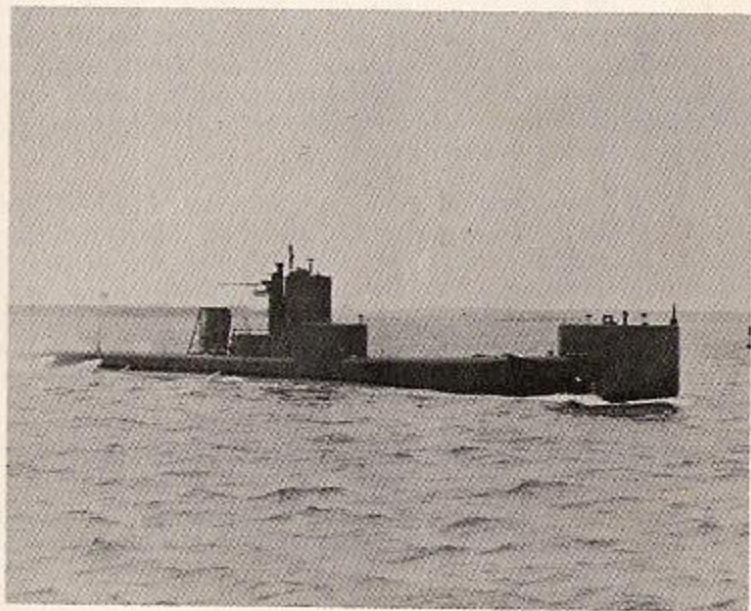


# WELCOME ABOARD



**USS TIGRONE AGSS-419**

## SHIP'S HISTORY



The keel of the USS TIGRONE was laid on May 8, 1944 at the Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, N. H. She was launched on July 20, 1944 and sponsored by Mrs. Charles F. Grisham. TIGRONE was commissioned on October 25, 1944 under the command of CDR Hiram Cassady, USN

During her initial training period off the New England coast, TIGRONE detected and shadowed a German U-Boat which was attempting to land spies in the United States. Her timely reporting of the contact led to the immediate capture of the spies when they were landed on Long Island.

Upon completion of trials and training, TIGRONE proceeded to the Pacific, reporting to Commander Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet in December 1944. She made two war patrols, the second of which earned the Submarine Combat Insignia for her officers and crew. In five days she rescued 29 aviators, establishing an all-time record. The survivors were taken to Iwo Jima, making TIGRONE the first American submarine to enter that Harbor.

V-J Day found TIGRONE in Tokyo Bay participating in the surrender ceremonies. She returned to the United States and reported to New London, Conn. for duty where she was assigned as a training submarine for prospective commanding officers.

Decommissioned in 1946, TIGRONE was later converted to a radar picket submarine and recommissioned in 1948. She was fitted with powerful radars and other electronic devices for long range air defense. A snorkel was provided, enabling her to remain submerged for long periods.

TIGRONE was then ordered to Submarine Division Sixty-Two in Norfolk, Va., where she engaged in the evaluation of her new equipment and in development of new techniques for long range air defense. From 1948 to 1957 TIGRONE steamed some

220,000 miles, deploying to such areas as the Caribbean and the Mediterranean.

TIGRONE was again deactivated in October 1957 and placed in the Reserve Fleet at Philadelphia. She was recommissioned on March 10, 1962 at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard where she underwent overhaul and conversion.

In April 1963 TIGRONE deployed to the Mediterranean Sea returning to New London in August 1963 after visiting many interesting ports of call ranging from Ireland to Greece.

On December 1, 1963 TIGRONE was reclassified as an AGSS. An AGSS is a submarine which has a mission of providing services for other submarines and training submarine personnel.

TIGRONE entered the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in January 1964 where experimental sonar equipment was added and minor repairs to the ship were made. In June 1964 TIGRONE was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" award for overall operational and administrative excellence.

TIGRONE conducted operations in the Western Atlantic Ocean prior to returning to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in February 1965 and again in December 1968. Upon completion of a battery renewal in January 1970 and additional Sonar equipment outfitting, TIGRONE recommenced sonar operations for Naval Undersea Systems Center, New London, Connecticut, and services to COMSUBLANT and in June was again awarded the Battle Efficiency "E".

In February 1972 TIGRONE deployed on a Joint U.S.-U.K. oceanographic operation in the Eastern Atlantic with HMS GRAMPUS.

TIGRONE entered the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in June 1972 for a regular overhaul, returning to her homeport at Groton, Connecticut in December 1972 where she resumed sonar operations as a member of Submarine Squadron TWO. TIGRONE has completed two successful SPRINGBOARD operations in 1973 and 1974 since returning from overhaul.



### **LCDR JAMES W. PHILBRICK, USN**

A native of Boston, Massachusetts, LCDR PHILBRICK received his commission upon graduation for the U. S. Naval Academy in 1960. His first tour of duty was aboard USS HANSON (DDR832).

In January 1962, LCDR PHILBRICK reported to Naval Submarine School and upon graduation was assigned to USS TIGRONE (SS419), with subsequent tours is USS QUILLBACK (SS424) and as Executive Officer in USS MARLIN (SST2). LCDR PHILBRICK then reported for duty at the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Upon detachment, LCDR PHILBRICK reported to USS GUDGEON (SS567), and then to USS JALLAO (SS368) as Executive Officer. In 1973 he graduated from Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island and obtained his Master's Degree in International Affairs from the George Washington University. Prior to reporting to USS TIGRONE (AGSS419) as Commanding Officer, LCDR PHILBRICK served as Director, Allied Training Department at the Naval Submarine School.

LCDR PHILBRICK and his wife Beverly reside with their son, Will, in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.