

TRAVEL SCHEDULE  
CONNECTICUT

WEATHER: Low 46  
High 52  
cloudy, light rain  
possible fog

MO'S #: 703/684-7848  
301/745-5426

FINAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1989

7:55am DEPART Residence for Andrews Air Force Base  
Naval Air Facility

8:25am ARRIVE Andrews Air Force Base Naval Airforce Facility  
and proceed to departing aircraft

8:30am DEPART Washington, DC for Groton, CT/Groton-New London

FBO:	Columbia Air Service
Aircraft:	C20
Tail number:	692
Flight time:	1 hour 10 minutes
Pilots:	LCDR Kevin Boyd LCDR Walt Huestis
Seats:	12
Meal:	Breakfast
Manifest:	Senator Dole Cong. Slattery Capt. Ted Hack 703/329-8575(H) C. McDowell(Slattery's aide) P. Jacobson

9:40am ARRIVE Groton, CT/Groton-New London

FBO:	Columbia Air Service 203/449-1257
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Met by:	RADM Bill Houley - Commander Submarine Group 2
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NOTE: Capt. Hack will be Senator Dole's escort.

9:45am DEPART airport for Precommissioning Breakfast and  
Briefing

Location:	Squadron Two Headquarters Bldg. 80 Submarine Base
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Drive time:	15 minutes
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10:00am ARRIVE/ATTEND Precommissioning Breakfast and Briefing  
203/449-3605

Location: Squadron Two Headquarters  
Bldg. 80  
Attendance: 45  
Event runs: 9:30-10:45am  
Press: Closed  
Format: Informal breakfast and  
briefing - not a sit  
down event  
Facility: None  
Contact: Capt. Hack  
202/697-3212(O)  
703/329-8575(H)

10:45am DEPART Breakfast and Briefing for Commissioning of  
USS TOPEKA

Location: Pier 32 North  
Submarine Base

NOTE: Senator and Mrs. Dole will proceed in separate cars.

Page 2 of 82

BRUNCH, SATURDAY 21 OCT 89

p 24/2

CDR & MRS REICHERT (TIM) CO TOPEKA

~~LCDR LOMASSET & MRS REICHERT (KEN)~~ XO TOPEKA

LT & MRS KLEKOTKA SUPPLY OFFICER TOPEKA

CDR & MRS MAHER PCO SSN 755

VADM BACON (ROGER) COM SUBANT

RADM & MRS CANTRELL REPRESENTING NAVSEA SYSCOM

RADM & MRS HOULLEY (BILL) COM SUB GRN TWO

CAPT & MRS MOORE (DAN) COM SUBRON TWO

CAPT SHACKELTON (NORM) SUPERVISOR OF SHIPBUILDING, GROTON

MRS MRS FRATTERELLI (LOU) ASSISTANT SUP OF SHIPBUILDING

MR & MRS RIEBE ISLAND OF SUP OF SHIPBUILDING

CAPT & MRS COX (JOHN) COMNAV SUB BASE

CAPT & MRS HOEFNER (TOM) CO NAVAL SUBMARINE SUPPORT FACILITY

CAPT & MRS HOLBROOKE (BOB) COMSUBRON TEN

CAPT & MRS MIES (RICH) COMSUBRON TWELVE

LT & MRS LOGAN CHAPLAIN

CAPT & MRS HARTMAN (DICK) CSG-2 CHIEF OF STAFF

MR & MRS TURNER (JIM) V.P. - G.M. ELECTRIC BOAT DIVISION, GENERAL DIV

MR & MRS TAYLOR ELECTRIC BOAT

CAPT HACK (TED) OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

MRS MRS JOHNSON (SCOTT) NAVAL REACTORS REGIONAL OFFICE

Page 3  
TRAVEL SCHEDULE  
CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1989

11:00am ATTEND/ADDRESS Commissioning of the USS TOPEKA  
203/449-4343

Location:	Pier 32
Attendance:	1,000 50 Kansans
Event runs:	11:00am-12:00pm
Press:	Open
Format:	11:00am Invocation by Lt. Logan 11:05am Welcome remarks by CDR Reichert 11:10am Brief remarks by James Turner, VP-Gen. Mgr. Electric Boat Div. General Dynamics 11:15am Brief remarks by Capt. Shackelton, supervisor of shipbuilding 11:19am Remarks by Mayor Felker 11:23am Remarks by RADM Walter Cantrell 11:27am Remarks by Cong. Slattery 11:31am Commissioning by VADM Bacon, Commander Submarine Force National Anthem 11:36am Hoisting of the Flag 11:45am Remarks by Sec. Dole 11:50am Remarks by VADM Bacon and introduction of Senator Dole 12:54pm Remarks by Sen. Dole 12:00pm Benediction by Lt. Logan Facility: Platform on ship with Podium and Mike Contact: Guests seated on pier Capt. Hack 697-3212

NOTE: See attached list of Kansas attendees.



## USS TOPEKA COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

Harry "Butch" Felker, Mayor  
818 E. 7th Street Room 332  
Topeka, Kansas 66606  
Phone 918-227-8405

George E. Erickson, Jr., Chairman  
USS Topeka Commissioning Committee  
8800 Harrison Street  
Topeka, Kansas 66611  
Phone 918-227-3440

17 OCT 80

TO ALL PERSONS PLANNING TO ATTEND COMMISSIONING:

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bramen  
8406 Sterling  
Kansas City, Missouri 64138

Doug Sabbert  
2217 Edgewater Drive  
St. Joseph, Missouri 64506

Gene Smith  
c/o Topeka Capital-Journal  
6th & Jefferson  
Topeka, Kansas 66608

Mary Loftus  
c/o WIBW-TV  
PO Box 119  
Topeka, Kansas 66601

Ed Harms  
c/o KSNT-TV  
PO Box 2700  
Topeka, Kansas 66601

George E. Erickson, Jr.  
3320 Harrison  
Topeka, Kansas 66611

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Smith  
Tory Smith  
5821 Southwest 22nd Terrace #1  
Topeka, Kansas 66614

Mr. and Mrs. John McNeal  
2111 Huntoon  
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bohuman  
Metawaka, Kansas 66516

W.F. Foley & Dr. M.E. Foley  
4140 Hodges Road  
Silver Lake, Kansas 66539

Mr. Gordon Lansford  
PO Box 1186  
Topeka, Kansas 66601

Tamela Plesner  
3809 Sunnybrook Lane  
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

John Book  
c/o Topeka Capital Journal  
6th & Jefferson  
Topeka, Kansas 66608

Paul Bean  
c/o WIBW-TV  
PO Box 119  
Topeka, Kansas 66601

Rocky Arnold  
c/o KSNT-TV  
PO Box 2700  
Topeka, Kansas 66601

Verne Stephens  
1019 Munson  
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Mr. and Mrs. Don Jesse  
3824 Southeast 30th Park  
Topeka, Kansas 66605

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carpenter  
1266 Plasse  
Topeka, Kansas 66604

Mayor and Mrs. Butch Felker  
City Hall  
7th & Quincy Streets  
Topeka, Kansas 66603

John Price  
2400 Colorado  
Topeka, Kansas 66606

Page 4  
TRAVEL SCHEDULE  
CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1989

ARRANGEMENT OF SPEAKERS ON STAND

First row:

Mayor Felker  
VADM Bacon, Commander  
Secretary Dole  
Senator Dole  
Cong. Slattery  
CDR Reichert, prospective Commanding Officer of the USS  
TOPEKA

Second row:

Lt. Logan, Chaplain  
Capt. Shackelton, Supervisor of Shipbuilding  
Mr. Turner, V.P., Electric Boat  
Ms. Wallace, Matron of Honor  
RADM Houley, Commander  
Capt. Moore, Navy Commander

TRAVEL SCHEDULE  
CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1989

12:05pm DEPART Ceremony for Commissioning Reception

Location: Officers Club  
Submarine Base

Drive time: 5 minutes

NOTE: Senator and Mrs. Dole will ride in same car.

12:10pm ARRIVE Officers Club and proceed to Commissioning Reception 203/449-2583

Location: Officers Club  
Attendance: 300  
Event runs: 12:30-2:30pm  
Press: Closed  
Format: Remarks and presentation of gifts by CMDR Reichert  
Presentation of gifts to Senator and Secretary Dole  
Facility: Stage, Podium and mike  
Contact: Capt. Hack 697-3212

NOTE: Gifts will be presented to Senator and Secretary Dole at beginning of Reception.

12:45pm DEPART Reception for Groton-New London Airport

Drive time: 15 minutes

NOTE: Senator and Mrs. Dole will ride in same car.

Page 6  
TRAVEL SCHEDULE  
CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1989

1:00pm ARRIVE Groton/New London Airport and proceed to  
departing aircraft

FBO: Columbia Air Service  
203/449-1257

1:05pm DEPART Groton,CT for Washington,DC/Andrews Air Force  
Base

FBO:	Andrews Air Force Base
Aircraft:	C20
Tail number:	692
Flight time:	1 hour 10 minutes
Pilots:	LCDR Kevin Boyd LCDR Walt Huestis
Seats:	12
Meal:	Lunch
Manifest:	Senator Dole Secretary Dole Cong. Slattery M. Wallace L. Venberg C. McDowell Capt. Hack P. Jacobson

2:15pm ARRIVE Andrews Air Force Base Naval Air Facility  
301/981-3777

NOTE: Wilbert will pick up the Senator  
and Tim will pick up Mrs. Dole.

2:20pm DEPART Andrews Air Force Base for Residence

NOTE: Mrs. Dole will proceed to Department of Labor.

3:10pm ARRIVE Residence for PRIVATE

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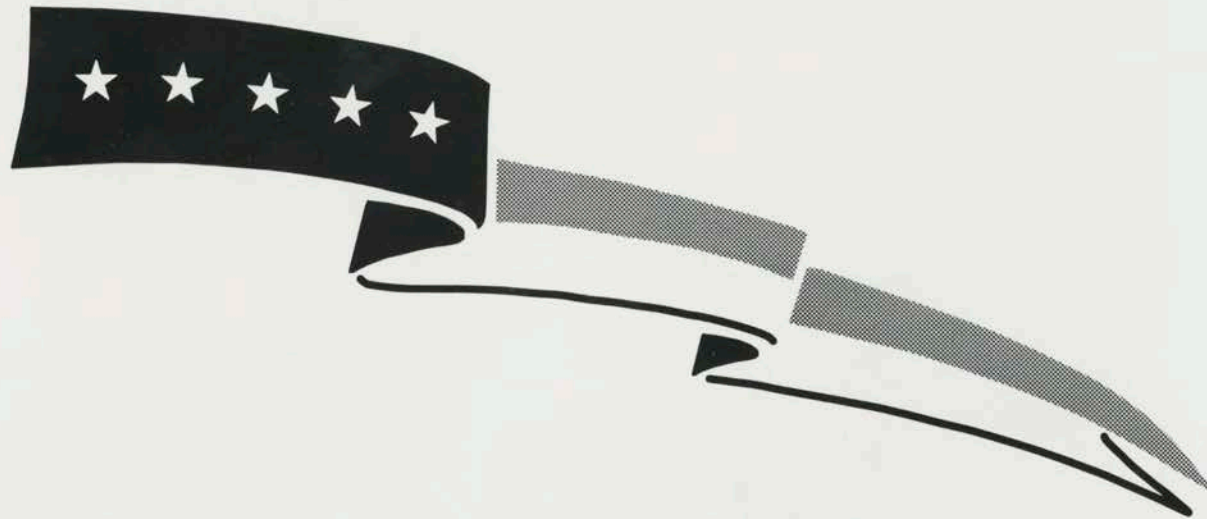
**OCTOBER 21, 1989**

# **USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING**



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### COMMISSIONING CEREMONY AND PENNANT



The commissioning ceremony marks the acceptance of a ship as a unit of the operating forces of the United States Navy. At the moment the commissioning pennant is broken, USS TOPEKA (SSN754) becomes the responsibility of the Commanding Officer, who, together with the ship's officers and men, has the duty of making and keeping her ready for any service required by our nation, whether we be at peace or at war.



The commissioning pennant has for centuries been the symbol of a man-o'-war. It is believed to date from the 17th century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertszoon Tromp hoisted a broom at his masthead to symbolize his intention to sweep the English from the sea. This gesture was answered by British Admiral William Blake, who hoisted a horsewhip indicating his intention to chastise the Dutch. The victorious British thus set the precedent for a long, narrow commissioning pennant to symbolize the original horsewhip as the distinctive symbol of a ship of war.



The modern U.S. Navy commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a union of seven white stars, and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## **COMMISSIONING PROGRAM**

### **ARRIVAL OF OFFICIAL PARTY**

#### **INVOCATION**

Lieutenant Thomas Logan, CHC, USN  
Chaplain, Submarine Squadron Two

#### **WELCOMING REMARKS**

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN  
Prospective Commanding Officer

#### **SHIPBUILDER'S REMARKS**

Mr. James E. Turner, Jr.  
Vice President – General Manager  
Electric Boat Division  
General Dynamics Corporation

#### **SUPERVISOR OF SHIPBUILDING REMARKS**

Captain Norman J. Shackelton, USN  
Supervisor of Shipbuilding  
Conversion and Repair  
Groton, Connecticut

#### **CITY REMARKS**

The Honorable Harry "Butch" Felker  
Mayor of  
Topeka, Kansas

#### **NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND REMARKS**

Rear Admiral Walter H. Cantrell, USN  
Deputy Commander for Submarines  
Submarine Directorate  
NAVSEA 92

#### **STATE REMARKS**

The Honorable Jim Slattery  
United States Representative  
State of Kansas

#### **COMMISSIONING**

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon, USN  
Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

#### **ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND**

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN  
Commanding Officer, *USS TOPEKA (SSN754)*

#### **INTRODUCTION OF SHIP'S SPONSOR**

Commander T. M. Reichert, USN

#### **SHIP'S SPONSOR REMARKS**

The Honorable Elizabeth Hanford Dole  
Secretary of Labor

#### **INTRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER**

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon, USN

#### **PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

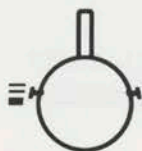
The Honorable Robert Dole  
Senate Minority Leader, United States Senate

#### **BENEDICTION**

Lieutenant Thomas Logan, CHC, USN

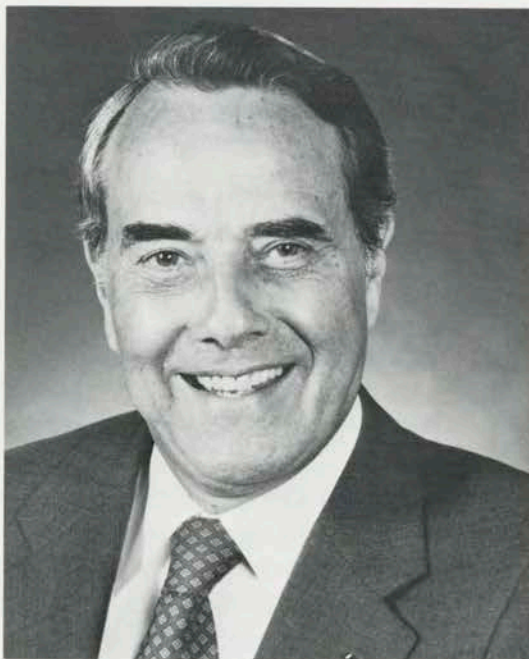
#### **MUSIC**

Northeastern Navy Band



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### PRINCIPAL SPEAKER



THE HONORABLE  
ROBERT DOLE

SENATE MINORITY LEADER  
UNITED STATES SENATE

Robert Dole has served in the United States Senate for over twenty years. He is the Senate Minority Leader, Senior Senator from Kansas, and a member of the Senate's Finance, Agriculture, and Rules Committees.

