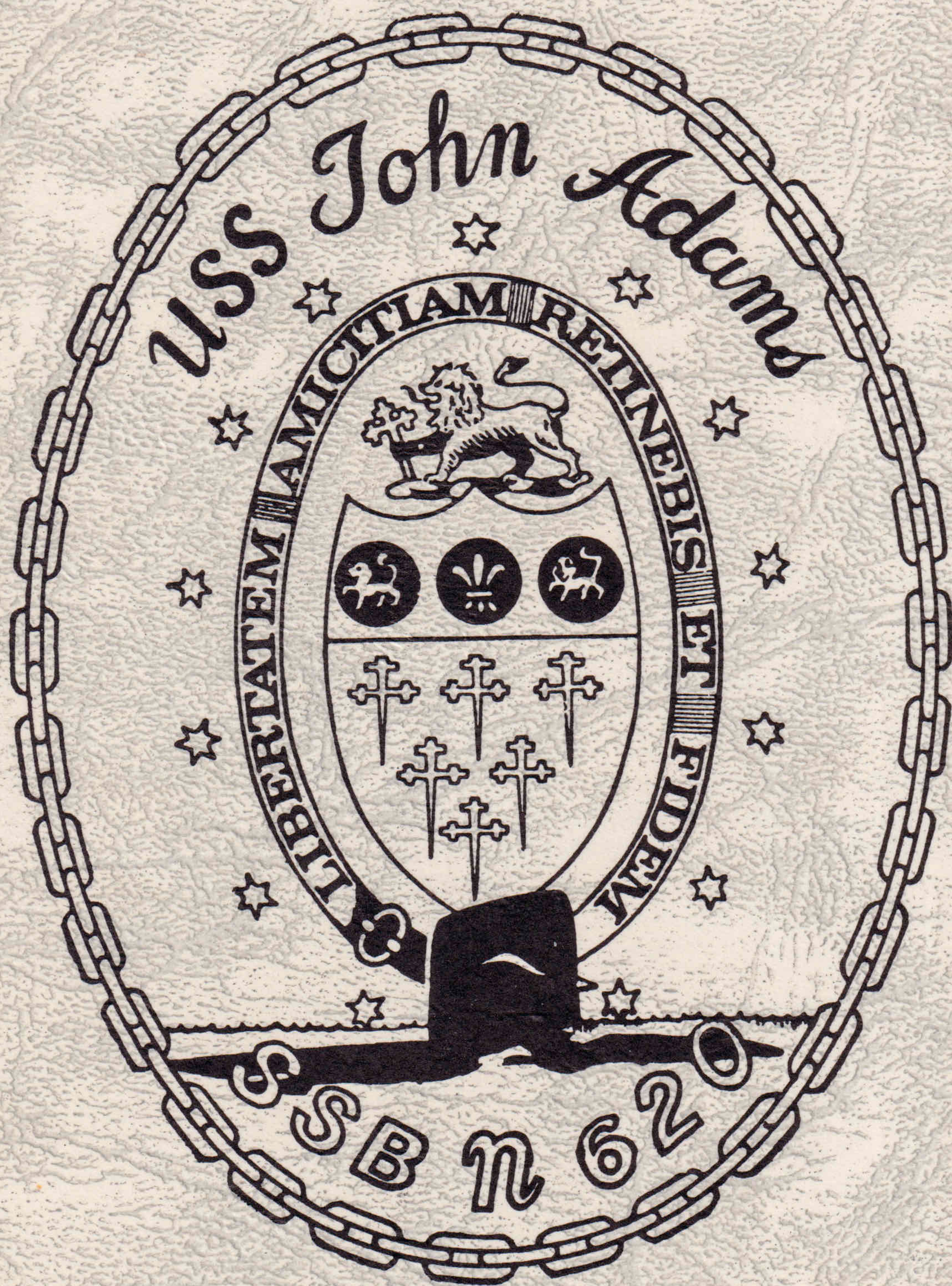
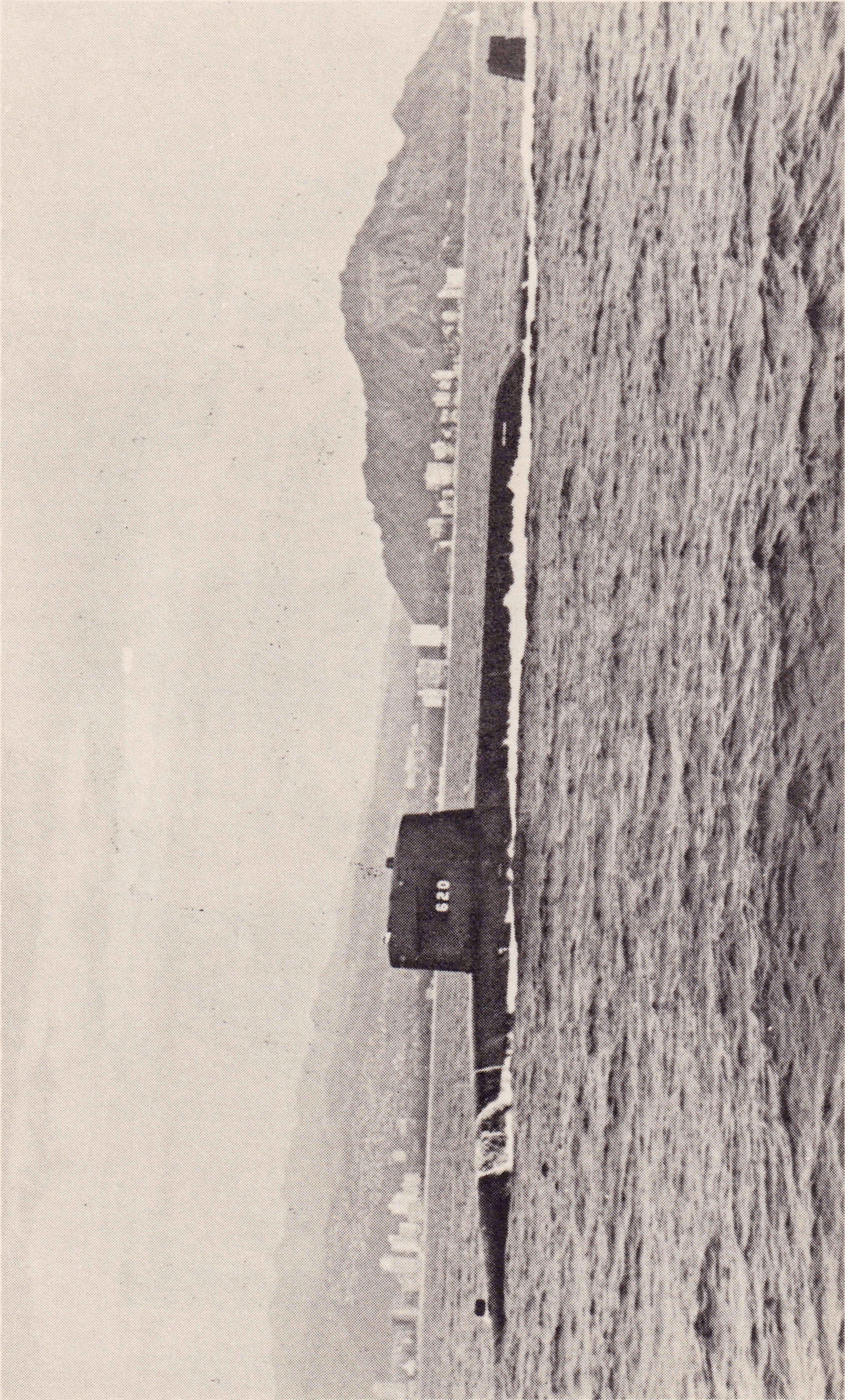


