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03 Feb 05

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From: Rear Admiral (Select) [REDACTED], U.S. Navy
To: Commander, SEVENTH FLEET

Subj: COMMAND INVESTIGATION OF THE APPARENT SUBMERGED GROUNDING
OF USS SAN FRANCISCO (SSN 711) APPROXIMATELY 360 NM
SOUTHEAST OF GUAM THAT OCCURRED ON 8 JANUARY 2005 (U)

Ref: (a) JAG Manual, Chapter II
(b) NAVSEA S9SSN-W4_SSM-NA0/688CL, SSN688 Class Ship
Systems Manual (SSM)
(c) U.S. Navy Regulations
(d) OPNAVINST 3120.32C (Navy SORM)
(e) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM)
(f) COMNAVSUBFOR OPORD 2000

Encl: (1) COMSEVENTHFLT ltr 5800 Ser N013/007 of 09 Jan 05
(Appointing order) with 19 Jan 05 amendment (U)
(2) CTF74 040409Z JAN 05 (SUBNOTE 001) (C)
(3) CTF74 232259Z DEC 04 (OPSKED 02-05) (C)
(4) Transcript of Interview of CDR [REDACTED], USN;
Transcript of Supplemental Interview [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (C)
(5) Transcripts of Interviews of LCDR [REDACTED],
USN; Transcript of Supplemental Interview [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (U)
(6) Transcript of Interviews of LCDR [REDACTED],
USN; Transcript of Supplemental Interview [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (C)
(7) Voluntary statement of ETCS(SS) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (C)
(8) Transcripts of Interview of ETCS(SS) [REDACTED].
[REDACTED]; Transcript of Supplemental Interview (C)
(9) Voluntary Statement of ET1(SS) [REDACTED], USN
[REDACTED] w/ appended 12 Jan
05 statement (C)

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Derived from: DOE-DOD Classification Guide

GC RN-1 Revision 3 dtd February 1996 Multiple sources.

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- (10) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of ET1(SS) [REDACTED], USN(C)
- (11) OPNAV NOTICE 5400 (Standard Navy Distribution List) (excerpt) (U)
- (12) CNO 111800Z JUN 01 (Homeport Change Message) (U)
- (13) OPREP-3 material, damage reports, and personnel casualty reports (C)
- (14) SAN FRANCISCO ltr 1306 Ser SSN711/ of 6 Jan 05 (Sailing List) (U)
- (15) COMNAVSUBFOR OPOD 2000 Annex J (Command Relationships) (excerpt) (C)
- (16) SAN FRANCISCO Underway Chronology for 2004 (U)
- (17) Senior Member, TRE Team ltr 3590 Ser N70/S12 of 20 Feb 04 (TRE Report) (S)
- (18) Commander Submarine Squadron ltr 3590 Ser N02/S026 of 15 Oct 04 (POMCERT Report) (S)
- (19) Transcript of Interview of ET2 [REDACTED] (C)
- (20) QMOW and Fathometer Qualification Cards from SAN FRANCISCO (U)
- (21) SAN FRANCISCO ltr 5000 Ser N012 of 26 Aug 02 (Navigator's designation letter) (U)
- (22) SAN FRANCISCO ltr 5000 Ser N012 of 28 Oct 02 (ANAV qual. letter) (U)
- (23) CHINFO, United States Navy Fact File (SSN) (website excerpt)
- (24) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 1, Ch 2 Section 2.2 (C)
- (25) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 1, Ch 3, Section 4.1 through 4.2 (U)
- (26) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual, Vol. 2, Pt 4G, Section 1.2 (AN/WRN-6 GPS System Satellite Receiver) (U)
- (27) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 1, Ch 3, Section 1.3.2 through 1.3.3 (C)
- (28) VMS Operator's Manual Ch. 1 (U)
- (29) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 1, Ch 3, Section 7.2B.9 (U)
- (30) SAN FRANCISCO EM Log Calibration Records (C)
- (31) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 2, Pt 1, Section 1.3m (C)
- (32) U.S. Navy Regulations, Art. 0857 (Safe Navigation and Regulations Governing Operation of Ships and Aircraft) (U)
- (33) COMNAVSUBFOR OPOD 2000 App. 1 to Annex C (Movement

