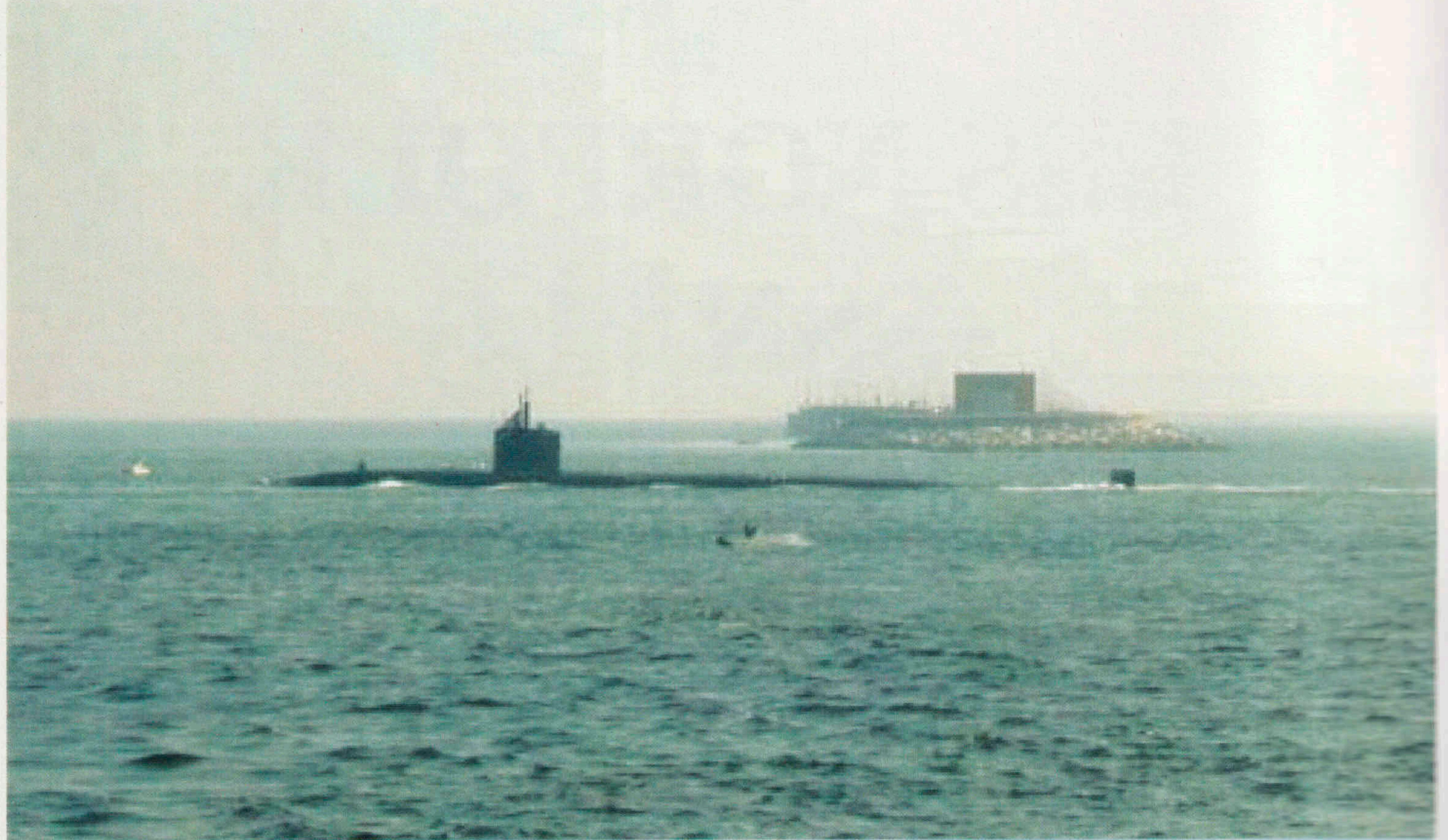


# USS NORFOLK (SSN 714)



Decommissioning Ceremony  
11 December 2014



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

LCDR DAN CURTIS, USN

REMARKS

CAPT PAUL SNODGRASS

COMMANDER SUBMARINE SQUADRON SIX

HONORABLE PAUL D. FRAIM

NORFOLK MAYOR

RDML (RET) JOSEPH KROL

COMMANDING OFFICER USS NORFOLK

25 JUN 83 TO 13 SEP 85

CDR CHRIS POLK

COMMANDING OFFICER USS NORFOLK

14 OCT 14 TO PRESENT

REPORT OF DECOMMISSIONING

BENEDICTION

LCDR DAN CURTIS, USN

DEPARTURE OF OFFICIAL PARTY



**Captain Paul S. Snodgrass**

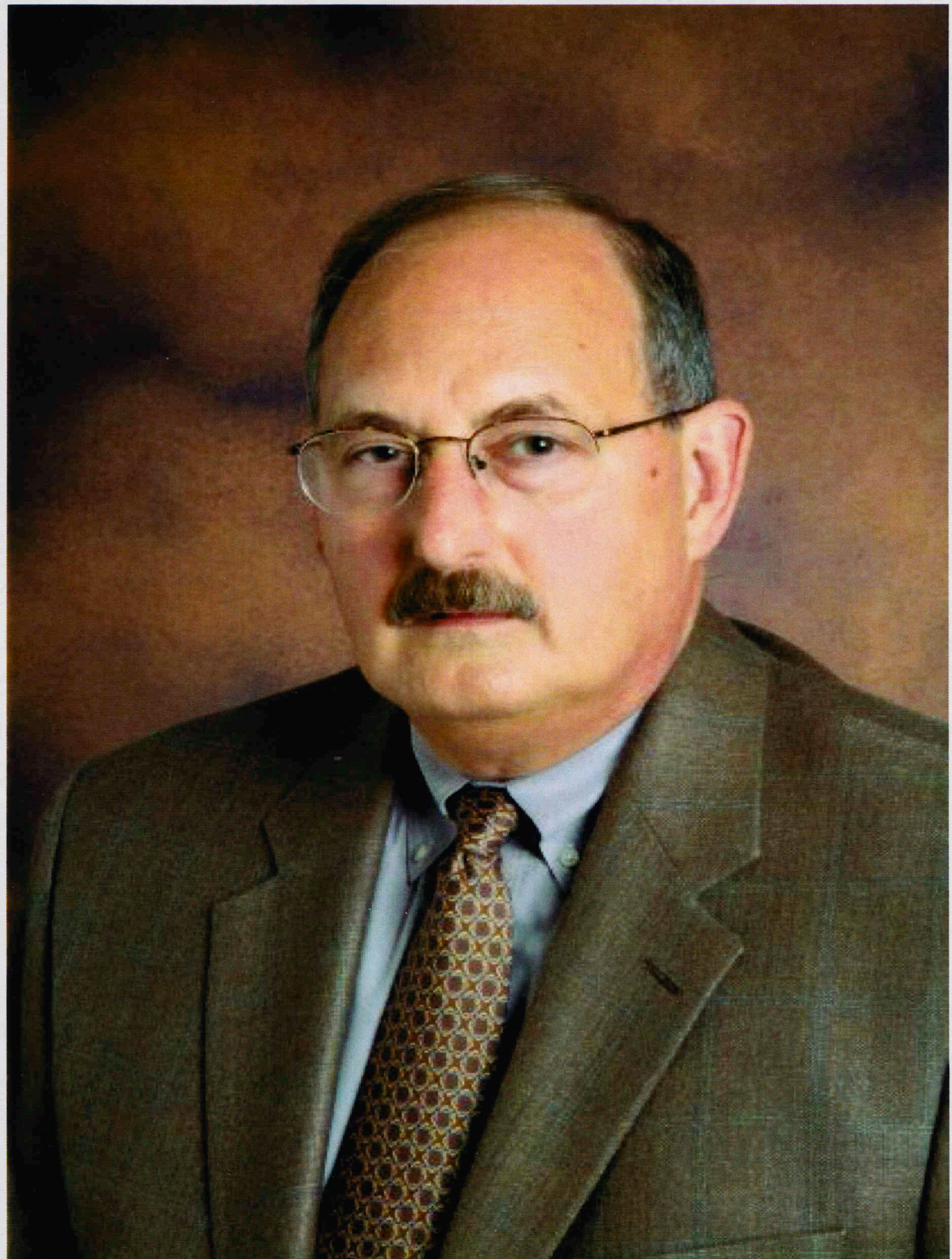
**Commodore**

**Submarine Squadron SIX**

A native of Seymour, Indiana, Captain Snodgrass graduated from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in 1989 with a B.S. in Mathematics. Upon graduation, he completed Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI followed by Nuclear Propulsion training and the Submarine Officer Basic Course. He holds a M.A. in Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and Masters in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University.

Captain Snodgrass served his Junior Officer tour aboard USS BATFISH (SSN 681), where he completed a Mediterranean deployment. He was Engineer of USS NEWPORT NEWS (SSN 750), where he deployed to FIFTH Fleet as part of the Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group. He served as Executive Officer of USS MAINE (SSBN 741)(BLUE), completing three strategic deterrent patrols. Captain Snodgrass commanded USS BOISE (SSN 764). During his tour, USS BOISE deployed to SIXTH FLEET and was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation. USS BOISE also completed a six month Docking Selected Restricted Availability in Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

Captain Snodgrass served as a Shift Engineer at Moored Training Ship 626 in Charleston, SC, and was the Submarine Group SEVEN Representative in Guam, where he completed a Western Pacific Deployment aboard USS FRANK CABLE (AS 40). He has completed two tours on the staff of Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic Fleet, serving as Executive Assistant, Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team Senior Member, Allied Submarine Command Chief of Staff and Strategic Planning Officer. He is a certified Professional Engineering Manager with the American Society for Engineering Management and a member of the Project Management Institute. Captain Snodgrass took command of Submarine Squadron SIX in August 2014.



