

# USS RHODE ISLAND



# Welcome Aboard!





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Commander *Michael R. Maxfield*  
Commanding Officer,  
USS RHODE ISLAND (GOLD)

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# Commander Michael R. Maxfield

Commander Maxfield, a native of Dallas, Texas, earned his bachelors and masters degrees in electrical engineering at Rice University. Following graduation in 1978, he was commissioned an ensign through the NROTC program. Commander Maxfield completed nuclear propulsion training in August 1979 and then attended the submarine officer's basic course in Groton, Connecticut.

He served aboard USS BERGALL (SSN 667), homeported in Norfolk, Virginia, from December 1979 to July 1983. His assignments included Electrical Officer, Reactor Controls Assistant and Weapons Officer. During his tour on BERGALL the ship deployed twice to the North Atlantic and once to the Mediterranean.

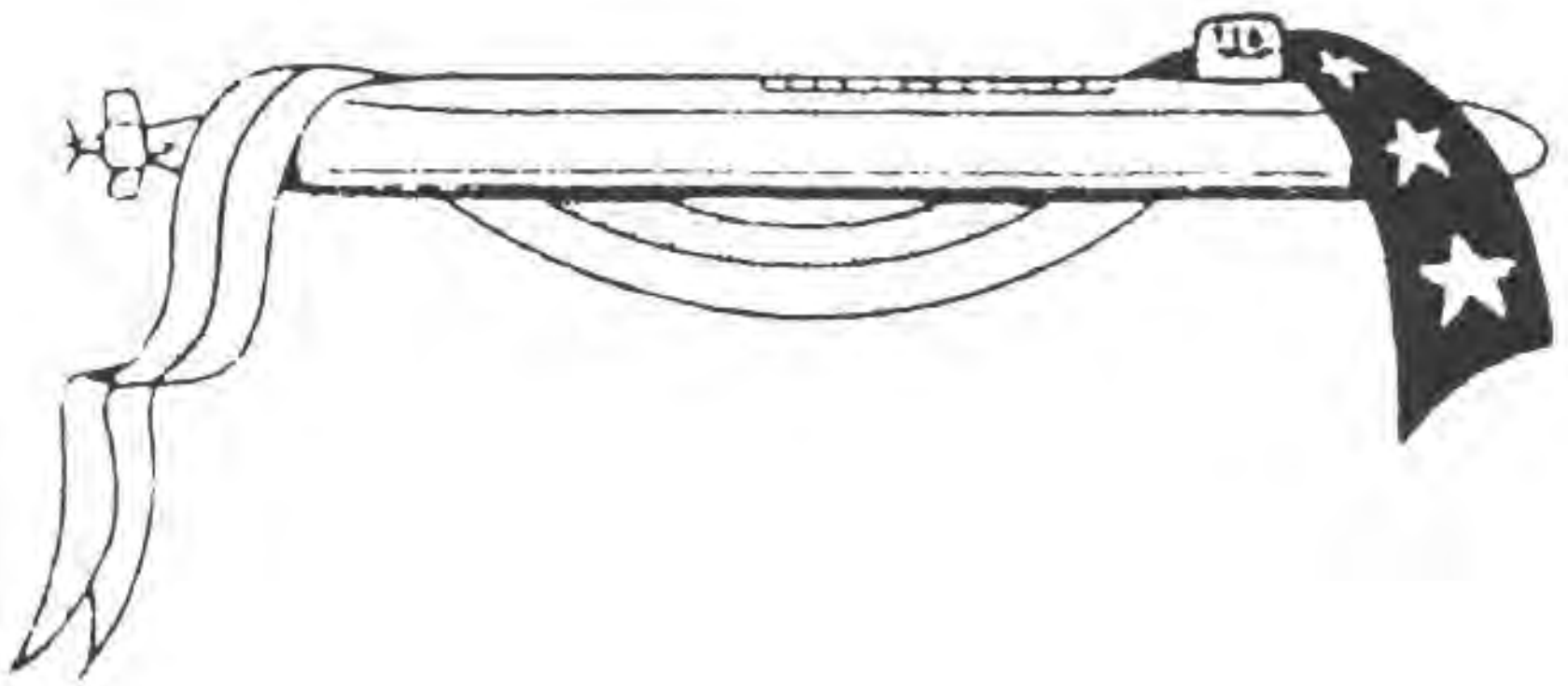
Following a tour as Command Center Watch Officer at the headquarters of the Pacific Fleet Submarine Force Commander in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, Commander Maxfield completed the submarine officer's advanced course and reported for duty as the Engineering Officer on the USS PITTSBURGH (SSN 720), homeported in Groton, Connecticut. Assigned to the PITTSBURGH from May 1986 to April 1989, he again deployed twice to the North Atlantic and once to the Mediterranean.