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- Procedures) (C)
- (34) COMSUBGRU7INST C3120.2E (excerpt) (WESTPAC Guide)
(C)
 - (35) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer Standing
Order 4 (Navigation) (U)
 - (36) SSN688 Ship System Manual Vol. 6, Part 1 (OP 61-17)
(Navigation and piloting procedure) (U)
 - (37) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Section 2102 (U)
 - (38) COMNAVSUBFOR OPOD 2000 Tab C to App. 1 to Annex C
(C)
 - (39) COMNAVSUBFOR OPOD 2000 Tab A to App. 1 to Annex C
Para 2.e (C)
 - (40) COMSUBPAC OPOD 205 Annex C, Para 7 (U)
 - (41) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Sections 1101,
1102 (U)
 - (42) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Section 5102 (U)
 - (43) NGA Chart E2202 (copy of ship's annotated
navigational chart) (C)
 - (44) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer Standing
Order 1 (OOD Responsibilities) (U)
 - (45) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer Standing
Order 8 (Shallow Water Operations) (C)
 - (46) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Section 5108 (U)
 - (47) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer Standing
Order 2 (Submerged Operations) (C)
 - (48) Voluntary Statement of ET2(SS) [REDACTED], USN (C)
 - (49) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of ET2(SS) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] USN (U)
 - (50) Voluntary Statement of ET2(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (C)
 - (51) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of ET2 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], USN (U)
 - (52) Voluntary Statement of ET3(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (U)
 - (53) SAN FRANCISCO Position Log 07-08 Jan 05 (C)
 - (54) SAN FRANCISCONAVDEPTINST 5400.2G (Navigator's
Standing Orders) (U)
 - (55) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer Standing
Order 5 (Sonar Operations) (U)
 - (56) COMSUBPAC ltr 1500 Ser N70/038 of 16 Jul 03
(Readiness and Training Memorandum 03-09) (U)
 - (57) Transcript of Interview of ETC(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (U)
 - (58) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Sections 6101,
6103, 6106 (U)

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- (59) ETCS(SS) [REDACTED], USN, Summary of deficiencies based on review of SAN FRANCISCO navigational logs for period of 7-8 Jan 05 (U)
- (60) SAN FRANCISCO Deck Log of 07-08 Jan 05 (C)
- (61) SAN FRANCISCO Fathometer Log of 07-08 Jan 05 (C)
- (62) Video of Helicopter Transfer to SAN FRANCISCO (U)
- (63) Discussion of Medical Recommendations (U)
- (64) COMNAVSUBFOR OPORD 2000 Tab A to App. 1 to Annex C, Para. 3 (Submarine OPSEC Conditions) (C)
- (65) CSG-7 OPSOP 302 CH-10 of 30 Apr 04 (Submarine Operational Directives/Checklist) (C)
- (66) Tab D to App. 1 to Annex C, to COMNAVSUBFOR OPORD 2000 (excerpt) (C)
- (67) Transcript of Interview with ET1(SS) (SW) [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (C)
- (68) Transcript of Interview with ET1(SS) [REDACTED], USN w/ [REDACTED] (C)
- (69) Transcript of Interview with LT [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (C)
- (70) Transcript of Interview with LCDR [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (C)
- (71) Transcript of Interview with LCDR [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (C)
- (72) Transcript of Interview with ET2(SS) [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (C)
- (73) Transcript of Interview with LT [REDACTED] (C)
- (74) Transcript of Interview with ETC(SS) [REDACTED] (C)
- (75) Transcript of Interview with LCDR [REDACTED] (C)
- (76) Transcript of Group Interview of COMSUBGRU SEVEN (CTF-74) Staff personnel (C)
- (77) COMSUBGRU7INST C1543.1E (COMSUBGRU SEVEN Operations Department Quartermaster of the Watch Qualification Card) (C)
- (78) COMSUBGRU7INST 1520.2E (Command Duty Officer Qualification Card) (U)
- (79) LCDR [REDACTED], USN memo response to RFI for

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- SAN FRANCISCO JAGMAN Investigation (U)
- (80) Qualification cards for LCDR [REDACTED] LCDR [REDACTED], LT [REDACTED], LT [REDACTED] and Oral Exam Record Form for ET1 [REDACTED] (U)
 - (81) ETC(SS) [REDACTED], USN memo of 25 Jan 05 (U)
 - (82) Naval Warfare Publication (NWP) 3-21.52.27 (excerpt) (GCCS-M system description) (C)
 - (83) CSG-7 OPSOP 302-A CH-10 of 30 Apr 04 (Annotated Checklist for SUBNOTE 001)
 - (84) SUBNOTE 001 Task Bar(C)
 - (85) LCDR [REDACTED] USN memo of 25 Jan 05 (U)
 - (86) Prior CSG-7 SUBNOTES in vicinity of grounding (C)
 - (87) LT [REDACTED], JAGC, USN email of 25 Jan 05 12:15 PM (U)
 - (88) COMSUBGRU SEVEN PMI Lessons Learned Index (C)
 - (89) COMSUBGRU SEVEN OPSOP 301 CH-3 of 10 Feb 03 (Prevention of Mutual Interference Procedures) (C)
 - (90) ET1(SS) [REDACTED] email of 04 Jan 05 8:02 AM (draft SUBNOTE 001) (C)
 - (91) LCDR [REDACTED], USN memo of 20 Jan 05 (NOTE Timeline) (C)
 - (92) Chart Review/Correction Personnel List (U)
 - (93) SAN FRANCISCO (COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 Sections 5113, 5114) Piloting Preparations Checkoff, Planned Operations/Navigation Checkoff (U)
 - (94) SAN FRANCISCO Plan of the Day for 07-08 Jan 05, Plan of the Week for 07-13 Jan 05 (U)
 - (95) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED], USN (ENG) (C)
 - (96) SAN FRANCISCO Forward and Aft Out of Commission, Reduced Status and Instrument Logs Covering a Period Prior to Grounding (C)
 - (97) Voluntary statement of LT [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (WEPS) (U)
 - (98) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of LT [REDACTED] USN (WEPS) (C)
 - (99) SAN FRANCISCO Detailed Casualty Chronology/List of Events (C)
 - (100) UNQ-9 Open Microphone Recordings w/ Transcript (S)
 - (101) SAN FRANCISCO Ring Laser Gyro Navigator(RLGN) Data (C)
 - (102) SAN FRANCISCO Commanding Officer's Night Orders for 071800K JAN 05 through 082400 JAN 05, 081800K JAN 05 through 092400K JAN 05, and

