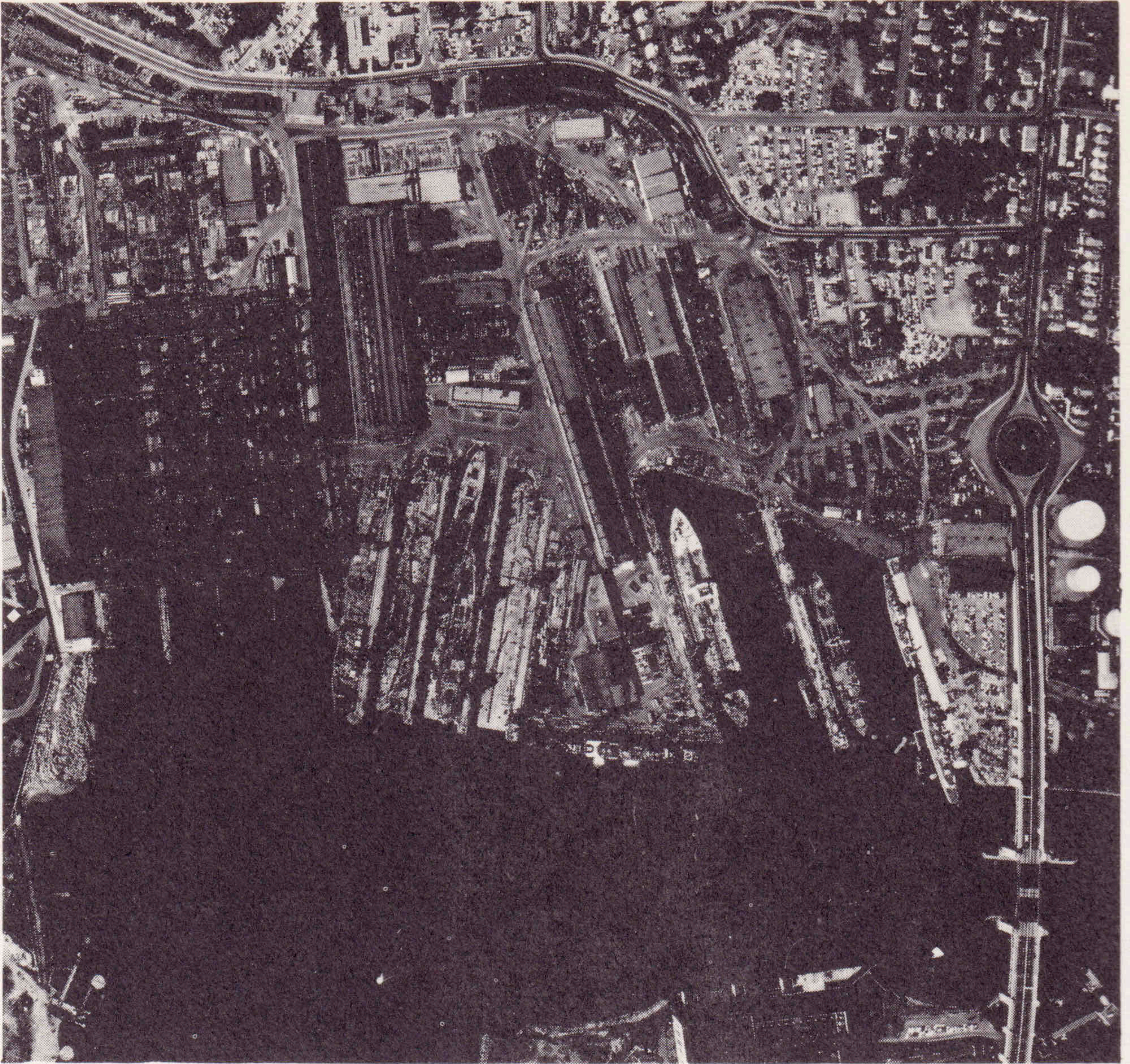




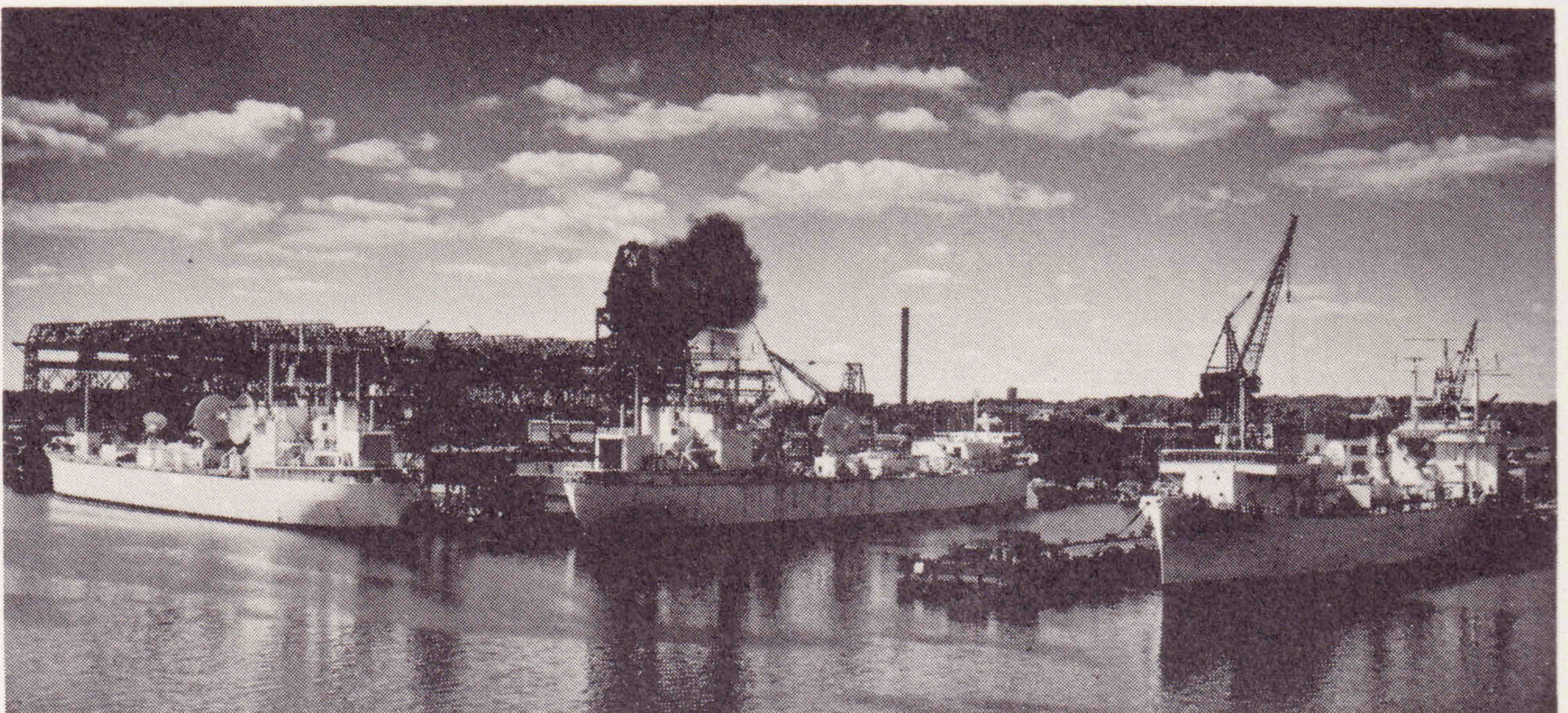
# *Twin Christening*

October 14, 1966





Quincy division of General Dynamics



General Dynamics has been awarded contracts for 18 ships since it acquired the Quincy division, including the three Apollo Instrumentation ships shown above.



