



Jimmy Carter Library & Museum **News Release**

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USS Jimmy Carter Exhibit Added to Permanent Collection at Carter Library *February 15th Anniversary of Commissioning of Nuclear Submarine*

ATLANTA, GA.- February 15th, 2006 marks the first anniversary of the commissioning of the USS Jimmy Carter, the only submarine named for a U.S. President.

The 3.2 billion dollar seawolf-class, nuclear-powered attack submarine was commissioned a year ago in ceremonies at the Naval Submarine Base in Groton, Connecticut. Artifacts from the ceremony, as well as historic photographs and items from President Carter's naval career are now on display at the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum.

The exhibit features a model of the 453 foot long submarine, the most advanced in the U.S. Navy. In addition, visitors will see the champagne bottle that Rosalynn Carter used to christen the submarine in June, 2004, as well as photographs of the time-honored christening ceremony.

Jimmy Carter is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and the only President to have qualified as a submariner. He received submarine officers training and served on the USS Pomfret, later becoming the senior officer of Seawolf, one of the first atomic-powered submarines in the U.S. Navy.

When Lieutenant Carter interviewed with Captain Hyman Rickover to serve in the nuclear submarine program, Rickover asked him about his education at the Naval Academy. According to Carter, Rickover asked him "Did you do your best?" When Carter responded that he did not always do his best, Rickover replied "Why Not?" The exchange became a motivating factor in Carter's life and the title of his autobiography "Why Not the Best?"

The shoulder boards worn when Carter was a Lieutenant Junior Grade, a photograph of President Carter with Admiral Rickover and objects from the commissioning ceremony are also on display.

The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 am until 4:45 pm and on Sunday from noon until 4:45 pm. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors (60+), \$6 for military and students with id's. Those 16 and under are always free. There is free parking.

For additional information, visit our website at www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov.