

SUBMARINE FORCE ORGANIZATION

The Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force numbers 40 submarines and more than 15,000 highly trained and motivated officer, enlisted, and civilian personnel providing submarine support to the Atlantic, Arctic, Eastern Pacific, and Indian Oceans and the Mediterranean Sea. The principal responsibility of the Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet (COMSUBLANT) is to operate, maintain, train and equip submarines in support of Fleet and National tasking. The COMSUBLANT Vision, Mission, and Guiding Principles guide the officers and men of the submarine force.

The Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force operates and maintains combat ready nuclear-powered strategic deterrent and attack submarines. Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarines carry the highly accurate Trident II D-5 Missile and operate in international waters, ensuring our nation's strategic security. Attack submarines perform myriad of missions, including anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, insertion of special forces, Tomahawk strike missions, mining, and search and rescue.

Headquartered in Norfolk, Virginia, the Atlantic Fleet Submarine Force is supported by Submarine Groups based in Groton, Connecticut; Kings Bay, Georgia; and Naples, Italy. Submarine Group Commanders are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the ships and submarines under their command. Within each Submarine Group are Submarine Squadrons responsible for maintenance, training, and administrative support to submarines and support ships under their control. Atlantic Fleet Submarine Squadrons are located in Groton, Norfolk, Kings Bay, and La Maddelena, Sardinia, Italy.

COMSUBLANT reports directly to the <u>Commander</u>, <u>U.S. Fleet Forces</u> <u>Command</u> and serves as his principle advisor for undersea, warfare. Additionally, COMSUBLANT is an operational commander for the <u>Commander</u>, <u>U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM)</u> for strategic deterrent submarine operations.

COMSUBLANT also has duties within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). As Commander, Allied Submarine Command (COMASC), he is the principle advisor for undersea warfare to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR), coordinating policy and doctrine for that form the basis of submarine operations planning throughout the NATO Area of Responsibility (AOR) and beyond.