Senator Dole's political career spans almost four decades. He was elected to the Kansas House of Representatives at age 26. Two years later he became Russell County's prosecuting attorney, and in 1960 he was elected to Congress. Senator Dole later became Republican National Chairman and President Gerald Ford's running mate in the 1976 Presidential election. From 1981 to 1984 Senator Dole was Chairman of the powerful Senate Finance Committee. He has been on the Agriculture committees since 1961.

During the second World War, Senator Dole left premedical studies at the University of Kansas to enlist in the Army. He became a platoon leader in the Tenth Mountain Division in Italy, but was gravely wounded in 1945. Three years later Senator Dole was honorably discharged from the Army with the rank of Captain. He then continued his education at the University of Arizona at Tucson, and at Washburn Municipal University in Topeka, from which he earned his bachelor's and law degrees.

Senator Dole has twice been decorated for heroic achievement. He has earned two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star with Oakleaf Cluster.

A native of Russell, Kansas, Senator Dole is married to Elizabeth Hanford Dole, the United States Secretary of Labor. Senator Dole also has a daughter, Robin.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## COMMISSIONING OFFICER

Vice Admiral Roger F. Bacon was born in San Diego, California, and raised in the Bremerton, Washington, area. He was graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1959 and holds a master's degree in computer science from the U. S. Naval Postgraduate School. He also attended the National Defense University Flag and General Officer CAPSTONE course and the Harvard University National and International Security course.

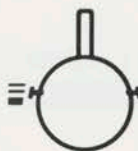
Vice Admiral Bacon served in USS ISHERWOOD (DD 520), his first sea tour, until 1960. Following Submarine School and Nuclear Prototype training at Idaho Falls, he reported to USS HALIBUT (SSGN587) in 1961. While on board HALIBUT, Vice Admiral Bacon participated in five REGULUS missile deterrent patrols. His next assignments were in USS KAMEHAMEHA (SSBN642) as Engineer Officer during construction and two POLARIS patrols and then as Executive Officer of the USS HALIBUT (SSBN587). Vice Admiral Bacon commanded USS FLASHER (SSN613) and USS PATRICK HENRY (SSBN599) and then served as COMSUBPAC Prospective Commanding Officer Instructor until 1979, when he assumed command of USS HUNLEY (AS 31) at the deployed site in Apra Harbor, Guam. From 1980 to 1982, Vice Admiral Bacon served as Commander Submarine Squadron ONE, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He served as the Chief of Staff to Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet in 1982 and 1983. Vice Admiral Bacon was selected for Flag rank in January 1983. From June 1983 through July 1986, he served as the Director, Strategic and Theater Nuclear Warfare Division and Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans, Policy, and Operations) on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations. He served from December 1986 to July 1988 as Commander Submarine Group EIGHT, Commander Submarines Mediterranean,



ROGER F. BACON  
VICE ADMIRAL  
U.S. NAVY

Commander Submarine Force Sixth Fleet, and Commander Area ASW Forces Sixth Fleet. In August 1988, he assumed duties as Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet. He also serves as Commander, Submarines Allied Command Atlantic, a NATO post.

Vice Admiral Bacon is married to the former Joan D. Darby of Walnut Creek, California. They have two children, Roger and Jennifer.



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### SECRETARY OF THE NAVY



THE HONORABLE  
H. LAWRENCE GARRETT, III



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

Commander Timothy M. Reichert, USN  
Prospective Commanding Officer  
TOPEKA (SSN 754)  
Groton, Connecticut 06340

Dear Commander Reichert:

Congratulations on your new command, and best wishes to you and your crew on the commissioning of TOPEKA (SSN 754).

The third U.S. Navy ship to be named TOPEKA incorporates the latest technology and the most modern capabilities our nation can produce. It remains for you and your crew to bring her to life. I know that your professionalism and skill will establish a tradition of duty and accomplishment which you can bequeath to those who shall serve in this ship for years to come.

As you assume your place in the fleet, the men who serve in TOPEKA are charged with the heavy responsibility of making her an instrument of peace through strength. I wish you every success in meeting the challenges which lie ahead.

Sincerely,

H. Lawrence Garrett, III  
Secretary of the Navy

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS



CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Dear Captain Reichert,

Congratulations on the commissioning of United States Ship TOPEKA. An unusual distinction and a special responsibility fall upon you as the first commanding officer.

TOPEKA, the newest attack submarine in the fleet, embodies the most modern design and construction on the seas today. However, she cannot fulfill the role for which she was authorized by Congress, the defense of our nation, unless she is manned by a dedicated crew capable of operating and maintaining her to her fullest potential.

It is your responsibility to establish TOPEKA's capability. As your ship and crew perform, TOPEKA will develop a reputation that will endure over her years of service. Her character will depend, in no small measure, upon your leadership.

Your selection for this most important task is an honor and a responsibility. I have complete confidence you will execute it well.

Sincerely,

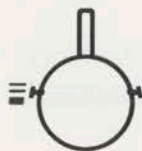
C. A. H. TROST  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

Commander Timothy M. Reichert, USN  
PCO, TOPEKA (SSN 754)  
Groton, CT 06340



C.A.H. TROST  
ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY





## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### SPONSOR



### THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE SECRETARY OF LABOR

Elizabeth Dole was sworn in by President Bush as the 20th Secretary of Labor in a ceremony at the Labor Department's headquarters on January 30, 1989.

As a member of the Cabinet, Mrs. Dole serves as the President's chief advisor on labor issues, as well as a key economic policy advisor. She guides a federal agency of nearly 19,000 employees, with a budget of more than \$31 billion.

Secretary Dole is responsible for protection of the wages, health and safety, and employment rights of working people; administering job training, unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation programs; promoting equal employment opportunity; collecting, analyzing, and publishing labor statistics; and strengthening free collective bargaining.

Prior to joining President Reagan's Cabinet, Mrs. Dole was Assistant to the President for Public Liaison at the White House. From 1973 until 1979, she served as a member of the Federal Trade Commission. Her public service has also included Presidential appointments as Executive Director of the President's Committee on Consumer Interests and as Deputy Special Assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs.

Mrs. Dole was graduated with distinction in political science from Duke University, where she was president of the student government and elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She received her law degree from Harvard Law School and a master's degree in education and government from Harvard University.

Mrs. Dole currently serves as honorary chairman of the Board of Overseers at Duke Comprehensive Cancer Center and is a member of the Harvard University Board of Overseers and of the Visiting Committee of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She recently received the Humanitarian Award from the National Commission Against Drunk Driving.

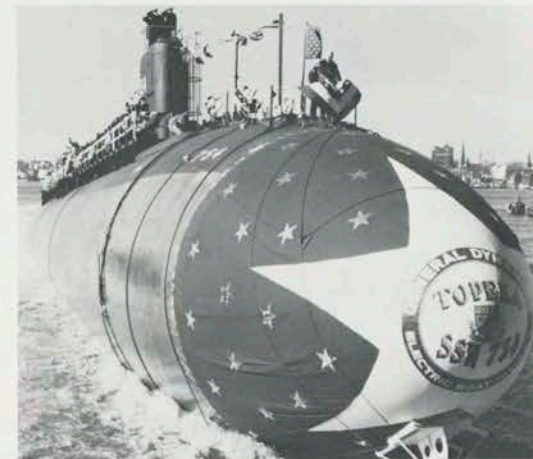
A native of Salisbury, North Carolina, Mrs. Dole was named in 1988 by the Gallup Poll as one of the world's ten most admired women.

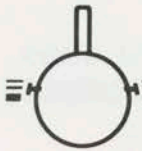
OCTOBER 21, 1989

## TOPEKA LAUNCHING



"In the name of the United States  
I christen thee TOPEKA.  
May God bless her and  
all who sail in her."  
— The Honorable  
Elizabeth Hanford Dole





## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### COMMANDING OFFICER



**TIMOTHY M. REICHERT**  
**COMMANDER,**  
**U.S. NAVY**

Commander Timothy M. Reichert was born in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1947. He was graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School, Denver, Colorado, in 1966 and received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree and was commissioned as Ensign, U.S. Navy in 1970. Following commissioning he completed Naval Nuclear Propulsion training at Nuclear Power School, Mare Island, California, and Nuclear Power

Training Unit in Idaho Falls, Idaho. In January 1972, he completed the submarine indoctrination course at the Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut.

Commander Reichert's first assignment was to the Precommissioning Unit for BATFISH (SSN681), an attack submarine under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, Groton, Connecticut. He left the USS BATFISH in 1974 and attended the Submarine Officer Advanced Course. In January 1975, he reported to USS PERMIT (SSN594) as Engineer Officer. In March 1977, he was assigned as Squadron Engineer for the newly formed Submarine Squadron Seven, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His next assignment was as Navigator for USS SARGO (SSN583) from August 1979 through October 1980. In December 1980, after completing the Prospective Executive Officer course, he reported to USS HAWKBILL (SSN666) as Executive Officer. From December 1983 until March 1986, he served as the Force Nuclear Power Officer on the staff of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. In December 1986, following completion of the Prospective Commanding Officer Course, he reported as the Prospective Commanding Officer of TOPEKA (SSN754) under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division in Groton, Connecticut.

Commander Reichert is entitled to wear the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star, Battle Efficiency Ribbon, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Navy Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Commander Reichert is married to the former M. Christy Hopkins of Alton, Illinois. They reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut with their two children, Tisha and Timothy.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Lieutenant Commander Kenneth G. Lombart, USN, was born and raised in Rochester, New York. He entered the United States Naval Academy in 1972, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics. He was commissioned in June 1976.

Following commissioning, Lieutenant Commander Lombart completed Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Florida, and Nuclear Power Training Unit in Ballston Spa, New York. In February 1978, he completed the Submarine Officer Basic Course at Naval Submarine School in Groton, Connecticut, and was assigned to the Gold Crew of USS ANDREW JACKSON (SSBN619), where he served in a variety of junior officer billets until January 1982.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart entered the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, in February 1982 and was graduated with a Masters in Science degree in Electrical Engineering in June 1984. Upon completion of the Submarine Officer Advanced Course and Poseidon Navigator course, he was assigned as Navigator/Operations Officer in the Gold Crew of USS DANIEL WEBSTER (SSBN626), where he served until August 1988.

Upon completing Prospective Executive Officer School and the Command Poseidon Weapons course, Lieutenant Commander Lombart reported to TOPEKA (SSN754), under construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat Division, Groton, Connecticut, as Executive Officer in December 1988.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart is entitled to wear the Navy Commendation Medal, the Battle Efficiency Ribbon with two "E's" in lieu of second award, the National

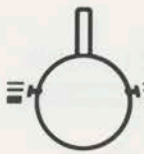


**KENNETH G. LOMBART**

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER,  
U.S. NAVY**

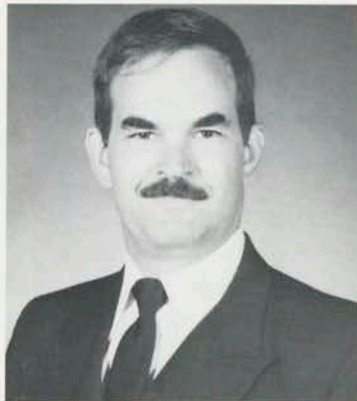
Defense Service Medal, the Sea Service Ribbon, and the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia recognizing thirteen successful patrols.

Lieutenant Commander Lombart and his wife, Kathy Ann Reichbach, reside in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### OFFICERS



LCDR BRUCE A.  
TROUTMAN  
Springfield, PA  
ENGINEER OFFICER



LCDR JOHN C.  
MICKEY  
Wellsboro, PA  
NAVIGATOR/  
OPERATIONS OFFICER



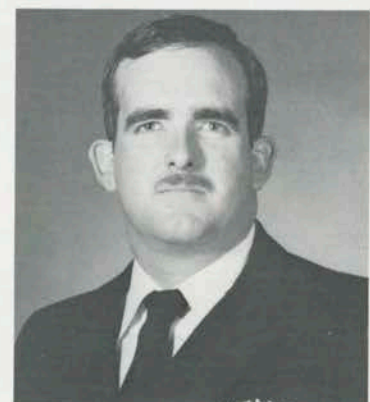
LT JEFFREY C.  
MAYNARD  
Warwick, RI  
COMBAT SYSTEMS  
OFFICER



LT JOHN F.  
KLEKOTKA, JR.  
Easthampton, MA  
SUPPLY OFFICER



LT DAVID G.  
WEGMANN  
Davenport, IA  
RELIEVING ENGINEER



LT MICHAEL E.  
DOYLE  
North Kingstown, RI  
DAMAGE CONTROL  
ASSISTANT

OCTOBER 21, 1989



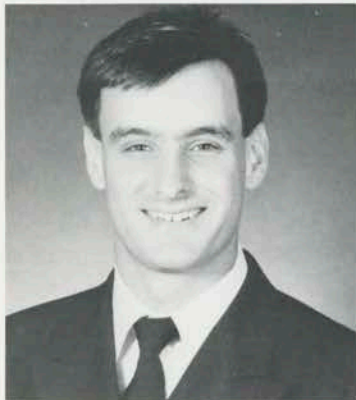
LT BYRON L.  
WEST  
Nelson, PA  
SHIP COORDINATOR



LT DAVID P.  
REBER  
Anaheim, CA  
SONAR OFFICER



LT ARTHUR W.  
LARM  
Norwalk, CT  
COMMUNICATOR



LT CHRISTOPHER J.  
KELLY  
Toronto, CAN  
MAIN PROPULSION  
ASSISTANT



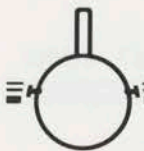
LT ANTHONY P.  
ROBERTS  
South Bend, IN  
CHEM/RADCON  
ASSISTANT



LTJG ANDREW J.  
ROSS  
Sodus, NY  
ELECTRICAL OFFICER



LTJG ADAM T.  
HARVEY  
Golden, CO  
REACTOR CONTROL  
ASSISTANT



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### CHIEF OF THE BOAT



**MICHAEL A. GILBERT**

### MASTER CHIEF ELECTRICIANS' MATE U.S. NAVY

Master Chief Michael A. Gilbert, a native of California, entered the Naval Service on 16 June 1965. Upon completion of basic training, he was assigned to IC "A" School in San Diego, California, with a follow-on assignment to USS POCONO (AGC-16) in Norfolk, Virginia. After Nuclear Power School and Basic Submarine Training, Master Chief

Gilbert served back-to-back tours on USS LAPON (SSN661) and USS SEAWOLF (SSN575). In 1977 he was assigned as Assistant Training Coordinator at the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center, T.I., San Francisco, California. His next duty assignment returned him to the east coast to serve on USS SCAMP (SSN588). In 1984, while serving as a Navy Instructor/Curriculum Development Specialist at Naval Submarine School, Groton, Connecticut, Master Chief Gilbert was selected by Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet, to attend the Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officers Academy at Montgomery, Alabama, as the Navy's Atlantic Fleet Representative to Class 84C.

