

UNITED STATES SHIP

GRAMPUS

SS - 523



WELCOME ABOARD

COMMANDING OFFICER

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CDR CHAUNCEY F. HOFFMAN, USN

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

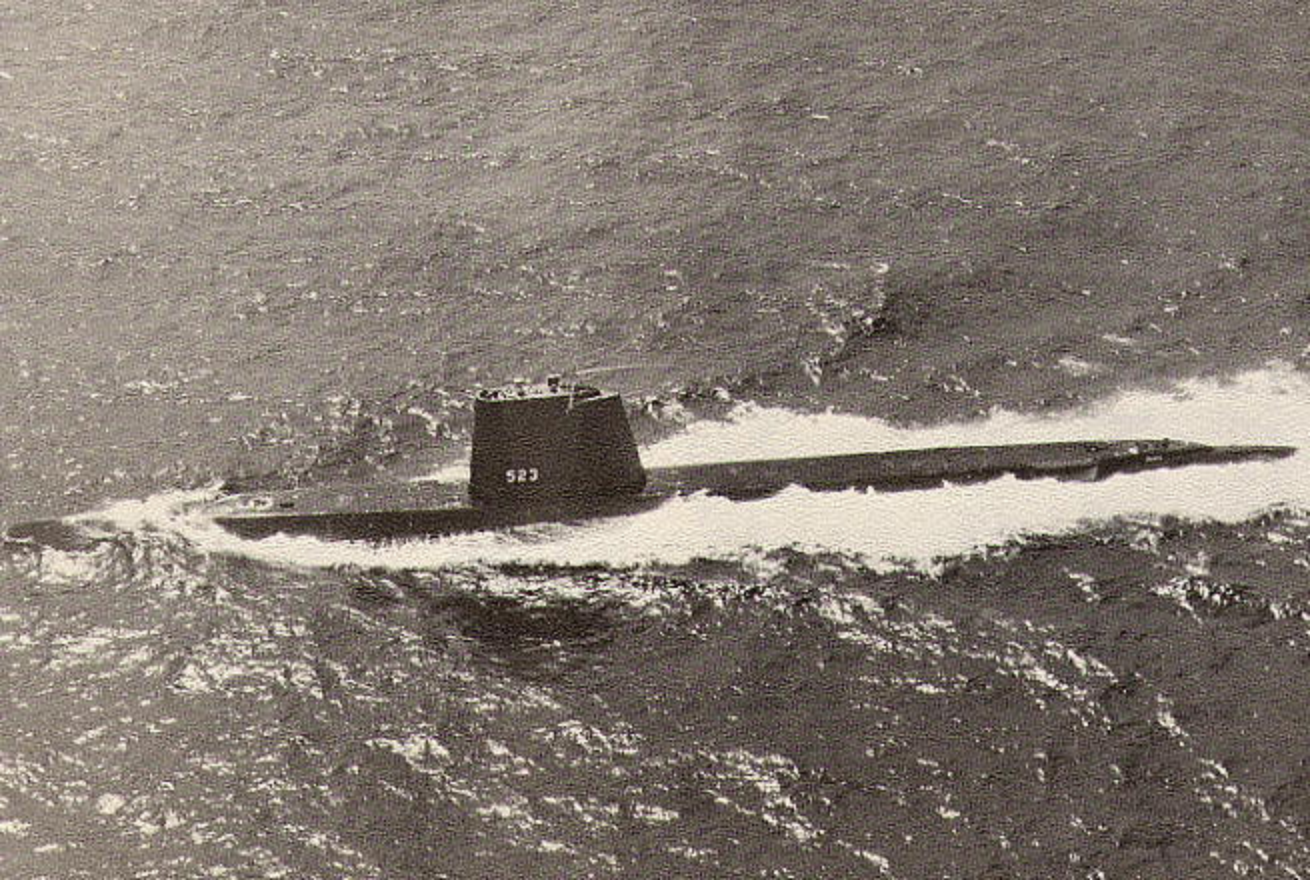
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LCDR R. W. RAMSAY USN

CHIEF OF THE BOAT

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RMC (SS) EMORY G. THAXTON, USN



HISTORY OF USS GRAMPUS

The submarine GRAMPUS was built in the Boston Naval Shipyard, Boston, Massachusetts. Her keel was laid in February 1944, but work stopped shortly after the end of World War II, and the uncompleted hull was towed to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine. Construction resumed upon return of the hull to Boston in 1948. GRAMPUS was christened and commissioned on the same date, October 26, 1949. Her sponsor was Mrs. Clark H. Woodward.

