

USS KENTUCKY (SSBN 737)
COMMAND HISTORY FOR 1996

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 G.W. Emery and Vice Admiral R.W. Mies; administrative and Off-Crew cognizance of Commander, Submarine Group Ten, RADM C.J. Beers, Jr.; operational and Refit cognizance of Commander, Submarine Squadron Twenty, Captain D.P. Cocolin. 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. 27 January 1996 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's fourteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

b. 20 March 1996 - The BLUE crew commences a week long port visit to San Juan, Puerto Rico.

c. 4 April 1996 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) completes the ship's fourteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Nuclear Propulsion Examination Board (NPEB) conducts an unannounced Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE).

d. 6 April 1996 - The GOLD crew under the command of Captain W. E. Cook relieves the BLUE crew at Exchange of Command and commences the scheduled Refit Period. The BLUE Crew commences their off-crew Training Period.

e. 30 May 1996 - KENTUCKY (GOLD) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's fifteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

f. 12 July 1996 - KENTUCKY (GOLD) completes the ship's fifteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet conducts a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) and a Navy Technical Proficiency Inspection (NTPI).

g. 14 July 1996 - 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.

h. 26 August 1996 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's sixteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

i. 11 October 1996 - Commander Timothy M. Giardina relieved Captain William E. Cook as Commanding Officer USS KENTUCKY (GOLD).

j. 7 November 1996 - KENTUCKY (BLUE) completes the ship's sixteenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol. Prior to returning to port the Commander, Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet conducts a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE).

k. 9 November 1996 - 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.

l. 17 December 1996 - KENTUCKY (GOLD) departs Kings Bay, GA to commence the ship's seventeenth Strategic Deterrent Patrol.

3. Narrative

a. The ship successfully completed three Strategic Deterrent Patrols during 1996.

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 one Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination (ORSE).