

Among the crew are four Albany area men, George J. Schillinger, 19, of 1301 Seventh Avenue, Watervliet, Elwood Lawton Jr., 19, Quaker St., Charles Bronx, 21, of 10 Cragin Avenue, Troy, and Wayne Van Amburgh, 19, of 202 Orange St., Albany.

as *First Missile Carrier*



A lonely band member of the Albany High School band sits among spectators during the recommissioning ceremonies. The band, with the excep-

tion of this loner, had played several selections and retired to its bus.

Times-Union Staff Photos by Roberta Smith