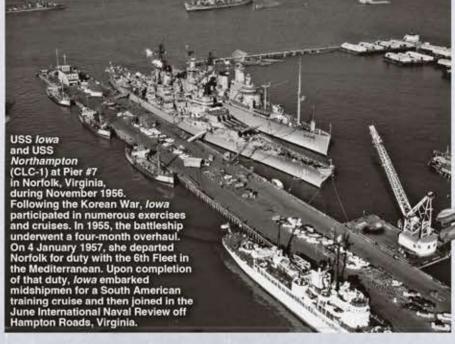


THEIR GUNS WERE ALWAYS

BY JAMES THOMPSON



Patch commemorating the lowa's many years of service.



Captain F.J. Becton assumed command of USS lowa during December 1956, just prior to her final Mediterranean Deployment. lowa served with the 6th Fleet from January to mid-April 1956. Captain Becton also served aboard USS Texas (BB-35) and USS Arkansas (BB-33).

During the 1950s, American seapower was second to none. This view shows USS *lowa* and USS *New Jersey* (BB-62) steaming in the Atlantic after the conclusion of the Korean War. During that war, *lowa* and her crew did extensive damage to communist targets.