Commander Maxfield served as a member of the Atlantic Fleet Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board from May 1989 to August 1991. He subsequently served as Executive Officer for three deterrent patrols on the USS SIMON BOLIVAR (SSBN 641) (GOLD), homeported in Charleston, South Carolina. Commander Maxfield was assigned as Commanding officer (Gold) , Precommissioning Unit RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740) in June 1994.

Commander Maxfield's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal (five awards) and the Navy Achievement Medal (three awards).

He is married to Charlene Whitman of Waynesville, North Carolina. They have two children, a son, Taylor, and a daughter, Alexandra.





Welcome Aboard!

On behalf of the officers and crew of USS RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740), we wish to extend a warm welcome to our guests aboard one of America's largest and most sophisticated submarines. We are indeed proud of our ship and want your time with us to be enjoyable.

We invite you to ask questions! You will find the entire crew is ready, willing and able to explain the details of their operational responsibilities and the routine of submarine life. These men are highly trained and capable of fielding a wide variety of questions. They routinely match their collective skills against the power of the sea and I believe you will be as impressed by them as you will be by RHODE ISLAND herself.

We hope your stay aboard RHODE ISLAND will be a thorough introduction to the best of our nation's "Silent Service".



## CHARACTERISTICS

LENGTH:	560 FEET
HULL DIAMETER	42 FEET
DRAFT:	36 FEET
DISPLACEMENT (SUBMERGED)	18750 TONS
MISSILE TUBES:	24
TORPEDO TUBES:	4
COMPLEMENT	
OFFICERS:	15
ENLISTED:	150
TOTAL:	165

The RHODE ISLAND is the 15th Trident submarine built and the seventh of the class to be fitted with the Trident II D-5 missile. She is homeported at Kings Bay, GA. With her long-range missiles, advanced sonar, and fire control systems, the RHODE ISLAND is the most modern and survivable strategic deterrent in the entire world.

USS RHODE ISLAND has been developed based on extensive considerations of all aspects of survivability and capability required in a sea-based deterrent system and is designed for operations through the next century.

USS RHODE ISLAND incorporates new and quieter machinery that cannot be installed in other fleet ballistic missile submarines because of space and weight constraints.

She has an advanced sonar system comparable to that developed for the United States Navy's newest attack submarines, capable of providing long-range detection and more effective tracking.

Key features of USS RHODE ISLAND include: improved maintainability, reliability, and availability resulting from modular replacement concepts for major equipment, improved design and incorporation of integrated logistics support.

USS RHODE ISLAND has additional growth potential to accommodate future technology as it becomes available, both in ship systems and in larger missiles.



