

USS POGY

SSN 647





USS POGY (SSN 647)



COMMISSIONED 15 MAY 1971



THE COMMISSIONING PENNANT

At the moment the commissioning pennant is broken, a ship becomes the responsibility of the Commanding Officer, who, together with the ship's officers and men, has the duty of making her ready for any service required by our nation, whether at peace or at war.



The commissioning pennant has for centuries been the symbol of a man-o-war. It is believed to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertzoon Tromp hoisted a broom at the masthead to symbolize his intention to sweep the English from the sea. This gesture was answered by British Admiral William Blake, who hoisted a horsewhip indicating his intention to chastise the Dutch. The victorious British thus set the precedent for a long, narrow commissioning pennant to symbolize the original horsewhip as the distinctive symbol of a ship of war.



The modern U.S. Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a union of seven white stars and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly.



THE INACTIVATION CEREMONY

Today's ceremony pays tribute to a ship preparing for her decommissioning, the time-honored end of a ship's life. As if decommissioning, the commissioning pennant is hauled down and the watches secured. The solemn ceremony where the commissioning pennant, ensign, and jack are hauled down for the last time is a dedication to the total operational success of the ship and the men who sailed it.

INACTIVATION CEREMONY



USS POGY (SSN 647)



1300

19 November 1998

**Naval Submarine Base
San Diego, California**

Arrival Honors

Invocation

CDR Robert Feagle
Submarine Squadron ELEVEN Chaplain

Introductory Remarks

CAPT John J. Schwanz
Commander
Submarine Squadron ELEVEN

Introductory Remarks

RADM George E. Voelker
Commander
Submarine Group NINE

Principal Address

ADM Archie Clemens
Commander In Chief
U.S. Pacific Fleet

Remarks

CDR Frank D. Unetic, Jr.
Commanding Officer
USS POGY (SSN 647)

Ceremonial Hauling Down of Commissioning Pennant and Securing of the Watch

Benediction

CDR Robert Feagle
Submarine Squadron ELEVEN Chaplain

**ADMIRAL ARCHIE CLEMINS
COMMANDER IN CHIEF
U.S. PACIFIC FLEET**



Admiral Archie Clemins became the 28th Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, on November 7, 1996. He is responsible for the world's largest combined fleet command, encompassing 102 million square miles and more than 190 ships and submarines, 1,500 aircraft and 193,500 Sailors and Marines.

Born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois, Admiral Clemins was commissioned at the Naval Reserve Officer's Training Unit at the University of Illinois where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering in February 1966 and returned for a Master's degree in 1972. After completing the Naval Nuclear Power program, he served sea tours on both ballistic missile and attack submarines, which were highlighted by assignments as Executive Officer of USS PARCHE (SSN 683) and Commanding Officer of USS POGY (SSN 647). He also commanded Submarine Group SEVEN and was Chief of Staff to Commander, SEVENTH Fleet.

Promoted to Rear Admiral in 1991, flag assignments have included Commander, Training Command, U.S. Pacific Fleet; the first head of the Navy's Commander in Chief (CINC) Liaison Division (CNO N83); Deputy and Chief of Staff to Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet and Commander, SEVENTH Fleet. He is an advocate for the accelerated use of information technology in the military for tactical and non-tactical support missions.

Admiral Clemins and his wife Marilyn have two grown children; Becky, a system analyst, and Travis, serving in the Peace Corps in Chad, Africa.

REAR ADMIRAL GEORGE E. VOELKER
COMMANDER
SUBMARINE GROUP NINE



Rear Admiral Voelker, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, attended the United States Naval Academy and graduated with the class of 1972. Following a year of postgraduate school, he was awarded an M.S. degree and subsequently attended nuclear power and basic submarine training.

His operational tours include service on four attack submarines: as a Division Officer on USS STURGEON (SSN 637), as Engineer on USS SEAHORSE (SSN 669), as Executive Officer of USS SAN FRANCISCO (SSN 711), and in command of USS HELENA (SSN 725) from 1987 to 1990. While under his command, HELENA conducted two extended Northern Pacific operations and a deployment to the Western Pacific. He served briefly as Deputy Commander of Submarine Squadron ONE and later commanded Submarine Group SEVEN in Yokosuka, Japan, with additional duties as Commander Submarine Force U.S. Seventh Fleet (CTF 74) and Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (CTF 157). He relieved as Commander, Submarine Group NINE in July 1998.

Rear Admiral Voelker's shore duty assignments include service in the Bureau of Naval Personnel as the Submarine Department Head Assignment Officer, at Pacific Fleet Headquarters as Executive Assistant and Senior Naval Aide to the Deputy Commander in Chief and Chief of Staff, as a Division Director for the Director of Naval Intelligence in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and most recently on the Joint Staff. While on the Joint Staff, Rear Admiral Voelker served as the Director of the Commander in Chief (CINC) Liaison Office and later as Executive Assistant to the Director of Force Structure, Resources, and Assessment. He then served as Executive Assistant and Senior Military Aide to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from July 1997 to July 1998.

