





## BATON ROUGE

Length: 360'

Beam: 33'

Surface Displacement: 6,200 tons

Submerged Displacement: 6,900 tons

Maximum Depth: In excess of 400'

Maximum Speed: In excess of 20 knots

Armament: Four 21" torpedo tubes

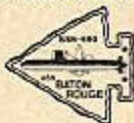
Keel Laid: Nov. 18, 1972

Launched: April 26, 1975

Commissioned: June 25, 1977

Sponsor: Mrs. F. Edward Hebert

Crew Complement: 12 Officers and 115 Enlisted



### WELCOME ABOARD

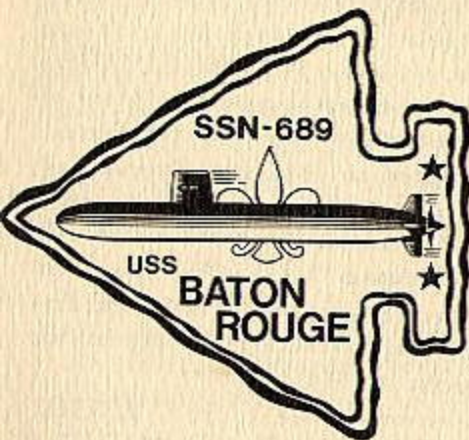
*The officers and men of the USS BATON ROUGE welcome you aboard one of the newest submarines in the United States Navy. We hope your visit is a pleasant one. You have been assigned an escort for the duration of your stay on board. If you have any questions, please address them to your escort, who will be happy to answer them.*

### MISSION

*The BATON ROUGE is the second ship of the new LOS ANGELES-class of attack submarine. These submarines have a greater speed capability than earlier classes, enhancing their primary mission of antisubmarine warfare. A concentrated engineering effort has given the 688 class an unmatched level of quietness. Additionally, these ships are equipped with today's most advanced submarine sensors and weapons systems, powerful complements to their stealth. As an underwater escort for surface task forces or as a lone prowler of the deep, BATON ROUGE is a deadly force against both enemy subs and surface ships.*

## MISSION CONT.

*The nuclear reactor core will provide power for at least nine years without re-fueling. Thus, the ship has the ability to remain submerged indefinitely, constrained only by the amount of provisions she is able to carry on board.*



### The Ship's Emblem

Military units have historically employed emblems as a means of organizational identification. Designed during the new construction period, the chosen insignia becomes an integral part of the ship's ongoing history. Closely associated with the crew and its reputation, the emblem is proudly displayed on a wide variety of official documents and memorabilia.

USS BATON ROUGE (SSN 689) has selected the emblem illustrated as its official insignia. The design incorporates a profile of a 688 Class submarine, two stars symbolizing the second ship of the class, the fleur-de-lis representing the French influence in the city of Baton Rouge, and the red lettering symbolic of the translation of the French words Baton Rouge as "red stick." The arrowhead is symbolic of the first inhabitants of the area, the Houma Indians, who were identified by the red stick.



*Commander Kenneth R. Karr, USN, is a 1963 graduate of the University of Louisville, Louisville, Kentucky, where he received his Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and Master of Engineering (Chemical) degrees, and was commissioned through the school's Navy Reserve Officer Training program. Following graduation he attended the Naval Nuclear Power School and Submarine School, after which he served in USS SALMON followed by a tour in USS SAM RAYBURN.*

*Commander Karr then served as Engineering Officer of the USS TINOSA where he was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal. He was then assigned as Assistant Professor of Naval Science, University of Washington, where he was awarded a second Navy Achievement Medal and a National Defense Preparedness Association "Leo J. Cobb" award for teaching excellence. He received his Master of Nuclear Engineering and Master of Science (Oceanography) degree from the University of Washington in 1975.*

*Commander Karr most recently served in USS I. MENDEL RIVERS where he was assigned as Executive Officer and was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal.*

*Commander Karr is married to the former Cheryl Ann Zuläger of Lexington, Kentucky. They reside with their two children in Norfolk, Virginia.*

## HISTORY

*BATON ROUGE* was commissioned along the banks of the James River at Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Virginia, on June 25, 1977. At the moment of breaking the commissioning pennant, *BATON ROUGE* joined the active United States Fleet. This act capped five years of new construction, beginning in late 1972 with the keel-laying and including launching ceremonies on April 26, 1975.

