

**Zoom Meeting
Once More for May...**
unless otherwise notified via email

THE PERISCOPE

A monthly publication of the Los Angeles/Pasadena Base • United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.

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PRIDE RUNS DEEP



"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution."

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Editor's Corner

As I write this I'm thrilled to report I've received my first vaccine shot and look forward to my second this Friday. After that comes a couple weeks of waiting for the shots to fully take effect—per CDC Guidelines—and after that perhaps a return to at least some normalcy, maybe even actual in-person subvet meetings once allowed back on base. We'll see how it all goes. Fingers crossed here in the Yeoman's Shack.—Jeff

After 45 Years, the Navy is Planning to 'Recycle' a First-of-Its-Kind Missile Sub

(Reproduced from the Insider website - published February 19, 2021)

by Benjamin Brimelow



U.S. Navy Ohio-class guided-missile submarine USS Ohio gets into position for an exercise off the coast of Okinawa, Japan, February 2, 2021. (U.S. Navy/Sgt. Audrey M. C. Rampton.)

In December, the U.S. Navy released its 30-year ship-building plan, which called for building 404 new vessels to reach a 541-ship fleet by 2051, with 304 current vessels retired over that period.

Fourteen of the vessels to be retired are nuclear-powered, and thus need to be recycled as part of the Navy's Ship-Submarine Recycling Program to ensure safe disposal of their nuclear reactors and fuel.

Those ships include the first-in-class aircraft carrier USS *Nimitz* and thirteen nuclear submarines: eleven *Los Angeles*-class attack subs and two *Ohio*-class cruise-missile submarines, known as SSGNs.

USS *Ohio*, lead ship of the class, will be one of the two SSGNs recycled. It will be the end of a four-decade career for the first sub of its kind.

A New SSBN

USS *Ohio* was commissioned in November, 1981. *Ohio* and the boats which followed were

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From the Wardroom...



Dave Vanderveen,
Base Commander

Shipmates and Ladies,

Last week, the Indonesian Navy lost one of their submarines and the fifty-three souls aboard her. She had been operating in an area of comparatively shallow water when contact with her was lost, so there had been some hope of finding her and rescuing the crew. Some debris and an oil slick were found within days, then on Saturday, April 24th, a remote operated vehicle found her wreckage at 2,750 feet in a trench that runs through the otherwise shallow area. Early analysis of wreck photographs indicate the boat imploded, and there is no evidence that she was damaged by an external explosion. The Indonesian Navy continues to evaluate evidence they have found, expecting they will learn the cause of KRI *Kanggala*'s loss with her entire crew. A tragedy such as this gives all submariners pause. As we think of those lost, let us also consider their families. Sailors, rest your oars.

Our own Memorial Day is fast approaching! Unfortunately, constraints remain in place limiting the size and scope of events to occur on Federal property, so we will plan to conduct a "mini ceremony" on May 31st at the WWII Submarine Memorial - West for submariners and other service members who have lost their lives. If you plan to attend, please send a note to Paul Riggs (parhogh@yahoo.com) so he can be aware of crowd size as he plans our ceremony.

As COVID's hazard diminishes, some businesses and social organizations are ramping up their activities, although it will be some time before they return to "normal." One of those organizations is the Scouts of America (BSA), which has been unable for the past year to hold award ceremonies for scouts who have earned their Eagle rank. Ed Barwick has agreed to coordinate with the local BSA Councils as they schedule Eagle award ceremonies, and our Base may be able to participate in some of these. I will be available for that, and proudly recollect my own Eagle ceremony in April of 1964.

Though the danger level decreases, please continue to protect your health with proper distancing and hygienic measures. Vaccines will likely protect those inoculated, but there are still "carriers" about, and it would be terrible to become a COVID casualty so near to the end of the pandemic.

Dave Vanderveen

Commander

Los Angeles-Pasadena Base



April Zoom Gen'l. Meeting Sailing List

Armen Bagdasarian
Herb "Bo" Bolton
Sam Higa
Joe Koch
Jack Mahan
Bill Moak
Bruce Neighbors
Jeff Porteous
Paul Riggs
Chuck Senior
Mike Swanson
Ray Teare
Dave Vanderveen
Ron Wagner
Dennis Walsh
Gary Wheaton



Minutes of April 17, 2021 General Meeting on Zoom

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom General Meeting to order at 1105 hours.

COB Ray Teare then led us in prayer with an invocation, followed by Dave's reading of the USSVI Purpose, then followed by a request for a moment of silence for our departed shipmates.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Swanson provided monetary details for the account as of April 16, 2021. The specific numbers have been approved by, and are reported within the E-Board Meeting Minutes.

Memorial Report:

Paul Riggs reported that the Memorial site is in "good shape," and detailed the work recently performed there on the trees and hedges surrounding the Memorial. Paul also indicated he had again put coat of copper paint on the nose of the torpedo, and that another couple to few coats might be required. Paul reported that no public ceremony will be performed there this Memorial Day, due to the Base's restrictions, though the latter *may* be lifted by that date. Even so, preparations for conducting a public ceremony generally begin in January, and such short notice would make it impossible to carry things out. Paul has indicated he will be present at the site on Memorial day to raise and lower the colors, and invites any L.A.-Pasadena Base members to attend a private mini-ceremony to begin at 0930 that morning.