GRAMPUS, a submarine of the "Guppy" type, has as part of her modern installation the perfected snorkel breathing device which permits use of her diesel engines for cruising and battery charging while submerged. Prior to and during World War II it was necessary for submarines to remain on the surface while charging batteries. This sacrificed the submarine's primary advantage of invisibility. With the snorkel apparatus installed, a submarine may remain submerged and thus be less liable to detection while charging batteries or cruising on its diesel engines in enemy waters.

The name GRAMPUS is taken from the scientist's name for the killer whale, "grampus orca", a ferocious member of the dolphin family. The terror of every other inhabitant of the ocean, it commonly kills and eats the huge white whale, one of the largest creatures that swims.

Six Navy ships have borne the name GRAMPUS. In 1821, the 12-gun sloop of war GRAMPUS was launched as the country rebuilt its naval and merchant fleet after the War of 1812. She was lost at sea during a severe storm off the coast of South Carolina in 1843. The second GRAMPUS was a side-wheel steamer acquired during the War Between the States and stricken from the list of Naval Vessels in 1868. One of the Navy's earliest submarines, commissioned in 1903, was the third GRAMPUS. She was declared obsolete and expended as a target in 1922. The fourth GRAMPUS was a ferry which operated until 1930. The SS 207, a fleet type submarine built in 1941, was the fifth GRAMPUS. SS 207 was lost on her sixth war patrol during World War II. In five war patrols made before her fatal one, she sank six ships for a total of 45,500 tons; in addition, she damaged two more.

The present USS GRAMPUS (SS 523) with a complement of seventy – three enlisted men and eight officers is a unit of Submarine Division SIXTY – ONE and is attached to Submarine Squadron Six.

Since her commissioning GRAMPUS has given a variety of services to destroyers , aircraft and airships as well as participating in numerous fleet exercises in Caribbean, Atlantic and Pacific waters. She has served as an element of TASK GROUP ALFA, a modern warfare group composed of destroyers , submarines , and a carrier. Most recently GRAMPUS deployed on a five month circumnavigation of South America while a unit of TASK FORCE 36 engaged in the combined Navy Exercise UNITAS X.

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WELCOME ABOARD THE USS GRAMPUS (SS 523)

While you are topside on deck , notice the sleek lines and streamlining of the superstructure and bridge . This is to reduce water resistance at high speeds while submerged. The GRAMPUS is a snorkel – equipped submarine , as previously mentioned , and you can see the round dome of the head valve at the very top of the periscope shears , although the snorkel mast is presently housed. The ship is over 300 feet long , the size of a football field and 27 feet wide. She displaces 1850 tons .

During your inspection of the ship you will be conducted through the various watertight compartments by personnel of the crew . You will be assisted up and down ladders , but you are advised to proceed cautiously and watch your footing . Please do not touch any valves or switches during your tour .

FORWARD TORPEDO ROOM : * * * * *

This compartment is the farthest forward and houses six torpedo tubes . Notice also the officer's head and shower and the sonar equipment at the after end of the room . Going topside you pass through the Escape Trunk . In an emergency , personnel could don life jackets and leave the ship through this water – air lock .

FORWARD BATTERY COMPARTMENT:

In this area you are walking over the huge storage battery cells. In the upper level are the Captain's stateroom, the chief petty officer's quarters, the officer's stateroom, the officer's wardroom and pantry, and the ship's office. The officers eat the same food as the crew; it is merely brought forward and served from this small pantry.

CONTROL ROOM:

This compartment is the heart of the ship. The radio room, the communications center, is on the port side aft. Notice throughout the compartment the various switchboards, air, water, and oil manifolds and control stations. Here are the bow and stern plane wheels and indicators by which the Diving Officer can control the ship submerged. As you look about you, visualize what a finely trained, precisioned team it takes to man these stations-- each man qualified to do his special task in operating this complicated but masterfully designed submarine.

