



U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS-346)  
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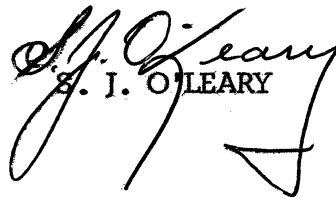
From: Commanding Officer, USS CORPORAL (SS346)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-291 SH)

Subj: Annual Revision of Ships History; forwarding of

Ref: (a) OPNAV INST 5750.7

Encl: (1) Annual Revision of Ships History

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

  
S. J. O'LEARY

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**U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS346)**  
**Care of Fleet Post Office**  
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**SHIP'S HISTORY**

The U.S.S. CORPORAL (SS346) 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. Navy Submarine Base, New London, Conn., with Commander E. E. Shelby, U.S. Navy as Commanding Officer. Commander 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 Exercises. 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 submersibles.

In June 1947, Commander R.K. MacLean, U.S. Navy relieved Commander F. G. Hess as Commanding Officer; Commander 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.

On April 1951, Commander 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.

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 participated in ASDEVEX 1-54 and in November of the same year, participated in LANTFLEX 1-55.

On 15 January 1955, Lieutenant Commander E.O. Proctor assumed command. In July and August of that year, CORPORAL underwent a battery renewal at Charleston Naval Shipyard.

Aside from occasional trips to foreign and domestic ports, the CORPORAL conducted most of her operational duty in Key West, Florida, as a unit of Submarine Squadron TWELVE. In the waters off the Florida Keys, she provided services as an underwater target for Naval activities engaged in the problems of developing anti-submarine defense. Fleet Sonar School based at Key West also utilized the CORPORAL as a sound target, training students in the use of sonar.

CORPORAL started the year 1956 providing services to SURASDEVDET in the Key West area and remained so employed until the latter part of April.

In May, CORPORAL commenced her regularly scheduled overhaul at the Charleston Naval Shipyard, Charleston, S.C. The overhaul extended to the latter part of November.

On 4 December, Lieutenant Joseph J. Sullivan, U.S. Navy relieved as Commanding Officer.

Early in January 1957, CORPORAL deployed to the United Kingdom, conducting operations until May.

CORPORAL provided services in the Key West Area to Fleet Sonar School and OPDEVFOR for the remainder of 1957.

CORPORAL provided services in the Key West area to OPDEVFOR during the month of January 1958. In February the ship received an extended upkeep during which time the interim docking was accomplished. The remainder of the month was spent providing services to OPDEVFOR in the Fort Lauderdale area.

From the beginning of March until mid-April CORPORAL underwent repairs to the port propeller shaft at Charleston Naval Shipyard. CORPORAL then returned to Key West where she remained until the latter part of June, providing services to OPDEVFOR and Fleet Sonar School, and conducting type training.

At the end of June, CORPORAL returned to Charleston Naval Shipyard for a battery renewal. In August she returned to Key West, conducting local operations and type training in that area until October. In the latter part of October, CORPORAL visited the port of Havana, Cuba after conducting SS/VP operations in the Gulf of Mexico.

CORPORAL deployed to GTMO, Bay, Cuba, during the month of November where she provided services to COMFLETRAGRU. During this period she visited the ports of Montego Bay and Kingston in Jamaica, and during her return to Key West visited Port Canaveral, Florida.

On 20 December 1958, LCDR Joseph M. Greene, U.S. Navy relieved LCDR Sullivan as Commanding Officer.

In January 1959, CORPORAL proceeded to the Fort Lauderdale area to provide services for the U.S. Naval Underwater Ordnance Test facility. Following the Fort Lauderdale services, in February, the CORPORAL went to the Gulf of Mexico to conduct underwater research projects for the Judson Laboratory of New York. During the latter half of February, CORPORAL played host ship to the Dutch submarine ZEELEEUW. In March CORPORAL operated in the Key West area providing services to the Fleet Sonar School and OPDEVFOR. She made a trip to Savannah, Georgia for St. Patricks day.

On 13 April CORPORAL entered the Charleston Naval Shipyard for a regularly scheduled overhaul. On 1 August CORPORAL was transferred to Submarine Squadron FOUR with home port at Charleston, S.C. The overhaul was completed 21 August. On 28 August CORPORAL proceeded to New Port, Rhode Island for fire control checks and thence to New London, Connecticut for 2 days of refresher training. Upon return to Charleston CORPORAL conducted type training and upkeep. In October CORPORAL proceeded to Bermuda, providing services there for two weeks.

After returning from Bermuda, CORPORAL conducted local operations and type training in the Vacapes and Charleston operating areas. During most of 1960 CORPORAL operated in the Vacapes, Charleston, and Jacksonville operating areas providing services and conducting type training.

During March of 1960 CORPORAL participated in exercise SHORTSTOP and from 1 June through 13 August she took part in exercise LANTMIDASWEX. During LANTMIDASWEX, CORPORAL visited Halifax, Nova Scotia and New York.

On 15 October 1960 LCDR Stephen J. O'Leary, USN relieved LCDR Greene, as Commanding Officer. On 19 November CORPORAL deployed to European waters for a four month period. During the early part of December, CORPORAL visited Bremerhaven, Kiel, and Hamburg, Germany, and worked with the Federal German Navy in the straits of Denmark. CORPORAL then transited to the Mediterranean and spent the holiday period in the principality of Monaco.

On 5 January CORPORAL went to sea as part of an operational inspection which was made by Vice Admiral Elton W. Grenfell, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Also on board for the short cruise were Prince Rainier, Princess Grace, and Prince Pierre (father of Prince Rainier).

While in the Mediterranean CORPORAL provided services to the Sixth Fleet. Prior to returning to Charleston, S.C., on 15 March, CORPORAL visited Toulon, France; Barcelona, Spain; and Gibraltar.

During CORPORAL's four month deployment six "FIRSTS" were recorded. She was the first U.S. Submarine to operate with the Federal German Navy in German waters. She was the first U.S. Submarine to visit Kiel, Germany. She was the first U.S. Submarine to transit the Kiel Canal. She was the first U.S. submarine to visit Hamburg, Germany. She was the first U.S. Submarine to visit San Remo, Italy, and she provided Princess Grace of Monaco her first cruise on a submarine.

**CORPORAL participated in three major exercises during the year 1961 which were as follows: LANTBEX 1-61, FISHPLAY VI in September, and CONVEX 4-61 in December.**

**On July 20th and 21st, dependents cruises were held with approximately 25 VIPS and CORPORAL dependents riding each day. CORPORAL's other employment throughout the year consisted of type training and services conducted in the Vacapes, Charleston and Jacksonville operating areas.**