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091800K JAN 05 through 101600K JAN 05 (C)

- (103) Voluntary statement of CMDCM(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (COB) (U)
- (104) Ship's Material Discrepancy Log (C)
- (105) SAN FRANCISCO Sonar Search Plan (S)
- (106) OPS Brief PowerPoint File (C)
- (107) Voluntary statement of LT [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (AWEPS) (U)
- (108) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of LT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], USN (AWEPS) (U)
- (109) Transcript of Interview of LTJG [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] USN [REDACTED]
(U)
- (110) NGA Nautical Chart E2203 (C)
- (111) Voluntary Statement of STSC(SS) [REDACTED],
(Off-going Sonar Supervisor) USN (C)
- (112) Voluntary Statement of MMCS(SS) [REDACTED], USN
(DIVE) (C)
- (113) SAN FRANCISCO Active/Passive Sonar Logs (C)
- (114) PC-IMAT Screen Captures (C)
- (115) VMS display (C)
- (116) Voluntary statement of ET3(SS) [REDACTED], USN
(U)
- (117) Transcript of Supplemental Interview of ET3(SS)
[REDACTED], USN (U)
- (118) Contact Evaluation Plot Digital Data Tape (S)
- (119) Voluntary Statement of FT2(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (U)
- (120) Voluntary statement of FT2(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (U)
- (121) Voluntary statement and Transcript of Supplemental
Interview of STS1(SS) [REDACTED], USN (Sonar
Supervisor) (U)
- (122) Voluntary statement of FT2(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (FTOW) (U)
- (123) LT [REDACTED] memo of 12 Jan 05 (Weather
Report on Manning the Bridge on 08 Jan 05) (U)
- (124) Voluntary statement of CSC(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (COW) (U)
- (125) Voluntary Statement of SKSN [REDACTED], USN
(MOW U/I) (U)
- (126) Transcript of Interview of MMFN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], USN (Messenger) (U)
- (127) Voluntary Statement of MM2(SS) [REDACTED], USN
(Sternplanes) (C)

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SOUTHEAST OF GUAM THAT OCCURRED ON 8 JANUARY 2005 (U)

- (128) Voluntary statement of LTJG [REDACTED], USN (EOOW)
(C)
- (129) SAN FRANCISCO Engineer's Bell Log for 08 Jan 05 (C)
- (130) Summary of Interview of Engineering Watch Section
Regarding Casualty Response (C)
- (131) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 6, Part 1 (OP
61-11) (C)
- (132) BQN-17 Paper Trace (excerpt from 07-08 Jan 05
Underway Period) (U)
- (133) Voluntary statement of STS1(SS) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] USN (C)
- (134) Fire Control Master Contact Log of 07 Jan 05
(C)
- (135) Photo of Rocks Removed from SAN FRANCISCO Forward
Free Flood Area(U)
- (136) Photos of SAN FRANCISCO Post-Grounding Underway and
Damage (S)
- (137) USNS HESS 1980 Survey Data in vicinity of grounding
(S)
- (138) Voluntary statement of ET3(SS) [REDACTED],
(Off-going FTOW) USN (U)
- (139) Transcript of Interview of HM1(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (Independent Duty Corpsman) (U)
- (140) Voluntary statement of ET3(SS) [REDACTED],
USN (Helmsman) (U)
- (141) Maneuvering Reference Drawing (U)
- (142) YNC(SS) [REDACTED] memo of 24 Jan 05 (U)
- (143) Initial Injury List, SF600's, and Emergency
Treatment Record summaries Documenting Injuries
Caused by the Grounding (C)
- (144) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 6, part 2 (CP
62-1) (General Emergency Procedure) (U)
- (145) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 6, part 2 (CP
62-3) (Collision Procedure) (U)
- (146) NGA Chart 81023 (w/ ship's track) (C)
- (147) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual Vol. 6, part 1 (OP
61-4) (Surfacing Procedure) (U)
- (148) SSN688 Class Ship Systems Manual, Vol. 3, Part 1
Para. 3.3 (Low Pressure Main Ballast Tank Blow
System) (U)
- (149) Initial Annotated Damage Assessment Drawing of SAN
FRANCISCO (C)
- (150) Preliminary Report of Autopsy for Joseph A. Ashley
of 12 Jan 05 (U)
- (151) Injury Matrix (Analysis of Medical Evaluations of

