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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731)
FLEET POST OFFICE
SEATTLE 98799-2108

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From: Commanding Officer, USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731) GOLD
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Naval Yard, Washington DC
20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12D

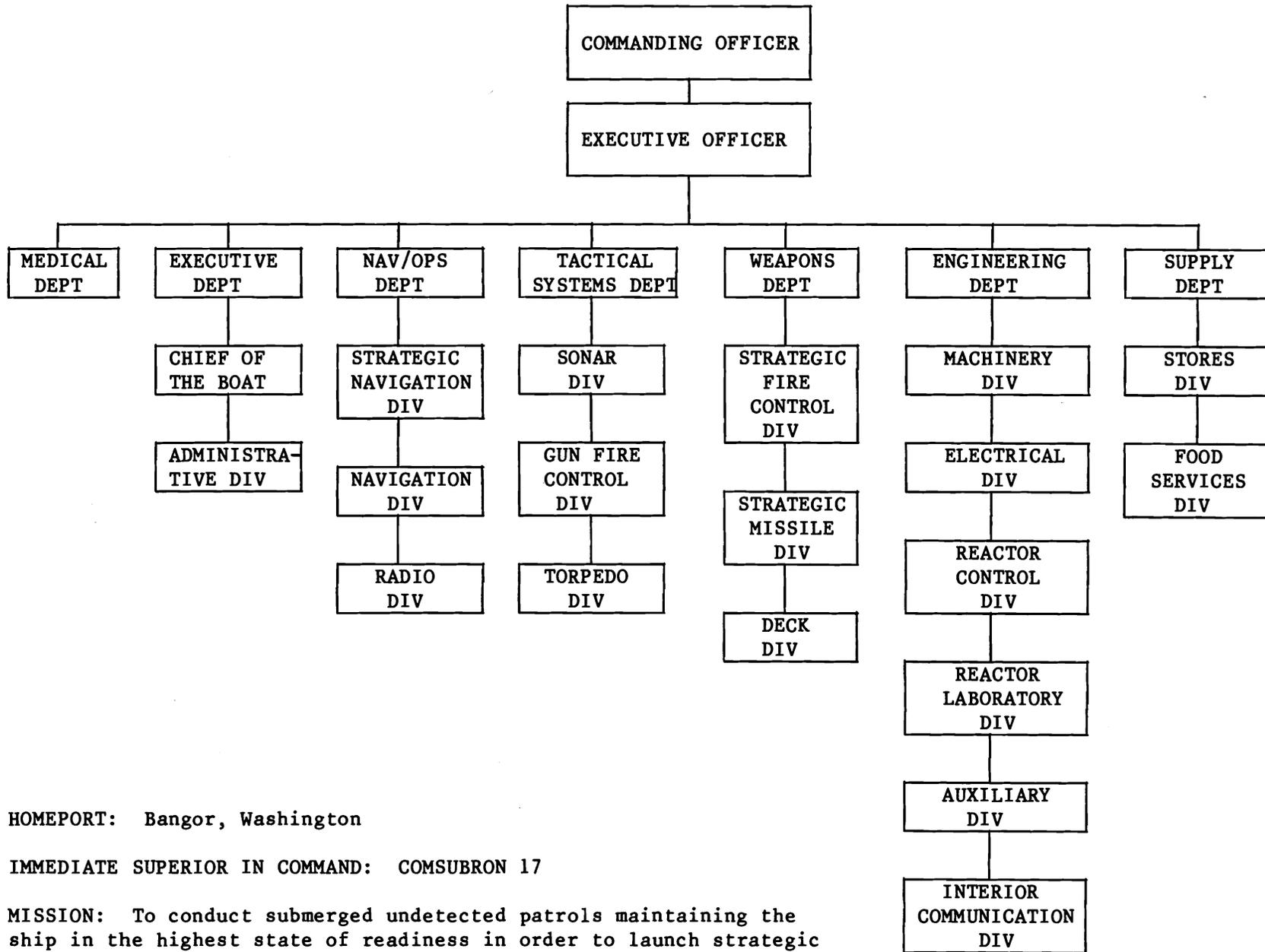
Encl: (1) Command Organization
(2) Command History Chronology/Narrative
(3) Supporting Documents

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (3) are submitted.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. W. Randall", is positioned above the typed name.

D. W. RANDALL
Acting

COMMAND ORGANIZATION



HOMEPORT: Bangor, Washington

IMMEDIATE SUPERIOR IN COMMAND: COMSUBRON 17

MISSION: To conduct submerged undetected patrols maintaining the ship in the highest state of readiness in order to launch strategic missiles for the purpose of deterrence and/or retaliation.