Eagle Scout Program:

Dave indicated that in the past, Ed and Judy Arnold had headed this program. Now that Ed has had to back off from these responsibilities—and our Base operations as well—some discussion ensued as to Ed Barwick perhaps stepping in to pursue the continuance of said program for the base. Dave will continue to discuss this possibility with Ed, who wasn't present today. Dave went on to describe the rank of Eagle Scout, and the work each scout must perform to attain this elite status.

Membership Update:

Dave had hoped Marilyn would be attending the meeting today to provide a detailed update, yet was still proud to report we now have 107 members and that our base is quite healthy in both membership numbers and financially as compared to some other bases nationally.

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Minutes of April 17, 2021 General Meeting on Zoom

(concluded from previous page)

District Six Commander::

Willie, today in attendance at the Arizona Memorial dedication, will not be continuing as District Six Commander. Dave has heard nothing from other bases as to volunteer(s) for the position, nor has anyone from our base stepped up. Willie's spot will be a tough one to fill.

Awards Nominations:

A low number of nominations have been submitted due to COVID-19. Bill suggested Dennis Walsh be recognized for his extended service as base secretary.

National Convention:

There has been some concern expressed about the number of boat reunions to be held concurrent with the convention. There are essentially only four available conference rooms to host them, beyond those already planned to be occupied by National. Reunion groups have been cautioned to submit early any requests for those available.

Good of the Order:

Bruce inquired as to when we might finally be conducting in-person meetings again. All indications are we won't be doing so in Building Six on the base, so he asked about alternative locations. A park perhaps? Dave will look into when we might actually be able to return to meeting on the base. It was mentioned that San Diego Base is still locked down and not conducting meetings.

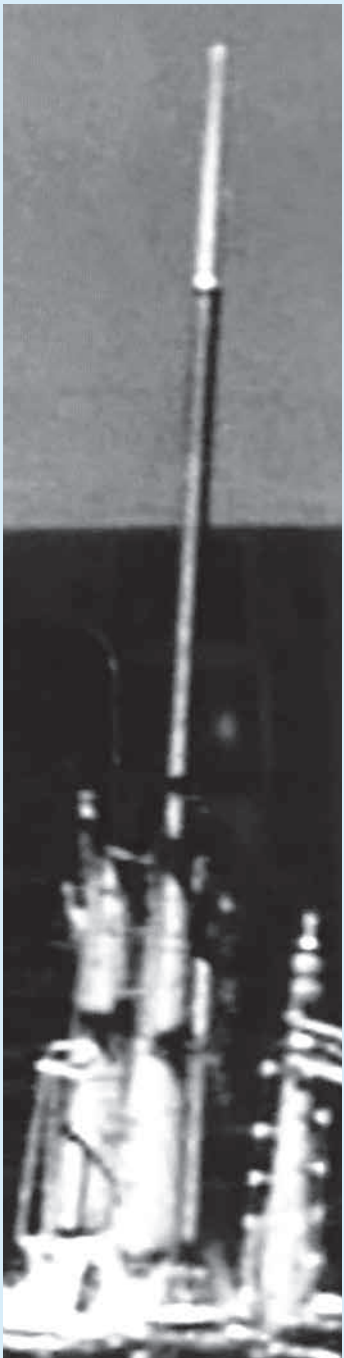
Paul will contact Greg Smith, SBNWS POA, with an update in May, likely at the end of month, regarding ongoing base restrictions. Gary mentioned the Blue Angels perhaps doing a Huntington Beach show in October. Questions regarding the HB Fourth of July parade were raised, and indications are that it will likely be held. Bo is awaiting official word and receipt of paperwork for same. Our hope is that we can participate and include *Bonefish* Base also. Sam asked to mention "Boy's State," a program that usually involves high school juniors, which teaches how our government works. The program even sends some participants to DC as a representatives of their localities. There is also a similar program for girls.

With no further comments, Bill made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Paul and approved by general vote, and the meeting concluded at 1141 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moak

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI



Blurry screen capture of USS Redfish surfacing during the filming of Run Silent, Run Deep—a remarkably bad submarine movie poorly adapted from perhaps the best submarine novel of all time by Capt. Edward L. Beach. Indeed, The Great American Novel in the opinion of your humble editor.—ed.

May Meeting to be Zoom Video Conference
 (See details on Chapter News page.)

May Meeting

Date: May 15, 2021

Again this month, our usual base meeting will be conducted as a Zoom video conference. This software for internet-based meetings has been working well for many groups wanting or needing to remain "face-to-face" during the global pandemic. See the Chapter News page for details. Hope to see your smiling face among the crowd!

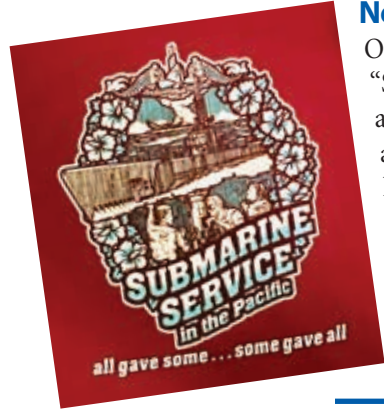
May Birthdays

We hereby extend the happiest of wishes to all our L.A.-Pasadena Base birthday celebrants.

