Contributed by

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Secretary U.S.S. Missouri Commissioning Committee



Commanding Officer
USS Emory S. Land (AS 39)

Change of Command Ceremony at which

Captain Michael D. Luckett, United States Navy

will be relieved by

Captain Andrew H. Ring, United States Navy

Sequence of Events

Arrival of Official Party
National Anthem
Invocation
Rear Admiral Jablon Remarks
Captain Michael D. Luckett Remarks
Reading of Orders and Relieving Ceremony
Captain Andrew H. Ring Remarks
Benediction
Departure of Official Party
Ceremony Concludes

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

The line officer of today's U.S. Navy looks forward to the time when -- with added years and varied experience in the sea service -- he or she will receive orders, stemming from the Chief of Naval Personnel, to command a ship. Very little has been written on the subject. The basic sources, outside of custom and tradition, are Navy regulations. The first mention of the ceremony in Navy regulations occurred during the Civil War; there has been little change in the procedures of the change of command since then.

The 1865 edition of Regulations for the Government of the United States Navy, Article 3, Section 1, no. 72, says: "When a Commodore, Captain, or any other officer is appointed to the command of a single vessel, he will, if she be at a Navy yard and ready to be transferred to him, make, in company with the commanding officer of the yard, or some other proper officer or officers appointed by such commanding officer for the purpose, a thorough personal examination of her, and inform himself as to all her arrangements and preparations of equipment; after which the transfer is to be formally made in the presence of as many of her officers and crew as can be assembled, before whom his appointment is to read; and then the vessel is to be placed in commission by hoisting her ensign and pendant. If the vessel is already in commission, he is, nevertheless to examine her and inform himself as stated above, and to read to her officers and crew his appointment."

The 1990 edition of the United States Navy Regulations, Article 0807, says that a "commanding officer about to be relieved of his or her command will: (a) Inspect the command in company with the relieving officer, (b) In the case of a ship, and within other commands as appropriate, cause the crew to be exercised in the presence of both the commanding officer and the relieving officer at general quarters and general drills, unless conditions render it impracticable or inadvisable."

Relating specifically to the change of command ceremony is the regulation that at the time of turning over command, the outgoing commanding officer will "call all hands to muster," read the order of detachment and turn over command to his or her relief, who will read the orders of relief and assume command.

The total and absolute transfer of responsibility and accountability of command is conducted by the simple utterance by the officer being relieved, "I'm ready to be relieved," and the relieving officer replies, "I relieve you, Sir." This profound transfer of authority is carried out countless times a day in the Navy during watch turnovers by Sailors at sea and ashore. It is this simple act that forms the bedrock of tradition, commitment and service.



MICHAEL D. LUCKETT CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY

Captain Luckett, from Banning, California, graduated with distinction from United States Naval Academy in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Naval Architecture. He is a graduate of the Joint Advanced Warfighting School, Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia, holding a Master's of Science Degree in Strategy and Joint Campaign Planning. He also holds a Master's of Science Degree in Leadership and Human Resource Development from the Naval Postgraduate School and a Masters of

Engineering Degree in Naval Architecture and Offshore Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

At sea, Captain Luckett has served as a Division Officer onboard USS JEFFERSON CITY (SSN 759), home ported in San Diego, California; Engineer Officer on USS HOUSTON (SSN 713), home ported in Bremerton, Washington and Apra Harbor, Guam; and as Executive Officer of USS PENNSYLWANIA (GOLD) (SSBN 735) home ported in Bangor, Washington. He commanded USS MISSOURI (SSN 780) from April 2012 to January 2015 and USS MISSISSIPPI (SSN 782) from March to June 2015. During his time in MISSOURI, his crew completed the ship's inaugural deployment to the US European Command (EUCOM) theater of operations and a short-notice, surge deployment to EUCOM. The MISSOURI team earned a Meritorious Unit Commendation for these deployments and was awarded and the Submarine Squadron FOUR Battle 'E' for 2013. He has commanded USS EMORY S LAND since September 2018. Under his leadership, the ship completed more than ten months of deployed operations across the US Indo-Pacific Command theater, and earned the 2019 Submarine Force Pacific Battle 'E'.

Ashore, Captain Luckett has served as a Company Officer and instructor of both leadership and engineering at the Naval Academy, as an operational planner in the Future Operations Division (J-35) of United States Special Operations Command, and as senior member of the Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team for Commander, Submarine Forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Most recently, he served as Deputy Commander of Task Force 69 in Naples, Italy; responsible for submarine and Theater ASW operations for Sixth Fleet.

Captain Luckett's personal awards include the Legion of Merit, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Joint Achievement Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He has deployed in support of submarine missions worldwide and has been privileged to serve alongside many skilled professionals as part of successful crews that collectively earned six Meritorious Unit Commendations, five Battle 'E's, and various other unit and campaign awards.

ANDREW H. RING CAPTAIN, U.S. NAVY

Captain Andrew Homer Ring, a native of Wilmore, KS, joined the Kansas Army National Guard and Army Reserve in 1992 as a cannon crewmember in field artillery. In 1993, he received an Honorable Discharge from the Army Reserve and received an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, graduating in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering.



Captain Ring's sea assignments began as junior officer on USS CHARLOTTE (SSN 766) in Pearl Harbor, HI; Navigator on USS ALABAMA (SSBN 731) BLUE and USS NEVADA (SSBN 733) GOLD in Bangor, WA; Executive Officer on USS JACKSONVILLE (SSN 699) in Pearl Harbor, HI; and Commanding Officer of USS HOUSTON (SSN 713) in Bremerton. WA.

Captain Ring's shore assignments include duty as a Watch Officer at Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk, VA. He served as a Liaison Officer at the Joint Warfare Analysis Command in Dahlgren, VA for the U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea. During this assignment he also completed a tour in Iraq at Camp Victory as the Multi-National Corps Iraq and U.S. State Department Liaison Officer. He was selected for the 2011 Federal Executive Fellowship Program and attended Harvard University as a Fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs studying Chinese foreign policy. He served as Deputy for Material Readiness at Submarine Squadron Seven, Executive Officer of the Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team and Director of Submarine Operations at Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) in Pearl Harbor, HI. He most recently served as the Director of Integrated Undersea Surveillance Systems at COMSUBPAC.

Captain Ring earned a Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategic Planning from the U.S. Naval War College, a Masters in Engineering Management from Old Dominion University, a Masters of Business Administration from Touro University, and a Masters of Art in Liberal Studies from University of Oklahoma. He has been privileged to serve on several commands that have been awarded Meritorious Unit Commendations, Battle Efficiency Awards, and numerous campaign decorations.



JEFFREY T. JABLON REAR ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY

Rear Adm. Jeffrey Jablon is a native of Frostburg, Maryland. He graduated from Virginia Tech in 1987 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He also holds a Master of Business Administration from James Madison University.

His sea tours include a division officer assignment aboard USS L. Mendel Rivers (SSN 686), navigator

and operations officer aboard USS Olympia (SSN 717) and executive officer aboard USS Key West (SSN 722). He commanded USS Philadelphia (SSN 690) in Groton, Connecticut, and was commodore of Submarine Development Squadron (DEVRON) Five in Bangor, Washington. Jablon was recognized by the United States Naval Submarine League with the Jack Darby Award for Inspirational Leadership in 2007.

His staff assignments include: tours as assistant professor of naval science at Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit, University of Virginia; special projects officer on the Staff of the Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet; naval warfare submarine strategist at U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM); Commander, Submarine Development Squadron (COMSUBDEVRON) 12 deputy commander for training; Naval Submarine School prospective commanding officer instructor; division director of Submarine/Nuclear Power Distribution (PERS-42).

As a flag officer, his tours include deputy director, plans and policies at U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), commander, Submarine Group 10, director, military personnel plans and policy, OPNAV (N13) and is currently serving as commander, Submarine Force Pacific.

His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal and various unit and service awards.

ABOUT THE LAND

USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) is manned by an integrated crew of Sailors and civilian mariners under the administrative control of Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and operational control of the Commander, Task Force 74. As a forward-deployed naval force, ESL is tasked to provide expeditionary, intermediate-level maintenance and repairs, hotel services, and logistics support to deployed Guided-Missile and Fast-Attack submarines deployed in the 5th, 6th and 7th Fleet areas of operation.

ESL is one of two United States Navy submarine tenders and the lead ship in her class. The Emory S. Land is designed, but not limited, to support Los Angeles-class fast attack submarines, and was named for Admiral Emory Scott Land (1879-1971) who is noted for his contributions to naval architecture, particularly in submarine design. She was christened and launched on May 4th, 1977. Mrs. Sarah H. Long, the wife of Adm. Robert L. J. Long, served as sponsor of the ship. ESL was officially commissioned by Congress, July 7th, 1979.

