

An aerial photograph of the USS Nautilus (SSN 571) at sea. The submarine is viewed from an elevated angle, showing its dark hull and the conning tower. The ship is moving through the water, leaving a white wake. The text is overlaid on the image in a serif font.

***Decommissioning
Ceremony***

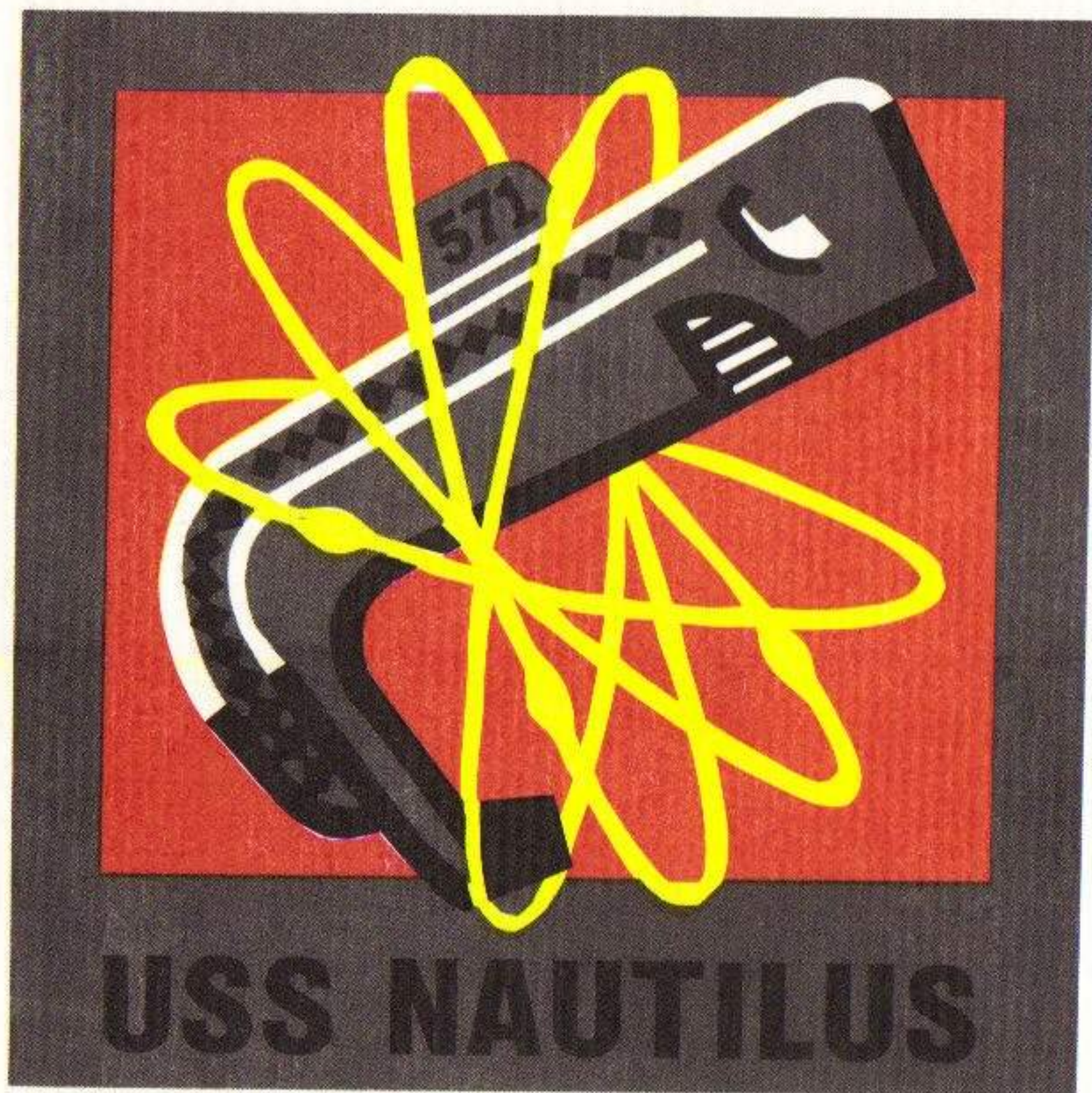
on board

**USS NAUTILUS
(SSN 571)**

***World's First
Nuclear Powered Ship***

**Mare Island
Naval Shipyard**

3 MARCH 1980



“Underway on Nuclear Power.”

—Cdr. Eugene P. Wilkinson

17 January 1955



“Nautilus 90 North.”