- Jeff Porteous 5/4
- David Palagyi..... 5/7
- Robert Miller 5/7
- Doc Dunham, MD 5/10
- Cliff Murr 5/13
- Bruce Evan Neighbors ... 5/17
- Michael Bircumshaw..... 5/18
- Dennis Bott 5/19
- Mike Swanson 5/21



Ship's Store



New Reduced Price on T-Shirts!

Our ever-popular L.A.-Pasadena Base "Submarine Service" tees are once again selling like fresh whites after a fall down the pump room hatch! Now a mere **ten bucks** apiece, there's no reason not to have a closetful. Contact Jack Mahan for yours, or just bring a few extra bucks to the next meeting, you skinflint!

2021 Calendars Now Available!

Get yours through the USSVI website or see details elsewhere in this issue. Don't miss it—they're selling fast!



Get in touch with our Storekeeper, Jack Mahan, at 714-349-5878 for more purchasing information.



USSVI Logo Patch
 (9¾ x 6¾)
\$11.00 ea.



L.A.-Pasadena Base Patch
 (3¾ x 5)
\$5.00 ea.



Holland Club Member Patch (3x3)
\$6.00 ea.

LOS ANGELES - PASADENA BASE

2021 FLOWER FUND and BOOSTER CLUB

A special thank you to the following folks whose generous contributions this year have helped make our Base activities and charitable functions possible:

- Ken Dorn (x5!) • Jack & Marlene Mahan • Sally Moran
 Ed Kushins • Skip Loveless • Mike Varalyia • Harold Staggs



Booster Club and Flower Fund donations are welcome in any amount and are often also popular with 50/50 Drawing winners at our Base meetings. Contributions can be made in cash or by check payable to L.A.-Pasadena Base of USSVI. Checks may also be sent to Mike Swanson at 1149 W. Santa Cruz Street, San Pedro, CA 90731. To ensure proper credit, be sure to indicate Booster Club or Flower Fund on your check.

UNITED STATES SUBMARINE FORCE LOSSES ON ETERNAL PATROL

"I can assure you that they went down fighting and that their brothers who survived them took a grim toll of our savage enemy to avenge their deaths."

— Vice Admiral Charles A. Lockwood, USN

MAY TOLLING OF THE BOATS



USS LAGARTO (SS 371)



USS SCORPION (SSN 579)



USS SQUALIS (SS 192)

USS LAGARTO (SS 371)

Lost on 3 May 1945 with the loss of 88 men near the Gulf of Siam. On her second war patrol, she was sunk by the radar-equipped minelayer HIJMS *Hatsutaka*. This minelayer was sunk by the USS *Hawkbill* (SS 366) twelve days later.

USS SCORPION (SSN 589)

Lost 22 May 1968 while returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. Her last reported position was about 50 miles south of the Azores. *Scorpion* was never heard from again. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined.

USS SQUALIS (SS 192)

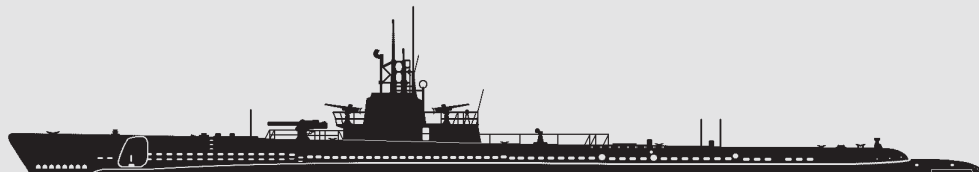
Partially flooded as a result of a valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals, *Squalis* sank to the bottom, coming to rest keel down in 240 feet of water. Commander Charles Momsen and Navy divers on the USS *Falcon* (ASR-2) rescued 33 survivors using the diving bell he invented. Twenty-six men drowned in the after compartments. Later, *Squalis* was raised and recommissioned as the USS *Sailfish* (SS 192). In an ironic twist of fate, *Sailfish* sank the Japanese aircraft carrier *Chuyo*, which was carrying some of the surviving crew members from USS *Sculpin* (SS 191). It was *Sculpin* that had located *Squalis* in 1939. Only one of the 21 *Sculpin* crewmembers aboard *Chuyo* survived.

USS STICKLEBACK (SS 415)

Lost on May 30, 1958 when it sank off Hawaii while under tow after collision with USS *Silverstein* (DE-534). The entire crew was taken off prior to sinking.



USS STICKLEBACK (SS 415)