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Crewmembers of SAN FRANCISCO) (U)

- (152) [PHTLS] McSwain NE, Basic and Advanced Prehospital Trauma Life Support, Mosby, 2003, pgs 212-221,423 (U)
- (153) IDC Curriculum Head Injury Chapter (U)
- (154) SATHICOM log between SAN FRANCISCO and CTF-74 (C)
- (155) SATHICOM log between SAN FRANCISCO and COMSUBPAC (C)
- (156) Transcript of Interview of LT [REDACTED], MC, USN (CGS-7 Medical Officer) (U)
- (157) Transcript of Interview of CDR [REDACTED] MC, USN (Force Medical Officer) (U)
- (158) Transcript of Interview of LTJG [REDACTED], USN (U)
- (159) Chat Record SAN FRANCISCO and COMSEVENTHFLT (C)
- (160) Medical Treatment Evacuation Timeline (SATHICOM) (U)
- (161) Medical Training/Qualifications of Personnel Involved in Medical Response and Attempted MEDEVAC (U)
- (162) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED], MC, USN (Responding Physician) (U)
- (163) Transcript of Interview of HM2 (SEAL) [REDACTED], USN (Responding Corpsman) (U)
- (164) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED], USN (U)
- (165) Glasgow Coma Score (U)
- (166) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED] MC, USN (Responding Physician) (U)
- (167) HMCM(SS) [REDACTED] memo of 21 Jan 05 (U)
- (168) Advanced Cardiac Life Support Provider Manual (Student Guide) (U)
- (169) Reeves Sleeve Specifications (U)
- (170) CDR [REDACTED], MC, USN memo of 21 Jan 05 (Review of Quarterly Quality Assurance Reviews and Training Records ico HM1(SS/SW) [REDACTED]) (U)
- (171) CAPT [REDACTED], MC, USN memo of 18 Jan 05 (Description and Medical Opinion Regarding MM2(SS) Ashley's Injuries) (U)
- (172) Photos of Medical Equipment and Attempted Evacuation Route (U)
- (173) Submarine Authorized Medical Allowance List (U)
- (174) COMNAVSUBFORINST 6000.2A (EMAT Instruction) (U)
- (175) CDR [REDACTED] memo of 19 Jan 05 (enclosing CDR [REDACTED] email of 19 Jan 05 7:40 AM) (U)

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- (176) Communications Capabilities of Units Involved in SAN FRANCISCO Operations 08-10 Jan 05 (C)
- (177) Transcript of Interview of CDR [REDACTED], USN [REDACTED] (On Scene Commander for Relief/MEDEVAC) (C)
- (178) Transcript of Interview of LT [REDACTED], MC, USN and HMC(SS) [REDACTED], USN (CSS-15 Medical Personnel) (U)
- (179) CDR [REDACTED], MC, USN memo of 25 Jan 05 (U)
- (180) CDR [REDACTED], MC, USN memo of 24 Jan 05 (U)
- (181) Videos of Damage (DVD) (C)
- (182) Photos of Damage (CD) (C)
- (183) SAN FRANCISCO Preliminary Damage Assessment and Repair Cost Estimate (U)
- (184) COMNAVSUBFOR 282107Z FEB 03 (Documenting ANAV Qualification) (U)
- (185) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NORDORM) Section 4305 (Assistant Navigator Qualification Card) (U)
- (186) CSS-15 (Squadron Secretary) memo of 26 Jan 05 (U)
- (187) SAN FRANCISCO Qualified Watchstanders List (U)
- (188) ANAV Course Curriculum (U)
- (189) SAN FRANCISCO Underway Watchbill for 07-13 Jan 05 (U)
- (190) COMSUBPACINST C3500.1B Annex O (SSN/SSBN Watchstation Proficiency Requirements) (U)
- (191) SAN FRANCISCO Officer of the Deck Qualification Cards (U)
- (192) [REDACTED] memo of 25 Jan 05 (U)
- (193) [REDACTED] memo of 15 Jan 04 (Navigation Evaluation of SAN FRANCISCO) (U)
- (194) COMNAVSUBFORINST 3590.17 N70 of 04 Aug 03 (TRE Instruction) (U)
- (195) Ashore Submarine Tactical Assessment and Training Standards (STATS) (U)
- (196) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED] and ETC(SS) [REDACTED] (U)
- (197) LCDR [REDACTED] memo of 20 Aug 04 (Navigation Evaluation) (U)
- (198) List of Riders for 2004 on SAN FRANCISCO (U)
- (199) Report of Completion of POMCERT Deficiencies Message (U)
- (200) OPNAVINST 3500.39B (Operational Risk Management (ORM)) (U)
- (201) COMNAVSUBFORINST 3500.1 Section 1003 (Submarine

