

CHANGE OF COMMAND



USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)

10 MAY 2000

*Naval Submarine Base
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii*



CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

The ceremony you are witnessing today is a part of the rich heritage of Naval tradition. Custom has established that this ceremony be formal and impressive – designed to strengthen that respect for authority vital to any military organization.

Parading all hands at quarters and public reading of official orders stems from those days when movement of mail and persons was a very slow process. This procedure was designed to ensure that only the authorized officer held command and that all aboard were aware of the authenticity of his orders.

The heart of the ceremony is the formal reading of official orders by the relieving officer and the officer being relieved. Command passes upon the utterance by the relieving officer of the words, "I relieve you, sir", and the officer being relieved responding, "I stand relieved".

The change of command is unique in the world today in that it is the transfer of total responsibility, authority and accountability from one individual to another.

The simple ceremony reflects the dedication of free men serving their nation proudly.



Welcome to the

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

at which

*Commander Robert M. Hennegan
United States Navy*

will be relieved by

*Commander Ralph C. Ward
United States Navy*

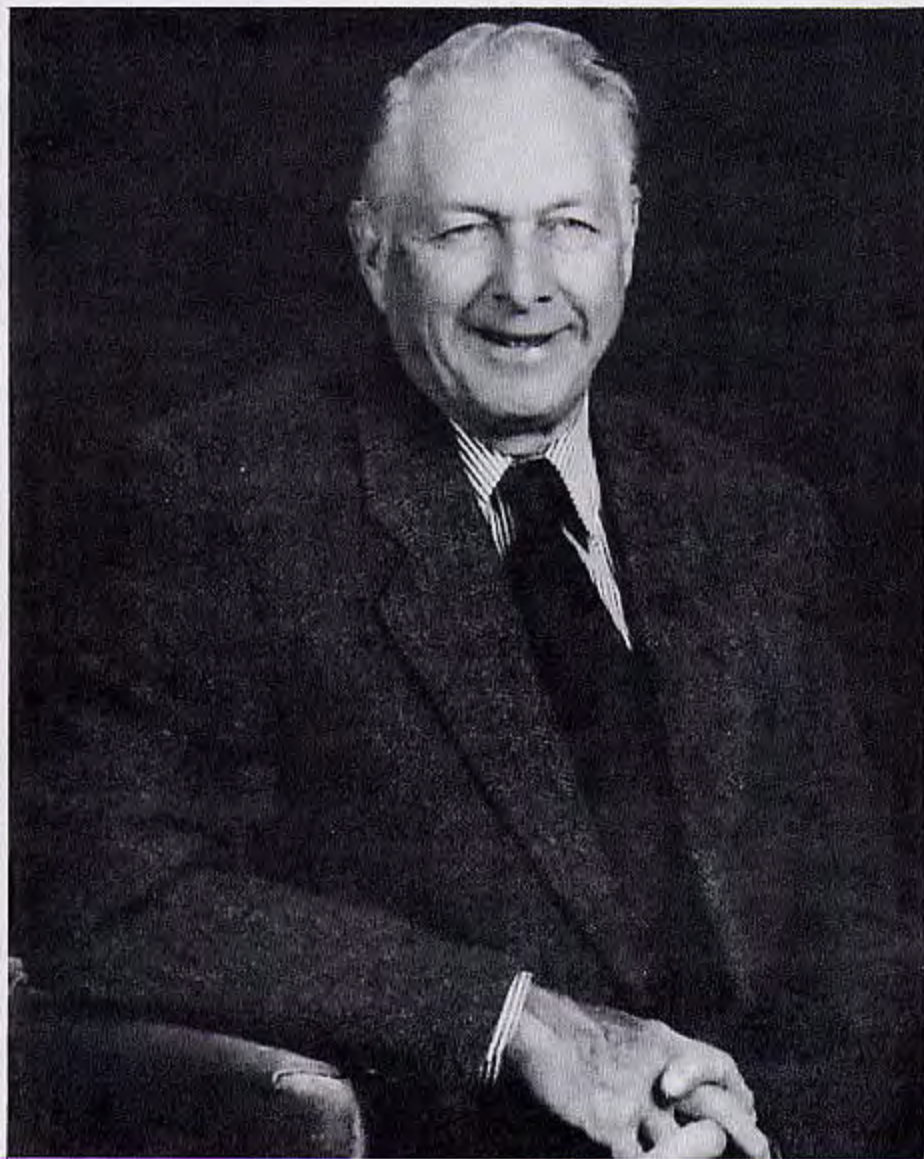
as

*Commanding Officer
USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)*

at

*Naval Submarine Base
Pearl Harbor, Hawaii*

*Ten O' clock
10 May 2000*



**Captain Robert M. Douglass,
United States Navy (Retired)**

CAPTAIN ROBERT M. DOUGLASS

A native of Minnesota, Captain Douglass graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949. He served aboard the USS RUPERTUS (DD 851) in the Pacific during the Korean War. After entering the submarine service, he served on the diesel submarine USS ARGONAUT (SS 475) before entering the Nuclear Power Program in 1956.

In the Nuclear Navy Captain Douglass served on the pre-commissioning crew of USS SARGO (SSN 583) and as Engineer and Executive Officer of USS PATRICK HENRY (SSBN 599). He commanded the USS SARGO (SSN 583) and was commissioning Gold Crew Commanding Officer of USS JAMES K. POLK (SSBN 645). Captain Douglass was awarded the Legion of Merit and the Navy Commendation Medal. The SARGO was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation during his command.

After retiring in 1971, Captain Douglass taught math in the Groton school system.

Captain Douglass resides with his wife, Marilyn, at Groton Long Point, CT. They have two sons and daughters-in-law, and four grandchildren.



Captain David M. McCall
United States Navy
Commander, Submarine Squadron One

CAPTAIN DAVID M. McCALL

Captain David M. McCall, a native of Washington, Iowa, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1975. Following Nuclear Power Training he reported on board USS NARWHAL (SSN 671) in November 1976 where he served as Reactor Controls Assistant, Main Propulsion Assistant and Operations Officer prior to detaching in January 1980.

Following detachment from NARWHAL, he was assigned to the United States Naval Academy as a Company Officer from January 1980 to July 1982. Captain McCall then completed the Submarine Officer Advanced Course (SOAC) at New London, Connecticut and reported as Engineer Officer on board USS SEA DRAGON (SSN 584). After decommissioning SEA DRAGON, he served as Operations Officer and Navigator on USS PARCHE (SSN 683) and in July 1984 reported to the staff of the Director, Strategic Submarine Division (OP-21) in Washington, DC. Captain McCall was then assigned to the USS SAN JUAN (SSN 751) and served as Executive Officer from July 1988 to November 1990.

Following completion of the Prospective Commanding Officer's course, Captain McCall commanded the USS PROVIDENCE (SSN 719) from October 1991 to February 1994. While under his command, PROVIDENCE was awarded the Supply Excellence "Blue E", the Silver Anchor Award, and completed the first 688 Depot Modernization Period in Charleston, SC significantly under budget.

On 23 May 1994 Captain McCall reported as the first Commanding Officer of the USS SEAWOLF (SSN 21) overseeing SEAWOLF's construction, testing and initial at-sea operations. Following his relief in July 1997, he reported to the National War College, obtaining a graduate degree in Foreign Policy and International Security Affairs.

Captain McCall is entitled to wear the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), Navy Unit Commendation (two awards), Meritorious Unit Commendation (three awards) and various other unit and campaign awards.

Captain McCall is married to the former Wendy J. Bicknell of Mystic, Connecticut. They have four children, Ben, Amy, Taylor, and Courtney.



Commander Robert M. Hennegan
United States Navy
Commanding Officer

COMMANDER ROBERT M. HENNEGAN

Commander Robert M. Hennegan, a native of New London, Connecticut, attended the United States Naval Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Ocean Engineering in 1980. Following commissioning, he completed nuclear propulsion training in Orlando, Florida and Windsor, Connecticut before attending Submarine School in New London, Connecticut.

In 1982 Commander Hennegan reported to USS HADDOCK (SSN 621) in San Diego where he served as Main Propulsion Assistant, Damage Control Assistant, and Weapons Officer, completing a Western Pacific deployment and a RIMPAC exercise. From 1985 to 1987, he attended the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a Master of Science Degree in Operations Analysis.

After completing the Submarine Officer Advanced Course, Commander Hennegan served for five patrols as Engineer Officer aboard USS JAMES MADISON (SSBN 627)(BLUE) from 1988 to 1990. He next served as Material Officer on the staff of Submarine Squadron Sixteen from 1991 to 1993, before returning to sea as Executive Officer of USS GRAYLING (SSN 646), where he completed two deployments. Prior to taking command of USS BUFFALO (SSN 715), he served on the staff of Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet as the Force Nuclear Power Officer.

