

The Ceremony and Order of Service

for the Commissioning of

Her Majesty's Ship REVENGE

Conducted by
The Reverend M. B. Dewey, M.A.
The Right Reverend Monsignor B. S. O'Connor, V.G., Royal Navy
The Reverend R. Gwilym Williams, C.B.E., Q.H.C., B.A., Royal Navy

in the presence of Commander J. B. L. Watson, Royal Navy Commander W. I. Morrison, Royal Navy The Officers and Ships' Companies

PROGRAMME

Ship's Companies march on.

"Alert" sounded by R.M. Bugler on approach of Platform party.

Platform party takes up position.

"Carry On".

The Captains read their respective Commissioning Warrants.

Platform party turn to face the ship. "Alert".

The Ensign is hoisted and the Commissioning Pennant broken.

During the hoisting of the Ensign, the National Anthem is played. Gentlemen are requested to uncover.

"Carry On". Gentlemen cover. Platform party turn to face parade. "Off Caps". Gentlemen are requested to uncover.

The Commissioning Service.

"On Caps". Gentlemen cover.

"Alert".

Platform party move off towards the ship.

"Carry On" sounded when Platform party are clear.

The Captain of the Starboard Crew is piped on board, followed by invited guests to sign the visitor's book.

Ship's Companies march off.

Guests are requested to remain in the stand until the parade is clear.

Order of Service

The Captain will read the Commissioning Warrant

The Ensign will be hoisted and the Masthead Pendant broken

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

The Captain shall address the Ship's Company in these words:

Seeing that in the course of our duty we are set in the midst of many and great dangers and that we cannot be faithful to the high trust placed in us without the help of Almighty God, let us unite our prayers in seeking his blessing upon this ship and all who serve in her.

The Captain shall call on the Ship's Company to ask for God's Blessing on the ship, using this ancient call:

FROM THE GAELIC BLESSING, 1589

The Captain: I call upon you to pray for God's blessing on this ship. May God the Father bless her.

Ship's Company: Bless our ship.

The Captain: May Jesus Christ bless her.

Ship's Company: Bless our ship.

The Captain: May the Holy Spirit bless her.

Ship's Company: Bless our ship.

Then this hymn may be sung:

He who would valiant be 'Gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy
Follow the Master.
There's no discouragement
Shall make him once relent
His first avowed intent
To be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round
With dismal stories,
Do but themselves confound—
His strength the more is.
No foes shall stay his might,
Though he with giants fight:
He will make good his right
To be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, thou dost defend Us with thy spirit, We know we at the end Shall life inherit. Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say, I'll labour night and day To be a pilgrim.

THE READING OF THE GOSPEL

The Gospel and the prayer following shall be read by the Roman Catholic Chaplain:

St. Mark, Chapter 4, Verses 36-41

And, sending away the multitude, they take him even as he was in the ship; and there were other ships with him. And there arose a great storm of wind; and the waves beat into the ship, so that the ship was filled. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, sleeping upon a pillow. And they awake him and say to him: Master, doth it not concern thee that we perish? And rising up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea: Peace. Be still. And the wind ceased; and there was made a great calm. And he said to them: Why are you fearful? Have you not faith yet? And they feared exceedingly. And they said one to another: Who is this (thinkest thou) that both wind and sea obey him?

Let us pray:

Teach us good Lord to serve thee as thou deservest, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and to ask for no reward, save that of knowing that we do thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

THE PRAYERS

to be said by the Chaplain, Church of Scotland and Free Churches:

Let us give thanks to God for all who have inspired us by their example.

Almighty and everlasting God, the creator and upholder of men, who hast in every age inspired thy servants with courage and skill, we give thee thanks for the example of those who have gone before us; for the seamen of our nation; for all who in great or small ships have braved the perils of the deep; for all who have given their lives for their country; through thy mercies in Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Let us pray that we may uphold the best traditions of the Royal Navy.

For ourselves, grant, O Lord, that we may ever be conscious of thy ruling hand. May we be found watchful at our posts. Make us ever mindful of the needs of others, sharing our joys and bearing their burdens in the work which thou hast given us to do; and keep us always in thy love and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Let us pray for our homes.