Command History Chronology/Narrative

25 FEB 88 USS ALABAMA hosted the COMSUBRON 17 Change of Command pierside on the ship's missile deck. Captain M. P. Gray relieved Captain G. P. Woodworth.

08 MAR 88 Conducted Dabob Bay Post-Refit sea trials. Hosted several U. S. Air Force Colonels in an at-sea submerged SSBN orientation brief and tour.

Completed Food Service portion of Supply Management Inspection earning a grade of satisfactory (Adjectival grade: 1 "Outstanding", 2 "Excellent").

09 MAR 88 USS ALABAMA hosted a Dependent's Day Cruise to Dabob Bay. Approximately 200 dependents and guests witnessed various submarine operations including diving and surfacing.

02 MAR 88 The BLUE Crew placed third in 1988 NEY Competition for Small Afloat Mess.

12 MAR 88 Departed Bangor, WA; commenced Patrol 8.

04-09 MAY 88 Moored in Bangor, WA; mid-patrol in port period.

13-16 MAY 88 Conducted a Fleet Operational Test Missile Firing; results were successful. Details of the test can be obtained from Applied Physics Laboratory, John Hopkins University. Refer to the enclosed copy of a newspaper clipping on the missile launch.

22-24 MAY 88 Conducted a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE), earning a grade of "satisfactory".

25 MAY 88 Conducted an at-sea submerged orientation tour concerning SSBN strategic deterrent operations for various Colonels and Generals in the U. S. Air Force.

25 MAY 88 Moored in Bangor, WA; completed Patrol 8.

26-27 MAY 88 Conducted a Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) earning a grade of "Satisfactory" (Adjectival grades: 9 "Outstanding", no discrepancies found).

28 MAY 88 Drydocked ship at the Bangor Delta drydocking facility; commenced Refit 9.

30 MAY 88 Exchange of Command, BLUE Crew relieved.

14-15 JUN 88 Conducted Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI) earning a grade of "Satisfactory" (Adjectival grades: 6 "Outstanding", 2 "Excellent", 1 "Acceptable").

18 JUN 88 Conducted Dabob Bay post-refit sea trials.

22 JUN 88 Departed Bangor, WA; Commenced Patrol 9 with Midshipmen aboard for summer cruise training.

21-23 JUL 88 Moored Pearl harbor, HI for tactical torpedo load-out and crew liberty.

25-27 JUL 88 Conducted Tactical Readiness Evaluation/Torpedo Certification Proficiency (TRE/TCP) earning a grade of "Satisfactory".

30 JUL 88 -
03 AUG 88 Moored Pearl Harbor, HI for tactical torpedo load-out and crew liberty. A new group of Midshipmen reported on board for summer cruise training.

22 AUG 88 COMSUBGRU 9 conducted an Administrative Inspection on ALABAMA GOLD resulting in a grade of "Satisfactory" (Adjectival grades, 1 "Outstanding", all other grades "Excellent").

01 SEP 88 Moored Bangor, WA, completing Patrol 9, the 100th Strategic deterrent patrol by a TRIDENT nuclear submarine. An official ceremony commemorating the event was held pierside as the ship arrived. The official greeting party was headed by Navy Undersecretary H. Lawrence Garrett, III. Refer to the enclosed copies of newspaper clippings for details.

03 SEP 88 Commenced Refit 10.

07 SEP 88 Exchange of Command, GOLD Crew relieved.

27 SEP 88 Conducted Dabob Bay post-refit trials.

30 SEP 88 Departed Bangor, WA; commenced Patrol 10.

01 OCT 88 BLUE Crew awarded the COMSUBRON 17 Anti-Submarine Warfare "A".

07 OCT 88 Captain W. W. Gay, III, relieves Captain G. C. Beard Jr. as Commanding Officer of the BLUE Crew.

05-06 DEC 88 Conducted an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) earning a grade of "Average".

08 DEC 88 Completed Patrol 10. Drydocked the ship at Bangor Delta dry-docking facility. National Geographic Magazine personnel were pierside taking pictures of ship for upcoming edition on the Washington State's Centennial.

09 DEC 88 Commenced Refit 11.

02 JAN 89 Conducted Dabob Bay post-refit sea trials.

06 JAN 89 Departed Bangor, WA; commenced Patrol 11

01 FEB 89 FTG1(SS) ██████████ ██████████ selected as the ALABAMA GOLD Sailor of the Year for CY 1988.

Additionally, the crew of USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731) enjoys a close relationship with the Crewman's Association of the previous USS ALABAMA (BB 60). Enclosed is one of the associations "Scuttlebutt" periodicals which also included news of the ALABAMA submarine completing the 100th TRIDENT Patrol.