



LAUNCHING OF THE
NUCLEAR
ATTACK SUBMARINE

U.S.S.

SEA DEVIL

SSN 664

OCTOBER 5, 1967

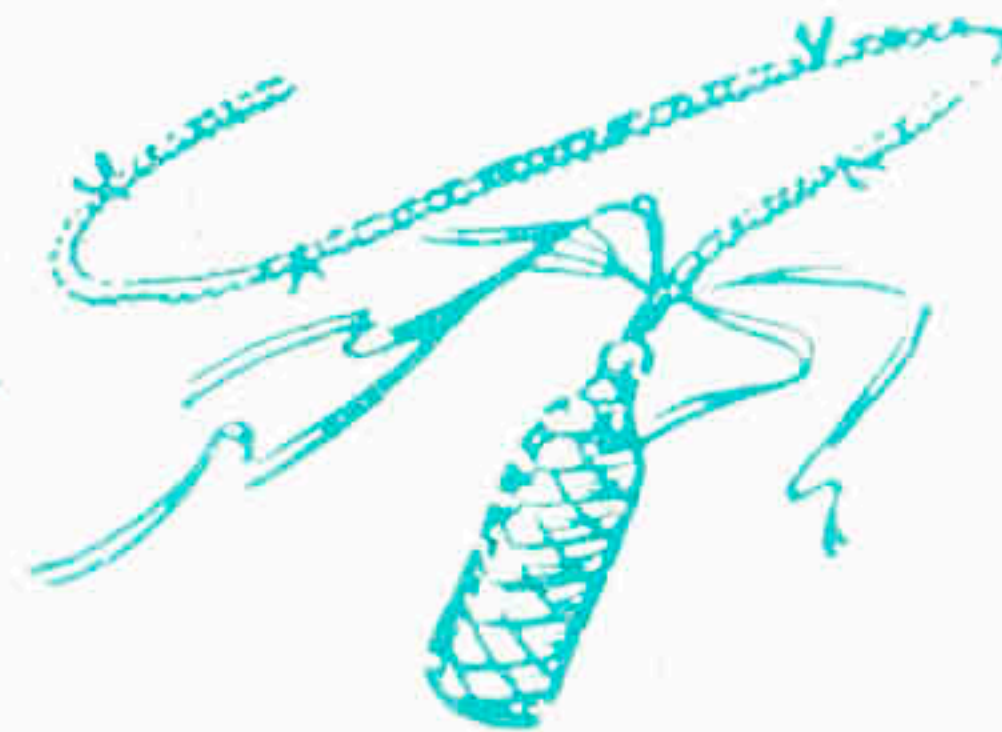
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NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING AND DRY DOCK COMPANY, NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA



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MRS. IGNATIUS J. GALANTIN

Matron of Honor
MRS. S. E. VEAZEY



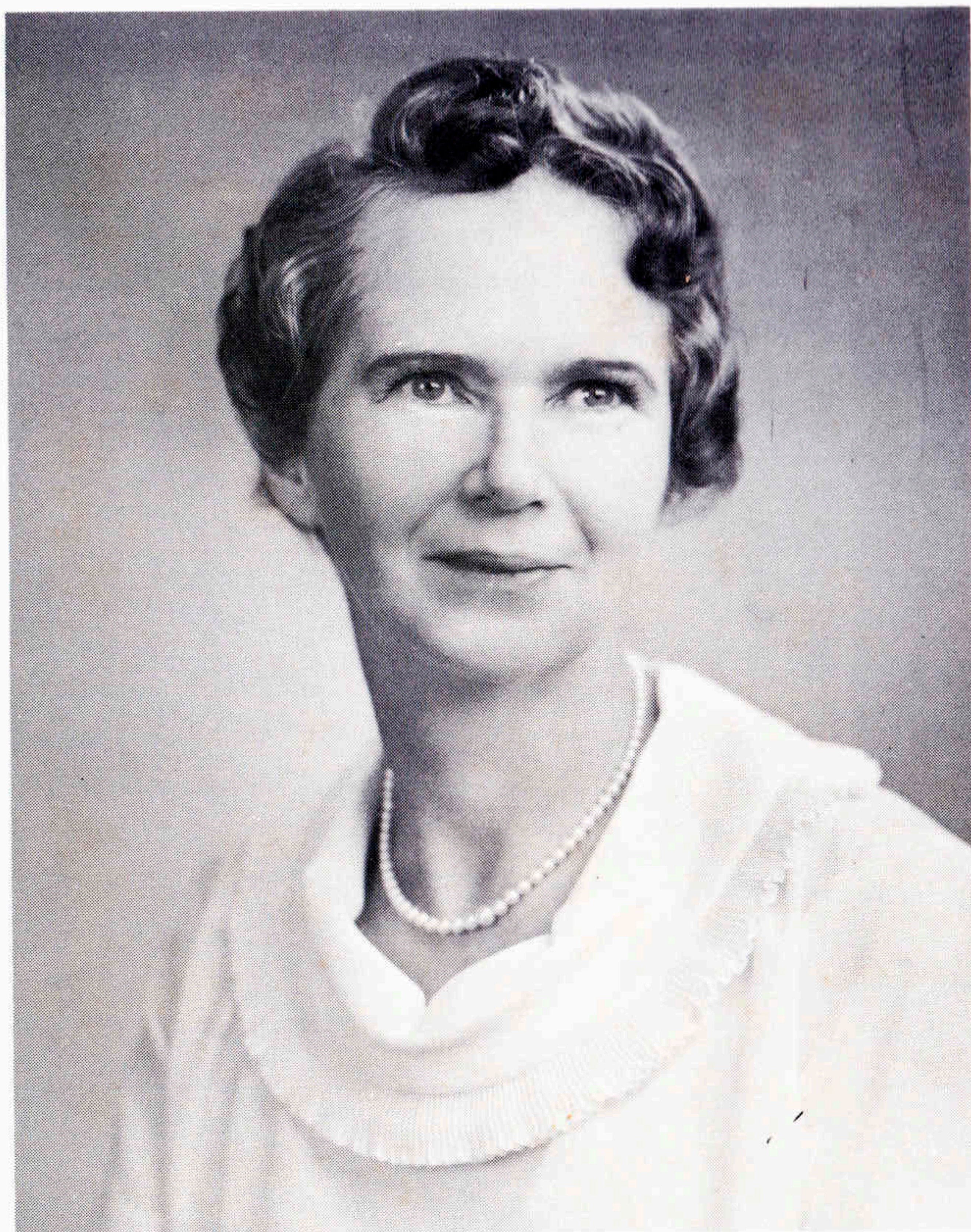
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Program

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet Band

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
OF THE SPEAKER

Mr. Donald A. Holden, President and
Chairman of the Board of the Newport
News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock
Company

ADDRESS

The Honorable Robert T. Stafford,
Member of the House of Representatives
of the United States from the State of
Vermont

INVOCATION

Captain Gerald H. Sargent, CHC, USN,
Chaplain, Fifth Naval District

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPONSOR
AND THE MATRON OF HONOR

Mr. Holden

CHRISTENING

Mrs. Ignatius J. Galantin

HISTORY OF THE FIRST USS SEA

The USS SEA DEVIL (SSN664) is the second ship of the Fleet to bear the name of the giant ray fish noted for its tremendous swimming power and great endurance. This mighty vessel has been named to commemorate the submarine SEA DEVIL (SS-400) which earned the Navy Unit Commendation for outstanding heroism in action during World War II.

The keel for the first SEA DEVIL was laid at Portsmouth, New Hampshire on November 18, 1943. She was launched on February 28, 1944, christened by Mrs. Sherman Kennedy, wife of Rear Admiral Kennedy. The submarine was commissioned on May 24, 1944.

The vessel had an overall length of over 311 feet and an extreme width of 27 feet. Her standard displacement was 1,526 tons; submerged displacement was 2,329 tons. She had a designed surface speed of 20.25 knots and a submerged speed of 8.75 knots. Her designed depth was 400 feet.

The SEA DEVIL had a complement of six officers and 60 crewmen. When commissioned, she was armed with ten 21-inch torpedo tubes and four guns—a 5-inch .25 caliber, a 40-mm, a 20-mm and one .50 caliber machine gun.

On September 3, 1944, the SEA DEVIL sailed from Pearl Harbor on her maiden patrol conducted in the waters south of Tokyo. Her first attack on September 16

was a complete success. Firing four torpedoes, the SEA DEVIL obliterated the 865-ton Japanese submarine RO-42. The SEA DEVIL made three other attacks during the patrol but all torpedoes missed their targets.

