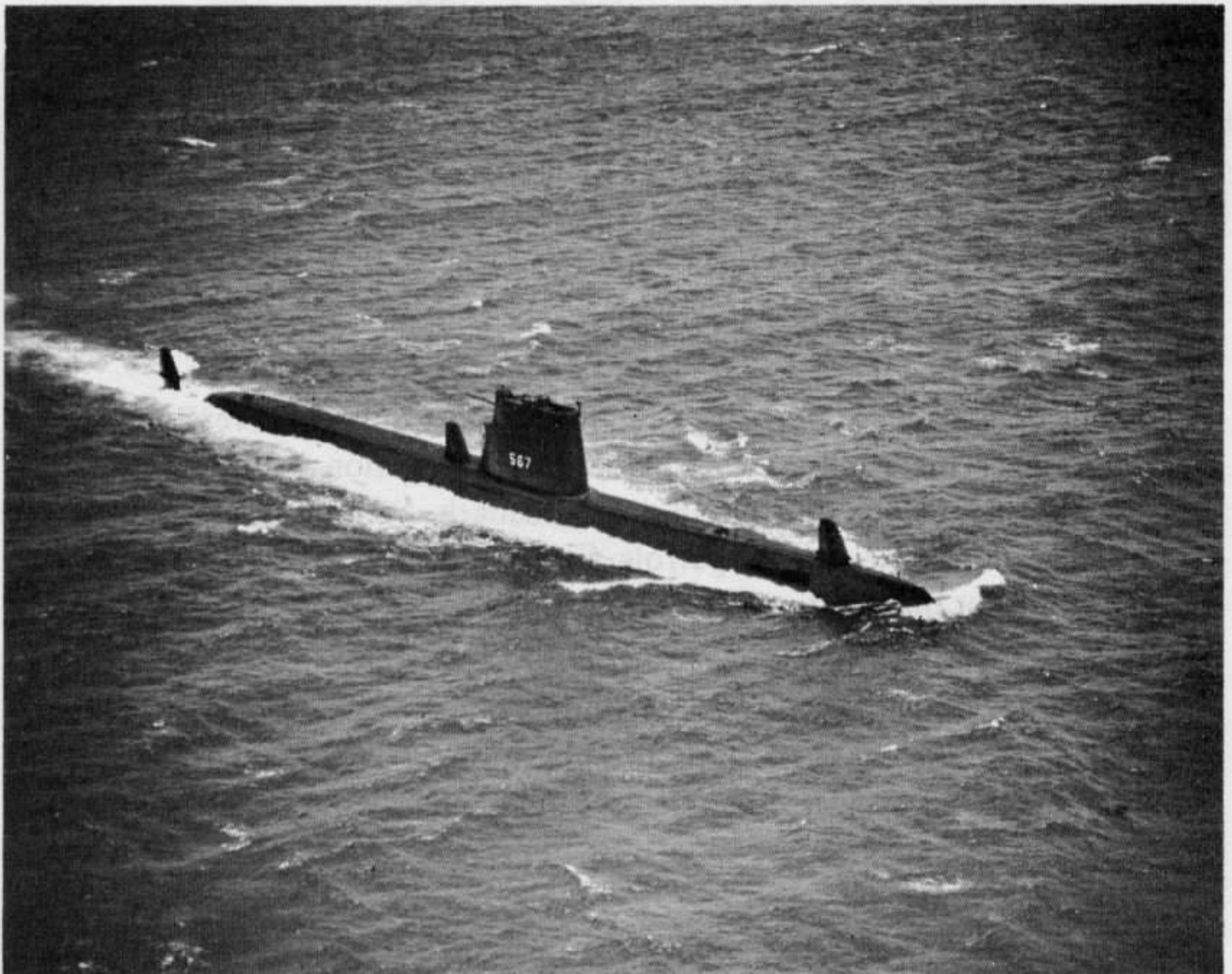


WELCOME ABOARD



USS GUDGEON (SS 567)



Welcome aboard . . . It is with great pleasure that the officers and crew of the Gudgeon welcome you aboard on behalf of the Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. It is hoped that you will enjoy your visit aboard this submarine which is an intricate part of our nation's defense team.