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- Readiness Manual) (excerpt) (U)
- (202) COMSUBPACINST C3500.1B Sections 2004, 2168 (excerpt) (C)
- (203) 2004 Record Collision and Grounding Briefs (U)
- (204) QMOW Short Range Training Documents 2004 (U)
- (205) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) pg. 2 (U)
- (206) SAN FRANCISCO NODORM Review Sheet 2004/2005 (U)
- (207) SAN FRANCISCOINST 5040.3 CO/XO of 20 Jul 04 (Monitoring and Assessment Program) (U)
- (208) New Top Five of 31 Aug 2004 (U)
- (209) New Top Five of 21 Oct 2004 (U)
- (210) New Top Five of 25 Nov 2004 (U)
- (211) NAV Monitor Open Ocean QMOW/OOD (C)
- (212) SAN FRANCISCO Monitor Response Forms (SUBNOTE entry into VMS) (U)
- (213) SAN FRANCISCO Monitor Response Form (Anchorage for Precision Navigation VMS) (U)
- (214) SAN FRANCISCO Monitor Response Form (VMS Voyage Plan Development) (U)
- (215) Quartermaster First Quarter Goals and Assessment 2004 (U)
- (216) Quartermaster Second Quarter Goals and Assessment 2004 (U)
- (217) Quartermaster Third Quarter Goals and Assessment 2004 (U)
- (218) Quartermaster Fourth Quarter Goals and Assessment 2004 (U)
- (219) SAN FRANCISCO Critique Report of 13 Aug 04 (U)
- (220) Amplification of Medical Opinions (U)
- (221) CDR [REDACTED] email of 21 Jan 05 (Navigation Instruction Data Call) (U)
- (222) Text of CAPT [REDACTED] email to RDML(SEL) [REDACTED] (U)
- (223) The American Practical Navigator (CD) (Bowditch) (U)
- (224) DoD Catalog of Charts and Related Products, Part 2, Vol. 2 (8th Edition, May 2003) pp. 24, 25, 50-52 106-07 (S)
- (225) Defense Logistics Agency, Catalog of Hydrographic Products, National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) Part 2, Volume 1 (12th Ed., April 2002) (Nautical Charts and Publications) pp. 8-1 to 8-3, 8-6 to 8-9, 8-22, 10-1 to 10-11, 10-40 (U)
- (226) LCDR [REDACTED] memo of 20 Jan 05

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- (Chart Review) (S)
- (227) The Defense Mapping Agency, Product Specifications for Bottom Contour Chart (All Series) (4th, March 1985) (U)
 - (228) CSPINST S3530.2E (SUBPAC Nautical Chart and Publication Allowances) (S)
 - (229) LCDR [REDACTED] memo of 21 Jan 05 (SAN FRANCISCO Investigation-limited Chart Inventory) (U)
 - (230) ETC(SS) [REDACTED] memo of 12 Jan 05 (U)
 - (231) Notice to Mariners, Chart Corrections (U)
 - (232) CAPT [REDACTED], USN (Chief, NGA Maritime Division) memo of 13 Jan 05 (U)
 - (233) COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29 (NODORM) Chapter VII (U)
 - (234) Classified Summary of Corrections 2003, p. 57 (C)
 - (235) Classified Notice to Mariners, No. 11 (27 Nov 04) p. I-2.1 (S)
 - (236) Chart No. 1 (Nautical Chart-Symbols, Abbreviations and Terms) (excerpt) (U)
 - (237) NIMA Publication 126 (Sailing Directions), Sector 10 (U)
 - (238) LCDR [REDACTED] memo of 15 Jan 05 (U)
 - (239) NGA Chart INT 507 (U)
 - (240) NGA Chart INT 506 (marginalia excerpt) (U)
 - (241) [REDACTED] memos of 25 Jan 05 (Operations of A/N USQ-38 EHF) (U)
 - (242) Voluntary Statement of OSC(SEAL) [REDACTED], USN (U)
 - (243) Voluntary Statement of LT [REDACTED], USN (U)
 - (244) Voluntary Statement of LT [REDACTED], USN (U)
 - (245) Voluntary Statement of LT [REDACTED], USN (U)
 - (246) NGA Chart E2405 (photographic excerpt) (C)
 - (247) [REDACTED] memo of 14 Jan 05 (w/ encl) (S)
 - (248) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (NGA) various emails in response to RFI of 14-28 Jan 05 (C)
 - (249) Dr. [REDACTED] (NGA) memo of 13 Jan 05 (C)
 - (250) LT [REDACTED], USN memo of 24 Jan 05 (U)
 - (251) SAN FRANCISCO Forward Critique Binder, Index (U)
 - (252) COMSUBRON FIFTEEN Activity Manpower Document (U)
 - (253) Transcript of Interview of LCDR [REDACTED], USN (CSS-15 Engineer) (S)
 - (254) SAN FRANCISCO NOTE 5215 of 11 Aug 04 (Index of Effective Directives) (U)

