



*Commissioning of the U.S.S.*



**Henry Clay**

*February 20, 1964*

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING AND DRY DOCK COMPANY  
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA



COMMISSIONING OF THE  
FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE  
SUBMARINE

Henry Clay

SSB(N)625

February 20, 1964

NEWPORT NEWS SHIPBUILDING AND DRY DOCK COMPANY  
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

2007.03.04.40



MRS. GREEN B. GIBSON

*Sponsor*





THOMAS A. BRYCE  
*Commander, USN*  
Commanding Officer Blue Crew



JOHN C. LEWIS  
*Commander, USN*  
Commanding Officer Gold Crew

## U. S. S. HENRY CLAY SSB(N)625



HENRY CLAY, the seventeenth Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarine to join the active fleet is named for one of America's most famous statesmen and greatest orators. Though unsuccessful in his aspirations for the presidency, HENRY CLAY served his country well for over a quarter of a century as Congressman, Senator, and Secretary of State. The most prominent characteristics of his public life were his passionate patriotic devotion to the Union and his predisposition to "compromises" and "pacifications." He is well known in this regard for his fierce advocacy of the "Missouri Compromise" in 1821 and the "Compromise of 1850."

Despite his middle-of-the-road approach to many public issues, HENRY CLAY pronounced upon himself a just judgment when he wrote: "If anyone desires to know the leading and paramount object of my public life, the preservation of this Union will furnish him the key." This ship takes pride in these words and proudly displays this thought in "PRESERVATIO AB NATIO" on its official emblem.



*HENRY CLAY underway on the surface at full speed during one of her sea trials.*



# COMMISSIONING

ARRIVAL OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY

INVOCATION

Commander Guy M. Leonard, CHC, USN

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUILDER'S REPRESENTATIVE

Captain P. E. Sherenhelm, USN, Supervisor of Shipbuilding

DELIVERY OF THE SHIP

Mr. Donald A. Holden, President of the Newport News  
Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company

ACCEPTANCE OF THE SHIP FOR THE NAVY

Rear Admiral E. B. Taylor, USN, Commandant, Fifth Naval District

COMMISSIONING OF THE SHIP

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Commander Naval Air Force, United States Atlantic Fleet Band

ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND AND SETTING OF THE WATCH

Commander Thomas A. Bryce, USN





NG PROGRAM



BREAKING OF PERSONAL FLAG OF THE COMMANDER  
SUBMARINE FORCE, U.S. ATLANTIC FLEET

Vice Admiral Elton W. Grenfell, USN

ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND OF THE GOLD CREW

Commander John C. Lewis, USN

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

Vice Admiral Elton W. Grenfell, USN, Commander Submarine  
Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

ADDRESS

Vice Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., USN, Commander Amphibious  
Forces, U.S. Atlantic Fleet

INTRODUCTION OF OFFICIAL PARTY

BENEDICTION

Commander Guy M. Leonard, CHC, USN

DEPARTURE OF THE OFFICIAL PARTY



## OFFICERS

COMMANDER T. A. BRYCE, USN  
Commanding Officer Blue Crew

COMMANDER J. C. LEWIS, USN  
Commanding Officer Gold Crew

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R. N. WILLIAMS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER BLUE

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER H. A. BINTON  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOLD

LT O. V. SHEARER, JR.

NAVIGATOR

LCDR T. J. KEEFE, JR.

LCDR A. R. BARKE

WEAPONS OFFICER

LT C. K. STONEBACK

LT T. M. HOPPER

ENGINEER

LT T. B. HUDGINS

LCDR J. D. LEONARD, JR.

ASSISTANT WEAPONS OFFICER

LT W. A. BOORIAKIN

LT J. H. SIMPSON

COMMUNICATOR

LT J. C. BUCHANAN

LT A. B. CUTTER

MAIN PROPULSION ASSISTANT

LT D. N. KOLARAS

LT B. C. FELT

ELECTRICAL REACTOR

LTJG J. F. GROTH

LTJG G. H. MENSCH

DAMAGE CONTROL

LTJG A. E. WEGNER

LTJG P. N. LARSON (SC)

SUPPLY

LTJG B. L. HARTLEROAD

LT B. HOKE (MC)

MEDICAL

LTJG C. H. SAARI

ASSISTANT A DIVISION OFFICER

## CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS

JOHN E. SASSE, SOC(SS)  
CHIEF OF THE BOAT BLUE

VICTOR G. CHURCH, EMCS(SS)  
CHIEF OF THE BOAT GOLD

Burnell C. Berg, YNCA(SS)