—Cdr. William R. Anderson

3 August 1958

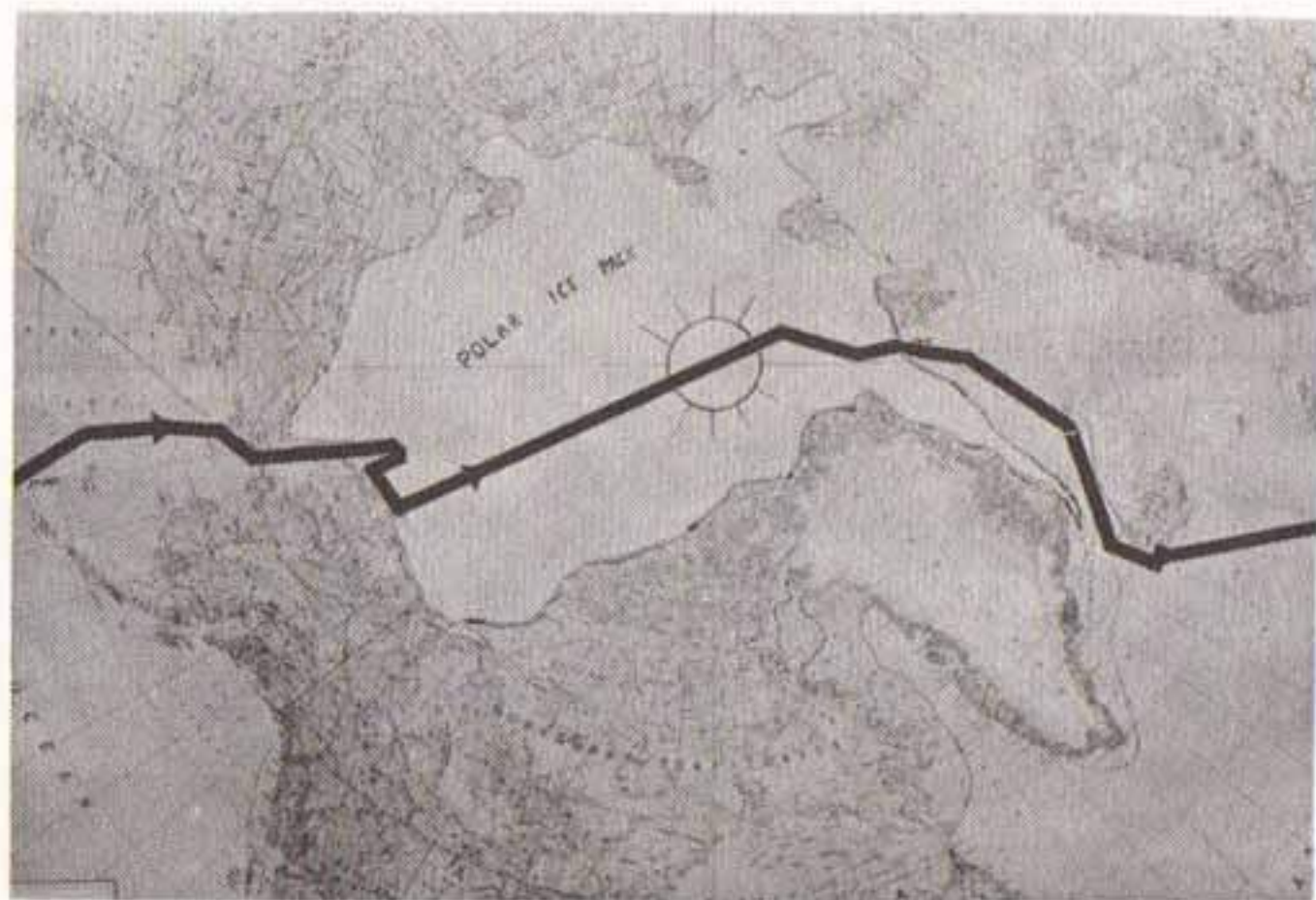
HISTORY OF USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571)

On June 14, 1952, President Harry S. TRUMAN chucked his initials on the keel of what was to become the world's first nuclear powered ship. Construction of NAUTILUS was made possible by the successful development of a nuclear propulsion plant by a group of scientists and engineers at the Naval Reactors Branch of the United States Atomic Energy Commission under the leadership of Captain (now Admiral) Hyman G. RICKOVER, U.S. Navy.



On the 21st of January, 1954, Mrs. Dwight D. EISENHOWER broke the traditional bottle of champagne across the bow as NAUTILUS slid down the ways into the Thames River. NAUTILUS was commissioned on the 30th of September, 1954, at the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Connecticut. After months of construction and dockside testing, on January 17, 1955, at 11:00 a.m., Commander Eugene P. WILKINSON, U.S. Navy, NAUTILUS' first Commanding Officer, ordered all lines cast off and signalled the memorable and historic message: "UNDERWAY ON NUCLEAR POWER."