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Subj: COMMAND INVESTIGATION OF THE APPARENT SUBMERGED GROUNDING OF USS SAN FRANCISCO (SSN 711) APPROXIMATELY 360 NM SOUTHEAST OF GUAM THAT OCCURRED ON 8 JANUARY 2005 (U)

- (255) CAPT [REDACTED], USN memo of 25 Jan 05 (COMSEVENTHFLT Operations Officer) (U)
- (256) CDR [REDACTED], MC, USN memo of 21 Jan 05 (U)
- (257) CSS-15 Deputy for Readiness memo of 19 Jul 04 (Fast Cruise and Ride Observations) (C)
- (258) CSS-15 Deputy for Readiness memo of 19 Jul 04 (Ride Observations) (U)
- (259) CSS-15 Deputy for Readiness memo of 20 Aug 04 (POM Workup Phase I Ride Observations) (C)
- (260) CAPT [REDACTED], USN memo of 24 Jan 05 (w/ email enclosure) (U)

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. (U) As directed by enclosure (1) and pursuant to reference (a), an investigation into the apparent grounding of USS SAN FRANCISCO (SSN 711) (SAN FRANCISCO) in international waters approximately 360 NM South of Guam, on 8 January 2005 was conducted. CDR [REDACTED], JAGC, USN served as Legal Advisor.
2. (U) In accordance with reference (a), contact with the Admiralty Division of the Office of the Judge Advocate General (Code 11) confirmed that the case will not be assigned to an investigator and no request for a report is anticipated.
3. (U) At the time of this report, a detailed damage assessment with final cost estimates and length of time for repair was not available. Enclosure (149) includes a preliminary damage assessment and estimated repair costs.
4. (U) All bearings are true bearings and all courses are true courses. The term "grounding" is used in lieu of "bottoming," defined by reference (b), related specifically to submerged operations.
5. (U) Original records and certified copies are included to the extent they exist. Original logs and training records not enclosed were returned to SAN FRANCISCO.
6. (U) Privacy Act statements were not used as all personal information was obtained from existing records.

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7. (U) Commander Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) appointed a Mishap Investigation Board (MIB) to investigate the subject casualty. The MIB did not share privileged witness or derivative information with this investigation. Evidence obtained during this investigation was made available to the MIB at its request.

8. (U) The MIB retained the original of enclosure (43), SAN FRANCISCO's navigational chart at the time of the casualty. To facilitate safe post-casualty surface navigation, SAN FRANCISCO watchstanders erased pre-casualty navigation information from enclosure (43). The erasure did not negatively impact this investigation; pertinent navigational information was reliably reconstructed from ship's logs and other ship's data.

9. (U) In completing this investigation, all involved COMSUBPAC, Commander Submarine Group SEVEN, Commander Submarine Squadron FIFTEEN, Naval Submarine Training Center, Pacific (NSTCP), Naval Oceanographic Command (NAVOCEANO), National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), SAN FRANCISCO personnel, and individuals involved in the attempted MEDEVAC, were interviewed. References (c)-(f) and all other relevant regulations, directives, logs, charts, reports and training records were reviewed.

10. (U) The findings of fact show that SAN FRANCISCO, while transiting at flank speed and submerged to 525 feet, hit a seamount that did not appear on the chart being used for navigation. Other charts in SAN FRANCISCO's possession did, however, clearly display a navigation hazard in the vicinity of the grounding. SAN FRANCISCO's navigation team failed to review those charts adequately and transfer pertinent data to the chart being used for navigation, as relevant directives and the ship's own procedures required. If SAN FRANCISCO's leaders and watchteams had complied with requisite procedures and exercised prudent navigation practices, the grounding would most likely have been avoided. Even if not wholly avoided, however, the grounding would not have been as severe and loss of life may have been prevented.

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FINDINGS OF FACT

Background and General

1. (U) On 7 January 2005, SAN FRANCISCO departed Naval Base, Guam transiting for a scheduled port visit in Brisbane, Australia. A detailed chronology of events executed on board SAN FRANCISCO during the underway period 7 to 10 January 2005 is attached as enclosure (99). [encls (2)-(10), (60), (94), (99), (100), (101)]
2. (U) SAN FRANCISCO is homeported in Guam and is administratively assigned to CSS-15. [encls (11), (12)]
3. (U) The subject casualty occurred at 1142K (local time) on 8 January 2005. SAN FRANCISCO was transiting submerged about 360 NM Southeast of Guam in the vicinity of the Caroline Islands chain. Based on the initial reports from SAN FRANCISCO, the casualty was classified as an apparent grounding. [encl (13)]
4. (U) At the time of the casualty, there were 137 personnel (16 officers and 121 enlisted) on board SAN FRANCISCO. There were no additional military or civilian riders. [encl (14)]
5. (U) Commander, Task Force SEVEN FOUR (CTF-74) (Administrative Title: Commander, Submarine Group SEVEN) is the Submarine Operating Authority (SUBOPAUTH) for the U.S. SEVENTH Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR) where the casualty occurred. As SUBOPAUTH, CSG-7 prepares and promulgates "SUBNOTE" messages that provide direction for U.S. submarine transits in the AOR. [encl (15)]
6. (U) SAN FRANCISCO was underway 152 days in 2004 and completed an 87-day drydock availability period from 8 February 2004 to 6 May 2004. 127 underway days occurred after the drydock availability. [encl (16)]
7. (U) SAN FRANCISCO conducted a deployment from 19 October 2004 to 1 December 2004 and [REDACTED]. [encl (16)]
8. (U) Commander, Naval Submarine Force, Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC) completed a Tactical Readiness Evaluation (TRE) of SAN FRANCISCO on 20 February 2004. Commander, Submarine Squadron FIFTEEN (CSS-15) completed a Pre-Overseas Movement