CONNING TOWER:

This is a separate small compartment directly over the control room. From here the periscopes and fire-control equipment are operated. The Captain and his fire-control party function here in conducting an approach on a target.

CREW'S DINETTE AND GALLEY:

This area of the after battery is the recreation and living space for the crew. It is the mess hall, library, game room, and writing room rolled into one. All the food for seventy-five enlisted men and ten officers is prepared in the efficiently arranged but compact galley. Submariners are well-fed individuals.

AFTER BATTERY LIVING SPACES:

Beneath this deck also will be found the storage battery cells. In addition to the crew's berths, the refrigeration spaces occupy the upper level. Located aft are the crew's heads, showers, and washroom area.

FORWARD ENGINE ROOM : * * * * *

This compartment houses two of the ship's four diesel engine and generator combinations; each engine is 1600 horsepower and each generator 1100 KW. The ship's ventilation blowers are mounted in the overhead. At the forward bulkhead are the two distilling plants, each capable of making 1000 gallons of fresh water per day.

AFTER ENGINE ROOM : * * * * *

Here are located the other two diesel engine and generator combinations. In the lower level are two eleven ton air conditioning plants.

MANEUVERING ROOM : * * * * *

This compartment is the electrical nerve center of the ship. Power from stowage batteries or diesel - driven generators is distributed from this station to the four main motors, which are coupled directly to the propeller shafts. Notice the controller stands with their numerous levers, meters, and indicators.

AFTER TORPEDO ROOM: * * * * *

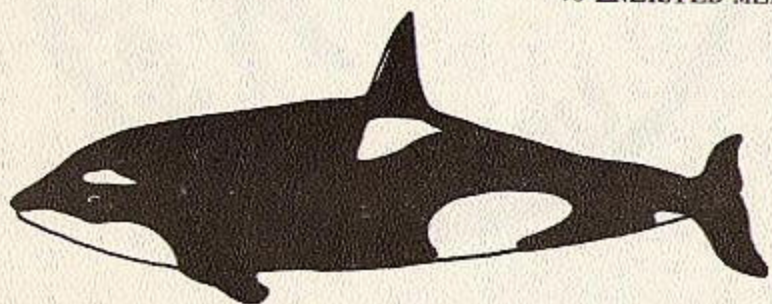
This is the after-most compartment in the ship. You see that there are four torpedo tubes in the rear of the space.

You have now completed your below decks tour and emerged into the fresh air and sunshine. During wartime patrols, many men do not even see daylight for periods of six to eight weeks.

We have enjoyed having you visit our ship. We hope you have found interesting your tour of one of the submarines of the Submarine Force, United States Atlantic Fleet.

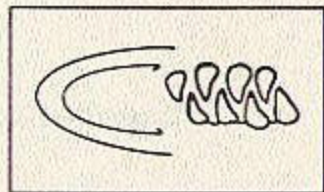
SHIP CHARACTERISTICS

OVERALL LENGTH	306 feet
MAXIMUM BEAM	27 feet
ARMAMENT	6 torpedo tubes forward 4 torpedo tubes aft
PROPULSION	Diesel Electric with Fairbanks - Morse 1600 horsepower diesel eng- ines, 1100 KW West- inghouse generators and 1375 horsepower Westinghouse motors.
COMPLEMENT	8 OFFICERS 73 ENLISTED MEN



GRAMPUS ORCA

KILLER WHALE



The killer whale has a reputation of being a ruthless and ferocious beast. It is found in all oceans and seas, tropical and polar alike. The killer whale is characterized by a bluntly rounded snout, a high black top fin, a white patch just behind and above the eye, and the striking contrast of the jet black color of the head and back with the snowy white underparts. Killer whales hunt in packs of 3 to 40 individuals preying on other warm blooded marine animals. They are fast swimmers will attack anything that swims, and have been known to come up under ice flows and knock seals and people into the water.



Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet

Submarine Flotilla Six

Submarine Squadron Six

Submarine Division Sixty-One