

USS KENTUCKY (SSBN 737)
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1997

1. Command Composition and Organization

a. Mission. The ship was commissioned 13 July 1991. USS KENTUCKY's mission, as defined by the Commander, Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet is three fold:

- (1) To be continuously ready to fight the ship in war,
- (2) To maintain the highest standards of personnel and material readiness for this war action , and
- (3) To strive continuously to improve submarine tactics and techniques to achieve the maximum readiness posture.

b. Organizational Structure. USS KENTUCKY operated under the cognizance of the Commander, Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, Vice Admiral R.W. Mies; administrative and Off-Crew cognizance of Commander, Submarine Group Ten, RADM C.J. Beers, Jr. and RADM J.A. Henry; operational and Refit cognizance of Commander, Submarine Squadron Twenty, Captain D.P. Cocolin and Commander, Submarine Squadron Sixteen, Captain T.E. Digan. The Commanding Officer of the GOLD crew is Commander T. M. Giardina. The Commanding Officer of the BLUE crew is Commander Roy H. Harkins.

c. Duty Station. USS KENTUCKY was homeported at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA.

2. Chronology of Events

a. 2 March 1997- KENTUCKY(GOLD) completes the ship's seventeenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet conducts an Operational Reactors Safeguards Examination (ORSE).

b. 4 March 1997 - The BLUE crew under the command of Captain Richard R. Stark relieves the GOLD crew at Exchange of Command and commences the scheduled Refit Period. The GOLD crew commences their off-crew Training Period.

c. 7 March 1997 - Commander Roy H. Harkins relieved Captain Richard R. Stark as Commanding Officer USS KENTUCKY (BLUE).

d. 4 April 1997 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's eighteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

e. 19 June 1997 - KENTUCKY(BLUE) completes the ship's eighteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet conducts an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) and a Naval Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI).

f. 21 June 1997 - The GOLD crew under the command of Commander T.M. Giardina relieves the BLUE crew at Exchange of Command and commences the scheduled Refit Period. The BLUE Crew commences their off-crew Training Period.

g. 22 July 1997 - KENTUCKY (GOLD) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's nineteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

h. 9 October 1997 - KENTUCKY (GOLD) completes the ship's nineteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Commander, Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet conducts a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) and a Naval Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI).

i. 11 October 1997 - The BLUE crew under the command of Commander Roy H. Harkins relieves the GOLD crew at Exchange of Command and commences the scheduled Refit Period. The GOLD crew commences their off-crew Training Period.

j. 13 November 1997 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's twentieth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

k. 22 November 1997 - The BLUE crew commences a week long port visit to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

3. Narrative

a. The ship successfully completed three Strategic Deterrent Patrols during 1997.

b. The ship successfully completed two Tactical Readiness Evaluations (TRE).

c. The ship successfully completed two Navy Technical Proficiency Inspections (NTPI).

d. The ship successfully completed two Operational Reactor Safeguards Examinations (ORSE).