

Most Powerful Military Force Rests Near Summer Resort Town

(Editor's note: A brief announcement from the U.S. Defense department on April 1 signaled a momentous change in the European defense posture of America and its NATO allies. On that day the first of three Polaris-equipped submarines took up station in the Mediterranean to replace land missile bases in Italy and Turkey that are soon to be dismantled. America's main defensive arm in Europe from now on will be under water. Until new ones are established, the only Polaris submarine base in the world is in a peaceful little Scottish Loch - Holy Loch - home of "Subron 14" or Polaris Submarine Squadron 14. This is the story of Subron 14.)

By ROBERT MUSEL
United Press International
Holy Loch, Scotland - (UPI) - Somewhere beyond the Atlantic mists Russian trawlers packed with electronic gear were fishing for herring - or information.
Inside Holy Loch one of the two black shapes lying low in the water alongside the submarine depot ship, Hunley, began to move slowly toward the Firth of Clyde and the open sea.
The Polaris submarine John Marshall was leaving for several days of maneuvers before submerging for its routine 60 days of undersea patrol.
This quiet loch, fringing

the picturesque summer-resort town of Dunoon, harbors the most powerful mobile military force known to man.
Its name is "Subron 14" (Submarine Squadron 14) and it is as unobtrusive as it is deadly. A floating drydock, some small craft, the Hunley itself and never more than two or three Polaris submarines hugging its side - this is all anyone can see, and from the distant shore it isn't much.
View Lessened
Even what one does see is diminished by the expanse of water and the towering snow-capped hills of Kilninn came there was nothing left in the loch which got its name in medieval times when a boatload of earth from the Holy Land, destined for the

building of an abbey, sank there.
It all looks as though it could be whisked away in a matter of hours and leave the loch to its seagulls and its legends. And this is exactly the case. During the Cuban crisis, with British ban-the-bombers crying out that Holy Loch was a front line target, the submarines swiftly disappeared to action stations presumably off the coasts of Russia.
The depot ship Proteus, relieved by the Hunley a few weeks ago, also sped out to a secret rendezvous point at sea. Before the showdown came there was nothing left in the loch which got its name in medieval times when a boatload of earth from the Holy Land, destined for the

Washington may flex its muscles but this thumb-shaped haven, 3,000 miles away, is the clenched fist.
Clenched Fist
Each submarine's missile load is equal in power to all the bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Written into its electronic entrails is the obituary notice of half a dozen Russian targets - a threat of instant and terrible revenge which Polaris submariners firmly believe figures painfully in the strategy of the Kremlin.
Premier Nikita Khrushchev is said to be deeply impressed by Polaris. On this point I see eye to eye with the Russian dictator. I have just spent many hours examining the Robert E. Lee from the inside out, and been aboard

of the officers disagreed with the others about the interpretation of a signal they would be authorized to withhold **No Firing Chance**
"Put it this way," said Griffiths. "We are in constant communication with our headquarters. We would get a coded message, extremely well authenticated, from the President through steps in the line. There are all kinds of built-in safeguards. And there is not the slightest possibility of a missile being fired without an unmistakable and specific order to do so."
I mentioned a report that Russia was so worried about Polaris it might assign some of its fleet of killer submarines to shadow each other permanently as soon as it was launched.
"We've got killer submarines, too," Griffiths chuckled. "The ocean is a mighty big area and we are mighty silent ships."
The Robert E. Lee is 389 feet long, 33 feet in the beam and displaces about 5,900 tons. Its speed and the depths at which it can operate are secret but it can probably move faster and travel deeper than any other submarine before it. The John Marshall is bigger - 410 feet long and 6,800 tons. And the LaFayette class Polaris submarines are bigger still.
During Crisis
Griffiths has been on four 60-day submerged patrols - one of them during the Cuban crisis when all of "Subron 14's" missiles were ready to strike at "multiple targets" if so ordered. He said the worst thing about these long submerged journeys is that the men cannot contact their families although they can receive messages from them.
"But there's no real morale factor because the men feel they are doing something important," he said. "They are all volunteers."
Consider the navigational resources of the Robert E. Lee. For a successful missile launch, two positions must be known - the submarine's and the target's. So it is imperative that the navigation officer know within a few hundred yards exactly where the submarine is at all times.
As soon as the Robert E. Lee moves along Holy Loch and clamps down its hatches where the Firth broadens into the sea - not to surface again for two months - its inertial navigation computers continually calculate its position from its movement in all directions. In addition there is a radiometric sextant to fix position by measuring the radio waves emitted by the sun, a special periscope to take star sightings, an antenna for radio-navigation, and radar and echo-sounding equipment.
Not Comfortable
There is no pretense that Polaris submarines are the most comfortable places for 130 crewmen and officers to spend two months. Some bunks are slung among the torpedoes and among the missiles and every square inch of space is either for sleeping