WELCOME ABOARD



USS
John Adams
SSBIN1620



HISTORY OF USS JOHN ADAMS

USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN620) is the Navy's seventeenth nuclear-powered Polaris submarine. It is named for John ADAMS, the second President of the United States, and his son, John Quincy ADAMS, the sixth President.

The ship began her waterborn career on January 12, 1963 when she was launched at Portsmouth New Hampshire. She was placed in commission on May 12, 1964. She completed sixteen successful deterrent patrols while assigned to the Atlantic Fleet prior to entering Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, for overhaul and modernization in August, 1968. JOHN ADAMS completed overhaul in August 1969 and after an extensive shake down period returned to the line as a unit of the Pacific Fleet.

Upon completion of her thirty-second patrol, JOHN ADAMS entered Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to commence overhaul/conversion to POSEIDON configuration. She completed overhaul/conversion in April, 1976 and after an extensive shake down period commenced deterrent patrol number thirty-three as a unit of the Atlantic Fleet.

Fast, silent, and virtually immune to surprise attack, JOHN ADAMS combines the almost unlimited endurance of nuclear power with the deterrent might of sixteen Poseidon missiles.

To take advantage of this endurance and might JOHN ADAMS has two complete and equally trained crews (designated Blue and Gold), each of 140 officers and men. While one crew takes the ship on patrol, the other is in the homeport undergoing refresher training, taking leave, training new crew members, and in general, preparing to go back to sea.

VITAL STATISTICS

Length.....425 feet
Beam.....33 feet
Displacement surfaced.....about 7000 tons
Displacement submerged.....about 8000 tons
Speed.....over 20 knots
Diving Depth.....over 400 feet

COMMANDING OFFICERS OF USS JOHN ADAMS

BLUE CREW

CDR Lando W. ZECH, Jr., USN	OCT 62 - MAR 65
CDR William K. YATES, USN	MAR 65 - NOV 67
CDR Edward H. MORTIMER, USN	NOV 67 - MAY 72
CDR John D. PETERS, USN	MAY 72 - FEB 77
CDR Robert B. VAN METRE, USN	FEB 77 -

GOLD CREW

CDR Paul J. EARLY, USN	MAY 64 - AUG 67
CDR Kenneth M. CARR, USN	AUG 67 - JUL 68
CDR Edward H. MORTIMER, USN	JUL 68 - AUG 69
CDR Avery K. LOPOSER, USN	AUG 69 - JUL 72
CDR William J. HOBLER, Jr., USN	JUL 72 - DEC 73
CDR George E. BRAINERD, USN	APR 76 - MAR 77
CDR James N. ROBERTS, USN	MAR 77 -



CDR ROBERT B. VAN METRE, USN

Commander Robert B. VAN METRE, a Navy Junior calls Winston Salem, North Carolina, home. After graduation from the Naval Academy in 1961, he completed nuclear power training and Submarine School. He then reported to the commissioning crew of USS POLLACK (SSN-603). After completion of one deployment, Commander VAN METRE was assigned duty at the United States Naval Academy where he served as a Company Officer.

