

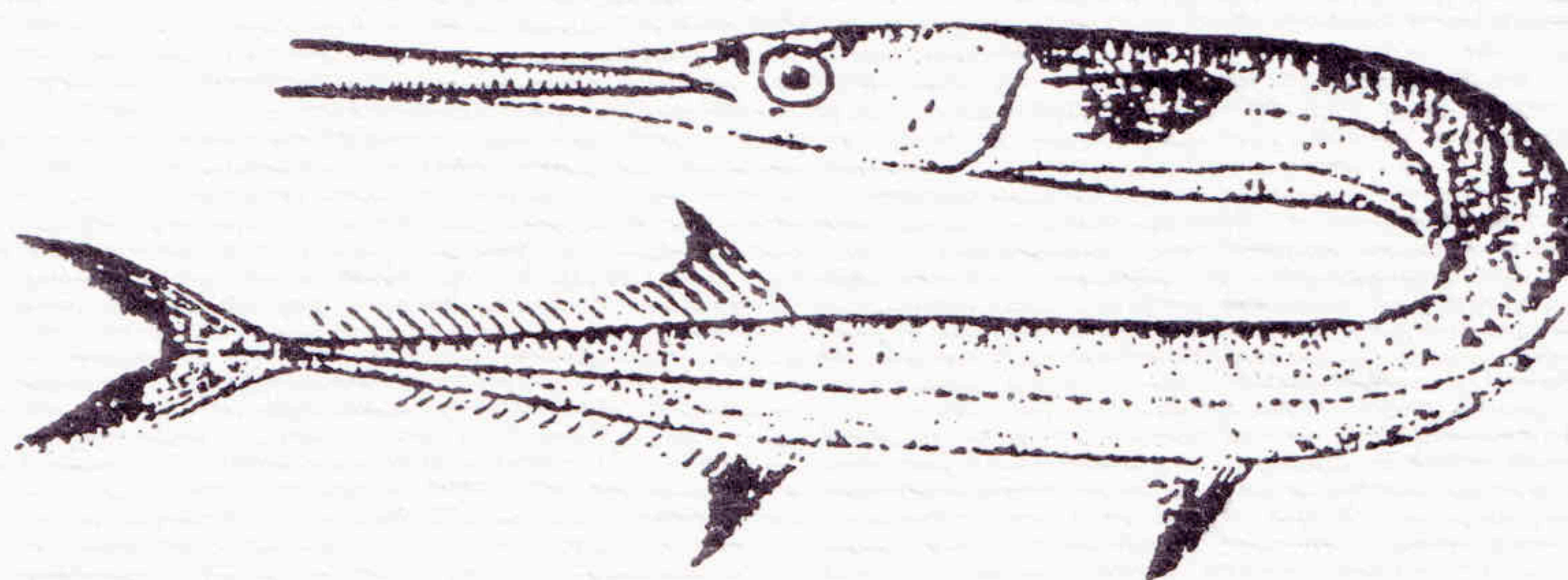
INACTIVATION CEREMONY

UNITED STATES SHIP
GUARDFISH (SSN 612)

14 JUNE 1991

AT THE
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA





THE FISH GUARDFISH

The GUARDFISH is a member of the family Belonidae, or needle fishes. All are elongate, slender-bodied fishes, with both jaws produced into a toothed beak. They are voracious and carnivorous and are found in all warm seas; some species live in the lower part of rivers. The GUARDFISH is known scientifically as TYLOSURUS RAPHDOMA. It is found from the West Indies and Florida keys to Brazil. The name "RAPHDOMA," meaning a sharp instrument, refers to the elongate, slender beak.

In coloration the GUARDFISH is green above, with a blackish lateral band, and lighter below. It reaches a length of three to five feet. There is a strong black keel on the trunk of the base of the tail. The tail fin is deeply forked. Each jaw has a band of small, pointed teeth and an outer series of larger, wide-set, sharp, conical teeth. Thus it is well-equipped to seize its prey. The habits of the GUARDFISH are much like those of the freshwater pike. When started, they swim along the surface with extraordinary rapidity, often leaping above the water.

USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612)

COMMISSIONED 20 DECEMBER 1966



THE COMMISSIONING PENNANT

At the moment the commissioning pennant is broken, a ship becomes the responsibility of the Commanding Officer, who, together with the ship's officers and men, has the duty of making her ready for any service required by our nation, whether we be a peace or at war.

The commissioning pennant has for centuries been the symbol of a man-o-war. It is believed to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp hoisted a broom at the masthead to symbolize his intention to sweep the English from the sea. This gesture was answered by British Admiral William Blake, who hoisted a horsewhip indicating his intention to chastise the Dutch. The victorious British thus set the precedent for a long, narrow commissioning pennant to symbolize the original horsewhip as the distinctive symbol of a ship of war.

The modern U.S. Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a union of seven white stars, and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly.

