



“Praenuntius Futuri”

USS ALBACORE
AGSS 369

Keel Laid - 15 March, 1952

Launched - 1 August, 1953

Commissioned - 5 December, 1953

Built by the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard
Portsmouth, New Hampshire



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Welcome aboard the USS ALBACORE (AGSS 569) the world's fastest submarine and the only full scale model ship in the U.S. Navy. Our mission is to provide through scientific tests, data for future submarine construction.

ALBACORE IS THE FIRST SUBMARINE TO BE DESIGNED FOR optimum submerged speed and tactical characteristics; a design which has proven so successful it has been incorporated in all subsequent submarine construction.

This is the second ship to bear the name ALBACORE: THE first, the SS-218 had an outstanding record during WWII. On 7 November 1944 during her eleventh war patrol, under command of LCDR H. R. RIMMER, the SS-218 struck a mine while running submerged in enemy waters close to the coast of Japan.

It is interesting to note that the fish for which this ship is named is a well known member of the tuna family that frequently visits shallow waters close inshore, in much the same fashion as the SS-218 did on her last patrol. The record of the SS-218 provides a worthy tradition for the name ALBACORE.

Completion of the Phase III Conversion in August 1961 provided ALBACORE with its present configuration. Some of the more unusual systems you see are: The "X" stern (for increased controlability), the dorsal rudder (for use as an auxiliary rudder) and the dive brakes (for speed reduction).

In the fall of 1964 the ship completed her Phase IV Conversion. During this period, the ship received contra-rotating propellers, new and larger main-propulsion motors and a high capacity silver-zinc battery. As a result of this new installation ALBACORE again became the "WORLD'S FASTEST SUBMARINE."

In August 1967 the ship became a member of Submarine SQUADRON TWO.

STATISTICAL DATA:

Length -- 208 Feet
Width -- 27 Feet
Draft -- 22 Feet
Displacement -- 1840 Tons
Complement -- 5 Officers
51 Enlisted Men

COMPARTMENTS:

Forward Room: Upper Level - Crews Berthing
Lower Level - Auxiliary Machinery
Space

FORWARD BATTERY: Upper Level- Officer
Berthing, Wardroom, Radio
Lower Level - Battery

CONTROL ROOM: Upper Level - Periscope,
Navigation Plotting Area,
Ship's Control, Sonar Room
Lower Level - Pump Room

AFTER BATTERY: Upper Level - Gallery, Crew Messing
and Berthing Facilities
Lower Level - Battery, Chill
Box, Refrigerator

AFTER COMPARTMENT: Upper Level - Engine Rooms (2),
Electrical Control Cubicle,
Main Motors (2) Propulsion Shaft,
Hydraulic Plants, Steering/Diving
Operating Mechanism
Lower Level - Generators, Fuel oil
and Lubr Oil Tanks

ALBACORE's role in the Navy is unique. Many new concepts and theories originally tested onboard are now standard in the fleet. The extensive conversion already completed and those scheduled for the future enable ALBACORE to justify her motto "PRAENUNTIUS FUTURI", "FORERUNNER of the FUTURE."