



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709)

FPO NEW YORK, N.Y. 09586-2389

5750  
Ser: 119  
15 March 1985

[REDACTED]

From: Commanding Officer, USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP09BH) Washington Navy Yard,  
Washington D.C. 20374

Subj: 1984 COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

Encl: (1) USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER Commissioning Sailing List dated 21 July 1984  
(2) USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER Commissioning Program  
(3) USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER Sailing List dated 17 December 1984

1. In accordance with reference (a), the Command History of USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709) during 1984 is forwarded. Enclosure (1), the list of the Commissioning crew "Plank Owners", and enclosures (2) and (3) are included as supporting documentations.

2. 1984 Command History.

a. Narrative: During the months of January through April of 1984 the HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709) was nearing the completion of her construction. The initial manning was completed in January. Initial criticality of the ship's S6G reactor was achieved on 10 March 1984. LCDR Kevin R. CHEESEBROUGH was the Engineer Officer.

Berthing and messing areas were completed in April and on 23 April 1984 the crew moved aboard the ship. A special meal of rib eye steaks, baked potatoes, and corn on the cob was served to commemorate the occasion.

The ship was placed in service on 24 April 1984 and initial sea trials began on 16 May 1984 with Admiral Kinnard R. McKee aboard. The sea trials were completed smartly in the shortest time ever for a 688 class submarine built at Electric Boat. Admiral McKee complimented the crew on their fine performance prior to his departure.

At precisely 1208, 21 July 1984 HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN 709) was placed in commission by the commissioning officer Vice Admiral Bernard M. Kauderer, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. The ceremony held in a downpour at Submarine Base Groton, Connecticut was well attended despite the weather and the one hour delay due to the late arrival of Representative Charles E. Bennett of Florida, the principal speaker.

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Admiral Steven A. White, Chief of Naval Material was the senior officer present. The other distinguished platform guests were Admiral Hyman G. Rickover (RET) and Mrs. Eleonore Rickover, the ship's sponsor. Immediately following, Captain Fredrik H.M. Spruitenburg assumed command of USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER.

During the remainder of 1984 the USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER conducted an uneventful shakedown. The ship completed the Weapons System Accuracy Test conducted at Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico and St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands between 6 and 20 August. A MK48 Torpedo Firing Certification was conducted 30 October through 2 November the ship achieved three hits from the six exercise weapons fired. A Reactor Safeguards Examination was satisfactorily completed on 11-12 December. The ship remained inport at Submarine Base New London, CT for the remainder of the year.

Port visits during 1984 are listed below:

Roosevelt Roads Puerto Rico 10-15 August 1984  
Fredricksted St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 17-20 August 1984  
Port Canaveral Florida 3-7 November 1984

b. Command Organization:

CAPT F.H.M. SPRUITENBURG	CO
LCDR R.M. CARR	XO
LCDR K.R. CHEESEBROUGH	ENG
LT L.A. KIDD	NAV
LT L.E. CHASE	WEPS
LITJG E.F. DIETZ	SUP
MMCM(SS) R.J. McDONALD	COB

CDR J.M. COHEN reported onboard on 17 December for duty as relief of the Commanding Officer. Remainder of the crew manning as of 31 December 1984 is in enclosure (3).

*Jay M. Cohen*  
JAY M. COHEN

Copy to: (w/o encls)  
COMSUBLANT  
COMSUBRON TWO