

INACTIVATION CEREMONY

USS RAY (SSN 653)



24 JULY 1992

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



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 at peace or at war.

The commissioning pennant is said to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. In one engagement of the respective natives, Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp hoisted a broom at his masthead to indicate 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 insolent Dutchman. The victorious British thus set the precedent for the narrow "coachwhip" pennant, symbolizing the original horsewhip, to be the distinctive mark of a man-of-war. This tradition of so designating ships of war has been adopted by all nations.

The modern United States Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly and varies in length with the size of the ship. At one time, there were thirteen white stripes in the blue field representing the original states, but in 1933, seven white stars became standard. It is naval custom that when the commissioning pennant is hauled down for the last time, it be presented to the Commanding Officer.

THE INACTIVATION CEREMONY

The ceremony held today is a tribute to the ship preparing for her decommissioning, the time honored end of a ship's life. As if decommissioning, the ship's colors and commissioning pennant are hauled down and the watches secured. The solemn ceremony where the commissioning pennant, national 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 RAY (SSN - 653)

Built by

Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company

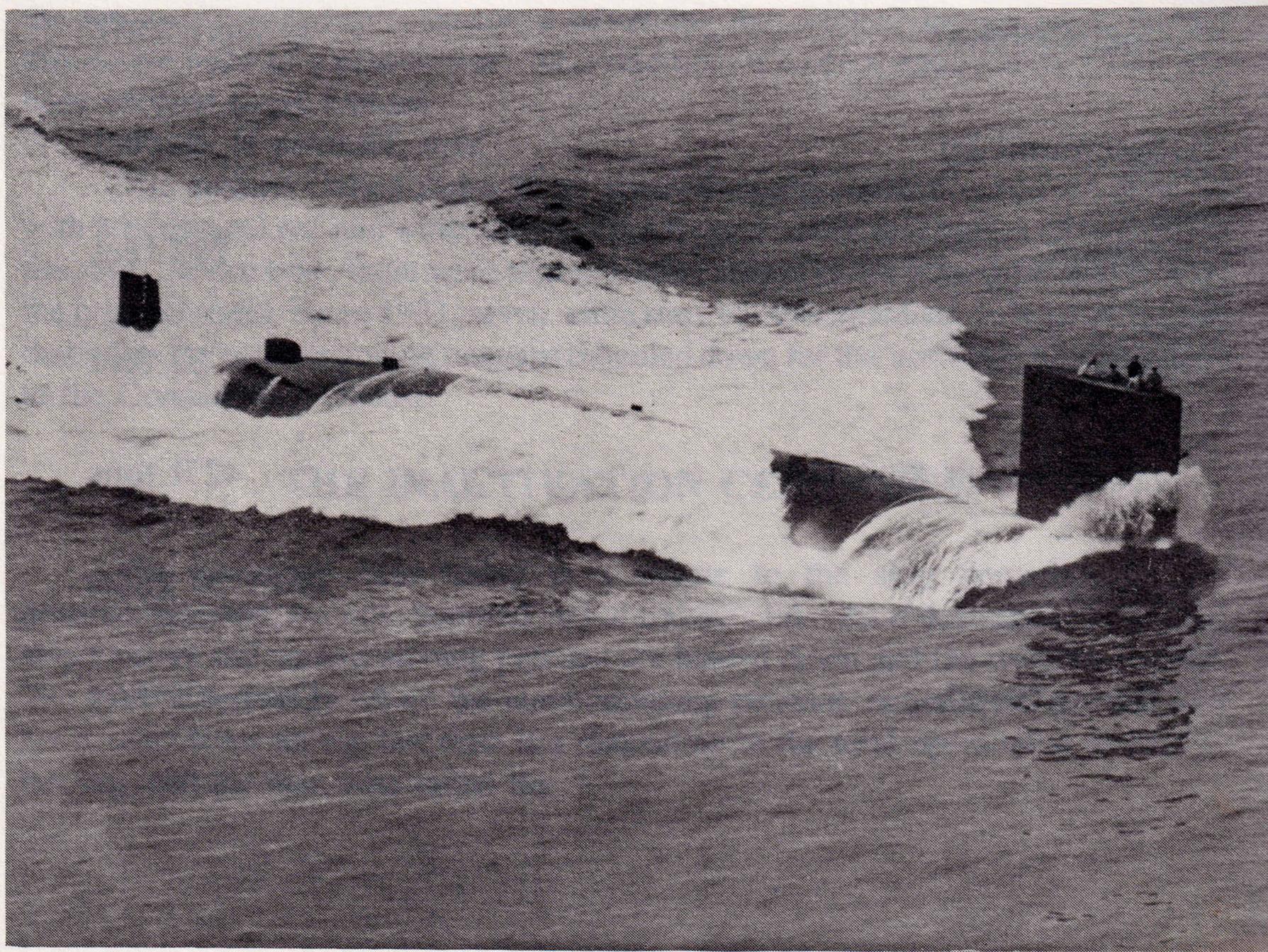
Newport News, Virginia

Keel Laid	4 January 1965
Launched	21 June 1966
Commissioned	12 April 1967
Sponsored By	Mrs. Thomas H. Kuchel
Length	292 feet
Beam	32 feet
Displacement Surfaced	4271 tons
Speed	Over 20 knots
Diving Depth	Over 400 feet

USS RAY is a Sturgeon Class nuclear powered fast attack submarine designed for maximum speeds and maneuverability submerged. RAY was constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company of Newport News, Virginia and was commissioned on 12 April 1967.

In over twenty-five years since her commissioning, RAY has served as a member of both Submarine Squadron SIX in Norfolk, Virginia and Submarine Squadron FOUR in Charleston, South Carolina, where she is presently homeported. RAY has successfully completed numerous deployments to the Mediterranean Sea, North Atlantic, Central Atlantic, and Arctic Oceans. Many of these deployments have been missions of great importance to the safety and security of the United States. For her actions, RAY has been awarded five Navy Unit Commendations and six Meritorious Unit Commendations. RAY is the most decorated submarine in the Atlantic Fleet