Commander Hennegan took command of USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) in December 1997. Under his command BUFFALO completed highly successful Eastern and Western Pacific deployments and was awarded the Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon and the Submarine Squadron One Battle Efficiency "E" and the Engineering "E" for 1999.

Commander Hennegan's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4 awards), and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Commander Hennegan and his wife Tami have a son, Collin, and two daughters, Jacky and Charlotte.



Commander Ralph C. Ward
United States Navy

COMMANDER RALPH C. WARD

Commander Ward is a native of Los Alamos, New Mexico. He graduated from the United States Naval Academy with distinction in May 1982, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Ocean Engineering.

After completing nuclear power and basic submarine training in April 1984, Commander Ward reported to USS POLLACK (SSN 603) in San Diego. During this tour, he served in a variety of division officer assignments, completed two Western Pacific deployments and earned his submarine gold dolphins.

In July 1987, he was assigned to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Physics. Commander Ward then reported in June 1990 as Engineer Officer of the Pre-commissioning Unit BOISE in Newport News, Virginia. USS BOISE (SSN 764) was commissioned in November 1992.

In July 1993 he was assigned as Material Officer for Submarine Squadron Seventeen in Bangor, Washington. From November 1995 through September 1997 he served as Executive Officer aboard USS HENRY M. JACKSON (SSBN 730) based in Bangor, Washington. Commander Ward then served as Operations Officer on the Pacific Submarine Force Tactical Readiness Evaluation Team between October 1997 and August 1999.

Commander Ward has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal (3 awards), the Navy Achievement Medal (2 awards) and various campaign and unit awards.

He is married to Commander Christina Cummings Ward, USN, of Norwell, Massachusetts. They live with their children, Douglas and Emily, in Kailua, Hawaii.

Change of Command Ceremony



Arrival Honors

National Anthem

Invocation

Guest Speakers

Captain Robert M. Douglass
United States Navy (Retired)

Captain David M. McCall
Commander, Submarine Squadron One

Remarks and Reading of Orders

Commander Robert M. Hennegan

Reading of Orders and Remarks

Commander Ralph C. Ward

Benediction

Departure of Official Party

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715)



CHRONOLOGY OF COMMANDING OFFICERS

CDR G. M. Hewitt	May 82 – May 84
CDR C. T. Berry	May 84 – Jun 87
CDR D. P. Miller	Jun 87 – Nov 89
CDR H. D. Nelson	Nov 89 – Jan 93
CDR R. S. Brown	Jan 93 – Sep 94
CDR J. E. Cohoon	Sep 94 – Dec 97
CDR R. M. Hennegan	Dec 97 – May 00
CDR R. C. Ward	May 00

