

WELCOME ABOARD



USS TUNNY
(APSS 282)



As Commanding Officer, I am happy to welcome you aboard this submarine, on behalf of her officers and men.

To her crew, TUNNY is more than a ship; she is a way of life. We are at once proud of TUNNY's past accomplishment, confident in her future abilities, and keenly aware of the responsibilities given us.

Our permanent assignment to the United States Seventh Fleet involves a busy schedule; long hours of work, and meticulous attention to detail by every officer and enlisted man. In keeping with submarine tradition, we welcome the challenges presented to us, and are proud of the small part we on TUNNY play protecting the sovereignty of free nations.

Closely aligned with this demanding assignment are rich and rewarding experiences that will remain firmly etched in our memories. Our people-to-people program throughout East Asia and Southeast Asia illustrates our purpose: the promotion of good will and understanding between the United States and other nations. In execution of this task our port visits have left indelible impressions on each of us.

We are indeed happy to have you visit us. Welcome aboard!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. F. Tate".

J. F. TATE
Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

USS TUNNY

During nearly twenty-six years of service TUNNY has played three important roles in the **defense** of the United States. She has served as a fleet type submarine (SS), a Regulus guided missile submarine (SSG), and since 1966 as an unconventional warfare submarine (APSS). Today TUNNY has the distinction of being the oldest combatant submarine in the U.S. Submarine Force. Throughout many proud years TUNNY traditionally has maintained a prominent place on the front lines of defense.

TUNNY was built at Mare Island, California, and commissioned on 1 September 1942. During WWII TUNNY made nine war patrols. On these patrols TUNNY saw action in the South China Sea, Wake Island, Truk and Eniwetok Islands, Palau Island, the Marianas Islands, and the Sea of Japan. TUNNY received the Presidential Unit Citation for her second war patrol.

After the war TUNNY was decommissioned and joined the Reserve Fleet at Mare Island, California on 12 February 1946. On 8 March 1953 she was reactivated and converted to an SSG, becoming one of the first submarines to carry guided missiles. In this conversion she gained the hangar aft of her sail which characterized the converted Regulus Missile boats. Between 1953 and 1957 TUNNY participated in the development of the Regulus Weapons System. On 15 July 1953 TUNNY successfully launched the first Regulus Missiles fired from a submarine.

TUNNY reported to Pearl Harbor in 1957 and commenced eight years of grueling regulus missile deterrent patrols in the Pacific. During this period she made 11 patrols. For meritorious services rendered while conducting deterrent patrols, TUNNY received four COMSUBPAC Unit Citations and one CINCPACFLT Unit Commendation.

The Regulus Weapons System was phased out of the fleet in May 1965, and TUNNY was redesignated SS. She spent the remainder of the year in Pearl Harbor. This period of relative inactivity was short-lived and in January 1966 she proceeded to Bremerton Naval Shipyard for conversion which would enable her to specialize in unconventional warfare operations. The missile control equipment was removed, and the hangar was converted into a troop berthing compartment.

In August 1966, TUNNY made the long transit across the Pacific to the U.S. Naval Base, Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines. TUNNY arrived in Subic Bay on 1 September 1966 which then became her homeport. TUNNY is the only U.S. Submarine permanently stationed outside the United States. TUNNY was designated as APSS on arrival thus becoming one of the more unique submarines in the force. She is one of only two submarines with the APSS designation. TUNNY joined Submarine Flotilla SEVEN as the flagship of Commander Submarine Flotilla SEVEN.

TUNNY's current assignments include mission in support of U.S. Seventh Fleet unconventional warfare operations in Southeast Asia. During the fall of 1966 TUNNY trained for the tasks ahead, and developed and perfected APSS tactics. Since February 1967, TUNNY has completed numerous mission in South Viet Nam. She has provided services to the Philippine Navy and training to the Army of the Republic of China.

Since her arrival in WESTPAC TUNNY has visited Keelung, Taiwan; Buckner Bay, Okinawa; Yokosuka, Japan, Hong Kong, B.C.C.; and Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.



USS TUNNY
(APSS 282)

USS TUNNY (APSS 282) at sea, viewed through a circular porthole. The ship is a large transport vessel with a prominent superstructure. The sea is choppy with whitecaps. A vertical scale of horizontal lines is visible on the left side of the porthole frame. The text 'USS TUNNY (APSS 282)' is printed in white at the bottom of the circular image.