**REAR ADMIRAL (RETIRED) JOSEPH J. KROL**

Joseph J. Krol, Rear Admiral, United States Navy (Retired), is the Associate Administrator for the Office of Emergency Operations. In this role, he is the Director of the Office of Emergency Operations, which is responsible for emergency management policy and execution of emergency management support across the Department of Energy complex. Within the National Nuclear Security Administration, he also is responsible for emergency operations, involving nuclear, and radiological emergencies, both within the United States and abroad.

Admiral Krol graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1967, and spent the next 36 years on active duty, retiring on June 1, 2003. He assumed his present position on January 11, 2004. Throughout his naval career he had extensive experience in nuclear power and nuclear weapons as a nuclear submarine officer. He served in both nuclear fleet ballistic submarines and nuclear attack submarines.

This experience included a wide variety of technical operations in support of complex overhauls of nuclear reactor plants and advanced technical support of nuclear weapons. Admiral Krol commanded two Los Angeles class nuclear attack submarines and a Nuclear Attack submarine squadron. He also served in senior management positions at Naval Reactors and the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Upon attaining flag rank, he served in a senior intelligence position at the Pentagon, prior to a three-year tour in Japan, where he was in charge of submarine operations from Hawaii to the Suez Canal, an area that comprised over 40% of the world. His final active duty position was in the Pentagon, as both Deputy Director and Acting Director of worldwide operations and plans for the U.S. Navy.

Admiral Krol is the recipient of numerous personal and unit awards as result of his naval career.



**Commander Christopher J. Polk**

**Commanding Officer**

**USS NORFOLK (SSN 714)**

Commander Christopher J. Polk is a native of River Vale, New Jersey. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1997 with a B.S. in Systems Engineering. After graduation, he reported to NNPS Orlando, FL and NTPU Balston Spa, NY for nuclear power training.

In November 1998, he reported aboard the USS TENNESSEE (SSBN 734)(BLUE) where he made five strategic deterrent patrols out of Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. His duties included Electrical Assistant, Chemical Radiological Controls Assistant, Main Propulsion Assistant, and Tactical Systems Officer.

In June 2002, Commander Polk returned to the United States Naval Academy as part of the Naval Postgraduate School's Leadership Education and Development Program (LEAD). Upon graduation from the LEAD program, Commander Polk served as the Third Company Officer for almost two years before reporting to the Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) in Groton, CT.