RAY'S primary mission is anti-submarine warfare. Her secondary missions include the traditional roles of interdiction of shipping and long range reconnaissance. Powered by a nuclear reactor and equipped with sophisticated sonar and electronic sensors and formidable undersea weapons, RAY has remained on the front line of our national defense posture.



NAME ALBERT L. KELLN, USN(77)

COMMANDING OFFICERS USS RAY SSN-653

CDR A. L. KELLN	APR 67 - FEB 69
CDR J. S. HURT	FEB 69 - JAN 73
CDR K. A. STRAHM	JAN 73 - JAN 77
CDR E. J. GALBRAITH	JAN 77 - NOV 79
CDR C. L. MOORE III	NOV 79 - APR 83
CDR S. A. JOHNSON	APR 83 - AUG 86
CDR P. H. LAWLESS	AUG 86 - AUG 89
CDR J. W. FISHER	AUG 89 - NOV 91
CDR W. H. JORDAN	NOV 91 - PRESENT

USS RAY is a Sturgeon Class nuclear powered fast attack submarine designed for maximum speed and maneuverability submerged. RAY was constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company of Newport News, Virginia and was commissioned on 12 April 1967.



RADM ALBERT L. KELLN, USN(RET)

RADM Kelln is a native of Shattuck, Oklahoma. After graduating from high school there, he attended the University of Oklahoma and then transferred to the U. S. Naval Academy graduating in 1952.

He served aboard USS BLUE (DD-744) and USS RONQUIL (SS-396) during the Korean conflict. He then served on the submarine USS SKATE (SSN 578) during her Arctic voyages and subsequently, USS SHARK (SSN 591) and USS JOHN C. CALHOUN (SSBN-630). His submarine career was interrupted when he was assigned as Chief Engineer aboard the aircraft carrier USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) during her global "Sea Orbit" and first nuclear refueling and overhaul. He then commissioned and commanded USS RAY (SSN 653). Subsequently, he commanded Attack Submarine Division 62, Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine Squadron 14 and Submarine Group 6. He has also served in Naval Headquarters, Washington, DC as Attack Submarine Program Coordinator, Program Manager for Nuclear Power Personnel, Submarine/Nuclear Power Distribution Control Branch Head, and Director of Strategic Submarine Division, TRIDENT Program Coordinator, Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Submarine Warfare). Later he served as Deputy Director for operations (Strategic and General operations) in the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

RADM Kelln more recently served as Deputy Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. He has completed the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion operators training. His awards include Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with gold star, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation with two gold stars, Navy Unit Commendation with two bronze stars, Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation with two bronze stars.

Since his retirement, he has been in business as an Independent Defense Consultant providing submarine and intelligence expertise to customers in the Washington area.

