

USS PAMPANITO

SS 383



World War II
Fleet Submarine



Fisherman's Wharf
San Francisco, California

History of USS Pampanito

USS Pampanito (SS 383) was built by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire being commissioned on November 6, 1943. She then began her illustrious wartime contribution resulting in six war patrols in the Pacific. During these patrols, Pampanito is credited with sinking five enemy vessels representing 27,288 tons of shipping.

While on one of these wartime patrols, Pampanito was called upon to assist in rescuing 73 of the 2,218 Australian and British POWs who were aboard the Japanese vessels *Kachidoki Maru* and *Rakuyo Maru*. These vessels were sunk by Pampanito and another American submarine, the USS Sealion, operating in the same wolf pack as Pampanito which was called *Ben's Busters*. The Japanese were transporting these POWs to Japan to use as slave laborers to further their war effort.

After the war ended, Pampanito was decommissioned on December 15, 1945 at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California and placed in the Reserve Submarine Fleet after completion of preservation activities. She was withdrawn from the Reserve Fleet and re-commissioned SS 383 during April of 1960 and prepared for use as a training submarine by the active naval reserve. Pampanito served in a training capacity for a period of eleven years.

Pampanito was acquired by the Maritime Museum Association in 1976, and taken to Stockton, California where she was modified for public display. Pampanito made the trip from Stockton to San Francisco on March 11, 1982 where she was berthed at Pier 45, and opened for public visits on March 15, 1982.



Pampanito crew during a "re-fit" period between war patrols.



Cdr. Paul E. "Pete" Summers, Captain of the Pampanito during her wartime career.

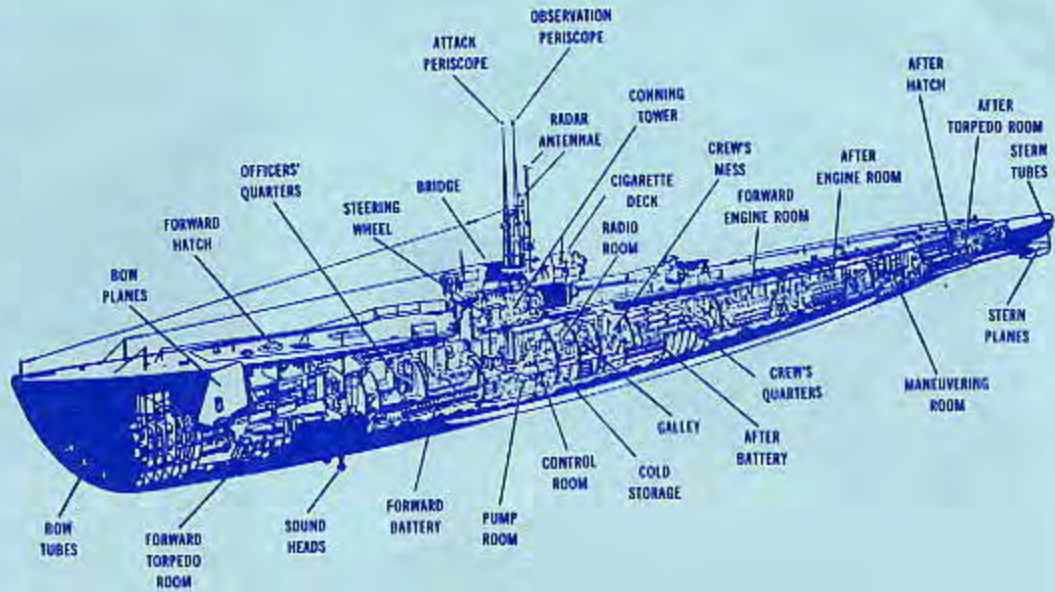


Crew members in after torpedo room during World War II.

Anatomy of USS Pampanito

Statistics

Length 311'8"
Beam 27'3½"
Draft 15'
Displacement 1500 Tons
Max Speed: Surfaced 20.5 Knots
 Submerged.. 9.5 Knots
Test Depth..... 600 feet
Armament..... 24 Torpedoes
 4" 50 mm Deck Gun
 2 — 20 mm Guns
Normal Complement 69 Men
 8 Officers
Fuel Capacity 118,000 Gallons
Cruising Radius..... 22,000 Miles





Pictured above is the submarine tender USS Holland, typical of the type of support vessel necessary to keep Pampanito and her sister subs operational during World War II.

PAMPANITO is open to the public every day from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Admission prices are: Adult, \$3.00, Junior (from 12 to 18) \$2.00 and Children and Senior (over 65), \$1.00. The vessel is berthed at Pier 45, Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco. There are several parking lots and garages in the immediate vicinity.

Please address inquiries to: The National Maritime Museum Association, 680 Beach Street, Suite 330, San Francisco, CA 94109. Telephone: (415) 673-0700.