INACTIVATION CEREMONY 14 JUNE 1991

THE INACTIVATION CEREMONY

The ceremony today symbolizes a tribute to the ship preparing for her decommissioning, the time honored end of a ship's life. As if decommissioning, the commissioning pennant is hauled down and the watches secured. The solemn ceremony where the commissioning pennant, ensign and jack are hauled down for the last time is a dedication to the total operational success of the ship and the men who sailed her.

USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612)

COMMANDING OFFICERS

CDR G. A. HINES, USN
CDR H.A. BENTON, USN
CDR D.C. MINTON, III, USN
CDR B.B. BALDERSTON, USN
CDR W.S. RICH, USN
CDR G.H. KANADY, USN
CDR R.E. VAUGHAN, USN
CDR D. D. OLTRAVER, USN
CDR T.W. HACK, USN
CDR J.B. BRYANT, USN
CDR P.M. HIGGINS, USN

COMMAND AT SEA

THE PRESTIGE, PRIVILEGE AND BURDEN OF COMMAND

by Joseph Conrad

Only a seaman realizes to what an extent an entire ship reflects the personality and ability of one individual, her Commanding Officer. To a landsman, this is not understandable, and sometimes it is difficult for us to comprehend - but it is so.

A ship at sea is a distant world in herself and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of fleet units, the Navy must place great power, responsibility, and trust in the hands of those leaders chosen for command.

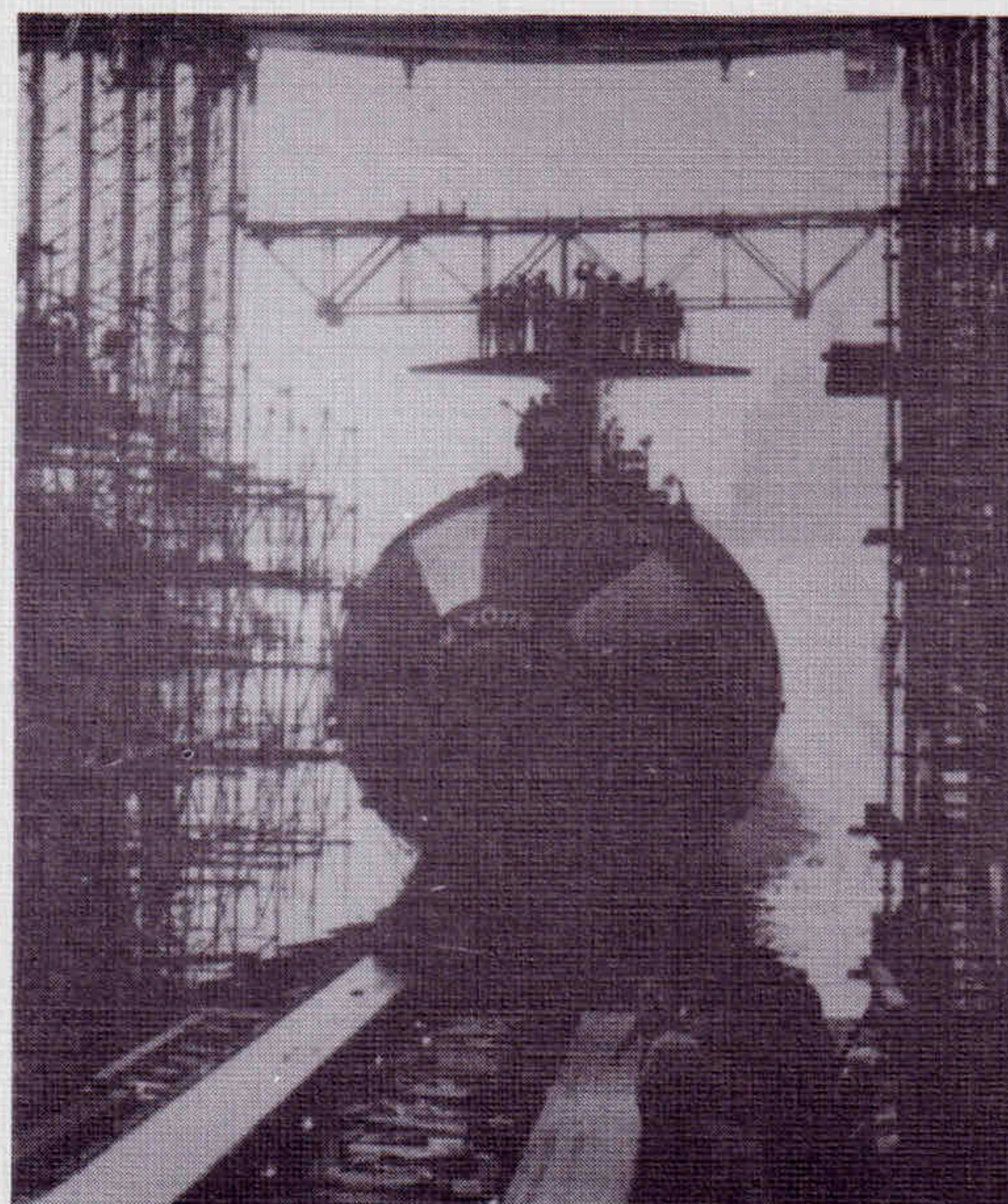
In each ship there is one man who, in the hour of emergency of peril at sea, can turn to no other man. There is one who, alone, is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gunfire and morale of his ship. He is the Commanding Officer. He is the ship.