RADM Kelln was one of the founders of the Naval Submarine League and currently is its Vice President. The Naval Submarine League is a non-profit tax-exempt group which stresses public education in the various aspects of the U. S. Submarine Force.

RADM ALBERT J. KELLY, USN(RET)



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CAPTAIN DENNIS A. NAPIOR, USN

Captain Napior entered the U. S. Naval Academy in 1966 from Napa, California. Graduating in 1970 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Engineering, he attended Nuclear Power Training at Mare Island, California and Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Following initial submarine training, he reported to the USS STONEWALL JACKSON (SSBN 634 GOLD) in New London, Connecticut where he served as Communications Officer.

Upon completion of submarine qualification, he attended Submarine Officers Advance Course in July 1973 and reported to USS FLASHER (SSN 613) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He served as Damage Control Assistant and then Main Propulsion Assistant while completing a deployment and a refueling overhaul at Mare Island, California.

In August 1976, Captain Napior reported as Engineer Officer of USS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (SSBN 640 BLUE). He completed six Poseidon Strategic Deterrent Patrols on FRANKLIN prior to his relief in August 1979. For the next three years, he was employed as a Senior Project Manager for Babcock & Wilcox in Lynchburg, Virginia. He also earned his Masters degree in Business Administration at Lynchburg College.

He returned to active duty in 1983 and enjoyed a brief tour as Navigator on USS HAMMERHEAD (SSN 663) before reporting as Executive Officer of USS NORFOLK (SSN 714). He completed a Mediterranean deployment and an Atlantic deployment before entering Prospective Commanding Officer training in April 1986.

Captain Napior assumed command of USS SEA DEVIL (SSN 664) in November 1986 in Charleston, South Carolina. Under his command, SEA DEVIL conducted three major deployments for which she was awarded a Navy Unit Commendation and a Meritorious Unit Commendation. She also conducted the first international three ship surfacing at the North Pole in May 1987.

He reported to Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet in January 1989 as the Prospective Commanding Officer Instructor. He trained over 100 submarine Commanding Officers currently serving in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets before returning to Charleston to assume command of Submarine Squadron 4 in July 1991.

Captain Napior has been awarded the Legion of Merit with a Gold Star, Meritorious Service Medal with two Gold Stars, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, Navy Achievement Medal, and Expeditionary Medal. He is also entitled to wear numerous unit and service awards.

He is married to the former Linda Tisdale of Vallejo, California. They have three sons, Chris, David and Michael.

SCHEDULE

**ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY
HONORS**

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

Chaplain Kenneth W. Ryan, CHC, USN

CAPTAIN DENNIS A. NA

Commander Submarine Squa

REAR ADMIRAL

Principal Speaker

First Commandi

COMMA

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OF EVENTS

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ALBERT L. KELLN USN (RET)