Commander VAN METRE then reported to the USS SIMON BOLIVAR (SSBN-641) where he participated in four deterrent patrols. He was then assigned to the USS SKATE (SSN-578) for duty as Navigator for two trips under the ice. He served as Engineer Officer for the overhaul. In January, 1974, Commander VAN METRE reported to USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN-663) serving as Executive Officer until July, 1976, when he was detached with orders to assume command of USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN-620) Blue.

Commander VAN METRE holds a Master of Science Degree from George Washington University. He is married to the former Kathleen Marie Doherty of Winchester, Massachusetts. They have four children: Michael, Christopher, Kevin and Michelle.



CDR JAMES N. ROBERTS, USN

Commander James N. ROBERTS was commissioned in 1959 following graduation from the Naval Academy. He reported to the USS BOYD (DD544) where he served as Gunnery Officer. He then transferred to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey prior to being accepted for submarine duty.

Following nuclear power training, Commander ROBERTS reported to USS DANIEL WEBSTER (SSBN626) BLUE where he served as an Engineering Division Officer. Following qualification as an Engineer, he reported to USS SUNFISH (SSN649) where he served as the commissioning Engineer.

From August 1969 until June 1970, Commander ROBERTS attended the Naval War College in Newport. Following this tour he served for three months as a U.S. Naval Observer in HMS WARSPITE (SSN03). He served as Executive Officer onboard USS CASIMIR PULASKI (SSBN633) BLUE. Commander ROBERTS has served as Commanding Officer, USS STURGEON (SSN637) and USS JAMES MONROE (SSBN622) GOLD. In March 1977 Commander ROBERTS reported to USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN620) GOLD as the Commanding Officer.

Commander ROBERTS is married to the former Marie Jeanette Shoemaker of San Diego, California. The ROBERTS have two children, a son Erling David, and a daughter Rebecca Lyn.

THE CREW

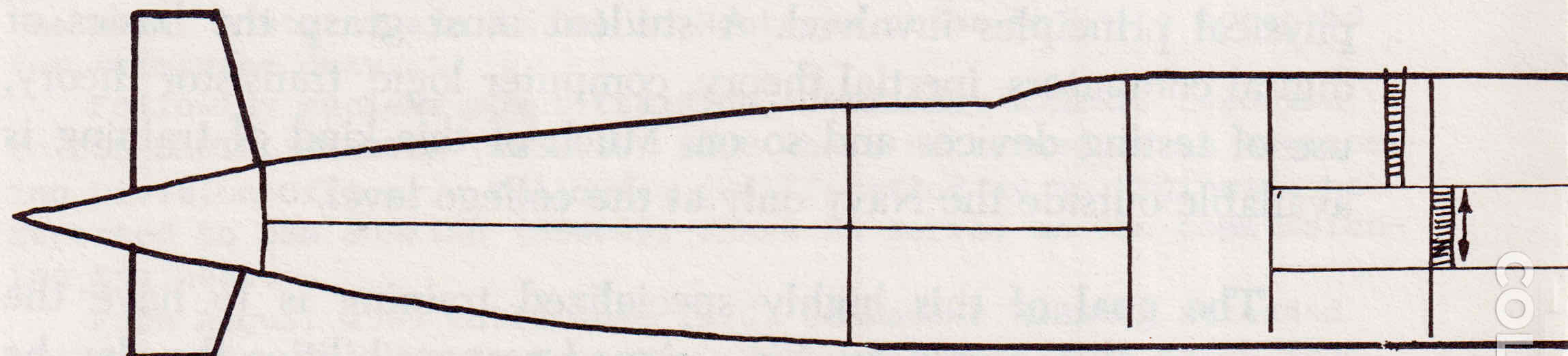
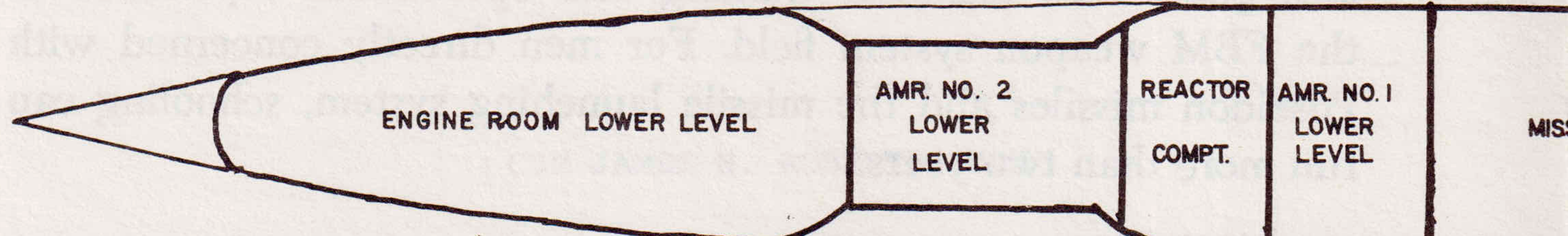
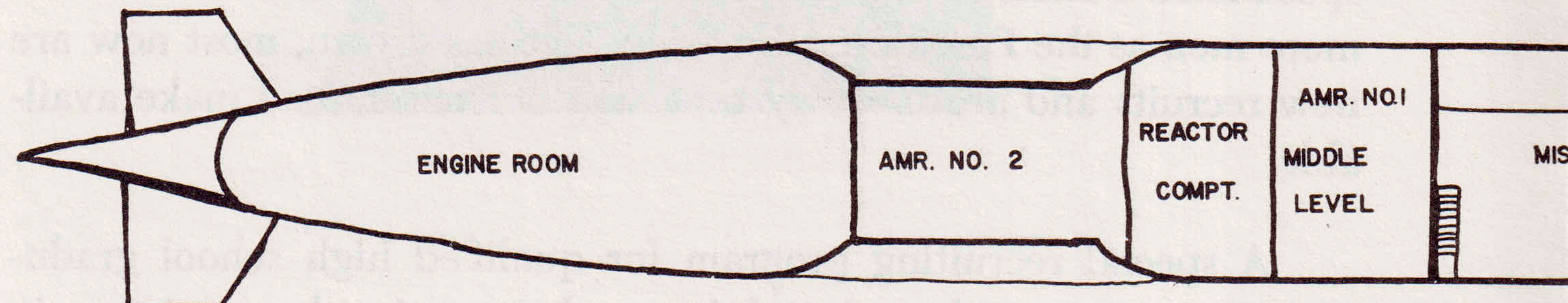
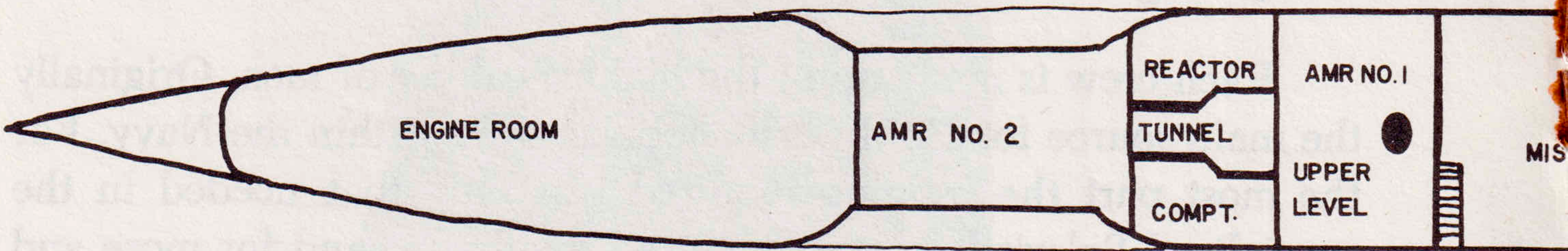
Each FBM submarine has two crews, called Blue and Gold, of about 140 officers and men each. While one crew mans the ship on patrol, the other crew is at its home port, undergoing refresher training, taking leave, breaking in new crew members, and in general getting ready to go back to sea.