The ship you are visiting today is the second submarine to bear the name Gudgeon.

The first Gudgeon (SS 211) was commissioned at Mare Island Naval Shipyard on 21 April 1941. She soon began proving the mettle of her officers and crew. On 27 January 1942 she sank a Japanese "I" Class submarine north of Midway Island. This event marked Gudgeon as the first U.S. submarine to score a confirmed sinking of an enemy warship. Her Commanding Officer during her first three war patrols was Lieutenant Commander E. W. Grenfell, U.S. Navy. Later as Flag Officer, Admiral Grenfell commanded the Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and the U.S. Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet. To date, Admiral Grenfell is the only man to have commanded both submarine forces.

Gudgeon's life may have been relatively short but it was very active. She fought all over the Pacific Ocean. Gudgeon saw action in the South China Sea, Battle of Midway, the Philippines, Bismark Archipelago, and Mandate Areas. After her first eight war patrols, Gudgeon was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for outstanding heroism in action.

Gudgeon was lost during her twelfth war patrol early in 1944 north of the Marianas with all hands. Gudgeon's record is impressive. During her few short years in action she sank 12 ships totaling more than 70,000 tons. Her last Commanding Officer was Lieutenant Commander Robert A. Bonin, U.S. Navy.

The present Gudgeon was launched on 11 June 1952 at the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, Naval Shipyard. The ship was christened by Mrs. Robert A. Bonin, widow of Lieutenant Commander Bonin. Gudgeon was placed in commission on 21 November 1952. After completing builder's trials and a brief shakedown cruise in Atlantic waters, she joined the Pacific Fleet in July 1953 and has been based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, since then. Since joining the Pacific Fleet, Gudgeon's operating schedule has been very active. Some of her duties include extended deployments to the Western Pacific, training services, special projects, tactical developments and numerous fleet exercises. In 1958 Gudgeon became the first United States submarine to circumnavigate the globe.

USS Gudgeon (SS 567) is one of 12 high speed fast attack submarines designed and built subsequent to World War II.

Gudgeon can remain submerged for months at a time by periodically using the snorkel to provide air to run the diesel generator sets which replenish her storage batteries.

Although comprising but a small number of the Navy's ships and men, the Submarine Service is an essential element of our nation's first line of defense.

The Submarine Service boasts of a very high "esprit de corps." The officers and enlisted men who man our submarines are hand-picked volunteers. They are joined together by a common bond, symbolized by the "dolphins" – the insignia of a submariner.

Although only seventy years old, the history of the U.S. Navy's Submarine Service is dramatic and marked with valor. Our submarines sank more than 200 Japanese warships and 1750 Japanese merchant ships to account for more than 51% of all allied sinkings of Japanese ships. During World War II our Pacific Submarine Force comprised approximately 2% of our Navy.

Since the end of World War II, our submarine development has not remained static. In fact, the role of our submarine has greatly expanded, and greater roles are planned for them in the future.

Besides sinking enemy ships, our submarines of today are designed to launch the latest developed guided missiles against enemy ships, shores and installations; patrol our coast lines, hunt and kill enemy submarines; and carry troops. With our nuclear powered submarines, the versatility of our underwater fleet is unbounded.

The Commanding Officer hopes that you have profited by your visit and that you leave with a better understanding of your Navy's Submarine Service, which is on the alert day and night guarding America's shores and interests abroad.

Again, welcome aboard our boat. The officers and men of the USS Gudgeon (SS 567) hope your visit will be pleasant and enlightening.