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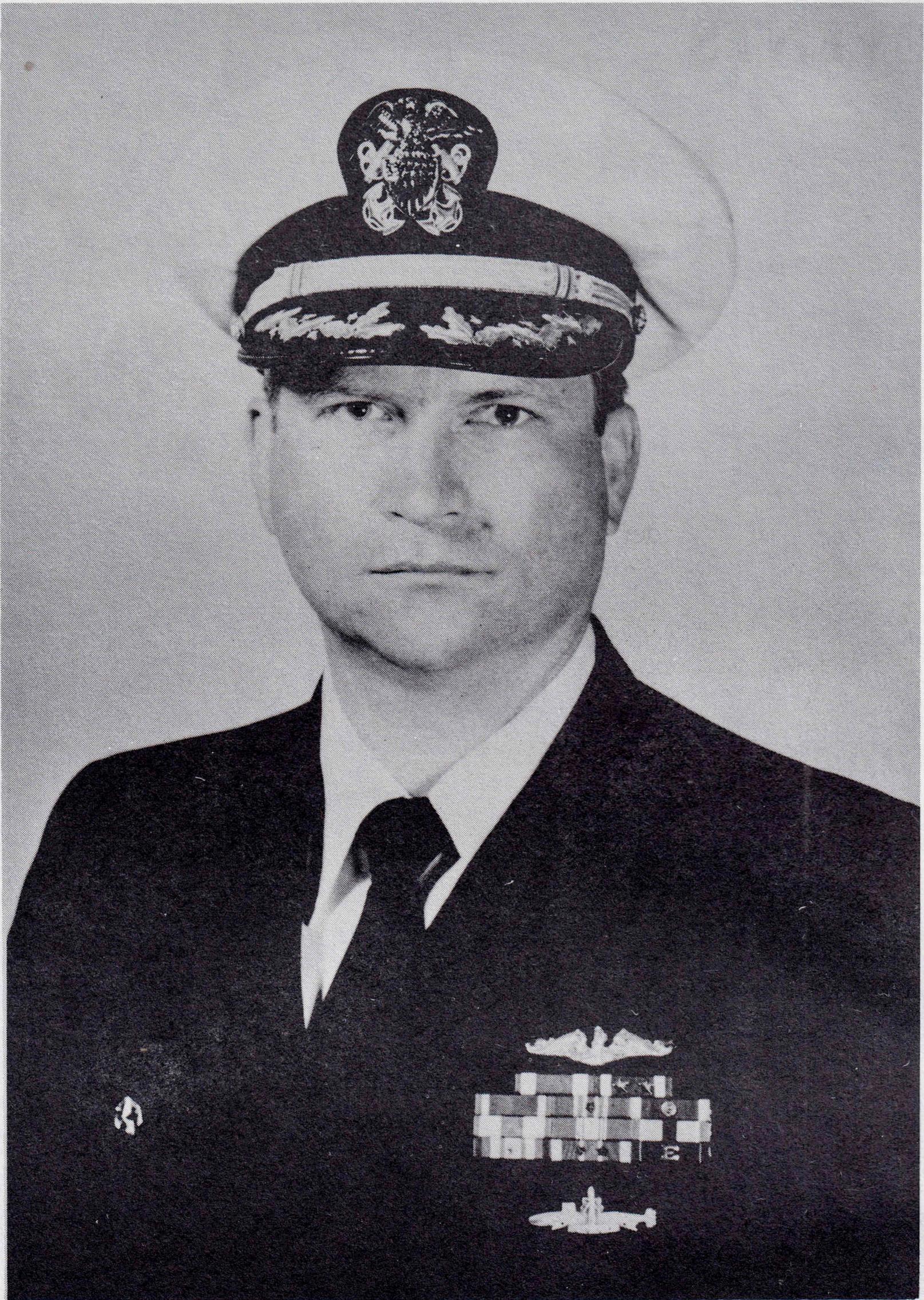
ANDER WILL H. JORDAN

anding Officer USS RAY-Remarks

BENEDICTION

Chaplain Kenneth W. Ryan, CHC, USNR

DEPARTURE OF OFFICIAL PARTY



COMMANDER WILL HENRY JORDAN, USN

Commander Jordan was born in Jefferson City, Missouri in 1952, and attended the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. He was commissioned in May 1975, through the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship program.

After graduation, Commander Jordan reported to USS PERMIT (SSN-594) in San Diego, California where he served as First Lieutenant. In July 1975, he attended Nuclear Power School, Mare Island, California and qualified at the S5G prototype, Nuclear Propulsion Training Unit, Idaho Falls, Idaho. After completing his initial nuclear power training, Commander Jordan attended the Submarine Officer Basic Course at Naval Submarine School, Groton, Connecticut.

Reporting in October 1976 to USS HADDO (SSN-604) in San Diego, California, Commander Jordan was assigned as Sonar Officer, Main Propulsion Assistant, and Chemistry-Radiological Controls Officer. In November 1979, he reported to USS HOLLAND (AS-32) in Holy Loch, Scotland, serving as the Radiological Controls Officer. From February 1982 until March 1984, Commander Jordan attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He graduated with distinction and received a Masters of Science degree in Systems Technology (Anti-Submarine Warfare).

Completing the Submarine Officers Advanced Course in Groton, Connecticut where he received the L. Y. SPEAR award for academic excellence, Commander Jordan reported in October 1984 to USS NORFOLK (SSN-714) in Norfolk, Virginia, serving as Engineer Officer. He transferred in January 1987 to the staff of Commander, Carrier Group EIGHT, in Norfolk, Virginia, and was assigned duties as the Anti-Submarine Warfare Operations Officer. In November 1988, Commander Jordan reported to USS Tecumseh (SSBN-628 GOLD) as Executive Officer where he completed four strategic deterrent patrols. He has served as Commanding Officer of USS RAY (SSN-653) since 18 November 1991.