Richard S. Crittenden, EMCA(SS)

John L. Goode, ENCA(SS)

Harold J. Hubble, EMCS(SS)

William B. Hughes, CSC(SS)

Patrick J. Hurtt, Jr., TMCA(SS)

Charles C. Jones, Jr., ENCA(SS)

Wesley L. Keat, MTCA(SS)

Richard A. Lavoie, RMC(SS)

Richard F. Lenz, ENCA(SS)

Barney W. Manning, ETCA(SS)

William K. Munn, ENCS(SS)

Bernard R. Penick, ETCA(SU)

Robert F. Rhone, QMC(SS)

Alonzo H. Smith, Jr., ENCA(SS)

William W. Smith, TMCA(SS)

James E. Timperlake, Jr., RDC(SS)

Lawrence W. Whitaker, MTCA(SS)

Eugene Wilder, MMCA(SS)

Simeon Aragoza, SDCA(SS)

George W. Bishop, YNC(SS)

Alfred J. Burrill, Jr., TMC(SS)

Harold W. Dugan, ETCA(SS)

Bobby L. Early, RMCA(SS)

Edward F. Gallant, Jr., SOCS(SS)

Franklin D. Harvey, MMCA(SS)

Kenneth R. Hoover, ENCA(SS)

Carl W. Jones, MMC(SU)

Frank J. Maley, QMCA(SS)

Ronald S. McCormick, ETCA(SS)

Joseph M. Mullen, SKCA(SS)

Charles R. Norton, ETCA(SS)

Claude Palmer, Jr., CSC(SS)

Richard "H" Pickering, MTCA(SS)

Marshall D. Smith, FTCM(SS)

John L. Strait, ENCA(SS)

## ENLISTED PERSONNEL

### BLUE

Michael H. Bailey, EN1(SS)  
 John R. Baker, EN2(SS)  
 John T. Barleman, TMSN(SU)  
 Francis T. Bauman, Jr., EN2(SU)  
 Julian D. Beavers, MM3(SU)  
 William A. Benadom, Jr., MT2(SS)  
 Harold W. Bond, FTM2(SS)  
 Bryce E. Boughton, ETR3(SS)  
 Joe L. Brackney, IC1(SS)  
 Frank C. Buchanan, EN1(SS)  
 Richard J. Bunger, TM2(SS)  
 Thomas L. Burnett, Jr., TM2(SS)  
 Gary K. Buster, ETR2(SS)  
 Gary D. Caster, ETR2(SS)  
 Paul J. Charbonneau, CS1(SS)  
 Chisolm T. Colt, MM1(SS)  
 Norman B. Conley, CS2(SS)  
 Paul D. Cook, MT2(SS)  
 Donald F. Covill, FTM1(SU)  
 George W. Curran, Jr., SN(SU)  
 Dennis A. Danforth, IC3(SS)  
 Keith F. David, CS3(SS)  
 Peter R. Davio, MT3(SU)  
 Louis A. Davis, RM3(SU)  
 Wendell K. Dedmon, SOS2(SS)  
 Hubert C. Dietrich, SN(SU)  
 William D. Edwards, Jr., ET1(SS)  
 Ross G. Englert, EN2(SS)  
 Charles H. Everett, Jr., FTM3(SU)  
 Michael Fallatt, SO1(SS)  
 Harold R. Garland, EN1(SS)  
 James D. Gibson, ETR2(SS)  
 Mauricio Gil, SD1(SS)  
 Robert W. Govern, MT2(SU)

