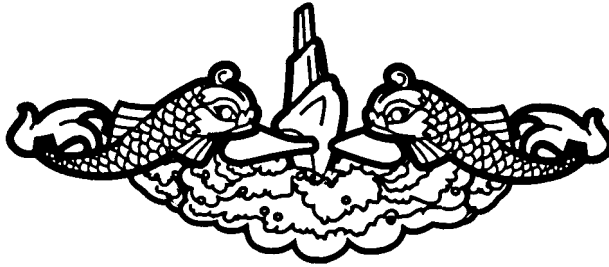


USS HADDO (SSN 604)



Volume 1, Issue 4

April 1991

Greetings once again former shipmate. Efforts via this newsletter to track down addresses of former U.S.S. Haddo crewmembers continues to pay off. We now have addresses for 70 or you (each a recipient of this edition) as well as a list of 225 names only for other remembered crewmembers. If anyone can supply addresses for any of these folks, PLEASE DO. And, please feel free to copy this newsletter and pass it on to others you know whose addresses we do not have. Please forward former crewmembers addresses to either:

Harold Clark
2327 E. Acacia Street
Stocton, CA 95205
(209) 463-0532

Mike Gann
1468 Via Del Mar Rd.
Schenectady, NY 12309
(518) 377-2560

Background; To Catch Everyone Up

Mike Gann, (MM/FLT; '70 - '74) and Hal Clark (EM: '72 - '74) started up this newsletter in March, 1990. The first edition, mailed in April went to only four former crewmembers whose addresses we know between us. Feedback from the first mailing enabled us to send out 25 second editions, and subsequently 49 third editions. This fourth edition is going out to 70 former crew we've now get addresses for. If we achieve nothing else from this effort, it's been worth it.

And, speaking of achieving other things, I (Mike Gann - the idiot who's been writing the newsletter so far) guess I've gone a little overboard with my ideas for a "reunion" opportunity. Former XO (and now RADM) Dave Oliver wrote me to advise that the Navy has already decided to name all future SSN-21/"Seaworlf" after cities - so the idea of mounting an effort to get one of these named Haddo is not viable. Just as well perhaps, since the response to the idea on the little "info cards" I included with the last newsletter indicated there's not a lot of interest in it anyway. So, I'll cool it and shift in another direction. I guess a newsletter ought to contain news, and since I've been the principal (in fact, only) writer all along, I'll take a shot at including something in this, and future issues, on one of the following subjects:

- What former crewmembers are doing now, location, employment, etc.
- Anecdotes/experiences (non-classified of course) from time served aboard Haddo.
- Haddo history; both the first Haddo (SS-255) and "ours" (SSN-604).

If there's anyone out there who would like to write a paragraph for inclusion in the newsletter on one of these subjects, please send it along -

there's no reason that I should be the only writer - I'd gladly accept some help. And with that, I'll go on with a personal example.

Mike Gann, MM1(SS)/FLT; '70 - '74

I came aboard Haddo in Charleston, S.C. while she was undergoing SUBSAFE refit and left her in August, 1974, while she was undergoing refueling at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss. Upon departure I headed home, which for me is upstate N.Y., where I had a job waiting in the fisheries bureau of the New York State Conservation Department. After 10 years (1974-1984) of working in the outdoors at one of our field offices I accepted a promotion to an administrative position in the Department's main office in Albany which is where I work currently. Along the way, I got divorced (in 1983) and remarried (in 1985). My only daughter is graduating from Clarkson University this year with a degree in physical chemistry (maybe an "FLT gene" runs in my family). She'll be on to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin this fall.

My vocation and all-consuming hobby are one and the same - fishing. After having worked now for some 17 years with the fisheries of New York State, I've gotten to be fairly knowledgeable and would take great pleasure in providing fishing information to anyone interested, though my office address which is: NYSDFC, Bureau of Fisheries, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, N.Y., 12233. And, should any former Haddo crewmember happen to be coming to New York and be interested in going fishing, I'd be happy to guide (either with advice or in person if time permits). Anyone remember the fishing we did off the Haddo one sunny afternoon in the Caribbean? I remember it like it was yesterday - guys sitting on the sail planes trolling, sharks gathering 'round us on all sides. And best of all that day, a pleasure vessel that saw us, approached alongside, and ended up giving us enough fresh caught fish for the entire crew. I'll never forget the two girls in bikinis on that boat who passed us the fish - what a sight for sore eyes!

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All right now, that wasn't so hard. Somebody send me something similar for the next edition. Speaking of future editions, I started up this newsletter strictly on a volunteer basis. Although the "info cards" I included with the last one asked whether folks would be willing to make a contribution to keep it going, I wouldn't want that to be viewed as soliciting donations. That's not what's motivating me to do this. For anyone who wants to send a small donation, that's fine, but I intend to keep the newsletter going regardless - as long as there seems to be continuing interest.

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And now, a little history on the first Haddo, SS-255. The first U.S.S. Haddo was a "Gato class" fleet boat, stationed to the Atlantic during the early months of WWII. The mission at the time was anti-U-Boat patrol. Although targets were scarce, thanks to ever improving hunter-killer surface ship ASW combinations, Haddo registered the only U.S. submarine attack on a U-Boat in the Atlantic - results unknown.

With submarines desperately needed in the Pacific, and having considerable success against the Japanese merchant fleet, Haddo was reassigned to SUBSOWESPAC (Submarines, Southwest Pacific) homeported in Freemantle, Australia. Haddo began to score on her fifth war patrol (2nd in the Pacific, after 3 in the Atlantic). On the night of March 23, 1944, patrolling at 14-34'N/1090-25'E, Haddo ran across a Japanese AK (cargo ship)

at 2100 hrs, and commenced a deck gun attack. Although the target was damaged, a sinking was not confirmed.

Six days later, March 29, 1944, another target crossed Haddo's path at 16-36'N/109-07'E at 0200 hrs. Once again a surface/radar approach was made to the target, against which two torpedoes were fired. One torpedo was observed to hit, damaging the target, although a sinking was not later confirmed on the estimated 2500 ton AK. So ended the action on Haddo's fifth was patrol.

Haddo was to make five patrols during the course of the Pacific war; numbers 5, 6 and 7 under the command of LDCR Chester W. Nimitz, Jr., (son of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Sr., commander in Chief of the Pacific fleet) and numbers 8 and 9 under the command of LCDR Frank C. Lynch. But more of these details in the next edition - stay tuned for notes from war patrol #6.

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Envelopes and postage paid for in part by the generous donations of the following former U.S.S. Haddo SSN-604 crewmembers:

- Dick Scales (C.O. 1970 - 1975)
- Dave Oliver (X.O. 1974 - 1978)
- Bill Neff (former RM1-SS)

Computerized name and address database managed and maintained by Bill Cook (former Lt.)

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Signing off until next edition (probably early fall - October maybe).

"Dive Dive Dive"