# Coat Of Arms

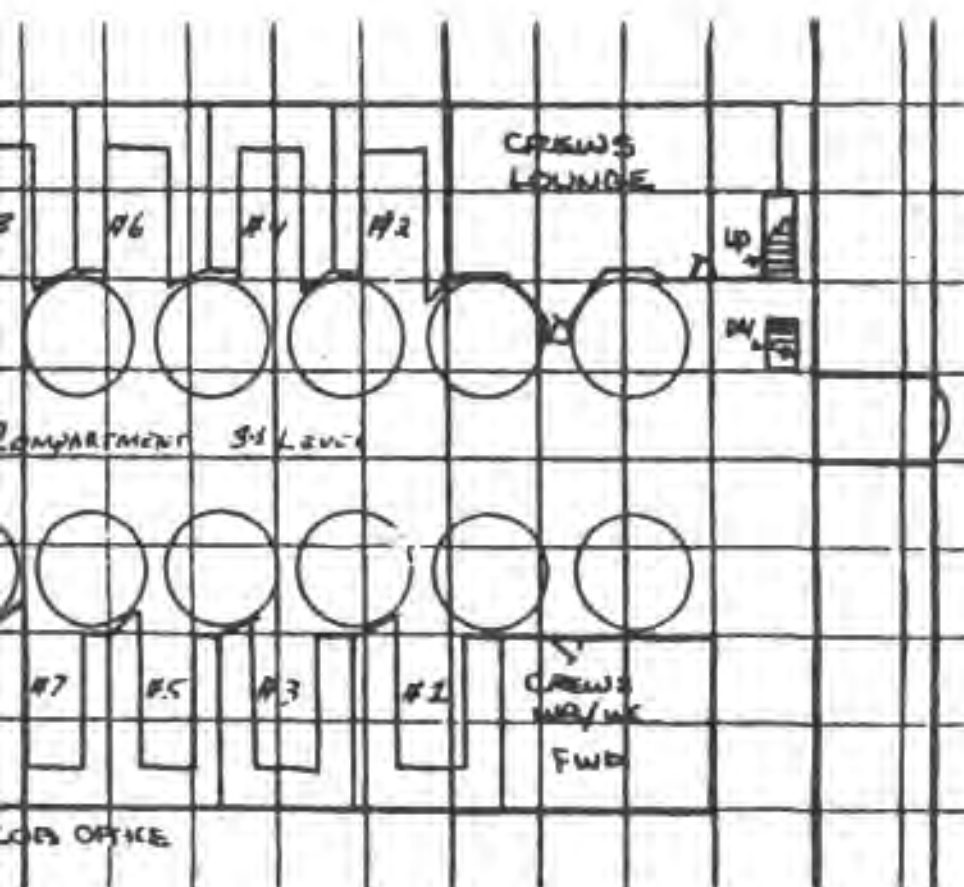
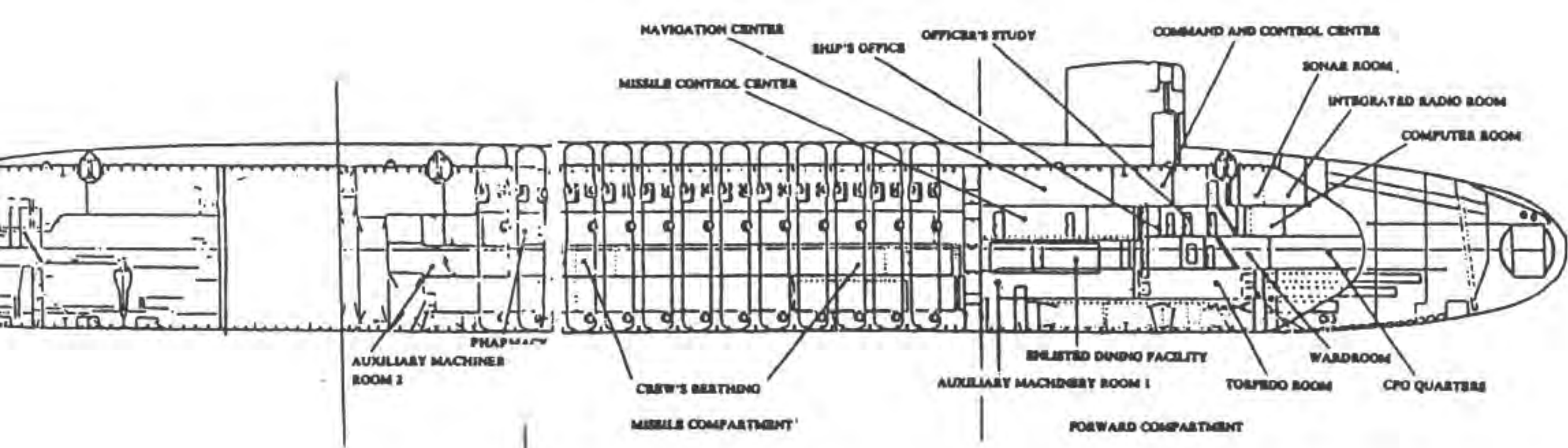
## USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740)

