

# Nautilus Polar Voyage Gives U.S. Sub Service New Defense Potentials

By DARRELL GARWOOD  
United Press International

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The atomic-powered Nautilus' pioneer voyage under the North Pole means deadly new defense capabilities for America's submarine fleet as well as a new commercial link between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, observers said.

The historic, four-day, 1,830-mile cruise under the polar ice cap, the Navy said, means that deadly, missile-carrying nuclear subs can be switched strategically between the two oceans in less than half the time formerly required.

On a broader base, some sources say the U. S.'s leadership in nuclear submarines as offsetting the psychological and military threats posed by Russia's present advantages in the satellite-missile field.

The United States has six nuclear submarines built, 13 under construction, and seven more authorized. So far as is known, Russia has yet to launch its first nuclear sub.

Adm. Elton W. Grenell, commander of submarines in the Pacific, said at Pearl Harbor that the Nautilus' dramatic voyage was "America's answer to the Sputnik."

Cmdr. William R. Anderson, skipper of the Nautilus, was rushed by helicopter and transport plane from Iceland to the White House Friday for announcement of the historic, making voyage, completed Tuesday.

The importance attached to the feat was demonstrated by the fact President Eisenhower personally awarded the Legion of Merit to Anderson in a specially called ceremony in the White House Conference Room.

The mood in Congress after announcement of the event was jubilant. Senate Republican leader William F. Knowland (R-Calif.) keynoted sentiment when he said the voyage should give all Americans faith in their country.

President Eisenhower emphasized the Nautilus' exploit pointed the way for further explorations, and possible use of this route by nuclear-powered cargo submarines as a new commercial sea-

way between the major oceans of the world.

A spokesman for the Federal Maritime Administration revealed it already was at work on such atom-powered cargo and tanker submarines. The spokesman said he expected the Aerojet General Corp. of California to deliver the first drawings of a nuclear-engine underwater tanker next week.

Retired Adm. C. B. Monsen, a submarine expert who developed the famed submarine escape "lung" bearing his name, said the Arctic cruise pointed the way to possible underwater freight trains and pleasant passenger voyages unmarred by seasickness.

He said he was studying whether it would be practical for submarine "tugboats" to tow underwater cargo barges.

The four-year-old Nautilus left Hawaii at 2 a. m., e.d.t., July 23 on a long-planned, 14-day trip that covered 8,000 nautical miles (9,200 statute miles), during which the vessel was submerged 97 per cent of the time.

After passing through the Bering Straits, close to the shores of Soviet Siberia, the Nautilus discovered a "deep sea valley" ranging from 300 to thousands of feet in depth under the polar ice-pack.

At the Pole itself, the depth was 13,410 feet, or 1,927 feet more than previous estimates. The Nautilus passed under the Pole at 11:15 p. m., e.d.t., Aug. 3.

Despite navigational difficulties, the Nautilus negotiated the 1,830 nautical miles under the ice cap in 97 hours and 17 minutes at an average speed of 18.5 knots, or more than 21 statute miles an hour.

The Navy pointed out that normal sailing distance between Tokyo and London is 11,200 miles, whereas under the Pole the distance would be 6,300 miles.

The Nautilus' achievement could be credited mainly to nuclear power, which uses no oxygen and therefore makes possible indefinite submergence, but other great scientific advances also contributed.

The sub was equipped with sonar (sound echoing) devices giving a continuous reading of the ocean depth with unprecedented accuracy throughout the cruise.

In a few years, according to the Navy, these devices will have so thoroughly mapped the topography of the ocean floor that a submarine will be able to determine its position with as much accuracy as a surface ship.

The Navy disclosed the Nautilus used an "inertial guidance" system, which enabled the sub to find its course without reference to the stars or other normal navigational aids, to traverse the North Pole and thus beat what Anderson referred to as "longitudinal roulette" when its compass became useless.

The Nautilus also carried closed-circuit television-type

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## Police Believe Torch Had Protection Racket Tie-In

FLINT, Mich. (AP)—A protection racket against dry cleaners was believed Saturday a likely motive for the burning of a Flint cleaning shop that backfired into a flaming death trap for a Teamster official.

Michigan Atty. General Paul Adams said the investigation into the arson death of Frank Kierdorf, 66, was proceeding on the theory that the ex-convict may have been involved in such an affair.

Adams said Kierdorf, a business agent for Teamster Local 332, may not have been accepting money to organize dry cleaning employees. As an extra protection, Kierdorf may have been keeping competition away from his shake-down clients.

Investigators began a round-up of Teamster officials for questioning, including William Hoffa, brother of Teamster boss James R. Hoffa. He was questioned and released Friday.

Adams said others he wanted to talk to included Frank Fitzsimmons, vice president of Hoffa's home Local 299 in Detroit, and Joseph Baines, a business agent of Local 614 at Pontiac.

Meanwhile, a nationwide search continued for Herman Kierdorf, 68, an uncle of Frank. He disappeared Monday shortly after identifying his nephew at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in nearby Pontiac. He is sought on a techni-

cal charge of possessing a gun with a silencer.

Police have discovered that Herman, an ex-convict and former Teamster official, sold a black Cadillac sedan to a used car dealer for \$1,700 Monday night. The car is being checked for clues.

Adams said the Cadillac, the title of which was registered to the Teamsters, may have been the getaway car used by Frank Kierdorf Sunday night when he and two other men allegedly set fire to the Latreille Cleaners near Flint.

Frank lingered to pick up a dropped flashlight, investigators said, and was caught in the flaming explosion. He died Wednesday from complications of burns covering 85 per cent of his body.

Kierdorf told a story of two men luring him to a remote area, dousing him with inflammable fluid and igniting it. But on his deathbed, unable to speak, he reportedly confessed by raising his blackened arms to signify "Yes," and identified his accomplices in the arson.

Adams was skeptical of the investigator's interview. He said that investigators would follow through on any leads, however, including Kierdorf's indication that his uncle was at the scene.

## Senate Group Grants Stars Damage Bill

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Senate Judiciary Committee approved a bill Friday to award singer Jane Froman and two other performers \$23,403 each for injuries suffered in a plane crash en route to entertain troops in 1943.

Miss Froman, Gypsy Markoff, an accordionist - singer, and Lorraine Rognan, a dancer, were injured in a crash of a Pan American plane when it attempted a landing in Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 22, 1943.

**CHARGES BREACH OF FAITH**  
WASHINGTON (UPI) — Sen. Thurston B. Morton (R-Ky.) told the Senate Friday failure to act on Hawaiian statehood this year was "tantamount to a breach of faith" on the part of the Democratic congressional leadership.

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