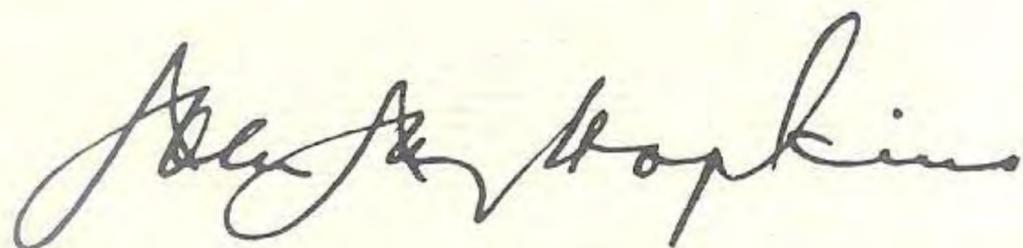


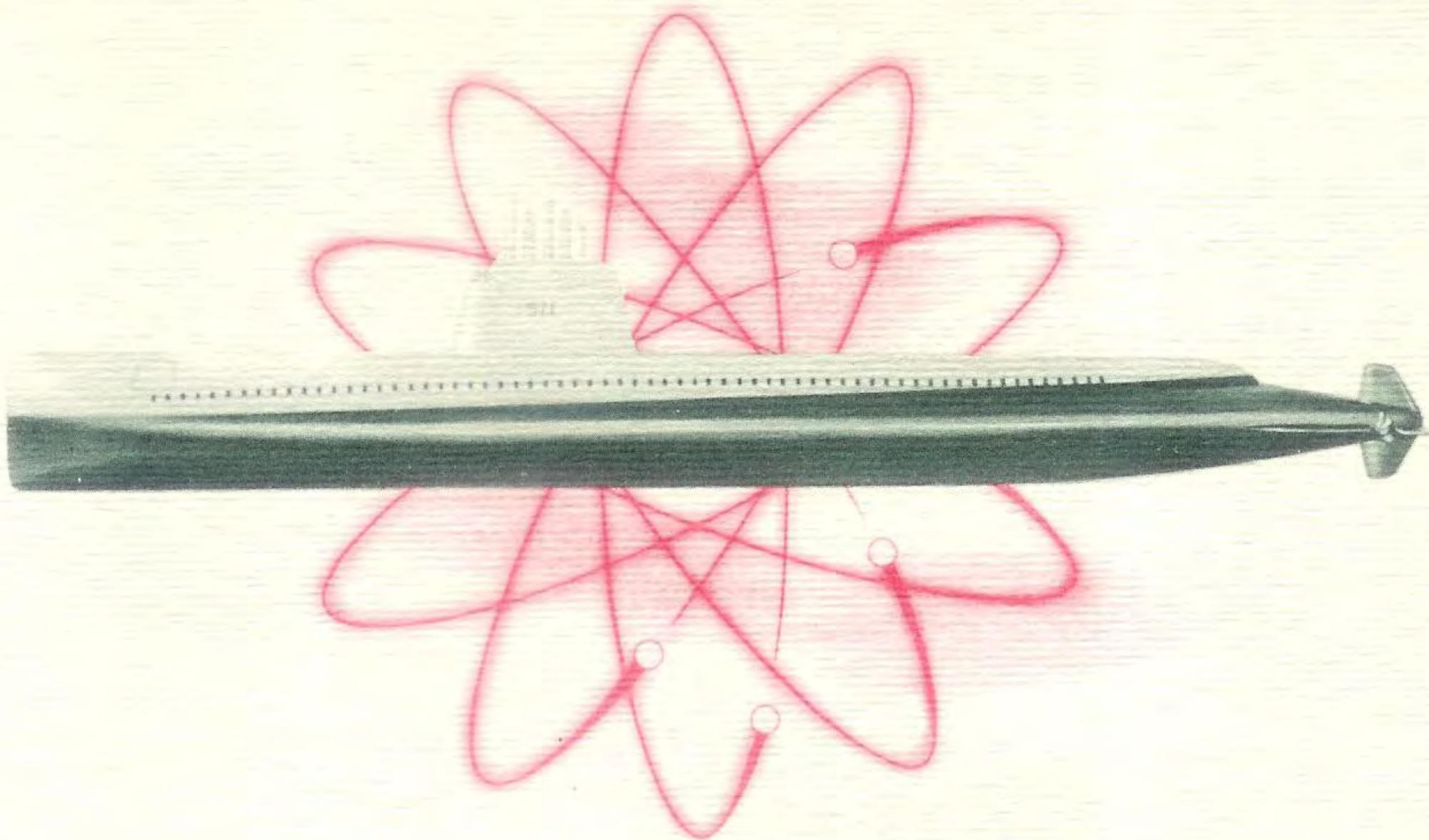
*The beginning of an Era*

# *The beginning of an Era*

FROM the vantage ground of retrospect, historians often fix the exact beginning of an era on some single occurrence, though rarely is an occurrence so sharply defined that its full significance is perceived at the time. There are many who believe that the laying of the keel of the world's first atomic-propelled vessel, the submarine NAUTILUS, on June 14, 1952 on a shipway of our Electric Boat Division was just such a rare occurrence, inaugurating a new era in the application of atomic power for the service of mankind.



