

## USS NAUTILUS (SSN-571) --- HISTORY SUMMARY

06/14/52	Keel Laid at Electric Boat, Groton, CT.	President Harry S. Truman
12/24/53	Prospective Commanding Officer (PCO) assigned.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
01/21/54	Launched, Groton, CT.	First Lady Mamie D. Eisenhower
07/01/54	Officer-In-Charge (OIC) assigned. Started sea and sub pay.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
09/30/54	Commissioned.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
12/20/54	First nuclear plant operation.	ET1(SS) Edward "Mike" M. Lovejoy
01/03/55	First full power operation.	ET1(SS) Edward "Mike" M. Lovejoy
01/17/55	First underway.	CAPT Hyman G. Rickover
04/22/55	Preliminary acceptance.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
00/00/55	First person to qualify in SSNs.	TM1(SS) George W. Fields
05/11/56	Final acceptance for unrestricted service.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
05/15/57	First to the Pacific Ocean.	CDR Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson
06/18/57	First Change of Command (COC).	CDR Wilkinson & CDR Anderson
09/04/57	First furthest North under ice, Atlantic Ocean, (87 deg N).	CDR William R. Anderson
10/04/57	Sputnick launched.	USSR
04/25/58	Second run to the Pacific Ocean.	CDR William R. Anderson
06/09/58	First Top Secret "Operation Sunshine" from Seattle, WA	CDR William R. Anderson
07/23/58	Second Top Secret "Operation Sunshine" from Pearl Harbor, HI	CDR William R. Anderson
08/03/58	First to reach North Pole submerged. Out Sputnicked USSR.	CDR William R. Anderson
08/27/58	Ticker Tape Parade in New York City. Note: A commemorative strip installed in the sidewake at 160 Broadway, New York City is very close to the former Westinghouse Building, manufacture of Nautilus' reactor plant. Ingraved on the commemorative strip is the following: <i>"REAR ADM. HYMAN G. RICKOVER, COMDR. WILLIAM R. ANDERSON, AND CREW OF THE NAUTILUS, THE FIRST NUCLEAR SUBMARINE."</i>	
07/20/60	First firing of a Polaris Missile (for reference)	USS George Washington
08/15/60	Pride Runs Deep & Long	CDR Lando W. Zech, et al
05/29/79	Last day underway	CDR Richard A. Riddell
03/03/80	Decommissioned at Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, CA.	CDR Richard A. Riddell
05/20/82	Proclaimed a National Historic Landmark - Historic Ship (H.S.) Nautilus	Secretary of the Interior James Watt
05/23/83	H.S. Nautilus declared the Connecticut State Ship. Note: Promoted by school teacher John Watts and his class from Ellington, CT.	Governor William A. O'Neill
07/06/85	Nautilus homecoming. Returned from Mare Island to Groton.	CDR John S. Almon, OIC/In Tow

04/20/86 Opening and dedication of Submarine Force Library & Museum & H.S. Nautilus  
07/09/93 Wilkinson Hall Dedicated

LCDR John M. Crochet, OIC  
VADM Eugene "Dennis" P. Wilkinson

*List compiled by Al Charette, NAAI Historian*