## **GENERAL DYNAMICS**

### ***Quincy Division***

97 East Howard Street, Quincy, Massachusetts 02169 • 617 471-4200

October 14, 1966

The prospective commanders of the twin nuclear submarines Whale and Sunfish--christened October 14 at the General Dynamics shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts -- arrived at their present positions via strikingly similar career routes.

Both LCDR. William Wolff, Jr., of the Whale, and LCDR. Buele G. Balderston, of the Sunfish, pursued non-nautical college majors and then followed naval careers that led from surface ships to conventional submarines and finally to nuclear submarines.

The Whale and Sunfish are the first commands for both officers.

Their sister vessels, the first nuclear submarines built in Massachusetts, are deep-diving, high-speed attack ships designed to seek and destroy surface ships and submarines.

During ceremonies at the General Dynamics shipyard October 14, the Whale was christened by Mrs. Russell B. Long, wife of Senator Long of Louisiana, and the Sunfish by Mrs. Robert C. Byrd, wife of West Virginia's Senator Byrd.

CDR. Wolff, who was graduated from Princeton University with a bachelor's degree in political science, has been at the General Dynamics shipyard here since April of this year, commanding the precommissioning crew of the Whale.

CDR. Balderston, a University of Nebraska graduate with a bachelor's degree in agriculture, only recently received his assignment as prospective commanding officer of the Sunfish and has not yet reported to the ship.



CDR. Wolff, born September 22, 1929, at Grand Haven, Michigan, was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy in June, 1952. He first served aboard an escort destroyer, then entered the undersea service via the conventional submarine USS Tusk. His first nuclear submarine tour was aboard the famed USS Nautilus, the world's first nuclear-powered ship.

After nearly four years aboard Nautilus, during which time he qualified for command of submarines, CDR. Wolff's next sea duty was as executive officer of the Polaris submarine USS Daniel Webster. He made three patrols aboard the Daniel Webster and on that ship participated in the first practice firing of the Polaris A-3 missile.

The hobby of the prospective commanding officer of the Whale is woodcarving--woodcarving whales. For his naval service, he holds the Korean Presidential Unit Commendation, the National Defense Service, Korean Service, China Service and United Nations Service Medals.

CDR. Balderston, born January 10, 1931, in Omaha, Nebraska, was commissioned as an ensign in January, 1953. He began his naval career as an ordnance disposal officer and made his first sea tour aboard a mine hunter ship.

He began his submarine career aboard the conventionally powered USS Remora. He then helped commission two nuclear submarines, serving first aboard the attack submarine USS Scorpion and finally as executive officer of the Polaris submarine USS Lewis and Clark.

CDR. Balderston was active in track and swimming in high school and college in Nebraska, establishing meet and school records in both sports and winning the state swimming championship in 1948. He is a member of the Sigma Xi National Scientific Honorary Society and the Alpha Zeta National Agricultural Honorary Society. He holds the Navy Unit Commendation and the National Defense Service Medal for naval service.

The prospective commanding officer of the Whale, CDR. Wolff, currently resides with his wife, the former Roberta Stevens of Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, and their three children in Cohasset, Massachusetts.



CDR. Balderston, prospective commanding officer of the Sunfish, currently resides with his wife, the former Irene Johanson of Omaha, Nebraska, and their four children in Norfolk, Virginia.

Both officers were recently selected for promotion to full commander.

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## *The Quincy Division*

The Quincy division was founded in 1884 as the Fore River Engine Company at East Braintree, Massachusetts, by Thomas A. Watson, Alexander Graham Bell's associate during the development of the telephone. Watson, then retired from the telephone business, had developed an interest in the small engine field.

In September 1898, naval ship construction began with the building of two torpedo boat destroyers. Shortly thereafter the yard was moved to a larger area on the Fore River waterfront, a part of the present Quincy division.

In 1901, the company's name was changed to the Fore River Ship and Engine Company, and two years later was reorganized as the Fore River Shipbuilding Company. During the next several years, the yard built 82 vessels, both naval and commercial, including a number of submarines.

Bethlehem Steel Corporation purchased the company in 1913 changing the name in 1917 to the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation Ltd. During the next two years, the yard received contracts for 100 ships. In 1919, the peak World War I production year, 69 vessels were delivered and employment reached 26,000.