OFFICERS

LCDR Richard A. Correll
Executive Officer

LCDR Michael I. Katahara
Engineer

LT Jeffrey A. Joseph
Navigator

LT Ronald G. Jacobson
Combat Systems Officer

LT Maurice G. Parets

LTJG John D. Craddock

LTJG Roger L. Koopman

LTJG Christian B. Wunsch

ENS Michael E. Freed

ENS Jason P. Guidry

ENS Timothy P. Schubert

ENS Steven H. Sherwood
Supply Officer



CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

**MMCM(SS) Timothy W. Hibbs
Chief of the Boat**

**EMCM(SS) Bennett R. Ray
Engineering Department Master Chief**

ETC(SS) William F. Adams

ETC(SS/DV) Gary S. Hockett

YNC(SS) Lawrence J. Laskowski

ETCS(SS) Stefan V. Prevot

STSC(SS) Johnnie B. Roshto

ETC(SS) Rocky W. Schoenhals

MMC(SS) Gregory S. Street

MMC(SS) Ronald D. Werner

MMC(SS) Alan D. Wisely

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) CREW

SN(SS) ALEXANDER
MM2(SS) ASHLEY
EM3(SS) ATIENZA
MM3(SS) BARROWCLIFF
EM1(SS) BAYERLEIN
MM1(SS) BECK
MMFN(SS) BERTRAM
MS1(SS) BLANTON
ET3(SS) BLEES
SK1(SS) BOLDEN
MM3(SS) BOWSER
MM2(SS/DV) BOYD
ET3(SS) BREHAUT
MM1(A)(SS) BREWSTER
ET2(SS) BRICK
MM2(SS) BRIGHAM
MM3(SU) CAMP
MM2(SS) CARY
ET2(SS) CASH
MM3(SS) CHRISTENSEN
ET3(SS) CLARK
MM1(SS) COLEY
FT2(SS) COLLINS
FT2(SS) DEAN
STS2(SS) DELANEY
ET2(SS) DELTERIS
STS3(SS) DERRICK
MM3(SS) DIBLER
ET3(SS) DILL
EM2(SS) DUNIGAN
ET3(SS) EASTRIDGE
ET2(SS) EVANS
MS2(SS/SW) FERRER
FT3(SS) FOLLERO
MM2(SS) FUENTES
ET1(SS) GILBERT
EM2(SS) HADLEY
MM2(SS) HENDERSON
ET2(SS) HIGGINBOTHAM
STS1(SS) HILL
ET1(SS) HOUNCHELL
FT3(SS) HOUSTON
MM1(SS) HOUSTON
STSSR(SS) HUFFMAN
MS3(SS) HULTS
MM2(SS) JARBOE
EM2(SS) JENSEN
EM2(SS) JOHNSON
MM1(SS) JOHNSTON
MM3(SU) JORDAN
ET2(SS) KAUFMAN
EM2(SS) KLOIBER
MM3(SS) KOSIEROWSKI
STS2(SS) KOSTENBADER
SR(SU) LARSON

MM3(SU) LAUREN
EM2(SS) LEEK
MM2(SS) LEFRANCOIS
ET1(SS) LEONARD
ET1(SS) MAYERCHAK
MSSR(SU) MCELROY
MM3(SS) MICHAEL
MM1(SS) MILLARD
ET1(SS) MILLER
MM3(SS) MORRIS
HM1(SS) MULLINS
SK3(SS) NELSON
FT3(SS) NELSON
MM3(SU) OFTEDAHL
MMFN(SS) PARIZAL
EM3(SS) PATERSON
ET2(SS) PATRICK
ET3(SS) PEDERSEN
ET1(SS) PENNINGTON
MS3(SS) PHILLIPS
EM1(SS) PICKETT
FT1(SS) QUINN
STS3(SS) QUINN
MM1(SS/SW) RAMIREZ
STS1(SS) RATLIFF
STS1(SS) RICHARD
MS3(SS) ROBENOLT
EM2(SU) ROOFFENER
MM3(SS) ROWLEY
ETSN(SS) RUIZ
FTSN(SS) SAMUEL
ET3(SS) SCHAUMANN
MMFN(SU) SCHIAVONE
ET3(SS) SCHULTZ
ET1(SS) SHELTON
YNSR(SU) SIMMONS
MMFN(SS) SPRAGA
ET2(SS) STACK
MM1(SS) STEETLER
ET2(SS) STREETLY
ET3(SS) STURGE
MS3(SS) SYLVIA
YNSN(SU) THOMPSON
ET2(SS/DV) TREIFINGER
MM3(SU) TWILLA
SK3(SS) UEMURA
ET2(SS) VIETHS
YN2(SS) VILLEGAS
MS1(SS) VYHNANEK
FT3(SS) WAHLERT
STS3(SS) WALKOVIK
STS3(SS) WALLACE
ET3(SU) WATSON
MM3(SS) WHITE
MM2(SS) WILLIAMSON

USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) Statistics

Length:	360 feet
Breadth:	33 feet
Displacement:	6900 tons
Builder:	Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company in Newport News, Virginia.
Keel laid:	25 January 1980
Sponsored by:	Mrs. Jack Kemp
Launched:	8 May 1982
Commissioned:	5 November 1983
Complement:	13 Officers 11 Chief Petty Officers 110 Enlisted Men
Weapons:	ADCAP Torpedo, Tomahawk Missile, Submarine Launched Mobile Mine
Range:	Unlimited
Speed:	Greater than 25 knots
Depth:	Greater than 800 feet

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

Buffalo, a proud city in the western part of the state of New York, is young as compared with other cities in the northeastern United States; although this part of Lake Erie's shoreline was first visited by the French explorer LaSalle in the 17th century, Buffalo remained a small village until it was burned during the War of 1812. By 1825 Buffalo had literally risen from the ashes to become the western terminus for the greatest waterway of its day, the Erie Canal. Buffalo has had close ties to the water throughout its history. Buffalo Creek, Lake Erie, Buffalo Harbor, the Niagara River, and the Erie Canal all influenced the city's development as an international trade center.

The city of Buffalo has much to boast about. Such notable individuals as Millard Fillmore, the thirteenth, and Grover Cleveland, the twenty-second and twenty-fourth presidents of the United States, hailed from Buffalo, New York. Buffalo became the world's first commercially lighted city using power from nearby Niagara Falls. Buffalo remains the second largest urban center in the "Empire State", surpassed only by New York City.