In December 1984, Master Chief Gilbert was assigned to USS GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER (SSBN656) (BLUE) as the Chief of the Boat. During this tour he was awarded the Navy Achievement Medal for outstanding professional leadership associated with an extensive shipyard overhaul, Demonstration and Shakedown Operations (DASO), and two strategic deterrent patrols. In December 1986, he reported for duty as Chief of the Boat, Precommissioning Unit TOPEKA (SSN754).

In addition to the Navy Achievement Medal, Master Chief Gilbert holds the following awards: Presidential Unit Citation, three Navy Unit Commendations, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, two Navy "E's", five Good Conduct Medals, Navy Expeditionary Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and three Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.

Master Chief Gilbert is married to the former Mary Frances Nadeau of West Hartford, Connecticut. They presently reside with their daughter, Cynthia, in Gales Ferry, Connecticut.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## CHIEFS



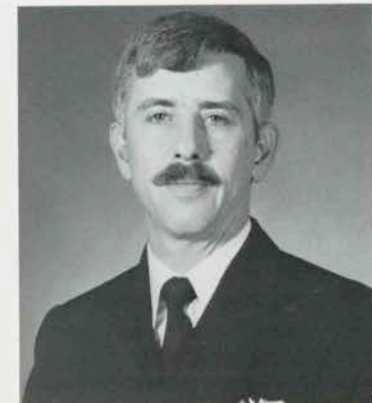
ETCS(SS) RALPH E.  
PRITCHARD  
Orlando, FL

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
ENLISTED ADVISOR



STSCS(SS) RICHARD K.  
SHEWBRIDGE  
Franklin, OH

SONAR DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) THOMAS W.  
VALENTEEN, JR.  
Allentown, PA

MACHINERY DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



ICC(SS) MICHAEL E.  
SCHULTZ  
Salisbury, MD

ASSISTANT SHIP  
COORDINATOR



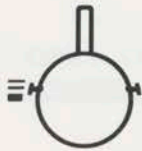
RMC(SS) DANIEL L.  
RATLIFF  
Muncie, IN

RADIO DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) JEFFREY S.  
THOMPSON  
Little Falls, NY

AUXILIARY DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### CHIEFS



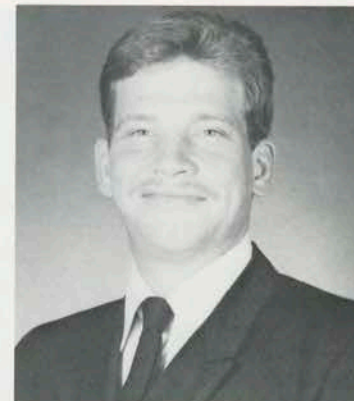
QMC(SS) GEORGE D.  
CRONIN  
Ledyard, CT

ASSISTANT  
NAVIGATOR



ETC(SS) CHARLES E.  
KUHN  
Alma, WI

REACTOR CONTROL DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



TMC(SS) PETER J.  
BERNS, III  
Brooklyn, NY

FIRST LIEUTENANT



HMC(SS) ERICH P.  
JUNGER  
Navajo Reservation, AZ

SHIP'S CORPSMAN



EMC(SS) BARTON J.  
BOTT  
Brooklyn, NY

ELECTRICAL DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



MMC(SS) BRIAN G.  
SWITZER  
Beaverton, OR

3-M COORDINATOR



ETC(SS) ROBERT W.  
MONEY  
Dallas, TX

R. C. DIVISION ASSISTANT  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER



ETC(SS) TODD R.  
VEILLETTE  
Waterbury, CT

ELECTRONICS DIVISION  
LEADING PETTY OFFICER

OCTOBER 21, 1989

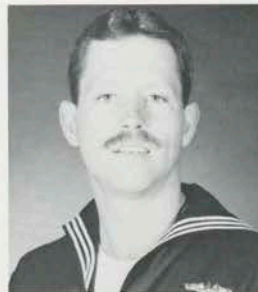
## SHIP'S CREW

### FIRE CONTROL TECHNICIAN (GUNS) (FTG)

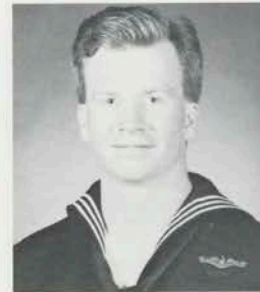
*Torpedo Fire Control Division*



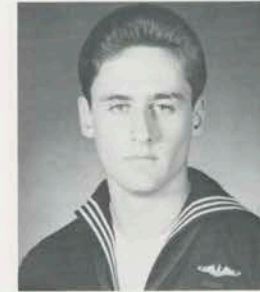
Operate and maintain electronic equipment to analyze information from ship sensors. They aid the Officer of the Deck in tactical decision-making.



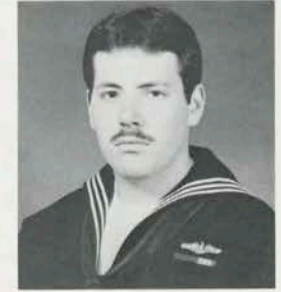
FTG2(SS) WARREN S. CROSS  
Ilion, NY



FTG2(SS) JEFFERY A. KLEIN  
Eau Claire, WI



FTG2(SS) RICHARD J. ARNEY  
Leesport, PA



FTG2(SS) KENNETH J. ROBERTS  
Howell, NJ



FTG2(SS) RICHARD J. DANAHER  
Silver Springs, MD

### MACHINIST'S MATE (MM)

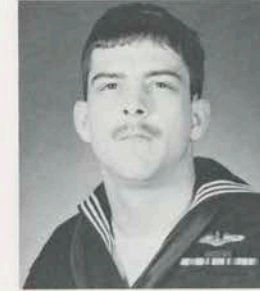
*Auxiliary Division*



Operate and maintain ship support systems. These include hydraulics, oxygen manufacture, and steering and diving controls.



MM1(SS) DANIEL J. FREDRICKSON  
Seattle, WA



MM2(SS) SCOTT A. MILLER  
Eaton, IN



MM2(SS) ANTHONY G. BURKE  
Spokane, WA



MM3(SS) JEFFREY M. DANSEREAU  
Coeur D'Alene, ID



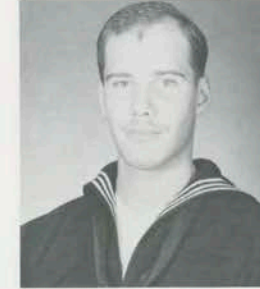
MM3(SU) SCOTT L. KELLER  
West Lebanon, IN



MM3(SS) MICHAEL J. CENCIA  
Pittsfield, MA



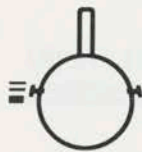
MM3(SU) TODD M. BEES  
Warren, OH



MMFN(SU) PAUL D. MEYERS  
Springville, NY



MMFN(SU) DEAN K. FRANCAZIO  
Smyrna, DE



# USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

## SHIP'S CREW

### ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (ET)

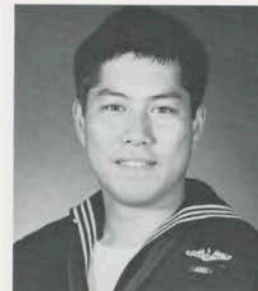
*Electronics Division*



Maintain and repair electronic equipment onboard ship. They provide technical expertise required to keep the delicate electronic "eyes" of the ship at peak performance.



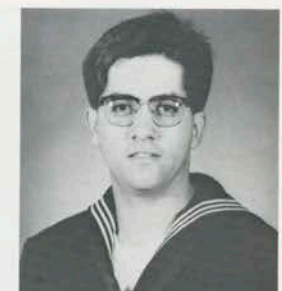
ET2(SS) STEVE R. C. SALVANERA  
Streamwood, IL



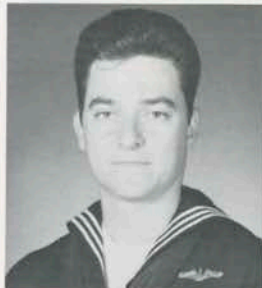
ET2(SS/DV) BILL K. LUI  
Buffalo, NY



ET2(SS) JAMES J. PUPPLO  
Selden, NY



ET2(SS) GILBERTO R. CRUZ  
Mesa, AZ



ET3(SS) KEVIN J. KUDEBEH  
Yucca Valley, CA



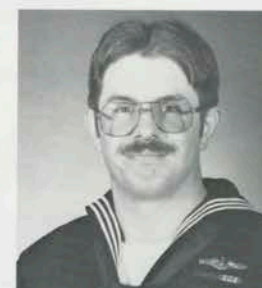
ET3(SU) JOHN B. HANSER  
Belford, NJ

### MESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST (MS)

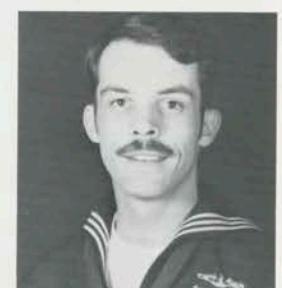
*Food Service Division*



Operate and manage all kitchen and dining facilities aboard. They also maintain all food service financial records.



MS1(SS) PAUL W. EMMONS  
San Luis Obispo, CA



MS1(SS) HOWARD J. CARR, JR.  
Hardwick, VT



MS1(SS) STEVEN M. HORNE  
Far Rockaway, NY



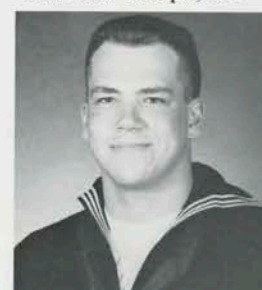
MS2(SS) JOHN E. PFEIFFER  
Columbia, MD



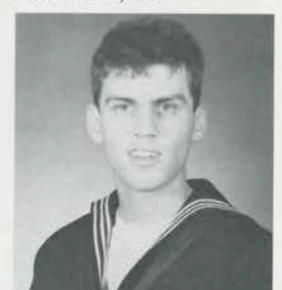
MS2(SS) THOMAS L. PIFARI  
Monrovia, CA



MS3(SS) MICHAEL S. JOHNSON  
Colrain, MA



MSSN(SU) JOHN M. LABBE  
New Bedford, MA



MSSN(SS) MATTHEW J. SCHMIDT  
Petersburg, AL

OCTOBER 21, 1989

# **ELECTRICIANS' MATE (EM)**

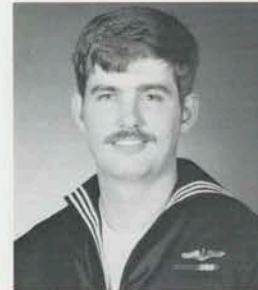
*Electrical Division*



Operate and maintain the electrical power plant and associated equipment. They also manage the shipboard electrical safety program.



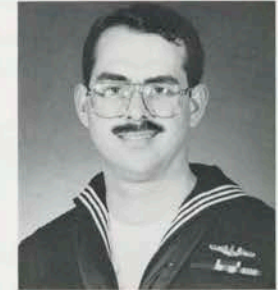
EM1(SS) ERIC C.  
BAATZ  
Edwardsburg, MI



EM1(SS) ALAN L.  
NETTLES  
Austin, TX



EM1(SS) JEFFREY A.  
RUNG  
Niagara Falls, NY



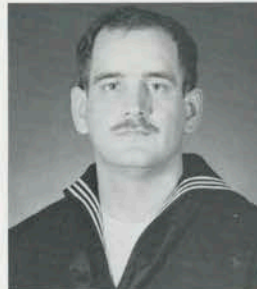
EM1(SS) KEITH A.  
ROGERS  
Austin, TX



EM1(SU) TODD L.  
CUTSFORTH  
Waterloo, IA



EM2(SU) KEITH A.  
MARSON  
Seattle, WA



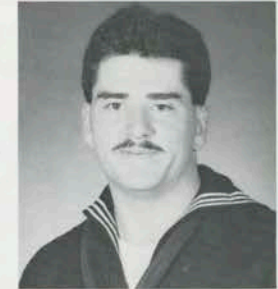
EM2(SU) RODNEY L.  
FRANCIS  
Farmington, MO



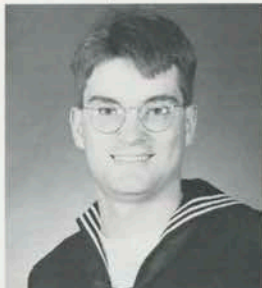
EM2(SU) JOHN P.  
FIEBICH  
St. Charles, MN



EM2(SU) STEPHEN  
ZAWACKI  
Dupont, PA



EM3(SU) EDWARD T.  
O'DONNELL  
Stanfordville, NY



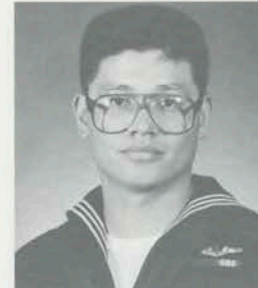
EM3(SU) DALE L.  
NICHOL  
Sagertown, PA

# **YEOMAN (YN)**

*Executive Department*



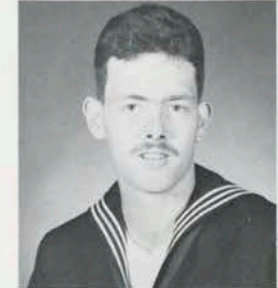
Perform clerical, administrative and secretarial duties, and serve as reporters for courts martial. They are primary assistants to the Executive Officer.



