

## USS ALBACORE

AGSS-569\*

Portsmouth, New Hampshire



\*AGSS: Auxiliary General Submarine Service

USS ALBACORE holds a place in history as the first Navy-designed vessel with a true underwater hull of cylindrical shape that has become the standard for submarines of today.

Built at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, ALBACORE served from 1953 to 1972 without ever carrying a weapon or going to war. Her motto was *Praenuntius Futuri* (Forerunner of the Future), and her mission was experimental.

Used for testing control systems, dive brakes, sonar equipment, escape mechanisms, and various innovative theories, ALBACORE was truly a laboratory afloat. Her streamlined hull was a triumph, making her the fastest and most maneuverable submarine of the day.

ALBACORE was retired to the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in September 1, 1972. Ten years later, Portsmouth City Councilman Bill Keefe launched an effort to return the submarine to her home port for permanent display.

Two years, reams of paperwork, and hundreds of committee meetings later, ALBACORE was towed to the local shipyard, arriving on April 29, 1984. About a year later, on May 4, 1985, the 1,200-ton submarine was maneuvered through a dismantled railroad bridge and a cut in a four lane roadway toward her final berth. Then, via a system of locks, she was floated into position and, on October 2, 1985, was set on a concrete cradle at the center of Albacore Park.

## MEMBERSHIP

The privileges of membership in Albacore Park include:

- One-year free admission to Albacore Park for member and a guest
- Ten percent discount on gifts in the Visitor Center
- Newsletter of park activities, plans and reports
- Invitations to special events.

\$40 Individual and Guest – Year-round

Name \_\_\_\_\_

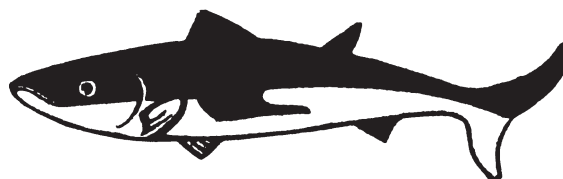
Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Membership forms and checks may be sent to:

Albacore Park 600 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801.

Phone: 603-436-3680



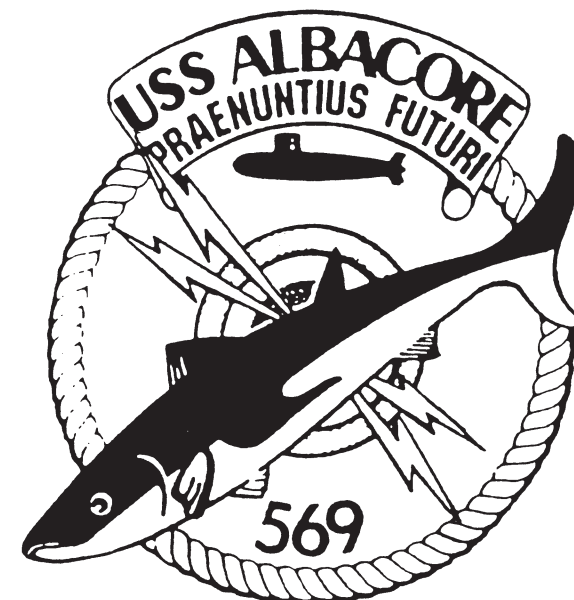
## HERITAGE

The first boat named ALBACORE (SS 218) was a fleet-type attack submarine built by the Electric Boat Company, Groton, Connecticut. Commissioned June 1, 1942, she gained an outstanding war record, sending eight Japanese naval vessels to the bottom.

On November 7, 1944, the submarine hit a mine while running submerged off the northern coast of Japan. There were no survivors. Mrs. J.E. Jowers, the widow of Arthur S. Stanton who was lost in that mishap, was the sponsor at the launching of this ALBACORE (AGSS 569).

