

Change of Command



United States Ship City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)

**Portsmouth Naval Shipyard
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
Friday, 13 July 2001**

Command at Sea



THE PRESTIGE, PRIVILEGE AND THE BURDEN OF COMMAND

Only a seaman realizes to what extent an entire ship reflects the personality and ability of one individual, her Commanding Officer. To a landsman, this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend - but it is so.

A ship at sea is a distant world in herself and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of the fleet units, the Navy must place great power, responsibility and trust in the hands of those leaders chosen for command.

In each ship there is one man who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to no other man. There is one who alone is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gunfiring and morale of his ship. He is the Commanding Officer. He is the ship.

This is the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour as Commanding Officer that he can escape the grasp of command responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are almost ludicrously small; nevertheless, command is the spur which has given the Navy its great leaders.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the highest, time-honored title of the seafaring world - "CAPTAIN."

—By *Joseph Conrad*

Change of Command

at which

Commander Leonard G. Goff,

United States Navy

will be relieved by

Commander Robert J. Schmidt,

United States Navy

as

Commanding Officer,

USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

(SSN 705)





Admiral Frank L. "Skip" Bowman
United States Navy
Naval Sea Systems Command (08)



Admiral Frank L. "Skip" Bowman

Naval Sea Systems Command (08)

Admiral Frank L. "Skip" Bowman was born and grew up in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was commissioned following graduation in 1966 from Duke University. In 1973 he completed a dual master's program in nuclear engineering and naval architecture/marine engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was elected to the Society of Sigma Xi.

His early assignments included tours in *USS Simon Bolivar* (SSBN 641), *USS Pogy* (SSN 647), *USS Daniel Boone* (SSBN 629), and *USS Bremerton* (SSN 698). In 1983, Admiral Bowman took command of *USS City of Corpus Christi* (SSN 705), which completed a seven-month circumnavigation of the globe and two special classified missions during his command tour. His crew earned three consecutive Battle Efficiency "E" awards. Admiral Bowman later commanded *USS Holland* (AS 32) from August 1988 to April 1990. During this period, the *Holland* crew was awarded two Battle Efficiency "E" awards.

Ashore, Admiral Bowman has served on the staff of Commander, Submarine Squadron FIFTEEN, in Guam; twice in the Bureau of Naval Personnel in the Submarine Policy and Assignment Division; as the SSN 21 Attack Submarine Program Coordinator on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations; on the Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group; and as Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Naval Warfare). In December 1991, he was promoted to flag rank and assigned as Deputy Director of Operations on the Joint Staff (J-3) until June 1992, and then as Director for Political-Military Affairs (J-5) until July 1994. Admiral Bowman served as Chief of Naval Personnel from July 1994 to September 1996.

Admiral Bowman assumed duties as Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, on 27 September 1996, and was promoted to his present rank on 1 October 1996.

Under his command, his crews have earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation (three awards), the Navy Battle Efficiency "E" Ribbon (five awards), the Navy Expeditionary Medal (two awards), the Humanitarian Service Medal (two awards), the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (three awards), and the Navy Arctic Service Ribbon. His personal awards include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (with three gold stars), and the Officier de l'Ordre National du MÈrite from the Government of France.



Rear Admiral Michael C. Tracy
United States Navy
Commander Submarine Group TWO



Rear Admiral Michael C. Tracy

Commander Submarine Group TWO

Rear Admiral Tracy, a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, graduated with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in June 1975. He earned his Master of Science degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from the University of Michigan the following year.

He completed Nuclear Power Training and reported aboard USS THOMAS A. EDISON (SSBN 610) in February 1978, where he served as a division officer, completing five strategic deterrent patrols. From 1981 through 1983, he was assigned to the faculty at the United States Naval Academy, where he received the William P. Clements Award for educational excellence as the top military instructor for the 1982-1983 academic year.

Rear Admiral Tracy was assigned to USS NATHANAEL GREENE (SSBN 636) in July 1984, where he served as Engineer Officer, completing three strategic deterrent patrols prior to a shipyard period. His next assignment was as Executive Officer on board USS ALBUQUERQUE (SSN 706), reporting in April of 1987. He completed two North Atlantic deployments and one Mediterranean deployment prior to detaching to the staff of the Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion, Department of Energy in Washington, DC, where he served as the Special Assistant for Enlisted Matters.

