

DECLASSIFIED



USS LOS ANGELES (SSN-688)

FLEET POST OFFICE
NEW YORK, 09501

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SSN688/AEB:lw
5750
Ser C2-78
13 JAN 78

(Unclassified upon removal of ANNEX A
to Enclosure (1))

→ Not Held

REPORT SYMBOL - OPNAV REPORT 5750-1

From: Commanding Officer, USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9)
Washington, Navy Yard
Washington, D. C. 20390

Subj: Command History

Ref: (a) OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5750.12B

Encl: (1) Command History - USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688)

1. The command history of the USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) for the period of 13 November 1976 (date of commissioning) to 31 December 1977 is provided as enclosure (1) in accordance with reference (a).

R. E. Beedle
R. E. BEEDLE

Copy to:
CINCLANTFLT (PAO)
COMSUBLANT (PAO)
The Submarine Museum
Box 700
Naval Submarine School
Groton, Connecticut 06340

CLASSIFIED BY NAVSHIPSINST 5510.11D
DATED 27 MAY 1970
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXEMPT CATEGORY 3
DECLASSIFY ON: INDEFINITE

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COMMAND HISTORY
USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688)
13 November 1976 - 31 December 1977

COMMANDING OFFICERS

CDR J. E. CHRISTENSEN, Jr., USN 13 November 1976 - 21 October 1977
CDR R. E. BEEDLE, USN 21 October 1977 - PRESENT

MISSION

(See ANNEX A)

COMMAND

TYPE COMMANDER: Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet
SQUADRON COMMANDER: Commander Submarine Squadron SIX

HOMEPORT

Norfolk, Virginia

BASIC HISTORY

USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) was commissioned on 13 November 1976 following a construction period of nearly five years at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Virginia. (Annex B provides a record of the commissioning ceremony)

The USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) is the Navy's 109th nuclear powered submarine and the 67th of the attack submarine fleet. She is the lead ship for the new class of high speed nuclear attack submarines. The USS LOS ANGELES began her waterborne career on 6 April 1974 when she was launched by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company in Newport News, Virginia. USS LOS ANGELES was christened by Mrs. Anne Armstrong, then counsellor to the President of the United States. USS LOS ANGELES' launching on 6 April 1974 coincided with the keel laying ceremony of a sister ship the USS CINCINNATI (SSN 693), the first of its kind ceremony at Newport News Shipbuilding. Nearly 39 months after launch USS LOS ANGELES set out on her initial sea trials to test operation of the nuclear propulsion plant under the direction of Admiral H. G. Rickover, the Deputy Commander for Nuclear Propulsion of the Naval Sea Systems Command and head of the Naval Reactors branch of the Energy Research and Development Administration. Immediately after completion of the first sea trials, further trials were commenced to test the complex sonar and weapons systems installed in LOS ANGELES.

USS LOS ANGELES brings to the fleet the unlimited endurance of nuclear power, the most advanced submarine detecting system and an impressive underwater weapons launch capability. The USS LOS ANGELES is capable of high speed support operations complementing the carrier task forces of the United States Navy.

Enclosure (1)

SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

Length Overall	360 feet
Maximum Beam	33 feet
Surfaced Displacement	6100 tons
Submerged Displacement	6900 tons
Maximum Depth	In excess of 400 feet
Maximum Speed	In excess of 20 knots
Armament	Four 21 inch Torpedo Tubes
Power Source	S6G Nuclear Reactor
Ship's Complement	12 Officers/115 Enlisted Men

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS

-1976-

13 November	USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) commissioned (see ANNEXES B and C)
15 November - 19 November	Navigation equipment certification testing while enroute to New London, Connecticut.
19 November - 9 December	Refresher training at New London, Connecticut for MK 48 torpedo certification examination.
9 December - 13 December	Enroute to Norfolk, Virginia
13 December - 15 December	Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination
15 December - 31 December	Inport Norfolk, Virginia

-1977-

1 January - 7 January	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
6 January	The Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable J. William Middendorf, II visited the USS LOS ANGELES.
7 January - 11 January	At Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia for a restricted availability.
11 January - 12 January	Enroute to Port Canaveral, Florida
12 January	Visit by VADM WATKINS, ADM KELLN, VADM LONG and VADM WILLIAMS
13 January - 16 January	Enroute to Port Everglades, Florida
16 January - 24 January	Inport at Port Everglades, Florida