Once at sea, NAUTILUS demonstrated the phenomenal advance in naval warfare which had resulted from the advent of nuclear power. NAUTILUS established record after record for submerged endurance and speed. More impressive than those records was her revolutionary impact on naval warfare tactics as demonstrated in a series of fleet exercises.



In the summer 1958 NAUTILUS made her epic arctic voyage. On August 3, 1958, while transiting at high speed under the arctic ice pack, NAUTILUS passed through the geographic north pole. This achievement was marked by a message from NAUTILUS' Commanding Officer, Commander William R. ANDERSON, U.S. Navy: "NAUTILUS 90 NORTH." For this voyage NAUTILUS and her crew were awarded the first Presidential Unit Citation to be presented to a ship in peacetime.



Schedule

Band Selections



Official Party Arrives



The National Anthem



Invocation

Captain Robert H. Warren, CHC, USN



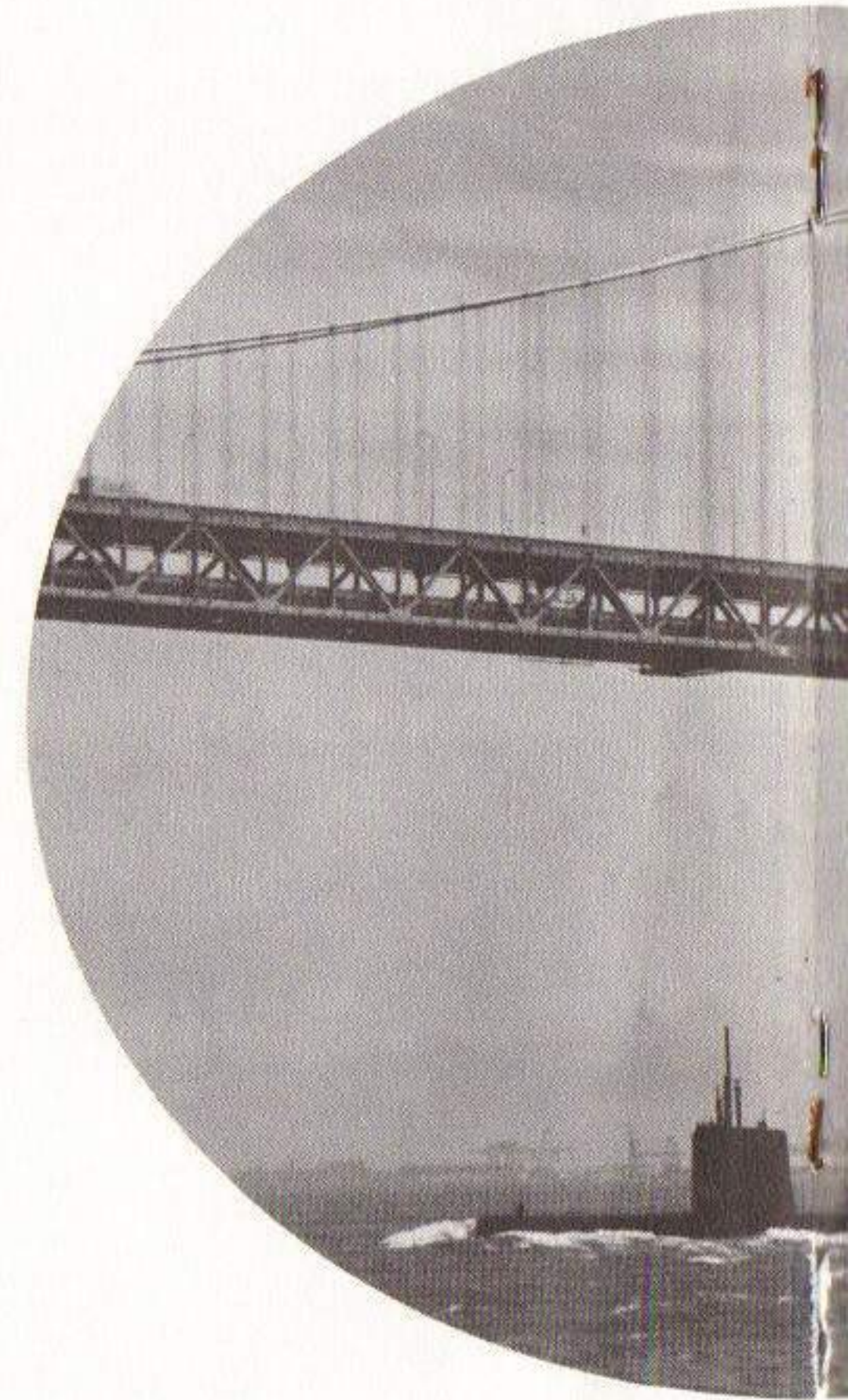
Introduction of Guest Speaker

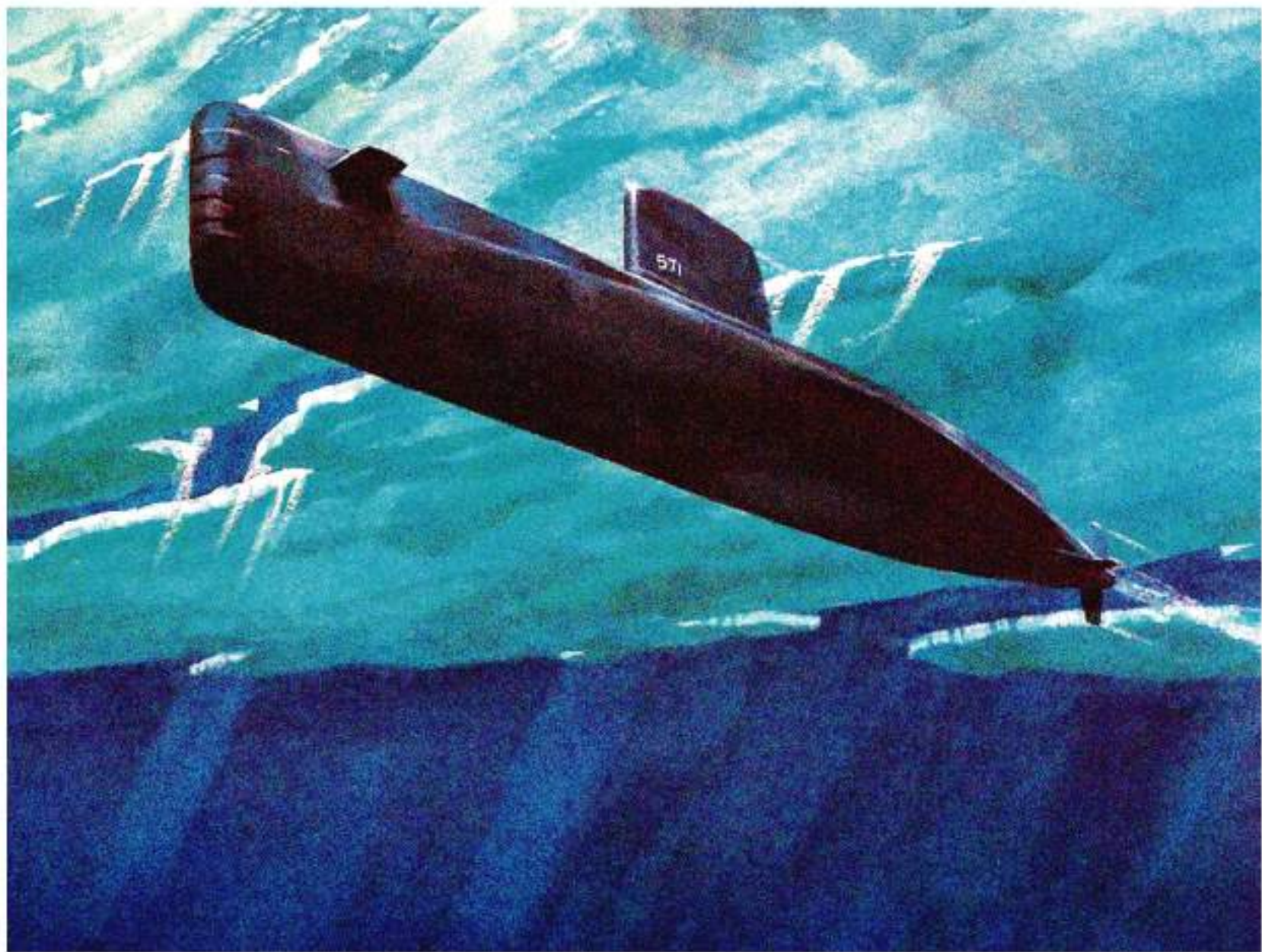
Rear Admiral F. Warren Kelley, USN
Commander Submarine Group Five



Remarks

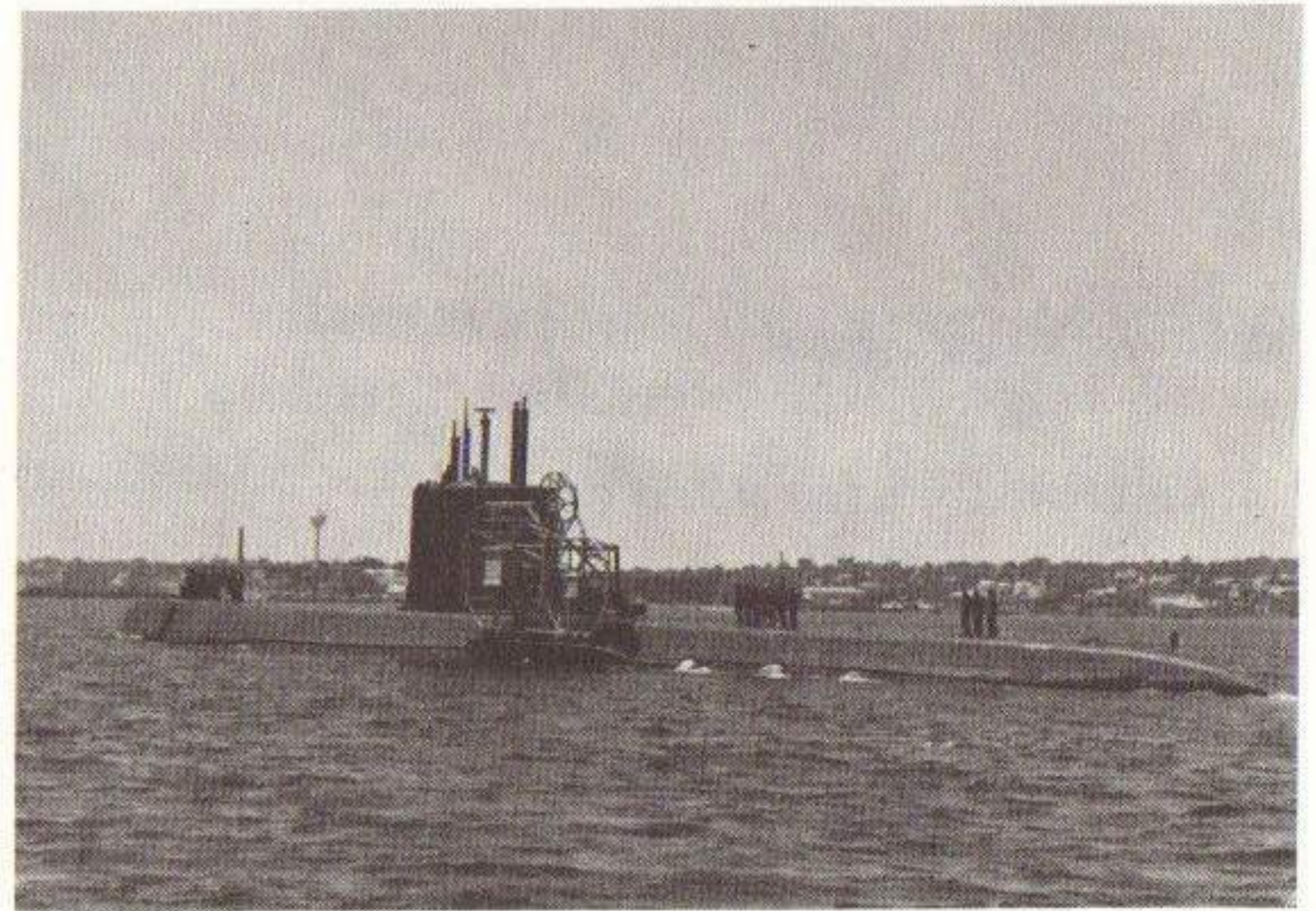
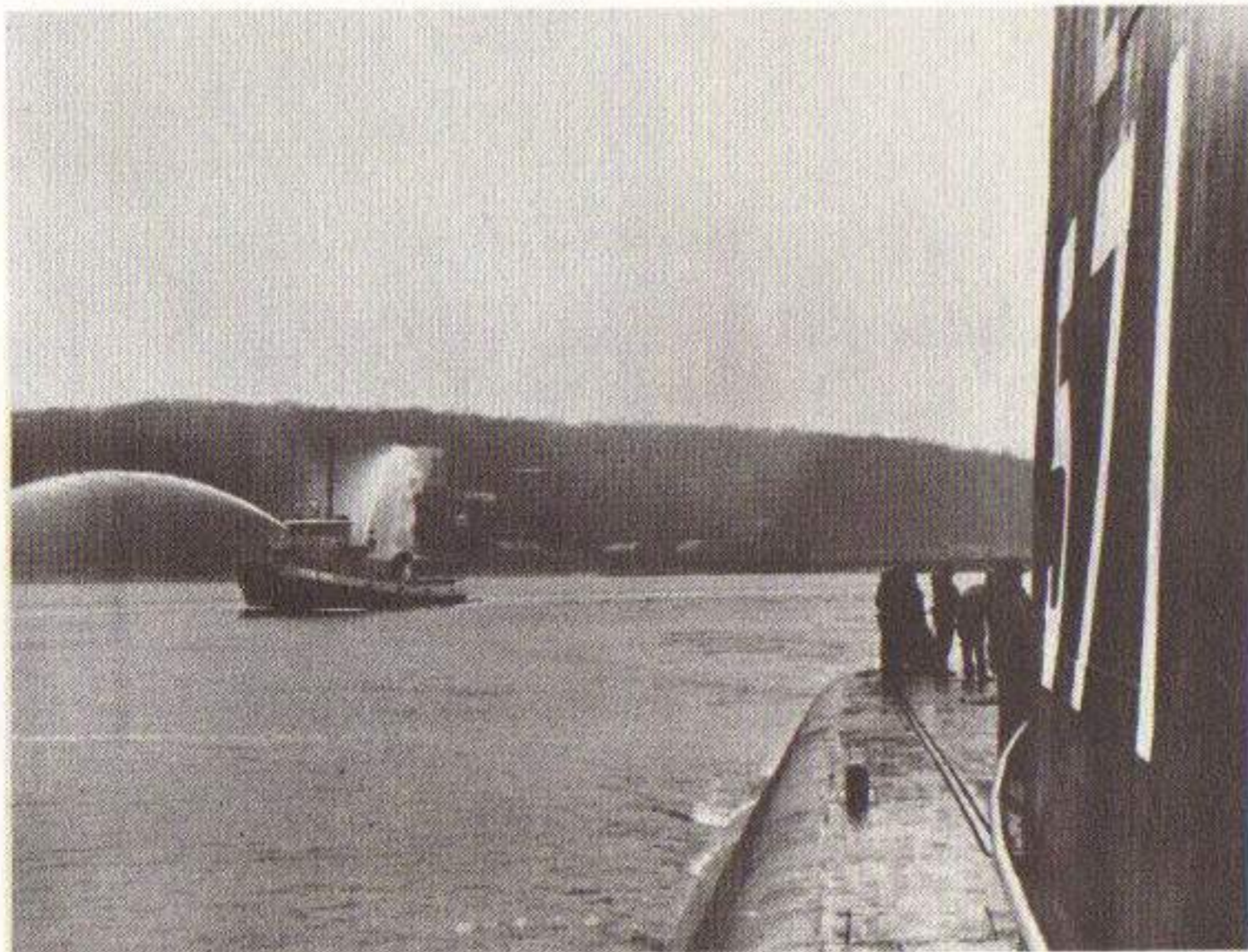
Vice Admiral Kenneth M. Carr, USN
*Commander Submarine Force,
U.S. Atlantic Fleet*





