



LAUNCHING OF THE NUCLEAR-POWERED SUBMARINE

OMAHA SSN692

KEEL LAYING OF THE NUCLEAR-POWERED SUBMARINE

JACKSONVILLE SSN699



GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat Division

February 21, 1976

OMAHA KEEL LAYING

January 27, 1973

Initialing of the keel of the *Omaha* on January 27, 1973 marked the beginning of construction on the fifth ship of the LOS ANGELES Class, which is the Navy's newest class of nuclear-powered attack submarines.

Shown left to right, foreground, are Jana Hruska Fagan, Maid of Honor for the ceremony; Admiral H.G. Rickover, USN, Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program; and Mrs. Roman L. Hruska, who welded her initials on the keel.

In the background are former Secretary of the Navy Warner, Senator Hruska, and General Dynamics' Chairman of the Board, David Lewis, who also participated in the ceremony.



LAUNCHING OF THE OMAHA SSN692

PROGRAM

NATIONAL ANTHEM

United States Coast Guard Band

INVOCATION

Captain John F. Laboon, Ch C, USN

WELCOME

Joseph D. Pierce
General Manager, Electric Boat Division
Vice President, General Dynamics

REMARKS

David S. Lewis
Chairman of the Board
General Dynamics

INTRODUCTION OF

CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

ADMIRAL JAMES L. HOLLOWAY, III, USN

Mr. Lewis

INTRODUCTION OF ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT)

GARY D. PENISTEN

Mr. Lewis

INTRODUCTION OF
PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

Mr. Gary D. Penisten

ADDRESS

The Honorable Roman L. Hruska
United States Senator from Nebraska

INTRODUCTION OF ADMIRAL RICKOVER

Mr. Lewis

INTRODUCTION OF SPONSOR
AND MATRON OF HONOR

Admiral H. G. Rickover, USN
Director, Naval Nuclear
Propulsion Program

CHRISTENING

Mrs. Roman L. Hruska, Sponsor

Mrs. Charles R. Fagan, Matron of Honor



MRS. ROMAN L. HRUSKA

Victoria Kuncł Hruska was born in Omaha, Nebraska and educated in Omaha public schools and the University of Nebraska. Her studies included one semester in the University of Nebraska Medical School.

She was married to Omaha attorney Roman Lee Hruska in 1930. They have three children and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Hruska is an active member of the Republican Congressional Wives Club, the Congressional Club, and the Red Cross unit of the Ladies of the Senate.

Her hobbies include gardening and travelling with Senator Hruska. She has been an active partner in each of his election campaigns.

THE HONORABLE ROMAN L. HRUSKA

Senator Hruska has devoted 30 years of public service to representing the people of Nebraska. He has served 22 years in the United States Congress, the past 20 of these in the Senate. His previous public service consisted of 8 years on the Board of Commissioners of Douglas County, Nebraska. His 7 years as chairman of this board were marked by seven consecutive reductions in the county tax levy.

A member of the Senate Subcommittee for Defense Appropriations, Senator Hruska is an opponent of inefficiency in the military establishment while maintaining a firm belief in the essentiality of a strong defense posture. The Senator is also Ranking Minority Member on both the powerful Judiciary Committee and the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee.

Senator Hruska has been called "a Senator's Senator" because he doesn't seek publicity, works hard in Senate Committees, understands complicated issues, and is often consulted by his fellow Senators, who heed his advice.

Although nationally recognized as one of the most influential of United States Senators, he has kept closely attuned to the needs of the people of his home state. One of his main concerns is the future of rural America. On his Subcommittee post, he has given constant attention to ensuring priority for resource conservation.



One of ten children of Czech parentage, Roman Lee Hruska has been a lifelong resident of Nebraska. He was born in David City about 65 miles west of Omaha. He graduated from the Creighton University Law School in 1929, after having also attended the University of Omaha and the University of Chicago Law School. He practiced law in Omaha for 23 years.

He and his wife, the former Victoria Kuncl of South Omaha were married in 1930 and have raised three children.