The submarine departed from Majuro on November 19, 1944, to spend her second patrol in the North China Sea and Yellow Sea areas. On December 2, she ambushed a seven-ship convoy. Outwitting four escorts on the surface, she moved into the middle of the convoy for a night radar assault. After torpedoes missed the first target, she blasted the 6,859-ton cargo ship AKIGAWA MARU with torpedo hits, then fired four stern tubes to also sink the 9,467-ton passenger-cargo ship HAWAII MARU. The SEA DEVIL was forced to go deep to avoid a ramming by another large freighter. The debris of her sinking victims fell all around the submarine as she dived to escape the revenge of the four escorts.

Later during the patrol on December 9 she sent four torpedoes on their way to damage the Japanese aircraft carrier JUNYO (18,500-tons). The carrier suffered further attacks that same night by the submarine REDFISH. Though the JUNYO was not sunk, she was so badly damaged that she was forced to return to Japan unable to take further part in World War II. The only other aircraft carrier available for action in the Philippines was the newly-built carrier UNRYU which was shattered by

DEVIL (SS-400)

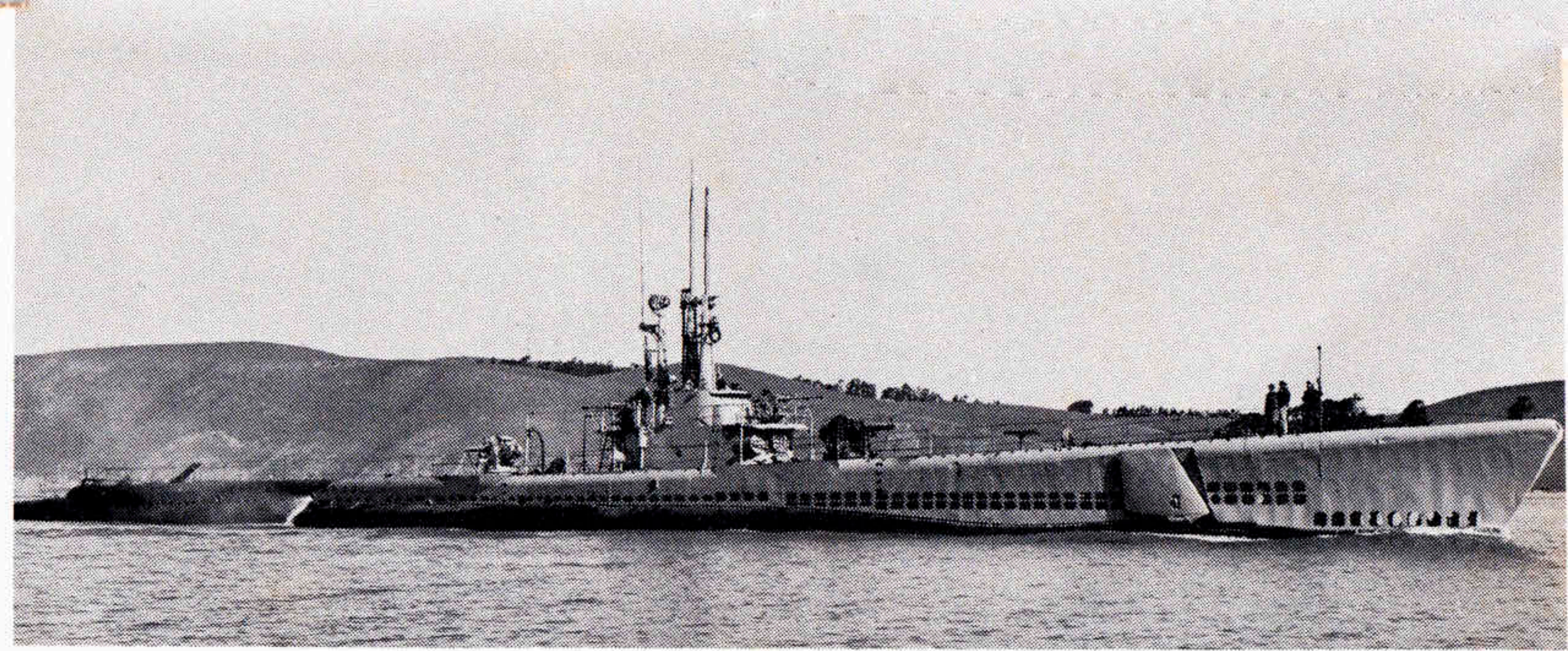
torpedoes from the REDFISH ten days later. Thus, two American submarines deprived the Japanese bombardment force at Mindoro of aircraft carrier support.