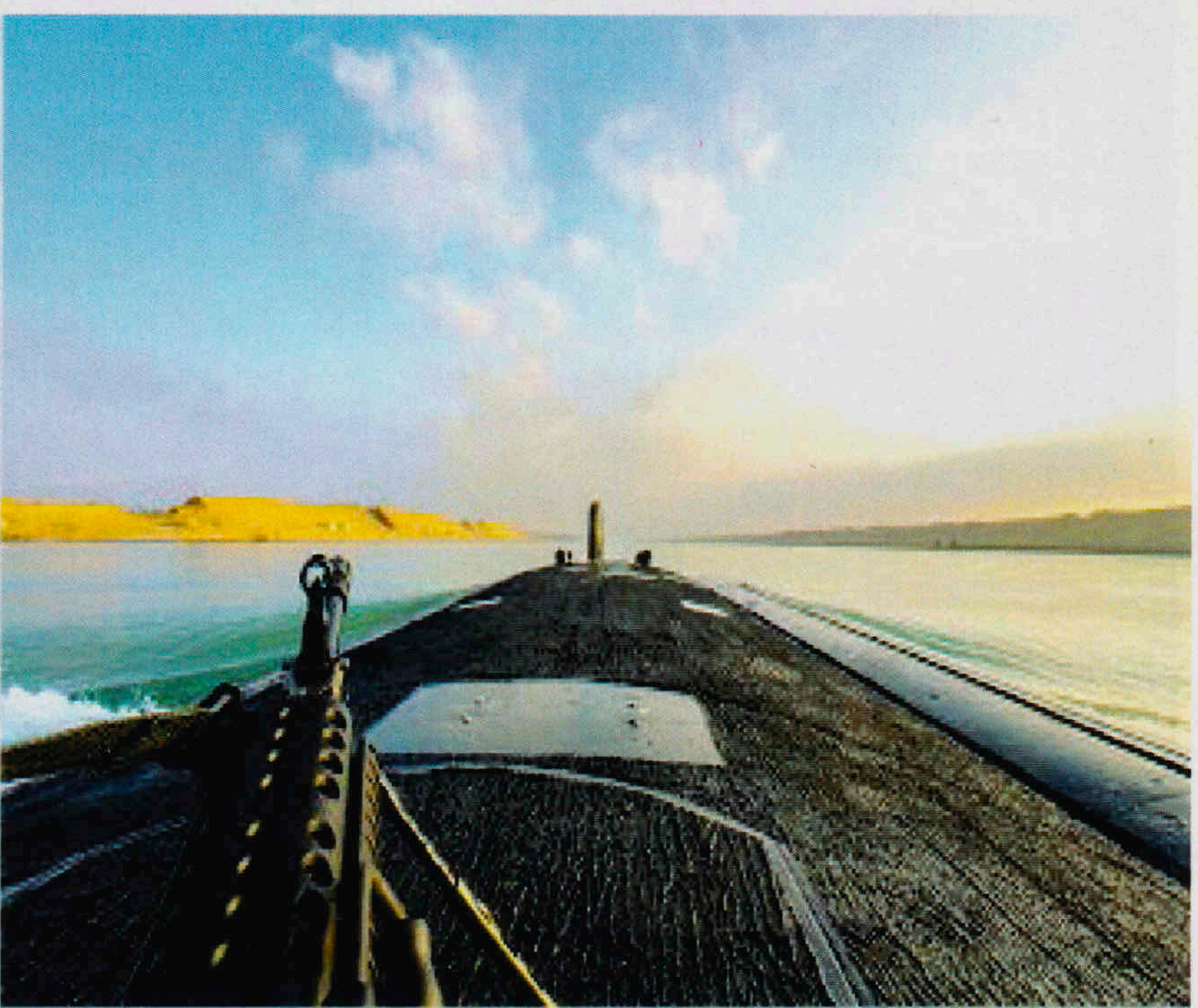
Following graduation from SOAC, Commander Polk reported aboard the USS NORFOLK (SSN 714) as the Combat Systems Officer. While on NORFOLK, he completed two CENTCOM deployments, a combat systems modernization, a nuclear weapon regeneration exercise, and qualified for command.

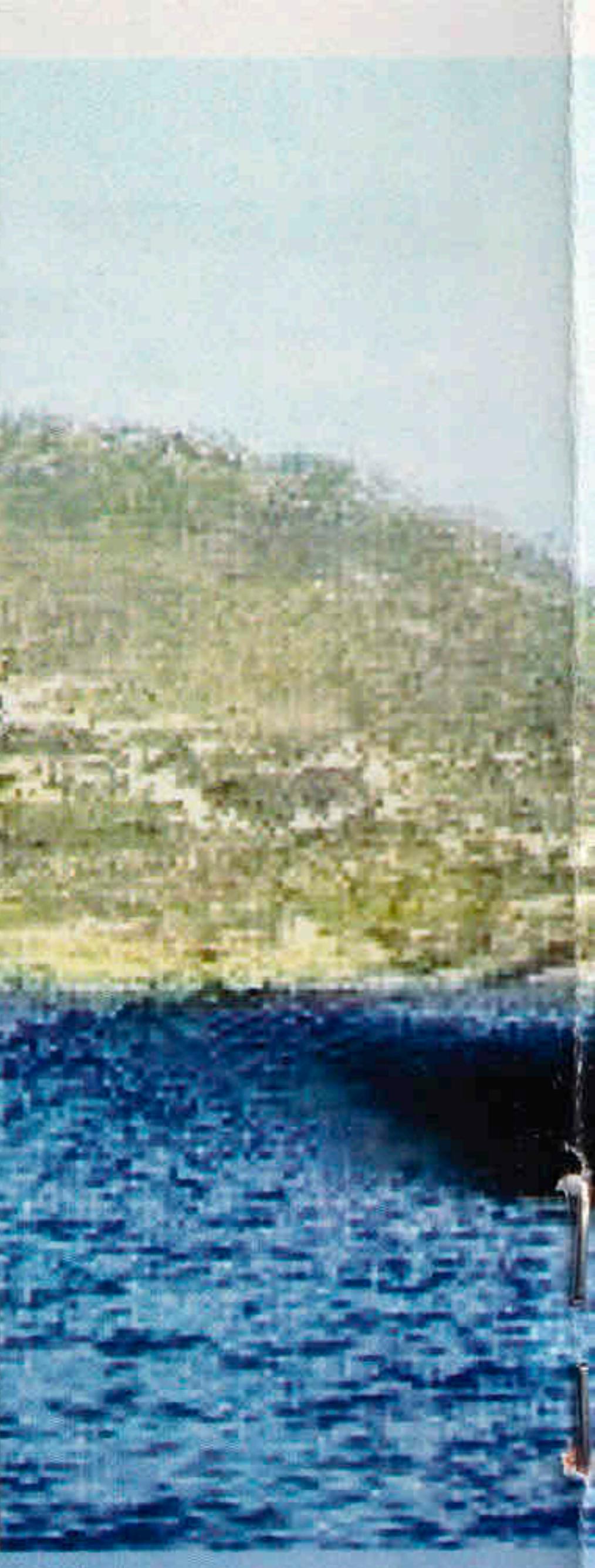