### Blazon

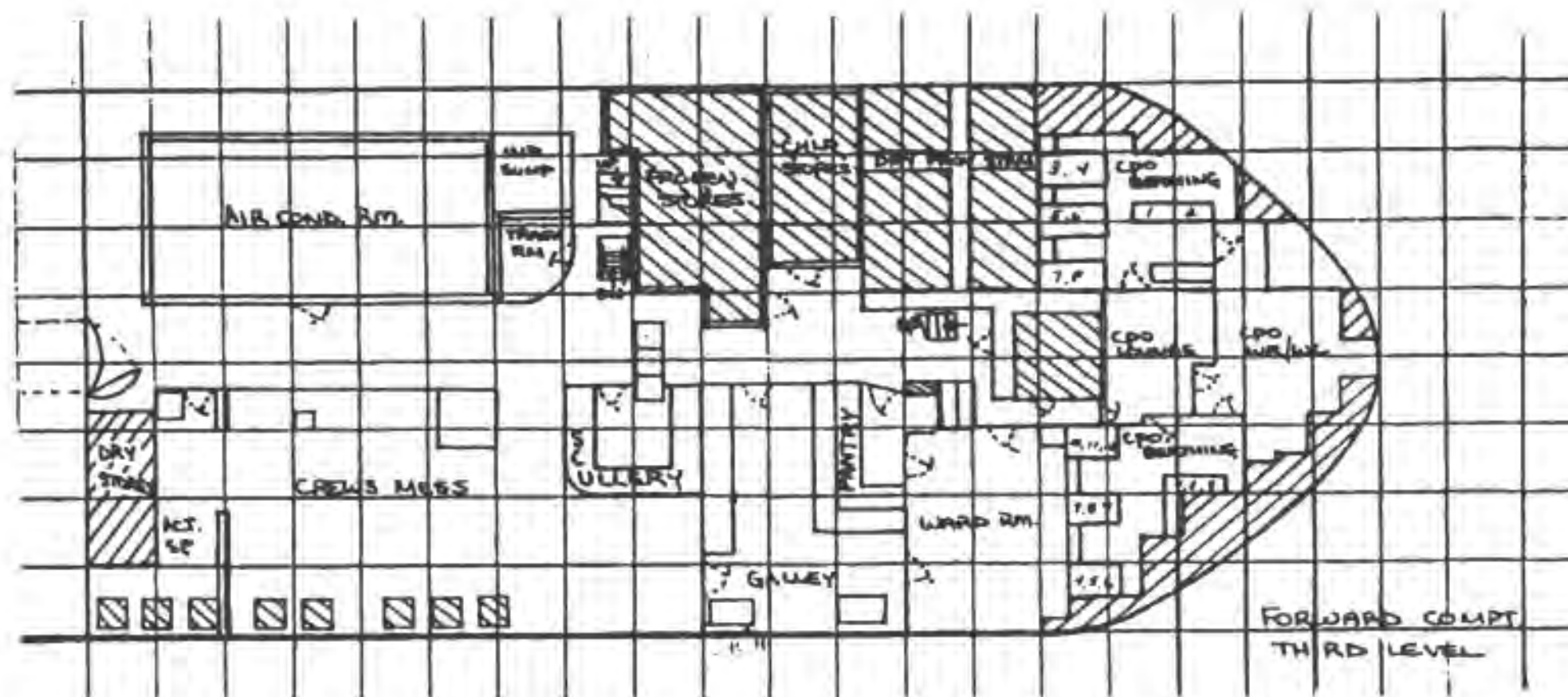
- SHIELD:** Argent, an anchor proper within a circle of thirteen mullets of fimbriated azure; on a chief of the like a U.S. Navy sword and cutlass saltirewise points down proper.
- MOTTO:** A scroll asure doubled gules inscribed "IN SPE PACIS PERENNIS"  
(In hope of permanent peace) argent.
- SUPPORTER:** All superimposed upon a trident or bearing upon its tines a compass rose azure with, between its points, four arced lighting flashed gules.
- SEAL:** The coat of arms emblazoned upon a white oval enclosed by a blue collar edged on the outside with a gold rope and inscribed "USS RHODE ISLAND" above and "SSBN 740" below in gold.