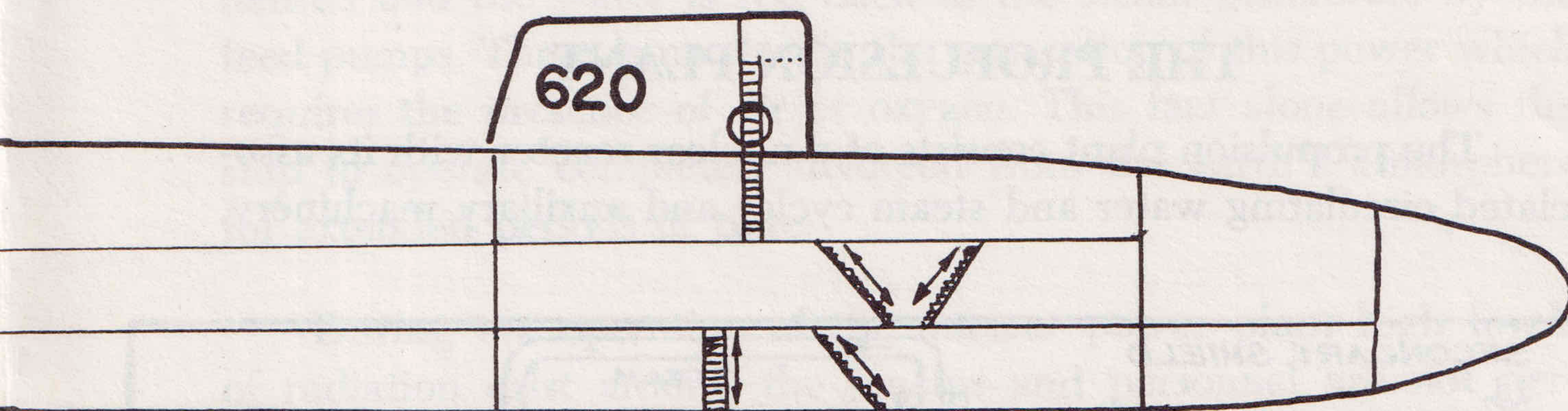
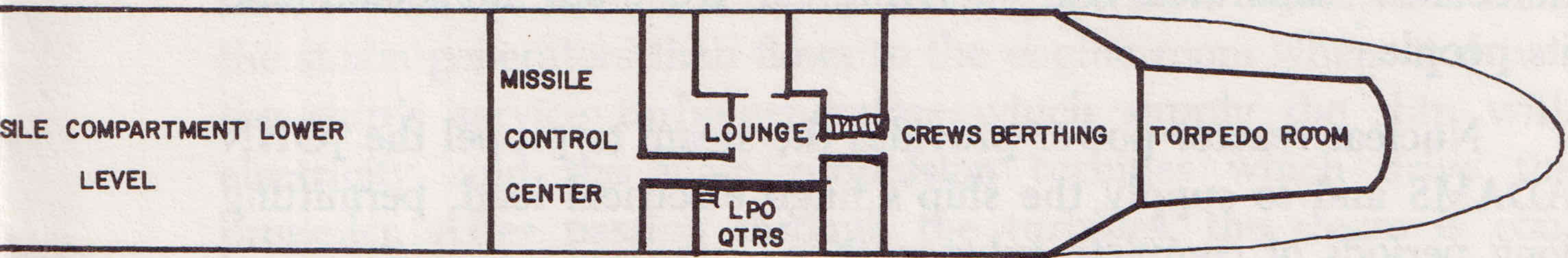
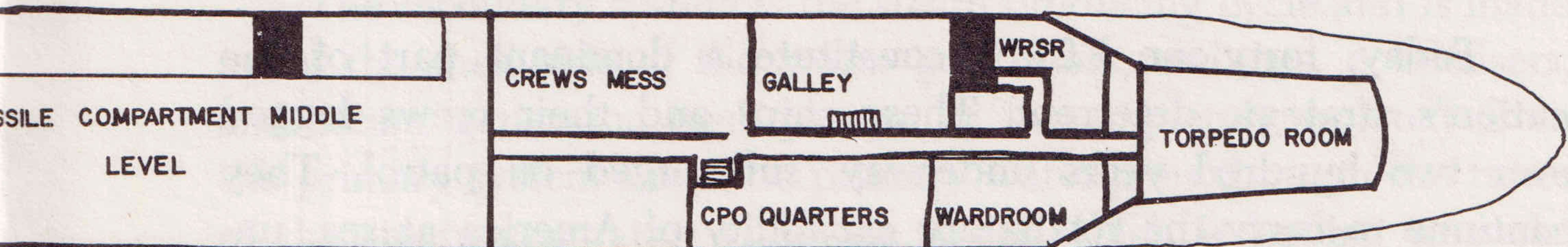
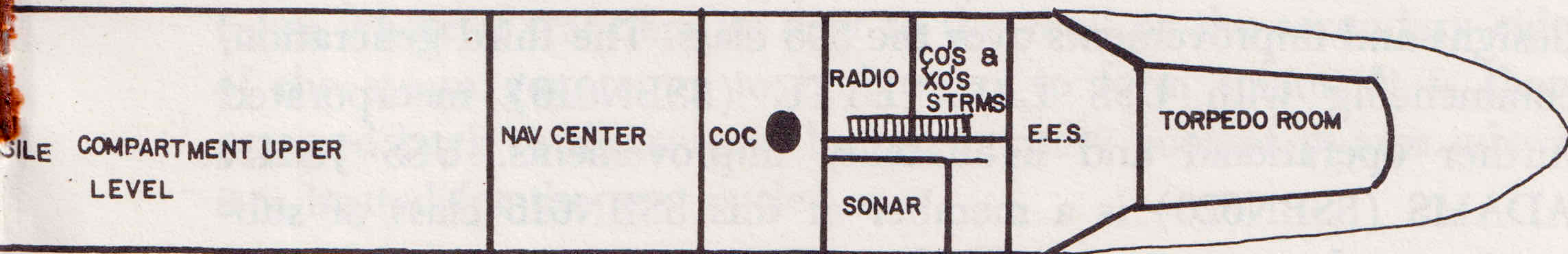
Each crew is made up of the highest caliber of men. Originally the main source for FBM personnel was from within the Navy. For the most part the training required was only that needed in the specialized Polaris field. But with the steady demand for more and more men as the Poseidon submarine fleet has grown, most now are new recruits and are the very best men our nation can make available.