The SEA DEVIL's third war patrol was marked by brilliant and aggressive tactics that brought her the award of the Navy Unit Commendation. On this patrol she was a unit of a coordinated attack group. On the morning of April 2, 1945, she encountered an enemy convoy, and in a series of five fantastically executed attacks, she sank three cargo ships and damaged one escort. The gallant submarine continued the fight until the ocean was deserted, save for debris and survivors of the Japanese ships. All but four of the survivors refused rescue.

The SEA DEVIL left Midway on May 19, 1945 on her fourth patrol as a unit of a "wolfpack." Though targets were scarce by this time, the submarine made the most of every attack opportunity. She torpedoed and sank a cargo ship and three trawlers were sunk by gunfire.

Her fifth patrol, beginning on August 9, 1945, was uneventful. She remained in her patrol area for two weeks, investigating shipping in the area and destroying 58 drifting mines. On August 27 the following was recorded in the ship's log: "Sighted mine close aboard fishing vessel. Fisherman was using it for a buoy with net secured to the mine horns."

Two days later she departed for Guam, but a change



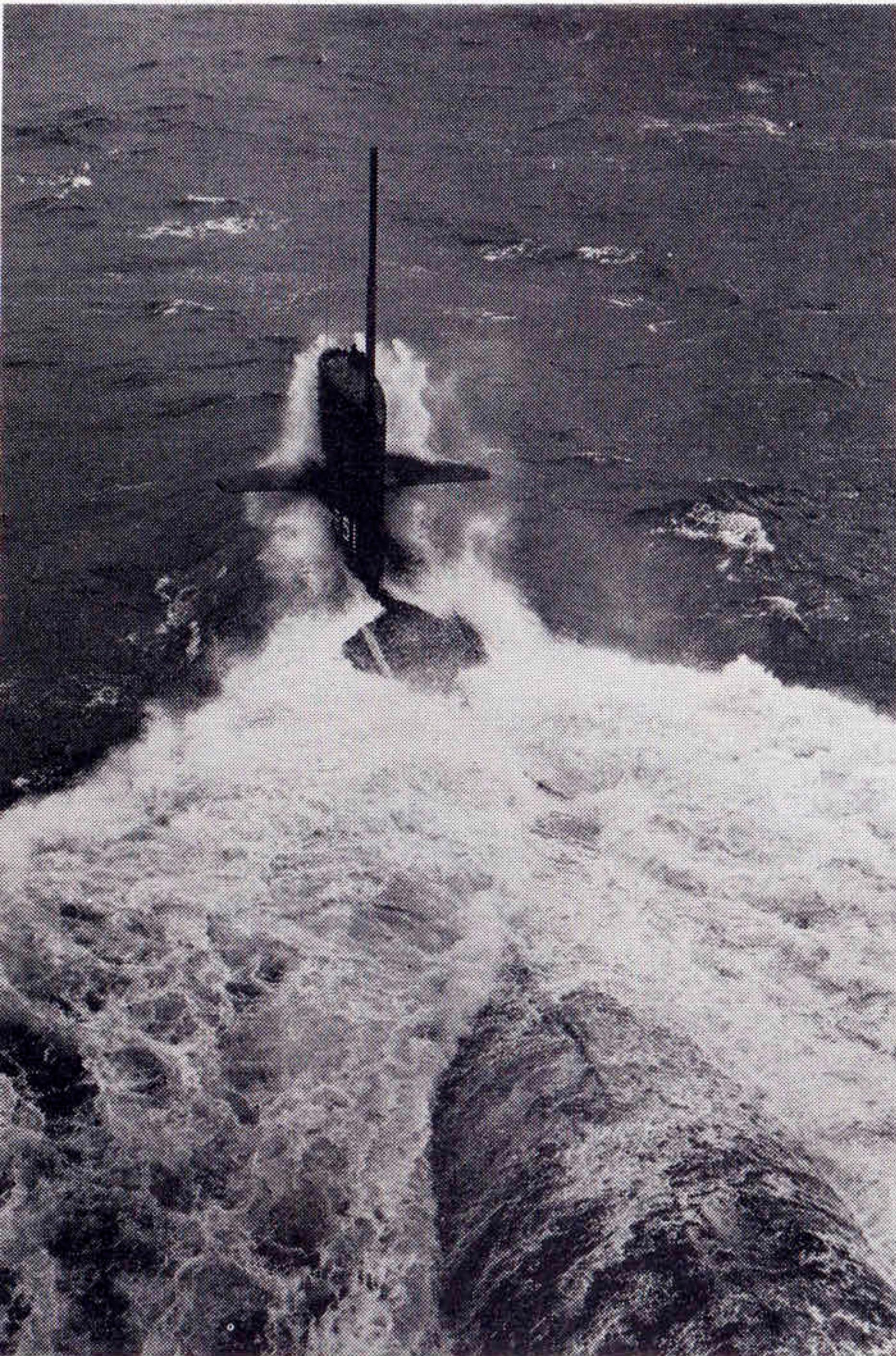
of orders sent her to Subic Bay where she became flagship of Submarine Division 52, Submarine Squadron Five. She took part in training operations until March 1948 when she was decommissioned.