Rear Admiral Voelker has been awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars, the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendations Medal with three Gold Stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various unit and service awards.

Rear Admiral Voelker is married to the former Diane Lynne Bemer of Detroit, Michigan.

CAPTAIN JOHN J. SCHWANZ
COMMANDER
SUBMARINE SQUADRON ELEVEN



Captain John J. Schwanz, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, is a 1977 graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a 1996 graduate of the Naval War College. He holds the academic degrees of Master of Arts in Strategic Studies and National Security Affairs and Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. After nuclear propulsion and initial submarine training, he reported to USS RICHARD B. RUSSELL (SSN 687) in November 1978, serving as Reactor Controls Assistant, Damage Control Assistant and Weapons Officer. During his tour, USS RICHARD B. RUSSELL completed North Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea deployments.

Between December 1981 and February 1984, Captain Schwanz was a member of the Tactical Weapons Certification Team on the staff of Commander, Submarine Group Two. Returning to sea duty, he served successive tours as Engineer Officer on USS JACKSONVILLE (SSN 699) and Navigator and Operations Officer on USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705). Captain Schwanz participated in three major deployments during these tours of duty. Captain Schwanz served as the Submarine Development Squadron Twelve Material Officer between December 1987 and October 1989. He reported as Executive Officer, USS PITTSBURGH (SSN 720) in December 1989 and participated in a North Atlantic deployment and in Operation DESERT STORM.

Captain Schwanz commanded USS DALLAS (SSN 700) from December 1992 until August 1995. Under his command, USS DALLAS conducted three major deployments, was awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation, two Battle Efficiency "E's" and was nominated as the submarine force candidate for the Battenburg Cup. Captain Schwanz served on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from August 1996 to June 1998 as Chief, Nuclear Stockpile and Tactical Weapons Branch. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy Commendation Medal (seven awards), and various campaign and unit awards.

Captain Schwanz and his wife, the former Cynthia Lynn Fausold of Geneseo, New York, have two children: Mary Patricia and John.

COMMANDER FRANK D. UNETIC, JR.
COMMANDING OFFICER
USS POGY (SSN 647)



Commander Frank D. Unetic, Jr. graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology. Following commissioning via Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, he completed initial submarine training.

Commander Unetic's first shipboard assignment was USS TECUMSEH (SSBN 628) where he served as Torpedo/Fire Control Officer, Missile Officer, Missile Fire Control Officer and Sonar Officer from June 1980 to August 1982 and completed four strategic patrols.

From September 1982 to March 1985, he was assigned as Weapons Officer and Operations Officer aboard USS BARBEL (SS 580) completing numerous Mid-Pacific operations and a deployment to SEVENTH Fleet. Following Submarine Officers Advanced Course, Commander Unetic reported to USS GEORGIA (SSBN 729) where he served as Strategic Weapons Officer from November 1985 to March 1989. He completed six strategic deterrent patrols.

Commander Unetic completed nuclear power training in Orlando, Florida and Nuclear Prototype Training at Charleston, South Carolina in June 1990. He then reported to USS PUFFER (SSN 652) where he served as Reactor Control Officer and Main Propulsion Assistant from June 1990 to September 1992 completing an Arctic and a SEVENTH Fleet deployment.

He was next assigned as Executive Officer, USS BREMERTON (SSN 698) from January 1993 to November 1995, completing another SEVENTH Fleet deployment. Upon completion of his Executive Officer tour, he was assigned to the Chief of Naval Operations Staff for Submarine Warfare as the Requirements Officer for Sonar systems from December 1995 to September 1996. He most recently served as Deputy Commander for Tactical Readiness on the Staff of Commander, Submarine Squadron ELEVEN.

Commander Unetic's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal (three awards), and various unit awards.

Commander Unetic is married to the former Susan Metzner of Gig Harbor, WA. They have three children: Gregory, Kathrine, and Victoria.