USS NAUTILUS SSN 571

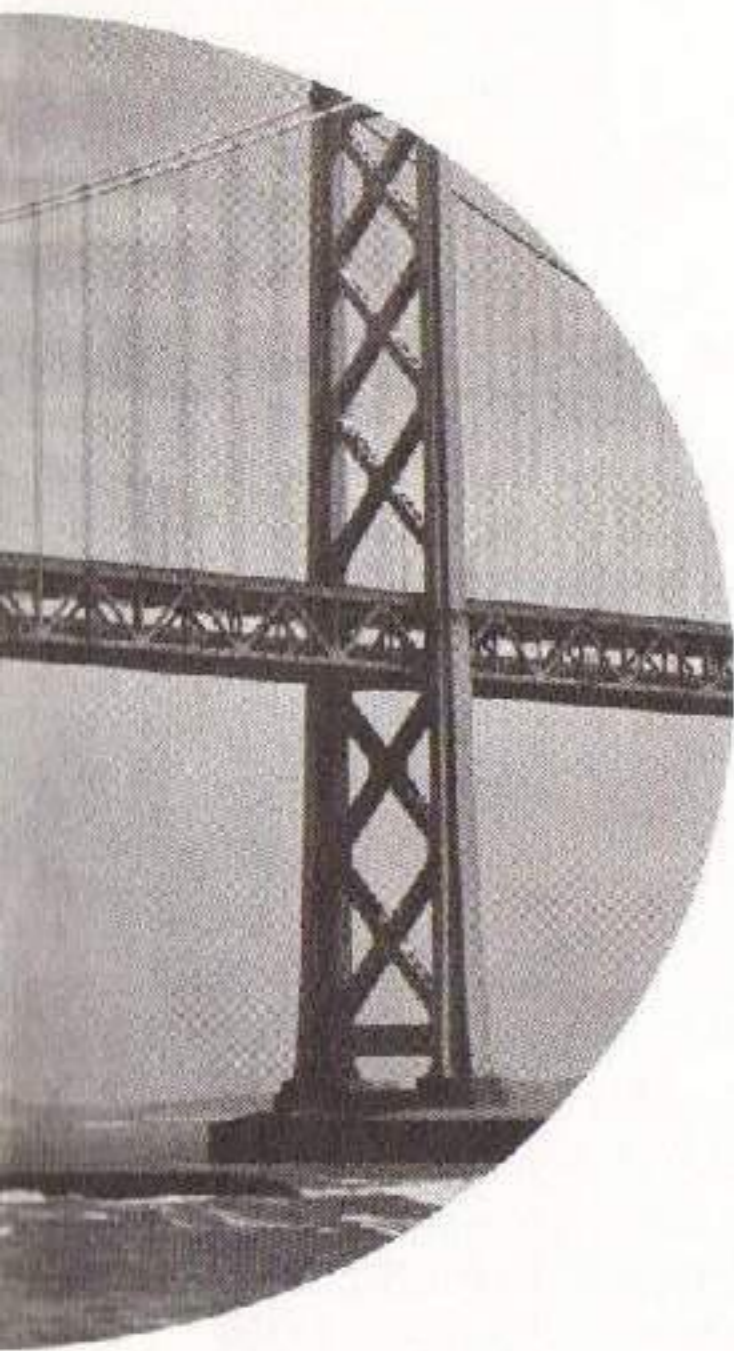
During her career NAUTILUS steamed over 510,000 miles and made over 2,500 dives. She deployed to the Mediterranean three times, transited the Panama Canal four times, and visited ports on four continents. She was refueled three times and overhauled three times. Since her last overhaul in 1974, NAUTILUS steamed over 100,000 miles during fleet operations including a Chief of Naval Operations special oceanographic research project.



