

Change of Command

UNITED STATES SHIP

SARGO SSN 583



26 June 1965

UNITED STATES NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE

PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII

Commander Robert M. Douglass, U. S. Navy, graduated from the Naval Academy in 1949. After two years on the destroyer RUPERTUS he attended submarine school. He served on the USS ARGONAUT (SS475) and on the staff of ComSubDiv 21 before entering nuclear power training in 1956. Commander Douglass served in the commissioning crews of the USS SARGO (SSN583) and the USS PATRICK HENRY (SSBN599). His next duty will be as Commanding Officer USS JAMES K. POLK (SSBN645) (Gold).



Lieutenant Commander Vahsen reports to SARGO from USS THOMAS JEFFERSON (SSBN618) where he served as Executive Officer (BLUE). A native of Greenwich, Connecticut, and a 1952 graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy, his naval career commenced with three years enlisted duty in aviation ratings. Prior to entering submarine service in 1953, he completed a tour of duty in USS CONWAY (DDE507). His submarine assignments have included duty in TRIGGER (SS564), SKIPJACK (SSN585), ROBERT E. LEE (SSBN601), and on the Staff of Nuclear Power School and COMSUBRON 14. His wife, Penny, is the former Faustena A. FRADD of Annapolis, Maryland. Their family of five children includes three sons and two daughters.

Program

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

CINCPACFLT Band

INVOCATION

LCDR JOHN G. NEWTON, CHC, USN

REMARKS

CDR H. D. MURPHREE, COMSUBDIV 71

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

CDR R. M. DOUGLASS, USN

REMARKS AND READING OF ORDERS

LCDR G. M. VAHSEN, USN

BENEDICTION

LCDR JOHN G. NEWTON, CHC, USN

RECEPTION IN LOCKWOOD HALL

FOLLOWING CEREMONY

SHIP'S HISTORY

The U. S. S. SARGO was the first nuclear submarine to be built at Mare Island Naval Shipyard and on 1 October 1958, became the fifth U. S. Nuclear submarine to be commissioned. Upon completion of construction and after various shakedown cruises, SARGO reported to Pearl Harbor in October 1959 as a member of Submarine Squadron Seven.

SARGO conducted an Arctic cruise in early 1960, being the first submarine to surface at the North Pole during the winter months. She received the Navy Unit Citation for this cruise.

SARGO was the first nuclear submarine to be overhauled at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. This overhaul was completed in March of 1963.

SARGO has been deployed several times to the Western Pacific on extended training cruises. The most recent deployment was completed in October 1964 where SARGO operated in support of the Gulf of Tonkin crisis.

SARGO is 268 feet long, displaces approximately 2500 tons, and is capable of cruising at speeds in excess of 20 knots submerged.