Rear Admiral Tracy took command of USS NEWPORT NEWS (SSN 750) in February 1992. He guided the ship through three deployments, including participation in Operation Desert Storm/Vigilant Warrior in 1994. During his tour, NEWPORT NEWS was awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation, consecutive awards for the Submarine Squadron EIGHT Battle Efficiency "E" for 1993 and 1994, and the Red Engineering "E" for 1992 and 1993. He was one of three CINCLANTFLT finalists for the 1994 Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Award for inspirational leadership in command.

Rear Admiral Tracy was a senior member of the COMSUBLANT Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team from January to April 1995 prior to reporting to the Bureau of Naval Personnel as Deputy Director, Submarine/Nuclear Power Distribution Control Division until May 1997. In July, he assumed command of Submarine Squadron EIGHT, an submarine squadron based in Norfolk, Virginia, consisting of nine submarines, a tender, a floating drydock, and a submarine torpedo facility. After completing this tour, he assumed the duties as Chief of Staff, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, until March 2001. Upon transfer, he was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral (Lower Half).

Rear Admiral Tracy's awards include the Legion of Merit with gold star, Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, the Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars, and the Navy Achievement Medal with one gold star.



Commander Robert J. Schmidt
United States Navy
Prospective Commanding Officer
USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)



Commander Robert J. Schmidt

Prospective Commanding Officer

USS City of Corpus Christi

Commander Schmidt was born and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and graduated from Villanova University in 1983 through the NROTC program with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering.

After completing initial training in 1984, he served as an engineering division officer aboard USS SAN FRANCISCO (SSN 711) in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, completing several Western and Northern Pacific deployments. He also served as Combat Systems Officer from April 1987 until September 1988, which led to a follow on assignment as the Tactical Exercise Officer for the Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Following the Submarine Officer Advanced Course, he was assigned as Engineer Officer on USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) from April 1991 until May 1994 which included completion of the first 688 class submarine refueling. He then served as the Fleet Liaison to the Naval Sea Systems Command in Arlington, Virginia where he worked to improve Navy damage control, fire fighting, and submarine rescue capabilities. During this tour he also completed requirements for a Masters Degree in Public Administration.

In 1996, Commander Schmidt reported to USS CHEYENNE (SSN 773) as Executive Officer. Following commissioning, six months of Atlantic operations and a post shakedown availability, the ship completed inter-fleet transfer and a series of Pacific Fleet exercises before his relief in June of 1998. He then worked on submarine and naval ship construction programs on the Chief of Naval Operations' staff at the Pentagon. He reported to command of USS CITY of CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705) in 2001.

Commander Schmidt is authorized to wear the Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, the Navy Commendation Medal with four gold stars and various other awards.

He is married to the former Kathleen Rene Allender of Severna Park, Maryland. They currently reside in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Schedule of Events



★ Martial Music - U.S. Navy Band (Newport, Rhode Island)

★ Arrival of the Official Party

★ National Anthem

★ Invocation - LCDR Chapman, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy

★ Remarks

Rear Admiral Michael C. Tracy, Commander Submarine Group TWO
Admiral Frank L. "Skip" Bowman, Naval Sea Systems Command (08)

★ Awards Presentation

★ Remarks

Commander Leo Goff, Commanding Officer, USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)

Commander Robert J. Schmidt, Prospective Commanding Officer, USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)

★ Benediction - LCDR Chapman, Chaplain Corps, United States Navy

★ Departure of the Official Party

★ Martial Music - U.S. Navy Band (Newport, Rhode Island)

★ Reception - Quarters "A" West Lawn



USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705)

The History of USS City of Corpus Christi (SSN 705)

USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI (SSN 705), a nuclear powered attack submarine of the LOS ANGELES class, was constructed at the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corporation, Groton, Connecticut and was commissioned on 8 January 1983.

CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI is the second United States warship to be named after Corpus Christi, Texas. The first was the USS CORPUS CHRISTI (PF 44), launched 17 August 1943 by Consolidated Steel Corporation, Wilmington, California and commissioned 29 January 1944 at San Pedro, California.