O God, who sent thy Son, Jesus Christ, to live in an earthly home for our sakes, we pray thee to bless our homes, and all who are in them; grant that we may always remain faithful to them, and they to us, and help us to remember that though time and distance part us, we are all one in thee for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*.

Let us pray for perseverance.

O Lord God, when thou givest to thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of the same until it be thoroughly finished which yieldeth the true glory; through him, who for the finishing of thy work, laid down his life: our Saviour, Jesus Christ. *Amen*.

This hymn or some part of it may be sung:

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
For those in peril on the sea.

O ruler of the earth and sky
Be with our airmen when they fly:
And keep them in thy loving care
From all the perils of the air.
O let our cry come up to thee
For those who fly o'er land and sea.

O Trinity of love and power,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them whereso'er they go:
And ever let there rise to thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

THE BLESSING OF THE SHIP

The Chaplain: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

The Ship's Company: Who hath made heaven and earth.

The Chaplain: The Lord be with you.

The Ship's Company: And with thy spirit.

All shall say together the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. *Amen*.

The Chaplain may speak to the Ship's Company; and afterwards pronounce this blessing on the ship:

O Lord God Almighty, let thy blessing be upon this ship, and upon all those who serve and sail in her: May good success and thy protection and the guardianship of the Holy Angels be with them always. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

Led by the Chaplain, the prayer following shall be said by the whole Ship's Company:

THE NAVAL PRAYER

O Eternal Lord God, who alone spreadest out the heavens and rulest the raging of the sea; who hast compassed the waters with bounds until day and night come to an end; be pleased to receive into thy Almighty and most gracious protection the persons of us thy servants, and the fleet in which we serve. Preserve us from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy; that we may be a safeguard unto our most gracious Sovereign Lady, Queen ELIZABETH and her Dominions; and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our Island may in peace and quietness serve thee our God: and that we may return in safety to enjoy the blessings of the land, with the fruits of our labours, and with a thankful remembrance of thy mercies to praise and glorify thy Holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render no man evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all evermore. Amen.

STARBOARD CREW

Commanding Officer

Commander J. B. L. Watson

Officers

LtCdr. N. B. Shacklock	Lt. J. S. Lang
LtCdr. H. M. Manners	Lt. W. G. Morrison
LtCdr. F. P. Duppa-Miller	Lt. R. C. Lane-Nott
LtCdr. M. K. Matthews	Lt. C. W. Roddis
Lt. T. R. Macdonald	Lt. D. C. Evans
Surg. Lt. D. M. Crean	Eng. Sub/Lt. A. J. Waite

Supply Lt. (S) D. B. Christie

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CPO Coxswain J. Angus	LS UW2, J. Moxham	RO2(W). P. R. Burt
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PO TASI. B. T. Savage	AB UC2. M. K. Fell	AB RP*. A. R. Fitton
PO UC1. B. W. Charlton	RO1(G). D. E. Foote	RO2(G). M. E. Rayner
PO RP1. E. A. Wilson	AB RP2. J. McKenzie	AB UC*. A. Cooper
LS UC2. P. J. Wilders	AB UW*. A. L. Bramham	AB UW*. R. L. Hughes
LS RP2. H. B. Cable	RO2(G). K. S. Markham	AB RP*. A. Pickering
LS UW2. W. V. Edge	AB UC*R. C. Hearnden	AB UC*. G. Francis
LS UC2. B. J. Moxley	AB UC*. D. Shaw	AB UC*. K. W. Hammond
LRO(G) G. G. Bowden	AB UC*. K. Swash	AB RP*. B. Wilson
LS UC*. M. Vellender	RO2(G). B. T. Hartley	

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CH (CE)Mech. G. Bridge CCEA. M. J. Jackson OEA1. B. A. Harvey OE Mech1. G. Harries OE Mech1. D. Geeson CEA1. L. Cole OEA1. D. Blake R Mechl. B. Thomas OEA1. K. I. Owen CRE. A. Rhodes

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Surg. Lt. B. D Kirkpatrick	Eng. Sub/Lt. I. E. Davies

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LS RP*. M. Taylor	
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