


While stationed in Pearl Harbor with the Naval Security Group, there was a time, when we got preferential treatment. When I reported in, so did the 43rd CinCPACFLT Admiral Barnard A. Clarey.

He took a special liking to us in the Naval Security Group. To the point where HE signed our TAD orders for all of our deployments, with a personal interest in us.

The story goes that he became very familiar with the group as it was in its formative stages (code-breakers) during WWII. And the support he got while CO of *Pintado* SS-397 he claimed was the reason behind his three Navy Cross awards.

From the Wikipedia web-site: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commander,_U.S._Pacific_Fleet

43		Admiral Bernard A. Clarey	December 5, 1970	September 30, 1973	2 years, 299 days
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From the Wikipedia web site: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernard_A._Clarey

Clarey made one additional patrol to the [South Pacific](#) as a prospective commanding officer (PCO) in the submarine *Peto* (SS-265). On January 1, 1944, he became the [commanding officer](#) of the new submarine *Pintado* (SS-387) at [Portsmouth, New Hampshire](#).

Under his command, *Pintado* reached the Pacific in May 1944, and on her first war patrol in the area west of the [Marianas](#) and south of [Formosa](#) on a dark night in June, surfaced and fired six bow torpedoes at a Japanese convoy, making direct hits on two targets with all six torpedoes. Later between the [Marianas](#) and [Luzon](#) she sank three freighters and damaged a large freighter. Clarey was awarded the [Navy Cross](#) with the following citation:

For extraordinary heroism as Commanding Officer of the USS *Pintado*, during the first war patrol of that vessel in enemy Japanese-controlled waters, from May 16 to July 1, 1944. Maneuvering his ship through powerful escort screens, Lieutenant Commander Clarey launched repeated aggressive attacks to sink three Japanese freighters and damage a large freighter despite severe hostile countermeasures...

He was awarded a second Navy Cross, denoted by a [Gold Star](#) affixed to the suspension and [service ribbon](#) of his original medal, "For extraordinary heroism during *Pintado's* second war patrol in enemy-infested waters from July 24, 1944 to September 14, 1944". The citation states: "He pressed home a series of aggressive torpedo attacks against heavily escorted enemy ships, sinking two freighters and a large whaling ship of nearly 20,000-tons and maneuvered successfully and avoided damage to his submarine".

He was awarded a third Navy Cross, denoted by a second Gold Star affixed to the suspension and service ribbon of his original medal, for *Pintado's* third war patrol, in enemy-controlled waters of the South China Sea, between October 9, 1944 and January 1, 1945. The citation states: "Carrying out his duties as Officer in Tactical Command, Commander Clarey skillfully directed the coordinated search for his attack group known as "Clarey's Crushers", against a retiring enemy Task Force and contributed to the destruction of a Japanese light cruiser. He further led his submarines in an attack to sink a destroyer and damage an aircraft carrier. On the night of December 12–13, he conducted

three surface attacks, in heavy seas, to sink two enemy merchantmen, which contributed to Pintado's sinking of over 40,000-tons of Japanese shipping".

Clarey also wore a ribbon for the [Presidential Unit Citation](#) awarded to *Pintado*.

Detached from *Pintado* in April 1945, he was assigned to the staff of [Commander Submarine Force Pacific Fleet](#) (COMSUBPAC) and was serving in that assignment at the cessation of hostilities in August 1945.

So.

<https://youtu.be/RpAl2s508pM>



POWAY
Pete Neild: I got in trouble with Navy Admiral Bernard Clarey