*Chairman and President,  
General Dynamics Corporation*

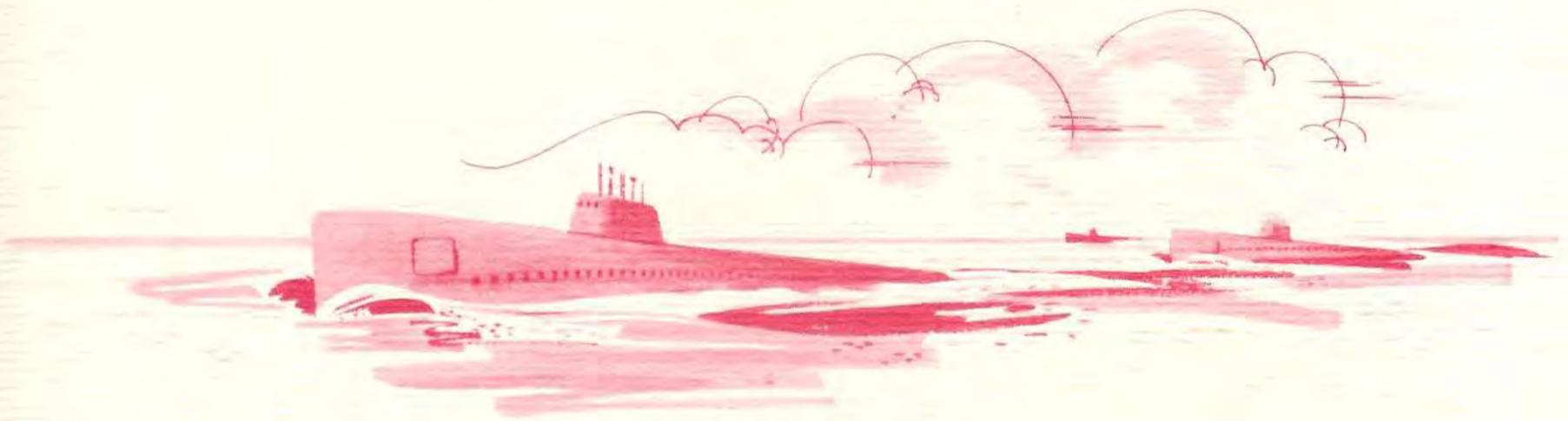
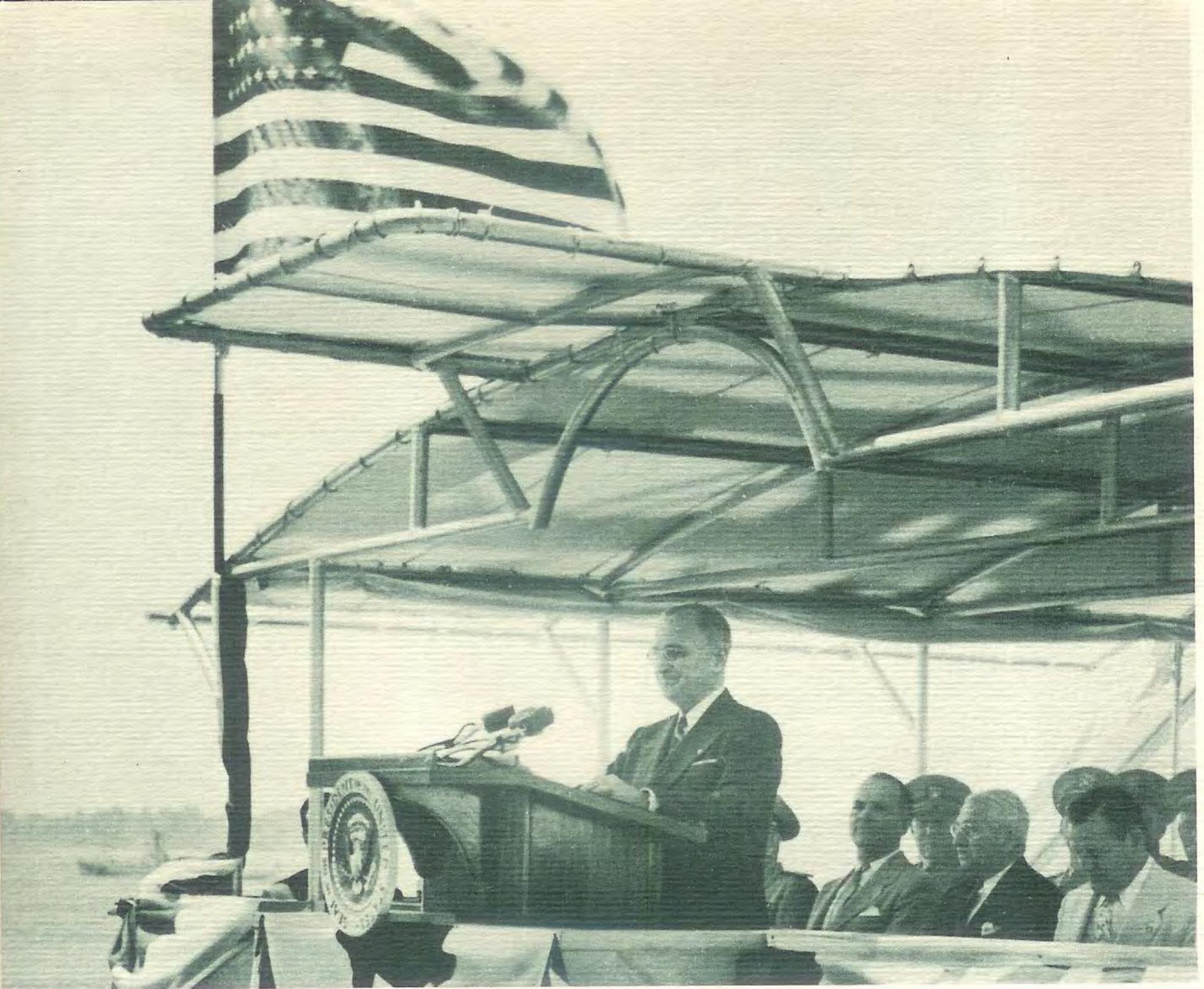