Construction of the old aircraft carrier Lexington, two cruisers and two heavy cruisers kept the yard operating in the lean years following World War I.

When World War II broke out, war contracts began pouring in and a new 16-way yard at Hingham was acquired in a large expansion program. That shipyard turned out 227 ships in 39 months, and employed 23,500 persons. The Quincy yard, with increased facilities and a workforce of 32,000 launched 98 ships, including five famous Essex-class aircraft carriers — Lexington, Wasp, Bunker Hill, Hancock and Philippine Sea.

Quincy entered the nuclear age on December 2, 1957, when the keel was laid for America's first nuclear-powered, guided missile cruiser, the Long Beach. Quincy also built the Bainbridge, the first nuclear-powered, guided missile frigate.

In 1962, Quincy launched the Manhattan. At 940 feet and 108,590 deadweight tons, the tanker was the largest commercial ship ever built in the U. S. at the time of her delivery.

On December 31, 1963, the shipyard was purchased by General Dynamics and became the Quincy Yard of its Electric Boat Division. Earlier this year it achieved status as a division of General Dynamics.



USS WHALE



Mrs. Russell B. Long  
Sponsor



Lt. Cmdr. W. M. Wolff, Jr., USN  
Prospective Commanding Officer

*Prog*

NATIONAL ANTHEM . . . . .

INVOCATION . . . . . Lt. C

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS .

REMARKS . . . . .

ADDRESS . . . . .

INTRODUCTION OF SPONSORS .

CHRISTENING – WHALE .

CHRISTENING –SUNFISH .



USS SUNFISH

ram

First Naval District Band

mdr. P. F. Brudzynski, (ChC), USN



Mrs. Robert C. Byrd  
Sponsor

Robert V. Laney  
General Manager  
Quincy Division  
General Dynamics

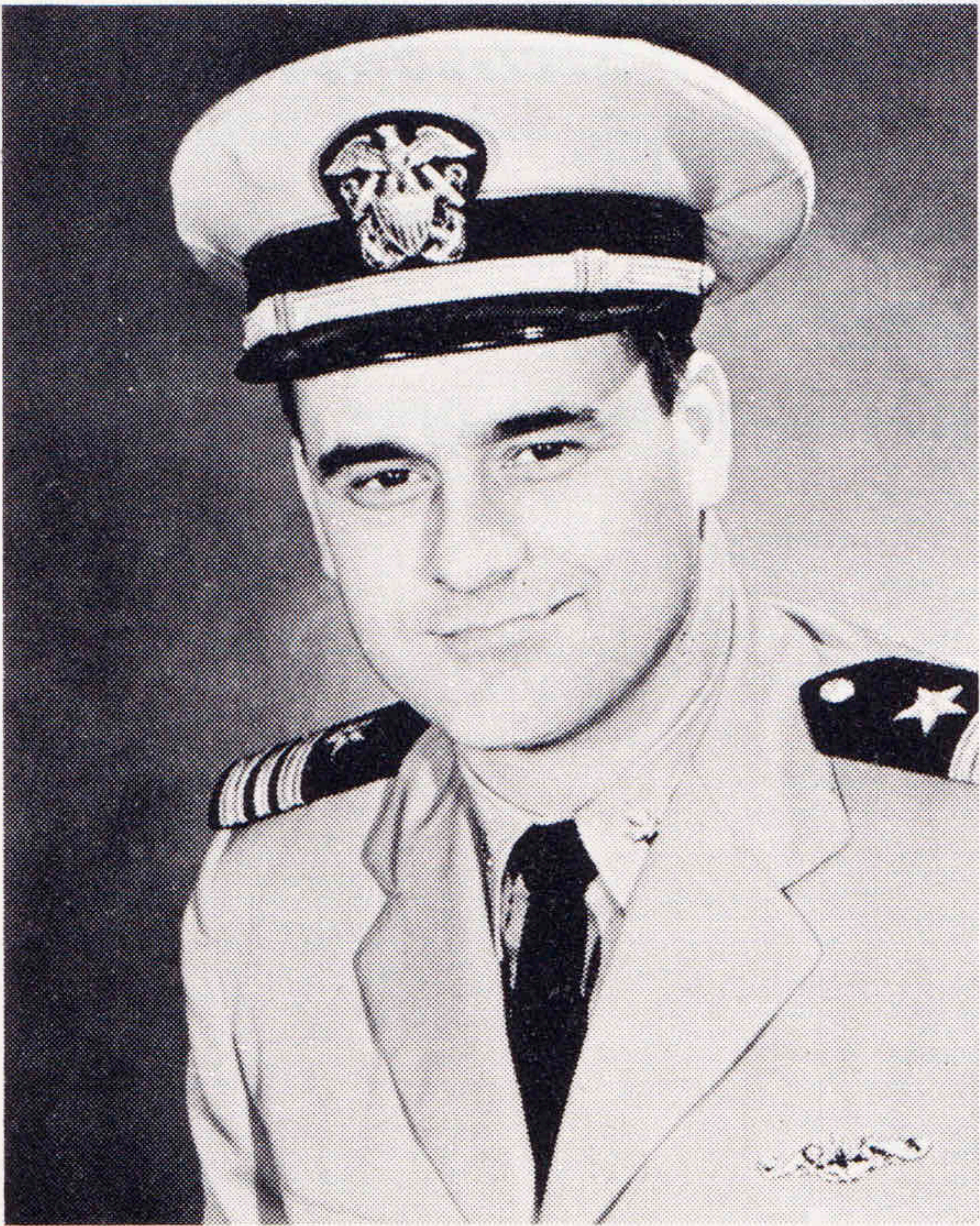
Roger Lewis  
President  
General Dynamics