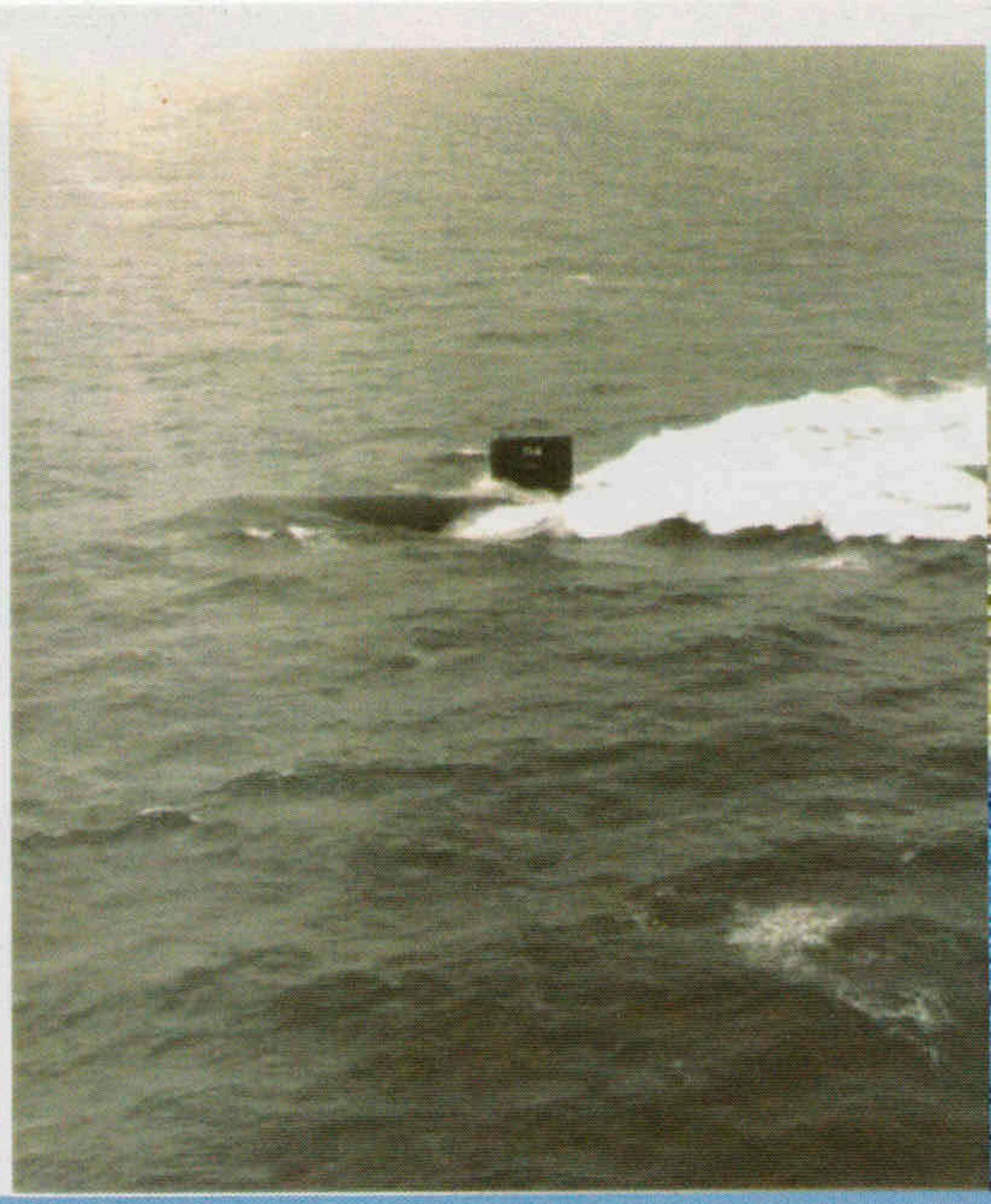
In August 2008, Commander Polk reported to the Naval War College in Newport, RI as a student in the College of Naval Command and Staff. He also was selected for the Maritime Advanced War Fighting School where he earned the additional qualification designation as a joint operational planner.

