

Rev 4/5/94



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738)

FPO AA 34092-2129

5757

Ser NAV/112

25 Mar 94

From: Commanding Officer, USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) (GOLD)
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09BH), Washington Navy Yard,
Washington DC 20374-0571

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738)

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12E (Command Histories)

Encl: (1) Command History of USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) for
calendar year 1993

1. Per reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.


H. L. SHEFFIELD



USS MARYLAND COMMAND HISTORY

Part I: Command Composition and Organization

A. Mission: Conduct strategic deterrent patrols

B. Organization Structure:

Immediate Superior in Chain of Command: Commander, Submarine Squadron 20.

Subordinate Units: None.

C. Name of Commander:

Blue Crew: CAPT John W. Francis, USN, 1 Jan - 21 May
CAPT Charles A. Schaefer, USN, 21 May - 31 Dec

Gold Crew: CAPT Harold E. Marshall, USN, 1 Jan - 22 Oct
CAPT Harold L. Sheffield, USN, 22 Oct -31 Dec

D. Permanent Duty Station: Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA

Part II: Chronology (1993)

- 18 Jan Underway from Naval Base, Kings Bay, GA for Tactical Readiness Evaluation.
- 22 Jan Moored Naval Base, Kings Bay, GA.
- 26 Jan Exchange of Command. Blue crew relieved Gold crew.
- 28 Jan Underway from Kings Bay.
- 30 Jan Moored at Electric Boat, Groton, CT. Commence post shakedown availability period.
- 2 Apr Underway for sea trials.
- 4 Apr Moored at Groton, CT.
- 5 Apr Underway, commenced Tactical Readiness Assist.
- 9 Apr Moored at Kings Bay, GA.
- 15 Apr Underway. Commenced Sonar phase III certification.
- 20 Apr Completed Sonar certification.
- 27 Apr Successfully completed Mark 48 torpedo certification.

1 May Completed Tactical Readiness Examination. Overall grade "Average."

1 May Moored at Port Canaveral, FL.

3 May Underway to conduct VIP cruise for approximately 40 members of the MARYLAND commissioning committee. Returned to Port Canaveral, FL later the same day, and back underway with about 50 dependents for a father-son tiger cruise.

4 May Moored at Kings Bay, GA. Commenced refit and load out of Trident missiles.

7 May Exchange of Command. Gold crew relieved Blue crew.

21 May Captain Charlie A. Schaefer, USN, relieved Captain John W. Francis as Commanding Officer of USS MARYLAND BLUE.

01 Jun Underway for Post PSA Acoustic Trials in Exuma Sound.

11 Jun Conducted Humanitarian Evacuation in Port Canaveral, Florida.

12 Jun Conducted a second Humanitarian Evacuation in Port Canaveral, Florida.

15 Jun Moored Port Canaveral, Florida to off load Acoustic Trials equipment.

19 Jun Underway to conduct a dependents cruise. Returned to Port Canaveral later in the day to return dependents pierside, then resumed underway for the ship's first strategic deterrent patrol.

22 Jul Conducted a Medical and Humanitarian evacuation near Bermuda.

09 Aug Conducted an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination. Overall Grade "Average."

10 Aug Moored at Naval Station, Norfolk, Virginia, to be host platform for the COMSUBLANT change of command ceremony. The ship played host to hundreds of naval and civilian visitors during the ship's 5 day visit in Norfolk.

13 Aug Vice Admiral Emery relieved Vice Admiral Chiles as Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet on board.

15 Aug Underway from Naval Station, Norfolk, VA.

17 Aug Conducted overnight VIP cruise near Mayport, FL for several Jacksonville and other local area businessmen.

18 Aug Moored at Naval Station, Mayport, FL. Commenced remote refit as part of SSBN Continuity of Operations (SCOOP).

20 Aug Exchange of Command. Blue crew relieved Gold crew.

10 Sep Underway for sea trials.

14 Sep Moored at Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA.

20 Sep Underway for strategic deterrent patrol #2.

24 Sep Ran aground at Port Canaveral, FL, after conducting a medical evacuation for a sick crew member.

25 Sep Moored at Kings Bay, GA, to inspect for damage and investigate the grounding.

26 Sep Underway to resume strategic deterrent patrol.

22 Oct Captain Harold L. Sheffield, USN, relieved Captain Harold E. Marshall as the Commanding Officer of USS MARYLAND (GOLD).