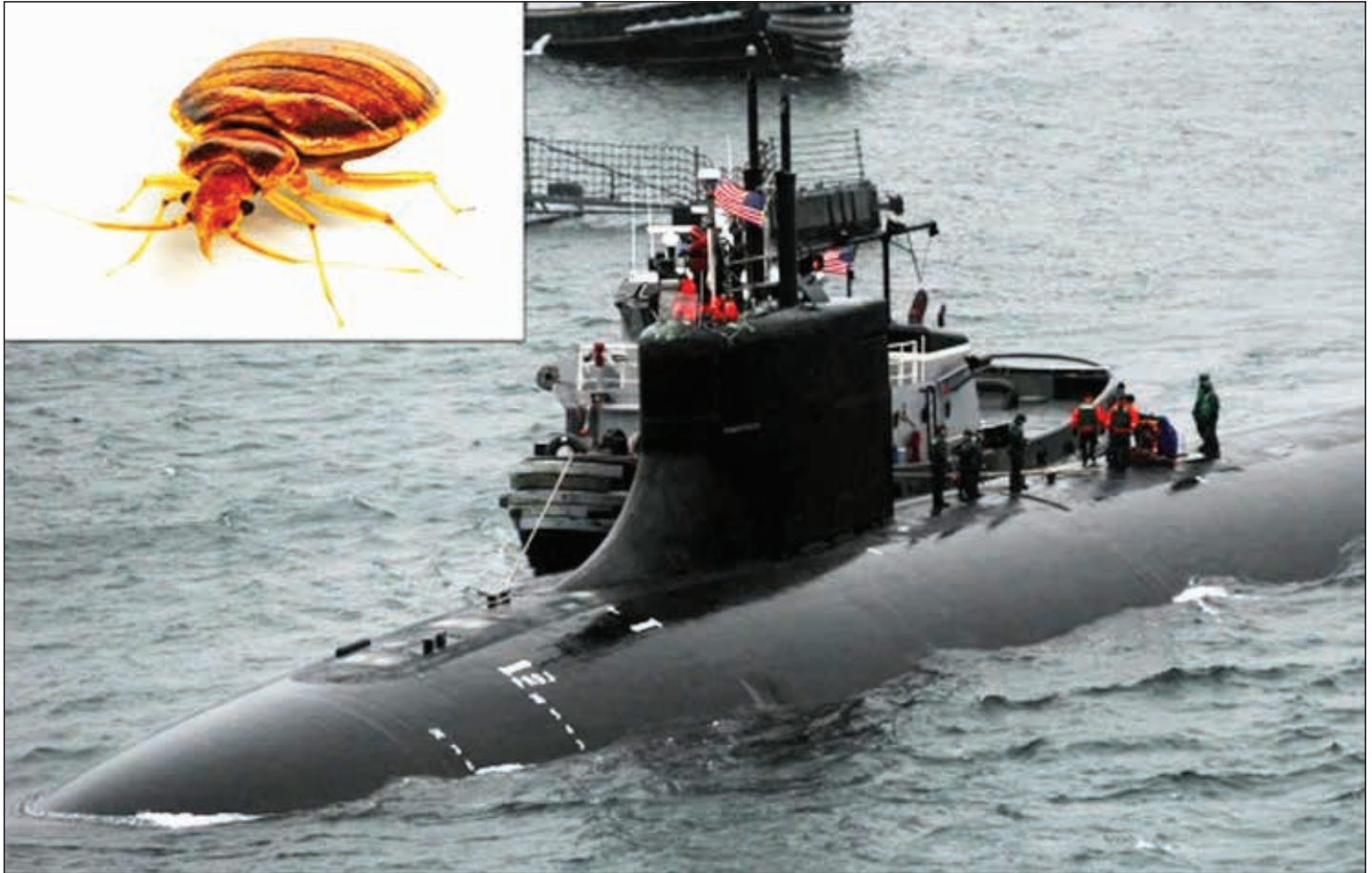


WE REMEMBER For those who gave their lives in defense of our country WE REMEMBER

Critters Under the Sea: Navy Submarine USS Connecticut Invaded by Bedbugs

(Reproduced from the New York Post website—published March 10, 2021; originally published by the Navy Times)

By Geoff Ziezulewicz, Navy Times



A petty officer on the Seawolf-class attack submarine USS Connecticut alleges bed bugs have infested the ship “for a year now.” (U.S. Navy photo.)

The crew of the fast-attack submarine *Connecticut* has been subjected to a bed bug infestation in their racks, and sailors assigned to the sub allege that the boat’s command has been slow to fix the problem.

The infestation issue began while the sub was taking part in ICEX 2020 in the Arctic Ocean in March 2020 and continued during a deployment last year, according to a *Connecticut* petty officer who asked to remain anonymous for fear of retribution.

“We’ve had bed bugs for a year now,” the petty officer said. “Sailors complained about getting bitten in the racks.”

“People are terrified of getting bit,” he added.

While sailors allege they battled bed bugs for most of 2020, Cmdr. Cynthia Fields, a Naval Surface Forces Pacific spokeswoman, said the boat’s command first reported the issue in December, and that the “physical presence” of bed bugs wasn’t found onboard until Feb. 19.

“Navy criteria for treating submarines or ships requires physical presence of bed bugs to establish existence,” she said.

The petty officer said the command initially didn’t believe sailor bed bug claims because “we didn’t have proof.”

Daily inspections have commenced, all berthing spaces have been searched and mattresses have been inspected, Fields said.

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Bedbugs on the *Connecticut*...

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Bed bugs caught and bagged on the USS *Connecticut*. (Military Times photo.)



Linens and privacy curtains have been laundered or replaced, and Navy entomologists have come onboard to monitor efforts that include “deadly countermeasures,” she said.

“The Navy takes the safety and health of its sailors very seriously,” Fields said.

But according to two petty officers assigned to *Connecticut*, the boat has been dealing with bed bugs since at least the time of the ICEX event in March, 2020.

It got so bad that some crew members took to sleeping in chairs or on the floor of the crew’s mess to escape the elusive bloodsuckers during their deployment, said one petty officer.

“People were getting eaten alive in their racks,” said the petty officer, who alleges that the infestation spread to several enlisted berthing spaces and at least one officer stateroom.

“The best way to put it would probably be ‘employee abuse,’ but that’s not really a thing in the Navy, I guess,” another petty officer who also requested anonymity for fear of retribution said of leadership’s response to the problem.