In December 2009, Commander Polk reported to USS GEORGIA (SSGN 729)(BLUE) to serve as Executive Officer. While onboard GEORGIA, He completed her first SSGN deployment cycle to AFRICOM, a major Maintenance Period, two Homeport Training Periods, and a Naval Special Warfare Operations Certification.

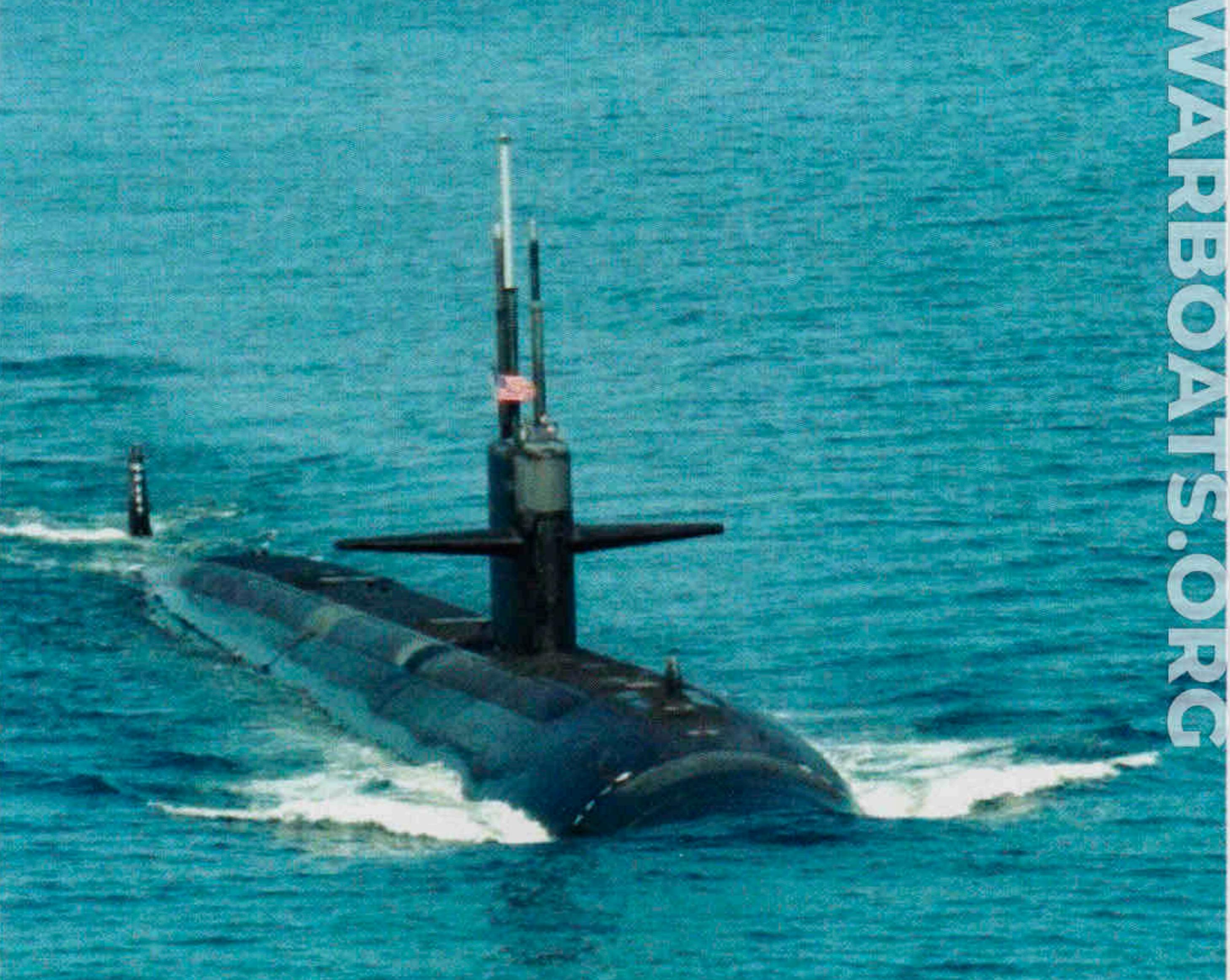
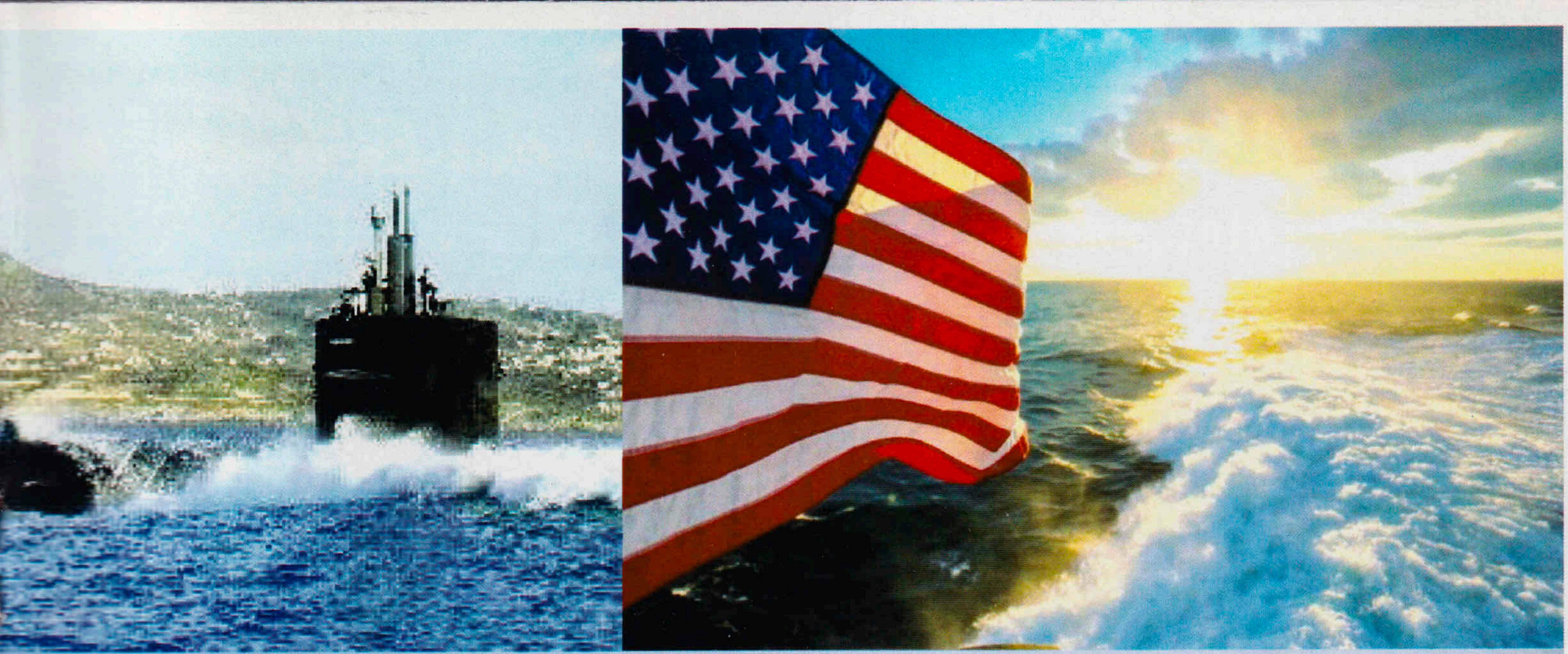
Commander Polk holds masters degrees in Leadership Human Resource Development, National Security and Strategic Studies, and Engineering Management. His awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, five Navy Commendation Medals and three Navy and Marine Corps achievement medals. He is married to the former Kelly A. Lanni of South Plainfield, NJ. They have four children Chloe Elizabeth, Thomas Christopher, Alexis Grace, and Jackson Christopher.







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Command at sea, with all its responsibilities and all its opportunities, is the goal of every line officer in the United States Navy aspiring to professional distinction. In time of peace, some officers wait and prepare for many years before command comes; in time of war, some find themselves thrust into command almost before they feel equal to its burden. To all, the experience of command is unforgettable – an important chapter in their lives, shared with the past and future generations of ship commanders in the unbroken continuity of the naval service.

### **Commanding Officers of USS NORFOLK (SSN 714)**

CAPT Kenneth R. Karr	21 May 83	25 Jun 83
CDR Joseph J. Krol	25 Jun 83	13 Sep 85
CDR Alfred E. Ponessa	13 Sep 85	20 Aug 88
CDR John K. Harrup	20 Aug 88	19 Jan 89
CDR William Helfen	19 Jan 89	11 Feb 89
CDR Ralph H. Stoll	11 Feb 89	23 Jun 90
CDR Donald W. Randall	23 Jun 90	14 Nov 92
CDR William C. Ostendorff	14 Nov 92	17 Nov 95
CDR George M. Koucheravy	17 Nov 95	3 Apr 98
CDR Jeffrey L. Gernand	3 Apr 98	23 Jun 00
CDR James R. Righter, Jr.	23 Jun 00	23 Aug 02
CDR David J. Herman	23 Aug 02	3 Jun 05
CDR Scott F. Adams	3 Jun 05	6 Jul 07
CDR Troy S. Jackson	6 Jul 07	14 Aug 09
CDR Douglas A. Jordan	14 Aug 09	18 Nov 11
CDR Gregory M. Zettler	18 Nov 11	10 Oct 14
CDR Christopher J. Polk	10 Oct 14	

