

PROGRAM

GURNARD

(SSN)
(662)



SAN FRANCISCO BAY NAVAL SHIPYARD

Mare Island

Vallejo, California

20 May 1967

Mrs. George P. Miller, Sponsor

THE SHIP

The submarine GURNARD (pronounced GUR-nerd) is the 508th ship to be launched at Mare Island and the 13th nuclear submarine. She is the first submarine of the STURGEON (SSN 637) class to be built here, and four others of the same class will follow her.

This class differs from the submarines PERMIT and PLUNGER which were built here earlier. GURNARD is nearly 14 feet longer and its fairwater (sail) is six feet higher and longer.

GURNARD is a "fast attack" submarine measuring 292 feet in length and displacing approximately 4,100 tons. The primary weapon of this submarine is its torpedoes. Highly sophisticated sonars are used to seek out and identify enemy targets, both surface and submarine, and direct the use of the weapons.

GURNARD is named after a spiny-finned sea fish with a bone-plated head and wing-like pectoral fins which have feelers. The last ship to bear this name was built at Electric Boat Company and commissioned in 1942. Commanded by LCDR C. H. Andrews, the ship saw action in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters of World War II. Between July 1943 and November 1944, GURNARD accounted for the sinking of 10 Japanese ships for a total of 57,866 tons of enemy shipping.

THE SPONSOR

Mrs. George P. Miller (Esther Perkins Miller) is the wife of the California Congressman from the Eighth District. She was born in Lewis, Iowa, where she attended public schools and the University of Nebraska, and later taught school in both Nebraska and Iowa. Prior to her marriage she was employed as a Secretary and Personnel Director in San Francisco. Since 1945 she has served as her husband's Secretary in Washington. They have one daughter and three grandchildren. Her daughter, Ann (Mrs. Donald B. Muir), is Matron of Honor at today's launching.

THE SPEAKER

Rear Admiral Henry Stone Monroe, USN, became Commander of Amphibious Training Command, U. S. Pacific Fleet, in October 1964. A native of Massachusetts, he graduated from the Naval Academy in 1933, and subsequently served on the battleship TENNESSEE and destroyers LEA and REUBEN JAMES. Upon completion of submarine training, he served on the TARBON and PERMIT. During World War II he commanded the S-35 and the RONQUIL. He has seen duty in the Bureau of Ordnance, on the Staff of Commander Submarine Squadron TWO, and was Commander Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE. He has served as Assistant Officer-in-Charge of the Submarine School (New London), attended the Armed Forces Staff College, and commanded the destroyer WARRICK, operating in the Korean area of hostilities. Upon completion of the Advanced Management Program at Harvard, he was Chief of Staff to Commander Cruiser Division ONE, and later Commanding Officer, Naval Underwater Ordnance Station, Newport. In October 1959 he became Commander Service Squadron SIX, then Chief of Staff and Aide to Commander SIXTH Fleet. He was promoted to Rear Admiral on July 1, 1961. In April 1962 he became Assistant Chief of Naval Operations (Naval Reserve), and served as such until he assumed his present duty.

His decorations and medals include the Silver Star Medal; Gold Star in lieu of the Second Silver Star Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Medal; Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V"; Army Distinguished Unit Badge; American Defense Service Medal with Star; American Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with two engagement stars; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; United Nations Service Medal; Philippine Defense Ribbon; and the Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

He is married to the former Karin Eliasson of Ellsworth, Maine, and they have three daughters.

LAUNCHING TIME SCHEDULE

0430 Muster After Launching Crew on Station.
0630 Muster Forward Launching Crew on Station.
0740 First Rally - Red wedges, five blows.
0805 Second Rally - White wedges, five blows.
0830 Third Rally - All wedges, as directed.
0950 Commence removal of keel blocks.
1000 Mr. L. Burgelin will give informal report to visitors on progress of launching operations.

1050 Official party arrives at platform. Honors.
1055 RADM J. H. McQuilkin, USN, Shipyard Commander.
Introduction of guests, and remarks.
Introduction of the speaker.
1112 Launching address: RADM H. S. Monroe, USN.
1127 Prayer: LCDR Charles H. Pitts (CHC), USN.
1130 National Anthem. Twelfth Naval District Band.
1133 CAPT D. T. Holmes, USN, Production Officer.
"Clear building ways."
Three long blasts on siren.

FINAL PROCEDURES

Production Officer reports "Ready in all respects for Launching," to Shipyard Commander.
"Ready" buzzer signal from Launching Officer to Assistant Launching Officer. Start 40-second countdown. Sponsor and Shipyard Commander take position at bow.
"Standby" buzzer signal from Assistant Launching Officer. Ten seconds until launch. Sponsor has bottle in hand.
1138 Sponsor breaks bottle on bow, "In the name of the United States of America, I christen thee GURNARD."
GURNARD moves down the ways and is launched.
"Anchors Aweigh."

THE SHIPYARD

The San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard was established at Vallejo, California, on 11 May 1965, by the merger of the Mare Island Naval Shipyard, oldest naval establishment on the Pacific Coast, and the San Francisco Naval Shipyard, in operation since 1945 as a naval shipyard.

The merged Shipyard comprises 3,335 acres of hard land, with the potential of expansion of 6,056 acres, and represents an investment of \$480,000,000. Civilian employees now number over 20,000, with a military population of 11,000. The annual payroll for 1966 amounted to \$187,706,116 for civilians, and \$16,765,492 for military, a total of \$204,471,608.

Mare Island was named by General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo, for whom a ballistic submarine has recently been named--a submarine likewise built at Mare Island. During the 112 years since a shipyard was established at this site, 507 ships have been built and launched here. Today's launching carries on the "long line of ships" that have been produced at Mare Island.

HONORARY KEEL LAYERS

The first circular hull section of the GURNARD was authenticated on 22 December 1965 by RADM Edward J. Fahy, USN, then Shipyard Commander. The Honorary Keel Layers on that occasion were:

Wallace M. Clark	Machine Group Superintendent
Francis W. Derr	Head of Production Dept. Administrative Division
James D. Grieg	Fire Chief (deceased)
Louis K. Moore	Leadingman Truck Driver, Shop 02 (retired)

TRIGGERMAN

The honor of releasing the trigger for the launching has been given to Mr. Donald L. Hughes, Hull Outfitting Group Superintendent. Mr. Hughes is a career employee with over 31 years of Federal Service.