William E. Hall, Jr., RMSN(SU)  
 James W. Harriman, II, MT2(SU)  
 Herman L. Harris, FTM1(SU)  
 William T. Hatten, FTMSN(SU)  
 William J. Hellrung, MT3(SU)  
 Albert E. Holden, QM3(SU)  
 Shepard F. Hollinger, Jr., FN(SU)  
 Reed D. Holt, Jr., MM2(SS)  
 James M. Hoover, RM2(SU)  
 John C. Houston, ETR2(SS)  
 Nicholas J. Hutsko, MM3(SU)  
 David M. Jackson, MM2(SS)  
 Richard T. Jenkins, EN3(SS)  
 Weldon H. Jennings, MT3(SU)  
 James Johnson, SN(SU)  
 Rufus C. Keith, FTG1(SS)  
 Charles D. Kelley, II, IC2(SU)  
 James R. Kingston, Jr., HM1(SS)  
 Milton D. LeFevre, SO1(SS)  
 Thomas H. Leslie, ETRSN(SU)  
 Robert L. Logsdon, ETN2(SS)  
 Jolly W. Matthews, III, ETR2(SS)  
 Robert H. McAultry, EM1(SS)  
 Eldon K. McGuire, MM2(SS)  
 Jeff C. McNeil, III, RM2(SU)  
 James N. Meek, SK2(SS)  
 Guy G. Miller, III, EN2(SS)  
 Fredricke M. Morris, ETR3(SU)  
 Marvin R. Morris, FN(SU)  
 Larry P. Mounts, IC2(SS)  
 Ronald J. Newton, ETR3(SS)  
 Donald C. Noel, QM2(SS)  
 Leonard R. Norris, SOS3(SS)  
 Robert C. Osborn, SKSN(SU)

Charles E. Patch, II, IC2(SS)  
 Danny L. Patterson, TN(SS)  
 Willard B. Paul, FTG1(SS)  
 Randy J. Phillips, SN(SU)  
 Robert J. Porchik, MM2(SS)  
 Jack S. Posey, QM1(SS)  
 Richard E. Rigdon, RM1(SS)  
 James W. Sanchez, ETR2(SU)  
 John D. Scott, MT3(SU)  
 David L. Secl, ETN2(SS)  
 Billy J. Shepherd, EM1(SS)  
 Rolle E. Stone, III, ETR2(SS)  
 James L. Stroud, TM2(SS)  
 Richard D. Stump, MM2(SS)  
 Arthur H. Summers, IC2(SS)  
 George B. Tallman, MM1(SS)  
 Franklin B. Tapley, EM1(SS)  
 Robert S. Taylor, SO1(SS)  
 Dennis B. Templeman, FTMSN(SU)  
 James D. Trumble, IC2(SS)  
 Robert J. Vander Grift, MM3(SS)  
 Edgar Waddell, SD1(SS)  
 Clive E. Waite, TM1(SS)  
 Ruble L. Walls, Jr., FN(SU)  
 Charles L. Wasden, SOSSN(SU)  
 Gordon M. White, TM1(SS)  
 John W. F. Wiens, Jr., EM2(SS)  
 John A. Williams, Jr., YN3(SU)  
 Frederick N. Wilson, SN(SU)  
 John D. Woods, EN1(SS)  
 Robert B. Wright, TM1(SS)  
 John B. Wyatt, SN(SU)  
 Franklin D. R. Wyrick, EN1(SS)  
 Newt W. Young, EM1(SU)

## ENLISTED PERSONNEL

## GOLD

David A. Adams, IC2(SS)  
 John A. Albers, Jr., EM2(SS)  
 William L. Ament, Jr., EN1(SS)  
 John C. Anderson, MT2(SU)  
 Charles E. Balkcom, TM1(SS)  
 Ward M. Bromaghin, ETR2(SU)  
 Nicholas M. Broussard, ETR2(SS)  
 Bruce T. Clarke, FTM3(SU)  
 Richard C. Compton, FTG1(SS)  
 Howard R. Crist, TM3(SU)  
 Lyle G. Dallman, MM3(SS)  
 James L. Darrohn, ETR3(SU)  
 Augusta Dickens, SD2(SS)  
 William M. Donahey, MM1(SS)  
 James C. Dozier, Jr., ETR3(SS)  
 David L. Eberhardt, MT3(SU)  
 Jerry L. Emerson, SM1(SS)  
 Thurman E. Ford, MM3(SS)  
 Jerry B. Gafford, SN(SU)  
 Robert L. Garcia, SO1(SS)  
 Charles M. Garriss, MM3(SS)  
 Vernon D. Gibbs, IC1(SS)  
 Thomas A. Good, SKSN(SU)  
 Harold E. Harmon, Jr., MM1(SS)  
 Michael D. Harris, RMSN(SU)  
 Paul G. Helfer, EN2(SS)  
 Donald L. Helm, IC1(SS)  
 Tommy R. Hergenrother, ETRSN(SU)  
 Robert A. Herron, CS1(SS)  
 Reginald T. Higa, FTM3(SS)  
 Johnnie E. Hilbish, IC2(SS)  
 Eugene E. Hodge, MT2(SU)  
 Bobbie L. Holley, SN(SU)  
 Charles D. Hook, EN1(SS)  
 Howard J. Houser, IC2(SS)  
 Frederick W. Hubbard, IC2(SS)

Jerry R. Huft, MM3(SS)  
 Charles H. Hughes, TM2(SU)  
 Richard A. Jacobsen, RM1(SS)  
 Kenneth I. Johnson, ETR2(SS)  
 David L. Jones, SOS2(SS)  
 Richard M. Kazebee, EM1(SS)  
 Eugene L. Kennedy, EM1(SS)  
 John W. Kenney, YN1(SU)  
 Marvin E. Kent, FN(SU)  
 Jerry A. King, TM1(SS)  
 Robert M. Lacy, FTM2(SS)  
 Rodger R. Land, MM2(SS)  
 Charles M. Landers, TM3(SU)  
 Robert E. Lecroy, MT2(SS)  
 Tony L. Leifer, SOG3(SU)  
 Larry D. Lucas, TM3(SU)  
 Francis J. Maguire, FTM1(SS)  
 Billy F. Maness, FN(SU)  
 John G. Marsh, ETR3(SU)  
 Kenneth W. Marteney, Jr., SA(SU)  
 John W. Mays, HM1(SS)  
 Richard L. Meiser, QM2(SS)  
 Leslie E. Milliken, FTM1(SU)  
 Wilburn H. Mitchell, EN1(SS)  
 Edward M. Moon, Jr., MM2(SS)  
 John W. Moyer, MT3(SU)  
 Richard L. Myers, FN(SU)  
 Robert D. Myers, EN1(SS)  
 Sammie L. Myrick, SO1(SS)  
 Jimmy L. Null, IC2(SS)  
 Ralph W. Parker, Jr., MM3(SS)  
 John M. Parman, IC2(SS)  
 Stephen J. Paul, MT3(SU)  
 William E. Peters, EM1(SS)  
 Hans C. Piepenhagen, EN3(SU)  
 Richard H. Porter, EM1(SS)

Mose T. Ramieh, Jr., EM2(SS)  
 Jack D. Reed, RM2(SS)  
 Frederick R. Reinisch, Jr., RM3(SU)  
 Alvin C. Rigsby, EN1(SS)  
 Alvin P. Robinson, TM1(SS)  
 Ernest M. Rousch, CS2(SS)  
 Thomas G. Rowe, MM2(SS)  
 Howard D. Sassman, SA(SU)  
 Robert D. Schneider, RM2(SS)  
 William M. Scholl, SN(SU)  
 Robert P. Shoemaker, ET1(SU)  
 Barry D. Show, MT2(SU)  
 Douglas H. Siemon, ET1(SU)  
 John H. Smith, SD3(SS)  
 Kenneth D. Smith, EM2(SS)  
 William M. Smith, ETR3(SS)  
 Robert W. Southard, MT2(SS)  
 Lonnie R. Speed, Jr., EM1(SS)  
 James "J" Squires, MTSN(SU)  
 John E. Sterner, Jr., FN(SU)  
 John J. Stone, SO1(SS)  
 James F. Taylor, EN1(SS)  
 Robert E. Thornton, FN(SU)  
 Allen R. Tubbs, FN(SU)  
 Frederick A. Vavra, TM2(SS)  
 Henry H. Weber, EN2(SS)  
 Lance C. Weber, SN(SU)  
 James J. Werman, EN2(SU)  
 Richard A. Wheeler, FTM2(SU)  
 Sherman E. Whitcomb, CS2(SS)  
 Tony H. Whitley, ETR2(SS)  
 Wayne K. Wilson, SN(SU)  
 Willie "R" "T" Winborn, Jr., FN(SU)  
 Norman L. Yardley, MM2(SU)  
 Charles Young, ETR2(SS)

# SHIP STATISTICS



USS HENRY CLAY SSB(N)625

Keel Laid: 23 October 1961

Launched: 30 November 1962

Builder's Trials: 5 January 1964

Length: 425 Feet

Beam: 33 Feet

Submerged Displacement: 8,250 tons

Maximum Depth: In excess of 400 feet

Maximum Speed: In excess of 20 knots

Ship's Complement: 122

Number of Missile Tubes: 16

# Autographs

The Thomas P. Gaffneys  
195 Whipple Street  
Manchester, NH 03102-3657