KEEL LAYING OF THE OMAHA



SSN **USS OMAHA** **692**
GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat Division

RIGHT: As the National Anthem is announced, the audience comes to attention. BELOW: Mrs. Hruska removes welding gloves after the Omaha's keel is initialed. With her are, from left, her daughter Jana, former Secretary of the Navy Warner, Senator Hruska, and Admiral Rickover.



HISTORY OF JACKSONVILLE

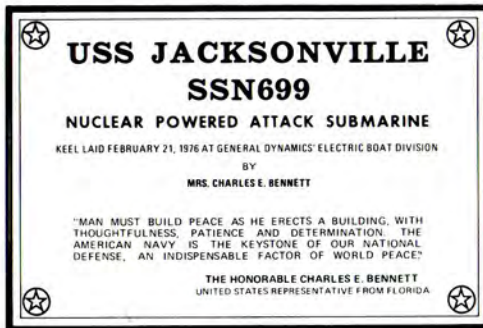


“The bold new city of the South”, Jacksonville, Florida is the epitome of endurance. The original colony, Fort Caroline, settled in 1564 by French Huguenots, was conquered two years later by Spanish forces and renamed San Mateo. What is today the center of the city of Jacksonville was called Cowford by the British in their 1763-1783 occupation and renamed Jacksonville in 1822 following Spain’s transfer of sovereignty to Florida in 1819.

Since then the city has survived a series of adversities: the hard times of the Civil War and Reconstruction Period, a yellow fever epidemic in 1883, a terrible freeze in 1899 which completely destroyed the fruit industry, and finally a devastating fire in 1901 which left only one building standing in downtown Jacksonville.

From these rough beginnings, Jacksonville has emerged as by far the most populous incorporated city in Florida while retaining substantial growth potential with over 75% of its 840-square mile land surface still undeveloped.

Modern day Jacksonville has an excellent transportation network, including two railroads, a municipal bus system, an efficient interstate highway and local expressway system, excellent air traffic coverage, and a superb port facility. Jacksonville boasts numerous warehousing facilities, has the largest container terminal in the Southeast, and is one of the fastest growing ports in the Southeast. The Naval installations in Jacksonville are substantial assets to the national defense.



KEEL LAYING OF THE JACKSONVILLE SSN699 **PROGRAM**

INTRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL SPEAKER
Mr. Gary D. Penisten

INTRODUCTION OF MRS. CHARLES E. BENNETT
AND MAID OF HONOR
Admiral H. G. Rickover, USN

ADDRESS
The Honorable Charles E. Bennett
United States Representative from Florida

WELDING OF INITIALS ON KEEL
Mrs. Charles E. Bennett
Miss Lucinda Fay Bennett, Maid of Honor

MRS. CHARLES E. BENNETT

Dorothy Jean Fay Bennett was born in Forth Worth, Texas. She grew up in Springfield, Missouri and was educated at the University of Colorado and Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

She is married to Charles Bennett and they have four children: Bruce, Charles, Jr., James, and Lucinda, and two grandchildren. She is a former member of the Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy and sponsor of the guided missile cruiser USS *Fox*. Mrs. Bennett is active in church and civic work. She has been a Vestry Person at the Falls Church Episcopal Church in Virginia. She is also active in other areas of church work.

As a member of the Falls Church Community Service Council, Mrs. Bennett has worked with indigent families and with Meals on Wheels. She is also a Red Cross Nursing Assistant and does volunteer visitation work at Fairfax Hospital. Mrs. Bennett has also been active in PTA, Boy Scout, and Girl Scout work.



THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. BENNETT

Congressman Bennett has spent 27 years in the United States House of Representatives as the representative of Florida's Third Congressional District, which includes the city of Jacksonville. During this time he has set a voting record of not missing a single rollcall vote in more than 22 years, a voting record unexcelled in the entire history of Congress.

While in the House, Congressman Bennett has given national defense coupled with government thrift a position of top priority in his legislative efforts. This attitude is reflected in his position on defense: not one penny should be spent unnecessarily, but not one penny needed for adequate defense should be left unspent.

Fiscal reform in government through efficient budgetary methods has long been a priority issue in Congressman Bennett's career. Because of his successful efforts in promoting federal savings, the National Alliance of Businessmen has given him its Watchdog of the Treasury award four times.

