

AL102080268



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF SHIPS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DO NOT REPLY TO:
SS/SSN/SSCN/9431
Ser 644-87
12 May 1965

From: Chief, Bureau of Ships
To: Distribution List

Subj: SS/SSN/SSCN Classes; Stern tube stuffing box; emergency
packing for

Ref: (a) NAVSHIPIN PTSM Ltr 265C SSN616C1/9430-SSN593C1/9430
(1/30/65) of 5 Jan 1965, (TOTAL)
(b) BUSHIPS Ltr 9431 Ser 644-106 of 14 Feb 1963

1. Reference (a) reported that the Shipyard has experienced progressive leakage of Sotol shaft seals installed in the subject ships and that the leakage apparently has been caused by the presence of tallow on the wearing faces of the forward seal. The only source of tallow in the vicinity of the shaft seals is the emergency flex packing. The Shipyard, in reference (a), recommended that packing lubricated by teflon or graphite be substituted for packing lubricated by tallow and requested that the Bureau initiate action to permit the use of these packing materials on all submarines having Sotol seals.

2. A number of trial applications of braided asbestos impregnated with teflon have been installed in destroyers and fleet type submarines by Norfolk and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyards. The Bureau, by reference (b), approved further trial applications of the teflon impregnated asbestos material during repair availabilities on destroyers and fleet submarines at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

3. In reply to reference (a), the Shipyard is authorized to use, at its option, teflon impregnated asbestos packing material in accordance with Garlock Packing Style No. 5875 or Johns-Manville Chemical Packing No. 2212, or equal, in lieu of presently used packings lubricated by tallow for its subject class ships.

4. The optional use of the above types of teflon impregnated asbestos packing materials, in lieu of packing lubricated by tallow, is hereby extended to all Naval Shipyards and shipbuilders of submarines under the current construction program, provided no increased cost is involved.

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