USS POGY (SSN 647) INACTIVATION CREW

CDR F. UNETIC, JR.
Commanding Officer

CDR J. DOWELL
Executive Officer

ETCS(SS) T. BUTLER
Chief of the Boat

OFFICERS

LCDR M. DARGEL
Engineer

LT H. WARNER, III
Navigator

LT B. BOOKER
Combat Systems Officer

LT T. MARSZALEK
Supply Officer

LT J. CRONLEY
LTJG D. KUHN
LTJG C. URNESS

LT D. LINDSTROM
LTJG R. LANGTON

LT J. SUMMERS
LTJG D. PULCZINSKI

LT A. WOLFF
LTJG J. RODARTE

CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

MMCS(SS) R. ANDERSON
STSC(SS) R. DIETZE
MMC(SS) D. JONES
ETC(SS) S. MURPHY
YNC(SS) E. PIERCE

STSC(SS) BISSONNETTE
MMC(SS) C. FAKO
MSC(SS) R. KULIGOWSKI
SKC(SS) P. NEUMANN
ETC(SS) E. WALKER

FTC(SS) J. DIAMOND
MMC(SS) J. HELSING
ETC(SS) R. MORALES
EMC(SS) G. PETERSON, JR.
ETC(SS) D. WRIGHT

ENLISTED PERSONNEL

FT2(SS/DV) S. ARUNDEL
MMFA(SS) R. BEIG
ET2(SS) W. BIHIS
ET2(SS) M. BRECKEL
EMI(SS) M. BUMPASS
MM2(SS) A. CHIMILIO
MM2(SS) O. CORDOVA
ET2(SS) B. DAWSON
MM2(SS) W. DEW
ET3(SS) G. ENGLISH
EM3(SS) J. FOLMAR
MM1(SS) W. GENTER
STS3(SS) A. HAFFORD
EM3(SU) J. HENRICKS
MM1(SS) G. HUDDLESTON
FT2(SS) M. JOHANSEN
MMFN(SS) E. JORDAN
MMI(SS) P. KRESS
MM3(SS) M. LOZANO, III
MMFA(SU) J. MALBOEUF
MS3(SS) T. MARTIN
ETI(SS) M. MCCAULEY
EM3(SS) T. MCNAMARA
MMFN(SU) M. NELSON
ET2(SS/DV) J. OCKER
STSI(SS) M. PIERCE
MS3(SU) A. QUIROZ
ET3(SS) S. ROGERS
ET2(SS) R. SALAZAR
MM2(SS) R. SHANNON
MM2(SS) M. STOVER
ET3(SS) C. THOMPSON
ET3(SS) P. WALTERS
SA(SU) S. WHITTAKER
STS1(SS) S. YOUEL

MSSA(SU) S. BAILEY
ETI(SS) R. BERNAL
ETI(SS) S. BILBRUCK
ETI(SS) R. BREEDLOVE
FTI(SS) J. BUTLER
EM2(SS) C. CLARK
MM3(SU) J. CROW
STSSN(SS) G. DAVIS
ET1(SS) D. DUNCAN
HM1(SS) J. ESQUILIN
EM3(SS) C. FOSTER
MS2(SS) R. GIPSON
ET1(SS) R. HAWKS
MM2(SS) J. HERNBLOOM
SA(SU) C. HUTTON
MS2(SS) W. JOHNSON
SKSA(SU) D. KEEFOVER
MM2(SS) C. LEON
EMI(SS) J. LUNSFORD
YN3(SS) D. MALONE
ETSN(SS) S. MASSMAN
YNSR(SU) D. MCCUE
MM3(SS) J. MILLER
MM3(SU) S. NEWKIRK
ET1(SS) J. PEREZ
MM2(SS/DV) T. PLOEGMAN
STSSA(SU) C. REIDENBACH
SK3(SS) S. RUHTER
MM1(SS) T. SANDOVAL
EM2(SS/DV) D. SINGLETON
MM2(SS) B. SVEDARSKY
ET3(SS) N. TREZIOK
MM2(SS) M. WEIS
ET1(SS) K. WIESE
EM2(SS) J. ZEDLITZ

MM2(SS) G. BEACH
STSSN(SS) J. BIERLY
STSSN(SS) P. BOUCHARD
MM2(SS) S. BUMGUARDNE
ET2(SS) M. CERDA
EMI(SS) C. COOK
ETSN(SS) J. DAHLGREN
MM1(SS) R. DELA PENA
STSI(SS) R. DYAR
SA(SU) S. EVANS
STSSA(SS) R. FOX
MM2(SS) W. GRAY
ET2(SS) C. HEMINGWAY
SA(SU) A. HOLBACK
ET1(SS) D. JACKSON
STS2(SS) D. JONES
MM1(SS) G. KERNAN
EM3(SS) A. LEUNG
STSSN(SS) J. MACIAS
MMI(SS) M. MANNING
ET2(SS) M. MAULDIN
MS1(SS) A. MCLAIN
ET3(SS) C. MOON
STS2(SS) L. NIERMANN
ET2(SS) M. PFENNING
FT1(SS) O. PULLIAM, JR.
MM2(SS) F. RHODES
FT1(SS) G. SABATO
MM2(SU) A. SCHODERER
ET2(SS) B. SISSON
MMI(SS) B. TETTENHORST
SN(SS) M. TURNER
MM1(SS) W. WESTPHALL
MM3(SS) J. WISE



POGY

A type of trout found in Lake Tahoe.

SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

Keel Laid	May 1964
Commissioned	May 1971
Sponsored by	Mrs. George H. Wales
Length	292 feet
Beam	31 feet
Displacement	4,797 tons
Propulsion	Steam Turbine Powered/Pressurized Water Reactor
Maximum Speed	In excess of 25 knots
Maximum Depth	In excess of 800 feet
Armament	Four 21-inch torpedo tubes
Complement	15 Officers and 132 Enlisted
Mission	Conduct operations worldwide in support of national military and political objectives
Class	Sturgeon Class fast attack submarine

LAUNCHING CEREMONY JUNE 3, 1967

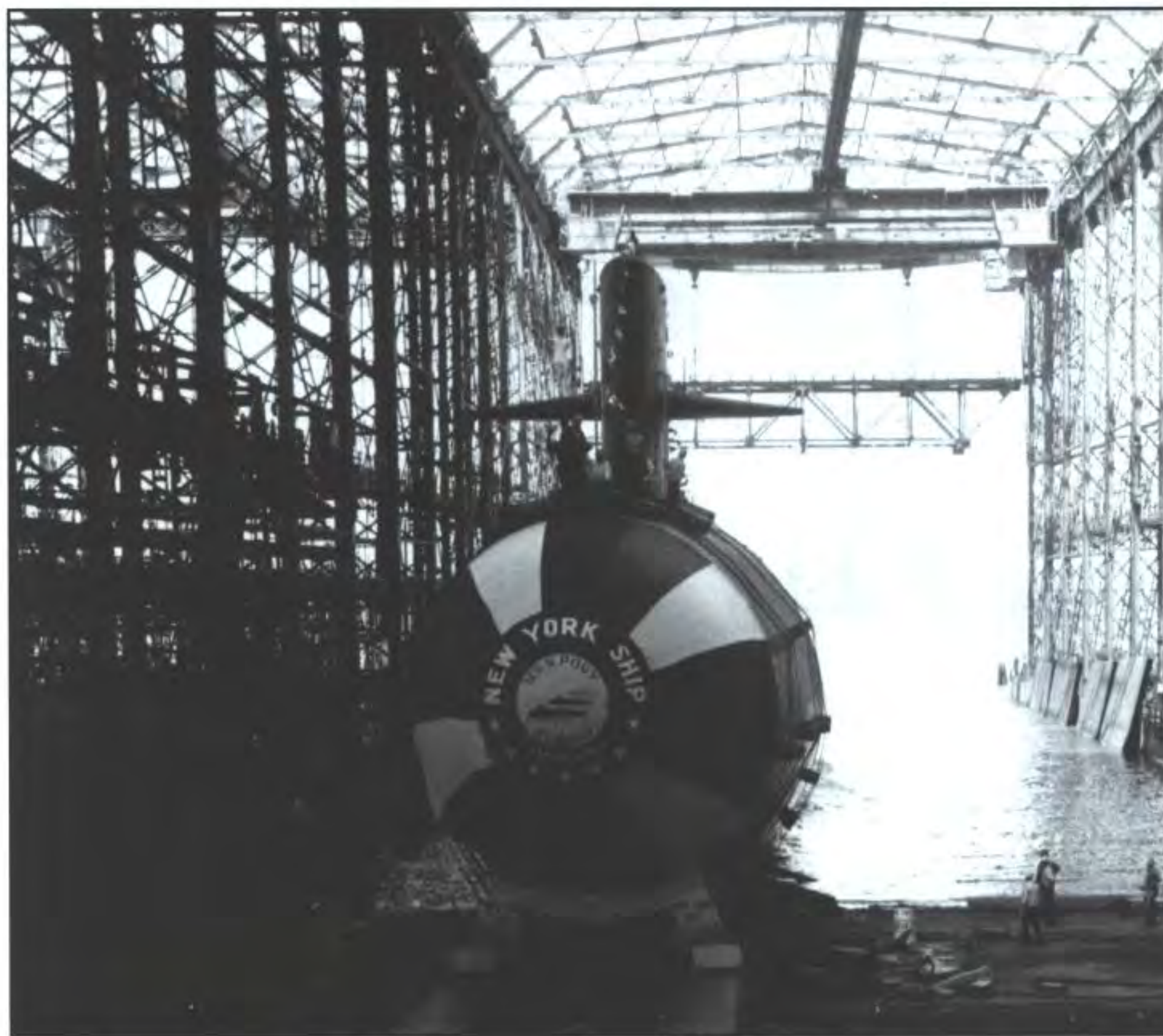


SPONSOR

Mrs. George H. WALES, wife of the first commanding officer of USS POGY (SS 266) now Rear Admiral George H. WALES (Ret.), christened the USS POGY (SSN 647) at the ship's launching on June 1967.



Final preparations for launch on the blocks at NEW YORK SHIP, June 2, 1967.