This is the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as Commanding Officer that he can escape the grasp of command responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small; nevertheless, command is the spur which has given the Navy its great leaders.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the highest time honored title of the seafaring world "CAPTAIN".



THE SPONSOR
MRS KENNETH E. BELIEU
WIFE OF FORMER UNDERSECRETARY OF
THE NAVY



THE LAUNCH
NEW YORK SHIPBUILDING
15 MAY 1965

COMMAND HISTORY

USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612) was built by New York shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, New Jersey. The keel was laid 28 February 1961, and the ship was launched on 15 May 1965. On 20 December 1966, USS GUARDFISH was placed in commission. Commander G.A. Hines, Jr., USN, assumed command.

GUARDFISH departed Camden, New Jersey, on 15 February 1967 and commenced shakedown training, conducting exercises in the San Juan Puerto Rico area. Upon completion of these exercises, GUARDFISH transited the Panama Canal and joined the Pacific Fleet as a unit of Submarine Squadron SEVEN, homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. She participated in various submarine operations in the Pacific, steaming over 40,000 miles in her first year at sea.

On 13 January 1968, Commander H.A. Benson, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. After conducting a variety of submarine missions and exercises, GUARDFISH returned to Atlantic waters to commence an overhaul at Ingalls Nuclear Shipbuilding Division, Pascagoula, Mississippi. On 4 November 1970, Commander C.D. Minton, III, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. After overhaul the ship returned to the Pacific as a unit of submarine Squadron SEVEN.

GUARDFISH participated in various submarine operations in the Pacific for which she received the Navy Unit Commendation. On 15 December 1972, Commander B.G. Balderston, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. On 31 March 1973, Commander W.S. Rich, USN relieved as Commanding Officer. On 14 August 1974, GUARDFISH completed her 612th successful dive. GUARDFISH departed Pearl Harbor, Hawaii in June 1975, to change homeport to Vallejo, California.

On 9 July 1975, Lieutenant Commander G.H. Kanady, Jr., USN relieved as Commanding Officer. GUARDFISH entered Mare Island Naval Shipyard in August 1975 for regular overhaul, and returned to sea in July 1977, changing her homeport to San Diego, California, as an operational unit of Submarine Squadron THREE. In January 1979, GUARDFISH completed a six month deployment to the Western Pacific.

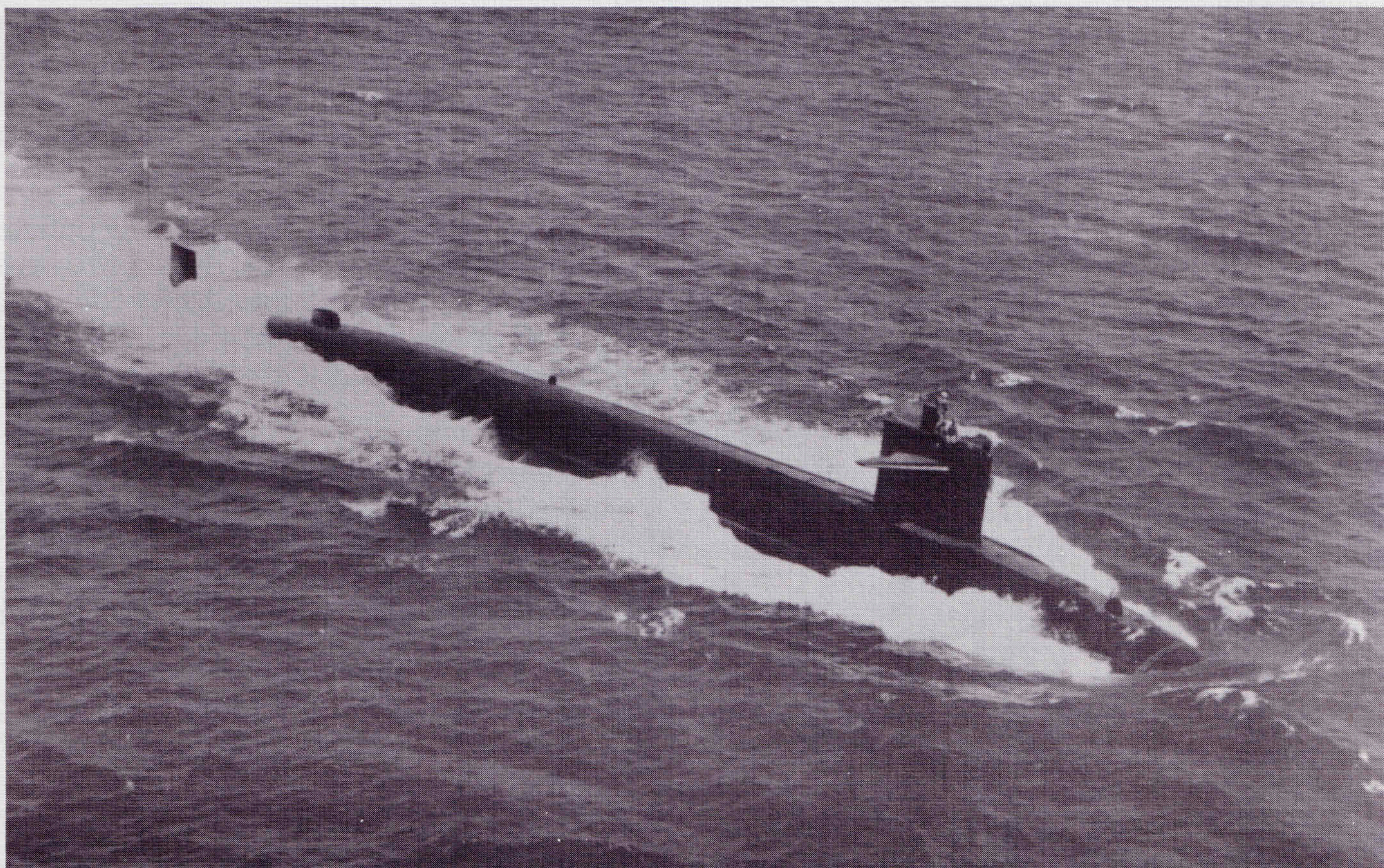
On 9 February 1979, Commander R.E. Vaugham, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. GUARDFISH departed on a six month Western Pacific Deployment early in 1980 and was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations during this deployment.