## Symbolism

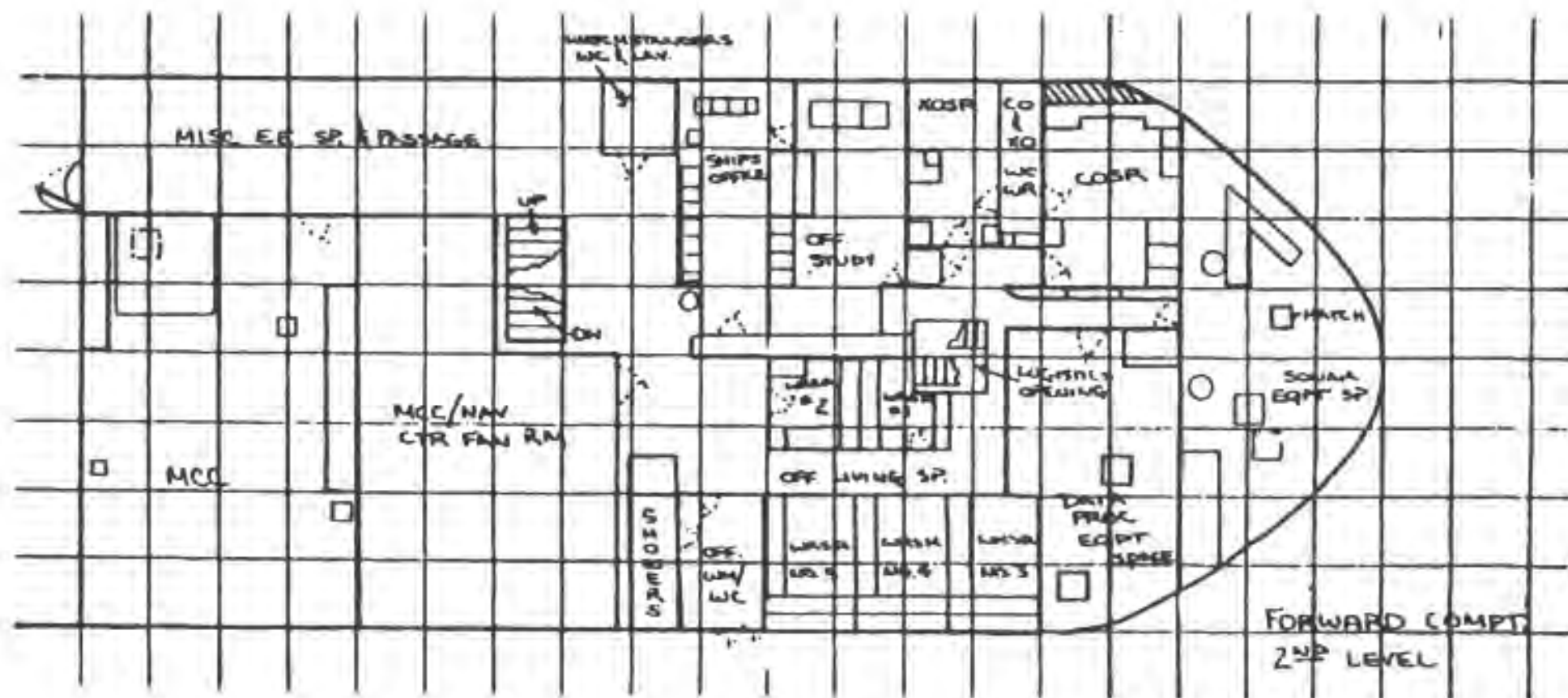
- SHIELD:** Dark blue and gold are the colors traditionally associated with the U.S. Navy and symbolize the sea and excellence. Red is emblematic of valor and action. The anchor and circle of thirteen stars are adapted from the Rhode Island state flag highlighting the maritime heritage of the state for which the submarine is named. The two sections of the shield allude to the two previous USS RHODE ISLANDs. Dark blue, the Union color during the Civil War, honors the first USS RHODE ISLAND; white refers to the second ship of that name, which was part of the "Great White Fleet" in 1907. The crossed swords symbolize strength, cooperation and teamwork between the officers and crew.
- SUPPORTER:** The trident symbolizes Naval weaponry, both past and present, and sea prowess. Its bottom spike points to the ocean depth, USS RHODE ISLAND's area of operation. The compass rose highlights the four major directions and represents navigation and worldwide capabilities. The lightning flashes underscore quick response and electronic capabilities while their circular configuration alludes to the globe and the scope of the U.S. Navy's mission.