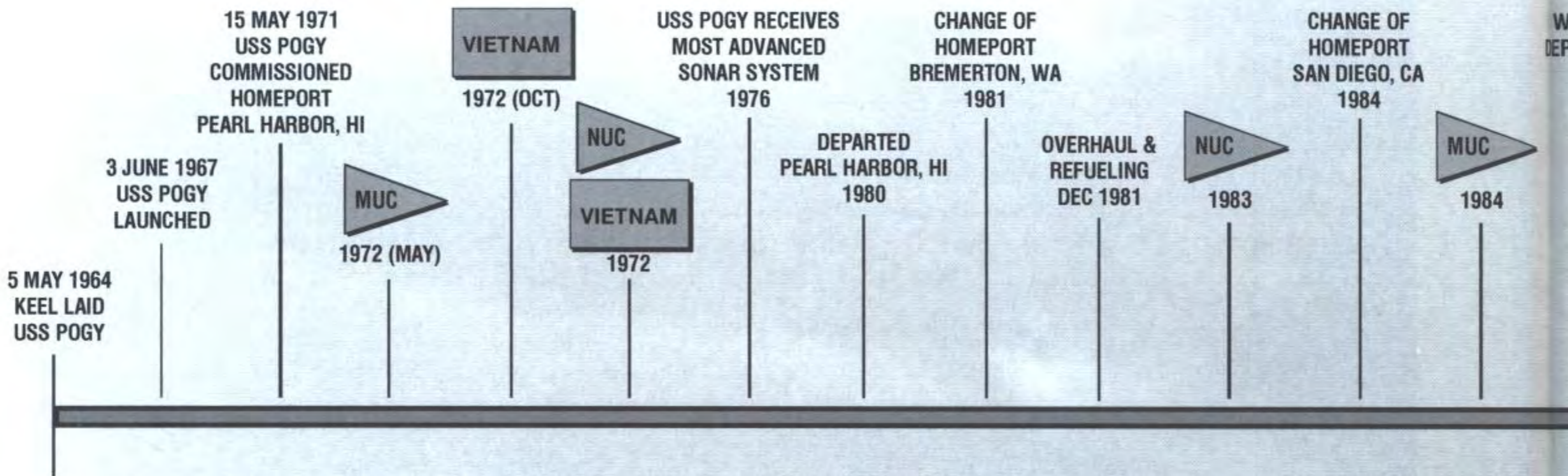


Sliding down the ways into the Delaware River at NEW YORK SHIP, June 3, 1967.



USS POGY

5 MAY 1964 - 19



George W. Scott
May 71-Jul 73



David S. Cooper
Jul 73-May 77



Allison J. Holifield, Jr.
May 77-Aug 79



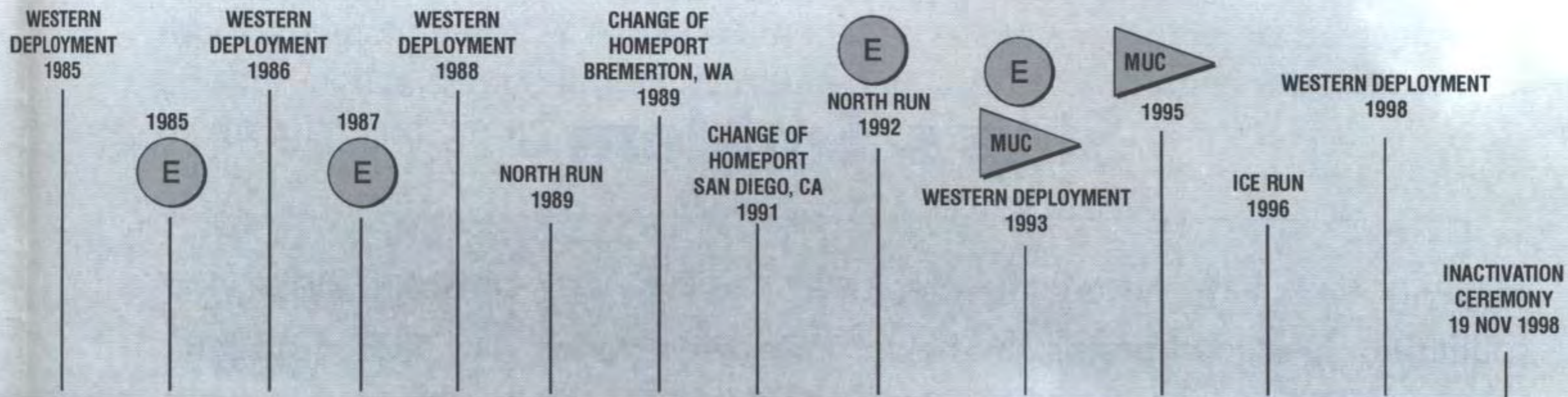
Craig L. Etka
Aug 79-Jan 82



Archie R. Clemins
Jan 82-May 85

Y (SSN 647)

NOVEMBER 1998



Dale W. Crisp
May 85-Jun 88



Thomas F. Rogers
Jun 88 - May 91



Wilson E. Frye
May 91- Feb 94



Thomas A. Hawkins
Feb 94 - Apr 96



James T. Reilly
Apr 96 - Sep 98



Frank D. Unetic, Jr.
Sep 98 - Present



Ship's Emblem

Military units have historically employed emblems as a means of displaying solidarity. Designed during the new construction period, the chosen insignia becomes an integral part of the ship. Closely associated with the crew and ship's reputation, the emblem is proudly displayed on a wide variety of official documents and memorabilia. POGY's emblem displays the silhouettes of both submarines to bear the name. This symbolizes the dramatic improvements in capabilities from diesel to nuclear powered submarines. It honors the proud tradition of excellence of submariners, exemplified by their heroic deeds of World War II, and promises to carry it into the future with the slogan "From Yesterday to Tomorrow." "No Ka Oi," Hawaiian for "Number One," indicates her crew's drive to be the best submarine in the Pacific Fleet.

