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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CHARLOTTE (SSN 766) PRECOMMISSIONING UNIT
SUPERVISOR OF SHIPBUILDING, CONVERSION AND REPAIR, USN
NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING AND DRYDOCK CO.
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA 23607-2787

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From: Commanding Officer, CHARLOTTE (SSN 766) Precommissioning Unit
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH)
Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR THE PERIOD 6 MARCH TO 31 DECEMBER 1992
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E
Encl: (1) Command History
(2) Biography and Photograph of Commanding Officer
(3) Organizational Roster
(4) Ship's Seal Decal

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded per reference (a).

M. J. Mathews
M. J. MATHEWS

CHARLOTTE (SSN 766) Precommissioning Unit Command History

Precommissioning Unit CHARLOTTE is the 56th nuclear-powered submarine of the Los Angeles class and the 17th of the "Improved" class design. SSN-766 is the fourth ship to bear the name CHARLOTTE.

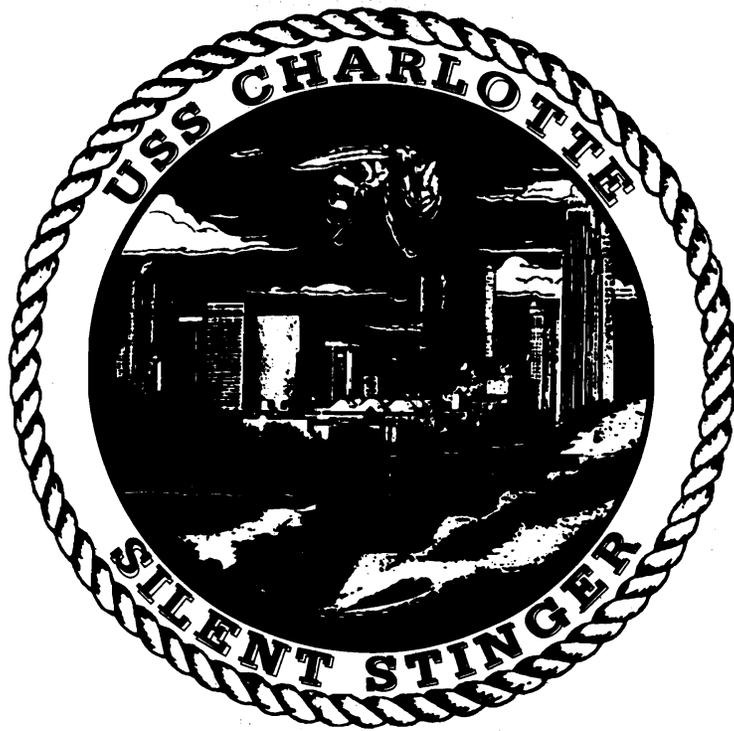
The first CHARLOTTE was a Civil War schooner which saw service in both the Union and Confederate Navies. The armored cruiser NORTH CAROLINA was renamed CHARLOTTE in 1920 to become the second ship to bear the name. The third namesake was a patrol frigate in World War II.

CHARLOTTE was formed on 6 March 1992 when the first members of the nucleus crew arrived in Newport News Shipbuilding and Commander Michael J. Mathews, USN assumed duties as the first Commanding Officer.

The ship was christened on 3 October 1992 by Mrs. Mary L. McCormack of Lake Forest, IL at Newport News Shipbuilding. At the time of christening, Mrs. McCormack's husband, The Honorable Robert C. McCormack, was the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Financial Management and the principal speaker for christening. The following day, CHARLOTTE entered the James River from a floating drydock.

During 1992, the ship's seal was designed incorporating Charlotte, NC high school art designs. It prominently features an "Improved" Los Angeles class submarine operating on the surface in the foreground. Behind the ship is an accurate rendition of the Charlotte skyline rising from the Carolina Piedmont, symbolizing Charlotte's emergence as a major center of commerce and finance in the southeastern United States. Above the skyline is a hornet in a tail-down stinging position with the nickname "Silent Stinger" appearing below the ship. These originate from a Revolutionary War engagement between the Charlotte citizenry and British Regulars near the city. After skirmishing with a band of Charlotte residents in the fall of 1780, Lord Cornwallis described Charlotte as "a damned hornet's nest." CHARLOTTE stands ready to defend the interests of our nation as tenaciously as those early Americans.

CHARLOTTE ended 1992 continuing construction. Commissioning is expected in October 1994.



enclosure (4)