# *Nautilus*

“The NAUTILUS will be able to move under the water at a speed of more than twenty knots. A few pounds of uranium will give her ample fuel to travel thousands of miles at top speed. She will be able to stay under water indefinitely. Her atomic engine will permit her to be completely free of the earth’s atmosphere. She will not even require a breathing tube to the surface. . . .

“We are building strength for security. And this ship NAUTILUS is part of that great effort. She is designed to patrol the seas and thus protect our land. She is an answer to the threat of aggression in the world.”

**HARRY S. TRUMAN**  
*President of the United States*



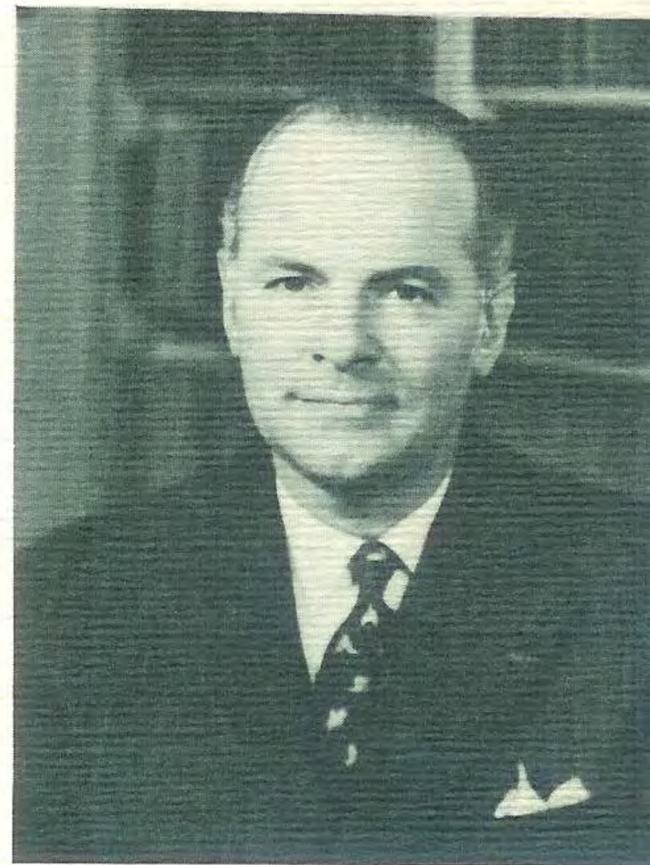
“We stand on the threshold of a new age.”

**HARRY S. TRUMAN**  
*President of the United States*



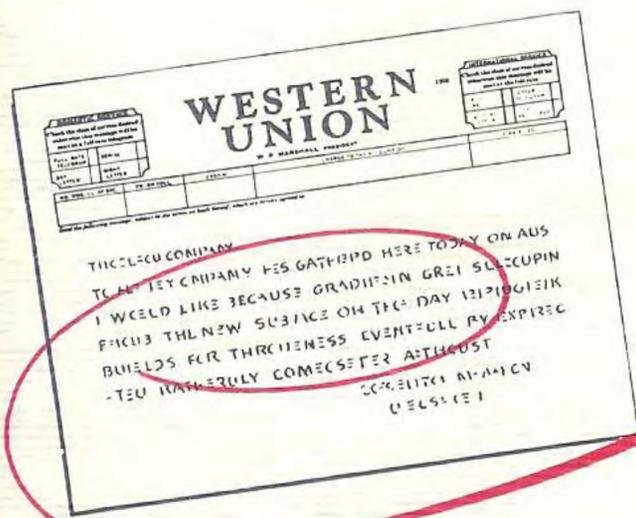
“... this occasion marks the greatest advance in propulsion since the ships of the Navy changed from sails to steam.”