28 Nov Conducted Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination. Overall grade "Above Average."

28 Nov Moored at Kings Bay, GA. Commenced refit.

1 Dec Exchange of Command. Gold crew relieved Blue crew.

PART III: NARRATIVE

As the year started, MARYLAND's Blue crew returned to Electric Boat to commence Post Shakedown Availability (PSA). This was the MARYLAND's last opportunity to ensure all equipment was fully operational prior to joining Submarine Squadron 20 for strategic load out and strategic deterrent patrols.

Upon completion of PSA in April MARYLAND got underway and commenced an intensive training period, starting with an assist visit by members of Commander Submarine Group 10 staff to help the ship prepare for Tactical Readiness Examination (TRE). USS MARYLAND then conducted Sonar phase III certification, allowing the ship to practice tracking another submarine.

MARYLAND then transited to the AUTEK weapons range to complete Mark 48 torpedo certification, successfully launching exercise torpedoes at mobile submerged targets. MARYLAND then

conducted the intensive Tactical Readiness Examination, which tests the ship's ability to execute its primary and secondary missions under simulated wartime conditions.

After successful completion of the TRE, the ship was able to "pay back" several members of the USS MARYLAND commissioning committee, allowing them to ride the ship for a one day VIP cruise. MARYLAND got underway early on 3 May, raced out to deep water and submerged. The guests were able to "drive" the ship, look out the periscope, and observe simulated torpedo and missile launches. Crew members gave tours of their watchstations and working spaces. MARYLAND completed the cruise with an "emergency surface" and returned to Port Canaveral by late afternoon.

The ship returned to Port Canaveral only briefly to drop off members of the commissioning committee and to load several fathers, sons, and other guests of various crew members for an overnight transit to Kings Bay. This at sea period was highly enjoyable and allowed the crew to expose their families to the crew's routine at sea.

Upon mooring in Kings Bay in May, the Gold crew took the ship and commenced refit. During this time the MARYLAND completed its strategic load out of 24 Trident II missiles.

The ship conducted post PSA acoustic sound trials in Exuma Sound then enjoyed a dependents cruise out of Port Canaveral, FL. On 19 June the ship was underway for her first strategic deterrent patrol.

Following a very successful patrol period, the ship conducted an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination then moored in Norfolk, Va to be the host platform for the COMSUBLANT change of command ceremony.

Just prior to ending the on-crew period, the Gold crew hosted an overnight VIP cruise out of Mayport, FL for several local area business executives. This was an excellent opportunity to display and promote the importance of the submarine community to the local Jacksonville area.

The ship returned to the Mayport Naval Base to conduct a remote refit. The refit was a test of the TRIDENT Refit Facility's ability to conduct a refit away from its home by transporting the necessary people and equipment 60 miles south for a 20 day period. From the crew's perspective, the refit wasn't very much different than one conducted at Kings Bay, except for most of the crew the commute to work was longer. The remote refit was a success. All major work was accomplished, even though the refit was cut short a few days when Hurricane Emily threatened to strike the North Florida coast.

Advantage was taken of the time in Mayport to show off the submarine force to other Navy warfare communities. Several members of the Surface warfare and SH-60 aviation communities located in Mayport were able to tour the MARYLAND and converse with her crew.

Upon completion of the refit, MARYLAND returned to Kings Bay to complete last minute preparations for her upcoming patrol. The ship commenced strategic deterrent patrol #2 in September. As soon as the ship reached her patrol areas, she had to turn back to evacuate a sick crew member who had a kidney stone. The sick crew member was transferred off the ship in the Port Canaveral basin. On the outbound transit, MARYLAND ran aground in the channel in water that became too shallow over time due to heavy shoaling. The ship returned to Kings Bay to inspect for damage and investigate the incident. Damage was minimal and the crew was held blameless. The delay was short, MARYLAND resumed the patrol two days after the grounding.

At the completion of patrol in late November, USS MARYLAND successfully conducted an Operational Reactor Safeguards Examination and a Supply Management Inspection. MARYLAND then returned to Kings Bay to commence refit and let the Gold crew assume the ship.

PART IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following supporting documents are included for calendar year 1993:

- a. Biography of CAPT Charles A. Schaefer, Commanding Officer, USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) (BLUE).
- b. Biography of CAPT Harold L. Sheffield, Commanding Officer, USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) (GOLD).