Commander Jordan has received the Meritorious service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (3 awards), and various service and unit awards.

Commander Jordan is married to the former Mary Lee Roach of Kansas City, Missouri. They have a son, Paul, and reside in Summerville, South Carolina.

SHIP'S OFFICERS

Commanding Officer	CDR Will H. Jordan
Executive Officer	LCDR Mark E. Speck
Engineer	LCDR Thomas G. Wears
Navigator	LT Edward L. Takesuye
Weapons Officer	LT Micheal K. Oldenburg
Reactor Controls Assistant	LT Richard H. Wheat
Communicator	LTJG Harry L. Ganteaume
Electrical Officer	LTJG Daniel A. Vetter
Damage Control Assistant	LTJG Scott Armando
Chem/Radcon Assistant	LTJG Stephen A. Obsitnik
Main Propulsion Assistant	LTJG Gregory B. Meyer
Supply Officer	LTJG J. Todd Cheek
PNEO	LTJG Thomas A. McGreevy

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

Chief of the boat	MMCS(SS) Lowell T. Davis
3M Coordinator	MMCS(SS) Stephen C. Alison
ET Division	ETCS(SS) Douglas E. Musgrave
ST Division	STSC(SS) Russel D. Harper
EDEA	MMC(SS) Wayne M. Bruner
E Division	EMC(SS) John H. Chambers
RC Division	ETC(SS) Ronald R. Wertz
M Division	MMC(SS) David J. Barney
A Division	MMC(SS) Charles W. Whetsel
IC Division	ICC(SS) Stephen L. Culbertson
RM Division	RMC(SS) Richard L. Horton
FT Division	FTGC(SS) Euel D. Roach
QM Division	QMC(SS) James R. Shubert
TM Division	TMC(SS) Reginald J. Brown
MS Division	MSC(SS) Kevin P. Coogan
SK Division	SKC(SS) Joseph P. Sanders