**CHILDREN UNDER 18  
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED  
BY AN ADULT AT ALL TIMES.**

## UNITED STATES SHIP ALBACORE (AGSS 569)



## WELCOME ABOARD

1989

National

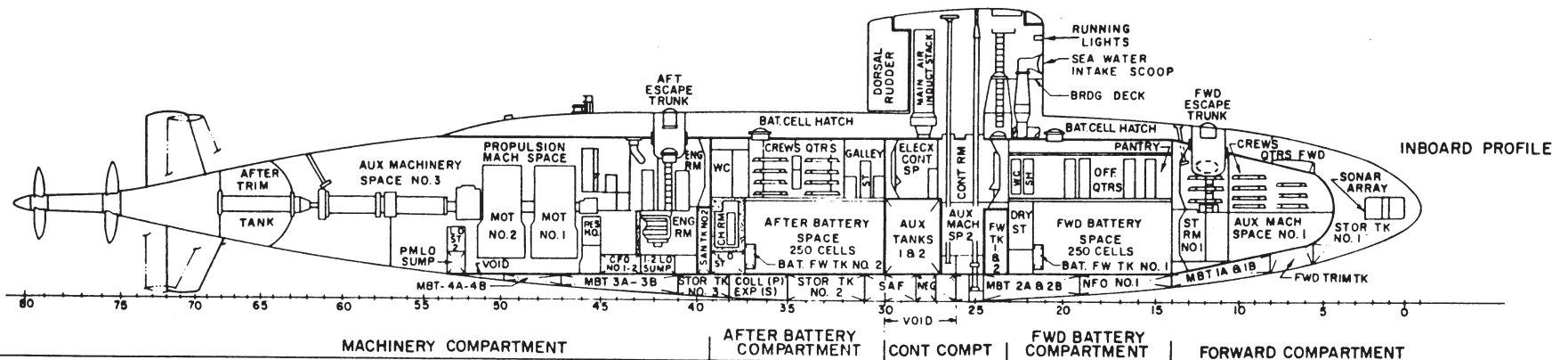
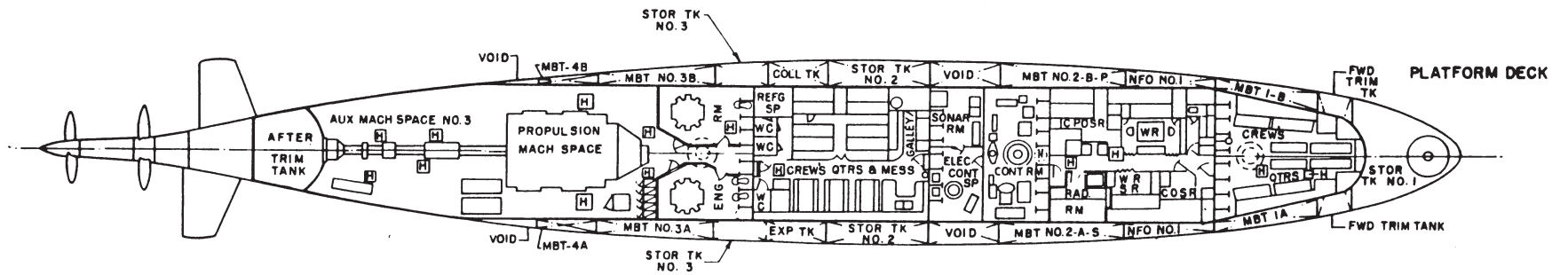
Historic Landmark

2000

Historic Mechanical

Engineering Landmark

Historical Welded Structure

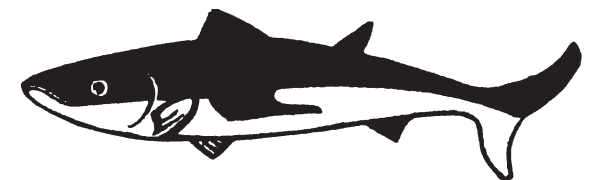


## COMMANDING OFFICERS

LCDR Kenneth C. Gummerson	1953-1955
LCDR Jon L. Boyes	1955-1957
LCDR Lando W. Zech, Jr.	1957-1958
LCDR Robert D. Thompson	1958-1959
LCDR William C. Rae, Jr.	1959-1960
LCDR Wallace A. Greene	1960-1962
LCDR W.P. St. Lawrence, Jr.	1962-1963
CDR Roy M. Springer	1963-1965
CDR J.W. Organ	1965-1967
CDR Roger H. Kattmann	1967-1969
CDR Thomas E. Poole	1969-1971
CDR David A. Kratch	1971-1972

## VITAL STATISTICS

KEEL LAID	15 March 1952
<i>By Thomas J. Gamester, Elmer R. Pruett, Harold L. Robbins</i>	
LAUNCHED	1 August 1953
<i>Sponsor: Mrs. J.E. Jowers</i>	
COMMISSIONED	5 December 1953
DECOMMISSIONED	1 September 1972
LENGTH	205 Feet
BEAM	27 Feet
DISPLACEMENT	1692 tons (surfaced)
MAXIMUM SPEED	in excess of 25 knots
MAXIMUM DEPTH	in excess of 400 feet
PROPULSION	diesel/electric
ARMAMENT	none
COMPLEMENT	5 officers, 50 enlisted



**THE ALBACORE**

The albacore is a small tuna found in warm seas throughout the world. The fish has crescent-shaped tail fins that furnish strong propulsion and speed for swimming. The albacore is distinguished by the great length of the pectoral or side fin which extends nearly half the length of the fish. All the fins of the albacore fit into grooves, making the entire fish almost perfectly streamlined. The albacore is blue above and silvery on its underside and with its streamlined body is able to swim at great speeds. The albacore is a fine game fish with the best sport-fishing grounds found off the southern California coast.