A special recruiting program for qualified high school graduates guarantees technical training and operational experience in the FBM weapon system field. For men directly concerned with Poseidon missiles and the missile launching system, schooling can run more than two years.

To be able to maintain and operate the equipment, a man must be thoroughly familiar with the basic theory and fundamental physical principles involved. A student must grasp the basics of digital computers, inertial theory, computer logic, transistor theory, use of testing devices and so on. Much of this kind of training is available outside the Navy only at the college level.

The goal of this highly specialized training is to have the technician fully ready for his assigned responsibilities the day he becomes a Poseidon submarine crewman. On patrol, an FBM submarine is literally a world unto itself. There is no calling for outside help. The submarine must be - and is - self-sufficient.





THE FBM SUBMARINE

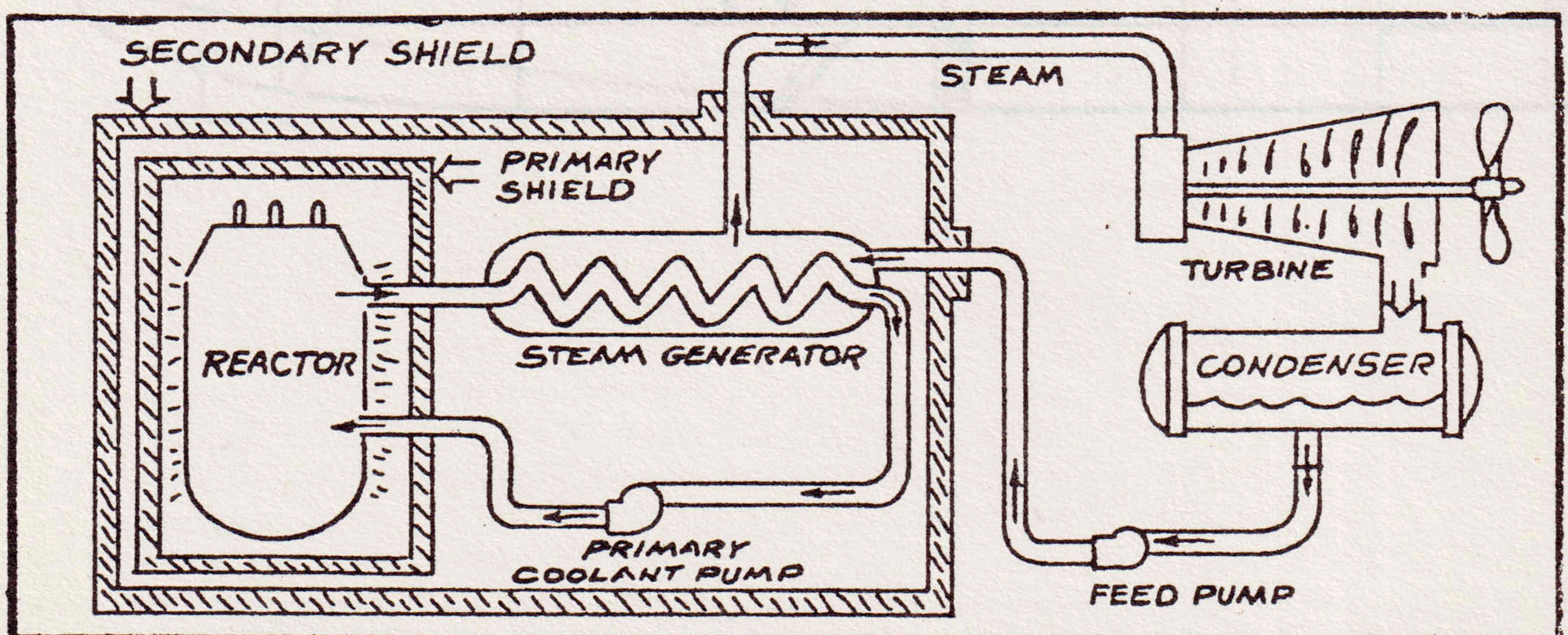
About sixteen years ago the submarine launched ballistic missile system was conceived as an additional option in America's strategic deterrent forces. The first Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine was the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN598), commissioned December, 1959. The second generation of FBM submarines began with USS ETHAN ALLEN (SSBN608) and included many new designs and improvements over the 598 class. The third generation, commencing with USS LAFAYETTE (SSBN616) incorporated further operational and habitability improvements. USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN620) is a member of this SSBN616 class of submarines and can carry 16 Poseidon Missiles.

Today, forty-one FBM's constitute a dominant part of the nation's strategic deterrent. These ships and their crews logged over two hundred years underway, submerged on patrol. They continue to carry the retaliatory capability of America at sea, undetectable, separated and surviving far from our homeland and its people.

Nuclear reactor power provides the steam to propel the JOHN ADAMS and to supply the ship's huge electrical load, permitting long periods of complete submergence.

THE PROPULSION PLANT

The propulsion plant consists of a nuclear reactor with its associated circulating water and steam cycles and auxiliary machinery.



THE FBM SUBMARINE *(Continued)*

The primary system is a circulating water cycle and consists of the reactor, identical port and starboard loops of piping, primary coolant pumps and the tubes of the steam generators. Heat is produced in the reactor by nuclear fission and is transferred to the circulating primary coolant water which is pressurized to prevent boiling. This water is then pumped through the steam generator tubes where it transfers its heat to the shell or the secondary side of the steam generators to boil water to form steam. It is then pumped back to the reactor by the primary coolant pumps where it is heated for the next cycle.

The secondary system is the steam producing cycle and is made up of the shell side of the steam generators, turbines, condensers, and steam generator feed pumps. It is completely isolated from the primary system since the primary water goes through the tubes of the steam generator while the water which is boiling to make steam is on the shell side of the steam generator. Steam rises from the steam generators then flows to the engine room where it drives the ship's service turbo-generators which supply the ship with electricity, and the main propulsion turbines which drive the propeller. After passing through the turbines, the steam is condensed and the water is fed back to the steam generators by the feed pumps. There is no step in the generation of this power which requires the presence of air or oxygen. This fact alone allows the ship to operate completely divorced from the earth's atmosphere for extended periods of time.

During the operation of the nuclear power plant high levels of radiation exist around the reactor and personnel are not permitted entrance into the reactor compartment until a few minutes after the reactor is shut down. Heavy shielding is used to protect the crew so that the average crew member receives less radiation than he would receive from natural sources ashore.

THE POSEIDON WEAPONS SYSTEM

The Weapons System is a complex matrix of several subsystems including the missile, fire control, launcher, navigation and various supporting subsystems located throughout the submarine. The men of the JOHN ADAMS form the cohesive substance that brings all of the subsystems together to function as the most powerful deterrent to war in the world today.

THE MISSILE AND MISSILE GUIDANCE

The Poseidon missile, named for the Greek god of the sea, is a two-staged ballistic missile with multiple warhead capability, designed to be launched from either surfaced or submerged submarines. The missile is powered by solid fuel rocket motors and is guided by a self-contained inertial guidance system independent of external commands or control.