The war in Korea brought her out of the Reserve Fleet in March 1951. Between Pearl Harbor and Port Angeles, Washington, she engaged in anti-submarine warfare training operations, until February 1954 when she was again decommissioned.

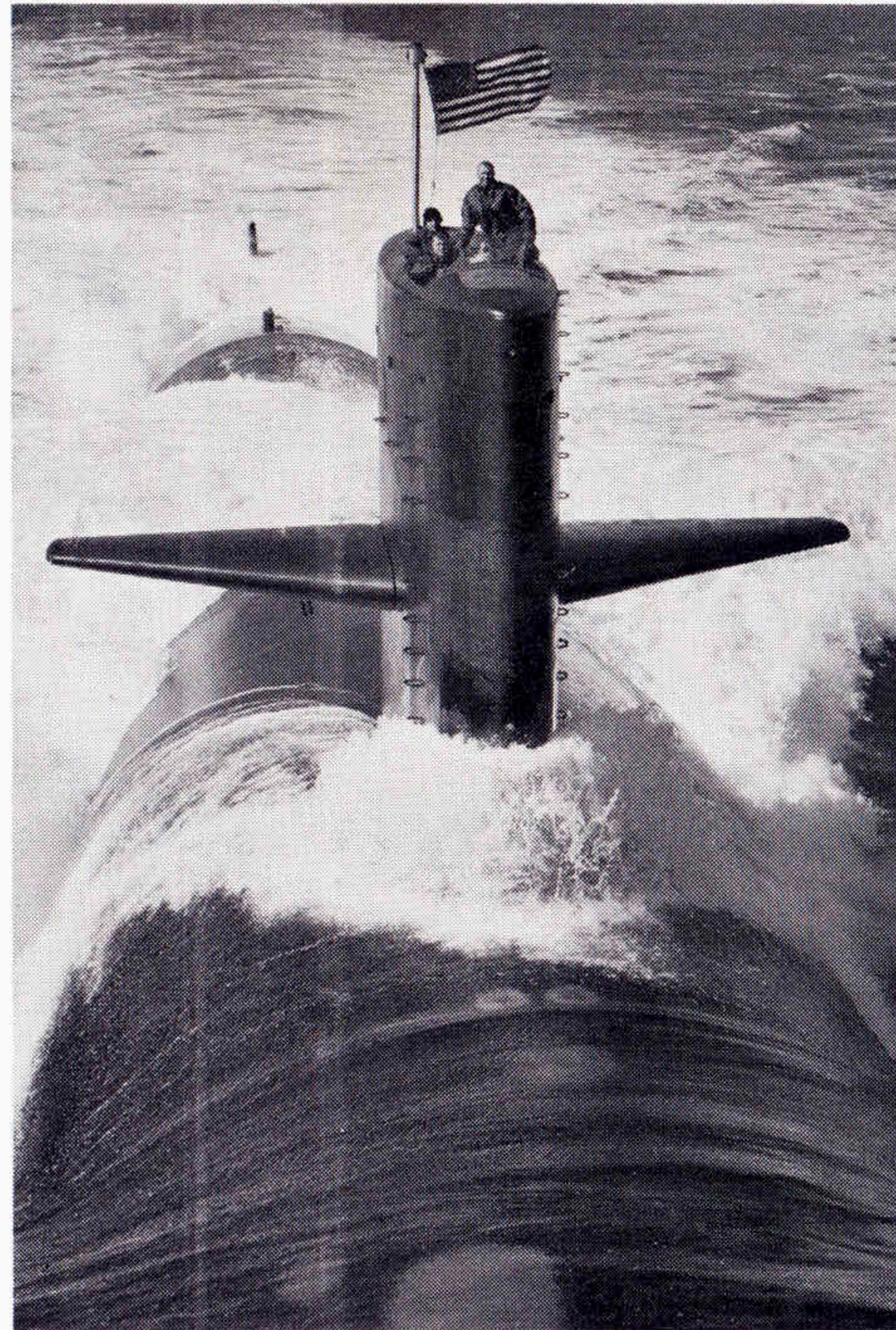
She was reactivated the second time in August 1957 and served in training operations along the West Coast and with the Seventh Fleet in the Far East. During this service she was redesignated an auxiliary submarine (AGSS-400). Her defense readiness exercises and training included coordination with Naval units of South Korea, Nationalist China and the Philippines.

