

USS Columbia Arrives at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard



KITTERY, Maine – Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Columbia (SSN 771) and its crew arrived at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Thursday, Oct. 29, for a scheduled maintenance and modernization period.

While at the shipyard, Columbia will undergo an overhaul as part of the Service Life Extension Program to ensure the submarine continues to protect the nation with unlimited endurance and stealth.

“As Columbia enters the Service Life Extension Program, our Sailors and skilled shipyard craftspeople stand ready to return it to the fleet, surpassing our previous achievements on USS Cheyenne (SSN 773) and USS Hampton (SSN 767),” said Shipyard Commander Capt. Jesse Nice. “We will tackle this project with the punctuality, grit and determination that

define our legacy.”

Columbia is equipped with advanced technology making it one of the most capable attack submarines in the fleet. The vessel is equipped for long-range tomahawk strike missions and special forces insertions, serving as a lethal, essential component of the U.S. Navy’s fleet.

“Columbia is a front-line attack submarine with a proud history of service and answering our nation’s call to preserve freedom on the seas. I’m excited to see the warriors of Columbia partner with the professionals of our Navy’s premier shipyard”, said Capt. Mike Poplawski, commodore of Submarine Squadron TWO. “I have no doubt that the efforts of the team to complete the overhaul over the coming months will provide our nation with a formidable warship at the exact point of need.”

Cmdr. William Murphy serves as Columbia’s commanding officer. While at the shipyard, Kittery, Maine will serve as Columbia’s host community.

As America’s leader in attack submarine maintenance, repair, and modernization, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard delivers the decisive edge required to master an era of evolving threats. It stands at the forefront of America’s commitment to peace through strength, delivering combat-ready submarines that are lethal, resilient, and prepared to win. Through a focus on innovation, accountability, and fostering a culture of warfighting excellence, PNSY strengthens the maritime industrial base and invests in its highly skilled workforce. The work done at the shipyard is a direct contribution to national security. Submarines leave the shipyard more capable than ever before, ensuring the U.S. Navy remains the most dominant maritime force and that the nation’s warfighters are prepared for any mission, anywhere in the world.

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