24 January - 31 January	Combat Systems Certification Tests (CSCT) and MK-48 Certification on the AUTEC Range, Andros Island, Bahamas.
31 January - 6 February	Inport Cape Canaveral, Florida
6 February - 18 February	Naval Sea Systems Command sound trial at Exuma Sound, Bahamas.
18 February - 20 February	Inport Port Everglades, Florida
20 February - 28 February	Sound Trials at Exuma Sound, Bahamas.
1 March - 10 March	Underway for submarine exercise SUBASWEX 1-77

P 112058Z MAR 77
 FM COMSUBDEVGRU TWO
 TO COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA
 INFO CNO WASHINGTON DE
 CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
 USS LOS ANGELES

BT

SUBASWEX 1-77 FIRST IMPRESSIONS (U)

1. (U) USS LOS ANGELES, LEAD SHIP OF THE NEW SSN-688 CLASS OF ATTACK SUBMARINES, HAS JUST COMPLETED PARTICIPATION IN SUBASWEX 1-77, THE FIRST EXERCISE OF THE SSN-688 CLASS TACTICAL DEVELOPMENT AND ASSESSMENT (TADAP) PROGRAM, HER FIRST EVER FLEET EXERCISE. INITIAL REVIEW OF THE RAW EXERCISE REPORTS INDICATES LOS ANGELES HAS MADE AN IMPRESSIVE DEBUT, AND HAS DEMONSTRATED TACTICAL CAPABILITIES SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDING THOSE OF EARLIER SSN CLASSES.

11 March	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
12 March - 6 April	At Norfolk Naval Shipyard, Portsmouth, Virginia for a Restricted Availability
7 April - 22 April	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
23 April - 27 April	Enroute to St. Croix, Virgin Islands
27 April - 28 April	Inport St. Croix, Virgin Islands
28 April - 30 April	Conducted Standardization Trials, AFWR, St. Croix
30 April - 2 May	Inport St. Croix, Virgin Islands
2 May - 7 May	Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
7 May - 16 May	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
16 May - 19 May	At sea in Norfolk Operating Areas for predeployment training

20 May - 23 May Inport Norfolk, Virginia

23 May - 24 May Underway with the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Research and Engineering, the Honorable William J. PERRY and the Under Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Robert J. WOOSLEY embarked

25 May - 26 May Enroute to Port Canaveral, Florida

26 May Inport Port Canaveral, Florida

27 May Underway with the President of the United States, President James Earl "Jimmy" Carter embarked (See ANNEX D)

R 281620Z MAY 77
FM CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
TO COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA
USS LOS ANGELES

BT

UNCLAS//NO0000//

PERFORMANCE OF DUTY DURING PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

1. FOR USS LOS ANGELES: PRESIDENT CARTER'S WORDS FOLLOWING HIS VISIT BEST DESCRIBE THE PRIDE AND PROFESSIONALISM OF YOUR CREW. THERE IS INDEED NO FINER, MORE CAPABLE SHIP IN THE WORLD. WELL DONE AND MY SPECIAL THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY CREWMEMBER. THE HARD WORK AND LONG HOURS EACH OF YOU PUT INTO PREPARING YOUR SHIP FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF'S VISIT WAS REWARDED. THE PRIDE HE EXPRESSED IN LOS ANGELES IS UNIVERSALLY FELT THROUGHOUT THE FLEET.
2. FOR SUPPORTING UNITS: YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS HISTORIC EVENT WERE SUPERB IN EVERY RESPECT. YOUR EFFORTS WERE AN EXTRAORDINARY EXAMPLE OF HIGH PROFESSIONALISM AND EXPERTISE. CONGRATULATIONS FOR PROVIDING THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES ON THE SURFACE AND OVERHEAD. YOURS WAS AN ADMIRABLE PERFORMANCE. I AM AWARE OF YOUR PERSONAL SACRIFICES AND, AS ALWAYS ON THESE SPECIAL OCCASIONS, AM IMPRESSED WITH YOUR PRIDE AND DEDICATION.
3. TO ALL, BOTH ASHORE AND AFLOAT WHO HELPED TO RE-ACQUAINT OUR PRESIDENT WITH THE SEA AND OUR NAVY, WELL DONE. KIDD.

