

Gibbons Assumes Command of Naval Reserve Brigade

Capt. Joseph H. Gibbons, USNR, took command of the Brooklyn Naval Reserve Organized Surface Brigade 3-2 last night relieving Capt. William A. Sessions, USNR. The ceremony took place at 8 p.m. in the Brigade's training center at 1st Ave., and 52d Street.

Captain Sessions had been associated with the Brigade since August, 1946, first as executive officer and, after July, 1949, as commanding officer. Captain Gibbons formerly was a member of the Volunteer Public Relations Unit of the Naval Reserve in New York City.

A 1924 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, Captain Gibbons remained on active duty for four years. In 1928 he returned to civilian life, but was recalled to active duty in June, 1939, and was a member of the Naval Combat Demolition Unit in the invasion of North Africa. He also made the Normandy invasion in an underwater demolition unit. He was awarded the Silver Star Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation for this action.

During World War I, Capt. Sessions entered the Navy as a seaman. Released to inactive duty in 1919, he remained in the Naval Reserve and, in 1927, was commissioned ensign.

He was recalled to active duty in mid-1940, and, after brief stateside service, went to sea in 1941. He was released to inactive duty in 1945 and was promoted to captain at the time he assumed command of the Brooklyn Reserve Brigade.

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