



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS GEORGIA (SSBN 729)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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*Rec'd 4/1/98
M. T. Poirier*

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From: Commanding Officer, USS GEORGIA (SSBN 729) (GOLD)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington, DC 20374-0571

Subj: SUBMISSION OF USS GEORGIA (SSBN-729) (GOLD) COMMAND HISTORY
FROM 26 JULY 1997 TO 20 OCTOBER 1997

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS GEORGIA (SSBN-729) (GOLD) COMMAND HISTORY FROM 26
JULY 1997 TO 20 OCTOBER 1997

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. T. Poirier".

M. T. POIRIER
By direction

Copy to:
Ship's Historian

USS GEORGIA (SSBN-729) (GOLD) COMMAND HISTORY

FROM 26 JULY 1997 TO 20 OCTOBER 1997

PART I: COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

A. MISSION: USS GEORGIA (SSBN-729) is the fourth in the TRIDENT class of submarines designed to remain at sea for long periods, remaining undetected, and launch ballistic missiles as ordered by the National Command Authority. Capable of carrying 24 Trident I Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, it is designed and manned to remain on deterrent patrols of up to 90 days duration. Having a complement of 15 officers and 150 enlisted personnel, it has some of the highest trained professionals in the U.S. Navy.

B. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: USS GEORGIA (SSBN-729) is operationally controlled by Commander, Submarine Squadron Seventeen based at Submarine Base Bangor, Washington.

C. COMMANDING OFFICER: CAPT J. M. Shelton, U.S. Navy

D. PERMANENT DUTY STATION: Submarine Base Bangor, Washington

PART II: CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A. DATES OF MOVEMENTS/DEPLOYMENTS: Patrol 45 - 26 July 1997 to 20 October 1997.

B. EXERCISES AND OPERATIONS:

Patrol 45

- Refresher Training
- Underway/Static Acoustic Sea Trials
- Demonstration and Shakedown Operations
- Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination
- Logistics Readiness Evaluation

C. MAJOR COMMAND AWARDS: 1997 Silver Anchor Award

PART III: NARRATIVE

Following the first ever Extended Refit Period conducted on a Trident submarine resulting in completion 5 days early and 4 million dollars under budget, Patrol 45 began with an exchange of command from the Blue Crew on 26 July 1997.

After a 9 day refit period, GEORGIA was underway from Submarine Base Bangor on 05 August 1997 to complete Refresher Training

evolutions. Upon completion of Refresher Training, GEORGIA conducted underway and static acoustic sea trials and then proceeded to the alert operational areas. Upon release from strategic duties, GEORGIA completed highly successful Mini-Demonstration and Shakedown Operations with members of both the Gold and Blue crews.

After a brief inport period at Submarine Base Bangor, GEORGIA proceeded once again to alert operational areas. On 13-15 October 1997, once released from strategic duties, an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) was successfully conducted. Following ORSE, a Logistics Readiness Evaluation was conducted on 15-16 October 1997.

After a return to Bangor, Washington, GEORGIA completed an exchange of command to the Blue Crew on 20 October 1997. Patrol 45 ended the Gold Crew chapter in a year that demonstrated the viability of the Extended Refit Period (ERP). The six month ERP replaced an overhaul lasting from 12 to 18 months requiring extensive recertification of the crew.