Sylvan Setting for Sub Gudgeon Change-of-Command Ceremony

In a recent ceremony under the trees of Mare Island's Chapel Park, LCDR John M. Willsey as-

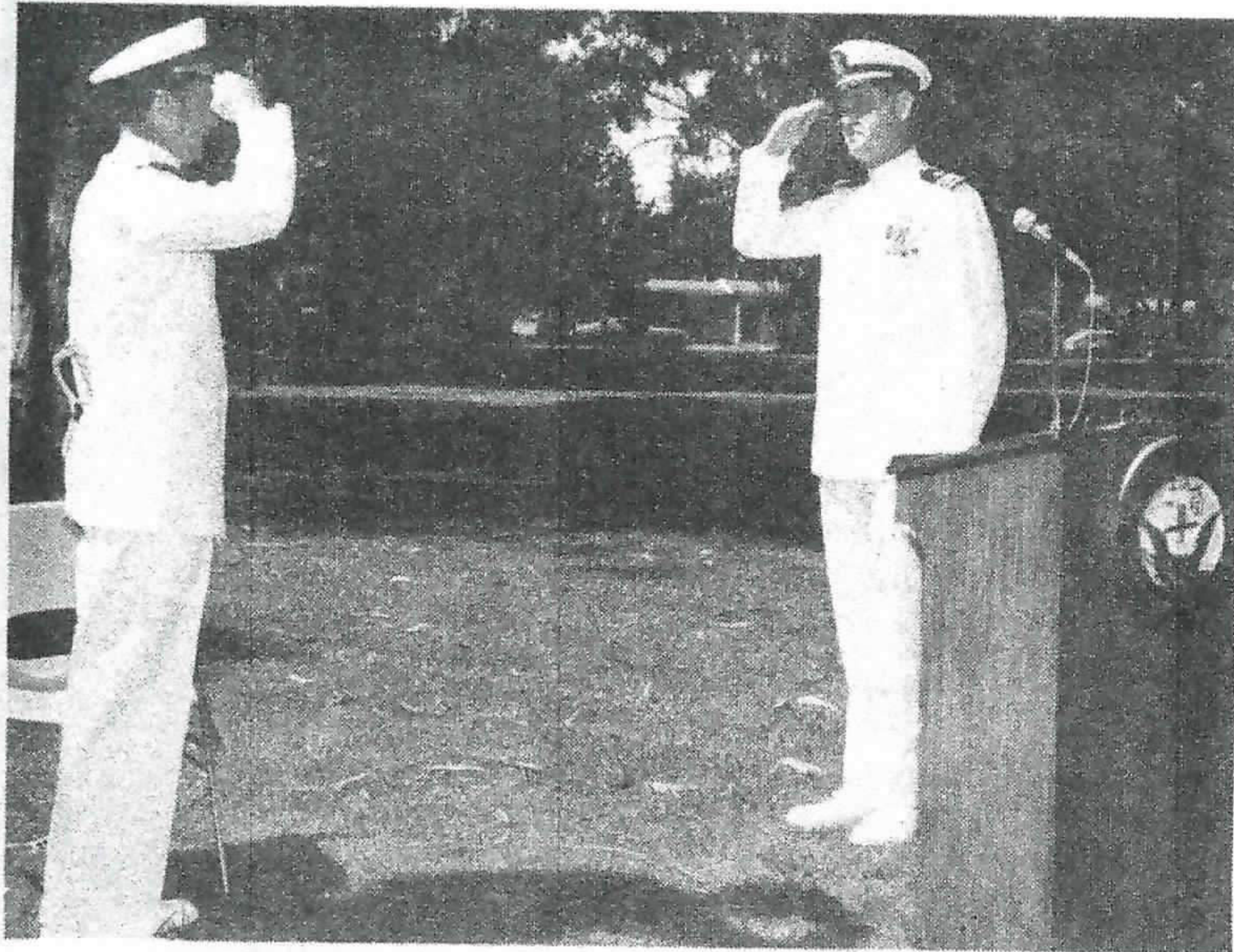
sumed command of the GUDGEON (SS 567), relieving CDR David F. Parrish. The departing skipper reports to Italy as a member of the staff of Commander, Sixth Fleet.

Commander Willsey, a 1960 graduate of Annapolis, reported here from the DARTER (SS 576) after serving as her Executive Officer since December 1971.