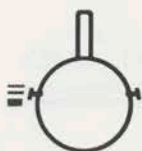
YN2(SS) ARTURO  
HERNANDEZ  
Chaparral, NM



YN3(SS) WILLIAM T.  
HARRIS  
Seattle, WA



YN3(SU) BRIAN P.  
DAUGHERTY  
Mt. Pleasant, TX



# USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

## SHIP'S CREW

### SEAMAN/FIREMAN (SN,FN)

*Deck Division*



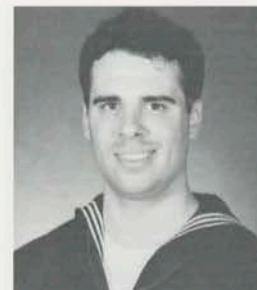
Serve as ship control party members, assist Food Service, handle ordnance, and maintain the ship's topside and superstructure. They have no technical training.



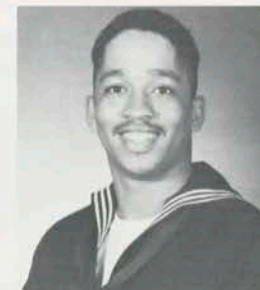
SA(SS) KEITH R. GRIEVES  
Hackensack, NJ



SA(SU) ANDREW N. CHATMAN, JR.  
Baton Rouge, LA



SA(SU) JASON D. MOORE  
Lake Tahoe, CA



SR(SU) NEIL C. HOGANS  
Mt. Vernon, NY

### MACHINIST'S MATE (MM)

*Machinery Division*



Responsible for the ship's main propulsion plant. They monitor primary and secondary plant systems.



MM1(SS) MELVIN J. SIMON, JR.  
New Iberia, LA



MM1(SS) JAMES A. BREEN  
Queens, NY



MM1(SS) JEFFERY L. HAKE  
Eaton, OH



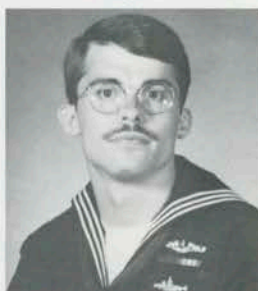
MM1(SS) LARRY D. RISTAU  
Olathe, KS



MM1(SS) JOSEPH M. SNELL, II  
Petersburg, WV



MM1(SS) HENRY R. SUMMERS  
Delta Junction, AK



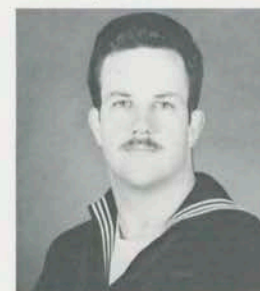
MM1(SS) MICHAEL T. FRANKENBERRY  
Mountain Lake, MN



MM1(SU) ALFRED C. MEADOWS, III  
Galax, VA

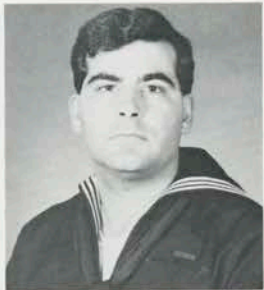


MM2(SU) JOHN W. MOCK  
Milton, DE



MM2(SS) KARL J. EDWARDS  
Burnsville, MN

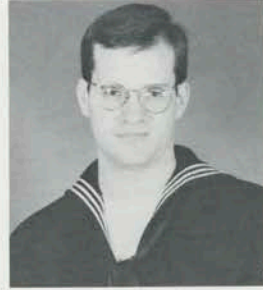
OCTOBER 21, 1989



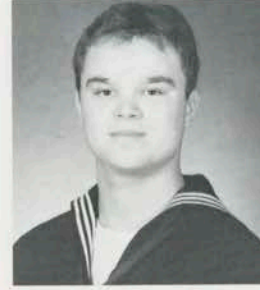
MM2(SU) NICHOLAS J.  
GAFES  
Drexel Hill, PA



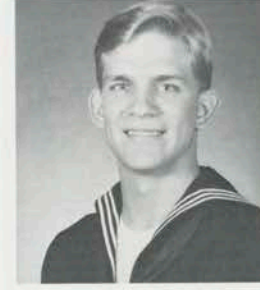
MM2(SU) MICHAEL D.  
LANDRY  
Jeanerette, LA



MM2(SU) THOMAS L.  
BLODGET  
Winter Park, FL



MM2(SU) WILLIAM R.  
MYERS  
Bridgetown, IN



MM3(SU) LAWRENCE A.  
WACHTER  
Winter Park, FL



MM3(SU) SCOTT E.  
WIRTH  
Wilsonville, OR



MM2(SU) JOHN J.  
LALLI, III  
Virginia, MN

**STOREKEEPER (SK)**  
Stores Division



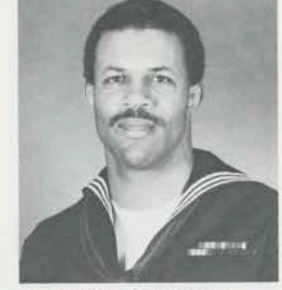
Responsible for the management, stowage, and requisitioning of repair parts and consumables. They manage the ship's financial records and provide logistics support.



SK1(SS) ROBERT E.  
DAVIDS  
Glen Ridge, NJ



SK3(SS) RICHARD L.  
ROBERTS  
Crystal Springs, MS

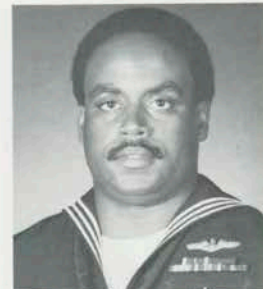


SK3(SU) CHRIS D.  
INGRAM  
Los Angeles, CA

**RADIOMAN (RM)**  
Communications Division



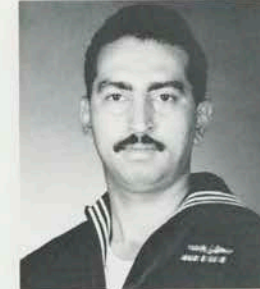
Operate the Navy's radio communication system. They transmit and receive messages for fast and secure communications.



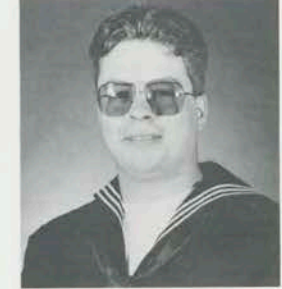
RM1(SS) RONALD  
MARTIN  
Bangor, ME



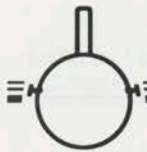
RM1(SS) GREGORY R.  
KERN  
Buffalo, NY



RM2(SS) JOHN  
ALVAREZ  
Cabo Rojo, PR



RM3(SU) MICHAEL E.  
FRANK  
Beallsville, OH



# USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

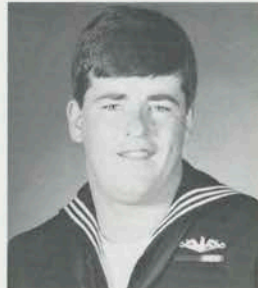
## SHIP'S CREW

### TORPEDOMAN'S MATE (TM)

*Torpedo Division*



Maintain underwater weapons such as torpedoes and horizontal launch systems. Their expertise assists in the evasion of enemy ships.



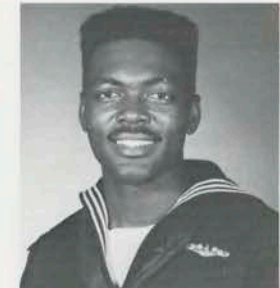
TM1(SS) THOMAS J. MILLS  
Brooklyn, NY



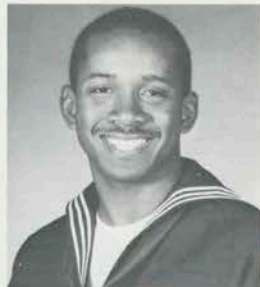
TM2(SS) GREGORY R. NICHOLS  
Canton, OH



TM2(SS) MICHAEL P. LIDWELL, JR.  
Ashville, PA



TM3(SS) RONALD D. McMILLAN  
Denmark, SC



TM3(SS) DONALD L. RUSSELL  
Pensacola, FL

### ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN (ET)

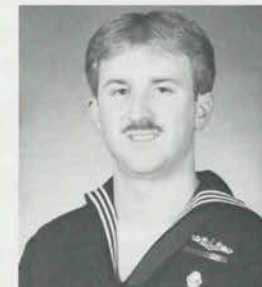
*Reactor Controls Division*



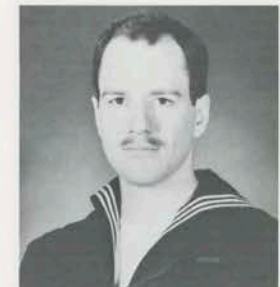
Operate and maintain reactor controls equipment, protective systems, and associated instrumentation.



ET1(SS) SCOTT T. KELLEY  
Ballston Spa, NY



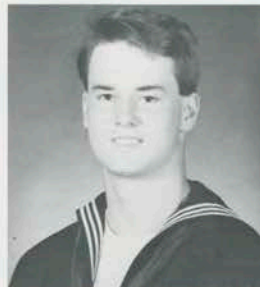
ET2(SS/DV) TIMOTHY J. COLLINS  
Oswego, NY



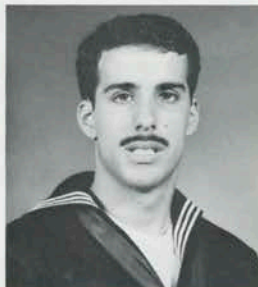
ET2(SU) GLENN L. GLIDDEN  
Ashland, ME



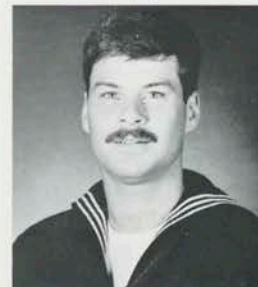
ET2(SU) WILLIAM G. MILLER  
Bronx, NY



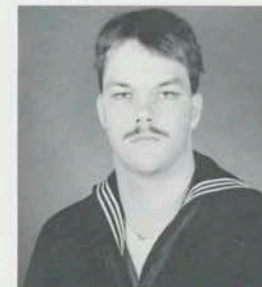
ET2(SU) STEVEN J. JACOBS  
Fountain Valley, CA



ET2(SU) VINCENT M. GRIMALDI  
Hyattsville, MD



ET3(SU) MICHAEL J. CHURCHILL  
Elkland, PA

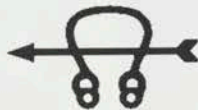


ET3(SU) JOHN WELLER  
Central Islip, NY

OCTOBER 21, 1989

**SONAR TECHNICIAN (STS)**

*Sonar Division*



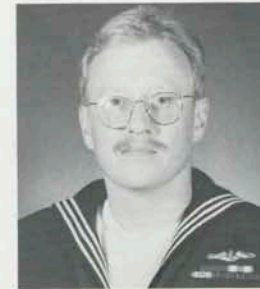
The "eyes and ears" of the submerged submarine. They use high-tech sonar systems to safely navigate the ship.



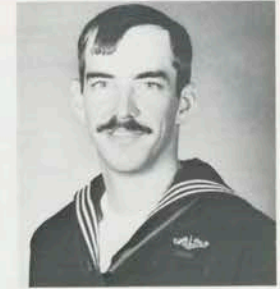
STS1(SS) CAESAR  
HERNANDEZ  
South El Monte, CA



STS1(SS) ROBERT M.  
BROWN  
Vallejo, CA



STS2(SS) GORDEN S.  
JENNINGS  
Port Orchard, WA



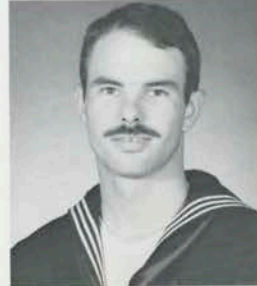
STS2(SS) STEVEN R.  
PITKIN  
Watertown, NY



STS2(SS) FRANCIS L.  
DEMATTO  
Summit Hill, PA



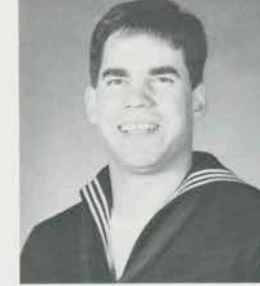
STS2(SS) SCOTT W.  
BRUBACH  
Tacoma, WA



STS2(SS) MICHAEL J.  
WILLETTE  
Claremore, OK



STS2(SS) ROBERT A.  
WIERZ  
Hawthorne, FL



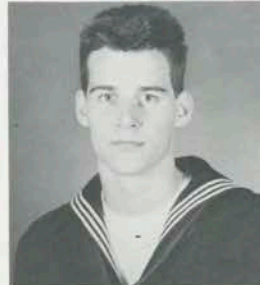
STS2(SS) RODNEY D.  
KURTZ  
Bethlehem, PA



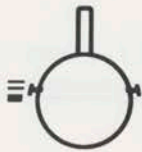
STS2(SS) TIMOTHY M.  
KAYSER  
Des Moines, IA



STS3(SS) LOUIS M.  
TOMASSO, JR.  
Miami, FL



STS3(SU) PAUL A.  
HOSTETTLER  
Summit, NJ



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### SHIP'S CREW

#### QUARTERMASTER (QM)

*Navigation Division*



Stand watch as assistant to officers of the deck. Maintain all navigation charts and publications and provide navigational expertise.



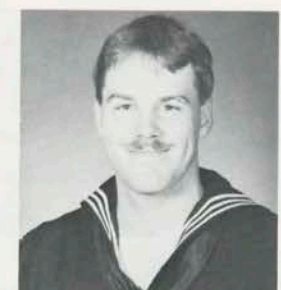
QM1(SS) MICHAEL R.  
BELIVEAU  
Las Vegas, NV



QM2(SS) ROBERT J.  
COLOSI  
Medway, MA



QM3(SS) MICHAEL L.  
KUYKENDALL  
Hubbard, TX



QMSN(SS) ROBERT S.  
WOOLLIS  
Cazenovia, NY

#### INTERIOR COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIAN (IC)

*Interior Communications Division*



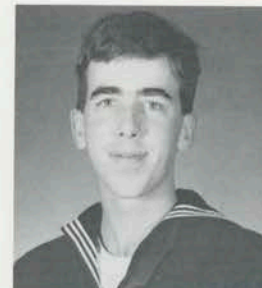
Operate and maintain a watch on warning systems and electronics which control dive and surface maneuvers.