**DAN A. KIMBALL**  
*Secretary of the Navy*



“We are witnesses to the joining of a revolutionary new force to a new purpose.”

**JOHN LODGE**  
*Governor of Connecticut*



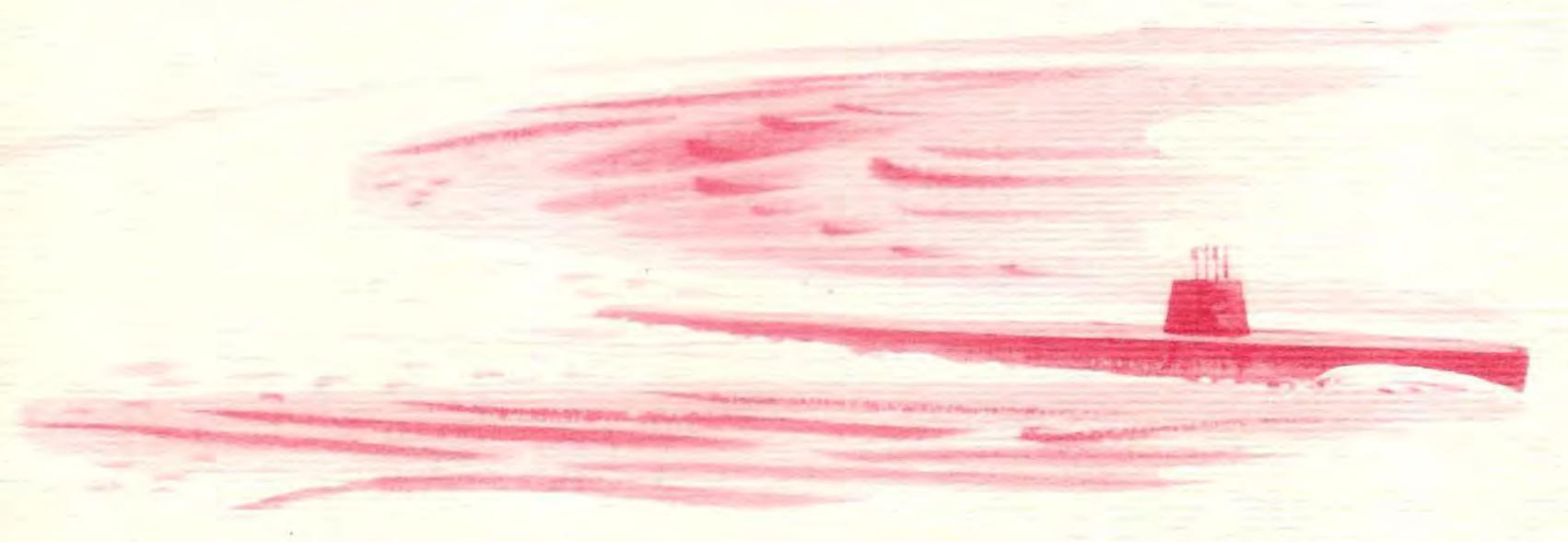
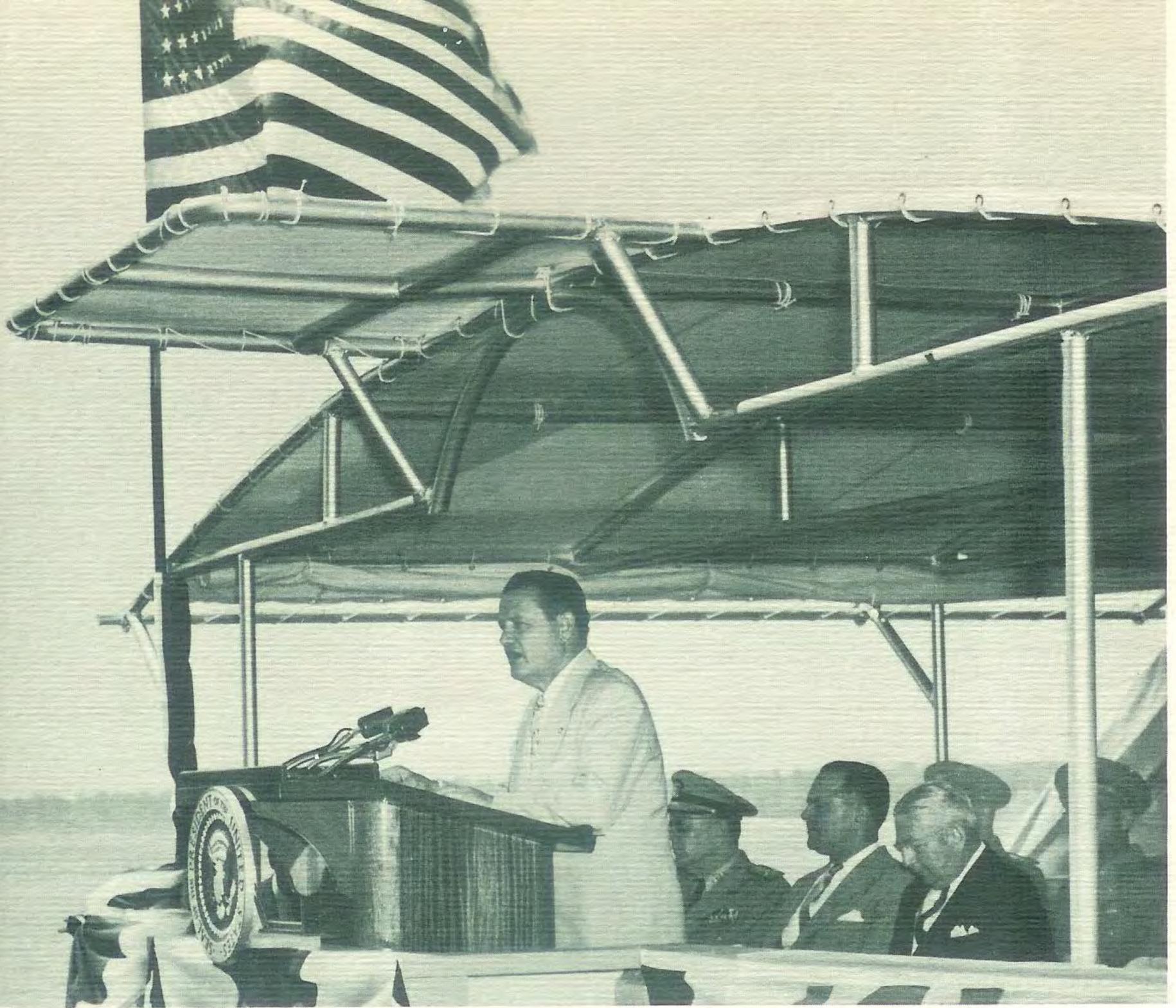
“It has been my pleasure during my service in Congress on the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy to watch the growth of this project which reaches a milestone today with the keel laying of the NAUTILUS. . . . I am confident that other atomic submarines and atomic powered surface vessels will not be long in following the NAUTILUS.”

