



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
COMMANDING OFFICER  
USS CORPORAL (SS 346)  
FPO, NEW YORK 09501

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[REDACTED] (Unclassified upon removal of enclosure (1))

From: Commanding Officer, USS CORPORAL (SS 346)  
To: Director of Naval History (OP-09B9), Washington  
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Subj: Command History for Calendar Year 1971 (OPNAV Report  
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Encl: (1) Basic Narrative History of USS CORPORAL (SS 346)  
for Calendar Year 1971

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded in accordance with reference (a).

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BASIC NARRATIVE HISTORY OF USS CORPORAL (SS 346) FOR  
CALENDAR YEAR 1971

USS CORPORAL (SS 346), a GUPPY III class submarine homeported at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base, New London, Groton, Ct., is a unit of Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE of Submarine Squadron TWO. During all of 1971, CORPORAL was commanded by Commander James H. SIMPSON, U.S. Navy. At year's end CDR SIMPSON commanded a crew of 8 officers and 77 men.

CORPORAL's primary mission is, in time of war, to seek out and destroy enemy submarines, and, during peacetime, to train ship's personnel and maintain equipment to accomplish this mission. Concurrently, the ship provides services for the training of various ASW units.

At the beginning of 1971 CORPORAL was undergoing a regular shipyard overhaul at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Sea trials were conducted from 6 to 8 April. CORPORAL departed the shipyard on 26 April, having completed her overhaul in exactly six months. CORPORAL returned to New London on 27 April and commenced a period of refresher training which lasted until 8 May 1971.

On 10 May, CORPORAL left New London for the Caribbean area to conduct post-overhaul Weapons System Accuracy tests with CDR H. A. CHERRIER, USN, Commander Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE, embarked. The first port visit on this trip was Bermuda, where

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the ship remained on 14 and 15 May. From 16 to 21 May CORPORAL participated in Type Training evolutions, alternating exercise firings and target services with USS TUSK (SS 426). On 22 May, CORPORAL arrived in Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, for the inport phase of the Weapons System Accuracy Test. Having completed this phase, the ship got underway on 25 May for underway tests and a transit to St. Croix, Virgin Islands. During the period 28 to 31 May, CORPORAL operated on a daily basis from Frederiksted, St. Croix, and completed the final phase of the Weapons System Accuracy Test. CORPORAL departed St. Croix on 1 June and arrived in San Juan, Puerto Rico the next day for a two day port visit. The ship left San Juan on 4 June and transited to Annapolis, Maryland, arriving on 9 June. From the ninth to the eleventh, and on the fourteenth and fifteenth, CORPORAL made short submarine indoctrination cruises with 20-25 Midshipmen from the U.S. Naval Academy on board daily. The weekend of 12-13 June was devoted to a port visit in Annapolis. The ship left Annapolis on 16 June and transited back to New London, arriving on 19 June after nearly six weeks away from home.

CORPORAL's first upkeep after overhaul commenced 21 June. On 27 June the ship left New London for Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, where a two week restricted availability began on 29 June for repairs to the snorkel system and master gyrocompass. These

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repairs were completed on 14 July, and on the following day the ship left for New London, where an upkeep was held from 17 July until 8 August. The following week CORPORAL provided sonar calibration services to USS SHARK (SSN 591) as part of SHARK's post-overhaul trials.

After a weekend in home port, CORPORAL departed New London on 16 August for a week of type training and transit in company with USS CLAMAGORE (SS 343) and USS HARDHEAD (SS 365), all under tactical command of Commander H. A. CHERRIER, Commander Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE embarked in CLAMAGORE. The three submarines reached Halifax, Nova Scotia, on 20 August for a port visit that lasted until the twenty-third, when CORPORAL got underway for New London with Commander Submarine Division TWENTY-ONE embarked. The ship also carried officer students from the Naval Submarine School and provided submarine training services to these students. CORPORAL returned to New London on 27 August and on 30 August began a two week upkeep. During this upkeep the ship successfully passed its post overhaul Nuclear Weapons Acceptance Inspection. On 10 September CORPORAL took 36 guests to sea on a cruise for members of the National Security Industrial Agency. During the following week the ship made a transit to Earle, New Jersey for a brief port stop and then returned to New London for the weekend. On 20 September CORPORAL went to sea to provide

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four days of sonar calibration services to USS STONEWALL JACKSON (SSBN 634), returning to port 23 September for the weekend.

From 27 September through 6 October CORPORAL participated in Exercise LANTCORTEX alongwith numerous surface and airborne anti-submarine warfare forces and three other submarines. Upon returning to port, CORPORAL began preparations for her upcoming deployment to the Mediterranean. The POM period was highlighted by an underway work-up from 1 to 5 November, and by a personnel and material inspection conducted on 8 November by CAPT W.A. MATSON, USN, Commander Submarine Squadron TWO.

On 15 November, CORPORAL departed New London for Rota, Spain, diverting to the Virginia Capes Operating Areas for two days to provide sonar calibration services to USS FLYINGFISH (SSN 673). After fourteen days at sea, the ship arrived in Rota, Spain on 29 November for a three day turnover period during which CORPORAL relieved USS TIRANTE (SS 420). On 2 December CORPORAL left Rota for Naples, Italy, where the ship stayed for six days. Underway from Naples on 12 December, CORPORAL provided services to CTG 60.1 and transited to the Eastern Mediterranean. CORPORAL entered Piraeus, Greece, on 20 December and spent the Christmas holidays there, remaining through 31 December.

On 9 November 1971, USS CORPORAL (SS 346) celebrated the 26th anniversary of her commissioning. During 1971 CORPORAL made 121 dives and traveled nearly 17,600 miles, using 258,801 gallons of fuel oil.

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