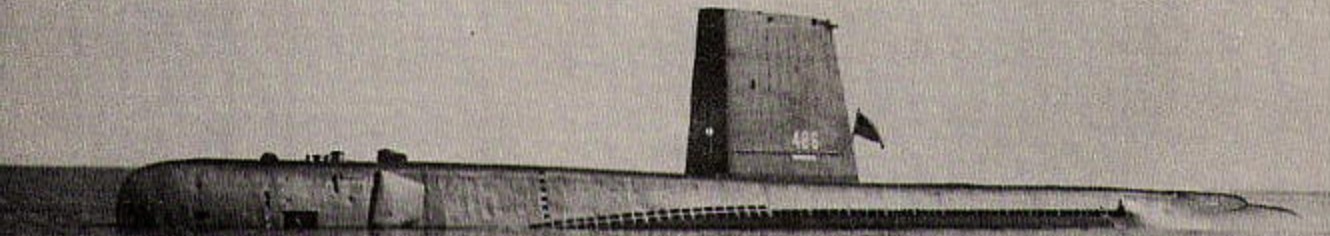


Welcome Aboard



USS POMODON (SS-486)



COMMANDER CHARLES K. STONEBACK, U. S. NAVY

Commander Charles K. STONEBACK, U. S. Navy, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was commissioned in 1955 through the Reserve Officer Candidate program.

After his graduation from Hamline University with a BA in Business Administration, he served on board USS REGULUS (AF-57) and the USS SAFEGUARD (ARS-25) prior to attending Submarine School.

Tours following submarine school for Commander STONEBACK included USS SEGUNDO (SS-398); Staff at CINCAFMED (NATO Staff on Malta); FBM Weapons Course at Dam Neck, Virginia; Commissioning Crew USS HENRY CLAY (SSBN-625) (GOLD); Special Projects representative at MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Executive Officer, USS BLUEGILL (AGSS-242); and Commanding Officer, USS ROCK (AGSS-274).

Commander STONEBACK is married to the former Averil Jean TOWNSEND of Tiverton, Devon, England. They reside in San Diego with their daughter Jillian.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

On behalf of the officers and crew of the POMODON, I wish to welcome you aboard our ship.

The POMODON keel was laid at the U.S. Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on 29 January 1945, and she was commissioned as a Fleet Type Submarine on 9 November 1945. After a "shakedown" cruise to Panama City the POMODON returned to New London, Connecticut, where she served as a training submarine for the U.S. Naval Submarine School until March 1946. At this time POMODON was ordered to Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California, for conversion to a "GUPPY" type submarine. The word GUPPY is derived from "Greater Underwater Propulsion Power" which is obtained from increased storage battery capacity combined with a streamlined superstructure. The POMODON became the first GUPPY in the Pacific Fleet.

At the outbreak of hostilities in Korea in July 1950 the POMODON was deployed to Pearl Harbor. In January 1951 POMODON was again modernized at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and in May 1951 she returned to service as the most modern and advanced GUPPY submarine in the Submarine Force.

POMODON departed San Diego in November 1951 for a six-month deployment with the United Nations Forces in the Far East. This tour was followed by operations in the San Diego Area. In February 1954 POMODON was again deployed to the Western Pacific for a six-month tour with the Naval Forces, Far East, based at Yokosuka, Japan. Following a period of training in the San Diego Area, the POMODON departed for her third tour in the Western Pacific in May 1956. May 1958 found POMODON again crossing the Pacific for a fourth deployment to the Far East. Upon returning to San Diego in October 1958 the POMODON engaged in training and local operations with other units of the Pacific Fleet to maintain the high state of readiness of all units of the Fleet.

A fifth deployment to the Far East was made in March 1960 to serve under the Commander Seventh Fleet as a member of those forces which are our first line of defense and to symbolize our readiness to maintain freedom for our country and her allies. The POMODON returned to San Diego in September 1960. On 28 November POMODON commenced a routine overhaul and modernization at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California. On 28 April 1961 POMODON completed overhaul and resumed duties with the U.S. Pacific Fleet as one of the Navy's most modern submarines. The remainder of 1961 was spent conducting operations in waters off Southern California. POMODON departed San Diego in February 1962 for a six-month deployment in Western Pacific waters as a unit of the Seventh Fleet.

Upon returning POMODON conducted local operations in waters off San Diego until January 1963. She then underwent interim overhaul repairs at San Francisco Naval Shipyard. POMODON returned to San Diego in April 1963. From April of 1963 until 1 January 1964 POMODON was engaged in local operations which included participation in the 1963 Seattle Sea Fair, two major submarine exercises and a Hunter Killer exercise. Her superior performance during the Hunter Killer exercise was the subject of a commendation from Commander Carrier Division 19.

In March of 1964 POMODON entered Mare Island Naval Shipyard for normal overhaul. After overhaul POMODON spent time giving local services and in January 1965 left for a six-month deployment in the Western Pacific, for which she was commended by letter from Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. Upon returning POMODON was awarded the Fire Control Efficiency "E" for Submarine Division FIFTY-TWO.

After a short dry docking period and participation in two fleet anti-submarine warfare exercises, POMODON left once again to join units of the Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific. While there, in July of 1966, POMODON was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" for Submarine Division FIFTY-TWO.

After successful completion of her Pacific tour POMODON returned to San Diego. In April of 1967 she entered Hunters Point Naval Shipyard for a normal overhaul. In October of 1967 she departed the shipyard for a post overhaul shakedown at Dabob Bay and Carr Inlet. In November 1967 she returned to San Diego, where local operations were conducted until leaving in March 1968 for an extended operation with units of the Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific. Several months later, in October 1969, after successfully completing her tour in WESTPAC, POMODON returned to the West Coast. She conducted local operations until in November 1969 when she again departed for the Western Pacific for an extended deployment. On 12 December, CDR Charles K. STONEBACK, USN, relieved CDR James E. JOBE, USN as Commanding Officer. The POMODON returned to San Diego on 8 May.

POMODON is 307 feet in length, displaces 1800 tons and carries a crew of 8 officers and 73 enlisted men.

We are proud of our ship and are pleased to welcome you on board. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have as every man on board is a highly trained volunteer who has been carefully selected for submarine duty.

Again, I wish to express my thanks for your interest in our ship, and I hope you will find your visit enjoyable.

C.K. STONEBACK
Commander, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer