

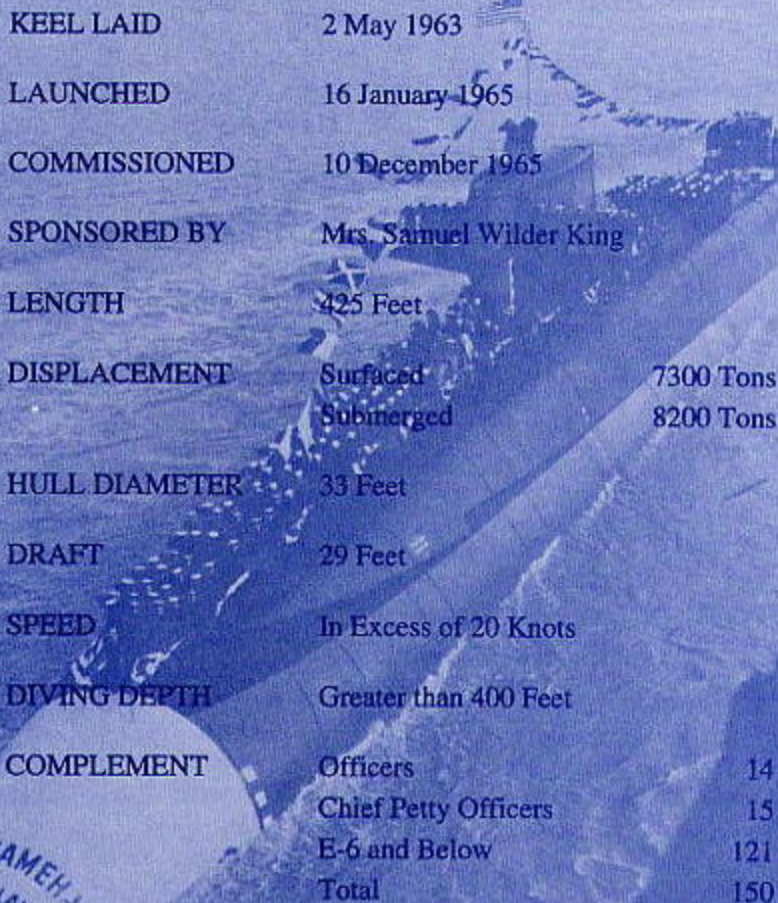


ALOHA



**USS
KAMEHAMEHA
SSN 642**

USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN 642)



KEEL LAID	2 May 1963	
LAUNCHED	16 January 1965	
COMMISSIONED	10 December 1965	
SPONSORED BY	Mrs. Samuel Wilder King	
LENGTH	425 Feet	
DISPLACEMENT	Surfaced	7300 Tons
	Submerged	8200 Tons
HULL DIAMETER	33 Feet	
DRAFT	29 Feet	
SPEED	In Excess of 20 Knots	
DIVING DEPTH	Greater than 400 Feet	
COMPLEMENT	Officers	14
	Chief Petty Officers	15
	E-6 and Below	121
	Total	150

HISTORY OF USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN 642 / SSN 642)

KAMEHAMEHA was built at the Mare Island Naval Shipyard. She was commissioned on 10 December 1965 and was the 30th of America's Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarines. Mrs. Samuel Wilder King served as the ship's sponsor at the launching. Her husband was one of the first Hawaiians to graduate from the U.S. Naval Academy, was Governor of the territory of Hawaii, and strove for Hawaiian statehood.

After commissioning, KAMEHAMEHA joined Submarine Squadron 15 at its forward base in Guam, Marianas Islands. The ship was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations as a member of Submarine Squadron 15 while in the Pacific.

In July 1969, the ship was transferred to the Atlantic Fleet and joined Submarine Squadron 18 in Charleston, South Carolina. In July 1971, KAMEHAMEHA was transferred to Groton, Connecticut for weapons conversion and a refueling overhaul.

Upon completion of the conversion and overhaul in October 1972, KAMEHAMEHA conducted operations off the east coast of the United States. In June 1973, she joined Submarine Squadron 16 and made patrols out of Rota, Spain. Six years later, in July 1979, KAMEHAMEHA joined Submarine Squadron 18 and made patrols out of Charleston, South Carolina.

The ship was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations in 1984 and 1985 as a member of Submarine Squadron 14. In 1985, KAMEHAMEHA was selected as the Atlantic Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine Top Performer.

KAMEHAMEHA underwent a refueling overhaul at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard from November 1986 to December 1989.

After completing a total of 63 deterrent patrols, KAMEHAMEHA's missile systems were inactivated in July 1992 and she was converted to a special purpose, brown water attack submarine at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo, California. This conversion installed modifications to support the surfaced and submerged deployment of Special Operations Forces. In August 1993, KAMEHAMEHA arrived in Pearl Harbor to become part of Submarine Squadron ONE.