## AWARDS And ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Battle "E" 1984, 1985, 1999, 2001, 2006, 2013

Arleigh Burke Award: 1999, 2010

Meritorious Unit Commendation: 1985, 1993, 1996, 2006

Navy Unit Commendation: 1999

Armed Forces Service Medal: 1993, 1996

## DEPLOYMENTS

JUL-NOV 1984 Mediterranean

APR-JUN 1988 N. Atlantic

MAR-MAY 1989 N. Atlantic

MAR-MAY 1990 N. Atlantic

MAR-SEP 1993 Mediterranean

JUL-OCT 1995 N. Atlantic

JUL-DEC 1996 CENTCOM

NOV 1998 – APR 1999 EUCOM

DEC 2000 – MAY 2001 CENTCOM

FEB-MAR 2005 EUCOM

NOV 2005 – APR 2006 CENTCOM

DEC 2007 – MAY 2008 CENTCOM

MAR-AUG 2010 CENTCOM

MAY-NOV 2012 CENTCOM

FEB-AUG 2014 CENTCOM

## **DECOMMISSIONING WARDROOM**

LCDR Peter D. French – Executive Officer  
LCDR Towney G. Kennard – Engineer  
LT Scotlin C. Bowden – Weapons Officer  
LT Justin L. Middlebrook – Navigator  
LTJG Adrian J. Holmes – Supply Officer  
LT William L. Kincaid  
LT John W. Mendenhall  
LTJG Steven L. Snow  
LTJG Christopher J. DeMatteo  
LTJG Trevor C. Hagedorn  
LTJG Erick J. Meckle  
LTJG David B. Logan  
LTJG Jinwoo J. Yoon  
LTJG Andrew F. Austin



## **DECOMMISSIONING CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS**

LSCS(SS) Kevin M. Gibbs – COB  
CSCS(SS) Rudolph D. Summers  
FTC(SS) Ronald R. Barrow, Jr.  
ETC(SS) Matthew C. Smith  
STSC(SS) Roy Oro  
MMC(SS) John S. Degroff  
EMC(SS) Alexander J. Fritsch  
ITSC(SS) Daniel J. Boevers  
MMC(SS) Nathaniel R. Ranck

EMC(SS) Daniel P. Smith – EDMC  
MMCS(SS) Anthony A. Amato  
ETC(SS) Matthew J. Little  
LSC(SS) Scott W. Ragsdale  
MMC(SS) Benjamin E. Rosinus  
ETC(SS) Jeffrey A. Hunter  
ETC(SS) Michael A. Dlabaj  
MMC(SS) Derelle Gladden



# DECOMMISSIONING CREW

ET1(SS) David W. Alexander  
MM1(SS) Ramsey C. Allen  
STS3(SS) Dean R. Allen  
ITS2(SS) Gavin S. Ayers  
STS1(SS) Myroen L. Barrett  
CS3(SS) Ronald Bass  
MM2(SS) Caleb J. Bergthold  
EM3(SS) Erik R. Boettcher  
ET2(SS) Eric J. Bowden  
CS3(SS) Robert W. Breit  
MM2(SS) Scott R. Buckman  
MM1(SS) Ryan J. Bukoskey  
MM2(SU) Guy K. Carter  
STS3(SS) John J. Cipriani  
ET1(SS) Robert L. Collum  
CS1(SS/AW) Joshua D. Conrad  
ET2(SS) Matthew R. Cortes  
MM1(SS) Matthew R. Coughlin  
YN2(SS) Reuben L. Curley  
ET3(SS) Joshua A. Davies  
FT3(SS) Marico M. Dean  
MM2(SS) Joshua A. Dinkins  
EM2(SS) Colin P. Duckett  
STS3(SS) Nickolas G. Farris  
FT1(SS) Justin M. Floyd  
ET1(SS) Patrick Z. Flynn  
STS3(SS) Dyelan E. Fonville  
EM1(SS) Andrew L. Foran  
STS2(SS) Benjamin G. Foster  
EM3(SU) Keagan R. Frazier  
MM1(SS) Stephen A. Frye  
ET3(SS) Charles J. Fulton  
FT3(SS) Thomas J. Furman  
ET3(SS) Jacob A. Garcia  
MM2(SS) Nelson A. Garcia  
EM1(SS) Mitchell C. Guthrie  
CSSN(SS) Mark A. Hall  
EM1(SS) Charles W. Hancock  
EM3(SU) Paul J. Heilig  
CSSN(SU) Mitchell C. Holloman  
EM2(SS) Bradley P. Homme  
STS1(SS) Justin M. Howard  
ET1(SS) Michael C. Inman  
MM3(SS) Christian A. Ithurralde  
MMFA(SU) Tashan R. Jones  
MM2(SS) Cory A. Kennedy  
MM1(SS/DV) Justin K. Kloppenburg  
FT2(SS) Christopher R. Larsen  
YN3(SS) Tony A. Lewis  
EM2(SS) Nicholas G. Lohnes  
MM2(SS) Cristian D. Londono  
ET1(SS) Phillip J. Maka  
LS2(SS/SCW) Kristopher M. Maleport  
MM2(SS) Bryan L. Marklay  
MM1(SS) Lee J. Marshall  
MM2(SS) Robert B. Martin  
ET1(SS) Chris A. Mileski  
ET2(SS) Alberto R. Montemayor  
MM1(SS) Andrew J. Napoli  
ET2(SS) Joshua J. Obregon  
MM2(SS) Patrick A. Palmer  
ET3(SS) Brandon R. Payne  
MM1(SS) David A. Pierce  
ITSSN(SU) Danny L. Pittman  
ET3(SS) Alejandro A. Prado  
STS3(SS) Nicholas J. Price  
YN2(SS/DV) Benjamin R. Primmer  
ET2(SU) William A. Proudfoot  
MM2(SS) Elias J. Ramirez  
EM2(SS) Tyler B. Reaves  
MM1(SS) Marcus A. Rios  
YN1(SS) Reginald J. Ritchie  
MM2(SS) Terrence D. Robinson  
FTSN(SS) Cesar Roman  
MM1(SS) Jamie A. Rook  
MM3(SS) Jarred M. Sadler  
FT1(SS) Domingo I. Sanchez  
MM1(SS) Anthony R. Sarti  
ET1(SS) Jorden C. Saunders  
LSSN(SS) David C. Schafer  
MM1(SS) Travis A. Schuelka  
MM2(SS) Erich T. Simpson  
STS3(SS) Samuel S. Starnes  
ET3(SS) Kyle R. Steadman  
HM1(SS/FMF) Michael C. Stewart  
STS1(SS) Daniel B. Stickney  
MM3(SS) Joseph A. Stokely  
ET2(SS) Herbert Tennant  
MM3(SU) Payton D. Teter  
MM2(SS) Frederick J. Tucker  
MM3(SS) Adrian A. Vargas  
ET2(SS) Bradley R. Vigor  
MM3(SS) David A. Ward  
ET3(SU) Cecil A. Waters  
MM2(SS) Joe D. Watson  
STS3(SS) Jullian T. Watson  
MM2(SS) Patrick C. Whalen  
ET1(SS) Daniel L. Whayland  
STS1(SS) Jonathan P. Whitney  
EM1(SS/DV) Alfred B. Whittington  
ET3(SS) Jeffrey M. Wilhalme  
ET2(SS) Donald G. Wilson  
MM3(SS) Benjamin S. Wiltrot  
ET1(SS) Justin W. Wiscons  
STSSN(SU) Logan K. Woods

## OFFICIAL EMBLEM

One of the many traditions associated with men of war throughout time has been the use of a unique emblem to identify the ship. During the initial phases of new construction, the NORFOLK held a competition to select the official emblem. Over 90 entries were submitted by the ship's company and the young men and women of the City of Norfolk school system. In August of 1982, the official emblem was selected and approved. The winning entry was submitted by John Pollock, a senior at Maury High School in Norfolk, and was unveiled at a ceremony during the City of Norfolk's Tri-Centennial Celebration.