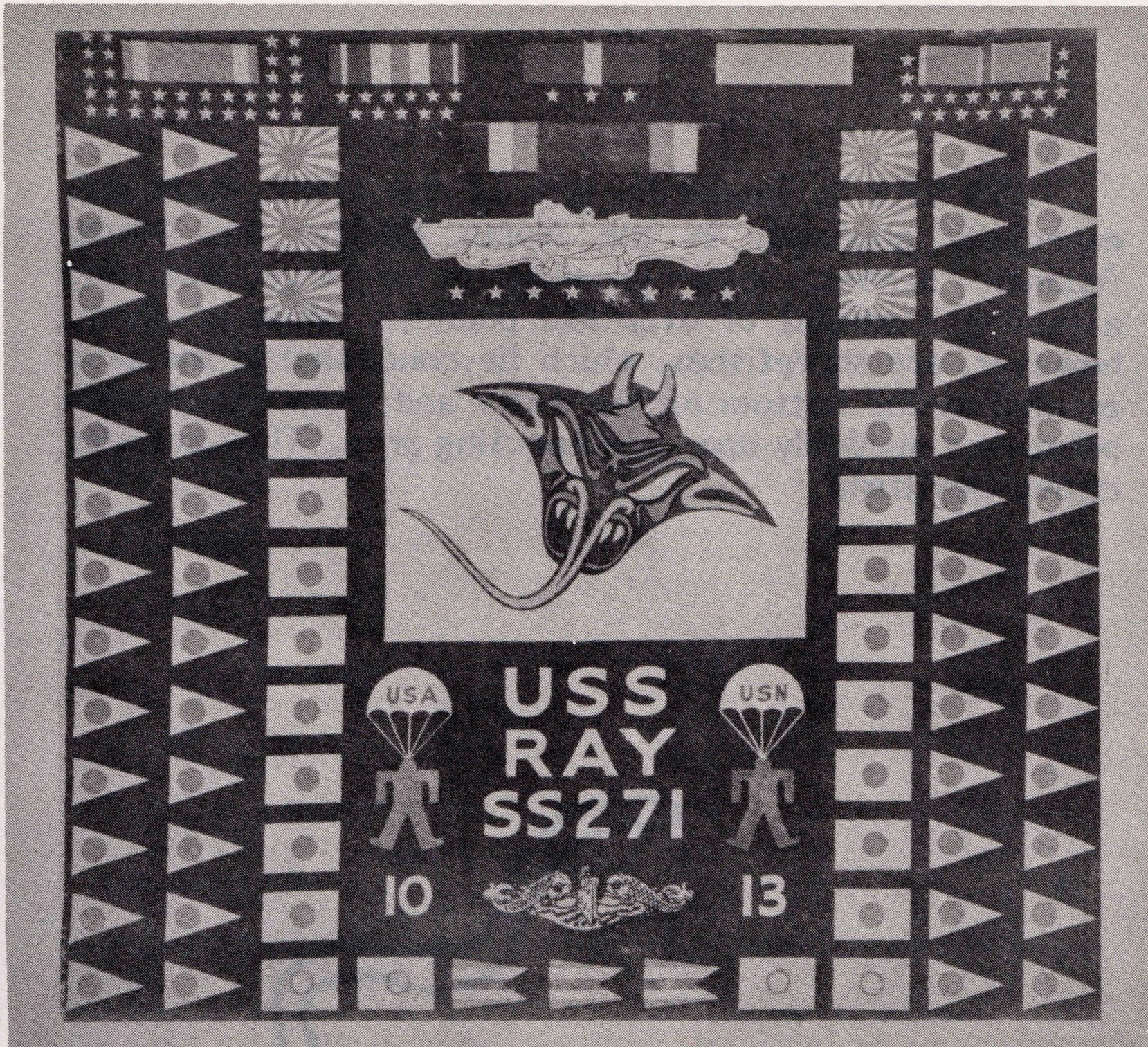
LEADING PETTY OFFICERS

YN Division	PN1(SS) Michael Demore
RL Division	MM1(SS) Frank Lee Womack
1st Lieutenant	STS2(SS) Marc D. May
Corpsman	HM2 Kenneth A. Parker

INACTIVATION CREW

SK3(SS) HERBERT LEE ADKINS
ET2SU) MICHAEL LLOYD ALWOOD
MM2(SS) JOSEPH GREGORY AQUINO
STS3(SS) MICHAEL NMN BAKER
EM2(SS) ROBERT LEES BARKER
STSSN(SU) CHRISTOPHER SHANE BATES
MM3(SU) MICHAEL TROY BOREN
MM1(SS) TRIGG LAMONT BORGERSON
ET1(SS) PAUL CORWINE BOYD JR
MS2(SS) RODNEY JEROME BRADFIELD
RM3(SU) DUSTIN ALAN BUSSARD
EM1(SS) RONALD L. CAMPBELL
MSSN(SS) MICHAEL LEE CARDARELLE
STS2(SS) JAVA O'NEIL CAREY
MMFA(SU) TIMOTHY SCOTT CARSON
ET3(SU) LAWRENCE ALAN CHASSE
QM3(SS) DAVID LAWRENCE COBB
ET2(SU) WILLIAM EUGENE COONEY
SR(SU) ADAM EVERETTE COOK
EM2(SS) GERALD LEE COTTRELL
EM1(SS) DEAN PERLE DAVIS
EM1(SS) DAVID ALLEN DEWITT
MM2(SS) JOHN DAVID DORNISCH
MM2(SS) GLENN DEAN DOWNES
ET2(SS) ELLIOTT JOE DUFUR
FTG1(SS) STANLEY EARLE
MM3(SS) KENIN KEITH FOWLER
IC2(SS) ALAN ROTH FITZGERALD
MM3(SS) BOB LEROY FLETCHER
MM3(SS) RODNEY JAY FUNKHOUSER
MM3(SS) GREGORY ANTHONY GALINDO
STS2(SS) DOUGLAS NMN GERALD
EM3(SU) TRON DAVID GILPIN
MM2(SS) DENNIS EDWARD GRALIKE
STS2(SS) TODD MICHAEL GREER
MM3(SS) THOMAS EDWARD HALL
STS3(SU) CALEB MARTIN HANSON
RM1(SS) MARK EDWIN HANSON
FN(SS) ROBERT DEON HARP
EM3(SU) BUD NMN HEINTZLEMAN
RM2(SS) LOUIS TAFT HENDRIXSON III
MM3(SU) JAMES DANIEL HENSEL
ET3(SU) OSCAR HERNANDEZ
ET2(SS) BRIAN TODD HIRCOCK
MS2(SS) DAVID RAY HIXON
MM3(SS) JOHN HOPWOOD
MM1(SS) JOHN NMN HORVATH

