

U. S. S. CORPORAL (SS-346)

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From: Commanding Officer, U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS-346)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-29LSH)

Subj: History of U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS-346); submission of

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.7

Encl: (1) History of U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS-346)

1. In compliance with reference (a), enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith.



E. O. PROCTOR

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SHIP'S HISTORY

The U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS-346) was built by the Electric Boat Company at Groton, Conn. under the supervision of Rear Admiral C.C. GILLETTE, U. S. Navy. The keel was laid on 27 April 1945 with the launching taking place on 10 June 1945. She was sponsored by Mrs. Homer C. Wick, wife of Captain Homer C. WICK, U.S. Navy.

The CORPORAL was delivered to the Navy and commissioned on 9 November 1945 at U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Conn. with Commander E.E. SHELBY, U.S. Navy as Commanding Officer. Commander E.E. SHELBY was relieved as Commanding Officer on 7 January 1946 by Commander F.G. HESS, U.S. Navy and on 8 January 1946 the ship departed New London on her shakedown cruise. The only port visited on this cruise was Panama, Canal Zone. In early February 1946, the CORPORAL reported to Commander Submarine Squadron FOUR at Key West, Florida for duty.

After furnishing services to the various ASW projects in Key West during the year 1946, the CORPORAL took part in the February 1947 Fleet Exercise. She then reported to the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Groton, Conn. for conversion to the "Guppy" class of submarines. No longer hampered by the bulky deck guns and the irregular superstructure, the CORPORAL became one of the Navy's fastest submergibles.

In June 1947, Commander R. K. MAC LEAN, U.S. Navy relieved Commander F.G. HESS, as Commanding Officer. Commander R.K. MACLEAN was relieved as Commanding Officer by Commander E.E. CONRAD, U.S. Navy in June 1949. In October 1949, the CORPORAL proceeded to Charleston, S.C. for commencement of a regularly scheduled shipyard overhaul.

^{In} On April 1951, Commander E.E. CONRAD was relieved as Commanding Officer by Lieutenant Commander J.H. DOLAN, U.S. Navy. During August 1951, CORPORAL departed Key West for another scheduled shipyard overhaul at Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, returning to Key West on 10 February 1952.

Aside from occasional trips to foreign and domestic ports, the CORPORAL has conducted most of her operational duty in Key West, Florida which is her home port. In the waters off the Florida Keys, she provides services as an underwater target for Naval activities engaged in the problem of developing anti-submarine defense. Fleet Sonar School based at Key West also utilizes the CORPORAL as a sound target, training students in the use of sonar.

From July of 1952 until October of the same year, CORPORAL saw duty with the SIXTH Fleet in the Mediterranean area.

In May of 1953 Lieutenant Commander H.J. BROWN relieved as Commanding Officer and directed the CORPORAL through a shipyard overhaul at Charleston Naval Shipyard until February 1954, when she returned to her home port, Key West.

In April and June of 1954, CORPORAL actively participated in ASDEVEX 1-54 and in November of the same year, LANTFLEX 1-55.

On 15 January 1955, the present Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Commander E.O. PROCTOR assumed command. In July and August of this year, CORPORAL underwent a battery renewal at Charleston Naval Shipyard. CORPORAL has been conducting operational exercises during September from her home base, Key West, Florida as a unit of Submarine Division ONE TWENTY-ONE within Submarine Squadron TWELVE. CORPORAL in company with other Submarine Division ONE TWENTY-ONE submarines, CHIVO and SENNET was assigned an operational visit to the port of New Orleans, Louisiana on 26 and 27 September 1955.

The month of October found her furnishing services at San Juan, Puerto Rico. She finished out the year furnishing services and undergoing type training at Key West, Florida.

ENCLOSURE (1)