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Certification (POMCERT) of SAN FRANCISCO on 15 October 2004.
[encls (17),(18),(260)]

9. (U) CDR [REDACTED], USN, was Commanding Officer (CO) of
SAN FRANCISCO at the time of grounding. He assumed command on
12 December 2003. [encl (4)]

10. (U) From 1999 to 2001, CDR [REDACTED] served as Executive
Officer on USS GEORGIA (SSBN 729) (BLUE). He served as Combat
Systems Officer and Engineer during his Department Head tour on
USS COLUMBUS (SSN 762) from 1993 to 1997. He has never served
as a Navigator. During a 1991 to 1993 assignment as an exchange
officer with the United Kingdom Royal Navy, his duties included
preparing SUBNOTES. [encl (4)]

11. (U) LCDR [REDACTED], USN, was Executive Officer (XO) of
SAN FRANCISCO at the time of grounding. He reported to SAN
FRANCISCO in February 2003. From about September 1999 to
January 2001, he was Navigator on USS PROVIDENCE (SSN 719) [encl
(5)]

12. (U) LCDR [REDACTED], USN, was Navigator (NAV) and
also on watch as Officer of the Deck (OOD) of SAN FRANCISCO at
the time of grounding. He reported to SAN FRANCISCO June 2002.
He requalified OOD in July 2002. He relieved and was designated
as NAV by the prior CO in August 2002. [encls (6),(21)]

13. (U) ETCS(SS) [REDACTED], USN, was Assistant
Navigator (ANAV) on board SAN FRANCISCO at the time of
grounding. He was CO designated as ANAV 28 October 2002. [encls
(7),(22)]

14. (U) ET1(SS) [REDACTED], USN, conducted chart
preparations as part of the voyage preparation for the transit
to Brisbane. He is qualified Navigation Supervisor (NAVSUP) on
SAN FRANCISCO and was previously qualified NAVSUP on USS CITY OF
CORPUS CRISTI. [encl (9)]

15. (U) ET2(SS) [REDACTED], USN, was the Quartermaster
of the Watch (QMOW) of SAN FRANCISCO at the time of grounding.
He qualified QMOW 27 August 2004. [encls (19),(20)]

16. (U) SAN FRANCISCO is a 688 (Los Angeles) Class nuclear-
powered submarine commissioned in 1981. As a 688-718 Class
ship, SAN FRANCISCO is configured with fairwater planes control

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surfaces and is not configured with a Vertical Launch (missile)
System. [encl (23)]

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17. (C) The SSN 688 Class submarine is comprised of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] sections: A [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]; a
[REDACTED]; an [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]; and a [REDACTED] (b)(1)
[REDACTED] The [REDACTED] includes a [REDACTED]
with associated [REDACTED], three [REDACTED] (b)(3)
[REDACTED], and a variety of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. [encl (24)]

18. (U) SAN FRANCISCO was configured with the following systems
and equipment related to navigation:

- a. 2 Ring Laser Gyro Navigators (RLGN) (inertial navigation devices)
- b. 1 Ring Laser Gyro (RLG) (gyro compass)
- c. Military Global Positioning System (GPS)
- d. BQN-17 Fathometer
- e. BQS-15 Bottom Sounder
- f. Voyage Management System (VMS) (digital chart navigation computer system) version 5.0
- g. 2 Mark-19 Plotters (Port and Starboard) (dead reckoning plotting devices)
- h. 2 Electromagnetic (EM) Logs (1 & 2) (water speed indicator)
- i. The AN/BYQ-6 tactical support system (TSS) (Hewlett Packard J5600) (J5600) (tactical support hardware and software)
- j. The only navigation system that was out of commission or in reduced status was the AN/BPS-15H radar.