The Honorable John A. Volpe  
Governor of Massachusetts

Mr. Lewis

Mrs. Russell B. Long

Mrs. Robert C. Byrd



Lt. Cmdr. B. G. Balderston, USN  
Prospective Commanding Officer



## USS Whale

The nuclear attack submarine Whale is named for a submarine that served with distinction in World War II.

Launched on March 14, 1942 at the Mare Island, California, Naval Shipyard, Whale sailed off to battle a little less than seven months later. All told, she was to make 11 successful patrols and by war's end she sank nine ships totaling 57,716 tons.

On special missions she rescued 15 downed Allied airmen during invasions of Pacific islands.

Whale was a tough ship. She was once so badly battered by depth charges that she spent two months in repair at Pearl Harbor. On another occasion a typhoon caused extensive damage to her, but it failed to prevent the submarine from torpedoing an enemy vessel.

Following the war Whale was decommissioned and placed in the U. S. Atlantic Reserve Fleet. In 1960 she was stricken from Navy records.

The keel for Whale's nuclear namesake was laid May 27, 1964. Whale, 292 feet long and displacing 4,100 tons, is scheduled to become operational next year.



## USS Sunfish

Sunfish is named for a battle veteran of World War II which was launched May 2, 1942 at the Mare Island, California, Naval Shipyard. A Fleet Type vessel – the class that bore the brunt of undersea war in the Pacific – Sunfish was 311 feet long and displaced 1,500 tons.

Sunfish made her first war patrol before the end of 1942. It was uneventful, the only one of 11 to be so. She sank her first ship on the second patrol. Fifteen more were to follow for a score of 59,815 tons.

For her ninth and eleventh war patrols Sunfish was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, one of the few submarines so cited during the war.

The submarine's distinguished but brief career came to an end at the close of 1945 when she was decommissioned and placed in reserve. The name Sunfish was stricken from Navy records five years later.

On January 15, 1965 the keel was laid for the nuclear attack submarine Sunfish. A sister of Whale, Sunfish is 292 feet long and displaces 4,100 tons. She is scheduled to become operational next year.



**GENERAL DYNAMICS**  
*Quincy Division*