One petty officer said he has contacted the Naval Inspector General and reached out to *Navy Times* because leadership hasn’t adequately addressed the issue, and sub life is stressful enough without bed bugs and the loss of sleep the insects brought to the crew.

Sailors already share racks in the sub’s close quarters, and

fatigue takes on added consequence when underway in a metal tube far below the surface, he noted.

“If someone’s sleep deprived because they’re in the rack getting eaten alive by bed bugs, he could fall asleep at (the controls) and run us into an underwater mountain,” the petty officer said.

The petty officer said he also worries that fellow crew members will take bed bugs home to their spouses and kids.

“I don’t want them to take bed bugs home,” he said. “They have to pay for fumigators and their families will suffer.”

Fields, the SUBPAC spokeswoman, said the command “acted swiftly” when reports of bed bugs were first made in December.

“Inspections by the ship’s Corpsman did not find any of the classic indications of bed bugs, and were backed up by inspection from Preventative Medicine Technicians on Dec. 21,” she said. “Despite follow on inspections by certified inspectors that found no evidence of bed bugs, the command continued to pursue resolution.”

According to one petty officer who alleges that bed bugs were an issue on the sub for most of 2020, the command being unable to mitigate the bed bugs during deployment was understandable given the limited resources while underway, but leadership also didn’t seem to believe the crew when it came to the infestation until sailors caught a few of them.

Bed bugs are tiny and tenacious creatures that feed off human blood and are notoriously hard to get rid of.

Their bites on sleeping humans can produce itchy welts, and they get their blood by piercing the skin with an elongated beak, according to the University of Kentucky’s Entomology Department.

“Engorgement takes about three to 10 minutes, but because the bite is painless, people seldom realize they are being bitten,” according to the university.

When the boat returned to its Washington state home port in December, sailors say the command’s responses didn’t fix the problem.

One solution was to steam the racks, so as to hopefully kill

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Bedbugs on the *Connecticut*...

(concluded from page 8)

the bed bugs, but that didn't work, sailors said.

The University of Kentucky notes that steaming alone often will not sufficiently penetrate the fabrics and other materials where bed bugs reside.

"Our steaming efforts throughout a monthlong stand-down proved to be fruitless," the petty officer said.

Another petty officer said, "it caused the bed bugs to spread around the boat."

Sailors attempted to tape up the walls and caulk cracks, but the arrangement of racks made it impossible to completely seal up any entry or exit points for the bed bugs.

The creatures can squeeze through openings as wide as a toothpick, according to the University of Kentucky.

Mattresses were removed and sanitized, one petty officer said, but the bed bugs returned.

"Our senior leadership said, 'if we clean and sanitize all these, and someone points out bed bugs, they are f*cking lying,' a petty officer alleged.

The petty officers also allege that the command is forcing sailors to return to sleeping in the racks this week during training, when the entire sub's crew will be onboard.

"They're using us as live bait...to see if (the bed bugs) are still there," one petty officer said. "The upper chain of command isn't going to sleep in those racks. They're going to make the lower enlisted do it."

"Tonight and tomorrow, we are lawfully ordered to sleep in a known infested berthing area in order to record data that's already been recorded," another petty officer said Monday night.

In response to *Navy Times* questions about allegations that sailors are being forced back into infested berthing spaces, Fields said that Navy entomologists "have employed authorized countermeasures, and certify that all feasible measures have been taken to control bed bugs."

"After two applications of Navy approved pesticide sprays, and application of a long-acting diatomaceous dust... entomologists recommended repopulation of berthing," she said. "All appropriate countermeasures have been taken with plans firmly in place to address further breakouts

underway if they occur."

One petty officer said that sub life and the operations tempo already stress *Connecticut's* crew enough, and that morale is on the floor due to the bed bugs and a perceived lack of help.

"They treat people like parts, and parts like people," the petty officer said.

"The crew is tired from constant underways, a constant hurry-up-and-push mentality that's just been going on for years on end," another petty officer said.

To give crews a non-infested place to sleep on their duty days while in home port, the command set up a temporary building on the pier, the petty officer said, but the "bunch of stanchions with a tarp set over the top and metal walls with cots" wasn't comfortable for the sailors, so some slept in chairs, the duty van or in the mess.

"Some people were sleeping on metal diamond decking because they didn't want to sleep in the racks," he said.

One petty officer also wonders why the command didn't consider other pierside berthing options for duty sections, such as trailers, a barge or barracks.

"The one they chose was a makeshift building made out of stanchions and tape and World War II-era cots," he said. "There's not nearly enough racks for an entire duty section, so people have also put up hammocks to sleep."

Asked about that pier berthing, Fields said that "approved berthing has been and will continue to be provided to *Connecticut* sailors, including pier side berthing for duty personnel while (Navy officials) and the ship's Corpsman addressed crew concerns."



Seawolf-Class attack submarine *USS Connecticut* at a port in Singapore on Jan. 30, 2012. (U.S. Navy photo.)

Torpedo Recovery

by Bob “Dex” Armstrong

If you weren't a Torpedoman, you probably won't give a rat's ass about this. But it's proof that even though it has been damn near forty years, I still remember. The funny thing about old submarine sailors...we remember. After all these years, I wouldn't hesitate for a second if somebody rounded up what's left of Frothingham's boys and told us to light off the old Fairbanks and single-up lines.