ET2(SU) DEWEY EDWARD HYLTON
MM2(SS) MARK MILO JOHNSON
IC2(SS) PHILIP WAYNE JOHNSON
ET3(SS) WALLACE EUGENE JOHNSON
FTG3(SS) DONALD ANTHONY JONES
QM1(SS) BRENT ARTHUR JONES
TM2(SS) BRYANT THOMAS JONES
MM2(SS) JAMES WALTER KILPATRICK
STS3(SU) ERNEST BRYAN KRUSE
MM2(SS) KENNETH DEAN KUNTZMAN
MM1(SS) WILLIAM MORRIS LAMB
FTG2(SU) JEREMY JAMES LAUER
STS2(SS) ROSS LEE LESHIKAR
ET2(SS) KYLE LEE LUCAS
MM2(SS) RODDY NORMAN LYLES
FTG1(SS) RICHARD WILLIAM MAHLIE
TMSA(SS) SCOTT ALLÉN MARCKLEY
STS2(SS) MARC DANE MAY
EM2(SS) IAN SCOTT MITCHELL
MM2(SS) SCOTT CHARLES MORELAND
ET1(SS) ANDREW DAVID ORECHOVESKY
QM3(SS) ANDREW BRIAN ORR
FN(SS) JOHN STANLEY OTOCKI
SR(SU) PETER JOHN ORLOWSKI
IC2(SS) DAVID ANTHONY PARKS
ET3(SU) CHRISTOPHER D. PETERS
STS3(SS) PATRICK JOHN PISANO
MSSN(SS) JAMES OTIS PRINCE
MM1(SS) ROBERT CHARLES RAMOS
EM2(SU) CRAIG JAMES RICE
FN(SS) TODD EDWARD RIGBY
TM3(SS) MICHAEL JEROME ROBERSON
TMSA(SU) IRA JOSEPH ROCHETTE
IC2(SS) DOUGLAS GLENN ROGERS
MM2(SS) PRINSTER ALLEN ROGERS
MM3(SU) JOHN CHARLES SCHNEIDER
RM2(SS) MATTHEW THOMAS SESTER
MM2(SS) CLAYTON ELLIOTT SIMMONS
STS3(SU) ERIC RAMOND SLAGLE
RM3(SS) ROBERT BRANT SMITH
MM2(SS) WILLIAM WALLACE SOETEBIER
TM2(SS) JEFFREY ALAN STAHLER
ET3(SS) TODD ALLEN STEVENS
RM1(SS) BRIAN JULIUS STRINGER
ET3(SS) ROBERT GRAYSON STULTZ
MM1(SS) FRANK WILLIAM TAYLOR JR
MS3(SS) KEVIN GERARD WEBB
YN3(SS) ALEXANDER MILES WEEVER
YN2(SS) SAMMY JOE WELLS
ET2(SU) TIMOTHY CHRISTENSEN WOOD



HERITAGE OF THE RAY

The first USS RAY (SS 271) was a valiant veteran of World War II and had a long and distinguished career.

Commissioned on July 27, 1943, RAY arrived at Brisbane, Australia, in late October ready for her first war patrol. By the end of the war, RAY had sent a confirmed 56,000 tons of Japanese shipping to the bottom. Probable kills more than double the total, and added to this are the countless small craft which RAY damaged or sank with her deck guns. In recognition of achievement as one of the most aggressive of our silent raiders, RAY was awarded the Submarine Combat Insignia for eight successful war patrols.

Typical of RAY's contribution to efforts in the Pacific Theater was her fifth war patrol for which she was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation. During the first half of the patrol RAY sank a large tanker and a large cargo vessel. On 13 August 1944 she sighted a 12 ship convoy. During a running battle RAY sank three more large enemy ships.

In February 1946, RAY was decommissioned and transferred to the Reserve Fleet. In December 1950, RAY was returned to the fleet for conversion to a radar picket submarine. Recommissioned in August 1952, RAY took part in various training exercises in the Atlantic and fleet operations in the Mediterranean. RAY was decommissioned in September 1958.

USS RAY is named for fish of the family Rajidae, especially abundant in the North Pacific and North Atlantic oceans, some growing to a large size and attaining a weight of over 300 pounds. Most of them, however, are shorefishes, which lie concealed in the sand or mud at the bottom of the water and from that hidden point dart suddenly upon unsuspecting prey. They are also called Devilfish.