Other legislative efforts have centered on ethics in government, domestic security, and environmental conservation. This latter concern is evidenced, among numerous other conservation bills he has sponsored, by the creation of an excellent national park facility in Jacksonville and of the Key Deer Preserve in the Florida Keys.



As an author, Congressman Bennett has published four books, all historical, and co-authored another. He has also contributed many articles to popular journals.

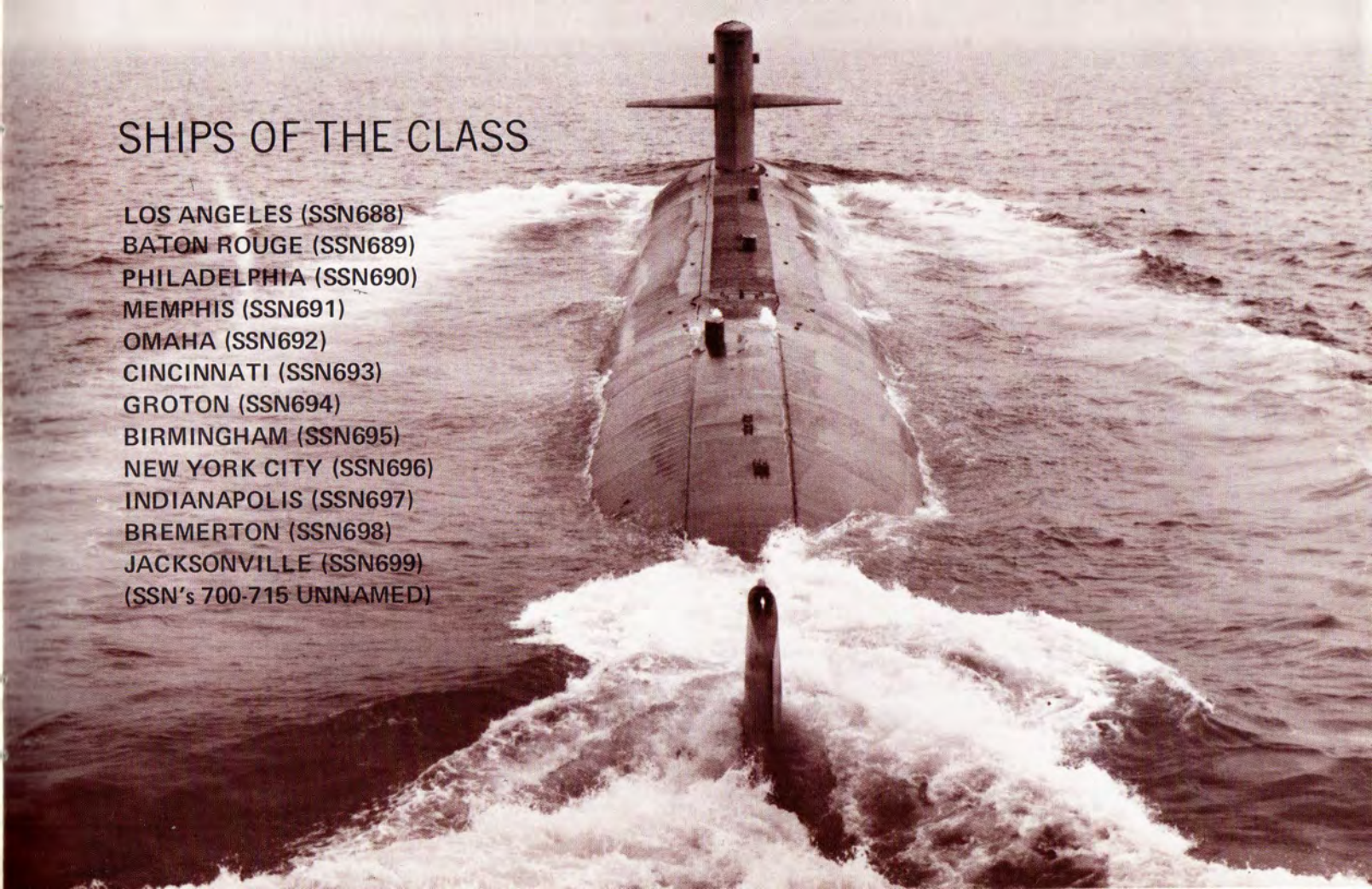
Born in 1910, Charles E. Bennett has been a lifelong resident of Florida. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1934 and practiced law in Jacksonville before entering Congress. He served in the infantry in World War II and received the Silver Star and Bronze Star.