Following graduation from the Naval Academy, Willsey served aboard a destroyer until entering submarine school in 1962. Duty aboard the CUTLASS (SS 478) was followed by service on the staff of Commander Submarine Squadron Six.

In 1967 Willsey joined the BUGARA (SS 331) and served as Navigator and Operations Officer until returning to Annapolis in June '69 as an instructor in navigation.

His new command, GUDGEON, is midway through an extensive overhaul at the Shipyard, and will return to her San Diego homeport around the end of the year.



SALUTE —Highlight of the change-of-command ceremony in Mare Island's Chapel Park occurred as LCDR John M. Willsey (right) relieved CDR David F. Parrish of command of the submarine GUDGEON (SS 567). The submarine currently is being overhauled at the Shipyard.

Lt. Comdr. Willsey C.O. Of Gudgeon

By JAN STOCKSTILL
Times-Herald Staff Writer

Lt. Cdr. John M. Willsey, USN, assumed command of the USS Gudgeon, relieving Cdr. David F. Parrish, USN, at change of command ceremonies Friday at Mare Island's Chapel Park.

Opening remarks were made by Capt. A. J. Martin Atkins, USN, Commander Submarine Squadron Three, who praised both officers for distinguished achievements.

Captain Atkins noted that Cdr. Parrish had done a good job preparing the Gudgeon for her current Mare Island overhaul and mentioned his successful deployment to the Western Pacific.

He welcomed Lt. Cdr. Willsey back to Squadron Three.

Captain Atkins added that the Gudgeon "has a special part in my heart" inasmuch as he and the submarine entered the service at about the same time and he had been aboard her on her round the world cruise.

Before reading his orders Cdr. Parrish thanked wives of the crew for activities during the Gudgeon's sixth-month deployment to the Western Pacific.

REGRETS LEAVING

Cdr. Parrish stated that he regretted leaving at this point in the submarine's overhaul and envied Willsey his opportunity to command the Gudgeon and its efficient staff.

Orders were then read by Lt. Cdr. Willsey, who officially assumed command of the submarine.

Commander Parrish received a commission as an ensign in the Navy in 1958 and his first duty station was the USS Lansing, where he served as first lieutenant and CIC watch officer. He graduated from Submarine School in January, 1960, and received orders to the USS Cobbler, where he served as supply officer, weapons officer, and engineering officer.

this year, the Gudgeon will return to her homeport in San Diego for extensive training and then return to full service with the fleet.

The first Gudgeon was commissioned at Mare Island in April, 1941, and though she was lost during her twelfth war patrol she was the first U.S. submarine to score a confirmed sinking of an enemy warship.

The present Gudgeon was

launched in June, 1952, at Portsmouth, N.H. She joined the Pacific Fleet in July 1953, based at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and in 1958 was the first sub to circumnavigate the globe. In late August of 1971 the Gudgeon was relocated to serve with submarine unit in San Diego and has served there since as an active element in the power of Submarine Squadron Three.