***“VI PER CONCORDIAM”***

**“Strength through Unity”**

USS NORFOLK (SSN 714) is the United States Navy's 133rd nuclear powered submarine and 89th of the attack submarine fleet. She is the 24th Los Angeles Class nuclear powered fast attack submarine to be delivered to the Navy.

USS NORFOLK began her waterborne career on 31 October 1981 when she was launched in Newport News, Virginia. USS NORFOLK was christened by Mrs. Jane Dalton Weinberger, the wife of the Honorable Casper W. Weinberger, the Secretary of Defense.

USS NORFOLK was commissioned on 21 May 1983 by Secretary of Defense Casper Weinberger in her namesake homeport of Norfolk.

USS NORFOLK brings to the fleet virtually unlimited endurance in her nuclear propulsion plant, the most advanced sonar and fire control systems on board submarines today, and an impressive underwater weapons launch system capable of firing MK-48 ADCAP torpedoes and Tomahawk cruise missiles.

Capable of sustained high-speed operations in direct support of the carrier task forces of the United States Navy, as well as independent operations of critical importance to national security, USS NORFOLK's crew of 17 Officers and 130 Enlisted men have received extensive training and experience in the complex ship control systems and employment of the sophisticated sensors and weapons systems onboard.

## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Awarded: February 20, 1976**

**Keel laid: August 1, 1979**

**Launched: October 31, 1981**

**Commissioned: May 21, 1983**

**Builder: Newport News Shipbuilding, Newport News, VA**

**Propulsion system: One nuclear reactor**

**Length: 360 feet**

**Beam: 33 feet**

**Draft: 32 feet**

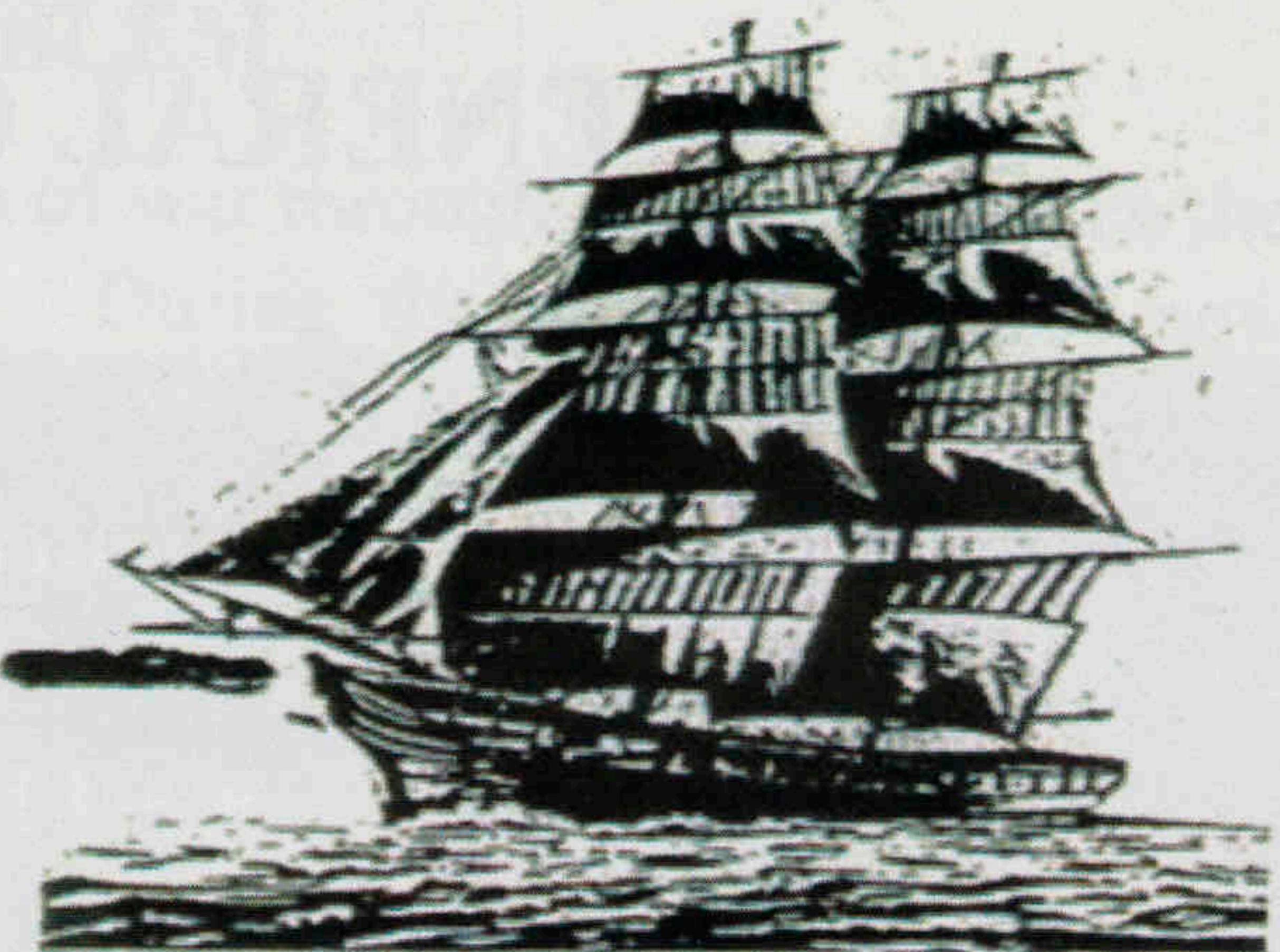
**Displacement: (Submerged) 6,900 tons**

