



# **SMALLWOOD HALL DEDICATION**

**26 FEBRUARY 1988**

**NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE**

**PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII**

## **Program**

Arrival of Official Party

Invocation

CAPT Marshall - Remarks

RADM Reynolds Remarks and  
Introduces VADM (Ret) Nicholson

VADM (Ret) Nicholson - Remarks

CAPT Marshall - Reading of Smallwood Citation

Unveil dedication plaque/portrait

Benediction

Tour of Smallwood Hall



On 14 June 1960, USS SARGO (SSN 583) suffered an explosion and fire during an oxygen bank charge from an external source. Due to the severe intensity of the fire, the Commanding Officer was compelled to submerge the boat's aft end to extinguish the blaze and save the ship. MM3 (SS) James E. Smallwood, USN, lost his life in the casualty while serving as the oxygen charging watchstander when the explosion occurred. Subsequent investigations noted that Petty Officer Smallwood's "firm insistence that the ship's written safety precautions be rigidly adhered to probably saved other lives that might have been lost in the accident and probably prevented a major disaster." For his dedication and devotion to duty, MM3 (SS) Smallwood was posthumously awarded the Navy-Marine Corps Medal. This afternoon, USS SARGO will be retired from the Pacific Submarine Force after 24 years of superb duty.

On 15 April 1987, Submarine Base Pearl Harbor opened a new 17-story Bachelor Enlisted Quarters capable of housing 516 personnel. The culmination of over two years of construction now affords the single enlisted sailor the most modern living conditions in the Pacific. This building is today being dedicated in the memory of MM3 (SS) James E. Smallwood and the sacrifice of his life while performing in the service of his country. The ceremony is being attended by members of the Smallwood family.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES  
TAKES PRIDE IN PRESENTING  
NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL POSTHUMOUSLY TO  
JAMES E. SMALLWOOD  
MACHINIST'S MATE THIRD CLASS  
UNITED STATES NAVY  
FOR SERVICE AS SET FORTH IN THE FOLLOWING

CITATION

"For heroic conduct on June 14, 1960 while serving on board U.S.S. SARGO (SSN-583) moored at the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. While supervising the operation of charging high pressure oxygen into the SARGO's storage tanks, SMALLWOOD firmly and meticulously carried out the ship's safety precautions requiring isolation of the charging compartment from the remainder of the vessel. Aware of the potential danger involved, he denied entry of several of his shipmates to the Stern Room and kept the watertight door and bulkhead flappers shut. SMALLWOOD lost his life in a raging fire which broke out during the oxygen charge. Through his steadfast adherence to safety precautions, he undoubtedly prevented further loss of life and a probable major disaster. His courage and outstanding devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service".

FOR THE PRESIDENT  
JOHN B. CONNALLY  
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY



Vice Admiral John Harris Nicholson, a native of Salt Lake City, Utah, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1946. He initially served aboard USS McCOOK (DMS 36), USS WANTUCK (ADP 125) and, upon completion of submarine school, USS TIRU (SS 416). He was one of the first two officers selected for the nuclear power program in 1950 and served on the commissioning crew of USS NAUTILUS (SSN 571). From 1957 - 1958, he served as Executive Officer and Navigator on USS SKATE (SSN 578). Next he commanded USS PICKEREL (SS 524) and USS SARGO (SSN 583) where he was cited for exceptionally meritorious conduct during extensive under-ice submarine operations in the Arctic Ocean. After a tour in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), he commanded in succession, USS STONEWALL JACKSON (SSBN 634); the U.S. Navy Nuclear Power Training Unit, Idaho Falls, Idaho; and USS MERRICK (LKA 97) where he was cited for meritorious service during combat operations in Vietnam. Following instruction at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, he commanded Submarine Squadron Fifteen in Guam until June 1972, when he was selected for Rear Admiral. His tours as a flag officer included duty as Deputy Commander, Naval Ship Systems Command; Director of Strategic Submarine Division and Trident Program Coordinator in the Office of the CNO; Commander Submarine Group Eight/Commander Submarines Mediterranean in Naples, Italy, and Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, Plans and Policy, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, Belgium. On 1 July 1979, he was promoted to Vice Admiral and served as Vice Director of Strategic Target Planning at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska until his retirement on 1 July 1980. His decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Gold Star, Bronze Star with Combat "V", Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Unit Commendation Medal with one star.



Rear Admiral James Guy Reynolds, USN, a native of Riverdale, Illinois, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in June 1959. After serving aboard the destroyer USS BAUSELL (DD 845), he completed submarine school and nuclear power training. Rear Admiral Reynolds subsequently served aboard USS ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN 601), USS JACK (SSN 605), USS BENJAMIN FRANKLIN (SSBN 640), and USS SAM HOUSTON (SSBN 609). In 1969, RADM Reynolds served with the U.S. Naval Forces Vietnam. From 1973-1977, RADM Reynolds commanded USS PINTADO (SSN 672). Following command at sea, he rotated ashore to become Deputy Senior Member Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board, for Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. In June 1979, RADM Reynolds assumed command of the submarine tender USS SPERRY (AS 12). Rear Admiral Reynolds commanded Submarine Squadron Three from May 1980 until August 1981 when he was assigned as Project Manager, Torpedo MK 48, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, D.C. While serving in that capacity, he was selected for flag rank. In July 1983, RADM Reynolds assumed duties as Vice Director for Collection Management, Defense Intelligence Agency. Rear Admiral Reynolds remained at DIA until relieving as Director, Attack Submarines, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. In September 1985, Rear Admiral Reynolds established the Submarine Combat Directorate, Naval Sea Systems Command and served as its first director. In May 1987, Rear Admiral Reynolds assumed his current duties as Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Rear Admiral Reynolds' service awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with three Gold Stars, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Navy Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation with Star, Meritorious Unit Commendation with Star, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and the Battle Efficiency "E" Ribbon. He was awarded a Master's degree in Operations Research from the Naval Post Graduate School in 1970.



USS SARGO (SSN 583)