BERTHING

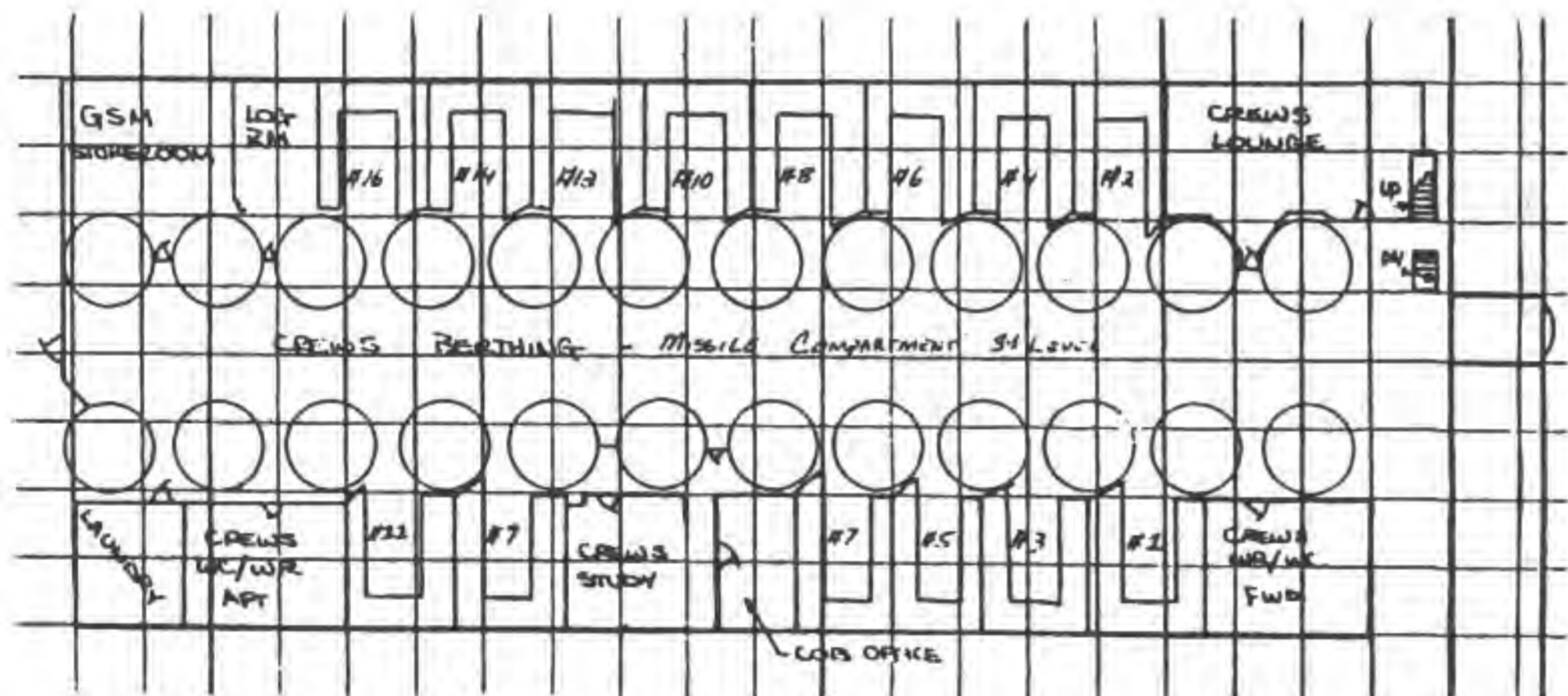
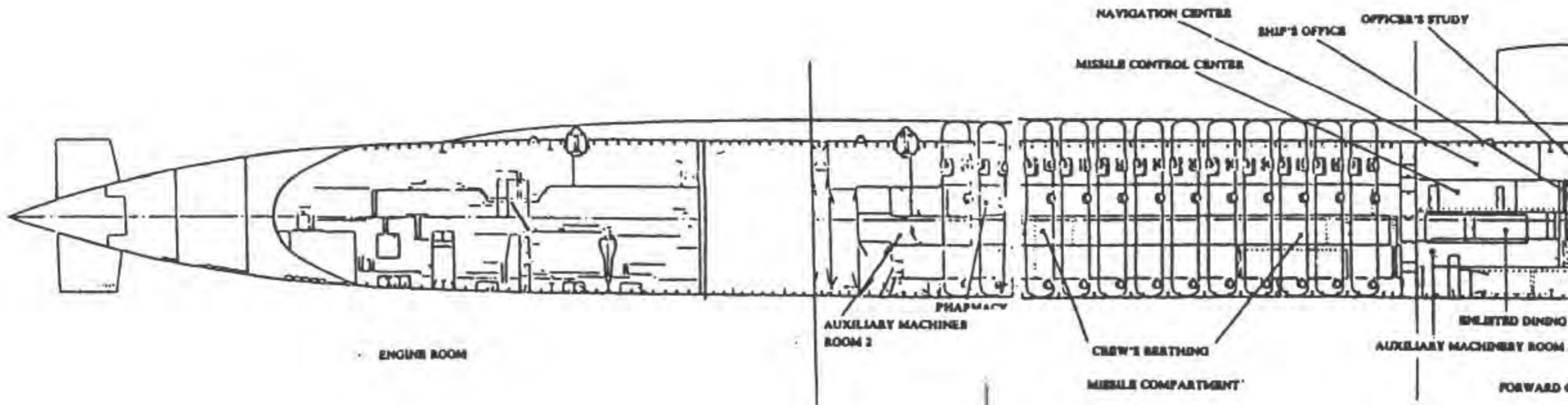