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES SHIP POGY (SSN 647)

The present USS POGY (SSN 647) is a member of the STURGEON (SSN 637) Class of nuclear fast-attack submarines. POGY was commissioned in May 1971 and shortly thereafter transited the Panama Canal. She reported as a unit of Submarine Squadron ONE in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where she served until February 1980.

In 1976, POGY became the first ship in the Pacific Fleet to operate with the most advanced submarine sonar system in the U.S. Navy, the AN/BQQ-5. The robust reputation POGY earned with that sonar system led her to be deployed on short notice several times and resulted in consistently superior performance by the ship and crew.



North Pole Autumn 1996



Deep Submersible Rescue Vehicle

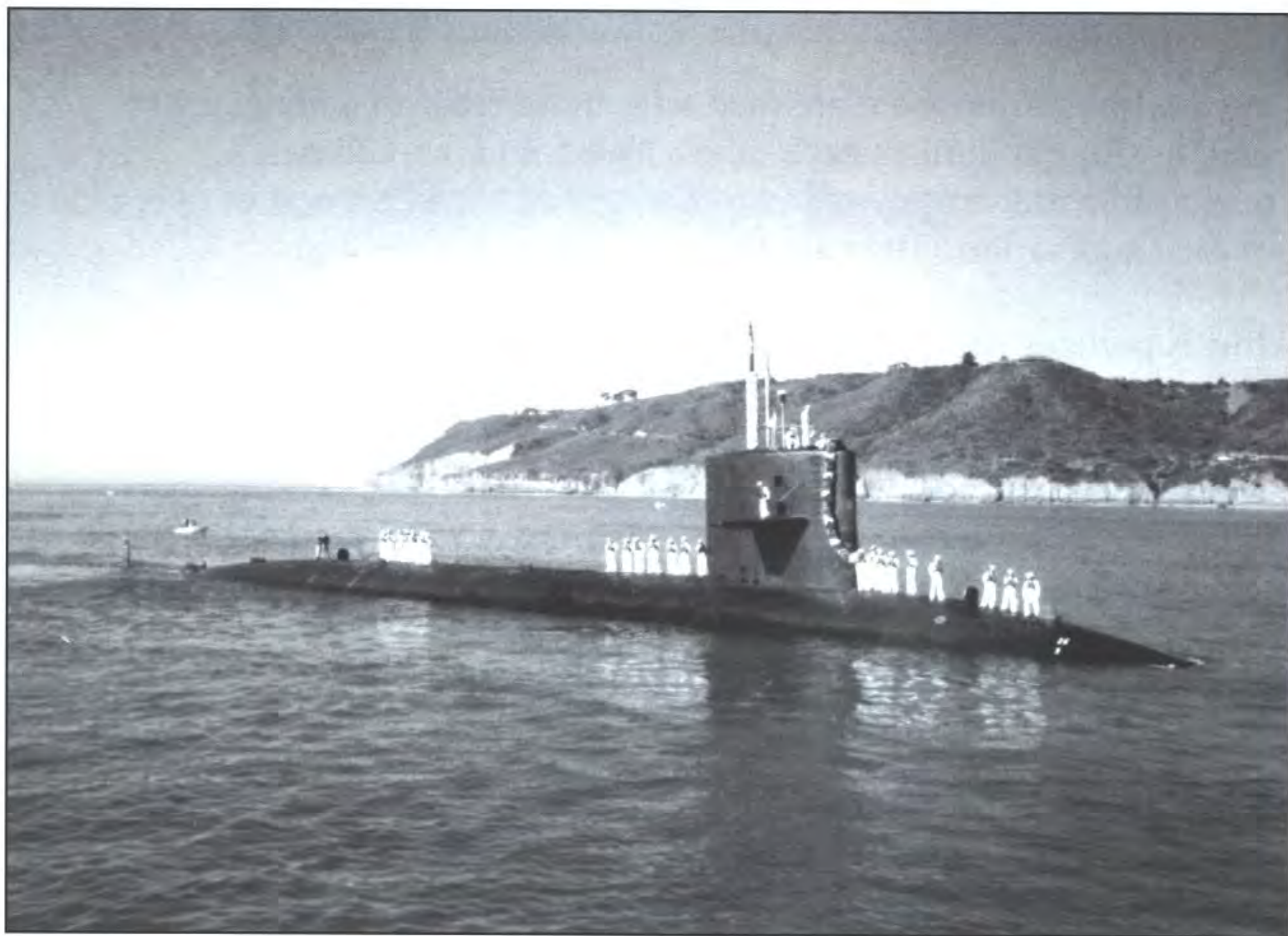
In December 1981, POGY completed an extensive overhaul and nuclear refueling. She was assigned to the operational control of Commander, Submarine Development Group ONE, once again a member of the operational fleet and one of the most modern and formidable warships in the world.