IC1(SS) THOMAS  
MALONE  
Queens, NY



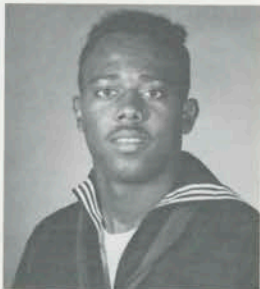
IC2(SS) RYAN K.  
HIGGINS  
Indialantic, FL



IC3(SS) JEREMY Q.  
SHATTUCK  
Fresno, CA



ICFN(SU) TIMOTHY C.  
KANTUREK  
Alton, IL



ICFA(SU) KEENAN R.  
MOSLEY  
Houston, TX

OCTOBER 21, 1989

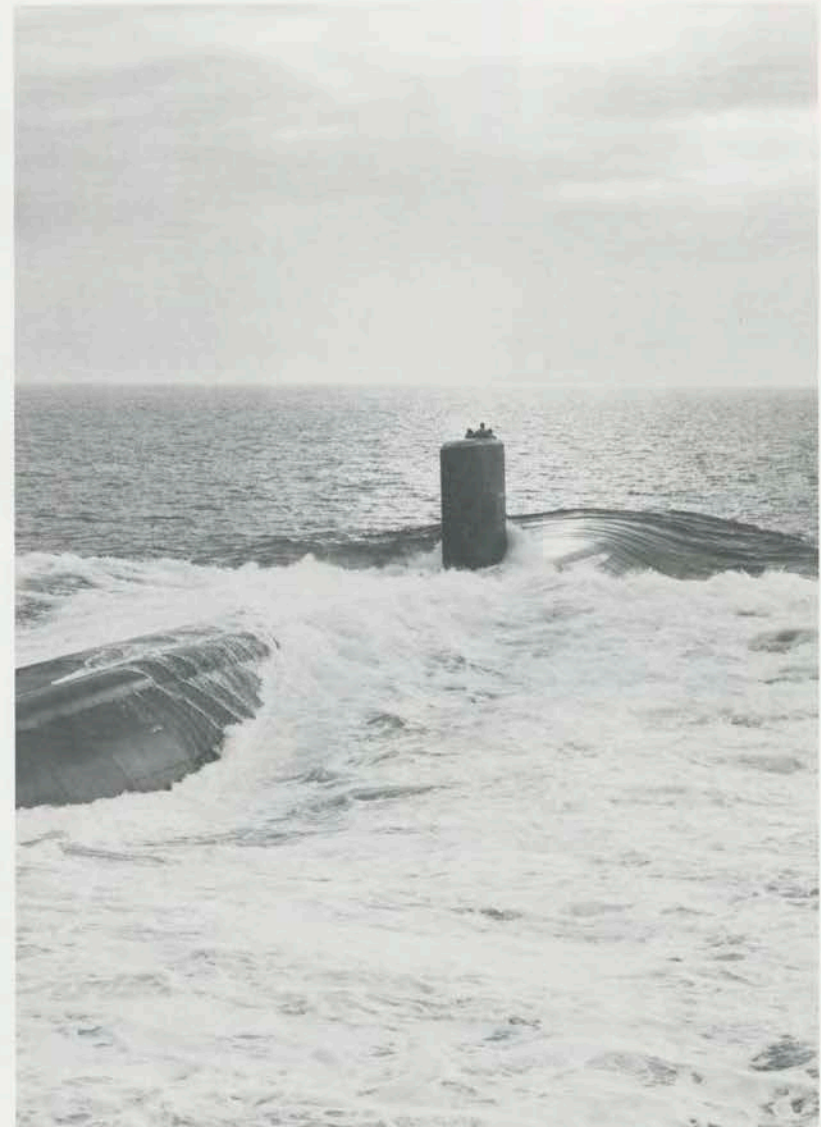
## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

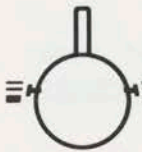
There are many people who have been assigned to TOPEKA Precommissioning Unit throughout the construction period and have departed for various reasons. Their efforts contributed directly to the successful completion of this fine ship, and we bid them fair winds and following seas.

CDR David A. Gove	MMCM(SS) Thomas Barnhart
LT Michael G. Munroe	MM1(SS) James M. Sturgill
LT Wesley W. Lyon	STS1(SS) Matthew H. Allgood
LT Darren E. Chase	MM1(SS) William A. Herrick
SKCS(SS) Russell A. Snyder	RM3(SU) William H. Brim
ETC(SS) Mark A. Gauthier	FTG1(SS) David W. Hodges
ET2(SU) George A. Stewart	MM2(SS) Thomas Tobin
ET2(SU) Lazarro D. Castillo	CWO2 Anthony W. LaPorta, Jr.
ET2(SU) James A. Belz	MM1(SS) Daniel D. Travers
MMC(SS) William E. Bowerman	TMSN(SU) William C. Kenyon
MM1(SS) Thomas J. Hanson	ET1(SS) Gordon J. Heeres
MMC(SS) Robert H. Renard	MM1(SS) John H. Gray
IC1(SS) Gregory P. Minns	MM1(SS) Blaine E. Burns
QMCS(SS) James L. Kendall	FTG1(SS) Doner D. Caldwell
YNC(SS) Edward D. Patterson	STS2(SS) Edwin H. Engelmann
TM1(SS) Johnnie M. Kirk	EM2(SU) William E. Geibel
HMC(SS) John J. Ryan	STS2(SU) Robert T. Bassham
ET1(SS) Donald L. Wiley	RM3(SU) Andrew C. L. Shutt
IC1(SS) David F. Mitchell	SK1(SS) David C. Graves

\* \* \* \* \*

The crew of the USS TOPEKA (SSN754) wishes to acknowledge and thank the members of the USS TOPEKA (CL-67) reunion group whose actions directly contributed to a third naval ship proudly bearing the name of the city of Topeka, Kansas.





## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### HISTORY OF SHIPS NAMED TOPEKA

Two previous ships of the fleet have been named for TOPEKA, the Capital City of Kansas.



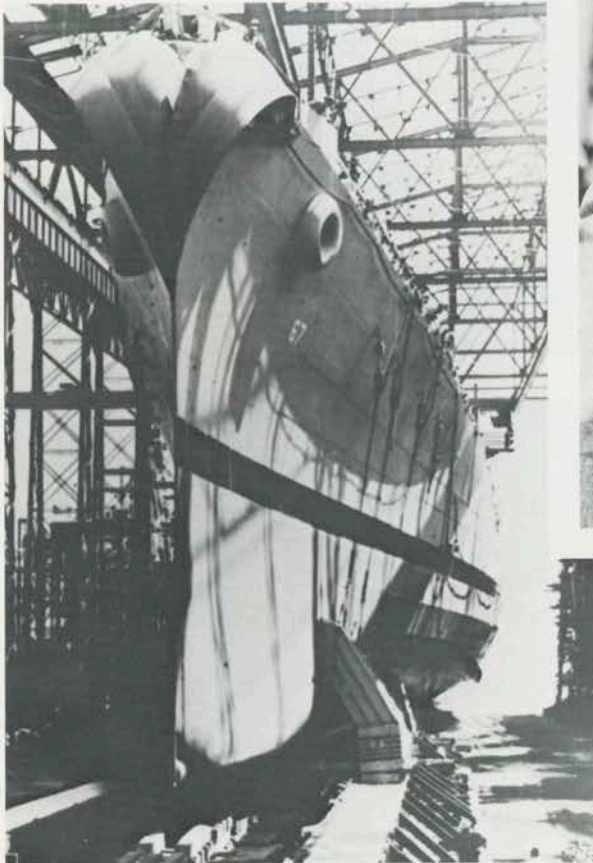
The gunboat TOPEKA . . .  
over two decades of service  
in the U.S. NAVY.

The first TOPEKA (PG 35) was a gunboat built under the name of Diogenes by G. Howaldt of Keil, Germany, in 1881. She was purchased by the U.S. Navy on 2 April 1898 from the Thames Iron Works of London, England and placed in commission the same day. On 15 February 1899, TOPEKA was placed out of commission at the Boston Navy Yard.

After 18 months of inactivity, the gunboat was recommissioned at Boston on 15 August 1900. In August 1905 she returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She was placed out of commission the next month, and served as a prison and station ship at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. In June 1916, she was towed to New York for recommissioning on 14 July 1916, and assigned duty as receiving ship at New York until again being placed out of commission in September 1916. She was recommissioned for the last time at Boston in March 1919, then placed out of commission on 2 November 1919 and put up for sale. TOPEKA was sold in May 1930, to Union Shipbuilding Company of Baltimore, Maryland.

The Second TOPEKA, a Light Cruiser (CL67), was built by Bethlehem Steel Company of Quincy, Massachusetts. Her keel was laid 21 April 1943, and she was launched 19 August 1944 under the sponsorship of Mrs. Frank J. Warren, wife of the Mayor of Topeka, Kansas. The ship was placed in commission at Boston on 23 December 1944. TOPEKA was initially used as a ship escort in the Western Pacific and later joined several battle groups operating in the Pacific near the end of World War II. TOPEKA's rescue efforts saved two British Pilots downed in Ishinomake Wan during August 1945. She was placed out of commission in reserve at San Francisco, 18 June 1949. On 15 April 1957, she arrived at New York Navy Shipyard for conversion to a Guided Missile Light Cruiser (CLG-8). Her hull classification and number were changed to CLG 8, effective 23 May 1957. TOPEKA earned two battle stars during World War II and three more during the Vietnam conflict.

OCTOBER 21, 1989



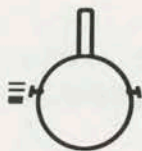
The TOPEKA is launched in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1944.



Former Topeka Mayor Frank Warren and his wife both take part in the launching ceremonies.



The second TOPEKA . . .  
a "five-star cruiser" through WWII and Vietnam.



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### USS TOPEKA COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

George E. Erickson, Jr., is Chairman of the USS TOPEKA Commissioning Committee, formed to promote a long-lasting relationship between the citizens of Topeka and crew members of USS TOPEKA. Mr. Erickson is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a Commander in the Judge Advocate Generals Corps of the Naval Reserve. He is a practicing lawyer appointed by former Topeka Mayor Douglas S. Wright, continued in service by present Topeka Mayor Harry Felker.

The committee has roughly one hundred members representing people in and around Topeka, and as far away as Connecticut. While active and retired regular and reserve naval officers and members are committee members, there are also Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and National Guard representatives, as well as many civilians without military background. There are members of both sexes of many ages. Sub-committee Chair assignments include men and women, and some serve on more than one sub-committee. A number of sub-committees are devoted to operational functions, finance, historical matters, hospitality, and other functions.

No focus upon military rank is made within the committee. At a composite function, one might find a housewife and an active enlisted man leading deliberations by a group including a retired general officer, a drilling reserve commander, a utility company employee, and a school teacher.

Members of the print and electronic press are participating members, as are representatives of the Mexican-American and Black communities and Churches.

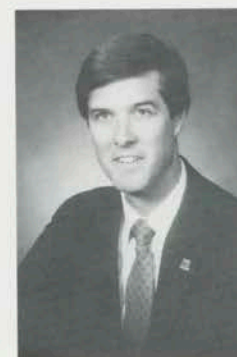
The committee has promoted a great number of activities focusing upon crew members who have traveled to Topeka. They have participated in the Mexican Fiesta; Black History Month; athletic events; school presentations; visits to the VA Hospital, Capper Foundation, and Kansas Neurological Institute; appearances before the Kansas Legislature; and visits to area museums, businesses, and other points of interest. Some crew members lived in individual Topeka homes during their visits.

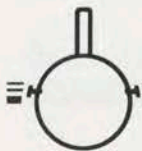
Activities were financed through modest appropriations by the city, contributions from businesses and individuals, profits from the sales of USS TOPEKA baseball caps and t-shirts, and contributions of effort and money by committee members, and Topeka citizens, crew members and families.

The relationship between the city and ship will continue. The ship will receive the Sunday *Topeka Capital-Journal* newspaper and *Metro News* weekly paper as long as it is in commission. There will be a permanent exhibit at the Combat Air Museum. Historical material will be held by the Kansas Museum of History and Topeka Public Library. Material will be regularly forwarded to the ship concerning life in Topeka. Crew members will be members of the "Kansas Navy" and Combat Air Museum. An effort will be made to bring crew members to Topeka in the future.

The people of Topeka are immensely proud to have a third US Naval ship named after the city.

OCTOBER 21, 1989





## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

Topeka, the capital of Kansas, features a blend of agriculture, industry, transportation, and government. Topeka is located on the Kansas River. Its name allegedly came from an Indian word meaning "a good place to dig potatoes," but some scholars dispute that.

The earliest settlers arrived in the area in the early 1840s. The city was incorporated in 1857, following the promotional efforts of nine founders of the Topeka Association. One of the nine, Dr. Charles Robinson, became the first Governor when Kansas was admitted to the Union as the 34th state in 1861. This action was preceded by years of bitter conflict between abolitionists and pro-slavery forces, but Kansas was finally designated a free state.

Cyrus K. Holliday, one of the nine founders and the first Mayor of Topeka, formed the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad shortly after the Civil War. Always a key city in this operation, Topeka is now the headquarters of the Santa Fe's Eastern Lines and is the home of one of the country's largest shop facilities.

The building of Forbes Air Force Base and a large Goodyear Tire and Rubber plant during World War II contributed to Topeka's rapid growth in the 1940s and '50s. Although the air force base eventually closed because of military needs, new industry and expanding state government helped Topeka maintain its diverse economy.

Topeka native Charles Curtis, who served under Herbert Hoover, is the only Vice-President of the United States of Indian descent. Curtis was the grandson of an early settler who married an Indian woman.

Another famous Topekan is the late Alfred M. Landon who was the 1936 Republican nominee for President and was an unofficial advisor to a number of presidents in subsequent years. Mr. Landon celebrated his 100th birthday in September, 1987, shortly before his death.

The Menninger Foundation, located in Topeka, is internationally known as a center for treatment of mental illness. Many outstanding health professionals have trained there or are presently on the staff. The foundation's west campus includes a mental health museum and a large collection of Indian artifacts.

The state government complex includes the Capitol Building with a number of murals depicting the state's history and the attractive Hall of Justice Building. The governor's mansion is at the west edge of the city.

The world-famous Topeka Zoo features a unique tropical rain forest and includes many species of mammals and birds in natural settings.

Washburn University, the nation's last remaining city-supported institution of higher learning, continues to serve an increasing number of students despite its proximity to two large state schools. Its list of law school graduates includes many prominent attorneys and government figures. Washburn's basketball team won the 1987 national small college (NAIA) championship.

The recently opened Expocentre features a number of well-known rock and western musicians in concert and is home to the Topeka Sizzlers of the Continental Basketball Association. A large auto racing complex near the former air base opened in August, 1989.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## **MAYOR OF TOPEKA**

Harry "Butch" Felker, 43, is mayor of Topeka, Kansas. A lifelong Kansan, Butch is a graduate of the Topeka public school system, Topeka's Washburn University (Bachelor of Political Science Degree, 1969) and Washburn University's School of Law (Juris Doctor Degree, 1972). He is a Vietnam-era veteran of the United States Navy.

Butch began his public service career in 1975, when he was elected Topeka's Park Commissioner. He won re-election five times, serving until a reorganization of the Topeka city government abolished the position.

Subsequently, Butch served as Director of Economic Development for the Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce and as director of sales for the Topeka Sizzlers, a professional basketball franchise.

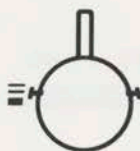
Butch serves on the boards of directors of the Friends of the Topeka Zoo, the Greater Topeka United Way, and the Topeka Park and Recreation Advisory Board. He is a member of the Railroad Days Committee, the Festival of Carols Committee, the Washburn University Alumni Association, and the Downtown Optimists Club.

His wife, Paula, is a teacher at Pauline South Middle School. The Felkers have one daughter, Tammy, 16, and two sons, Josh, 5, and Joe, 4.



**THE HONORABLE  
HARRY "BUTCH" FELKER**

**MAYOR OF  
TOPEKA, KANSAS**



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### SHIP'S CHARACTERISTICS

#### USS TOPEKA (SSN754)

DISPLACEMENT	
Surfaced	6127 Tons
Submerged	6904 Tons
LENGTH	362 Feet
HULL DIAMETER	33 Feet
COMPLEMENT	
Officers	14
Chief Petty Officers	17
E-6 and Below	<u>103</u>
Total	134



#### 43rd SHIP OF THE LOS ANGELES CLASS

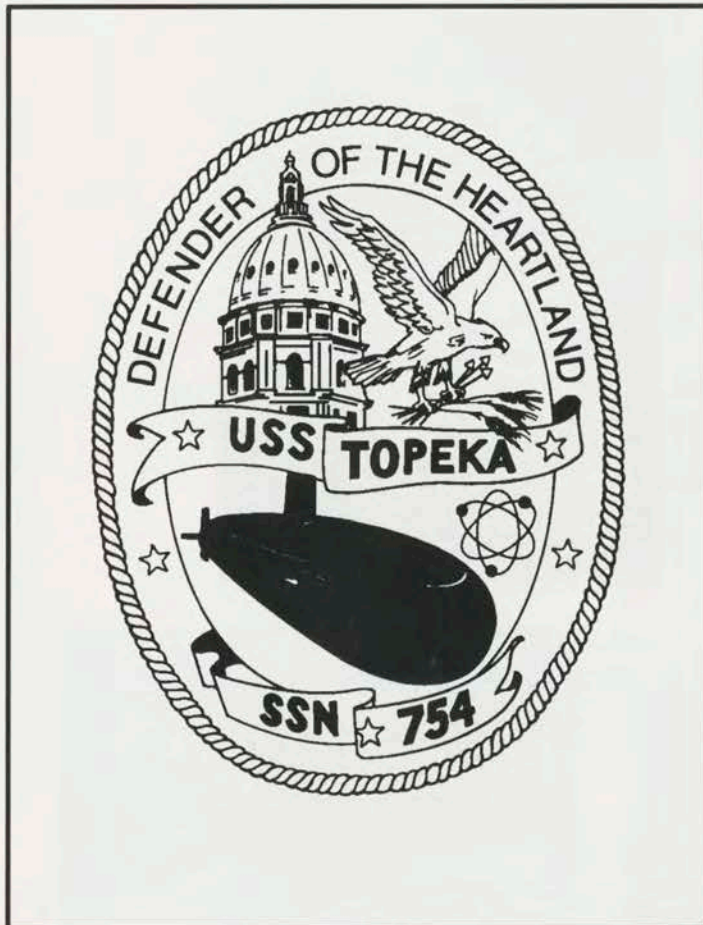
USS TOPEKA is the fourth ship of the "improved" LOS ANGELES Class, the Navy's newest and world's best nuclear-powered attack submarines. These ships are the most advanced undersea vessels of their type in the world. Their missions include locating and destroying surface ships and submarines, reconnaissance, mine planting, and operations with special warfare elements.

This 360-foot, 6900-ton ship is well equipped to accomplish these tasks. Faster than her predecessors and equipped with

the highly accurate AN/BSY-1 sonar and weapon control system, the ship can be armed with sophisticated Mark 48 and ADCAP torpedoes, as well as HARPOON anti-ship missiles. USS TOPEKA can also launch multi-purpose TOMAHAWK cruise missiles from vertical tubes located in the bow or from her torpedo tubes. Other significant improvements include: full under-ice operational capability, improved ship quieting, onboard over-the-horizon targeting capability, two towed sonar arrays, and retractable bow planes.

OCTOBER 21, 1989

## SHIP'S INSIGNIA

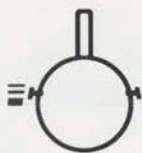


Military Units have historically employed emblems as a means of organizational identification. Designed during the new construction period, the chosen insignia becomes an integral part of the ship's ongoing history. Closely associated

with the crew and its reputation, the emblem is proudly displayed on a wide variety of official documents and memorabilia.

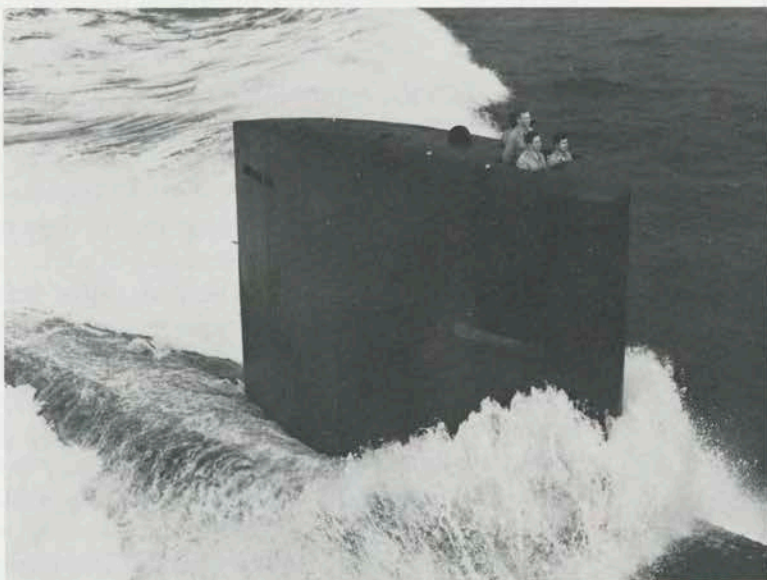
USS TOPEKA (SSN754) has selected the emblem illustrated on the front cover as its official INSIGNIA. Symbolism chosen for the crest includes:

The **Capitol Building Dome** is the predominant landmark in Topeka, the center of Kansas state government and a local symbol of democracy. The **Red Tailed Hawk** is commonly found around Topeka and represents the spirit of freedom displayed by the city's founding fathers during early settlement and the Civil War. The hawk is a silent, swift, and fierce hunter as is USS TOPEKA (SSN754). The **arrows** represent a tribute to the Caw Indians who originally inhabited the area. They also illustrate TOPEKA's willingness to use force when necessary to defend herself, "the heartland", and the nation in times of war or peace. The **wheat stalks** are symbolic of the region's strong agricultural base, and combined with the arrows, represent the fact that the Caw Indians were basically hunters and farmers. The **five stars** represent the City's founding fathers, similar to those depicted on the center band of the official city crest. The **submarine** is one of the improved 688 design and depicts the two most prominent visible features which set her apart from many of her predecessors: vertical launch missile tube hatches and bow planes. The **nuclear symbol** represents the ship's nuclear propulsion capability, with the three orbiting electrons symbolic of SSN754 as the third United States Ship to proudly bear the name TOPEKA. The **green and gold** come from the predominant colors of the city flag and crest, while the **light blue** is the natural background color for the elements in which the hawk and submarine exist.



## USS TOPEKA SSN754 COMMISSIONING

### TOPEKA SEA TRIALS



OCTOBER 21, 1989

## PRAYER

"Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm doth bind the restless wave:"

We are a peaceful people;  
We do not choose to war.  
But tyranny pervades this earth,  
And batters freedom's door.

We regret the need for weapons  
To guard our nation's shore.  
We pray some day that casualties  
Won't be used to keep the score.

But 'till that day, we launch the ships  
To warn our foes, we pray,  
That the price tag on aggression  
Is too high for them to pay.

God, You have a subtle way  
To remind us of Your part:

We chose this place, but You picked  
The time for us to start.

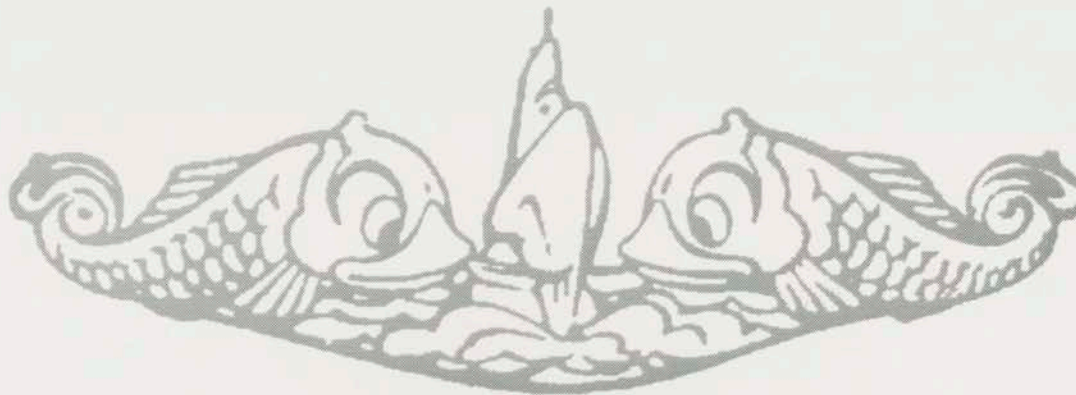
It's only when the tide is high  
This sub can start its slide;  
Men have built the submarine,  
But You control the tide!

So bless the officers and the men  
And keep them free from harm;  
Let them ride beneath the waves,  
Resting on Your arm.

We pray in the Name of the Christ  
"Who bids the mighty ocean deep,  
its own appointed limits keep."

AMEN

Reverend Frederick S. Hollomon



## USS TOPEKA

ATTACK SUBMARINE

NAMED IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF  
TOPEKA, KANSAS

BUILT BY  
**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
*Electric Boat Division*

GROTON, CONNECTICUT

KEEL LAID MAY 13, 1986  
LAUNCHED JANUARY 23, 1988  
COMMISSIONED OCTOBER 21, 1989

CHRISTENED JANUARY 23, 1988  
BY THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH HANFORD DOLE

## USS TOPEKA SSN 754

THE THIRD SHIP OF THE FLEET TO BEAR THE NAME

CL-67/CLG-8  
1944-1969



PG-35  
1898-1929

BLOCKADE OF CUBA, SPANISH-AMERICA WAR	1898
TRAINING SHIP-1ST NAVAL DISTRICT, N.Y. W.W. I	1918
TRAINING SHIP-4TH NAVAL DISTRICT PHILA. PA.	1929
ATTACK ON RYUKU ISLANDS W.W. II	1945
ATTACK ON SAGAMI NADA (TOKYO), W.W. II	1945
GULF OF TONKIN INCIDENT, VIETNAM	1964
COMBINED CRU-DES. GROUP 7TH FLEET, VIETNAM	1965
GULF OF TONKIN GUNFIRE SUPPORT, VIETNAM	1965

## REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE

OCTOBER 21, 1989

### THE CHALLENGE OF THE 1990s

THE LAST TIME ELIZABETH AND I HELPED "LAUNCH"

SOMETHING, IT WAS A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. WE

GAVE IT A GOOD SHOT, BUT I HOPE THIS SUB GETS A LOT

FURTHER THAN WE DID. IN FACT, WE COULD HAVE USED

THE "TOPEKA" IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.



-2-

ALTHOUGH I GREW UP IN A SMALL TOWN IN  
CENTRAL KANSAS, I DID SPEND SOME OF THE MOST  
SIGNIFICANT YEARS OF MY LIFE IN TOPEKA. IT IS WHERE I  
STARTED PUTTING MY LIFE TOGETHER AFTER WORLD  
WAR TWO, AND FIVE YEARS IN ARMY HOSPITALS.

IT IS WHERE I EARNED MY LAW DEGREE, AND WHERE  
I FIRST SERVED AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL. THE YEAR  
WAS 1950, AND I WAS A 27-YEAR OLD LAW STUDENT  
GOING BACK TO SCHOOL ON THE G.I. BILL. FOR SOME  
REASON, MY NEIGHBORS BACK IN RUSSELL ELECTED ME  
TO THE KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



-3-

SO I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY, TO  
HELP LAUNCH THE NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE THAT  
WILL CARRY KANSAS PRIDE TO THE SEVEN SEAS. THE  
'U.S.S. TOPEKA' IS A SYMBOL OF THE SUCCESS OF U.S.  
DEFENSE POLICY OVER THE PAST DECADE.



-4-

AS WE BEGAN THE 1990s, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE  
TOLD US LOUD AND CLEAR THAT THEY WANTED A  
STRONGER AMERICA. THEY ALSO WANTED AN AMERICA  
RESPECTED AT HOME AND ABROAD. AND THEY PUT  
RONALD REAGAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND GAVE THE  
U.S. SENATE A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY, TO GET THE JOB  
DONE.



-5-

IN A FEW MONTHS, THIS DECADE WILL COME TO A  
CLOSE. AS WE LOOK BACK, IT IS CLEAR THAT TOGETHER  
WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE: AMERICA IS STRONGER,  
AND WE HAVE WON BACK THE RESPECT WE LOST  
DURING THE 1970s.

THIS SUCCESS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED  
WITHOUT LEADERSHIP AND VISION; COMMITMENT AND  
SACRIFICE.



-6-

LET'S FACE IT, BUILDING A STRONG DEFENSE DID  
NOT COME CHEAP. THERE WERE NO EASY FIXES. BUT,  
THANKS TO AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY, AMERICAN  
INDUSTRY, AND THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER, WE  
MODERNIZED AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES.

WE GAVE OUR MEN AND WOMEN THE VERY BEST  
EQUIPMENT, ACROSS-THE-BOARD -- WE BUILT THE  
FINEST TANKS, PLANES AND SHIPS. NO DOUBT ABOUT  
IF, WE HAD PLENTY OF CATCHING UP TO DO --BUT WE  
GOT THERE, THANKS TO SHIPS SUCH AS THE "TOPEKA."



-7-

WE CAN BE PROUD OF WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN  
THE 1980s, BUT IS IT ENOUGH TO REST ON OUR  
SUCCESS?

I BELIEVE THAT TO DO SO WOULD RISK ALL WE HAVE  
ACHIEVED IN THE PAST. EVEN WORSE, IT WOULD RISK  
OUR FUTURE, TOO.



-8-

IN MY VIEW, THE DEFENSE CHALLENGE FOR THE  
1990s IS TWOFOLD: (1) TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY  
FUNDING TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND CREDIBLE  
DEFENSE, AND,  
(2) TO BE READY AND WILLING TO USE OUR DEFENSE  
MUSCLE TO PROTECT U.S. INTERESTS ANYTIME,  
ANYWHERE.