or working. But there is a tiny mess hall where are served the best food in the Navy and a new film is shown nearly every night.
When a man completes his eight hours of duty he usually heads for his bunk and if he wants any privacy he draws a curtain.
It is an elite service and anyone eligible to wear the dolphins insignia of the submariner is proud of it. Commander Griffiths introduced me to two young officers who he said were among the first to go right into the nuclear program from Annapolis - Lt. William Ciesla of Buffalo, N.Y. and Lt. Jerome Rosenberger of New Castle, Pa.
"I got them out of school a week early for this trip," he confided.
Out To Practice
We went back on deck to watch the John Marshall leave under Commander Robert Donovan of Mason City, Ill., who heads its gold crew. It was going out to practice firing torpedoes and submerging and surfacing.
"We've got to practice these," said Capt. Bell, "because the submarines stay down so long. Imagine a plane pilot who only got a chance to land his plane once every two months!"
The Polaris submarines obviously cruise within 1,200 or 1,500 miles of their Russian targets, depending on the type of submarine and the range of its missiles. Eventually it is hoped to extend the range of the missiles so that dependence on foreign bases will diminish or cease and the submarines will be able to operate from the United States.
Want To Marry
Aboard the 18,300-ton Hunley an officer was considering requests from crewmen to marry Scottish girls.
There were 130 marriages aboard the Proteus in the two years of its duty here and the Hunley carries more men. There was one disconsolate crewman. Stewart McLaren left his native Edinburgh because he didn't like the climate, emigrated to subtropical Key West, Fla., got called up for national service and was posted to, of all places, Holy Loch.
He was suffering from a cold.
Seaman Ronald Locandro of New Brunswick, N.J., one of the Hunley's crew, watched the John Marshall fade into the mists.
"We are their slaves," he said, giving point to the Hunley's role of mother ship to the submarines.
In the Royal Marine hotel a group of Navy wives were discussing the lack of living accommodation in crowded Dunoon and the acute lack of central heating along the bleak Argyllshire coast.
One wife said she had been thinking of a holiday tour which included Leningrad but her husband's superiors had vetoed this. The Navy would be very unhappy if any relative of a man in the Polaris program fell into Russian hands.

of this that explains why hostile demonstrations against the Polaris submarines by pacifist groups, so frequent when the base was established in 1961, have become insignificant. A widely proclaimed "all-night-vigil" to protest the arrival of the Hunley attracted a grand total of six demonstrators.
But the calm of the loch is deceptive. The Hunley, the first ship built from the keel up to handle Polaris craft, is the mother ship of nine missile-armed submarines on active duty, with a tenth en route. Six or seven submarines are always away on silent 60-day patrols, never communicating by radio so as not to give away their positions, each with 16 missiles ready to fire in a matter of minutes.

VALUES

TRADING STAMPS



POTATOES
U.S. No. 1's
Golden Bell
29c
10-lb. Bag ...