In April 1984, POGY was assigned to the operational control of Commander Submarine Group FIVE and changed homeport to Naval Submarine Base, San Diego. POGY completed Western Pacific deployments in 1985, 1986 and 1988. In 1989 POGY completed a highly successful operation in the Northern Pacific.

In July 1989, POGY changed homeport to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington. From October 1989 to May 1991, POGY underwent a 20-month non-refueling overhaul at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

In June 1991, POGY was assigned to Submarine Group FIVE and returned to Naval Submarine Base, San Diego. POGY completed successful deployments to the Northern Pacific in 1992, the Arctic Ocean in 1996 and the Western Pacific in 1993, 1995 and 1998. Pogy's deployment in 1998 was the last deployment by a 637 class submarine in western Pacific waters.

POGY earned consecutive COMSUBRON THREE Battle Efficiency "E" awards in 1992 and 1993. POGY has earned two Navy Unit Commendations and four Meritorious Unit Commendations. POGY is scheduled to begin decommissioning at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, in January 1999.



Returning Home From WESTPAC '98



The Submariner

Only a Submariner realizes to what great extent an entire ship depends on him as an individual. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend, but it is so!

A submarine at sea is a different world in herself, and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of submarines, the Navy must place responsibility and trust in the hands of those who take such ships to sea.

In each submarine there are men who in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to each other. These men are ultimately responsible to themselves and to each other for all aspects of operation of their submarine. They are the crew. They are the ship.

This is perhaps the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as a Submariner that he can escape the grasp of responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligation are almost ludicrously small, nevertheless, it is the spur which has given the Navy its greatest mariners - The men of the SUBMARINE SERVICE.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the proud and time honored title of Submariner.



USS POGY INACTIVATION CREW

Executive Officer



CDR "JD" Dowell

Chief Of The Boat



ETCS T. A. Butler

Wardroom



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: LTJG Dale Pulczynski, LTJG Juan Rodarte, LTJG Chris Urness, LTJG Rich Langton, LT Tom Marszalek, LTJG Dave Kuhn

BACK ROW FROM LEFT: LCDR Mike Dargel, LT Dave Lindstrom, LT Brian Booker, LT Drew Wolff, LT Howard Warner, LT Joe Cronley

Chief Petty Officers



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: ETCS Butler, ETC Morales, ETC Murphy, SKC Neumann, STSC Bissonnette

BACK ROW FROM LEFT: ETC Wright, ETC Walker, YNC Pierce, MMC Fako, MMC Helsing, EMC Peterson

Executive



FROM LEFT: CDR Dowell, YNC Pierce, YN3 Malone, YNSA McCue, HM1 Esquilan, MM1 Sandoval

Navigation/Electronics



FROM LEFT: SN Massman, ET1 Hawks, ETC Morales, ET1 Weise, ET2 Ocker

NOT PICTURED: ET1 Jackson, ET1 Bilbruck, ET1 Perez, ET2 Dawson, ET3 Treziok, ETSN Dahlgren

Communications



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: ET3 Walters, ET2 Pfenning
BACK ROW FROM LEFT: ET1 McCauley, ET3 English, ET1 Duncan,
ET2 Sisson
NOT PICTURED: ET3 Rogers, ET3 Moon, ET2 Mauldin

Reactor Controls



FROM LEFT: ET2 Cerda, ET2 Bihis, ET1 Bernal, ET2 Hemingway,
ET2 Salazar, ET1 Breedlove, ET2 Thompson, ET2 Walker

Mechanical



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: MM2 Ploegman, MM2 Shannon, MM3 Crow, MMC Fako

BACK ROW FROM LEFT: MM3 Miller, MM3 Weis, MM1 Kernan, MM2 Svedarsky

NOT PICTURED: MM1 Manning, MM1 Westphall, MM2 Gray

Reactor Laboratories



FROM LEFT: MM2 Stover, MM2 Rhodes, MM2 Leon, MM1 Kress, MM2 Hernbloom

NOT PICTURED: MM3 Schoderer

Auxiliary



BACK ROW FROM LEFT: MMFN Beig, MM2 Bumgardner,
MM2 Cordova, MMFA Malbauef
FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: MM2 Beach, MMFN Jordan, MM2 Chimillio,
MM2 Dew, MM2 Helsing, MM1 Dela Pena, MM1 Genter, MMFA Nelson

Electrical



BACK ROW FROM LEFT: EM1 Lunsford, EM3 Henricks, EM2 Clark, EM1
Bumpass, EM3 Foster, EM3 McNamara
FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: EM3 Folmer, EMC Peterson, EM1 Cook,
EM3 Leung
NOT PICTURED: EM2 Singleton, EM2 Zedlitz

Sonar



TOP ROW FROM LEFT: STSSA Reidenbach,
STSSN Bierly, STSSA Fox, STSSN Macias, STSSN Bouchard
BOTTOM ROW FROM LEFT: STS2 Jones, STS1 Youel,
STSC Bissonnette, STS1 Dyar, STS2 Nierman,
STS1 Pierce, STS2 Hafford
NOT PICTURED: STSCS Dietze