From its beginning Buffalo has been a city in motion, and by striving for a better future it has been a leader and innovator. Among the "firsts" in Buffalo's heritage are the windshield wiper, the grain elevator, parachutes, the cardiac pacemaker, soft contact lenses, the motorcycle, and, of course, "Buffalo Wings". The City of Buffalo has grown from a frontier town to a mature metropolis rich in history and culture.

HISTORY OF THE USS BUFFALO

The United States Navy fast attack submarine USS BUFFALO (SSN 715) is the third United States Navy Ship to bear the proud name of BUFFALO.

The first BUFFALO, a five gun block sloop with a crew of forty-four, served as a patrol vessel and flagship of the Delaware Flotilla during the War of 1812. On the twenty-ninth of July in 1813, while serving as Lieutenant Samuel Angus' flagship, the sloop BUFFALO took part in an attack on the British frigate Junon and British sloop-of-war Martin.

The second BUFFALO was the sixth hull constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding company in 1892 as a commercial vessel. The United States government purchased the ship in 1898, fitted her out as an auxiliary cruiser and commissioned her as the USS BUFFALO. She saw service in the Philippines, Mexico, Nicaragua, and as a part of the China Relief Expedition.

In 1917, the USS BUFFALO transported a special United States diplomatic mission to Russia and upon her return was converted to serve as a destroyer tender. For the remainder of World War I the USS BUFFALO was stationed off the coast of France and Gibraltar serving the fleet in this capacity. After a final tour with the United States Asiatic Fleet in 1921, the USS BUFFALO was decommissioned in 1922.





"He goes a great voyage that goes to the bottom of the sea."

George Herbert

"...the larger and more powerful its mark (target), the better its opportunity."

John P. Holland

Submarine Designer

"The best defense against submarines, is other submarines."

General William "Billy" Mitchell

United States Army

"We shall never forget that it was our submarines that held the lines against the enemy while our fleet replaced losses and repaired wounds."

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

"It was to the Submarine Force that I looked to carry the load...It is to the everlasting honor and glory of our submarine personnel that they never failed us in our days of great peril."

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz

"The U.S. submarines accomplished the No.1 mission of submarining. They sank ships."

Theodore Roscoe

Submarine Operations in WWII

"The nuclear-powered submarine is not just an improved submarine, but a totally different kind of warship."

Admiral Hyman G. Rickover



"The submarine is the weapon of the future...The submarine alone can assure command of the sea."

Admiral Georges Cabanier

"Once one has seen a POLARIS firing, the efficacy of this weapons system as a deterrent is not debatable."

President John F. Kennedy

"...because freedom is still not free...we will always place our faith in our boomers (SSBNs)."

General Colin Powell

"Our attack submarines are the prerequisite to our ability to carry out the strategic vision we call 'Forward...From the Sea.'"

John H. Dalton

Secretary of the Navy

"Over the years, missions for the submarines have evolved probably more than for any other military platform."

Admiral Bruce DeMars

"SUBPAC SSNs are true strategic assets, and I can say confidently that they continue to impress allies with their professionalism and enthusiasm."

Rear Admiral Al Konetzni

"These submariners were ordinary men who displayed valor and courage in extraordinary circumstances."

Admiral Thomas Fargo

"We have always answered the bell, just as we are in all parts of the world today."

Admiral Skip Bowman

"It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; Whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; Who strives valiantly; Who errs and comes short again and again; Who knows great enthusiasms, great devotions, Who spends himself in a worthy cause; Who, at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and Who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

Attributed to Theodore Roosevelt



COMMAND AT SEA

Only a seaman realizes to what extent an entire ship reflects the personality and ability of one individual, her Commanding Officer. To a landsman this is not understandable, and sometimes it is even difficult for us to comprehend – but it is so.

A ship at sea is a distant world in herself and in consideration of the protracted and distant operations of the fleet units the Navy must place great power, responsibility and trust in the hands of those leaders chosen for command.

In each ship there is one man who, in the hour of emergency or peril at sea, can turn to no other man. There is one who alone is ultimately responsible for the safe navigation, engineering performance, accurate gunfiring and morale of his ship. He is the Commanding Officer. He is the ship!

This is the most difficult and demanding assignment in the Navy. There is not an instant during his tour of duty as Commanding Officer that he can escape the grasp of command responsibility. His privileges in view of his obligations are most ludicrously small; nevertheless command is the spur which has given the Navy its great leaders.

It is a duty which most richly deserves the highest, time-honored title of the seafaring world – “Captain”.

- Joseph Conrad -