Upon commissioning, CORPUS CHRISTI was assigned to the Pacific Fleet and operated from Perth, Western Australia. There the ship aided submarines in exercises and training. CORPUS CHRISTI was twice commended for unusual accomplishments. She located and rescued 92 survivors of the torpedoed SS PETER SILVESTER in the Indian Ocean on 13 February 1945 and refueled the British battleship HMS HOWE at sea.

The “spirit” of CORPUS CHRISTI returned to Perth in 1984, when USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI, while conducting an Indian Ocean deployment and global circumnavigation, visited the city.

In addition to its leadership role in submarine warfare since the end of the Cold War, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI has compiled a proud history, worthy of the city whose name the ship bears. After commissioning and for each consecutive year up to 1989, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI was awarded the Commander, Submarine Squadron TWO Battle Efficiency and Engineering Excellence "E" awards. Additionally, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations in 1985 and the Navy Unit Commendation for operations in 1986.

In the 1990s CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI continued to excel. Completing highly successful Western Atlantic Deployments in 1993 and 1994, she was selected as the recipient of the Commander, Submarine Squadron TWO Battle Efficiency "E" for 1994. Following another highly successful Western Atlantic Deployment in 1995, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI was awarded the Commander, Submarine Squadron TWO Tactical "T" for excellence in submarine tactics.

In 1997 after changing from Submarine Squadron TWO to Submarine Squadron FOUR, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI was awarded the 1997 Commander, Submarine Squadron FOUR Communications "C" and Medical "M" for excellence in each respective field.

In 1998, CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI completed a short notice Mediterranean Sea deployment with port visits in Gibraltar; La Maddalena, Italy; Limassol, Cyprus; and Brest, France.

In 1999 the ship deployed to South America in support of UNITAS 40-99, completed a national security mission and entered into an Engineered Refueling Overhaul in March 2000.