Torpedo



FROM LEFT: MM1 Huddleston, MM3 Lozano
NOT PICTURED: MMC Jones, MM1 Tettenhorst, MM3 Wise,
MM3 Newkirk

Fire Control



FROM LEFT: FT1 Butler, FT2 Johansen, FTC Diamond, FT1 Sabato, FT1 Pulliam

Deck



FROM LEFT: STS2 Niermann, SN Evans, SN Davis, SN Hutton

Storekeeper



FROM LEFT: SKC Neumann, SK3 Ruhter, SKSN Turner, SKSN Keefover

Food Service



FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: MS3 Quiroz, MS1 McClain, MSSN Bailey
BACK ROW FROM LEFT: MSC Kuligowski, MS2 Gipson, MS3 Martin
NOT PICTURED: MS2 Johnson

HERITAGE

USS POGY (SSN 647) is the second United States ship to bear this name. The first POGY (SS 266) was built in Manitowoc, Wisconsin and was commissioned in January 1943, Lieutenant Commander G. H. Wales commanding. By April of the same year she had departed on her first war patrol. POGY made ten war patrols. Her operations included anti-shipping patrols in the Western Pacific including the Formosa area and coastal waters of Japan. On her final war patrol, POGY made a mine field penetration into the Sea of Japan. POGY also conducted a lifeguard patrol during which she rescued ten aviators from a downed B-29 Superfortress. She sank 16 ships for a total tonnage of 62,633 placing her in the top ten percent in both categories for United States Submarines in World War II. For her actions she earned eight Battle Stars and eight Submarine Combat Insignia. For extreme heroism on her fifth and sixth patrols, she was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation. POGY was decommissioned and placed in the Reserve Fleet in January 1947. In September 1958 her proud name was struck from the Navy list.



POGY (SS 266) launching in Manitowoc, WI.

EXCERPTS FROM POGY'S FIFTH WAR PATROL LOG

Commander R. M. Metcalf, USN
Commanding Officer

February 10, 1944

- 0006 *Freighter turned toward land, giving us 2000 yards range. Just at this time we found out we were being paralleled inshore by a small sampan type patrol, which apparently was attempting to rendezvous with our freighter.*
- 0011 *Fired 3 torpedoes from the bow tubes. Target zigged away 40 degrees just as we fired and they all missed ahead. We were undoubtedly sighted, for he immediately started shooting at us and blinking madly at the escort. Cleared vicinity on 4 engines. Heard many depth charges astern.*
- 0301 *In position 6 miles ahead of convoy on their track. Radar plot showed two parallel columns of three ships each, and two wing escorts. Had determined on a submerged approach but a light mist set in, so headed down on a reverse course on the surface.*
- 0313 *Sighted leading ship in outboard column at a range of about 3700 yards, small port angle on the bow. Swung toward him for a bow shot.*
- 0319 *Fired tubes 1 & 2 at a MITSUKI Class DD. torpedo run 1200 yards, both to hit. Shifted targets and at . . .*
- 0320 *Fired tubes 3, 4, and 5 at the second ship in the outboard column, a large coal burning freighter. The situation now became confused. #1 torpedo hit the DD just forward of his bridge and set off his magazines and forward warheads. His bow completely disappeared and a tremendous tongue of flame shot 500 feet in the air. We could feel the heat of it on the bridge, and by its glare we became instantly visible. #2 torpedo hit the DD aft, and the stern section settled and sank in about 2 minutes. Two torpedoes hit the second ship in column, and he sank in about a minute. The sound man reported a torpedo running toward us on the port bow. Starting swinging in that direction. One torpedo hit a large, modern freighter in the inboard column and he started to settle. Took a set up on the third ship in the outboard column. Target turned toward to ram. Went ahead full and turned away, ending up 800 yards, by radar, in front of him. It looked closer. At this point he opened up with his bow gun, machine guns, and rifles. He was also blinking madly on an all-around white light, and rolling tremendous depth charges off his stern.*
- 0348 *Succeeded in shaking off our pursuer, who turned to the south.*
- 0359 *Sighted a large modern freighter giving us a small port angle on the bow. Before we could get a set up, he too, turned off to the south, forcing us to make another end around.*
- 0458 *In position ahead of freighter, started approach with stern tubes bearing.*
- 0512 *Moon came out from behind clouds, target apparently sighted us at a range of about 3000 yards and zigged away. Changed course toward him for a bow shot, but he in turn then headed toward us and started shooting. Changed course away and went to full power with freighter on port quarter shooting at us and dropping depth charges, and an escort on starboard quarter headed our way and flashing a green light at his masthead. During this time, one or the other of these ships fired a white rocket.*
- 0526 *Having shaken our pursuers, decided to call it a night. One hour remained until sunrise, it was already getting light, and I believed we could expect strong air coverage at daylight which would preclude another end around. We had been at battle stations for twelve hours. Cleared area to northeast on 4 engines.*
- 0611 *Dove. Spent the day at 100 feet to give all hands a rest, coming to periscope depth hourly.*