Within the submarine, personnel can prepare and check the missiles for firing while the ship is submerged. Ejected from its launching tube by gas, Poseidon is forcefully propelled above the surface of the water where the rocket motor fuel ignites. The missile guidance system puts the missile on the correct course at the time of the launch and automatically computes a new course should the missile deviate from its path. At the precise instant required, the guidance system shuts off the rocket motors and triggers separation of the re-entry body from the missile. The re-entry body with its nuclear warhead then follows a ballistic (free falling) trajectory to the target as far as 2500 miles away.

FIRE CONTROL

The fire control system feeds a wealth of coordinated information to the missile guidance system. Ship location, true north heading, target location, and trajectory to be flown by the missile are continuously supplied until the very instant of firing.

LAUNCHER

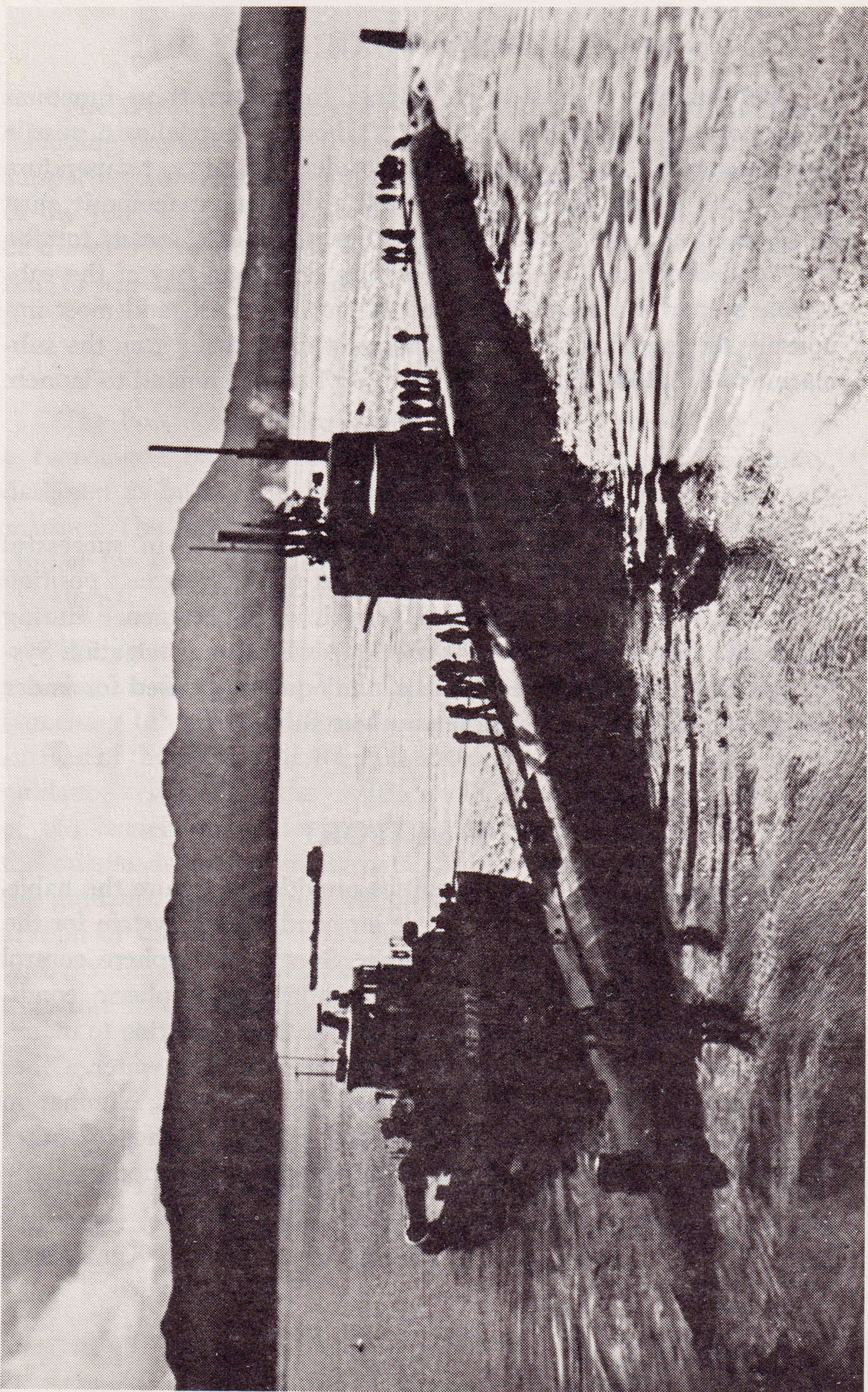
The launcher subsystem is designed to perform three functions in supporting the Poseidon missile. It houses the delicate missile in a comfortable environment of controlled humidity, temperature and smooth riding. Since the missile is a dynamic machine it must be serviced and the launcher subsystem provides a means for the Missile Technicians to cross the pressure hull boundary of the submarine to perform maintenance on the missile. Last, and most important, the launcher subsystem can eject the missile from the submarine in a matter of minutes after receipt of a command to launch.

NAVIGATION

The navigation system is an important factor in successful missile firing and must be able to pinpoint the ship's exact position at all times. To permit extended periods of submergence during patrol, the ship is equipped with the Ship's Inertial Navigation System (SINS), an improved version of the equipment used for under ice polar explorations by earlier nuclear submarines.