On 2 July 1982, Commander D.A. Oltraver, USN relieved as Commanding Officer. The ship won the ASW "E" and Communications "C" in both 1982 and 1983, and was awarded the Silver Anchor Award in the spring of 1984 for her outstanding retention program. GUARDFISH entered Mare Island Naval Shipyard for regular overhaul in September 1983 and completed the overhaul in August 1985.

On 24 August 1985, Commander T.W. Hack, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. GUARDFISH returned from a most successful six month Western Pacific deployment in January 1987, for which she was awarded her third Navy Unit Commendation. GUARDFISH was also awarded the Silver Anchor award for 1985 and 1986, and won the Submarine Squadron Three Battle Efficiency "E", ASW "A", Supply "E" and the Arleigh Burke Fleet Trophy for most improved ship in battle efficiency in the Pacific Fleet for Fiscal Year 1987.

On 7 November 1987, Commander J.B. Bryant, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. GUARDFISH conducted two Western Pacific deployments and a three month Selective Restricted Availability between September 1988 and October 1990. The ship earned the Deck Seamanship award for three consecutive years, 1988 through 1990, and was awarded the Silver Anchor and Battle "E" Awards in Fiscal Year 1989.

On 16 November 1990, Commander P.M. Higgins, USN, relieved as Commanding Officer. Guardfish completed a two month Northern Pacific operation in April 1991.





*THE ORIGINAL USS GUARDFISH SS 217 BROADSIDE AT REST
APRIL 15, 1942
ELECTRIC BOAT CO. GROTON, CT*

HERITAGE

USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612) is the second ship of the fleet to bear the name. The first GUARDFISH (SS 217) achieved a distinguished career in the Pacific during World War II, being one of only three ships in the Navy to earn two Presidential Unit Citations. She also was awarded eleven battle stars.

USS GUARDFISH (SS 217), was built by the Electric Boat Company of Groton, Connecticut, was placed in commission at New London, Connecticut, on 8 May 1942. A fleet type, diesel electric powered submarine, GUARDFISH had an overall length of 311 feet, a submerged displacement of 2424 tons and a maximum submerged speed of 8.75 knots. She was manned by 6 officers and 54 men, and her armament consisted of ten 21 inch torpedo tubes, one 3 inch .50 caliber deck gun and four machine guns.

On completion of her shakedown training GUARDFISH departed New London for the Pacific. On 6 August 1942, GUARDFISH stood out of Pearl Harbor and began a career which was to span twelve successful war patrols throughout the Pacific before war's end. GUARDFISH earned her reputation quickly. During her first war patrol, conducted off the northeast coast of Honshu in the home islands of Japan, she sank five ships, a trawler and a sampan, and hit two freighters for heavy damage. So brazen was the ship that she even brought back periscope photographs of a Japanese horse race in progress, taken from close off shore. By the end of her second war patrol GUARDFISH had earned her first Presidential Unit Citation. Her second was earned during her eighth patrol, sinking 20,461 tons of enemy shipping in "Convoy College", a patrol area lying between Formosa, Luzon and the Asiatic mainland. By the end of the war, GUARDFISH had sunk 19 enemy ships totalling 72,424 tons.

Decommissioned at New London, Connecticut following the war, GUARDFISH was later reactivated as a Naval Reserve Training Ship. Her last service was to be used as a target to test the effectiveness of a new torpedo. On 10 October 1961, the weapon sent her to the bottom of the Atlantic, a good servant to the end.