*The Late* **BRIEN McMAHON**  
*United States Senator,*  
*Chairman, Joint Committee on Atomic Energy*



“The propulsion of this submarine will be the first practical utilization of atomic power.”

**GORDON DEAN**  
*Chairman, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission*



“I take pride in the fact that our Electric Boat Division has the honor of inaugurating a new and historic era in the defense of our country.”

**JOHN JAY HOPKINS**  
*Chairman and President  
General Dynamics Corporation*

“They have learned how to work together  
to create useful atomic power....”

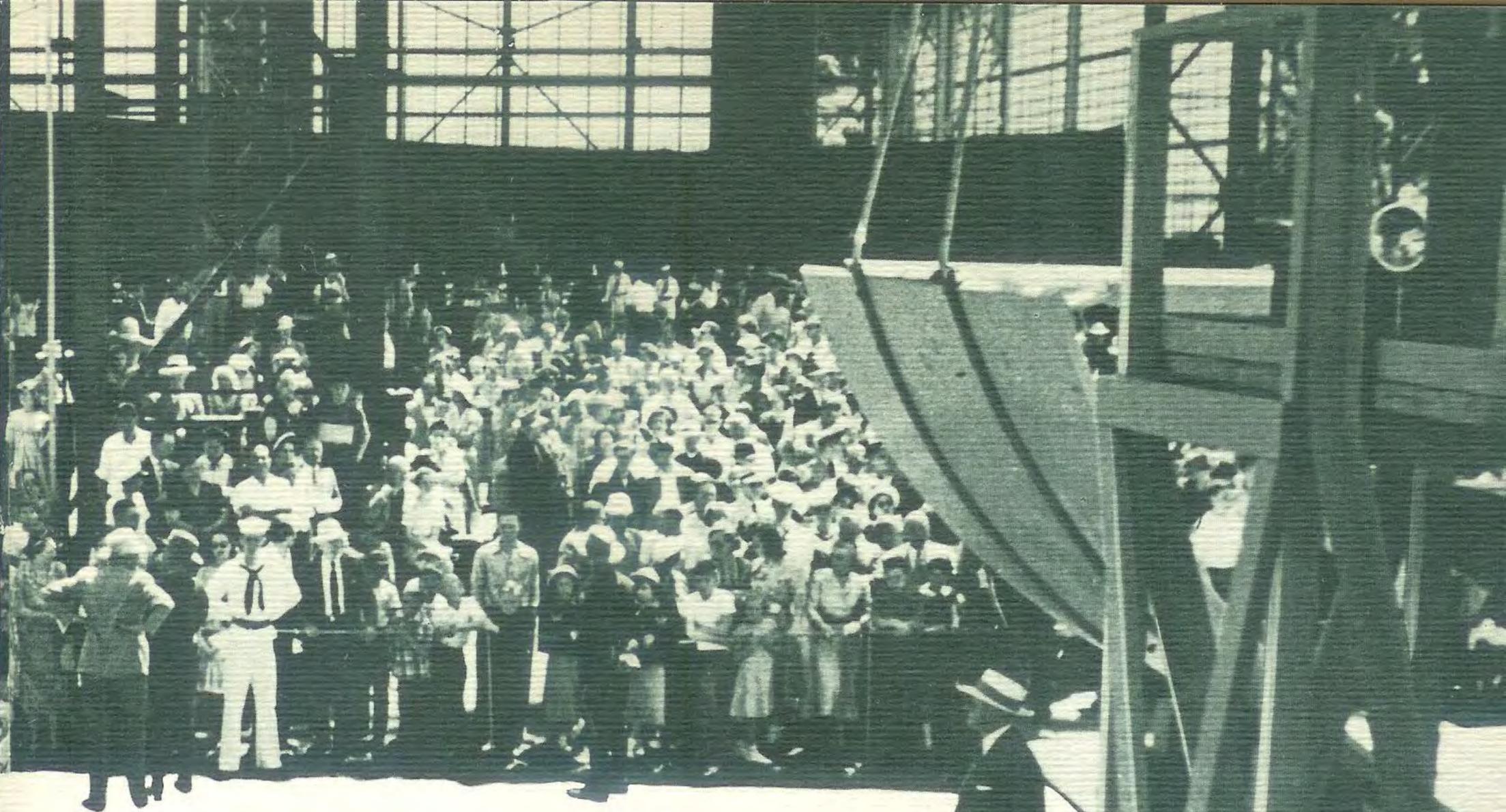
