



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS AUGUSTA (SSN710)

FPO NEW YORK 09564

5750

DOS:RWE:1-4

Ser 034-85

4 February 1985

From: Commanding Officer, USS AUGUSTA (SSN 710)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-09B)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12
(b) COMSUBLANTINST 5400.4L

Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Photograph of USS AUGUSTA
(3) Welcome Aboard Brochure
(4) Photograph of CAPT T.W. TURNER, USN, Commanding Officer
(5) Biography of CAPT T.W. TURNER, USN, Commanding Officer
(6) Photograph of LCDR D.O. SAMPLES, USN, Executive Officer
(7) Biography of LCDR D.O. SAMPLES, USN, Executive Officer

1. Enclosures (1) through (7) are forwarded to the appropriate addresses for historical and public affairs purposes in accordance with references (a) and (b).

2. This is USS AUGUSTA's first annual report.


T.W. TURNER

Copy to:

CINCLANTFLT (PAO) (w/encls 1,2,3,4 and 5)
COMSUBLANT (009) (w/encls 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7)
The Submarine Museum (w/encls 1,2,3,4 and 5)
Box 700 Naval Submarine School
Groton, CT 06340
Naval Military Personnel Command (NMPC 37) (w/encls 4 and 5)
Arlington Navy Annex, Navy Department
Washington, D.C. 20370
COMSUBRON TWO (w/encl 1)

USS AUGUSTA was built by the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corporation in Groton, Ct. The Keel was laid on 1 April 1982. The nucleus crew of the Precommissioning Unit began arriving and was organized under the command of Captain Thomas W. TURNER, USN, during August 1983. The crew began training intensively to support a demanding test program which began during the Fall of 1983.

Launching took place on 21 January 1984. The ship was Christened by sponsor Diana D. COHEN, the wife of Maine's senior United States Senator, William S. COHEN. AUGUSTA's namesake city is Augusta, Maine. Senator COHEN was the principal speaker, and the ship slid down the building ways into the Thames River on the coldest day of the winter of 1983 - 1984. That evening the crew held a party at the Norwich, CT Sheraton Inn, which was also attended by approximately 70 residents of our namesake city and ten crewmembers of the CA-31. By this time, the crew had formed strong friendships with the Augustans.

During July 1984, about half of the crew visited Augusta, ME to celebrate the city's "What Ever Week", a week of carnivals and other events, highlighted by a zany raft race on the Kennebec River. The crew's entry which placed very well, was a replica of the submarine.

During this time training continued, and the ship was nearing completion. Systems and spaces were transferred to the crew for operational and maintenance purposes, and the ship was placed In Service on 3 October 1984. Alpha Sea Trials took place on 18 - 19 October with ADM Kinnaird R. McKEE, Director of the Navy's Nuclear Propulsion Program and Mr. Fritz G. TOVAR, Electric Boat Division of General Dynamic's General Manager embarked.

Sea Trials were completed early and the ship delivered and moved up the Thames River to the New London Submarine Base on 5 December 1984.

After more at sea training and a holiday standdown, the crew began preparations to get underway for the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine, where the commissioning ceremony took place on 19 January 1985. During the week leading up to the Commissioning the crew enjoyed the hospitality of the shipyard, the Maine and New Hampshire Navy Leagues and the Kittery Business Council.

On Saturday, 19 January 1985 the ship became USS AUGUSTA (the Navy's thirtieth 688 Class Submarine). The commissioning ceremony was held onboard the ship with Senator COHEN, VADM N.R. THUNMAN, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Submarine Warfare) and many of our friends from Augusta and USS AUGUSTA (CA-31) attending.

The reporting period ended with USS AUGUSTA beginning preparations for shakedown and her first round of inspections and certifications as an operational unit assigned to CINCLANTFLT.