THE LOS ANGELES CLASS

The LOS ANGELES Class is the Navy's newest class of nuclear-powered attack submarines. It has a higher speed capability than its predecessors; it will also have the most advanced antisubmarine warfare capabilities. Underwater stealth, together with powerful weapon systems and sensors, will make ships of this class a deadly force against enemy submarines, as well as surface ships.

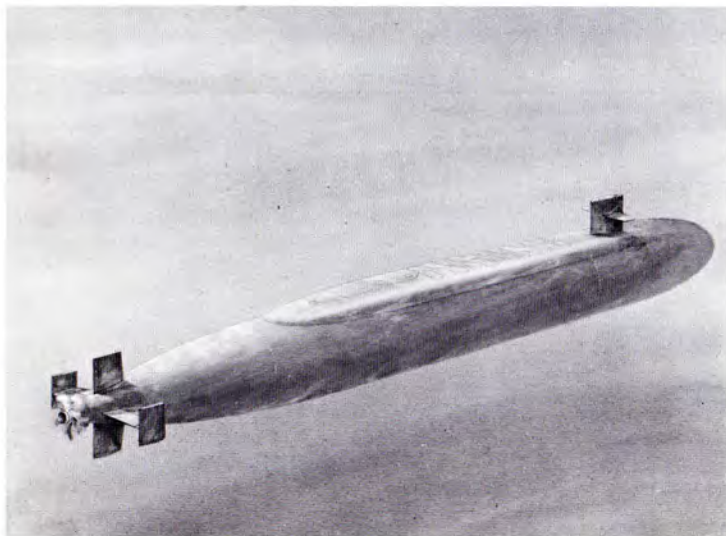
Approval to proceed with this important new class of high speed submarines resulted from investigations of the U.S. Submarine Program conducted seven years ago by the House and Senate Armed Services and Appropriations Committees and the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. In view of the urgent need for these high speed submarines in our fleet, Congress not only accepted the recommendations of these committees that funds for procurement of long lead items for the SSN688 be added to the budget for the 1969 shipbuilding program, but Congress also added funds for submarines of this class to the 1970, 1971, and 1972 shipbuilding programs in addition to the funds proposed by the Department of Defense.

SHIPS OF THE CLASS



LOS ANGELES (SSN688)
BATON ROUGE (SSN689)
PHILADELPHIA (SSN690)
MEMPHIS (SSN691)
OMAHA (SSN692)
CINCINNATI (SSN693)
GROTON (SSN694)
BIRMINGHAM (SSN695)
NEW YORK CITY (SSN696)
INDIANAPOLIS (SSN697)
BREMERTON (SSN698)
JACKSONVILLE (SSN699)
(SSN's 700-715 UNNAMED)

FUTURE NUCLEAR-POWERED SUBMARINES



Artist's concept of the TRIDENT submarine

TRIDENT SUBMARINES

The first four Trident submarines have been authorized by Congress. The President's fiscal year 1977 budget requests approval of the fifth submarine and more are planned.

The TRIDENT submarines and missiles will increase the survivability of our seaborne deterrent in the 1980's and beyond, and will provide for replacement of our aging POLARIS submarines.

The United States has 41 nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. All of these were built with the technology of the 1950's, and the oldest one will be nearly 20 years old by the time the first TRIDENT submarine is scheduled to enter the fleet.

The new TRIDENT submarines have been designed with all the latest nuclear propulsion and submarine technology. They will be much more difficult to detect and attack than our POLARIS submarines for two reasons: the new longer range TRIDENT missiles will give the submarines vastly more ocean area to hide in, and the new submarines will be much quieter.

