



# USS Newport News (SSN 750)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces

Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet

7958 Blandy Road • Norfolk, VA 23551-2492 • (757) 836-1650 • Fax (757) 836-1355



## CDR Frederick J. Capria Commanding Officer

Commander Capria graduated from the University Of South Carolina in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering and was commissioned through the NROTC program. After completing nuclear power training and the Submarine Officer Basic Course, his first assignment was on board USS BERGALL SSN (667). During this tour, BERGALL completed a 30 month refueling overhaul and post

overhaul certifications. While assigned to BERGALL, Commander Capria completed a 7 month Western Pacific deployment on board USS HOUSTON (SSN 713).

In April 1988, Commander Capria reported to Naval Security Group Activity, Fort George G. Meade, MD for duty. During this tour he qualified as a Submarine Cryptologic Direct Support Officer and completed three Atlantic deployments.

Following completion of the Submarine Officer Advanced Course, Commander Capria was assigned as Navigator in USS KEY WEST (SSN 722), serving from October 1990 until March 1994. During this tour the ship completed several Atlantic deployments and was awarded the Submarine Squadron EIGHT Battle Efficiency "E." Commander Capria then reported as Assistant SSBN Operations Officer on the staff of Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet.

Commander Capria served as Executive Officer in USS MAINE SSBN (741)(GOLD) from May 1998 to March 1999. During this tour the ship completed three Strategic Deterrent Patrols and was awarded the Submarine Squadron SIXTEEN Battle Efficiency "E." Following this tour he served on the staff of Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet as the Fleet Submarine Special Operations Officer.

## Facts and Figures

- **Builders:** Newport News Shipbuilding Co.; General Dynamics Electric Boat Division
- **Powerplant:** One nuclear reactor, one shaft
- **Length:** 360 feet (109.73 meters)
- **Beam:** 33 feet (10.06 meters)
- **Displacement:** Approx. 6,900 tons (7010.73 metric tons) submerged
- **Speed:** 20+ knots (23+ MPH; 36,8+ KPH)
- **Crew:** 13 officers, 121 enlisted
- **Armament:** Tomahawk cruise missiles, VLS tubes (719 and later), MK48 torpedoes, four torpedo tubes

## Magni Nominis Umbra

The submarine Newport News (SSN 750) is the eighth vessel ever to bear the name of the Virginia shipbuilding city. Three previous ships, including the heavy cruiser Newport News, have seen Naval service. Two of the ships, however, were brought into the military for only short periods of time to provide transportation for troops and carry supplies overseas. The remaining four ships plied commercial water, carrying either passengers or freight.

A bay steamer named Newport News was built at Newport News Shipbuilding in 1895. The 274 foot vessel served as passenger transport for the Norfolk and Washington Steamboat Company.

The smallest boat to bear the city's name was a wooden-hull freight barge built at Staten Island in 1899. The barge, which had a crew, remained in service until 1941.

A collier built in 1903 and originally named the Odenwald became a prize of war during World War I and was assigned to the U.S. Shipping Board in 1917. It served with the U.S. Navys Overseas Transport Service until 1924 when it was retired.

Another ship called SS Newport News was built by the Furness Withy Line in West Hartlepool, England in 1907. That ship was changed to Belgian registry during World War I and was sunk by a German submarine in 1916.

An iron side-wheeled steamer ferry boat originally called the Kingston was bought by the Chesapeake Ferry Company in 1917 and renamed Newport News. It was brought to Norfolk where it became the fastest boat servicing Hampton Roads. The vessel burned and sank at a pier in 1924.

A second ferry boat to bear the city's name was initially called the Philadelphia when it was built in 1926 in Delaware. The Chesapeake Ferry Co. bought the ship in 1943 and renamed it Newport News. The Chesapeake company was dissolved in June 1948, but the ferry was operated by the Virginia Highway Department during the last two years of its service.

The SS City of Newport News was a steel passenger steamship originally named Archer, which made trans-Atlantic runs. It was purchased by the Navy in 1940 and rebuilt as an attack transport named the USS Fuller. The steamship was resold for civilian trade in 1946.

The cruiser Newport News was built at Newport News Shipbuilding in 1949 and was retired in 1975 following three combat tours in Vietnam, the cruiser is berthed among the Navys idle fleet of ships in Philadelphia.