-9-

I SHUDDER TO THINK WHERE WE WOULD BE RIGHT  
NOW IF WE HADN'T RELOADED, ESPECIALLY WHEN  
AMERICA HAD TO ASSERT ITSELF IN THE PERSIAN GULF;  
TO RESCUE AMERICANS AT RISK IN GRENADA; AND TO  
STRIKE BACK AT TERRORIST CRAZIES LIKE KHADDAFI.

HOWEVER, SOME FOLKS SAY WE NO LONGER NEED  
TO WORRY ABOUT DEFENSE -- THAT THE COMMUNIST  
WORLD IS CRUMBLING; WE CAN WORK WITH  
GORBACHEV; AND WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT  
COLD WAR ANXIETIES ANYMORE.



-10-

WELL, THIS IS ONE SENATOR WHO ISN'T ABOUT TO  
DROP HIS GUARD.

YES, I BELIEVE WE ARE WITNESSES TO HISTORIC  
CHANGES AROUND THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN  
EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION.



-11-

I VISITED POLAND THIS SUMMER. NOWHERE IS THE  
BANKRUPTCY OF MARXIST-LENINIST IDEOLOGY MORE  
EVIDENT. AND, DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, WE HAVE  
WATCHED THOUSANDS OF EAST GERMANS LEAVE THEIR  
HOMELAND, THEIR JOBS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO TASTE  
FREEDOM IN THE WEST.

HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THESE DRAMATIC CHANGES?  
SOME OFFER ANSWERS IN ONE WORD--"GORBACHEV."



-12-

CERTAINLY GORBACHEV IS UNLIKE ANY OF HIS  
PREDECESSORS. BUT, IS IT WISE FOR THE UNITED  
STATES TO BASE ITS DEFENSE POLICIES AND PLANS ON  
OUR VIEW OF ONE MAN'S INTENTIONS?

NO. RATHER, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN AMERICA'S  
BEST INTEREST TO RESPOND WITH CAUTION -- WE NEED  
TO WAIT TO SEE WHETHER GORBACHEV'S REFORMS IN  
THE SOVIET UNION ARE REAL AND PERMANENT.



-13-

WE WANT GORBACHEV TO SUCCEED, BUT  
DEMOCRATIC REFORM IS NOT A COMMODITY THAT CAN  
BE SECURED WITH LOANS, OR BARTERED FOR WITH  
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GORBACHEV MAY BE HERE TODAY, BUT HE COULD BE  
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-14-

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-15-

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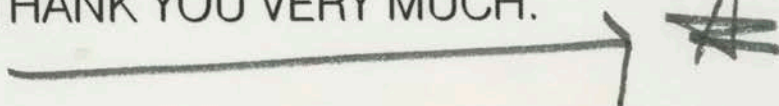
-16-

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH.



## PREVIOUS SHIPS NAMED TOPEKA

Two previous ships of the fleet have been named for TOPEKA, the Capital City of Kansas.

The First TOPEKA (PG 35) was a gunboat built under the name of Diogenes by G. Howaldt of Keil, Germany, in 1881. She was purchased by the U.S. Navy on 2 April 1898 from the Thames Iron Works of London, England and placed in commission the same day. On 15 February 1899, TOPEKA was placed out of commission at the Boston Navy Yard. After 18 months of inactivity, the gunboat was recommissioned at Boston on 15 August 1900. In August 1905 she returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, was placed out of commission in September 1906, and served as a prison and station ship at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. In June 1916 she was towed to New York where she was recommissioned again on 14 July 1916 and assigned duty as receiving ship at New York until again being placed out of commission in September 1916. She was recommissioned for the last time at Boston in March 1919 then placed out of commission on 2 November 1919 and put up for sale. TOPEKA was sold in May 1930 to Union Shipbuilding Company of Baltimore, Maryland.

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## USS TOPEKA (SSN 754) 43rd SHIP OF THE LOS ANGELES CLASS

USS TOPEKA is the fourth ship of the "improved" LOS ANGELES class, the Navy's newest and world's best nuclear-powered attack submarines. These ships are the most advanced undersea vessels of their type in the world. Their missions include locating and destroying surface ships and submarines, reconnaissance, mine planting, and operations with special warfare elements.

This 360 foot, 6900 ton ship is well equipped to accomplish these tasks. Faster than her predecessors and equipped with the highly accurate AN/BSY-1 sonar and weapon control systems, the ship can be armed with sophisticated Mark 48 and ADCAP torpedoes as well as HARPOON anti-ship missiles. TOPEKA can also launch multi-purpose TOMAHAWK cruise missiles from vertical tubes located in the bow or from her torpedo tubes. Other significant improvements include: full under-ice operational capability, improved ship quieting, on board over-the-horizon targeting capability, two towed sonar arrays, and retractable bow planes.

### STATISTICAL DATA

EVENT	DATE
KEEL LAID	13 May 1986
INITIAL MANNING	12 December 1986
LAUNCHED	23 January 1988
COMMISSIONED	
SPONSOR	Honorable Elizabeth Hanford Dole
DISPLACEMENT	Surfaced 6127 Tons Submerged 6904 Tons
LENGTH	362 Feet
HULL DIAMETER	38 Feet
MAXIMUM DEPTH	In excess of 400 Feet
MAXIMUM SPEED	In excess of 20 Knots (1 Nautical mile = 1.14 statute miles)
ARMAMENT	Four 21 inch torpedo tubes (torpedoes, missiles) Twelve Vertical Launch Missile Tubes (missiles)
COMPLEMENT	Officers 14 Chief Petty Officers 17 E-6 and Below 103 Total 134



Military Units have historically employed emblems as a means of organizational identification. Designed during the new construction period, the chosen insignia becomes an integral part of the ship's ongoing history. Closely associated with the crew and its reputation, the emblem is proudly displayed on a wide variety of official documents and memorabilia.

USS TOPEKA (SSN 754) has selected the emblem illustrated on the front cover as its official INSIGNIA. Symbolism chosen for the crest includes:

The Capital Building Dome is the predominant landmark in Topeka, the center of Kansas state government and a local symbol of democracy. The Red Tailed Hawk is commonly found around Topeka and represents the spirit of freedom which confronted the city's founding fathers during early settling and the Civil War. The hawk is a silent, swift and fierce hunter as is USS TOPEKA (SSN 754). The arrows represent a tribute to the Caw Indians who originally inhabited the area. They also illustrate Topeka's willingness to use force when necessary to defend herself, "the heartland" and the nation in times of war or peace. The wheat stalks are symbolic of the region's strong agricultural base, and combined with the arrows, represent the fact that the Caw Indians were basically hunters and farmers. The five stars represent the City's founding fathers, similar to those depicted on the center band of the official city crest. The submarine is of the improved 688 design and depicts the two most prominent visible features which set it apart from many of her predecessors, vertical launch missile tube hatches and bow planes. The nuclear symbol represents the ship's nuclear propulsion capability with the three orbiting electrons symbolic of SSN 754 being the third United States Ship to proudly bear the name TOPEKA. The green and gold come from the predominant colors of the city flag and crest while the light blue is the natural background color for the media in which the hawk and submarine exist.

## THE CITY OF TOPEKA



Indian agricultural community. A primary river crossing point for settlers headed west on the Oregon Trail. A major railroad center.

Topeka, the capital of Kansas, has played all of these roles, thanks to the pioneering spirit of its residents and its strategic location on the banks of the Kansas River.

They were roles that paved the way for the Topeka of today — a thriving retail, financial and industrial center of 121,000 people. Several Fortune 500 companies call Topeka home and some 13 insurance companies are headquartered there.

It also ranks high in medical services. The Menninger Foundation, world-renowned center for psychiatric treatment, education and research is there along with six hospitals that include three medical centers.

And Topeka has more than a passing acquaintance with the military. The former Forbes Air Force Base serves as headquarters for the 190th Kansas Air National Guard Refueling Squadron and as a Strategic Air Command refueling stop.

However, as in most capital cities, the business of government occupies the largest number of those in the workforce.

Today's Topeka, in fact, would probably astound the nine men who met on December 5, 1854 on the banks of the Kansas River to draw up an agreement which later became the basis for the Topeka Association. That organization was mainly responsible for the establishment and early growth of the city. And when Kansas became the 34th state seven years later, Topeka (an Indian word meaning "A good place to dig potatoes") was chosen as the capital.

It's a capital that has made education a hallmark over the years. The city has one of the few remaining municipal universities in the country — Washburn University, which, in addition to undergraduate and graduate programs, offers a law school as well. In addition, the Kaw Area Vocational Technical School, two nursing schools and other training schools provide opportunities for those seeking specific skills.

Cultural activities abound in Topeka. The Topeka Symphony Orchestra and the City's Community Center Association sponsor concerts from October through April. The Topeka Fine Arts Society presents programs of chamber music and a Jazz Workshop provides concerts for jazz buffs. Topekans enjoy the internationally recognized Topeka Civic Theatre, the Washburn University Players and the Showcase Dinner Theatre.



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

7 August 1989

The Honorable Robert Dole  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

697 7491

Dear Senator Dole:

The fast attack submarine TOPEKA (SSN 754)  
is scheduled to be commissioned on a date yet to  
be determined during October 1989 at Electric Boat  
Division in Groton, Connecticut. As you know,  
your lovely wife is the ship's sponsor. A

It is my pleasure to invite you to serve as  
the principal speaker at the commissioning ceremony.  
It should be a memorable occasion, and your  
participation would certainly make the event more  
special for all those associated with it.

Sincerely,

  
H. Lawrence Garrett, III

8-11-89 Interim letter

Shadow box  
at reception

COMMISSIONING OF TOPEKA  
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT  
SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 1989

TIME: 9:30 - 12:45 REMARKS: 5 MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: 1,000

ATTIRE: Business

LOCATION: US Sub Base  
Groton, CT

TEL: 203/449-4343

INTRODUCTION:

FACILITY: Carpeted platform built on top of Topeka itself  
with free standing podium and mike

PRESS: OPEN

PLATFORM:

CONTACT: Kenneth Lombart

TEL: 203/449-4343

FORMAT:

9:30 Secretary arrives  
9:30 - 11:00 Briefing for platform guests and  
photo opportunity  
11:00 Ceremony begins  
11:05 Invocation  
11:10 Welcome  
11:15 Remarks from ship builder  
11:20 Remarks from Mayor of Topeka  
11:30 Actual Commissioning with control of ship  
being turned over to Commander  
11:35 Remarks from Secretary  
11:40 Key note speaker — Senator Dole  
11:55 Benediction  
12:00 Ceremony concludes

*seating arr.*

*Platform on ship, pod/mike*

*Guest seated on pair*

OCTOBER 10, 1989

TO: SENATOR DOLE  
FROM: MO  
RE: COMMISSIONING OF THE TOPEKA - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Mayor Felker and his wife, Paula, will be attending the commissioning of the Topeka as well as 50 other people from Topeka,KS. They are compiling the attendance list now and will have it completed by the end of the week. They are unsure whether Senator Kassebaum will attend but have confirmed that Congressman Slattery will be there. Also, there will be 4 news media from Topeka,KS to cover the event. They would still like for you to be the keynote speaker and have scheduled your remarks for 11:40am. Attached is a copy of Mrs. Dole's schedule. She will go up Friday afternoon and attend the reception and dinner that evening. Saturday she will attend the commissioning and the reception following. She will depart for Washington,DC at 1:15pm on a Navy Aircraft. During the commissioning ceremony she is to make brief remarks at 11:35am.

News from Senator

# BOB DOLE



(R - Kansas)

SH 141 Hart Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OCTOBER 21, 1989

CONTACT: WALT RIKER  
(202) 224-5358

COMMISSIONING OF THE U.S.S. TOPEKA  
REMARKS OF SENATOR BOB DOLE  
OCTOBER 21, 1989  
GROTON, CONNECTICUT

THE LAST TIME ELIZABETH AND I HELPED LAUNCH SOMETHING, IT WAS A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. WE GAVE IT A GOOD SHOT, BUT I HOPE THIS SUB GETS A LOT FURTHER THAN WE DID. IN FACT, WE COULD HAVE USED THE "TOPEKA" IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

ALTHOUGH I GREW UP IN A SMALL TOWN IN CENTRAL KANSAS, I DID SPEND SOME OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT YEARS OF MY LIFE IN TOPEKA. IT IS WHERE I STARTED PUTTING MY LIFE TOGETHER AFTER WORLD WAR TWO AND FIVE YEARS IN ARMY HOSPITALS.

IT IS WHERE I EARNED MY LAW DEGREE, AND WHERE I FIRST SERVED AS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL. THE YEAR WAS 1950, AND I WAS A 27-YEAR OLD LAW STUDENT GOING BACK TO SCHOOL ON THE G.I. BILL. FOR SOME REASON, MY NEIGHBORS BACK IN RUSSELL ELECTED ME TO THE KANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SO I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE TODAY, TO HELP LAUNCH THE NUCLEAR ATTACK SUBMARINE THAT WILL CARRY KANSAS PRIDE TO THE SEVEN SEAS. THE U.S.S. TOPEKA IS A SYMBOL OF THE SUCCESS OF U.S. DEFENSE POLICY OVER THE PAST DECADE.

AS WE BEGAN THE 1990s, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TOLD US LOUD AND CLEAR THAT THEY WANTED A STRONGER AMERICA. THEY ALSO WANTED AN AMERICA RESPECTED AT HOME AND ABROAD. AND THEY PUT RONALD REAGAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND GAVE THE U.S. SENATE A REPUBLICAN MAJORITY TO GET THE JOB DONE.

IN A FEW MONTHS THIS DECADE WILL COME TO A CLOSE. AS WE LOOK BACK, IT IS CLEAR THAT TOGETHER WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE: AMERICA IS STRONGER, AND WE HAVE WON BACK THE RESPECT WE LOST DURING THE 1970s.

THIS SUCCESS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED WITHOUT LEADERSHIP AND VISION; COMMITMENT AND SACRIFICE.

LET'S FACE IT, BUILDING A STRONG DEFENSE DID NOT COME CHEAP. THERE WERE NO EASY FIXES. BUT, THANKS TO AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY, AMERICAN INDUSTRY, AND THE AMERICAN TAXPAYER, WE MODERNIZED AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES.

WE GAVE OUR MEN AND WOMEN THE VERY BEST EQUIPMENT, ACROSS THE BOARD -- WE BUILT THE FINEST TANKS, PLANES AND SHIPS. NO DOUBT ABOUT IF, WE HAD PLENTY OF CATCHING UP TO DO --BUT WE GOT THERE, THANKS TO SHIPS SUCH AS THE TOPEKA.

WE CAN BE PROUD OF WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE 1980s, BUT IS IT ENOUGH TO REST ON OUR SUCCESS?