NUCLEAR-POWERED SURFACE SHIPS

AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

	Ship Authorization	Ship Delivery
USS <i>Enterprise</i> CVAN65	1958	1961
USS <i>Nimitz</i> CVAN68	1967	1975
USS <i>Dwight D Eisenhower</i> CVAN69	1970	1977
USS <i>Carl Vinson</i> CVAN70	1974	1980

GUIDED MISSILE CRUISERS

USS <i>Long Beach</i> CGN9	1957	1961
USS <i>Bainbridge</i> CGN25	1959	1962
USS <i>Truxtun</i> CGN35	1962	1967
USS <i>California</i> CGN36	1967	1974
USS <i>South Carolina</i> CGN37	1968	1974
USS <i>Virginia</i> CGN38	1970	1976
USS <i>Texas</i> CGN39	1971	1977
USS <i>Mississippi</i> CGN40	1972	1978
Unnamed CGN41	1975	1979



Nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser USS California, commissioned February 1974

TASK FORCE

Nuclear power in the Navy's first line surface striking forces frees them from dependence on vulnerable and uncertain fuel oil supplies. Oil fired ships must be refueled every few days. All-nuclear task groups, such as that pictured here, have essentially unlimited high speed endurance. That endurance enables the nuclear task group to match the endurance of enemy nuclear submarines, to take high speed evasive action, to avoid frequent slowing to refuel in high threat areas, and to retire at high speed to low threat areas to replenish combat stores. Nuclear powered aircraft carriers can carry munitions and aircraft fuel in space that otherwise would be required for ship propulsion fuel. By having the aircraft carrier and its escorts nuclear propelled, the need for other combatant ships to protect supplies is reduced.

There are now two nuclear powered aircraft carriers and five nuclear powered cruisers in the fleet. Two more aircraft carriers and four more cruisers are under construction.

The President's budget for Fiscal Year 1977 requests advance procurement funds to get started on long lead components for a nuclear powered strike cruiser. The nuclear powered strike cruiser, designated CSGN, is described by the Navy as being larger than the nuclear cruisers now being built

Nuclear-Powered Task Group: The USS Enterprise (CVAN 65) accompanied by the USS Bainbridge (CGN 25), the USS Truxton (CGN 35) and the USS Long Beach (CGN 9).



in order to accommodate additional weapons including cruise missiles and the AEGIS air defense radar and missile system. The AEGIS missile system is designed for use in the highest threat areas to counter saturation type attacks by aircraft and missiles. It is in just such high threat areas that nuclear propulsion is most needed due to vulnerability of logistic supply lines. By having the most advanced air defense missile system, nuclear propulsion, and offensive missile systems, the nuclear powered strike cruiser will greatly enhance the capability of our carriers to penetrate and counter enemy forces. The strike cruiser will also have unique ability to project seapower while operating independently or with lesser naval forces in areas where the full power of an aircraft carrier task force is not required.

UNITED STATES and SOVIET NAVIES

(Based on unclassified data released by the
Department of Defense as of November 1975)

SUBMARINES

	U.S.S.R.	U.S.
Ballistic Missile	75*	41
Attack	185	75
Cruise Missile	65	0
	<u>325</u>	<u>116</u>
	U.S.S.R.	U.S.
Nuclear	130	106
Nonnuclear	195	10
Total	<u>325</u>	<u>116</u>

*Includes 34 modern YANKEE Class submarines and 11 modern DELTA Class submarines.

U.S.S.R. MAJOR SURFACE COMBATANTS

Aircraft Carriers	1
Helicopter Carriers	2
Cruisers	31
Destroyers	86
Ocean Escorts	107
Total	227

U.S. MAJOR SURFACE COMBATANTS

Attack Carriers	15
Helicopter Carriers	0
Cruisers	28
Destroyers	71
Ocean Escorts	64
Total	178

U.S.S.R. MINOR COMBATANTS AND SUPPORT SHIPS

Missile Patrol Craft	135
Other Patrol Craft	540
Amphibious Ships	85
Mine Warfare Ships	255
Auxiliaries	about 1,165
Total	about 2,180



U.S. MINOR COMBATANTS AND SUPPORT SHIPS

Missile Patrol Craft	0
Other Patrol Craft	8
Amphibious Ships	61
Mine Warfare Ships	3
Auxiliaries	117
Total	189

"In a world yearning for present-day heroes, we need not look any further than the rank and file of our own American Navy. The men and women of the Navy, through their hard work and loyalty, form the backbone of democracy's greatest defense. They are real heroes, real heroines, for freedom-loving people everywhere."

THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. BENNETT

SUBMARINES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT ELECTRIC BOAT


 **USS PHILADELPHIA** 
SSN690


NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID AUGUST 12, 1972 AT ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION OF GENERAL DYNAMICS

BY
MRS. HUGH SCOTT

"MAY THE USS PHILADELPHIA SERVE AS A SPECIAL EMISSARY FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD. MAY HER CHIEF GOAL BE TO CARRY THIS MESSAGE OF PEACE TO EVERY PORT, TO THE PEOPLES AND THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD."

THE HONORABLE HUGH SCOTT
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM PENNSYLVANIA
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER 



 **USS OMAHA** 
SSN692

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID JANUARY 27, 1973 AT ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION OF GENERAL DYNAMICS

BY
MRS. ROMAN L. HRUSKA

"MAY THE STRENGTH OF OUR NATION AND OUR DESIRE FOR WORLD PEACE BE AS DEEP AS THE SEAS WHICH THE USS OMAHA WILL PROBE. MAY SHE NEVER FIRE IN ANGER NOR BE ANGERED BY FIRE."

THE HONORABLE ROMAN L. HRUSKA
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM NEBRASKA 





USS GROTON

SSN694

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID AUGUST 3, 1973 AT ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION OF GENERAL DYNAMICS

BY

ANNE HAZARD RICHARDSON

"AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, AMERICA CANNOT RETREAT FROM INVOLVEMENT IN A COMPLEX WORLD -- REGARDLESS OF WHAT SOME MIGHT WISH."

THE HONORABLE ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES



USS NEW YORK CITY

SSN696

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID DECEMBER 15, 1973 AT GENERAL DYNAMICS' ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION

BY

MRS. ANN BUCKLEY

"MILITARY FORCES ARE NOT A LUXURY BUT A NECESSITY. SO LONG AS WE LIVE IN A WORLD IN WHICH SOME NATIONS FEEL A COMPULSION TO DOMINATE, OR INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHERS, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO MAINTAIN THOSE LEVELS OF DEFENSE THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO OUR SURVIVAL."

THE HONORABLE JAMES L. BUCKLEY
UNITED STATES SENATOR FROM NEW YORK



USS INDIANAPOLIS

SSN 697

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID OCTOBER 19, 1974 AT GENERAL DYNAMICS' ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION

BY

MRS. WILLIAM G. BRAY

"THE NEED FOR A STRONG NAVY DATES BACK TO THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. THE NEED IS STILL THERE; A NUCLEAR NAVY IS ESSENTIAL TO GUARANTEE OUR NATIONAL SECURITY."

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM G. BRAY
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE FROM INDIANA



USS JACKSONVILLE

SSN699

NUCLEAR POWERED ATTACK SUBMARINE

KEEL LAID FEBRUARY 21, 1976 AT GENERAL DYNAMICS' ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION

BY

MRS. CHARLES E. BENNETT

"MAN MUST BUILD PEACE AS HE ERECTS A BUILDING, WITH THOUGHTFULNESS, PATIENCE AND DETERMINATION. THE AMERICAN NAVY IS THE KEYSTONE OF OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE, AN INDISPENSABLE FACTOR OF WORLD PEACE."

THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. BENNETT
UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE FROM FLORIDA



“Let us resolve that this nation never allows itself to become so weakened militarily that it invites aggression through miscalculation or design. If we do, we will have dishonored our heritage.”

THE HONORABLE ROMAN L. HRUSKA
United States Senator from Nebraska

“There are only two kinds of peace: a peace imposed from without and a peace nurtured and protected from within. We now enjoy the latter type of peace but only because we have the strength to maintain it. The keel-laying of the U.S.S. *Jacksonville* reaffirms this nation’s commitment to maintain its military strength and thereby deter foreign efforts to destroy the peace we have achieved, our way of life and our freedom.”

THE HONORABLE CHARLES E. BENNETT
United States Representative from Florida