

Commanding Officer



Capt. William E. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

Captain William E. Fitzpatrick was born in Newburgh, New York in 1943. He attended high school in Brooklyn, New York and entered the U. S. Naval Academy in 1961. He graduated and was commissioned in 1965, having earned a Bachelor of Science Degree.

Upon graduation Captain Fitzpatrick was selected for the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and completed courses of instruction in California and Connecticut. He then attended Naval Submarine School and in 1967 reported to the Pre-commissioning Unit of USS TAUTOG (SSN-639) which was being built in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Upon commissioning 1968 the TAUTOG operated as a unit of Submarine Squadron SEVEN in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

In 1970, Captain Fitzpatrick reported to USS VON STEUBEN (SSBN-632) and served as Engineer Officer for three years. In 1973 he reported to USS BATFISH (SSN-681) and served as Navigator until 1975.

Captain Fitzpatrick then served as an Engineer Officer on staff of Commander Submarine Squadron EIGHTEEN, in Charleston, South Carolina until reporting to USS MARIANO G. VALLEJO (SSBN-658) as Executive Officer in 1977. He served in that capacity until commencing prospective Commanding Officer training in January of 1981.

Captain Fitzpatrick served as Commanding Officer, USS HENRY L. STIMSON (SSBN-655) from June of 1981 until November 1984. Following that tour he served as Deputy Commander Submarine Squadron FOUR in Charleston, South Carolina, during which he attended the John F. Kennedy School of Government Course for Senior Officials in National Security at Harvard University. He then reported for duty as Deputy Commander Submarine Squadron EIGHTEEN also in Charleston, South Carolina. In March of 1986 he reported to the Staff of Commander in Chief, United States Atlantic Fleet where he served as Deputy Senior Member for the Nuclear Propulsion Examining Board.

Captain Fitzpatrick is entitled to wear the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, with one gold star, the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon, the Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, The Battle "E" Ribbon, the Navy Expeditionary Medal, the National Defense Medal and the Sea Service Ribbon.

Captain Fitzpatrick is married to the former Ginny May of Glenview, Illinois. They have three children, Gregory, Taylor, and William and reside in Norfolk, Virginia.