BT

R 282011Z MAY 77
FM COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA
TO USS LOS ANGELES
INFO COMSUBRON SIX
UNCLAS//NO1600//

FOR CDR CHRISTENSEN.

1. YOUR DEMONSTRATION FOR THE PRESIDENT ON 27 MAY 1977 WAS CARRIED OUT IN A MOST PROFESSIONAL MANNER AND WILL BRING SIGNIFICANT LONG TERM BENEFITS TO THE SUBMARINE FORCE.
2. VADM WILLIAMS SENDS SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE LOS ANGELES FOR THEIR SPLENDID PERFORMANCE OF DUTY.

BT

27 May - 29 May	Enroute Norfolk, Virginia
29 May - 7 June	Inport Norfolk, Virginia
8 June - 16 June	Enroute Rota, Spain; commencement of Mediterranean deployment as a unit of the U. S. SIXTH Fleet
16 June - 18 June	Inport Rota, Spain
19 June - 21 June	Enroute to La Maddalena, Sardinia
21 June - 24 June	Conducted submarine exercise SUBASWEX 2-77
25 June - 20 July	At sea for training and independent submarine operations
20 July - 22 July	Inport Naples, Italy
23 July	Enroute La Maddalena, Sardinia
24 July - 13 August	Inport La Maddalena, Sardinia
13 August - 24 August	Underway for National Week XXIII exercises
24 August - 25 August	Inport La Maddalena, Sardinia
25 August - 2 September	Enroute to Norfolk, Virginia

R 241511Z AUG 77
 FM COMSIXTHFLT
 TO USS LOS ANGELES
 INFO CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
 CTF SIX NINE
 COMSUBRON SIX

BT
 MED OUTCHOP (U)
 1. LOS ANGELES HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF HER FIRST DEPLOYMENT BY GIVING A PROFESSIONAL DEMONSTRATION OF THE IMPRESSIVE CAPABILITIES OF THE 688 CLASS SUBMARINE. YOUR ASW ACTIONS WERE PARTICULARLY WELL EXECUTED AND YOUR PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE DURING NATIONAL WEEK XXIII CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TOWARD AN OUTSTANDING EXERCISE.
 2. THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE LOS ANGELES CAN BE VERY PROUD OF YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENHANCED READINESS OF THE SIXTHFLT.
 3. BEST WISHES FOR A SMOOTH TRIP HOME, VADM HARRY D TRAIN, II, USN
 BT

R 271157Z AUG 77
 FM CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
 TO USS LOS ANGELES
 INFO COMSIXTHFLT
 COMSUBLANT NORFOLK VA
 BT
 LOS ANGELES OUTCHOP

1. THE CREW OF LOS ANGELES CAN TAKE JUSTIFIABLE PRIDE IN A VERY

SUCCESSFUL INITIAL DEPLOYMENT OF OUR NEWEST CLASS OF ATTACK SUBMARINE. YOUR RESPONSIVENESS TO DEMANDING OPERATIONAL TASKING, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF ASW AND OPERATIONAL EVALUATION OF IMPORTANT NEW TACTICAL SYSTEMS, HAS BEEN OF SPECIAL NOTE. PLEASE PASS TO ALL IN LOS ANGELES MY WELL DONE AND MY BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESSES. ADMIRAL DAVID H. BAGLEY, USN
BT

2 September - 12 September Inport Norfolk, Virginia

12 September - 31 December At Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Virginia for Post Shakedown Availability (PSA).

21 October Commander R. E. BEEDLE, USN relieved
 Commander J. E. CHRISTENSEN, Jr. as
 Commanding Officer, USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688)
 (See ANNEX E)

ANNEXES

- A - Mission
- B - Commissioning of the USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688)
- C - Executive Assistant to Commander in Chief Atlantic letter of 24 November 1976 with Secretary of the Navy letter of 28 October 1976
- D - Letter from President Carter to Captain J. E. Christensen dated 1 June 1977
- E - Change of Command Program