Finally, after long and faithful service she was decommissioned on February 17, 1964 and transferred to the custody of Submarine Flotilla Twelve to be sunk as a target. The proud name of SEA DEVIL was struck from the Navy List on July 10, 1964.

NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE CONSTRUCTION AT



USS QUEENFISH

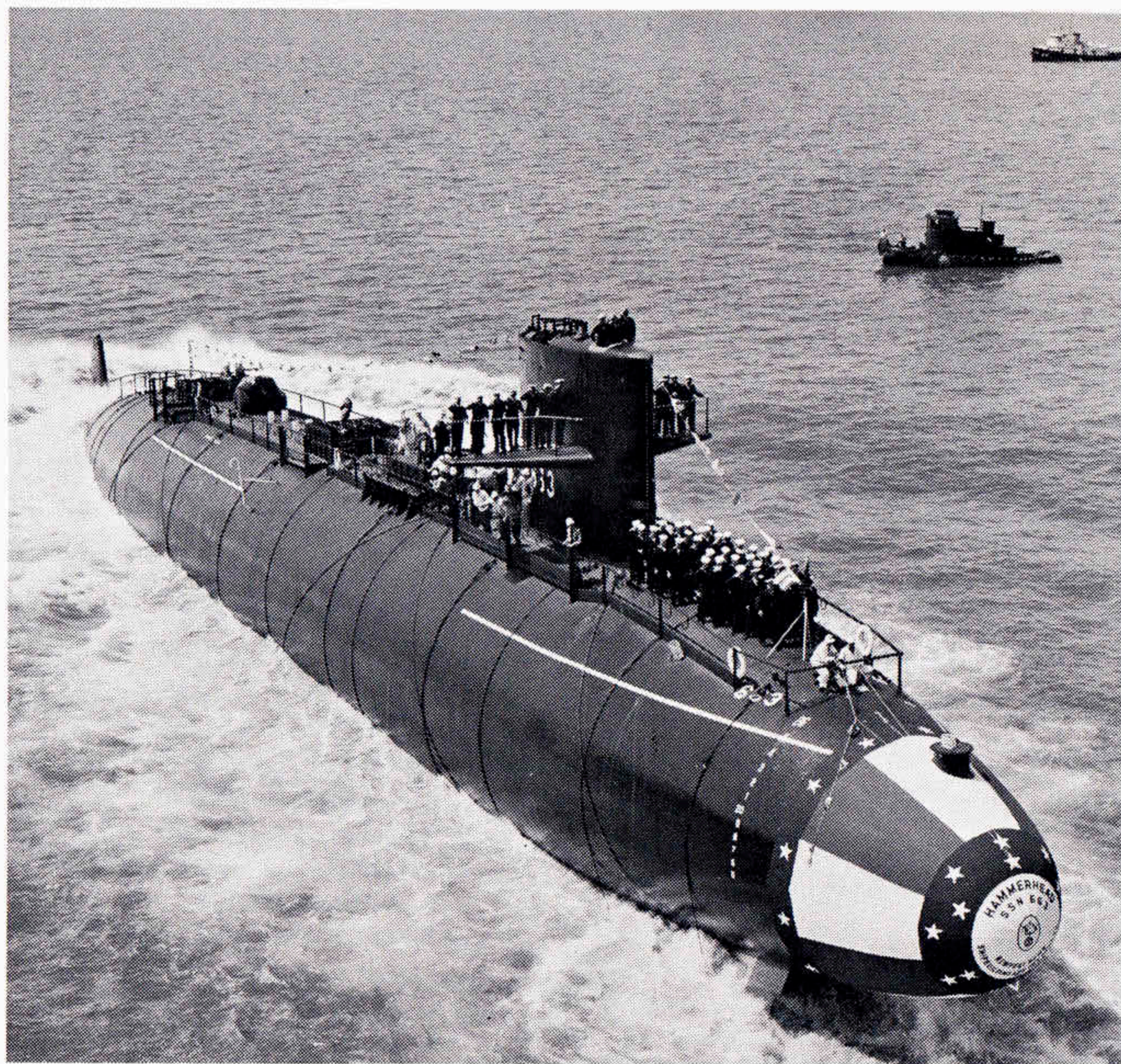


USS RAY



USS LAPON

Submarine Construction At Newport News



USS HAMMERHEAD

POLARIS SUBMARINES

USS ROBERT E. LEE, SSBN601 (1960)
USS SAM HOUSTON, SSBN609 (1962)
USS JOHN MARSHALL, SSBN611 (1962)
USS THOMAS JEFFERSON, SSBN618 (1963)
USS JAMES MONROE, SSBN622 (1963)
USS HENRY CLAY, SSBN625 (1964)
USS JAMES MADISON, SSBN627 (1964)
USS JOHN C. CALHOUN, SSBN630 (1964)
USS VON STEUBEN, SSBN632 (1964)
USS SAM RAYBURN, SSBN635 (1964)
USS SIMON BOLIVAR, SSBN641 (1965)
USS LEWIS & CLARK, SSBN644 (1965)
USS GEORGE C. MARSHALL, SSBN654 (1966)
USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER, SSBN656 (1966)

ATTACK SUBMARINES

USS SHARK, SSN591 (1961)
USS QUEENFISH, SSN651 (1966)
USS RAY, SSN653 (1967)

Under Contract

USS LAPON, SSN661
USS HAMMERHEAD, SSN663
USS SEA DEVIL, SSN664
USS SPADEFISH, SSN668
USS FINBACK, SSN670

THE USS SEA DEVIL—SSN664

The SEA DEVIL is one of 24 vessels authorized in the STURGEON class of nuclear attack submarines. These ships are 292 feet long and have a surfaced displacement of 4,140 tons. Both the STURGEON and PERMIT classes are designed to carry the SUBROC missile-torpedo, the latest anti-submarine warfare weapons system.

The keel for the SEA DEVIL was laid on April 12, 1966. The vessel is scheduled for delivery late next year. Newport News has four other STURGEON class vessels under contract. Nuclear attack submarines delivered by the company thus far are the SHARK, a unit of the SKIPJACK class, in 1961, and the QUEENFISH in 1966 and the RAY in 1967, both STURGEON class vessels.

The SEA DEVIL has an advanced hydrodynamic hull propelled by nuclear power. The extensive use of sound-isolating materials and great care in noise reduction of all moving parts give the SEA DEVIL an inherent silent quality and maximum performance of her advanced sonar system. She combines the endurance and environmental independence of nuclear power with deep submergence and high speed. These capabilities, coupled with the latest in submarine weapons systems including nuclear-tipped and rocket-propelled torpedoes, make the SEA DEVIL one of the Navy's most effective anti-submarine weapons.

The ship's complement is twelve officers and 95 men.

Super quiet, deep-diving and swift, the SEA DEVIL is not only lethal to hostile surface shipping, but especially suited as a "killer submarine" vitally concerned with denying the effectiveness of a hostile underseas fleet.



LCDR Richard A. Currier
Prospective Commanding Officer
USS SEA DEVIL, SSN664

Autographs





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