CPO BERTHING

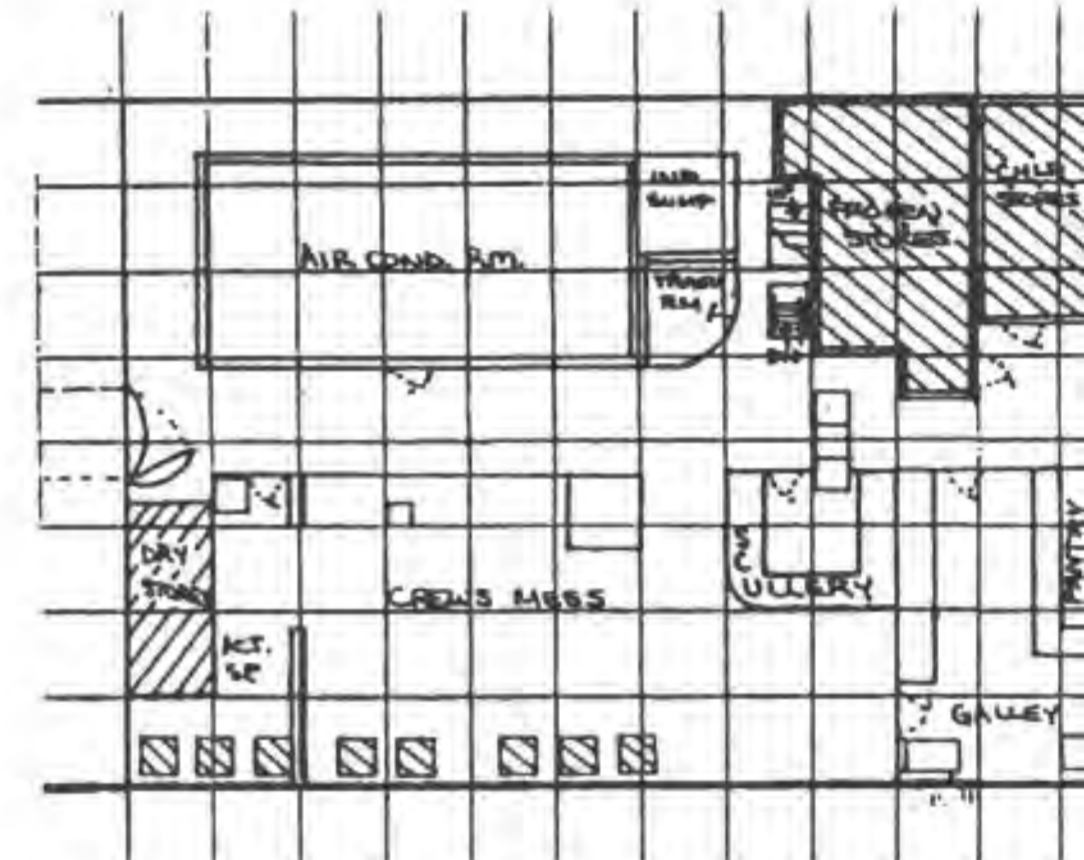


OFFICER'S STATEROOMS

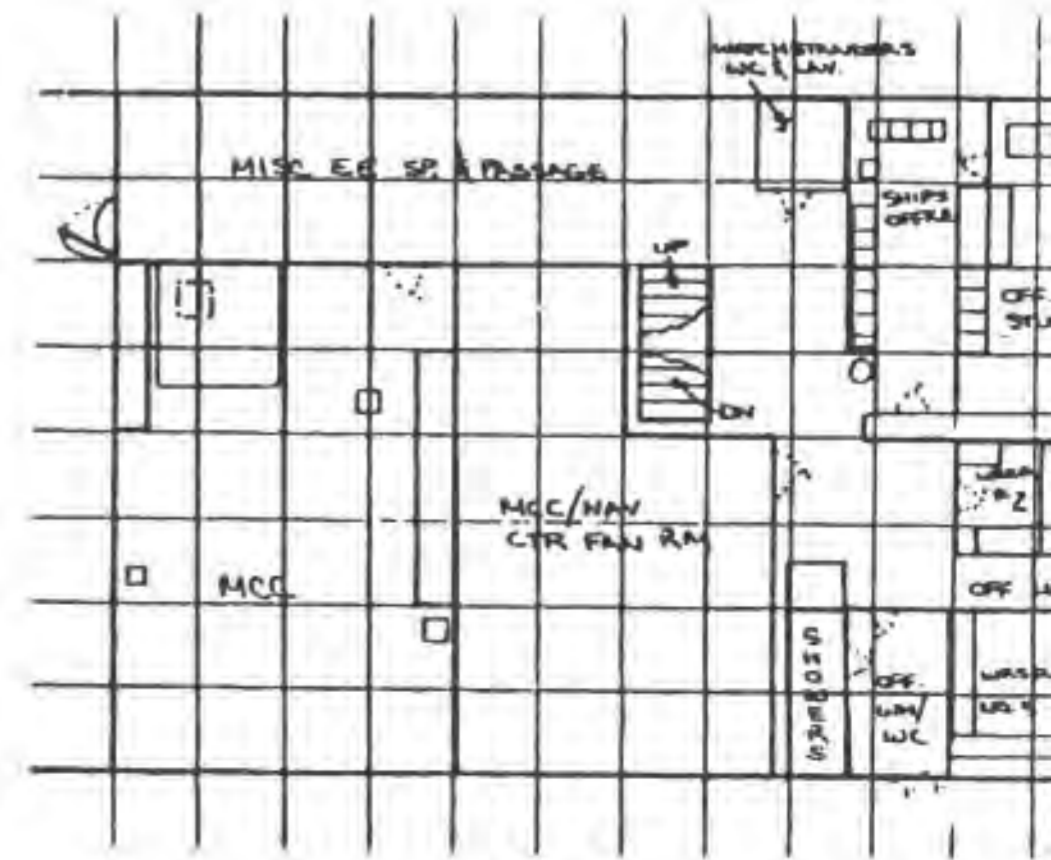




CREW'S BERTHING



CPO BERTH



OFFICER'S STUDY



# History of Ships Named RHODE ISLAND

The submarine RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740) is the third U.S. Navy vessel to be named in honor of the thirteenth state of the union, and the fifteenth Trident submarine commissioned.

The first RHODE ISLAND, a wooden, side-wheel steamer, was built at New York, N.Y. in 1860 as the JOHN P. KING; burned, rebuilt and renamed EAGLE in 1861 before being purchased by the Navy on June 27, 1861, renamed RHODE ISLAND and commissioned at New York Navy Yard July 29, 1861. RHODE ISLAND established her fame through duties towing the low freeboard monitors MONITOR, PASSAIC, MONTAUK, AND WEEHAWKEN from Hampton Roads, VA to Beaufort, N.C. USS RHODE ISLAND was decommissioned October 1, 1867 and remained in service as a merchant steamer until abandoned in 1885.

The second RHODE ISLAND (BB17) was launched May 17, 1904 by Fore River Shipbuilding CO., Quincy, Mass; sponsored by Mrs. F.C. Dumaine; and commissioned February 15, 1906.

The battleship was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet and made her first cruise in May 1906. In 1907 she was one of the 16 battleships comprising the "Great White Fleet" that made a world cruise which ended two years later.

USS RHODE ISLAND served as the flagship numerous times and was attached to the Atlantic Fleet from 1912 until after the outbreak of war in Europe in 1914. RHODE ISLAND was designated flagship of Battleship Squadron One, Pacific Fleet in July 1919 at Mare Island Navy Yard and remained there until she was decommissioned and placed in reserve on June 30, 1920.

The USS RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740) was christened July 17, 1993 at Groton, Connecticut. The ship was commissioned in Newport, Rhode Island on July 9, 1994, marking the first time in history a Trident submarine was commissioned in her namesake state.

# Submarine Dolphins

The dolphin insignia is proudly worn above the left breast pocket on the uniform of qualified submariners - Silver Dolphins by enlisted men, Gold Dolphins by officers.

