



Rec 103/95/94
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760)
FPO AE 09564 - 2416

5750
Ser 760/013-94
24 Jan 94

From: Commanding Officer, USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760)
To: Director of Naval History (N-09BH)

Subj: USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E

Encl: (1) USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) Command History for April 1992
to December 1993

1. Enclosure (1) is submitted in accordance with reference (a).

R S Chapman
R. S. CHAPMAN

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

I. Command Composition and Organization.

A. Mission: USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) is the latest in fast attack nuclear submarine technology, capable of deploying immediately anywhere in the world. Her endurance allows her to remain on station for long periods of time providing the joint task force commander with:

- * Early, accurate knowledge of the battlefield on which power may be projected from sea.
- * Covert striking power against critical targets ashore.
- * The capability to establish an expeditionary force on land.
- * The maritime strength to destroy an enemy's naval forces and to interdict his seaborne commerce.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) combines the traditional submarine force characteristics of stealth, endurance, mobility, and high readiness for operational tasking. Specific tasking capabilities include the following:

- * Anti-submarine warfare
- * Battle Group Operations
- * Strike Warfare
- * Anti-surface warfare
- * Mining
- * Indication and warning
- * Surveillance
- * Sea control
- * Search and Rescue
- * Special Forces Operations
- * Allied Operations

B. ISIC: Commander, Submarine Squadron Two

C. Commanding Officer: CDR Robert S. Chapman

D. Homeport: Groton, CT.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

II. Chronology.

11 APR 1992 USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) commissioned in Groton, CT. at SUBASE NLON. CDR Richard J. Severinghaus, USN, Commanding.

15 APR 1992 Final Sea Trials.

24 MAY 1992 First port visit (ANNAPOLIS, MD).

23 NOV 1992 Completed MK 48, ADCAP, HARPOON, and TOMAHAWK weapons certification.

06 JAN 1993 Commenced Post Shakedown Availability (PSA) at Electric Boat Shipyard, Groton, CT.

05 MAR 1993 CDR Robert S. Chapman relieved CDR Richard J. Severinghaus as Commanding Officer.

07 JUL 1993 Completed PSA. Returned to SUBASE NLON.

02 AUG 1993 Port visit in Bermuda.

22 NOV 1993- First overseas deployment to the Northern
22 DEC 93 Atlantic.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

III. Narrative.

USS ANNAPOLIS's keel laying was conducted 18 June 1988. The ship progressed through launching on 18 May 1991, commissioning on 11 April 1992, and a multitude of certifications, availabilities, and inspections. Through the fine craftsmanship of General Dynamics, Electric Boat Division, and, more importantly, a highly motivated, exceptionally talented crew, USS ANNAPOLIS completed new construction and has taken its place as one of America's front-line submarines.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) is the 49th 688 class submarine and the 9th of the 688 improved (I) class submarines. Her new construction schedule stood, at time of commissioning, as the most accelerated building schedule of any 688 class submarine. Following commissioning, ANNAPOLIS spent the remainder of the year completing sound trials, weapons certifications, engineering certifications and inspections, and magnetic deperming. In late May 1992, ANNAPOLIS made her first port call, visiting her namesake city in Maryland for five days. This was a special occasion marked by the extraordinary generosity and friendliness of Annapolis, MD citizens and paralleled by the Commissioning Week events at the United States Naval Academy.

Entering the Post Shakedown Availability (PSA) in January 1993, ANNAPOLIS was already one of the most capable submarine platforms in the world. As a 688(I) class submarine, her design represented several improvements over the older 688 class models. These improvements included the advanced AN/BSY-1 Sonar/Combat Control System, Vertical Launch System capability, a more powerful nuclear reactor, and the addition of bow planes to replace fairwater planes. During her six months of PSA, ANNAPOLIS was outfitted with Special Hull Treatment (SHT), new communications equipment, and many sound quieting alterations. On 5 March 1993, the ship's first Commanding Officer, CDR Richard J. Severinghaus, was relieved by CDR Robert S. Chapman in a change of command ceremony at the Nautilus Museum in Groton, CT.

The ship returned to the Atlantic Fleet in July 1993 following a brief post-PSA sea trial. ANNAPOLIS completed at sea operations from July to September 1993, participating in acoustic trials, torpedo excercises, various VIP cruises, and making port calls in Bermuda and Florida. Following an upkeep and workup in the fall, ANNAPOLIS completed an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE) in early November 1993. Shortly thereafter, ANNAPOLIS was deployed on her first mission to the Northern Atlantic.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN-760) ENTERS THE FLEET
By Joe DiRenzo III and Kevin Thomas

GROTON, CT - Under clear blue skies, with other modern submarines, some of whom took part in the Persian Gulf conflict, acting as a backdrop, the USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) was formerly commissioned in ceremonies at the Navy's largest submarine base.

With the Annapolis High School Band providing a portion of the music, a capacity crowd of over 2,000 friends and visitors, the 4th ship to bear the city name entered the fleet in a ceremony which has been part of naval history since its inception.

Vice Admiral Henry G. Chiles, Jr. , Commander of the Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force, and the ceremony's Commissioning Officer called Saturday, "A great day for the Navy" as he ordered the Los Angeles-class submarine commissioned. Quartermaster Chief Robert Frizzola, who served in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm, unfurled the ship's commissioning pennant, officially placing the ship on active duty.

"Sir", Commander Richard J. Severinghaus, the ship's Commanding Officer announced to Admiral Chiles , "Annapolis is in commission and I have assumed command."