HARRY S. TRUMAN



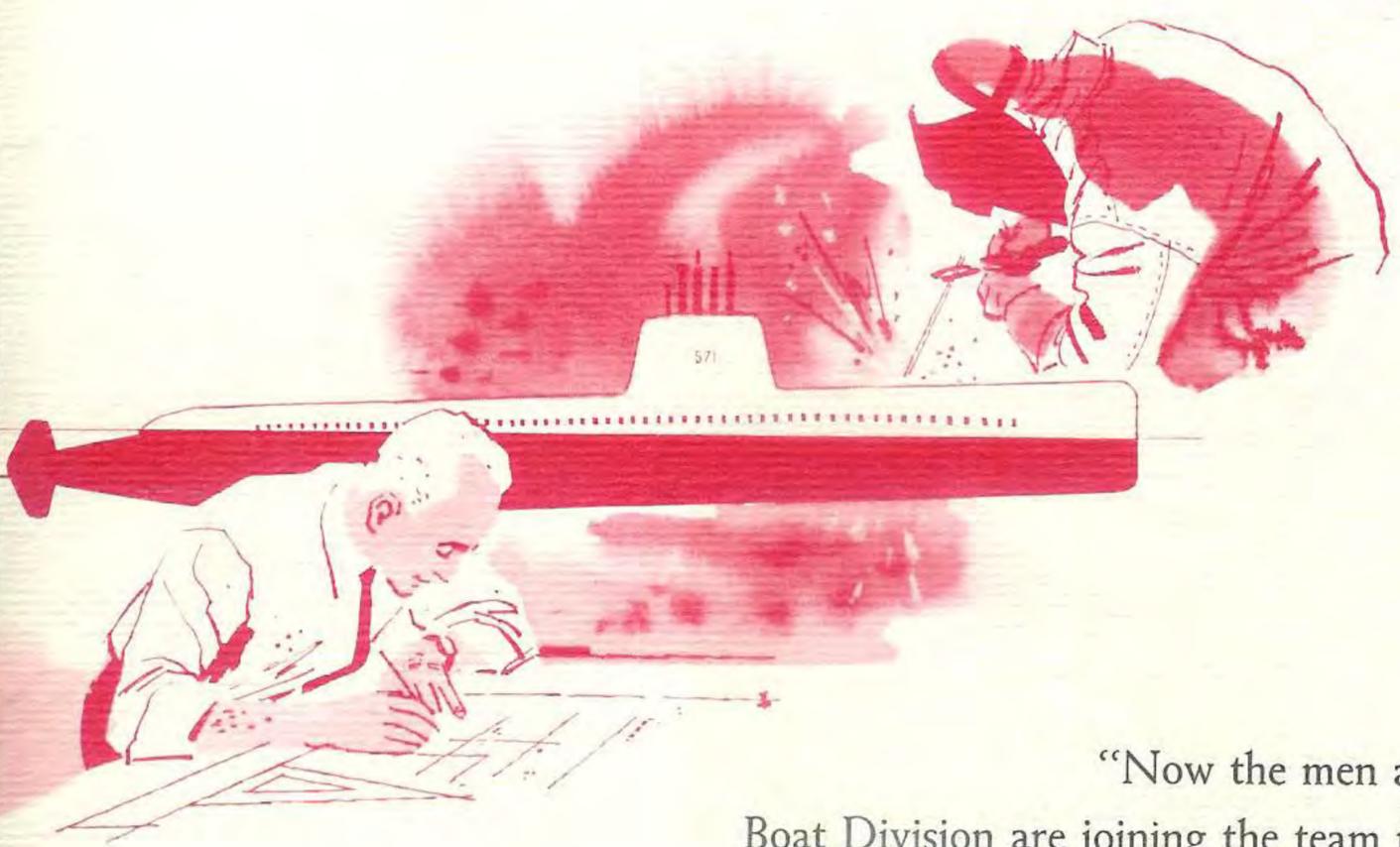
*Left to right, Latham E. Osborne, Executive Vice President of Westinghouse Electric Corporation; John Jay Hopkins, Chairman and President of General Dynamics Corporation; Gwilym A. Price, President of Westinghouse; Charles H. Weaver, Manager of Westinghouse Atomic Power Division; and O. P. Robinson, Jr., Senior Vice President of General Dynamics and General Manager of the Electric Boat Division. Westinghouse Electric Corporation in cooperation with the Argonne National Laboratory of the Atomic Energy Commission is building the propulsion plant of the NAUTILUS.*





