

U.S. NUCLEAR SUBMARINE CIRCLES GLOBE SUBMERGED

12 JUL 1960

The Triton, largest United States Navy nuclear-powered submarine, made history recently on its first cruise by completing the first submerged circumnavigation of the world -- a voyage of 41,500 miles. The 7,750-ton ship, equipped with two advance-type water-cooled atomic reactors, traveled under water for 84 days. Throughout the trip, a periscope provided the Triton's 183 officers and men with their only glimpse of the world above the seas. The photographs in this set -- some of them made through the periscope -- are part of the record of the voyage which has been described at length in the log of the submarine's commander, Captain Edward L. Beach.

4-17 After the Triton surfaced off the east coast of the U.S. on May 10, 1960, a helicopter picked up Triton's Captain Edward L. Beach and flew him to the White House in Washington, D. C. There, President Dwight D. Eisenhower awarded the Legion of Honor Medal to Captain Beach and commended him on his "extraordinary accomplishment." (60-9794)