MUSIC

San Diego Navy Band

ARRIVAL HONORS

NATIONAL ANTHEM

San Diego Navy Band

INVOCATION

CDR Douglas W. Lawson, CHC, USN

WELCOMING REMARKS

*Captain William L. Norris, USN
Commander Submarine Squadron THREE*

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

*Captain G.A. Hines, USN, Ret.
First Commanding Officer, USS GUARDFISH*

REMARKS

CDR Paul M. Higgins, USN
Commanding Officer

**CEREMONIAL HAULING DOWN OF
COMMISSIONING PENNANT**

BENEDICTION

CDR Douglas W. Lawson, CHC, USN

SECURE THE WATCH

MUSIC

San Diego Navy Band



CAPTAIN WILLIAM LELAND NORRIS

UNITED STATES NAVY

**COMMANDER
SUBMARINE SQUADRON
THREE**

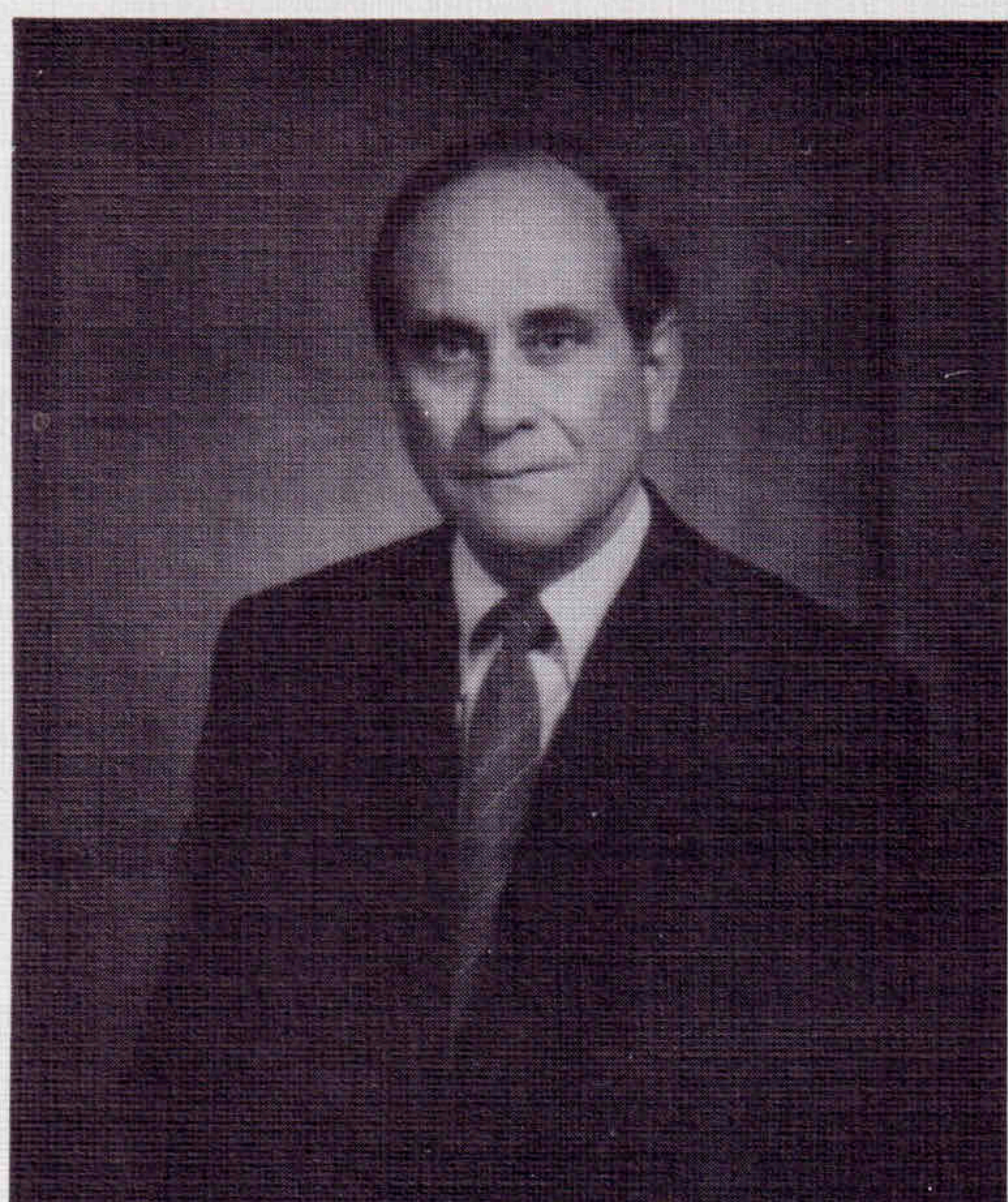
A native of Oskaloosa, Iowa, Captain Norris graduated from the Naval Academy in 1967 with a major in Mechanical Engineering. Selected for the Immediate Graduate Education Program, he attended the University of Illinois, graduating with a Master's Degree in Nuclear Engineering in 1968. He then commenced nuclear submarine training, attending Nuclear Power School in Bainbridge, Maryland, Nuclear Prototype in Windsor, Connecticut, and Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut.

