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NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND ANNOUNCES SELECTION OF FULLER TO COMMAND PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD

WASHINGTON -- The Naval Sea Systems Command announced today the selection of Capt. Bryant Fuller as the next commander of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The change of command will occur this fall.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard's primary mission has been the overhaul, repair and modernization of Los Angeles Class submarines. Maintenance workload for Los Angeles Class submarines has declined as the Engineered Refueling Overhauls for this class come to an end. Future workload for the shipyard is with Virginia Class submarines. Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has been designated the Ship Availability Planning and Engineering Center for the new Virginia Class submarines and will execute its first Virginia class availability in Oct. 2010. Changing the commander at this time will provide continuous leadership to the shipyard during this transitional timeframe and allow the shipyard to finish the on-going planning and execute that first Virginia Class availability with the same Shipyard Commander.

Fuller, a native of Tenn. currently is the Operations Officer at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility. He has served in a variety of engineering and combat systems billets, including Ship Repair Officer at a Supervisor of Shipbuilding, and as an Assistant Project Superintendent and Project Superintendent for multiple submarine projects at Puget Sound and Portsmouth Naval Shipyards.

Fuller received his Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering for the University of Tennessee in 1984 and his Masters in Mechanical Engineering from in the Naval Postgraduate School in 1991.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard provides the U.S. Navy's nuclear powered submarine fleet with quality overhaul work in a safe, timely and affordable manner and remains a vital element of the Navy's submarine maintenance industrial base. The change of command will occur this fall.

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