**Armament: Four 21inch torpedo tubes for Mk-48  
torpedoes and Tomahawk missiles**

**Cost: Approx. \$900 million**

**Homeport: Norfolk, VA**


**Crew: 17 Officers, 130 Enlisted**

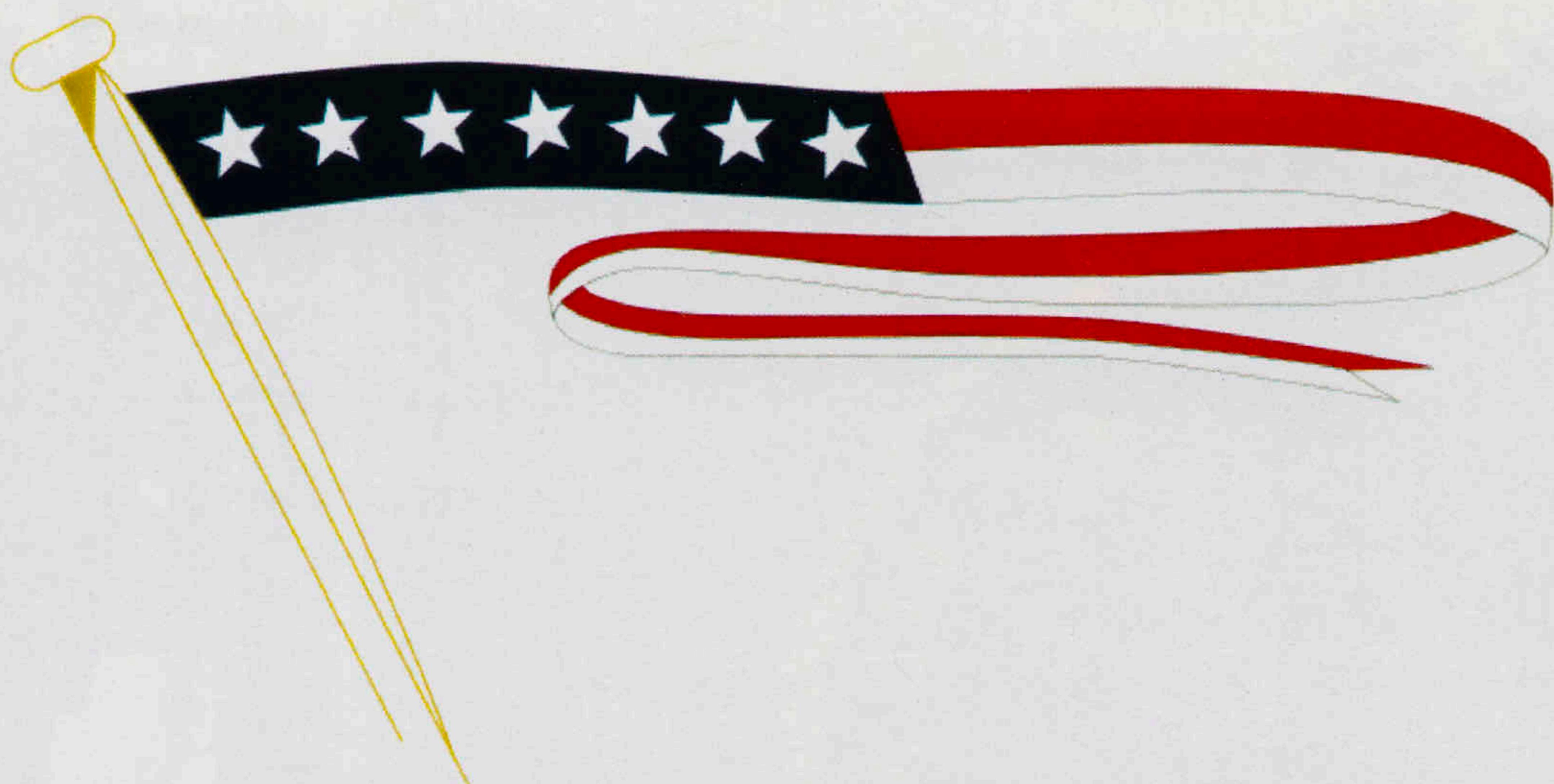


## THE PAST SHIPS

The nuclear powered fast attack submarine USS NORFOLK (SSN 714) is the third naval vessel to be named after the City of Norfolk, Virginia. The first NORFOLK was a brigantine built by the City of Norfolk during hostilities with France in 1798. Captain Thomas Williams was appointed Commanding Officer and reported NORFOLK ready for sea on 9 September 1798. On 25 October 1798, the NORFOLK and two other vessels sailed from the port of Hampton Roads for the West Indies. Their purpose was to destroy French armed vessels and protect American maritime commerce. The vessel and her crew evaded capture by the French Navy and recaptured a small American vessel. Shortly thereafter, NORFOLK put in at Antigua and continued to sail near St. Kitts. In 1799, NORFOLK escorted several vessels to Philadelphia. After one last patrol on Santo Domingo station in which she captured a small sloop, NORFOLK was ordered to Baltimore where she was decommissioned and sold in November 1800.

The second NORFOLK (DL-1) was a submarine hunter killer ship and was the first major warship built after World War II. Her keel was laid on 1 September 1949, she was launched on 29 December 1951, and she was commissioned on 4 March 1953. She was designed to carry the latest radar, sonar, and weapons control systems. As a large destroyer designed on a light cruiser hull, she could carry a greater variety of detection equipment than the true destroyer and was much better suited for operations in all weather conditions. After her Caribbean shakedown cruises, she was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet for Destroyer Flotillas 2, 4, and 6. Between 1961 and 1967, NORFOLK served as the flagship of Commander, South Atlantic Forces during the UNITAS cruises around South America, where she performed Anti-Submarine Warfare training exercises with Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil. In 1968, NORFOLK was assigned duties as flagship for Commander, Middle East Forces. In October 1968, she returned to Norfolk where she was decommissioned on 15 January 1970.





## 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 at 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 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 seven white stars and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly

## The Submariners Prayer

*Almighty, everlasting God, the Protector of all those who put their trust in Thee: hear our prayers in behalf of Thy servants who sail their vessels beneath the seas.*

*We beseech Thee to keep in Thy sustaining care all who are in submarines, that they be delivered from the hidden dangers of the deep.*

*Grant them courage, and a devotion to fulfill their duties, that they may better serve Thee and their native land.*

*Though acquainted with the depths of the ocean, deliver them from the depths of despair and the dark hours of the absence of friendliness and grant them a good ship's spirit.*

*Bless all their kindred and loved ones from whom they are separated.*

*When they surface their ships, may they praise Thee for Thou art there as well as in the deep.*

*Fill them with Thy Spirit and they may be sure in their reckonings, unwavering in duty, high in purpose, and upholding the honor of their nation.*

*Amen.*



USS NORFOLK (SSN 714)  
arrives Diego Garcia 27 July 2012