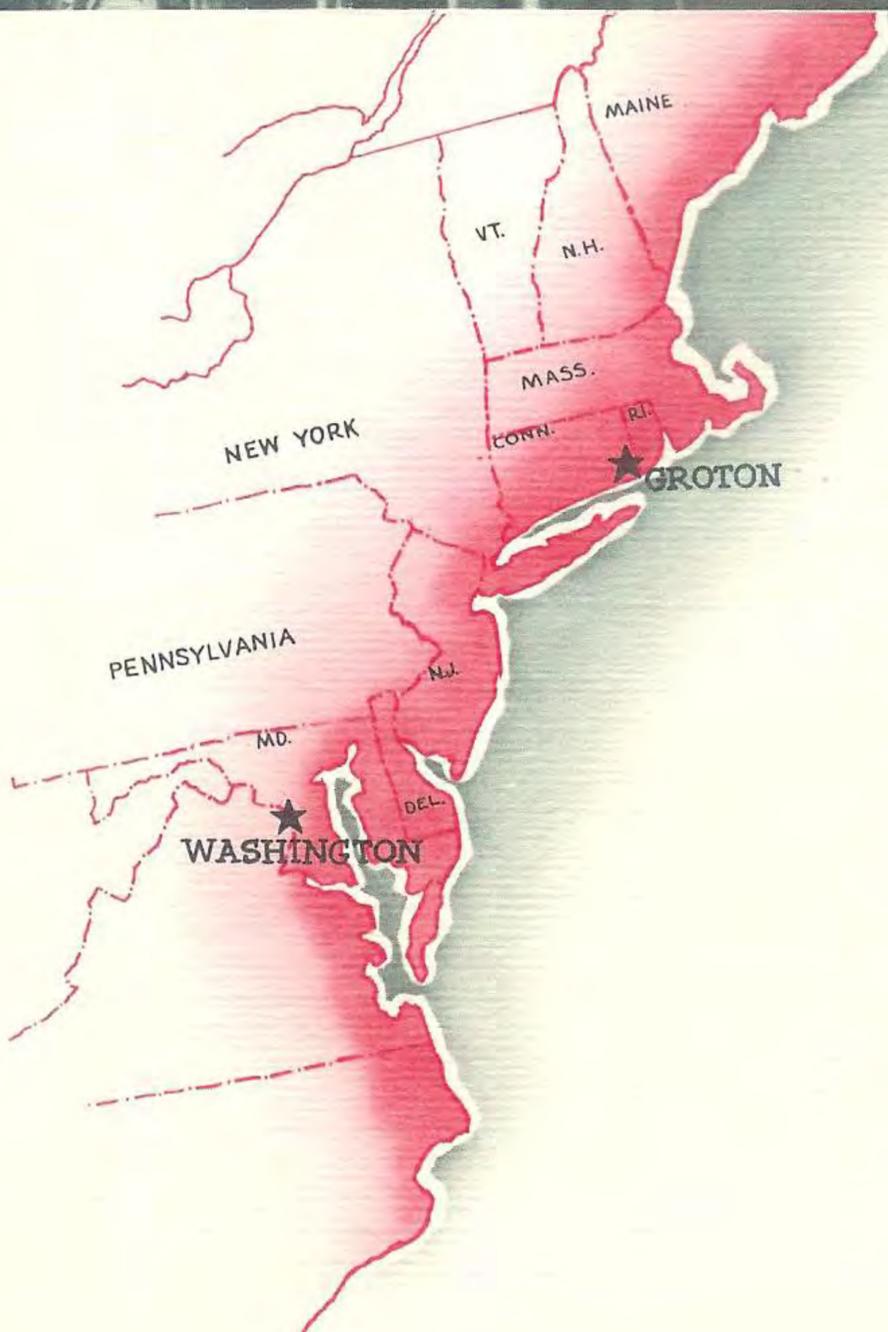


Company employees and their guests at the keel laying ceremony.



“Now the men and the management of the Electric Boat Division are joining the team to carry forward this remarkable project. In view of the long record of good relations between your union and your company, I know you men and women will do your full part in leading us on into the age of atomic power.”

HARRY S. TRUMAN



“Evidence of the special significance of this occasion for our own country is given in the fact that we are honored today by the presence of the President of the United States who will lay the keel.”

JOHN JAY HOPKINS



The nation's Chief Executive walks toward the speakers' platform, flanked by John Lodge, Governor of Connecticut, and John Jay Hopkins, Chairman and President of General Dynamics Corporation.