The ship provides food, electricity, water, consumables, spare parts, medical, dental, disbursing, mail, ordnance, equipment and legal services that a submarine may require. To accomplish this, the ship has a physical plant similar to that of a small town, including 53 different specialized shops.

In 2017 and 2019, ESL was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" award for exemplary performance for an AS-class ship in the Navy's submarine service.



VICE ADM. EMORY SCOTT LAND

Emory Scott Land, a native of Canon City, Colorado, attended the University of Wyoming prior to his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland. He entered the academy as a naval cadet and graduated with distinction on May 21, 1902. After two years at sea, then required by law, he was commissioned an ensign on May 2, 1904. After leaving the academy, he became a naval architect specializing in submarine construction.

During World War I, Vice Admiral Land was assigned for duty with the Board of Devices and Plans Connected with Submarines in Warfare in May 1917; the Board of Standardization of Submarines in September 1917; the Staff of Admiral W. S. Sims, USN (Commander Naval Forces operating in European Waters) at Naval Headquarters, London, England, in July 1918; and the Allied Naval Armistice Commission. He was awarded the Navy Cross for his work on submarine design and construction and for work in the war zone. As Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair from 1932 to 1937, he supervised the design and development of submarines that formed the backbone of the U.S. Submarine Fleet in World War II.

On October 1, 1932, Rear Admiral Land was designated Chief of the Bureau of Construction and Repair, and remained there until he retired from active duty on April 1, 1937. Within a month, he was appointed to the newly created U.S. Maritime Commission, tasked with rehabilitating the nation's rapidly declining merchant fleet.

On February 9, 1942, following the outbreak of World War II, he was also assigned as administrator of the War Shipping Administration. He served in the dual capacity until the ending of hostilities. During the war he directed the design, establishment and maintenance of a 6,000 vessel merchant fleet, the greatest maritime fleet in the history of the world.





MEANING OF THE SHIP'S CREST

USS Emory S. Land's crest was designed with the assistance of the U.S. Army Department of Heraldry. The field of the shield, with its blue and yellow background, suggests a chasm with a red bar serving as the bridge. The upper edge of the bar represents mountain peaks and the lower edge represents flowing water. Together, they simulate the Royal Gorge in Colorado where Emory S. Land was born. The three stars indicate Vice Admiral Land's leadership, denote his highest rank and refer to his service in three wars. He served in the Spanish War, World War I (he was awarded the Navy Cross represented by the cross on the collar of the sea horse) and World War II. The trident is associated with Neptune, the "Ruler of the Seas," and is symbolic of a Sailor's knowledge of the sea. The sea horse represents the submarine tender as the Navy's work horse, a theme which is further expressed in the ship's motto, "OPERARIUS INDEFESSUS MARIS," which translates to, "Tireless Worker of the Sea." The anchor denotes seaworthiness and the atomic symbol is indicative of the ship's capability to repair nuclear-powered ships.

USS EMORY S. LAND (AS 39) COMMANDING OFFICERS

CAPT Dennis Sloan CAPT Melvin Solberger CAPT Robert Partdow CAPT Richard Young CAPT Joseph Sharp Jr. CAPT William Fitzpatrick Jr. **CAPT Lawrence Keegan CAPT James Suhr CAPT John Paulson CAPT James Kane CAPT Thomas Dowell CAPT Leonard Zingarelli CAPT W. Scott Gray IV CAPT David Volonino CAPT Michale Budney CAPT Jeffery Hughes CAPT Edward Seal CAPT Eric Merrill CAPT Thomas P. Stanley CAPT Paul E. Savage CAPT Glenn W. Pendrick CAPT Edward L. Herrington CAPT Robert J. Clark CAPT Mark A. Prokopius CAPT Douglas A. Bradley CAPT Michael D. Luckett** CAPT Andrew H. Ring

March 1979 - August 1981 August 1981 - August 1983 August 1983 - August 1984 August 1984 - March 1986 March 1986 - April 1988 April 1988 - March 1990 March 1990 - May 1992 May1992 - June 1994 June 1994 - May 1996 May 1996 - November 1997 November 1997 - July 1999 July 1999 - July 2001 July 2001 - March 2003 March 2003 - July 2004 July 2004 - June 2006 June 2006 - July 2008 **July 2008 - September 2010** September 2010 - July 2011 July 2011 - October 2011 October 2011 - October 2012 October 2012 - November 2013 November 2013 - September 2014 September 2014 - August 2015 August 2015 - October 2016 October 2016 - September 2018 September 2018 - May 2021 May 2021 - present







