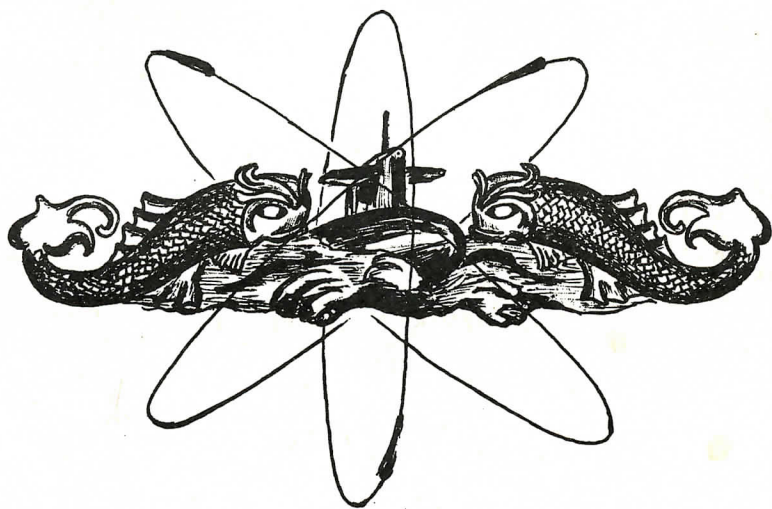


THE
USS FLASHER

SSN 613

WELCOMES
YOU ABOARD...





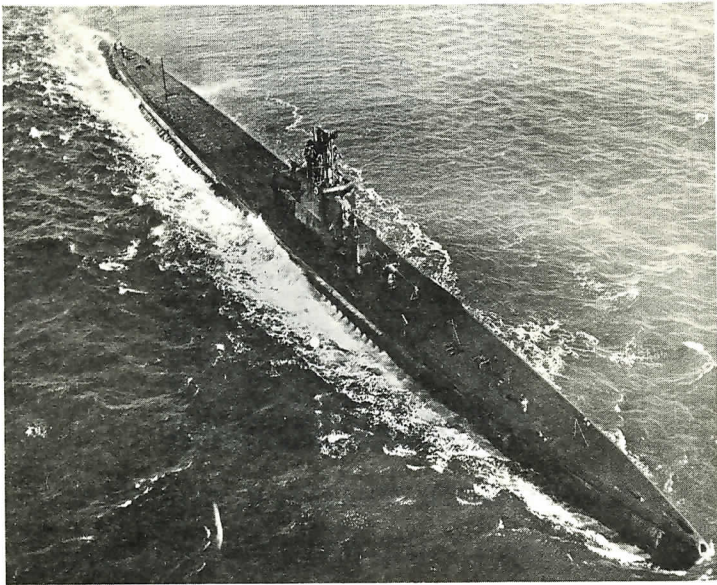
COMMANDER WILLIAM C. ROTHERT

U.S. NAVY

Commander Rothert, originally a resident of Fort Wayne, Indiana, was appointed to the United States Naval Academy in 1957. Upon graduation in 1961, he was sent directly to Nuclear Power Training at Mare Island, Vallejo, California. This was followed by training at the Nuclear Power Training Unit, Idaho Falls, Idaho and Submarine School at New London, Connecticut.

After completing Submarine School he was assigned to the USS PERMIT (SSN 594) in April 63. His next assignment was as Assistant Engineer at the Nuclear Power Training Units, Idaho Falls, Idaho. His next assignment was the USS SAM RAYBURN (SSBN 635) where he participated in two Polaris deterrent Patrols and, following a conversion overhaul, one Posidon deterrent Patrol. In September 72 Commander Rothert was assigned to the USS SCAMP (SSN 588) as Executive Officer.

Commander Rothert assumed command of USS FLASHER on 20 March 76. He is married to the former Beverley Lynn Keough of Stanford, Connecticut. The Rotherts have two children, Carleen Anne and Kendra.



FLASHER'S HERITAGE

Built by the Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut, the USS Flasher (SS 249) was launched on 20 June 1943. The Flasher is named after the Flasher or the Tripletail, a fish common to nearly all the world's seas.

Flasher was commissioned on 25 September 1943 at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut. Lieutenant Commander Reuben T. Whitaker served as her first Commanding Officer.

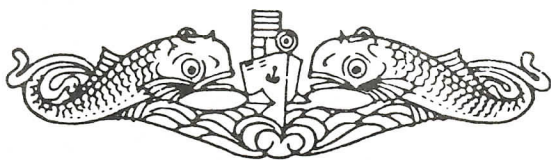
Flasher commenced her first war patrol four months later and returned to Freemantle, Australia after 54 days, having sunk 10,528 tons of enemy shipping. Her second, third and fourth patrols were eminently successful bringing her score up another 46,985 tons.

Lieutenant Commander George W. Grider relieved Lieutenant Commander Whitaker as Commanding Officer for the fifth war patrol. During this patrol Flasher sank an estimated 45,322 tons, 28,600 of it in one day. After the fifth patrol, Flasher was overhauled in San Francisco just seventeen months after leaving New

London. During this brief period she had sunk or damaged an estimated 152,000 tons of enemy shipping. By directive dated January 1947, Flasher was placed out of commission in reserve, attached to the U.S. Atlantic Reserve Fleet.

Flasher earned six Battle Stars on the Asiatic-Pacific Area Service Ribbon for the war patrols she conducted during the period 6 January 1944 to 13 March 1945. She was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation in recognition of heroism during the third, fourth and fifth patrols. She was officially credited with sinking more tonnage of Japanese shipping than any other submarine during World War II (100,230 tons, 24 vessels) and was the only submarine officially credited with exceeding the 100,000 tons mark.

The conning tower of the original Flasher now stands at the entrance to Nautilus Park at New London, Connecticut as a memorial to the submariners who lost their lives in World War II.



SHIP'S HISTORY

The keel for USS Flasher (SSN 613) was laid on 14 April 1961 at the Electric Boat Division of the General Dynamics Corporation, Groton, Connecticut. Flasher is the second ship in the United States Navy to bear the name.

In the nation's only simultaneous twin launching, Flasher and Tecumseh (SSBN 628) were launched on 22 June 1963. Flasher was christened by Mrs. Paul B. Fay, Jr., wife of the Under Secretary of the Navy. VADM Elton W. Grenfell, then Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet delivered the principal address.

Originally laid down as the tenth submarine in the Permit class building program, Flasher was extensively modified during the construction period. These modifications consisted of lengthening the hull, lengthening the sail, and upgrading the watertight integrity of sea water systems.

Flasher was commissioned 22 July 1966. The ceremony took place at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base with the Honorable George W. Grider, Congressman from Tennessee and second Commanding Officer of Flasher (SS 249), giving the commissioning address.

Commander Kenneth Monroe Carr, USN, assumed command as the first Commanding Officer of Flasher (SSN 613). On 14 July 1967, Commander Arne Christian Johnson, USN, relieved and became the second Commanding Officer. The ship is attached to Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet and is a member of Submarine Squadron Seven homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

During Flasher's first two years of commissioned service, seven operations were conducted including a short deployment to the Western Pacific. After a shipyard availability in December 1968, Flasher successfully fired her first two SUBROC missiles. During the period February-July 1969, Flasher was deployed to WestPac. On 8 July 1969, Commander Emsley F. Cobb relieved Commander Johnson as Commanding Officer. At this time Flasher earned her second consecutive Battle Efficiency "E" with Submarine Division Seventy-One.

The remainder of 1969 was spent operating in Hawaiian waters conducting pre-overhaul testing, and successfully firing a SUBROC. On 2 December 1969, RADM Walter F. Small, USN, COMSUBPAC presented the Meritorious Unit Commendation to Flasher for operations conducted during 1967 and 1968.

During the spring of 1970 Flasher conducted one deployment and in June commenced a one year overhaul at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. From July to September 1971, Flasher conducted post-overhaul shakedown operations, visiting Bremerton, Washington; San Francisco and San Diego, California.

Flasher deployed to WestPac in November 1971. While in WestPac, Flasher conducted operations with the Seventh Fleet and visited Guam, Marianas Island; White Beach, Okinawa; Yokosuka, Japan; Subic Bay, Philippine Islands; and Hong Kong, B.C. Flasher returned to Pearl Harbor in June 1972.

Commander Roger F. Bacon, USN, relieved Commander Cobb as Commanding Officer on 19 August 1972. In September, Flasher participated with units from the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in ASW exercise RIMPAC 72.

From September to November the ship was drydocked at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Operations in the local area resumed upon undocking in November 1972.