In February 1970, he reported to USS FRANCIS SCOTT KEY (SSBN 657)(BLUE) where he served as an Engineering Division Officer until February 1972. After attending the Submarine Officer's Advanced Course, he served as Weapons Officer of USS GREENLING (SSN 614) until October 1974. He then reported to the Office of Chief of Naval Operations for a two year tour as Personal and Administrative Aide to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Submarine Warfare). In December 1976, he reported as Engineer Officer of USS RICHARD B. RUSSELL (SSN 687) and served there until May 1980. Captain Norris reported as Prospective Executive Officer of the USS BALTIMORE (SSN 704) Precommissioning Unit when the crew was formed in July 1980 and was the ship's commissioning Executive Officer. Detached in December 1982, he began the Prospective Commanding Officer Course.

Captain Norris served as Commanding Officer, USS MEMPHIS (SSN 691) from July 1983 to March 1987. During his tour the ship was twice deployed overseas and conducted its first major overhaul. He then served briefly as Deputy Commander, Submarine Squadron EIGHT before reporting as Deputy Director Submarine and Nuclear Power Division, Naval Military Personnel Command, where he was from June 1987 to June 1989. Captain Norris relieved as Commander Submarine Squadron THREE on 1 August 1989.

Captain Norris is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with one Gold Star, Navy Commendation Medal with one Gold Star, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation with one Bronze Star, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Arctic Service Ribbon and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with two Bronze Stars.

Captain Norris is married to the former Carolyn Van Houweling of Oskaloosa, Iowa. They have three sons, Christian, Scott, and Joseph.



CAPTAIN GULMER A. HINES

**UNITED STATES NAVY
(RETIRED)**

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

**FIRST
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612)**

Captain Hines, a native of Rutherfordton, North Carolina, attended Duke University prior to being appointed to the Naval Academy. He graduated with the Class of 1951 and reported to the USS BEARS (DD654) in which he served during the Korean War and until he entered submarine service in January 1954.

Following submarine school, Captain Hines served in USS CAIMAN (SS 323), USS BREAM (SS243), and Submarine Guided Missile Unit Ten (Regulus). Nuclear power training followed and then in 1960 Captain Hines reported as Main Propulsion Assistant in the SAM HOUSTON (SSBN609) (Blue) commissioning crew.

In 1962 Captain Hines reported as Executive Officer USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN598) (Gold) in which he completed four deterrent patrols. In September 1964, Captain Hines reported to New York Shipbuilding Corporation, Camden, New Jersey, as Prospective Commanding Officer, USS GUARDFISH (SSN612). Upon Commissioning in December 1966, Captain Hines assumed Command and commanded through interfleet transfer to Pearl Harbor, shakedown training and the ship's initial deployment to the Western Pacific. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for exceptional meritorious conduct in performance of outstanding services as Commanding Officer of USS GUARDFISH (SSN612) during the Fall of 1967.

In February 1968 Captain Hines was ordered to the offices of CNO where he served in the SSN Program Coordinator's Office during the early design and acquisition phase of the "High Speed Nuclear Attack Submarine (HSNAS)" which became the SSN688 Class lead ship. In 1970 Captain Hines became Head of the Submarine Warfare Branch in the Office of Director Research Development Test and Evaluation, OPNAV, for which service he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

In 1972 Captain Hines was transferred to Mare Island Naval Shipyard for duty as COMSUBPAC Nuclear Representative. In 1974 Captain Hines was assigned to Commander-in-Chief U.S. Naval Forces Europe, where he served as Executive Assistant and Aide. It was from this assignment in London that Captain Hines retired after 24 years of active service.

Captain Hines joined Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation in Boston in October of 1975. Upon joining Stone & Webster he served as Project Manager on a nuclear power station then being designed by Stone & Webster. Subsequently he served as Project Manager for a power and steam generation facility designed in connection with a large petrochemical complex built by Stone & Webster in North Africa.

Since December 1979 Captain Hines has been with Stone & Webster Engineering Limited, an affiliate company in England, serving initially as Head of the Project Management Department. In November 1981 he was elected a Vice President of Stone & Webster Engineering Corporation and, concurrently, appointed a Director of Stone & Webster Engineering Limited. In November 1984 Captain Hines was appointed Deputy Managing Director. In December 1986 he became Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the UK company.

Stone & Webster is one of the largest architectural engineering construction firms in the world. The United Kingdom affiliate serves primarily Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

Captain Hines is married to the former Sue Crafton of Blytheville, Arkansas. Captain and Mrs. Hines reside at Moor Park, Rickmansworth, England. They have two adult children, G.A. Hines III of Hindsville, Arkansas, and Elizabeth H. Tierney of Conway, Arkansas.



COMMANDER PAUL M. HIGGINS

**COMMANDING OFFICER
UNITED STATES SHIP
GUARDFISH (SSN 612)**

Commander Higgins, a native of Massapequa Park, New York, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1972. Following completion of nuclear power training and Submarine Officers Basic Course, he reported to USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER (SSBN 656) (BLUE), where he completed four deterrent patrols and served as Reactor Controls Officer, Main Propulsion Assistant, and Sonar Officer. After attending Submarine Officers Advanced Course he reported to USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612) where he served as Sonar Officer and Weapons Officer.