Ship's Characteristics

SSN 705

LENGTH: 360 FEET

DISPLACEMENT (SURFACED): 6090 TONS

(SUBMERGED): 6927 TONS

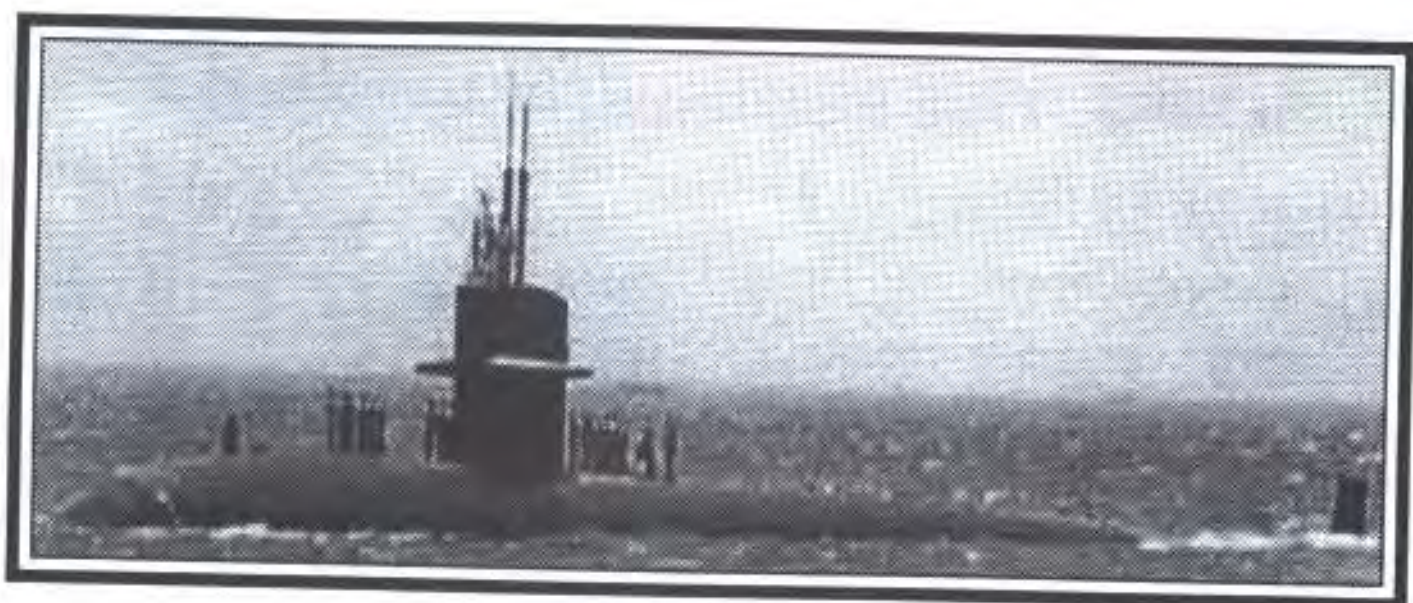
HULL DIAMETER: 33 FEET

DRAFT: 32 FEET

COMPLEMENT: OFFICERS: 14

ENLISTED: 139

TOTAL: 153



CDR Goff's departing letter to the crew:

July 13, 1944 ... The crew was well braced for the ensuing explosion. At a range of only 800 yards, this one would be close. " 15... 10... 5... WHAM, WHAM!" A roar, nearly as loud as the explosion itself, erupted from the crew as they celebrated our successful shot and moved one step closer to victory.

Warships and submarines are built for battle. Yet, without a well-trained crew, ships and submarines are nothing but lifeless steel and synthetics. The heart and sole of any ship is her crew.

It has been both my honor and pleasure to serve with the crew on USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI. I will forever be proud of all this crew has accomplished, but I will be most proud of the reputation you have earned as professionals at arms, capable of pulling together as an unbeatable team, and able to excel no matter what the mission.

In parting, I ask you to be proud of your ship and your shipmates, present and past. Remember always your legacy as submariners and the great accomplishments of those who have sailed below the sea and charted the course before you. As submariners, the standards you maintain, the sacrifices you selflessly make, and the risks that you bravely endure are unmatched. As a crew, you are the best. When you don your City of Corpus Christi ball cap, hold your head high and puff out your chest a little when you walk — you are the best crew with whom I have ever served.

I wish you all great success and smooth sailing — Hi Ho Silver

L. G. Goff
Eighth in Command
USS CITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI

Commanding Officers

CAPTAIN W. G. ELLIS

NEW CONSTRUCTION - APRIL 1983

COMMANDER F. L. BOWMAN

APRIL 1983 - MARCH 1986

COMMMANDER S. I. JOHNSON

MARCH 1986 - AUGUST 1988

COMMANDER C. R. SKOLDS

AUGUST 1988 - MAY 1991

COMMANDER B. E. MILLER

MAY 1991 - NOVEMBER 1993

COMMANDER T. A. DOWELL

NOVEMBER 1993 - AUGUST 1996

COMMANDER S. A. LANGDON

AUGUST 1996 - MARCH 1999

COMMANDER L. G. GOFF

MARCH 1999 - JULY 2001





Ship's Officers

LCDR Kawane - Executive Officer

LT Crowley - Navigation Officer

LT Rossler - Repair Officer

LT Shilling - DCA

LTJG Rauscher - AWEPS

LTJG Pfirman - MPA

LTJG Gorman - EA

LCDR Nelson - Engineer Officer

LT Bollinger - Weapons Officer

LTJG Guilford - Supply Officer

LT Curtin - Assistant Engineer

LTJG Hancock - RCA

LTJG Hogan - CRA



Ship's Chief Petty Officers

MMCM Greaney - Chief of the Boat

STSCS Irvin - WDEA

ETCS McIntire - RC Division

ETC Rice - Navigation Division

MMC Isham - Auxiliary Division

FTC Moore - Fire Control Division

SKC Elbaum - Store Keeper Division

MMC Marion - Machinery Division

MMCS Stihel - EDMC

ETCS Cialino - NODEA

YNC Long - Personnel Officer

ETC Cabral - Training

MMC Knoll - Torpedo Division

MSC Bridger - MS Division

EMC Rogers - Electrical Division

ETC Baker - 3M Coordinator





Ship's Company

Auxiliary

MM1 Beebe
 MM1 Taylor
 MM1 Vaughn
 MM2 Borros
 MM2 Mellor
 MM2 Paplior
 MM2 Rose
 MM2 Sanchez
 MM3 Adames
 MM3 Doyon
 MM3 Dye
 MM3 Hudnall
 MM3 Leonard
 MM3 McMillan
 MM3 Neiport
 MM3 Olson
 MM3 Ray

