Welcome Aboard
The officers and men join us in welcoming you aboard JOHN MARSHALL. Please feel free to ask questions of the officers and crew.

ROBERT W. STECHEER
Captain, USN
Commanding Officer Blue Crew

You will find that we are proud of this ship and anxious to tell you her story. We hope your visit will be enjoyable and informative, and that you will feel at home during your visit.

ROBERT D. DONAVAN
Commander, USN
Commanding Officer Gold Crew
JOHN MARSHALL, the ninth Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine to join the active fleet, is named for the fourth Chief Justice of the United States.

Chief Justice Marshall's court decisions shaped and determined the history of constitutional interpretation. He established the indisputable right of the Supreme Court to interpret the Constitution as a living instrument of law. Perpetuating the spirit of the great Chief Justice, this ship has adopted a motto once used by him, VERITAS VINCIT, truth conquers.

The importance of the USS JOHN MARSHALL in the defense structure of this nation is clearly described in the words of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, "JOHN MARSHALL, the man, represents our history and heritage; JOHN MARSHALL, the ship, our strength".

SHIP'S STATISTICS

Keel laid: 4 April 1960
Launched: 15 July 1961
Maiden Voyage: 8 April 1962
Commissioned: 21 May 1962
Maximum Depth: In excess of 400 feet
Maximum Speed: In excess of 20 knots
Submerged Displacement: 7,874 tons
Number of Missile Tubes: 16
Length: 410 feet
Beam: 33 feet
As shown in the cutaway view above, the ship is divided into six watertight compartments. The forwardmost compartment, the Torpedo Room, houses the torpedoes and torpedo tubes which provide the ship with a highly effective attack and self-defense capability. The Operations Compartment contains on the upper level the stations for ship control, navigation and torpedo fire control. On the middle level the officers’ and chief petty officers’ living quarters and the crew’s dining and recreation area are located. The crew’s living area and the Polaris fire control equipment occupy the lower level. Aft of the Operations Compartment is the ship’s largest section, the Missile Compartment. The Missile Compartment houses the sixteen missile tubes with their associated systems and the ship stabilization gyroscope. The four aftermost of the ship’s compartments contain the engineering plant which provides the ship’s propulsion, electricity and other necessary services using energy from the nuclear reactor.

Optimum utilization of the ship’s deterrent capability dictates operation in submerged patrols of several months duration. During these patrols the ship is completely isolated from the outside environment and completely dependent upon its own facilities for all its needs. The atmosphere within the ship is closely controlled so that the crew may live and work comfortably and efficiently. Oxygen replenishment is achieved by machines which generate oxygen from sea water. Other machines rid the ship’s atmosphere of contaminating gases and particles while still others provide air conditioning and air circulation throughout the ship. Fresh water is produced by the distillation of sea water. The most modern equipment for food preservation, storage and preparation assures a steady supply of appetizing meals. Recreation and educational facilities are provided to occupy off-duty hours.
ENGINEERING PLANT

Energy for propulsion of the ship and for the generation of electricity and other vital services is obtained in the nuclear reactor from the fissioning of uranium. Heat resulting from the fission process is transferred through the medium of pressurized pure water to steam generators where the heat is given up to secondary water. Steam produced in the secondary system is used to power the propulsion and electrical generator turbines. As a result of the care with which the engineering plant has been designed and constructed, personnel on JOHN MARSHALL will receive on the average less radiation than would result from normal exposure to natural cosmic radiation, natural radioactivity present in small quantity in virtually all substances, and routine medical and dental X-rays.

MISSILE SYSTEM

The Polaris Weapon System installed in JOHN MARSHALL provides facility for the continuous accurate determination of the ship's position and for constant readiness to launch sixteen missiles within minutes after receipt of a launch command. The ballistic Polaris missile, powered by a two stage solid propellant rocket motor, achieves virtually complete invulnerability through its great speed and completely self-contained guidance system.
LAUNCHING CEREMONY
Address by Attorney General
Robert F. Kennedy

DOWN THE WAYS
July 15, 1961

JOHN MARSHALL
UNDERWAY