KAMEHAMEHA now regularly deploys in support of special warfare objectives throughout the Pacific.

Welcome Aboard!



Commanding Officer
USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN 642)
FPO AP 96670-2063

Welcome aboard the nuclear attack submarine USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN642). My crew and I are honored to be your hosts.

Among the proudest and most enjoyable moments in a submariner's professional life are those spent exhibiting his ship to visitors. The relationship between the submariner and his ship is one of intense personal pride. His link with the heroism of past submarine achievements is strong. Most important, the submariner sincerely welcomes the visitor because it is to you that we devote our efforts and accomplishments, our sacrifices and exultations. We are most anxious for you to understand and perhaps even share these feelings.

Enjoy your visit!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Hesse". The signature is fluid and cursive.

D. H. Hesse
Commander, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Commander
DEREK HANS HESSE
United States Navy

Commander Hesse graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. He is a native of Miami, Florida.

Following completion of initial nuclear power and submarine training, Commander Hesse served as Electrical Officer, Reactor Controls Officer and Damage Control Assistant on board USS FINBACK (SSN 670).

Commander Hesse next attended the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where he earned a masters degree in operations research. In 1988, he reported to USS ALBUQUERQUE (SSN 706) as Navigator and Operations Officer.

From 1991 to 1993, Commander Hesse served as a naval warfare analyst in the Force Structure and Resources Directorate of the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C., where he helped determine future attack submarine force requirements for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Commander Hesse then served as Executive Officer of USS STONEWALL JACKSON (SSBN 634)(BLUE), where he completed her final strategic deterrent patrol and operations in the Western Atlantic prior to decommissioning. He next served as Executive Officer of USS L. MENDEL RIVERS (SSN 686), where he conducted Naval Special Warfare operations in the Atlantic and Caribbean.

From 1996 through 1997, Commander Hesse served on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, Assessment Division. In this assignment, he assessed program options for the Navy and determined joint warfighting requirements along with the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps.

Commander Hesse's personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with four gold stars, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Commander Hesse is married to the former Connie Marie Freeman of Idaho Falls, Idaho. They have three children, Nicole, Andrew, and William Ryan and reside in Aiea, Hawaii.





COMMANDING OFFICERS

USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN 642)

Blue Crew

R. S. Leddick	December 1965 - July 1967
F. W. Kelly	July 1967 - September 1970
L. D. Nace	September 1970 - September 1974
R. J. Noreika	September 1974 - March 1978
D. Porter	March 1978 - April 1980
E. R. Linz	April 1980 - May 1981
R. W. Krom	July 1981 - February 1985
J. H. Almy II	March 1985 - March 1986
C. S. Wunsch	June 1986 - December 1989
D. S. Keefe	December 1989 - January 1992

Gold Crew

R. W. Dickieson	December 1965 - August 1968
J. A. Sagerholm	August 1968 - July 1971
L. D. Nace	July 1971 - October 1972
T. R. Fox	October 1972 - February 1975
G. W. Davis VI	February 1975 - July 1978
J. A. MacCregor	July 1978 - February 1981
E. R. Linz	February 1981 - May 1981
L. L. Schmeling	May 1981 - July 1981
R. W. Krom	July 1981 - December 1982
L. M. Jacobi	December 1982 - February 1986
C. S. Wunsch	February 1986 - December 1989
G. F. Kindel	December 1989 - August 1992

USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSN 642)

One Crew

R. M. Eichelberger	August 1992 - May 1995
H. F. Reese	May 1995 - September 1998
D. H. Hesse	September 1998 - Present

Kamehameha

USS KAMEHAMEHA is named after Kamehameha the Great, the warrior and statesman who first united the Hawaiian Island under a single rule.

Kamehameha was born into nobility on the island of Hawaii in 1758. He spent his youth learning the arts of war and leadership.

After seizing control of most of the island of Hawaii from his cousins, he started on a campaign for the conquest of all the Hawaiian Islands. His conquest of Oahu in 1795 was followed by the peaceful capitulation of Kauai and Niihau and final unification of the islands.

Kamehameha then sought to develop a stable government. He established strict laws of conduct and was responsible for making the islands safe for all citizens. His policy toward foreigners, an increasingly important factor in the social and economic life of the islands, was one of protection, encouragement of trade and fair dealing. By the time of his death he had consolidated the islands under one government and put an end to the feudal wars and anarchy that had ravaged the islands before his rule.

The submarine KAMEHAMEHA serves today to make the world a safe place to live just as Kamehameha did as ruler of the Hawaiian Islands.