On April 9, 1979, NAUTILUS departed her homeport of Groton, Connecticut for the final time to begin her voyage to Mare Island Naval Shipyard for decommissioning.

The Navy is currently planning to place NAUTILUS on public display as a national historic ship to be located at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C.

of Events



Remarks and Reading of Orders

Commander Richard A. Riddell, USN

Commanding Officer, USS Nautilus (SSN 571)



Hauling Down of the Colors and Commissioning Pennant



**Secure the Watch
Crew Parades Off**



Custodian Accepts Custody of Ex-NAUTILUS

Captain John J. Palmieri, USN

Commander, Mare Island Naval Shipyard



**Benediction
Navy Hymn**



Official Party Departs

USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571)

Wardroom

CDR Richard A. Riddell, USN

Commanding Officer

CDR Stephen V. Mladineo, USN

Executive Officer

LCDR Paul W. Papineau, USN

Engineer Officer

LCDR Robert A. McCurry, USN

Navigator

LT Craig A. Chambers, USN

Operations Officer

LT Howard T. Uhal, USN

Main Propulsion Assistant



LT Gordon M. Roesler, Jr., USN

Weapons Officer

LT William J. Nichols, USN

Electrical Officer

LT Thomas S. Gehring, USN

Damage Control Assistant

LTJG Kirk R. Deberry, USN

Reactor Controls Assistant

LTJG Gary T. Wolfe, (SC), USN

Supply Officer

Chief Petty Officers

STSC(SS) James R. Case, USN

ETCS(SS) Lonnie J. Cismowski, USN

MMCS(SS) James T. Custer, USN

EMC(SS) William S. Davison, USN

MMCS(SS) William R. Evermon, USN



SKC(SS) Myson O. Mayfield, USN

TMC(SS) Ricky P. Milnarik, USN

FTGC(SS) Dennis L. Powell, USN

MMC(SS) Richard E. Severin, USN

HMC(SS) Michael L. Stewart, USN



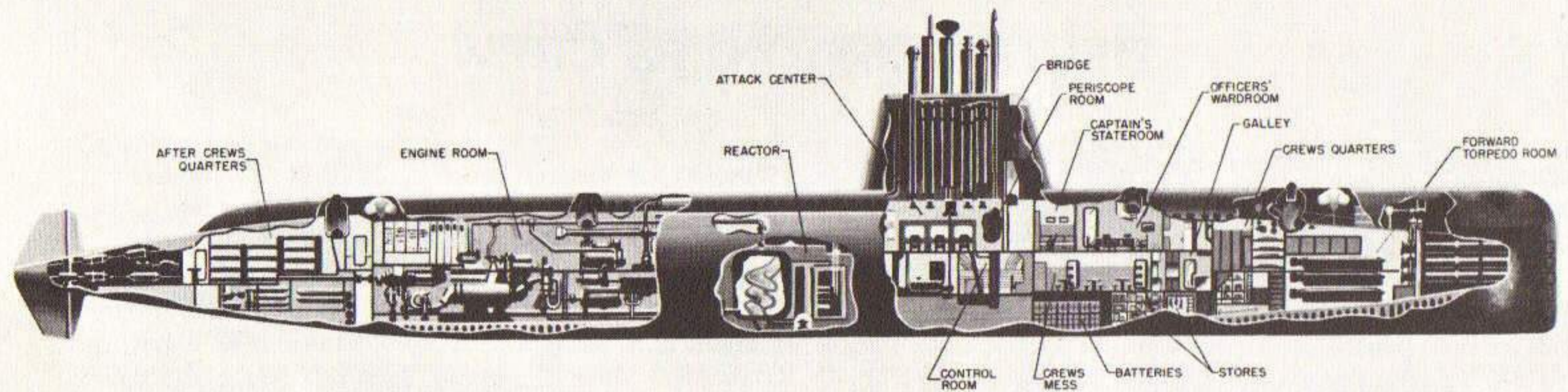
DECOMMISSIONING CREW

TM2(SS) D.B. Anderson
MM2(SS) K.G. Babcock
RM2(SS) E.L. Baker
IC2(SS) D.J. Baptista
MSSN E.R. Benson
YN2(SS) D.A. Benton
EM1(SS) S.T. Blackburn
MM2(SS) T.A. Borgan
EM3(SS) R.F. Bouyea
EM1(SS) J.A. Bussen
MM2(SS) M.E. Call
MM1(SS) K.S. Christopher
EM2(SS) M.J. Dammann
STS2(SS) W.D. Dermond
MS3(SS) B.J. Dinnell