After commissioning, *BATON ROUGE* in late 1977 participated in a special operation in the Atlantic, spending Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years at sea away from home. The ship's successful mission earned her congratulations from all levels of the Atlantic Fleet.

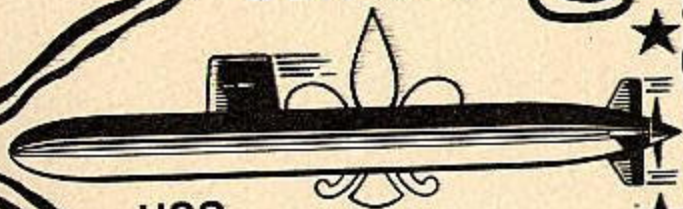
On February 20, 1978, *BATON ROUGE* returned to Newport News and the shipyard for PSA (Post Shakedown Availability), a shipyard period designed to backfit the latest equipment and technology and to modify existing equipment. In doing so, it is hoped that the ship's operating cycle until her first overhaul can be lengthened. The ship rejoined the fleet on August 31, 1978, after successful completion of sea trials. The ship's first Commanding Officer was Commander T. C. MALONEY, who served in four other submarines, and also commanded Naval Nuclear Power School, Bainbridge, Maryland.

Commander K. R. KARR assumed command of *BATON ROUGE* on October 14, 1978, just four days before an overseas deployment.

**"... we are a free nation because we have always had the will to be prepared for any danger, no matter how frightening, because we have never lost the will to be free."**

**—The Honorable F. Edward Hebert**

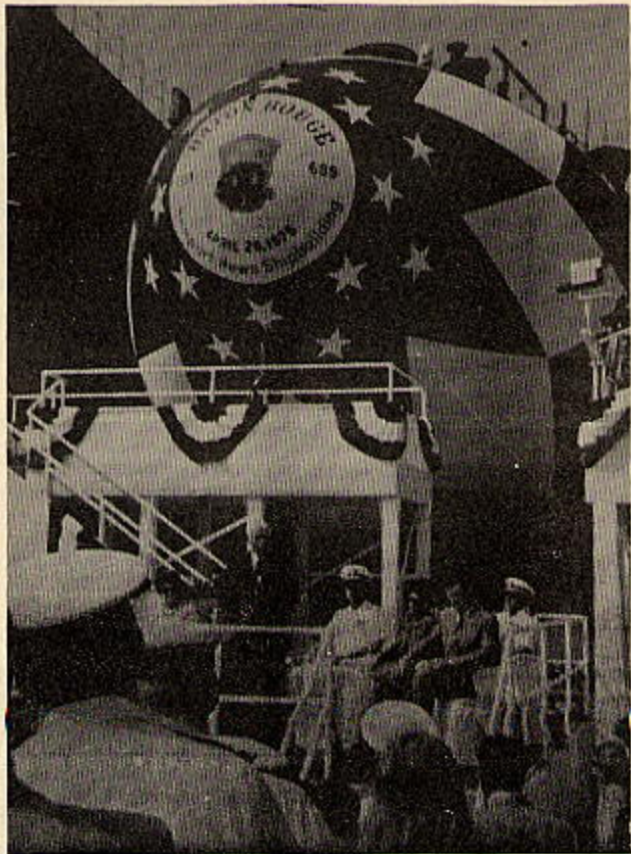
**SSN-689**



**USS**

**BATON  
ROUGE**





USS BATON ROUGE  
SSN 689  
NUCLEAR-POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID NOVEMBER 18, 1972

AT  
NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING AND DRY DOCK COMPANY

AUTHENTICATED BY



MRS. F. EDWARD HÉBERT

"OUR OBJECTIVE IS NOT TO MAKE WAR. IT IS TO DETER WAR. WE  
SEEK A WELL-BALANCED DEFENSE, NO MORE AND NO LESS THAN IS  
SUFFICIENT TO OUR NATIONAL SAFETY AND TO DETER AGGRESSION."



THE HONORABLE F. EDWARD HÉBERT  
CHAIRMAN, ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES