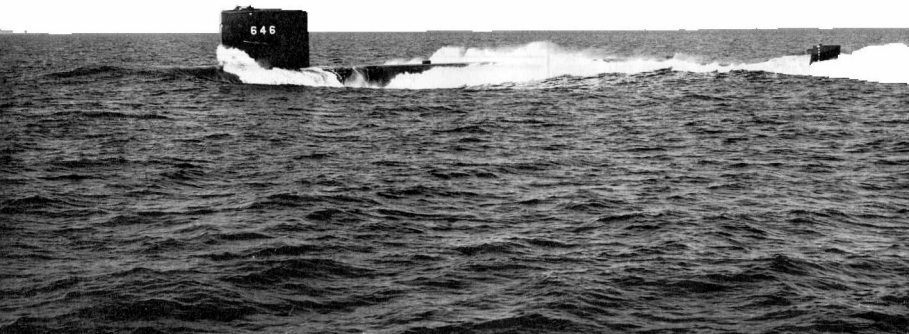


The PORTSMOUTH

PERISCOP

Special Issue PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD, PORTSMOUTH, N. H. October 10, 1969



**Portsmouth-built nuclear attack submarine GRAYLING (SSN646)
To be placed in commission Saturday morning, October 11, 1969**

Submarine Grayling (SS209) Commissioned 28 Years Ago



The nuclear submarine GRAYLING (SSN646) is named in commemoration of the GRAYLING (SS209), lost on her eighth war patrol in the Pacific in 1943.

The first GRAYLING was built at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, launched September 4, 1940 and placed in commission on March 1, 1941, with Lieut Commander Eliot Olsen as the submarine's first Commanding Officer.

It was on board the GRAYLING that Admiral Chester W. Nimitz broke out his flag as Commander in Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor in January 1942.

GRAYLING's first war patrol, made in January and February 1942, was a reconnaissance of the northern Gilbert Islands. The submarine went to the Japanese homeland for her second patrol.

Truk was the scene of the 209's third and fourth patrols.

In January and February 1943, she patrolled the approaches to Manila on her fifth patrol. GRAYLING patrolled the lesser islands south of the Philippines on her sixth patrol and went to the area west of Borneo on her seventh patrol.

July 30, 1943 GRAYLING, commanded by Lieut. Commander Robert M. Brinker, departed from Freemantle, Australia, on her eighth war patrol, going through Makassar Strait and then to the Philippine area.

The Naval History Division, in a pamphlet on "History of Ships Named GRAYLING," states it is certain that she was lost between September 9 and 12, 1943 either in Lingayen Gulf or along the approaches to Manila. She failed to acknowledge orders to transmit on September

12 and was reported as presumed lost September 30, 1943.

GRAYLING's war patrols two through eight were designated "successful" for award of the Submarine Combat Insignia. She received six battle stars for the operations.

The GRAYLING's total record is 16 ships sunk, tallying 61,400 tons and six ships damaged for a total of 36,600 tons.

GIVE ONCE



AND FOR ALL

Rear Admiral Schlech Main Speaker

(Continued from Page 2)

built submarine HALIBUT (SS232) from April 1942 to April 1943, first as Engineer and Division Officer and later as Executive Officer. He participated in five war patrols on the submarine in the Pacific and was awarded the Silver Star Medal.

Admiral Schlech then served on the submarine DRAGONET (SS293) as Executive Officer. He made her first war patrol as Prospective Commanding Officer and was on board when the submarine sank in the Kuriles and was surfaced to return home safely. He received a Letter of Commendation, with Ribbon and Combat "V" for "meritorious conduct" during that war patrol.

He assumed command of the submarine TILEFISH (SS307) in January 1945. Under his command, the submarine made two successful war patrols in the Pacific and was on patrol when hostilities ended. He was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Silver Star medal "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity as Commanding Officer of the USS TILEFISH during the fifth war patrol."

He has also served as Commander, Submarine Division FORTY-ONE and Force Operations Officer on the Staff of Commander, Submarines, Atlantic Fleet. From August 1954 to June 1955, he attended the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

From July 1957 to August 1958, Admiral Schlech was Commander, Submarine Squadron TWELVE, and was personally commended by the Chief of Naval Operations and the Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet, for the salvage of a submarine hard aground on San Salvador in the Bahamas.

He then reported to the USS GREAT SITKIN and was Commanding Officer of the ship from September 1958 to September 1959. From October 1959 to July 1961, he served as Assistant Director, Progress Analysis Group, Administration Division, Officer of Chief of Naval Operations.

Admiral Schlech returned to sea in August 1961 and assumed command of Submarine Squadron FOURTEEN, Holy Loch, Scotland; the Navy's first squadron of Polaris missile firing submarines. Detached from Holy Loch in September 1962, he became Commander, Submarine Flotilla SIX.

He later served as Director of the Politico-Military Policy Division, Office of Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department and Chief of the Navy Section, Joint United States Military Mission for Aid to Turkey in Ankara, Turkey. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for outstanding performance of duty while serving in Turkey.

Admiral Schlech has served as Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Atlantic Area, since August 1968.

Submarine GRAYLING Commissioning October 11



Vice Admiral Arnold F. Schade, Commander, Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet.



Rear Admiral Joseph C. Wylie, Commandant, First Naval District.



Captain Donald H. Kern, Commander, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Rear Admiral Schlech, Veteran Submariner, Principal Speaker

Shipyard Workers, Their Families Are Invited to Attend Ceremonies

The Portsmouth-built nuclear attack submarine GRAYLING (SSN646) will be placed in commission tomorrow morning, October 11, at Berth 6A, in traditional Naval ceremonies starting at 10 o'clock. Shipyard employees and their families are invited to attend the ceremonies.

Principal speaker will be Rear Admiral Walter F. Schlech, Jr., Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Atlantic Area, headquartered at Brooklyn, N.Y.

He will be introduced by Vice Admiral Arnold F. Schade, Commander, Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet, who will also be among the speakers.

Rear Admiral Joseph C. Wylie, Commandant, First Naval District, will place the submarine GRAYLING in commission. As the commissioning pennant is raised, Commander Charles R. Baron will assume command of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's latest contribution to the Fleet. Lieut. Commander John C. Vick, Executive Officer, will set the first watch.

Captain Donald H. Kern, Shipyard Commander, will extend the welcome and introduce distinguished guests.

Commander Norman J. Stanhope, Senior Chaplain at the Shipyard, will give the invoca-

tion, and the submarine was launched June 22, 1967 from the Shipbuildingways.

Main Speaker



Rear Admiral Walter F. Schlech, Jr., Commander, Military Sea Transportation Service, Atlantic Area, principal speaker at the commissioning of the nuclear attack submarine GRAYLING, is a veteran submariner and served on the Portsmouth

Mrs. Lee Cullen, Sponsor, Will Attend Grayling Commissioning

ing of the submarine GRAYLING, will attend the commissioning ceremonies. Mrs. Cullen, the former, Lori Brinker, is the daughter of the late Lieut. Commander Robert M. Brinker, Commanding Officer of the first GRAYLING lost in World War II.

Mrs. Cullen was born in New London, Conn. She was graduated magna cum laude in 1962 from Carroll College, Waukesha, Wisconsin. She is presently associated with the Northern Trust Company of Chicago.



Mrs. Lee Cullen of Chicago, Illinois, sponsor for the launch-

Rear Admiral Eliot Olsen Laid Keel of Submarine Grayling

The keel of the nuclear attack submarine GRAYLING (SSN-646) was laid at Portsmouth May 12, 1964, with Rear Admiral Eliot Olsen (Retired) striking the symbolic arc beginning construction of the submarine.



Commander Charles R. Baron

Commanding Officer of Graying



Commander Charles R. Baron, Commanding Officer of the submarine GRAYLING, enlisted in the Navy in October 1945 and after serving a minority enlistment, he attended Syracuse Uni-

versity. He was elected to Phi Sigma and Phi Beta Kappa at Syracuse. Upon graduation in 1953, he received his commission in the Navy and returned to active duty.

He has served on the Portsmouth-built submarines FINBACK (SS230), BURRFISH (SS312) and TORSK (SS423). He has also had tours of duty on the submarines STICKLEBACK (SS415), HALIBUT (SSGN-587), THEODORE ROOSEVELT (SSBN600) and GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN598).

Commander Baron has served as a REGULUS II Missile Officer at Point Mugu, Calif., and at the Bureau of Naval Personnel. He is a native of Albany, N. Y.

A veteran submariner, he commanded the first GRAYLING (SS209) launched at Portsmouth September 4, 1940 and placed in commission here March 1, 1941. He was a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy at that time and was Skipper of GRAYLING (SS209) on three of her eight war patrols in the Pacific during World War II.

Admiral Olsen returned to Portsmouth as a Captain July 1, 1954 and until his retirement June 30, 1957, was Acting Commander of the former Naval Base. He lives in York Harbor, Maine.

tion and decoration. The Portsmouth Naval Base Band will play traditional selections.

The submarine GRAYLING will operate with Submarine Squadron FOUR at Charleston, S. C., under the operational command of Commander, Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet. The submarine will be manned by 12 officers and 94 enlisted men. Captain William R. Banks, Commander, Submarine Squadron FOUR, will also attend the ceremonies, and will welcome GRAYLING to Squadron FOUR.

The submarine GRAYLING (SSN646), the Nation's 85th nuclear submarine, is a STURGEON Class submarine, the newest of the nuclear powered attack submarines. Ships of this Class are 292 feet in length and displace about 4600 tons submerged. They represent refinement of the best design concepts and proven combat weapons. With the ability to seek out and destroy enemy craft, GRAYLING and submarines of her Class are the ultimate undersea warfare weapons of their type. GRAYLING's keel was laid May

built submarine HALIBUT (SS232) during World War II.

He is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y., and was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1936. As a midshipman he was a member of the Lacrosse Squad for four years and the Boxing Squad during his third year at the Naval Academy.

After graduating from the Naval Academy, he was assigned to the battleship ARIZONA. He served as Turret Officer and Assistant Navigator of the battleship until April 1938. From May 1938 until December 1939, he served on the destroyer SELF-RIDGE, a unit of Destroyers, Battle Force, and had duty in torpedoes and communications.

In January 1940, he reported to the Submarine School, New London, Conn., and after completing the course of instruction, was assigned to the submarine R-2, on which he served in various billets, including Executive Officer, until December 1941.

He served on the Portsmouth-

(Continued on Page 3)



Nuclear attack submarine GRAYLING (SSN646) was launched June 22, 1967 from Shipbuildingways



The PORTSMOUTH PERISCOPE



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Captain Donald H. Kern—Shipyard Commander

Donald K. Holster Director of Industrial Relations
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