Submarine School is up to six months in length at Naval Submarine School, New London, Connecticut. Sailors and officers complete their basic and in-rate technical training prior to reporting for sea duty. They learn the fundamentals of submarine construction, operations and damage control in the classroom and in sophisticated trainers. Nuclear Power School and technical rating schools are up to an additional year of training.

Upon reporting to their first submarine, each man completes a rigorous qualification program that requires a detailed working knowledge of submarine systems and equipment, including damage control, weapons, navigation, communications, mechanical and electrical systems, and submarine operations.

Enlisted men average six to nine months in qualifications, and officer programs average twelve to fifteen months. Qualified submariners are ceremoniously awarded their dolphins which are worn with great pride. Every qualified submariner has the continued responsibility to improve his own submarine knowledge and skills, while assisting to the best of his ability the junior submariners following in his footsteps.

## SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia

Silver in color, the "Patrol Pin" is awarded for successful completion of an FBM strategic deterrent patrol. The stars on the scroll beneath the LAFAYETTE-class submarine and Polaris missile indicate further patrols completed. A gold star is added for each additional patrol, and a silver star denotes five patrols.



# TRIDENT Mission

Deterrence of war has been the sole mission and fundamental reason for the existence of the fleet ballistic missile submarine since its inception in 1960. This is among the Navy's highest priority programs and is the cornerstone of the national security policy functioning as a survivable and dependable leg of the deterrent Triad.

With almost unlimited cruising range and with endurance limited only by the crew, the Fleet Ballistic Missile submarine is capable of extended submerged operations in the international waters of the world, which comprise 70 percent of the earth's surface. Because the submarine is nuclear-powered it is free of the need to surface or extend a snorkel above the surface for continuous operation. Fleet Ballistic Missile submarines remain hidden by the ocean, their locations unknown to any potential enemy. The TRIDENT II D-5 missile, powered by solid propellant, is ready to launch within minutes of receiving the command from the President of the United States with a powerful deterrent to those who might start a global war.