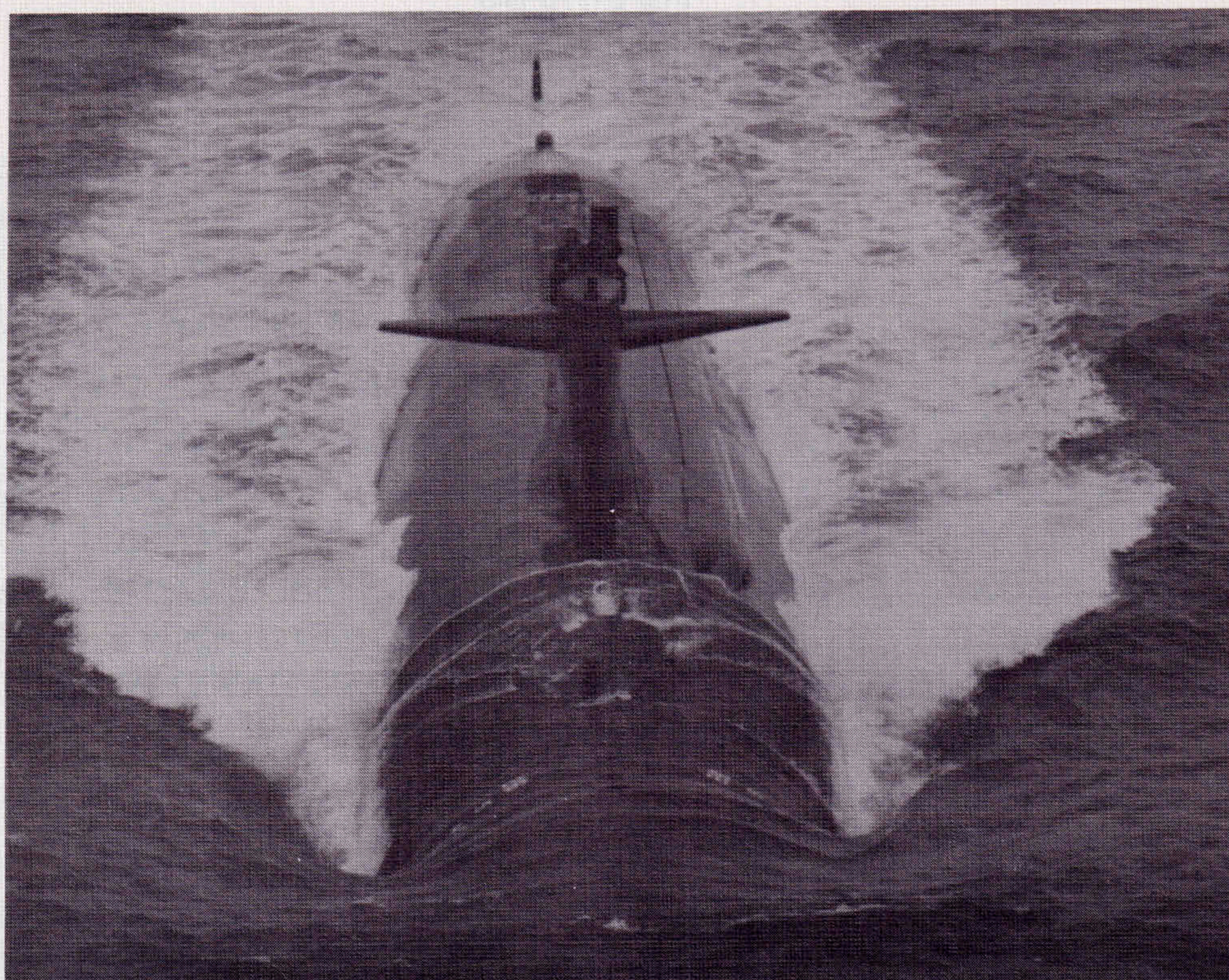
Commander Higgins reported to the staff of Commander Submarine Group EIGHT in Naples, Italy in October 1978. His two years on the staff included assignments as SSBN Operations Officer, Assistant Material and Logistics Officer, and Intelligence Officer.

Commander Higgins assumed duties as Navigator and Operations Officer in Precommissioning Unit HOUSTON (SSN 713) at Newport News, Virginia in November 1980. After HOUSTON's commissioning and interfleet transfer to San Diego, California, he also served as Weapons Officer until his transfer in April 1984.

Commander Higgins next served as Executive Officer in USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705). During this period USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI was awarded three consecutive Battle Efficiency "E" Awards, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the Meritorious Unit Commendation. Following this tour, he served as Director, Electronics Training Department at Naval Submarine School, Groton, Connecticut. Most recently, Commander Higgins served as Commanding Officer, USS LAFAYETTE (SSBN 616) (BLUE) from December 1989 to October 1990.

Commander Higgins is entitled to wear the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, the Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, and has earned a Master of Science degree in Business Administration from Boston University.