When I first met Ray Stone, I did all the things required of members of the Torpedo Pusher Fraternity: I gave the secret handshake. Hopped around on one foot. Did the chicken dance and rooster strut. Barked at the moon and pissed against the wind. But then again, true torpedomen never stop testing each other. So here goes, Stone, you old stove-up, barnacle-laden sonuvabitch, Dex is about to pull a rabbit out of an old hydraulic, oil-soaked raghat.

Punching torpedoes out of submarines is a helluva way to make a living. In the old days, a damn torpedo was as heavy as a bridge girder and about half a block long. After you fired one of those practice rascals, you had to go find it and poke the damn thing back into your boat.

Finding them wasn't that hard. They painted the warheads a raucus orange. You could see them bobbing around a couple of thousand yards away—looked like a damn snorkeling Mardi Gras float. Or one of Stone's ties.

But well before you hit the surface, the recovery drill began. The idiots in the forward room dropped the overhead racks called the bridal suite: the elevated pair of rats' nests that belonged exclusively to the stewards. Once you got them down and stowed, you dropped the collapsable frame that allowed access to the watertight torpedo loading hatch. You opened that when you heard the bow planes rigged in; that meant you were fully surfaced.

The deck force went topside and pulled the loading boom components out of their “rig for sea” brackets in the superstructure, and rigged 'em. This could be a real pain-in-the-ass adventure if the boat was riding the swells and water was sloshing through the gahdam limber holes. It was like trying to assemble a tricycle inside a washing machine.

While all this was going on, torpedomen went topside to fold back a section of deck whose underside was a wooden angled trough upon which a torpedo could be lowered to guide the damn thing into the room. Rigging the stupid thing was hell on fingers—not that any of us planned a future as a concert pianist, but we figured all the digits we

started life with made operating thirteen-button blues a lot easier than if we were to have left a couple of 'em behind and snorkeling around in the North Atlantic.

A lot of very original cussing and swearing went on during a torpedo recovery. “Dumb bastard” and “Stupid sonuvabitch” were favorites, followed by “Move your worthless ass,” “How many gahdam times do I have to tell you friggin' idiots?” and “If it was up your butt you'd know where it was.”

In the forward room, the monkeys were centering a skid and elevating it with chain falls to match the angle of the deck skid already in place. By this time, the clowns on the bridge had located the torpedo—“fish” to the uninitiated. It was usually bobbing around like a wallowing steel rhino.

The OD would lay the boat alongside and the beast would bounce off the saddle tanks making a sound like someone pounding the side of an empty oil truck with a twenty-pound sledgehammer.

By this time, the duty swimmer arrived topside and handed something known as a “nose cap” to one of the two lads manning the snubbing lines that would be “figure-eighted” to the skid cleats to lower the fish onto the elevated skid in the forward room.

Any bastard who ever went over the side into the icy water of the North Atlantic, to wrestle a two-ton torpedo and get a belly band in place on one of the stupid sonuvabitches, will get a fifty-yard line front row seat in hell. If there's such a thing as peacetime heroes, these guys are mine. If you are ever given a choice between putting silk stockings and a garter belt on a starved crocodile, or going over the side to slip a belly band on a Mark 14, go for the croc.

So, the poor devil (now covered in petroleum jelly, thanks to the corpsman) hits the water. He gets the band in place and attaches the hoisting cable and fore and aft vang lines used to guide the damned thing, positioning it when the boom elevates it to deck level. The lads on the vang lines align the fish over the angled skid and the fellows on the boom lower it. Once the nose cap and snubbing lines were in place to check the descent, the fish was returned to the skid in the forward room.

And that, señor Stone, was what it looked like to an E-3 who couldn't find his ass with both hands and a flashlight on a dark night.

Will you now sign my qual card and buy me a Saint Pauli Girl, you big, ugly sonuvabitch?

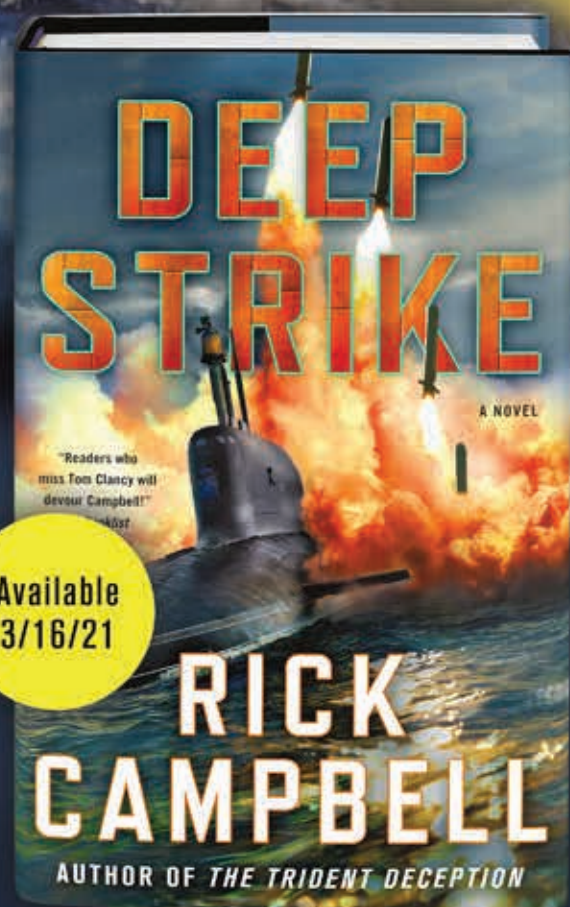
Keep a zero bubble . . . Dex.