(MORE)

-2-

I BELIEVE THAT TO DO SO WOULD RISK ALL WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN THE PAST. EVEN WORSE, IT WOULD RISK OUR FUTURE, TOO.

IN MY VIEW, THE DEFENSE CHALLENGE FOR THE 1990s IS TWOFOLD:

- (1) TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FUNDING TO MAINTAIN A STRONG AND CREDIBLE DEFENSE, AND
- (2) TO BE READY AND WILLING TO USE OUR DEFENSE MUSCLE TO PROTECT U.S. INTERESTS ANYTIME, ANYWHERE.

I SHUDDER TO THINK WHERE WE WOULD BE RIGHT NOW IF WE HADN'T RELOADED, ESPECIALLY WHEN AMERICA HAD TO ASSERT ITSELF IN THE PERSIAN GULF; TO RESCUE AMERICANS AT RISK IN GRENADA; AND TO STRIKE BACK AT TERRORIST CRAZIES LIKE KHADDAFI.

HOWEVER, SOME FOLKS SAY WE NO LONGER NEED TO WORRY ABOUT DEFENSE -- THAT THE COMMUNIST WORLD IS CRUMBLING; WE CAN WORK WITH GORBACHEV; AND WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT COLD WAR ANXIETIES ANYMORE.

WELL, THIS IS ONE SENATOR WHO ISN'T ABOUT TO DROP HIS GUARD.

YES, I BELIEVE WE ARE WITNESSES TO HISTORIC CHANGES AROUND THE WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN EASTERN EUROPE AND THE SOVIET UNION.

I VISITED POLAND THIS SUMMER. NOWHERE IS THE BANKRUPTCY OF MARXIST-LENINIST IDEOLOGY MORE EVIDENT. AND, DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, WE HAVE WATCHED THOUSANDS OF EAST GERMANS LEAVE THEIR HOMELAND, THEIR JOBS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO TASTE FREEDOM IN THE WEST.

HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THESE DRAMATIC CHANGES? SOME OFFER ANSWERS IN ONE WORD--"GORBACHEV."

CERTAINLY GORBACHEV IS UNLIKE ANY OF HIS PREDECESSORS. BUT, IS IT WISE FOR THE UNITED STATES TO BASE ITS DEFENSE POLICIES AND PLANS ON OUR VIEW OF ONE MAN'S INTENTIONS?

NO. RATHER, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN AMERICA'S BEST INTEREST TO RESPOND WITH CAUTION -- WE NEED TO WAIT TO SEE WHETHER GORBACHEV'S REFORMS IN THE SOVIET UNION ARE REAL AND PERMANENT.

WE WANT GORBACHEV TO SUCCEED, BUT DEMOCRATIC REFORM IS NOT A COMMODITY THAT CAN BE SECURED WITH LOANS OR BARTERED FOR WITH ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY. AND, THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES THAT CHANGES UNDER THE HEADING OF "REFORM" ARE PERMANENT -- AS WE REALIZED WHEN WE WITNESSED THE TRAGEDY IN TIANANMEN SQUARE. GORBACHEV MAY BE HERE TODAY, BUT HE COULD BE GONE TOMORROW.

THAT'S WHY THE UNITED STATES NEEDS TO STAY THE COURSE SET DURING THIS DECADE; WE NEED TO STAY STRONG, STAY TOUGH, AND STAY-- AS LONG AS IT TAKES TO KEEP DEMOCRACY ON THE MARCH.

KEEP IN MIND, DESPITE GLASNOST AND PERESTROIKA, SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING HAS INCREASED AN AVERAGE OF 3 PERCENT IN REAL TERMS SINCE 1985. DURING THAT SAME TIME PERIOD U.S. DEFENSE SPENDING HAS DECLINED BY MORE THAN 11 PERCENT IN REAL TERMS.

SO WE MUST CONTINUE TO CHALLENGE THE SOVIETS TO REFORM--PERMANENTLY.

REAL REFORM DOES NOT REST ON U.S. TECHNOLOGY OR UNILATERAL ARMS CONTROL; AND REAL REFORM CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT A COMMITMENT TO CHANGE THE SOVIET ECONOMY FROM ONE THAT SERVES THE MILITARY AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY, TO ONE THAT SERVES THE PEOPLE OF THE SOVIET UNION.

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BOB DOLE  
KANSAS

# United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE REPUBLICAN LEADER  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7020

Jayle  
You may want to  
fill this  
Jahle

## PREVIOUS SHIPS NAMED TOPEKA

Two previous ships of the fleet have been named for TOPEKA, the Capital City of Kansas.

The First TOPEKA (PG 35) was a gunboat built under the name of Diogenes by C. Howaldt of Keil, Germany, in 1881. She was purchased by the U.S. Navy on 2 April 1898 from the Thames Iron Works of London, England and placed in commission the same day. On 15 February 1899, TOPEKA was placed out of commission at the Boston Navy Yard. After 18 months of inactivity, the gunboat was recommissioned at Boston on 15 August 1900. In August 1905 she returned to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, was placed out of commission in September 1906, and served as a prison and station ship at the Portsmouth Navy Yard. In June 1916 she was towed to New York where she was recommissioned again on 14 July 1916 and assigned duty as receiving ship at New York until again being placed out of commission in September 1916. She was recommissioned for the last time at Boston in March 1919 then placed out of commission on 2 November 1919 and put up for sale. TOPEKA was sold in May 1920 to Union Shipbuilding Company of Baltimore, Maryland.

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10. 17. 89 11:31AM \* LABOR SECRETARY DOLE

# USS TOPEKA (SSN 754) 43rd SHIP OF THE LOS ANGELES CLASS

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SPONSOR	Honorable Elizabeth Hanford Dole
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HULL DIAMETER	33 Feet
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ARMAMENT	Four 21 inch torpedo tubes (torpedoes, missiles) Twelve Vertical Launch Missile Tubes (missiles)
COMPLEMENT	Officers 14 Chief Petty Officers 17 E-6 and Below 103 Total 134

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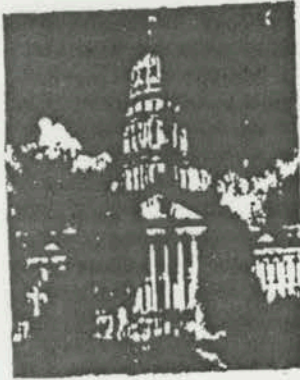


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THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

7 August 1989

The Honorable Robert Dole  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

697 7491

Dear Senator Dole:

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is scheduled to be commissioned on a date yet to  
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It is my pleasure to invite you to serve as  
the principal speaker at the commissioning ceremony.  
It should be a memorable occasion, and your  
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Sincerely,

H. Lawrence Garrett, III

to let a delegation (a submarine tender  
Oct 21 - 22 commissioning with Capt. Brian  
New York box 4.  
for being a ship sponsor  
Dinner  
Oct 20 - 21 Dinner & speech at 11:00 AM  
at the ship

8-11-89 Interim letter

Shadow box  
at reception

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NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT  
SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 1989

TIME: 9:30 - 12:45 REMARKS: 5 MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: 1,000

ATTIRE: Business

LOCATION: US Sub Base TEL: 203/449-4343  
Groton, CT

INTRODUCTION:

FACILITY: Carpeted platform built on top of Topeka itself  
with free standing podium and mike

PRESS: OPEN

PLATFORM:

CONTACT: Kenneth Lombart TEL: 203/449-4343

FORMAT: 9:30 Secretary arrives  
9:30 - 11:00 Briefing for platform guests and  
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11:00 Ceremony begins  
11:05 Invocation  
11:10 Welcome  
11:15 Remarks from ship builder  
11:20 Remarks from Mayor of Topeka  
11:30 Actual Commissioning with control of ship  
being turned over to Commander  
11:35 Remarks from Secretary  
11:40 Key note speaker — Senator Dole  
11:55 Benediction  
12:00 Ceremony concludes

*seating arr.*  
*Platform on ship, pod/mike*  
*Guest seated on pier*

OCTOBER 10, 1989

TO: SENATOR DOLE  
FROM: MO  
RE: COMMISSIONING OF THE TOPEKA - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Mayor Felker and his wife, Paula, will be attending the commissioning of the Topeka as well as 50 other people from Topeka, KS. They are compiling the attendance list now and will have it completed by the end of the week. They are unsure whether Senator Kassebaum will attend but have confirmed that Congressman Slattery will be there. Also, there will be 4 news media from Topeka, KS to cover the event. They would still like for you to be the keynote speaker and have scheduled your remarks for 11:40am. Attached is a copy of Mrs. Dole's schedule. She will go up Friday afternoon and attend the reception and dinner that evening. Saturday she will attend the commissioning and the reception following. She will depart for Washington, DC at 1:15pm on a Navy Aircraft. During the commissioning ceremony she is to make brief remarks at 11:35am.

Walt & Ry/

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9 AP 10-20-89 02:36 EDT

50 LINES

PM-Topeka Repairs, 440<

Navy Says it Will Cost \$400,000 to Repair Topeka Submarine<

GROTON, Conn. (AP) It will cost about \$400,000 to repair the two cracks found on the underside of the nuclear-powered submarine Topeka, a Navy official said.

Lt. Gregory Smith, a Navy spokesman, said the total cost of the Topeka contract will not be determined until the three subs awarded under it are completed.

"The impact of any one element as the sub goes through its life-cycle is indeterminable until the contract is complete, and each individual overrun will be broken out then," Smith said.

The cracks, found earlier this year by a supervisor on the underside of the fast attack submarines's pressure hull near the nuclear reactor, resulted from an improper weld repair by a subcontractor in a single batch of plates, Navy officials said. The cost for repairs was originally estimated at close to \$1 million, Navy officials said.

Electric Boat, which was building the submarine, initially described the damage as serious, but later downgraded its significance.

A five-foot square section of the steel plate was removed and replaced, but Electric Boat was forced to conduct an extensive inspection of the Trident submarine Pennsylvania to determine whether any faulty steel from the same shipment had been used on it. No flaws were found on the Pennsylvania, which was commissioned in September.

The steel was manufactured at a now-closed division of Armco Inc. in Houston. Armco has corporate offices in Parsippany, N.J.

Navy officials said the contract for the Topeka calls for a 50-50 split in overrun costs. The 50-50 agreement, reached in March 1988, covers overruns caused by construction delays resulting from extensive modifications the Navy required on the subs.

The crack repair costs will add further to the already elevated price for the Topeka because it is one of 23 688s for which the Navy agreed to pay \$1.3 billion to cover cost overruns.

The overrun cost of the Topeka paid by the government in 1988 was approximately \$45 million, or 5.9 percent of the original contract cost. The Navy also paid overrun costs for 10 other fast attack submarines under construction at Electric Boat and for 12 being built by Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock in Newport News, Va.

With the total added cost, the Navy will pay about \$803 million for the Topeka.

The Topeka is the third of the new "improved 688s," which carry the sonar and combat control system, retractable bow planes and a hardened sail to break through when surfacing during Arctic operations.

The Navy will commission the Topeka, the 25th ship in the 688 class to be built at Electric Boat, in ceremonies Saturday at the Submarine Base.

→ It's probably good not to refer extensively to the Topeka in the speech - Mine.

SECRETARY ELIZABETH DOLE  
DRAFT REMARKS  
COMMISSIONING OF USS TOPEKA  
OCTOBER 21, 1989  
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

Thank you, Commander Reichert, for that gracious introduction.

It is a special privilege to be able to come aboard the USS Topeka once again.

Twenty-one months ago, I had the honor of christening this ship--when I struck a champagne bottle against this hull--and thoroughly drenched everyone who was standing nearby.

Since that time, much work has been done on this submarine, and sea trials have tested each member of her crew. Today, the Topeka is fully equipped, her crew fully trained, and we return to send them on their mission.

Much has changed in the world since January of 1988. Nations are learning that barbed wire can no longer hold back the hopes and dreams of their people. From Europe to the Far East, from Africa to the Americas, the world is being swept by powerful forces for democratic change--forces fueled by common men and women who are giving their time, their efforts, and their lives, in struggles to bring basic human rights to their homelands.

Yes, much has changed since we met here last, but, one fact has endured.

America is at peace.

Over the past years, President Reagan and President Bush have been very successful in improving relations with the Soviet Union. And, indeed, Mr. Gorbachev is a different kind of Soviet leader. One who talks and doesn't threaten. One who speaks of cooperation, not of confrontation.

There are those who think that our new relationship means that submarines like the Topeka are no longer needed. While their intentions are admirable, nothing could be further from the truth.

America is at peace because submarines like the Topeka set to sea, and because outstanding servicemen like those who live and work on the Topeka continue to defend their country.

Friendly words and promises are not enough to guarantee the security of America. Our strength must speak for itself.

A President and a nation can't simply close their eyes, cross their fingers, and hope the world will behave. We must have the weaponry and the will to meet any threats to our people.

Nearly a century ago, our nation elected a President who personified America and her people. Vigorous, courageous, caring, Teddy Roosevelt knew when to speak softly and when to carry a big stick. Despite his occasional bluster, Roosevelt was dedicated to peace. His efforts to end the Russo-Japanese War would win him the gratitude of the world and the Nobel Peace Prize.

Roosevelt knew the relationship between peace and strength. And he knew the importance of the United States Navy.

He said that the navy is "the right arm of the United States and is emphatically the peace maker. Woe to our country if we permit that right arm to become palsied, or even to become flabby and inefficient."

Today, America's right arm has a new muscle. But the Topeka and her crew set to sea not seeking to use that muscle...not looking for a fight. Rather, she sets to sea to preserve the peace. To preserve our rights, our liberties, and our dreams.

The American dream began not far from here in a Philadelphia meeting hall in 1787, where courageous and far-sighted patriots gathered to unite the colonies together in one Constitution.

And our founding fathers had paid a high price to reach this point. Fifty-six of them knowingly risked their lives and

liberty when they signed the Declaration of Independence. And in the struggle that followed, nine were killed in action, five died as prisoners of war, twelve had their homes burned, several lost sons, one man's wife died in prison and seventeen, including Thomas Jefferson, went broke.

The legacy of these men was engraved for the ages by Tom Paine: "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must...undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

This is the legacy carried forward by the USS Topeka. This is the mission on which you set to sea today.

As you undertake this mission, it is important to acknowledge those here who sacrifice more than most for the Topeka's contribution to our national security. You endure long separations without communication, and you do it with a great deal of grace and humor. I salute each of you--the wives, children, parents, loved ones, and friends of those who serve on the Topeka. You are all heroes in my book.

Commander, as is the tradition, it is my privilege to present this Bible to you and the crew of the Topeka. In doing so, I would call your attention to the 107th Psalm: "They that do business in great waters: These see the works of the Lord, and the wonders in the deep."

I hereby place the USS Topeka in commission. God bless and God speed to those who serve aboard her.