[encls (4), (25)-(31), (95), (96)]

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Navigation Duties and Responsibilities

Commanding Officer Accountability

19. (U) The "commanding officer is responsible for the safe navigation of his or her ship[.]" Art. 0857, U.S. Navy Regulations. [encl (32)]
20. (U) During the SUBNOTE process, navigational safety remains the responsibility of the submarine's CO. COMNAVSUBFOR OPORD 2000 (OPORD 2000) App. 1 to Annex C, Para. 2.c. [encl (33)]
21. (U) Navigational safety and prudent seamanship are absolute requirements... responsibility for ensuring the safe navigation of the ship rests squarely with the CO. Making operational commitments on time is important, but not at the expense of sound navigation and ship safety. COMSUBGRU7INST C3120.2E Paragraph 5.6 (WESTPAC Guide). [encl (34)]
22. (U) Ultimate responsibility for safe navigation, as for all other facets of ship's operations, rests with the CO. CO Standing Orders. [encls (4), (35)]

Executive Officer Responsibility

23. (U) The Executive Officer "shall review and concur in all navigation plans and changes to existing plans" and supervise the Navigator in the execution of the Navigation Bill. SSM OP 61-17 (OP 61-17) Section 1.2, 1.4b. [encl (36)]
24. (U) The Submarine Readiness Manual (SRM) states the Executive Officer is the Training Officer and shall ensure that all training is conducted as scheduled. [encl (201)]

Navigator Accountability and Responsibilities

25. (U) The Navigator is responsible for safe navigation of the ship. (OP 61-17) Section 1.4. [encl (36)]
26. (U) The Navigator's duties and responsibilities include determining ship's intended movements, preparing and completing the Planned Operations and Navigation Checkoff List for the Commanding Officer's approval, and preparing a SUBNOTE request if required. The Navigator reports to the Commanding Officer in all matters pertaining to safe navigation. COMNAVSUBFORINST 5400.29, The Navigation and Operations Department Organization and Regulation Manual (NODORM) Art. 1101. [encls (41), (205), (206)]

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Assistant Navigator General Responsibilities

27. (U) The Assistant Navigator duties and responsibilities include frequently reviewing all navigational oriented logs and reports to ensure completeness, neatness, and accuracy; bringing errors or omissions to the attention of the person concerned; and ensuring appropriate and proper corrections are made and that the watch officers concerned review and initial corrections. Assistant Navigator's review shall be evidenced by initialing each sheet of the log or record book. NODORM Art. 1102.e. [encl (41)]

General Navigational Considerations

28. (U) "The Submarine Notice (SUBNOTE) System is primarily intended for submarine accountability and safety (submerged interference) monitoring by the SUBOPAETH." OPORD 2000. [encl (33)]

29. (U) The SUBNOTE track should not be assumed to be safe from a navigational standpoint. OPORD 2000. [encl (33)]

30. (C) The SUBNOTE REQUEST message is designed for [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. OPORD 2000. [encl (38)]

31. (C) SUBOPAETHS can [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and will honor requests for [REDACTED] whenever possible. OPORD 2000. [encl (39)]

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32. (C) "[REDACTED]
Submarines should be [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. " WESTPAC
Guide Para. 5.6.1. [encl (34)]

Voyage Planning

Chart Considerations, Navigation References and Data

33. (U) Principles of navigation and piloting consist of proper planning and execution of the navigation plan through use of all navigation techniques and equipment to ensure the ship is safely navigated. OP 61-17 Section 1.3. [encl (36)]

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34. (U) The ship shall "Prepare in detail the navigational and operational plans for those portions of the voyage outside of restricted waters[.]" NODORM Art. 5102.2.c. [encl (42)]

35. (U) "The contour of the ocean bottom, the depth of the water, proximity to shoal water, hazards to navigation, channel width, etc., should be evaluated carefully when selecting the ship's speed." OP 61-17 Section 2.1. [encl (36)]

36. (U) The ship shall ensure the correct charts are selected for intended operations, and that charts to be used are corrected up to date. NODORM Art. 5102.2.a. [encl (42)]

37. (U) By OPORD 2000, COMNAVSUBFOR warns that "all charts for a given area do not necessarily reflect all known dangers regarding that area." As such, COMNAVSUBFOR directs that "all available navigation safety information must be used when planning submarine operations and transits." OPORD 2000 App. 1 to Annex C, Para. 2.c [encl (33)]

38. (U) OPORD 2000 directs units to review navigational charts including "classified, unclassified, bottom contour, general bathymetric and other available charts and information" as part their review of available navigation safety information. Then, "known dangers must then be plotted on the chart actually being used to navigate the ship." App. 1 to Annex C, Para. 2.c [encl (33)]

39. (U) OP 61-17 Section 2.3.4.f requires the Navigator, Officer of the Deck, and Quartermaster of the Watch to check all intended tracks and operating areas, paying close attention to areas where depth of water constitutes a hazard to the ship or other navigation hazards exist. In evaluating these situations, they must consider ship's position uncertainty. Charts in use should be carefully searched for areas where water depth could be a hazard to the ship, or for other navigational hazards, and these areas should be identified. In making such a search, other charts covering the same area should be consulted to verify that all known hazards are identified. Shallow areas and other navigational hazards ahead and behind, as well as on both sides of the intended track, should be identified. [encl (36)]

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