

WELCOME ABOARD



U.S.S. BASHAW (AGSS-241)

As Commanding Officer, USS BASHAW, I am happy to welcome you aboard this unit of the United States Pacific Fleet and of the Submarine Force, Pacific.

This submarine is typical of the numerous others serving throughout the world in the cause of continuing peace and freedom. The officers and crew of the BASHAW are all hand-picked volunteers, who are justifiably proud of their submarine and of its accomplishments, past and present. I hope that you will profit from your visit and leave us with a better understanding of your submarine force, its men, and the many sacrifices which they make to keep this country of ours safe for all of us.

We are pleased to have you visit us. WELCOME ABOARD.

D. WALSH
Commanding Officer
USS BASHAW (AGSS-241)



Commander Don Walsh graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1954. Upon graduation, he reported aboard the USS MATHEWS (AKA 96) for his initial tour of duty. From the USS MATHEWS, Commander WALSH reported to the U. S. Naval Submarine School, New London, Connecticut in July 1956, for duty under instruction. Upon graduation from Submarine School in December 1956, he reported to USS RASHER (SSR 269) for a two year tour of duty. In September 1958, he was sent on TAD to the staff of COMSUBFLOT ONE as Flotilla Secretary. Having volunteered for the duty, in March 1959 Commander WALSH was ordered to report to U. S. Navy Electronics Laboratory at San Diego as Officer-in-Charge Bathyscaph TRIESTE. In July 1962, he was ordered to USS SEA FOX (SS 402). After one WestPac deployment, he was sent to PCO school at Pearl Harbor. Upon return from PCO school, he reported on board USS BUGARA (SS 331) as Executive Officer until November 1964. Having received a scholarship from Texas A&M, the Navy gave Commander WALSH time off to study physical oceanography. During summer of 1965, he was ordered to a TAD tour with the Office of Naval Material to conduct a study of Navy management of ocean sciences and technology.

In August 1968, Commander WALSH relieved Commander E. V. CRABB as Commanding Officer, USS BASHAW (AGSS 241).

HISTORY OF THE USS BASHAW (AGSS-241)

The history of the USS BASHAW (AGSS-241) began on 4 December 1942, when her keel was laid at Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut. She was conceived as a part of the stepped-up American offensive in the Pacific designated to stem the tide and carry the war to the Japanese homeland. BASHAW was commissioned on 25 October 1943 and turned over to her first commanding officer, LCDR R.E. Nichols, USN.

Following extensive training, she reported to Commander Task Force 72 for duty in the Pacific Theater of Operations. Departing Milne Bay, New Guinea on 19 March 1944, BASHAW drew first blood on her maiden patrol by damaging a Japanese submarine tender southeast of Mindanao. At war's end, BASHAW had contributed significantly to the American war effort by personally accounting for 62,000 tons of enemy shipping, sunk or damaged.

Subsequent to the cessation of hostilities with Japan, BASHAW was decommissioned at Mare Island Naval Shipyard. She was to remain there until 3 April 1951, when she was recommissioned to aid in combatting the threat which the Korean conflict posed. After a short period of operations out of San Diego, BASHAW was again decommissioned for conversion in May of 1952 at Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard, California. BASHAW was commissioned as SSK anti-submarine submarine on 28 March 1953 under the command of LCDR H.E. Fry, USN.

BASHAW was assigned to Submarine Division 33, based in San Diego, where she participated in training and fleet exercises until November 1955, when she was assigned to Submarine Division 72 based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

BASHAW again returned to San Diego for assignment to Division THIRTY-THREE in October 1964.

BASHAW has made five WESTERN PACIFIC deployments since 1960. The most recent of these started 13 January 1967. During this period the crew was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal for participations in operations in the vicinity of the Tonkin Gulf. Since returning from deployment to San Diego on 25 July 1967, BASHAW has participated in local training operations as well as major fleet operations.

On 26 August 1968 BASHAW received the Battle Efficiency "E" for Submarine Division THIRTY-THREE.

On 1 July 1969 BASHAW was assigned to Submarine Division THIRTY-ONE.