The National Anthem is played.

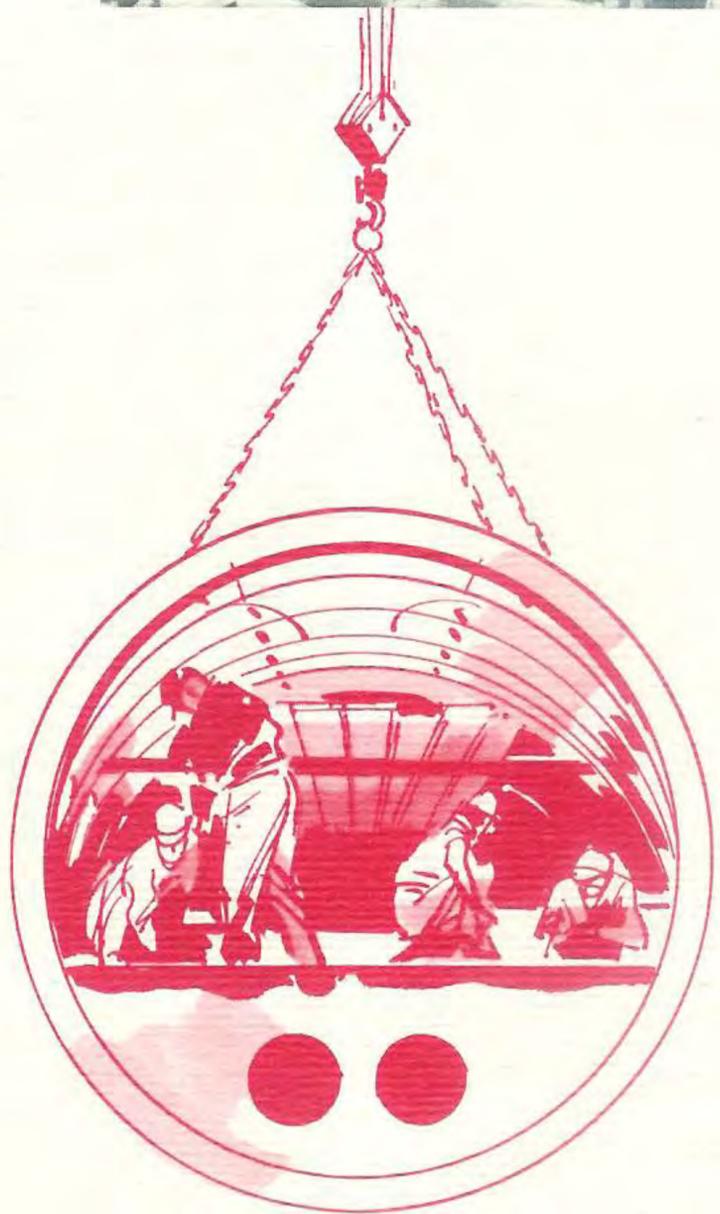




# *Invocation*

“On this momentous occasion we seek thy aid, Almighty God, in the laying of this keel plate. We offer it to Thee, the God of Peace, not as the foundation of a vessel of conquest and destruction, not as a weapon of tyranny and greed, but as a protection of God-given freedom, a defender of right and of justice, a guardian of our beloved country and the safeguard of freedom loving peoples. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

COMMANDER FRANCIS T. O'LEARY, ChC, USN  
*Chaplain, U.S. Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut*



“The vessel we are about to build is designed for war, but it will serve the ends of peace as well.”

JOHN JAY HOPKINS



“I declare the keel of the NAUTILUS to be well and truly laid.”

HARRY S. TRUMAN