In the spring of 73 Flasher departed to WestPac conducting operations with the Seventh Fleet. During this deployment she visited Yokosuka, Japan; Subic Bay, Philippine Islands; and Hong Kong, B.C. Flasher returned to Pearl Harbor on Christmas Eve 1973.

Following a period of local operations Flasher was assigned a special operation beginning in June 74 and lasting two months. During this operation she had the opportunity to visit Pusan, Korea; and Hong Kong, B.C. When Flasher returned in August 74 she participated in Hawaiian area local operations.

On 18 January 1975 Commander Noel B. Herderson, USN, relieved Commander Bacon as Commanding Officer. In February Flasher left Pearl Harbor for the last time arriving at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California 1 March 76 for an extensive overhaul.

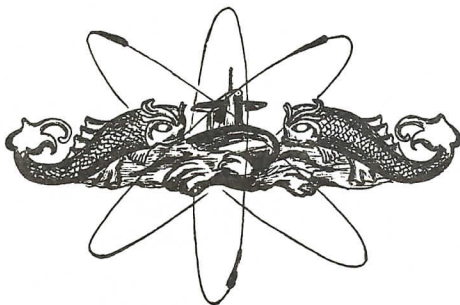
As a result of the overhaul major systems aboard Flasher have been modernized and a new long endurance reactor core was installed.

On 20 March 1976, Commander William C. Rothert, USN, relieved Commander Henderson as Commanding Officer. From September to December of 76, FLASHER conducted shakedown operations in the vicinity of San Francisco.

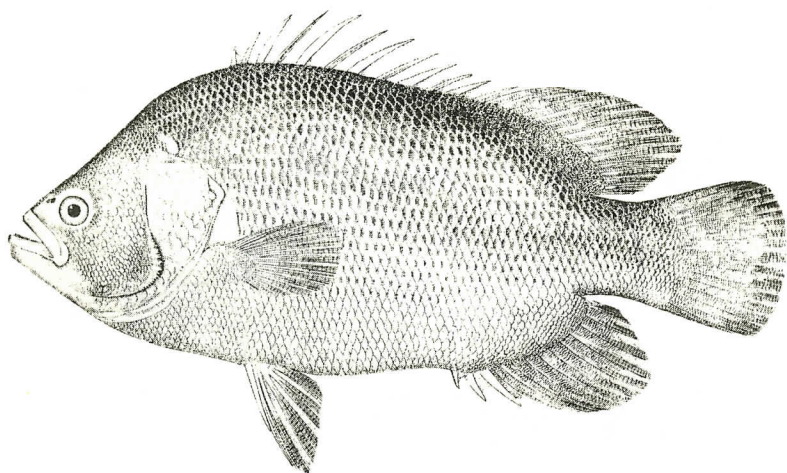
Flasher left Mare Island for her new homeport of San Diego, California, arriving 21 December 1976. Since that the FLASHER has been participating in local operations in the San Diego area.

SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

Length	292 ft. 8inches
Beam (Extreme)	32 ft.
Displacement – Surfaced	4103 tons
Submerged	4634 tons
Propulsion	S5W Nuclear Reactor
Speed	Over 20 knots
Submergence Depth	Greater than 400 ft.
Armament	Torpedoes and SUBROC missiles
Complement	12 officers 94 enlisted
Keel Laid	April 14, 1961
Launched	June 22, 1963
Commissioned	July 22, 1966
Builder	General Dynamics Corporation Electric Boat Division
Commanding Officer	William C. Rothert



THE FISH FLASHER



The Flasher or Tripletail belongs to the fish family Lobotidae. Characteristic of this family is the unusual placement of the second dorsal and anal fins, which are located posteriorly on the body, close to the tail. When these fins are folded back they produce a superficial appearance of three tail lobes, hence the name Tripletail.

The Flasher is known scientifically as *Lobotes surinamensis*. It is circumtropical in distribution living in the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic Oceans as well as the Mediterranean Sea. Along American shores it is common in the Gulf of Mexico and from South Carolina southward along the Atlantic coast. It takes a baited hook readily and is an excellent food fish, reaching a length of about three feet.

Coloring is variable, it may be dusky greenish, dark to light brown, or light tan. The lower sides are silvery. Several dark bands are present on the face and head.

THE FLASHER INSIGNIA



The emblem, adopted in 1965, is based on the insignia of the original USS Flasher (SS 249), designed by Walt Disney in 1943. The addition of the two ship's numbers and the electron orbits are the main differences between the old and new insignias.