Communications

ET1 Hunt
 ET1 Knupp
 ET2 Clunie
 ET2 Cohoon
 ET2 Foglietta
 ET2 Jones
 ET2 Kuchta
 ET2 Maness

Electrical

EM1 Acord
 EM1 Case
 EM1 Henderson
 EM1 Sams
 EM2 Hastings
 EM2 Holitzke
 EM2 Lindstrom
 EM2 Oates
 EM2 Peckham

Electrical (cont'd)

EM2 Reifsnnyder
 EM2 Smithson
 EM2 Vigil
 EM3 Culberson
 EM3 Smith

Fire Control

FT1 Bristol
 FT1 Cable
 FT1 Long
 FT1 McCarron
 FT2 Bryant
 FT2 Stiller
 FT2 Willet
 FT3 Salierno

Hospital Corpsman

HM1 Beahm
 EM2 Quater





Ship's Company (cont'd)

Machinery

MM1 Brandmeyer
MM1 Dechant
MM1 Lemberger
MM2 Bacon
MM2 Comstock
MM2 Dill
MM2 Jamitis
MM2 Kircher
MM2 Linnell
MM2 Martinez
MM2 St. Clair
MM2 Wamser
MM2 Wolford
MM2 Zimmerman
MM3 Calderon
MM3 Fundus

Mess Management

Specialist

MS1 Braisted
MS2 Ortiz
MS2 Pope
MS2 Rector
MS3 Johnson
MSSN Haemmerle
MSSA Knuth
MSSR Orozco

Navigation

ET1 Fitzgerald
ET1 Schreiber
ET2 Rawls
ET2 Wilson
ET3 Autio
ET3 Harville
ETSN Tarvin
ETSA Hitchcock
ETSA Stewart

Reactor Controls

ET1 Becker
ET1 Haven
ET1 Minogue
ET1 Psaras
ET2 Conroy
ET2 Deeney
ET2 Henning
ET2 Krafchow
ET2 McCay
ET2 Noble

ET3 Simone

Reactor Laboratory

MM1 Brown
MM2 Anderson
MM2 Lockwood
MM2 Schimmoeller
MM2 Stidham
MM3 Allen





Ship's Company (cont'd)

Store Keeper

SK2 Trotter

SK3 Ashburn

Sonar

STS1 Corkern

STS1 Pryll

STS1 Wilds

STS2 Bierwirth

STS2 Dennington

STS2 Murphy

STS2 Quarles

STS3 Block

STS3 Conway

STS3 Cross

STS3 Masseyford

STS3 Spitler

STS3 Vigo

STSSN Wolfe

STSSA Fisher

Torpedo

MM1 Holzwarth

MM1 Whitehouse

MM2 McBee

MM2 Shriver

MM3 Thomas

Yeoman

YN3 Chenot

YN3 Boone



Corpus Christi, Texas

“Sparkling City by the Sea”

Corpus Christi, a major seaport on the Texas Gulf Coast, maintains a balance of economic, educational, military and cultural activity.

Founded in 1883 as a trading post, the community took its name in 1847 from the nearby bay, as one resident put it, “to have a more definite postmark for letters.” The city was incorporated five years later.

Once the haunt of seafaring Conquistadors, the city now boasts a population of 230,000 and is the mercantile center for a wide area of South Texas. Other industry centers on agriculture, chemical and petroleum products as well as metal fabrication. In addition, Corpus Christi Naval Air Station is located here. The port of Corpus Christi is the deepest on the Gulf Coast and one of the largest saltwater ports in the nation.

Educational institutions in or near the city include Del Mar College, a two year institution; Corpus Christi State University, which offers undergraduate and graduate courses; Texas A&M University Research and Extension Center; the University of Texas Marine Science Institute; and Corpus Christi Minor Seminary.

Cultural attractions abound. The Bayfront Arts and Science Park houses the Art Museum of South Texas, the Harbor Playhouse, the Corpus Christi Museum, and the Bayfront Plaza Convention Center and Auditorium. The city also maintains a symphony orchestra and Japanese Art Museum, the only one of its kind in the world.