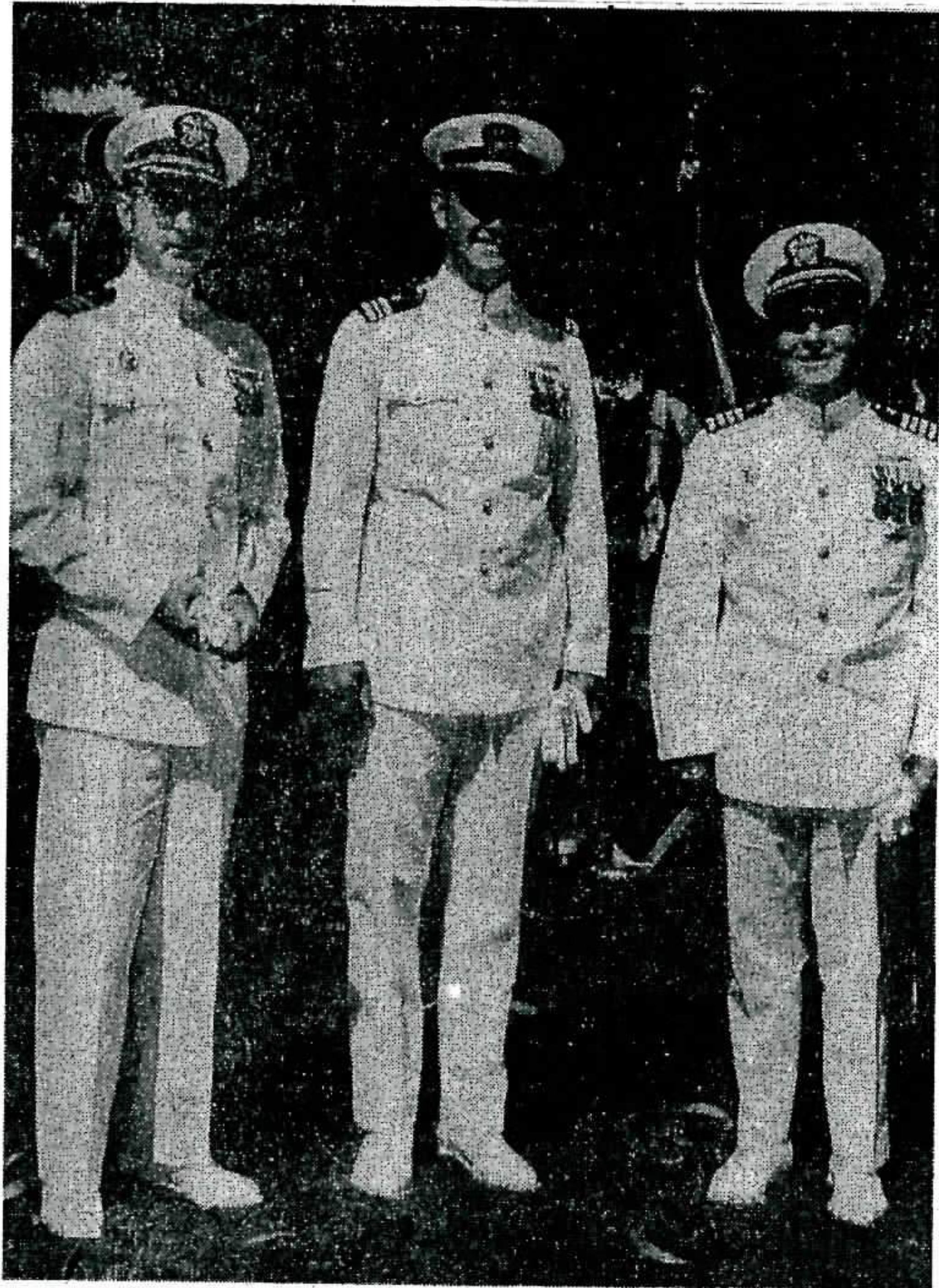
After completion of study at the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School at Monterey, he reported to the USS Blackfin to serve as engineer, operations officer, and navigator.

After a tour of duty as executive officer of the USS Bonefish in 1959, he attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Va. and assumed command of the Gudgeon in Sept., 1971.

Commander Parrish's next tour will be as a member of the Staff Commander, Sixth Fleet, and he and his wife and two children will make their home in Gaeta, Italy.

Lt. Cdr. Willsey graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1960 and served aboard the destroyer USS John R. Craig until entering U.S. Naval Submarine School at New London, Conn., in 1962.

His next duty was on the USS Cutlass followed by a two-year tour on the staff of Commander Submarine Squadron Six. Between April 1967 and June 1969, he served as executive officer of the USS Gudgeon.



Lt. Cdr. J. Michael Willsey, USN, center, assumed command of the submarine SS Gudgeon at brief ceremonies held yesterday morning at Chapel Park on Mare Island. He succeeds Cdr. David F. Parrish, USN, left, who heads to Gaeta,

Italy as a member of the Staff Commander Sixth Fleet. Speaker for the ceremony was Capt. A. J. Martin Atkins, USN right, Commander Submarine Squadron Three.—Times-Herald Photo.

