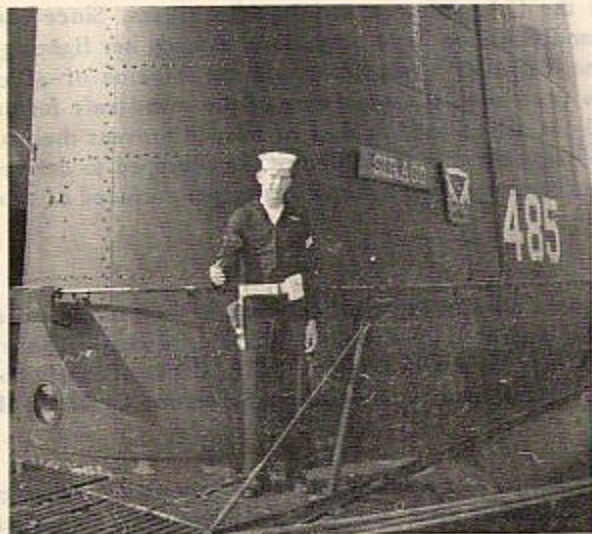


WELCOME ABOARD



USS Sirago (SS-485)

Submarine Squadron Six

US Atlantic Fleet

WELCOME ABOARD.....It is with great pleasure that the officers and crew of U.S.S. SIRAGO (SS-485) welcome you aboard on behalf of Vice Admiral Arnold F. Schade Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. We welcome this opportunity to show you SIRAGO and to give you a short view into the life of a submarine.

SIRAGO is typical of the many diesel-electric submarines serving throughout the U.S. Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. Since commissioning many modifications have been made to keep her fighting capabilities current. SIRAGO's mission as is the mission of all our attack submarines is to keep the sea lanes of the world safe for use of ourselves and our allies and, in time of war, to prevent their use by the enemy. To carry out this task SIRAGO is equipped to deliver some of our most modern torpedoes against any target surfaced or submerged.

SIRAGO has a crew of eight officers and seventy-three enlisted men. Each man is highly trained before reporting aboard. These men are among the finest sailors in the Navy. SIRAGO is normally homeported in Norfolk, Virginia and is assigned to Submarine Squadron SIX.

While on board please ask any questions you desire. Your guide will do his best to answer them. However, he may not be able to answer all of your questions due to the classification of some equipment and capabilities.

I hope you will profit by your visit and leave SIRAGO with a better understanding of your Navy's Submarine Service.

F. R. TALBOT, Jr.
Commander, USN
Commanding Officer

HISTORY OF THE USS SIRAGO (SS-485)

The keel of the USS SIRAGO was laid on 4 January 1945 at the U.S. Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Sponsored by Mrs. L. Mendel Rivers SIRAGO was launched on 13 May 1945. On 13 August SIRAGO was commissioned with Commander F.J. Harlfinger in command. The SIRAGO was the last combatant vessel of the U.S. Navy to be commissioned prior to the cessation of hostilities in World War II.



SIRAGO is launched in August, 1945

Since commissioning SIRAGO has been on the Atlantic Coast of the United States. She was originally attached to Submarine Squadron Eight in New London, Connecticut from 1945 to 1949. During that period SIRAGO operated primarily in fleet exercises and traveled as far North as Newfoundland and as far South as Panama. In 1948 SIRAGO entered Philadelphia Naval Shipyard for conversion. She was fitted with a snorkel, streamlined, and converted to a Guppy II Type the last word, at that time, in high speed attack submarines. (GUPPY stands for "Greater Underwater Propulsion System")

After conversion SIRAGO joined Submarine Squadron Six in Norfolk, Virginia. Since becoming a unit of Squadron Six, her mission has primarily been the advancement of Anti-Submarine Warfare. SIRAGO has frequented the Caribbean Sea, the Northern Atlantic waters adjacent to Canada and has crossed the Atlantic four times.

In 1962 SIRAGO entered the Norfolk Naval shipyard for an extensive six month overhaul, which radically changed the internal and external appearances of the ship. Among the improvements were the installation of a fiberglass superstructure and sail, a new periscope, new air conditioning, a new weapons capability and electronic innovations.

In 1963-64 SIRAGO deployed to the Mediterranean-Middle-East Area. During this cruise she visited Karachi, Pakistan, Djibouti, French Somaliland, Valetta, Malta, Monaco, Barcelona, Spain and Lisbon, Portugal.

On returning SIRAGO joined Task Group ALPHA, a group composed of a carrier, destroyers, and submarines with the primary mission of developing tactics in anti-submarine warfare. In August 1964 SIRAGO journeyed with Task Group ALPHA to Quebec City, Canada.

In October 1964, it was back to the Med again for SIRAGO. Here she participated in Operation STEEL PIKE I and visited Rota, Spain, Malaga, Spain, Toulon, France, and Naples, Italy. In December 1964, SIRAGO returned to Norfolk.

In 1965 SIRAGO participated in local operations. She was attached to Task Group ALPHA several times and participated in Operation SPRINGBOARD in the Caribbean Sea.

In September 1965 SIRAGO entered the Norfolk Naval Shipyard for overhaul. In May 1966 SIRAGO rejoined the active submarines of Submarine Squadron Six. For the rest of the year SIRAGO participated in local operations followed by her participation in Atlantic Fleet Exercise 66 in December.

In early 1967 SIRAGO participated in Operation SPRINGBOARD and Exercise Clovehitch III, both in the Caribbean Sea.



Princess Grace visits SIRAGO in Monaco