"Very Well" Chiles replied to the new commanding officer as the two exchanged salutes, "Congratulations".

Selected members of the crew then rapidly boarded the 360-foot nuclear powered submarine, effectively manning her as an American flag was hoisted, and a cannon on shore fired dozens of shots that echoed across the Thames River.

The city delegation was headed by Mayor Alfred A. Hopkins, perhaps the submarine's most vocal and enthusiastic local supporters. In his remarks Mayor Hopkins said, "As a third generation Annapolitan, I am extremely pleased the Department of the Navy has honored us by naming their newest most advanced attack submarine after our wonderful city." Continued Hopkins, "The links which are now being forged between the City and this submarine are significant and long lasting."

The 45 minute ceremony marks the final milestone of a series of events which began in late 1988 when the Secretary of The Navy, announced that fast attack submarine hull number 760 was to be named the ANNAPOLIS. This started the new construction process thousands of tests and installations conducted in tandem by the crew of 15 officers and 130 enlisted and the shipyard. Both groups also endured four sea trials of varying lengths to further certify the ship's systems for sea.

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

Page 2 - USS ANNAPOLIS Commissioned

"This day really caps a very arduous period", commented Commander Severinghaus, who graduated from the Naval Academy in 1973. "The crew has anticipated this date as the light at the end of the tunnel for over a year. During any ship yard period the workload is high, and the schedule really tests our mettle, but new construction duty is unique and, at times, difficult, including various forms of shiftwork, which is tough on both the crew and their families." Concluded Severinghouse, "However - with the process now complete, each crew member goes to sea on ANNAPOLIS knowing she is a good boat because of their individual contributions to its construction."

The new construction period has spanned some 19 months, and has seen the forming of the crew, the welding of the individual hull sections together to form the ship itself, and the building of all interior spaces including installing hundreds of individual pieces of equipment.

Much of the time spent by the men during this building process has been to inspect and certify the work performed on the ship. The inspections required have ranged from visual checks alone, to actually testing certain systems at sea on one of the many at sea "trials" that the ship has accomplished.

Though much of the crew's time is spent building the ship, there were several occasions when the crew and the city were able to build and strengthen the relationship that has formed between them. In May of 1991 some one hundred Annapolitians were in attendance in Groton, CT for the Launching of ANNAPOLIS at Electric boat. The fourth of July parade held in Annapolis last summer had nearly 30 crew members marching in formation with the ship's Commanding Officer riding in one of the parade vehicles. Additionally, the crew has made several other trips to Annapolis, including one trip to provide a cooking demonstration in the Annapolis Mall by members of the Mess Management Specialist division, the chef's of the ship.

The ANNAPOLIS is, according to the Naval Institute's Ships and Aircraft of the U.S. Fleet, the quietest fast attack submarine ever created, with 12 vertical launch tubes, capable of launching the accurate Tomahawk cruise missile. The submarine also incorporates the latest computer/sonar system. Nicknamed "Busy 1" for the AN/BSY-1 integrated fire control system, the Annapolis has the capability to acquire and track, both surface and submerged contacts, and project power ashore with the land attack version of the Tomahawk.

All Los Angeles Class submarines have been named after U.S. cities. The only other Maryland city with a submarine named after it is the USS BALTIMORE (SSN-704), commissioned in 1982.

TAB C to Encl (1)

USS ANNAPOLIS (SSN 760) COMMAND HISTORY
APRIL 1992 - DECEMBER 1993

Page 3 USS ANNAPOLIS commissioned

Three other ships have had the name ANNAPOLIS throughout U.S. naval history. The first was commissioned in 1897 and was a 168-foot gunboat. Serving in the Spanish-American war, and latter as a training vessel and station ship. In 1920 the Pennsylvania State Nautical School was assigned PG10 for use as a school ship and nearly 670 cadets earned their diplomas while training aboard "Annie" by the time she was stricken from the Naval Registry.

The second ANNAPOLIS commissioned in 1944 was a patrol boat, manned by the Coast Guard. The vessel served with distinction in the Atlantic convoy system, which helped stem the success of the German U-Boat fleet during World War II. Transferred to the Pacific in 1945 she again served by hunting submarines until decommissioned in 1946.

The third vessel to bear the name ANNAPOLIS was the navy's first major communications relay ship (AGMR1), the reclassified world war II aircraft carrier GILBERT ISLAND. In 1964, the newly commissioned vessel was sent off the coast of Vietnam to assist in communications between naval units and ashore combat sites. To her distinction, the third ANNAPOLIS earned the Meritorious Unit Commendation for support provided to the 7th Fleet, and received eight battle stars for participation in campaigns from 1965 to 1969. In 1976, after proudly serving the fleet, the third ANNAPOLIS was decommissioned.

With the commissioning of ANNAPOLIS the Navy will enhance it's long standing relationship it has enjoyed with the city of Annapolis. For two years a City-sponsored commemorative committee, initially chaired by Annapolis resident Dr. James Brianas, and later by Arnold resident Knute Aarsand has served as a focal point for all local activities. The Annapolis Council of the Navy League, and the local Fleet Reserve Club have also been involved in supporting crew visits.

"Each time a member of the crew has visited the city, he has been treated superbly. Everyone we have met, from Chick and Ruth's Chick Levitt to Tom Negri at the Loews. has welcomed us with open arms," commented the boat's senior enlisted member Master Chief Tom Punda. "The crew can not wait until we actually bring the boat up the Chesapeake Bay for a visit to the city."