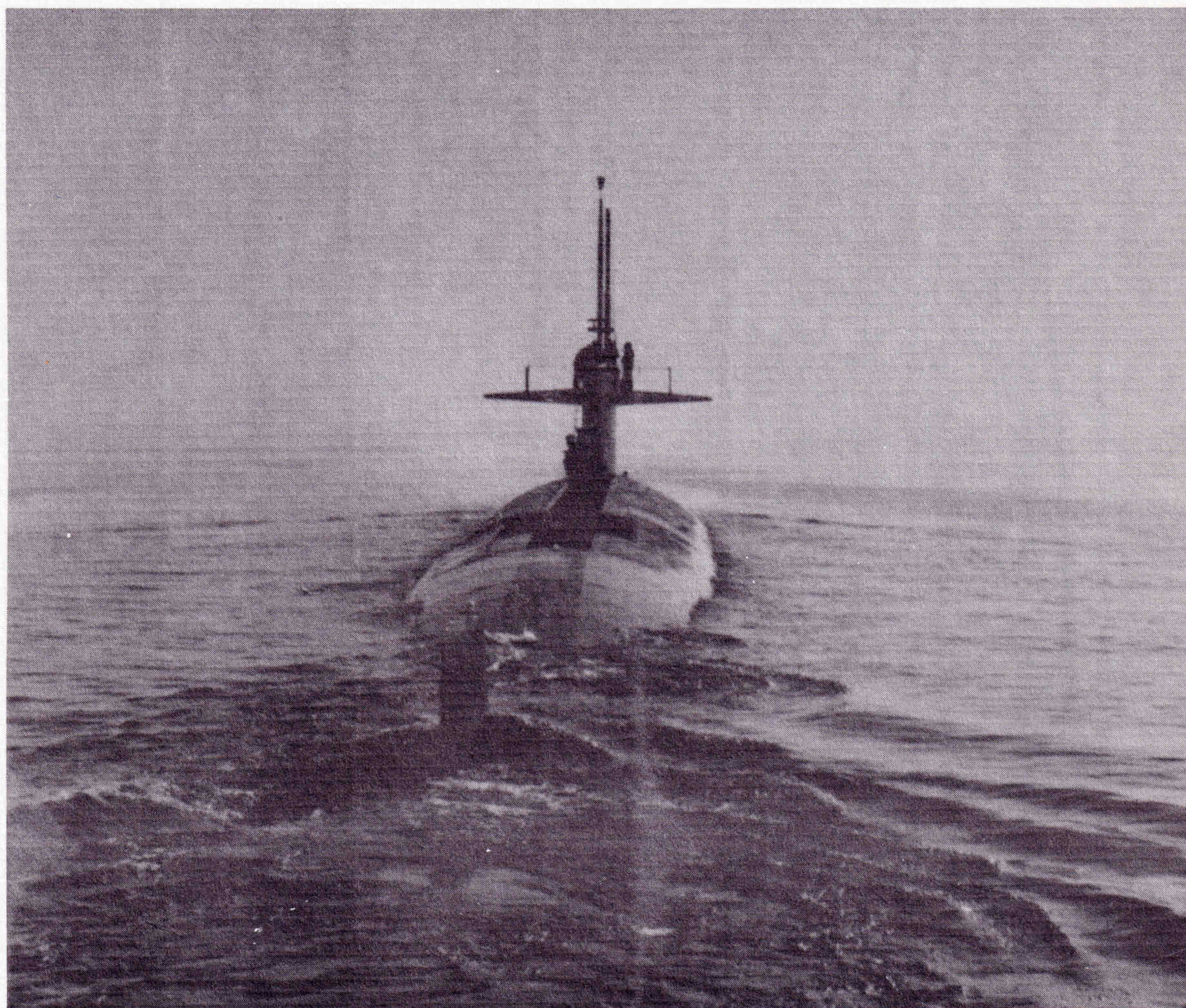
Commander Higgins is married to the former Mary Liz Fitzgerald of Floral Park, New York. They have two daughters, Kate and Elizabeth.



USS GUARDFISH (SSN 612)

LENGTH 278 FEET
SUBMERGED DISPLACEMENT 4400 TONS
SUBMERGED SPEED IN EXCESS OF 20 KNOTS
DIVING DEPTH IN EXCESS OF 400 FEET
COMPLEMENT 13 OFFICERS, 115 ENLISTED
PROPULSION . . . NUCLEAR REACTOR PLANT, SINGLE PROPELLER
TORPEDO TUBES . . . 4, LOCATED AMIDSHIPS, CANTED OUTBOARD
WEAPONS MK-48 TORPEDOES, HARPOON CRUISE MISSILE
BUILT BY NEW YORK SHIPBUILDING CORP., CAMDEN, N.J.
KEEL LAID 28 FEBRUARY 1961
LAUNCHED 15 MAY 1965
COMMISSIONED 20 DECEMBER 1966
JOINED U.S. PACIFIC FLEET 8 MARCH 1967

1961 - 1991



THE END OF AN ERA