LIFE SUPPORT

In addition to the many facilities provided to insure the habitability of the ship, there is an ample air conditioning system for the benefit of the personnel and machines. Special atmosphere control equipment is provided to maintain standard atmospheric conditions. Electrolytic oxygen generators permit the submarine to manufacture an unlimited supply of oxygen from the sea water. Other specialized equipment provides for removal of irritants, elimination of carbon dioxide and maintenance and proper balance of other atmospheric elements during prolonged submerged periods.

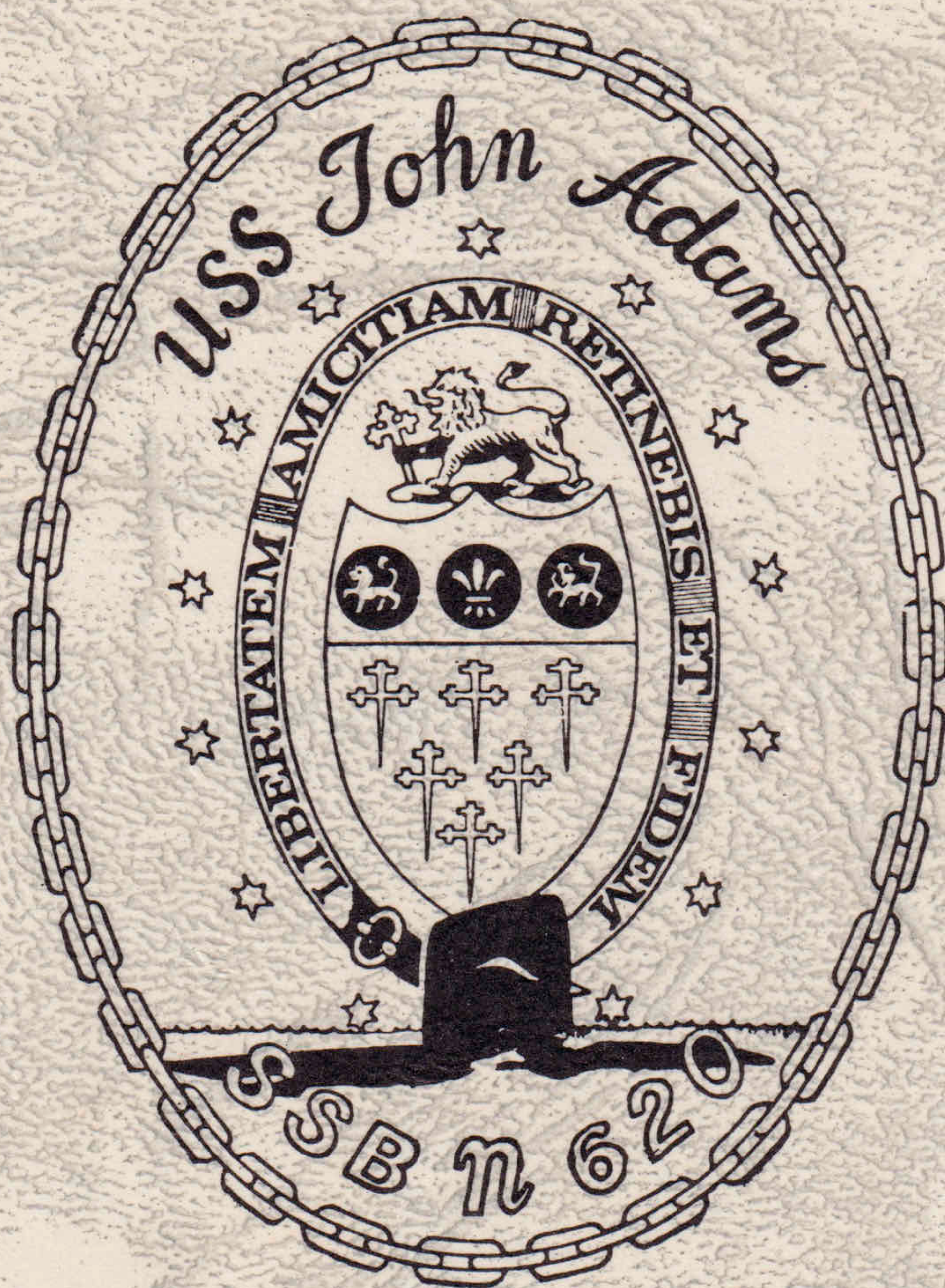


SUMMATION

With almost unlimited cruising range and with endurance limited only by the crew, the FBM nuclear submarine is capable of extended submerged operations in the international waters of the world which comprise about 70 percent of the earth's surface. Free of the need to surface or extend a snorkel above the surface for continuous operation, FBM nuclear submarines remain hidden by an oceanic curtain, their locations unknown to any potential enemy.

“This hand, to tyrants ever
sworn the foe,
For freedom only deals the
deadly blow;
Then sheathes in calm repose
the vengeful blade,
For gentle peace in freedom's
hallowed shade.”

JOHN Q. ADAMS



The USS JOHN ADAMS has adopted as the ship's insignia the coat-of-arms used by John ADAMS. This insignia, as shown above, contains the motto, "LIBERATUM AMICITIAM RETINEBIS ET FIDEM" which may be translated: "you will preserve freedom, friendship, and faith".