STS3(SS) P.D. Doucette
FTG2(SS) D.A. Ellerbrock
MM3(SS) W.W. Ensley, Jr.
TM2(SS) R.L. Fletcher
ET2(SS) G.M. Fowler

EM2(SS) D.L. Freemon
STS3(SS) D.E. Garza
STS2(SS) D.D. Getz
MMFN(SS) P.G. Green
RM2(SS) G.R. Greenly, III
IC3(SS) P.L. Hague
IC1(SS) D.F. Hartzell
ET1(SS) D.L. Hinrichs
SN(SS) H.L. Hosford
ET2(SS) S.L. Jeppson
MM2(SS) M.D. Johnson
EM2(SS) K.B. Jones
MM1(SS) D.C. Knapp
IC2(SS) T.H. Layman
MMFN(SS) S.S. Ledingham
MM2(SS) P.W. Leonard
MM2(SS) L.O. Lesieur
MM1(SS) A.V. Lynch
MS3(SS) T.B. MacDonald

ETSN(SS) J.F. Maness, Jr.
MM2(SS) R.C. Mason
MM2(SS) N.M. McCallum
MM1(SS) W.F. McCarthy
MM1(SS) G.A. Mercer
MM2(SS) C.R. Miller
IC1(SS) R.J. Molinski
MS3(SS) J.E. Negele
QMSN(SS) K.G. North
PN3(SS) P.O. O'Brien
FTG2(SS) M.D. Oliver
MM1(SS) S.J. Oliver
MM2(SS) S. Pearson
SN(SS) P.G. Pejko
MS1(SS) G.V. Perez
MM1(SS) G.A. Pike
STSSN(SS) J.J. Poltrock
ET1(SS) J.F. Pratt, II
QM3(SS) M.S. Pritchard

ET2(SS) G.J. Richard
MM2 C.T. Roberts
QM1(SS) E.M. Roberts
MM2(SS) W.J. Schoppmeyer
ET3(SS) M.W. Seamans
EM1(SS) D.W. Sherry
EM3(SS) R.S. Simers
MM2(SS) R.L. Spooner
MM1(SS) M.W. Stanzeski
MM2(SS) D.L. Struchen
MM2(SS) F.J. Sutter
MM2(SS) J.J. Theriault
QM3(SS) J.D. Turner
YN1(SS) R.J. Tyndall
TM3(SS) J.A. Vollert
MM2(SS) R.J. Wesa
ET2(SS) D.A. Williams
IC3(SS) W.S. Williams
MM2(SS) C.A. Willis
MM2(SS) J.T. Wright



Length: 324 feet

Beam: 27 feet

Number of dives: 2507

Total nautical miles steamed: 513,550

USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571)

FORMER COMMANDING OFFICERS

Commander Eugene P. Wilkinson, USN
September 1954 - June 1957

Commander William R. Anderson, USN
June 1957 - June 1959

Commander Lando W. Zech, Jr., USN
June 1959 - April 1962

Commander Jeffrey C. Metzger, Jr., USN
April 1962 - October 1963



Commander Francis C. Fogarty, USN
October 1963 - April 1967

Commander Norman E. Griggs, USN
April 1967 - January 1970

Commander David W. Cockfield, USN
January 1970 - June 1972

Commander Alex Anckonie, III, USN
June 1972 - December 1976

Commander Richard A. Riddell, USN
December 1976 - March 1980