CARROTS Crisp, Tender - 2-lb. Cello **19c**
ROMAINE or Red Lettuce..... Each **2/25c**
STRAWBERRIES Fresh, Tasty Box **3/\$1.00**
TOMATOES Red Ripe - Basket **19c**

"CLEAN-UP" **CLEANING COMPOUNDS**

PUREX BLEACH 1/2 Gallon **39c**
AERO WAX No Rub - Quart **59c**
WIZARD DEODORANTS 7-oz. **49c**
EASY-OFF OVEN CLEANER 8-oz. **49c**
EASY-ON SPRAY STARCH 22-oz. **59c**

"SPRING-TIME IS CLEAN-UP TIME"

Get Your Windows **EASY-OFF WINDOW SPRAY** WITH **SUNSHINE CLEAN**

SPECIAL TODAY!
Only **39c**



SPECIAL SPECIAL SPECIAL

Crown **FLOUR** 25 Lbs. **\$1.59**
Silk **Paper Napkins** Pkg. 60 **5c**
Van Camps **Pork & Beans** 2 1/2 Tin **19c**

Nalley's **BANQUET DILLS** 22-oz. **39c**
Nalley's **DILL PICKLES** 22-oz. **39c**
Nalley's **KOSHER DILLS** 22-oz. **39c**
CLIFFCHAR **CHARCOAL BRIQUETS** 10 lb. bag **69c**
Zee **PAPER TOWELS** 150's roll **19c**

Dixie **PAPER PLATES** 10 9/16-in. Pkgs. **2 for 29c**
Dixie Hot **PAPER CUPS** 6 9-oz. Pkgs. **2 for 29c**
Handy Andy Ammonia or Golden **CLEANER** 28-oz. Bottle **59c**
Zee **TOILET TISSUE** 4 rolls **39c**

Look for the Store Displaying the **TIP - TOP MARKET** SIGN in Your Area **INDEPENDENTLY OWNED and OPERATED**

SILVER DOLLAR STAMPS **DRIVE-IN MARKET**
SOUTH PACIFIC HIGHWAY TALENT
HOURS: 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. Monday Through Sunday

SILVER DOLLAR STAMPS **Paulsen & Gates Thrift Mkt.**
162 PINE STREET CENTRAL POINT
HOURS: 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. Closed Sunday

Prices Effective Through Sunday

We Buy Right . . . We Sell Right



Tip-Top MARKETS



POLARIS

Atlantic Ocean Aberdeen North Sea
SCOTLAND Glasgow Edinburgh HOLY LOCH Sunderland
N. IRELAND

HARBORS POLARIS - This quiet Scottish loch harbors the most powerful mobile military force known to man: Polaris missile carrying Submarine Squadron 14. Force could be whisked away from the loch in a matter of hours to strategic positions in case of sudden crisis or attack. (UPI)

Youth on Mission To Save Parents Object of Search

Murphy, Idaho - (UPI) - A 39-man party fanned out across the wild and snow-blanketed Owyhee mountains at dawn today in search of a 19-year-old youth who became lost seeking help for his stranded parents.
The Owyhee county sheriff's posse, bolstered by the Idaho Search and Rescue Team and light aircraft, resumed its search for Delford Sharpe of Gayway Junction, Idaho.
Car Breaks Down
The boy and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Sharpe, were stranded about two miles from the ghost mining town of Silver City Sunday afternoon when their car broke down.
They stayed with their car until Monday morning when Delford set out for Silver City.
Sheriff Al Barberis said the youth had only an orange and pocketful of gingersnaps. There is no habitation within 20 miles of the spot and snow drifts range to five feet deep.
Wednesday morning the elder Sharpe started hiking toward Murphy, the Owyhee county seat of some 50 population 24 miles away. He was picked up by a rancher about 15 miles down the road.
When Sharpe got to Murphy, a rescue party was organized. It bucked its way through a new snow fall to reach Mrs. Sharpe and bring her to Murphy. No trace was found of Delford.
The youth's anxious parents waited for news of their son after their rescue.
"He's a stranger in that country - that rough country," Sharpe said. "He's never been in there before. I don't know what's happened."
Grocers predict that within 10 years 75 per cent of the nation's potato crop will go to processors.