USS ANDREW JACKSON was the first ship of the U.S. Navy to bear the name of the seventh president of the United States. As the first "Frontier President," he was a symbol of rugged individualism and equalitarian democracy. As a military figure, he first earned his reputation as an Indian fighter. Later, during the War of 1812, "Old Hickory" became a national hero in the Battle of New Orleans in which his daring, resolution, and firm discipline overcame such obstacles as undisciplined volunteers, poor food and a well trained and brave enemy. While opposing the powerful U. S. Bank in the early 1830's, President Jackson resolutely stated, "One man with courage is a majority." This spirited statement is today the ship's motto.

ANDREW JACKSON was the Navy's thirty-sixth nuclear powered submarine and the thirteenth of the Polaris type. MARE ISLAND NAVAL SHIPYARD laid the keel on 26 April 1969 and the JACKSON was launched on 15 September 1962 and commissioned on 3 July 1963.

Via the Panama Canal, the ANDREW JACKSON transited to Florida and conducted successful missile test firings on the Eastern Test Range. The Blue crew fired an A-2 in September of 1963 and the Gold crew launched the first A-3 from a submarine on 26 October 1963. This launch was witnessed by President John F. Kennedy.

Between January 1964 and March 1968 ANDREW JACKSON completed seventeen Polaris Deterrent Patrols. In March 1968 she commenced overhaul at PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD. At the completion of overhaul in June 1969, she underwent five months of shakedown cruise and evaluations which include missile test firings at Cape Kennedy, Florida. Returning to the line in January 1970, ANDREW JACKSON began her eighteenth Deterrent Patrol. Between this time and February 1973, she completed twelve patrols and a special SONAR evaluation. In October 1971 the Providence Plantations Council of the U.S. Navy League awarded the Polaris/Poseidon trophy to the ship for being the most outstanding Polaris submarine in the U. S. Atlantic Fleet for fiscal year 1971.
Up from the deep....

to any potential target on Earth.......

Commander John M. KERSH was graduated from Pennsylvania State University in 1957 and received his commission upon completion of Officer Candidate School in 1958. He served on board USS RANKIN (AKA-103) prior to Submarine School and after completion of Submarine School in 1959, reported to USS AMBERJACK (SS-522). From August 1962 until July 1963 he was attached to the staff of Commander Submarine Squadron TWELVE as Communications and Electronics Officer.

In 1965, after completing the Engineering Science Program at U.S. Naval Post Graduate School, Monterey, California and Nuclear Power Training, Commander KERSH reported to USS TINOSA (SSN-605) where he served as Damage Control Assistant, Main Propulsion Assistant and Operations Officer. Following completion of SSBN Navigators School in November 1967, he served as Navigator and Operations Officer and later as Executive Officer on board USS THOMAS JEFFERSON (SSBN-618) (GOLD) until his assignment to PCO Training in April 1972. During this tour, THOMAS JEFFERSON GOLD was awarded two Meritorious Unit Citations and CDR KERSH was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal and the Navy Commendation Medal. He assumed Command of ANDREW JACKSON on 28 October 1972.
ANDREW JACKSON is the third ship of the LAFAYETTE class of Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines. Her primary mission is the preservation of peace through the deterrent power inherent in her sixteen Polaris missiles. ANDREW JACKSON also has an accurate fire control system for use with her four torpedo tubes. Reliability is the keynote of her Engineering plant powered by a proven nuclear reactor. Advanced technology gives her the capability of prolonged submerged operation, high submerged speed and maneuverability.

Successful completion of her primary mission requires extended periods beneath the sea. Habitability is the theme of her internal design. Living quarters are restful and roomy; healthful recreational facilities are provided. Large refrigeration and storage spaces hold sufficient food and stores to sustain the crew for months at a time. Luxuries include ice cream, popcorn and coke machines.

Atmosphere control is under the direction of the Medical Corpsman. Air revitalization is essential to maintain the required atmospheric parity in order to remain submerged throughout patrol. Harmful gases are removed and oxygen is replaced as it is used.
Executive Department The Executive Officer is next in succession to command and is specifically charged with the implementation of the Captain's orders. He is responsible for coordinating and supervising the performance and administration of the command as a whole, including matters of morale, discipline, training, welfare, work, safety and rights of all individuals. Among the many specific items under his cognizance are: public affairs, leave and liberty, maintenance, correspondence and recreation. All department heads report to the Executive Officer on matters of internal administration.

Engineering Department The Engineering Officer is charged with the responsibility for operation, care and maintenance of the propulsion plant, auxiliary machinery, piping systems, atmosphere control, damage control equipment, electric power generation, storage and distribution systems and repairs to the ship's hull. In addition, the plant water chemistry and radiological safety are under his cognizance. His assistance includes the Main Propulsion Assistant, Auxiliary, Electrical and Reactor Control Division Officers.

Navigation-Operations Department The Navigator is responsible for the safe navigation and piloting of the ship and for providing the most accurate possible position data to fire control. As Operations Officer, he is responsible for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of combat information required for the assigned mission of the ship. For assistants he has a Sonar Officer and a Communicator.

Weapons Department The Weapons Officer is responsible for all aspects of Fleet Ballistic Missile and Torpedo systems operations, including fire control, launch, readiness, and the ordnance itself. He is also charged with exterior hull preservation and use of the mooring and anchoring equipment. He has an Assistant/First Lieutenant to aid him.

Medical Department The Medical Corpsman is responsible for the health and hygiene of the crew and the sanitation of the ship. He advises the Captain and the Engineer on matters of radiological health and hazards. Atmosphere monitoring is also in his charge.

Supply Department The Supply Officer is responsible for inventory control and management of the operating fund allotment for all material used by the ship. He is also charged with operation of the General Mess and the Wardroom Mess.

A department head reports directly to the Commanding Officer in matters regarding the operational readiness of his department.
VITAL STATISTICS

Length ................................................. 425 feet
Beam .................................................. 33 feet
Displacement
  Surfaced ........................................... 7000 tons
  Submerged ....................................... 8000 tons
Armament
  Forward .......................................... 4 Torpedo Tubes
  Amidships ....................................... 16 Missile Tubes
Depth .................................................. in excess of 400 feet
Speed .................................................. in excess of 20 knots
Propulsion .......................................... Westinghouse S5W reactor and
                                              2 General Electric Turbines
Personnel ........................................... 13 Officers
                                              124 Enlisted Men
Keel Laid ........................................... April 26, 1961
Launched .......................................... September 15, 1962
Maiden Voyage .................................... May 5, 1963
Commissioned ..................................... July 3, 1963
Built at Mare Island Naval Shipyard.
Overhaul .......................................... March 1968 - June 1969
Overhauled at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.