

# SARGO ENROUTE HOME FROM ARCTIC

USS SARGO (SSN-583) is expected to return home next week after her historic under ice explorations of the Arctic Basin and a visit to the North Pole.

The nuclear powered submarine USS SARGO (SSN-583) has completed her second transit of the tricky and shallow waters of the Bering and Chuckchi Seas to gain smooth sailing after successfully reaching the North Pole during her ice exploration cruise in the Arctic Basin.

On both passes through this area, Lieutenant Commander John H. Nicholson weaved his submarine around and between deep ridges in a display of superb navigation and seamanship which kept the submarine from being sandwiched between ice and the ocean floor as the sail of the SARGO skimmed precariously close to the ice projections.

Dr. Waldo K. Lyon, head of the submarine and research branch

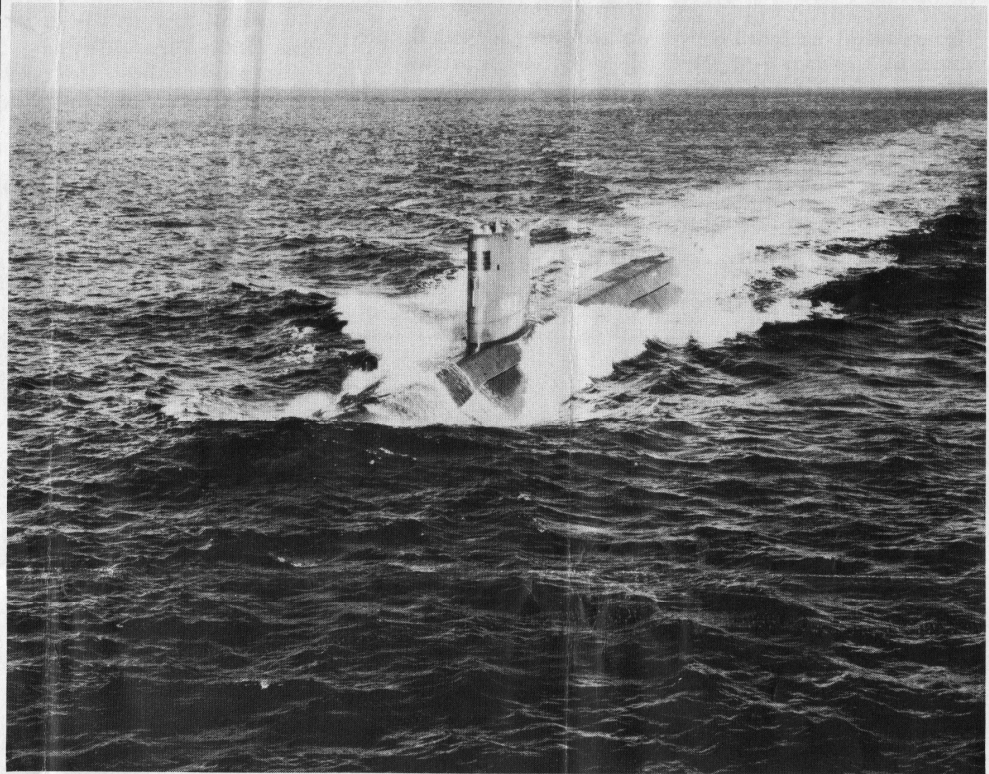
of the Navy Electronics Laboratory, and head scientist on board the SARGO, said that ice thickness sometimes reaches 100 feet in water measuring only 180 feet. "This doesn't leave much room for error," he added.

Immediately after surfacing near St. Lawrence Island off the Western Coast of Alaska, the SARGO headed for a rendezvous with the ice breaker USS STATEN ISLAND which has been probing this area.

The mission of both vessels is to gain oceanographic data to learn more about the physical structure of the ocean floor, sea and ice conditions.

During the SARGO's penetration of the Arctic Basin, Dr. Lyon and his seven scientists have taken numerous samplings of ice and water. They have studied current flow, biological organisms and made many other oceanographic observations to increase our scientific knowledge of the Arctic Basin.

(Continued on Page 2)



**HEADING HOME**—USS SARGO (SSN-583) heads for home after completing her historical under ice explorations in the Arctic. She is the first submarine to reach the North Pole in the midst of Winter. Commanded by LCDR J. H. Nicholson, SARGO is expected in Pearl Harbor next week.

## SARGO Enroute Home

(Continued from page 1)

LCDR Nicholson said ice along SARGO's path was unbelievably rugged, with numerous ridges deeper than 100 feet and ice with 100 percent coverings which prevented surfacing more often. She did manage to break through ice five times during her return voyage and the skipper credited a number of these to the outstanding ability of his diving officer, LT Fred Stelter.