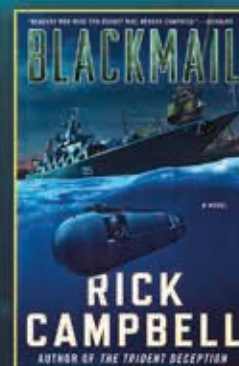
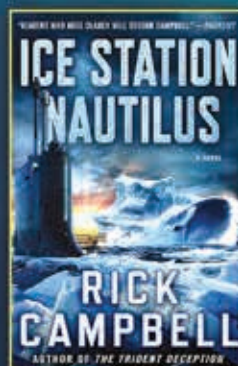
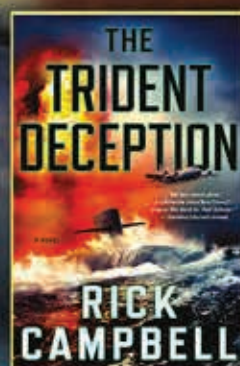
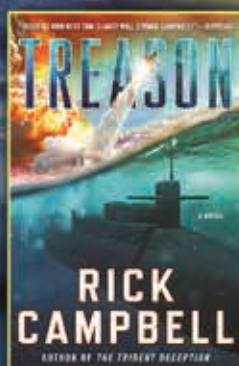
"Readers who miss Tom Clancy will devour Campbell." —*Booklist*
WHO WILL STRIKE FIRST IN A RACE TO STOP A ROGUE RUSSIAN
SUBMARINE FUNDED BY ISIS FROM HITTING AMERICAN SOIL?

DEEP STRIKE

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"Compelling and thrilling." —JACK COUGHLIN, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Shooter*

"A fistfight of a thriller. A masterpiece." —DALTON FURY, former Delta Force and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Kill Bin Laden*

"The best submarine novel since Tom Clancy's *The Hunt for Red October*." —*Booklist* (starred review)

"Fans of submarine thrillers will welcome Campbell." —*Publishers Weekly*

DEEP STRIKE — RELEASES MARCH 16, 2021 TO BOOKSTORES EVERYWHERE
(PRE-ORDER OR PURCHASE WHERE YOU BUY YOUR BOOKS — HARDCOVER, EBOOK, OR AUDIOBOOK)

New Members

We proudly welcome aboard our newest base shipmates:

Robert “Mike” Cailor (returning)
(EM1-SS E6; served '64-'71)

Wife: Rebecca

2514 Elm St., Seffner, FL 33584-5812
cell: 813-585-7615

rmcgfish@gmail.com

Qualified in 1968 on the
USS *Guardfish* (SSN-612)

Edward “Ed” Elliot Kushins
(LT-03SS; served '68-'79)

Wife: Mary Hamilton

45 16th Street
Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3402

phone: 310-345-3562

edkushins@gmail.com

Qualified on the USS *Flasher*
(SSN-613)—'69-'71, LTJG.

Ramon O. Aguilar (returning)
(E5-ET Radio Div.; 1996-2001)

22736 Jody Lane

Carson, CA 90745-3603

cell: 562-303-0866

octiviano89@gmail.com

Qualified in 1998 on the USS
City of Corpus Christi (SSN-705)

Gary Lee Wing

(E6-STS1SS Sonar; 1985-1994;
Air Force Reserve thru 2012)

Fiancé: Megan

612 Cooper Drive

Placentia, CA 92870-2001

cell: 707-373-8277

beniciahawk@gmail.com

Qualified in 1988 on the USS
Richard B. Russell (SSN-687)

Vernon Paul “Max” Murphy
(E5-EM2SS; served 1993-2000)

Wife: Aom

241 E. Elmwood Ave. Apt. 101

Burbank, CA 91502-2662

cell: 818-395-7154

vernonmurphy@att.net

Qualified in 1997 on the
USS *Jefferson City* (SSN-759)

Bruce Evan Neighbors

(E4-TM3SS; served '68-'70)

Wife: Susan

3417 S. Carolina Street

San Pedro, CA 90731-6827

cell: 310-347-2350

bruceneighbors@gmail.com

Qualified in 1969 on the

USS *Ronquil* (SS-396)



“Get’cher Chapter News Here —Read All About It!” —

When News Breaks, We Pick Up the Pieces...

Now Hear This:

- **L.A.-Pasadena May meeting to be held as a Zoom conference. (Dave Vanderveen will also provide phone participation info. via e-mail for those wishing to again participate by teleconference call only.)**
- **To access Zoom, type “Zoom.US” (without the quotation marks) into your internet browser, then select “signup for free.” Set up your user I.D. and passcode, then on meeting day prior to 11:00 a.m., just follow the steps to sign in. Or: *just click on Dave’s e-mailed link to the meeting.***

Here’s a little more biographical information of interest on our old friend Jack Herron, who you’ll recall departed on Eternal Patrol recently.—ed.

Jack “Hotrod” Herron - MOMM3(SS)

In August, 1945, Jack joined the submarine service as a Fireman aboard USS *Cusk* (SS-348). He was part of the Pre-commissioning and New Construction Detail. In July of '46, Jack was transferred and assigned to USS *Atule* (SS-403), where he took part in Operation Nanook. The purpose of this mission was to assist in the establishment of advanced weather stations in the Arctic regions and to aid in the planning and execution of more extensive naval operations in polar and sub-polar regions. She was the first diesel boat to go under the ice, equipped with the then newly developed upward-beamed fathometer for measuring ice thickness overhead. Jack was also part of USS *Toro* (SS-422) re-commissioning crew in May, 1947.

USS *CUSK* (SS-348) • USS *ATULE* (SS-403) • USS *TORO* (SS-422)

Sailor, Rest Your Oar.



**L.A.-Pasadena
Base 50-Year
Holland Club**

*(75-year members noted with *)*

- Larry D. Long 2021
- G. Judson “Jud” Scott, Jr.... 2021
- Edward E. Kushins 2020
- Bruce Evan Neighbors 2020
- David H. Vanderveen 2019
- Philip J. Jaskoviak..... 2019
- Dennis Bott 2018
- James A. Burnett..... 2018
- Robert “Mike” Cailor 2018
- Robert Miller 2018
- John A. Anderson..... 2017
- Roger C. Dunham, MD.... 2017
- Richard McPherson 2017
- Harry “Bill” Moak 2017
- Louis A. Myerson 2017
- Elliot Rada 2017
- Ronald G. Wagner 2017
- Dennis J. Walsh..... 2017
- Michael Kish..... 2016
- Gary Wheaton 2016
- Lawrence R. Butler 2015
- Samuel T. Higa 2015
- Harry P. Ross 2015
- Stephen C. Rowe 2015
- Charles H. Senior 2015
- Larry E. Smith 2015
- Sam Aboulafia 2014
- David Palagyi..... 2014
- Dennis Neal Parr 2014
- Earl Thomas Peratt, Jr. 2014
- David D. Semrau, DDS 2014
- Ray Tracy Teare..... 2014

(continued next page)



**Los Angeles-Pasadena Base
2021 Calendar of Upcoming Events**

- January 16: Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- February 20: Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- March 20 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- April 17 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
- May 15 Monthly Meeting as Zoom Conference
Nominating Committee Appointed
Call for participants in the Huntington
Beach 4th of July Parade (?) TBD
- May 31 Private Memorial Day Service - 0930
(L.A.-Pasadena Base Subvets Only -
Public Service Disallowed by Weapons Station)
Submarine Memorial, West
- June 19 Monthly Meeting - Annual “Steakfest”
Call for nominations for 2020 Base Officers
- July 4 113th Annual...
Huntington Beach 4th of July Parade
- July 17 LeRoy Stone Memorial Picnic
Bunker 33, Seal Beach Weapons Station
- August 21 Monthly Meeting - “Hawaii” Theme
2020 Base Officer Candidates Announced
- September 18 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Election of Officers
- October 16 Monthly Meeting
Annual Officer Installation Luncheon
- November 20 Monthly Meeting - Thanksgiving Theme
- December 18 Annual Christmas Luncheon
at the Los Alamitos Golf Course

(Holland Club Roster, continued)

Milton Harry Boudov 2013
 Kenneth Jon Dorn..... 2013
 M. Mark Hoffer 2013
 Michael P. Klein..... 2013
 Ronald L. Levenson..... 2013
 Edward L. Arnold 2012
 T. Michael Bircumshaw.... 2012
 Raymond Cheesebrough . 2012
 Bobby O. Mahaffey..... 2012
 John V. Mahan 2012
 Lee Melody 2012
 Clyde Matthew Turner 2012
 George R. Walrath 2012
 John L. Weisenberger 2012
 Edward A. Barwick..... 2011
 Joseph W. Koch, Jr. 2011
 Stephen D. Diumentti 2009
 David Whittlesey 2009
 Dennis A. Yure..... 2009
 Armen Bagdasarian..... 2008
 Bernard M. Kauderer 2008
 Paul A. Riggs..... 2008
 Rex L. Shields..... 2008
 John L. Von Ulmen 2008
 Francis R. Traser..... 2006
 Melquiades Mares, Jr..... 2005
 Ronald K. Thompson..... 2004
 Michael Varalyai 2004
 Hughie T. Blackwell..... 2003
 Robert L. Conboy..... 2003
 James Rogers 2003
 John E. Savela, Jr..... 2003
 Ben Van Devender..... 2002
 Berry S. Yolken 2002
 James E. Carter 1999
 William F. Long 1999
 Herbert J. "Bo" Bolton 1998
 Kenneth E. Chunn..... 1998
 *Clifford Bernard Murr ... 1996
 *Royal Harrison, Jr..... 1995
 *Sterling F. Higgins 1995
 *Robert Clair Koplin..... 1995
 *Mark Maynard..... 1994
 *William J. Dillon..... 1993
 *Harold Staggs..... 1992



E-Board Zoom Conference Minutes of April 17, 2021

The Los Angeles-Pasadena Base, United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., E-Board Zoom Conference was conducted on the morning of Saturday, April 17, 2021.

In attendance:

- Dave Vanderveen, Base Commander
- Bill Moak, Secretary
- Mike Swanson, Treasurer
- Ray Teare, COB
- Herb "Bo" Bolton, Committee Chair
- Chuck Senior, Committee Chair
- Paul Riggs, Memorial Director
- Jeff Porteous, *Periscope* Editor
- Joe Koch, Member

Base Commander Dave Vanderveen called the Zoom Conference to order at 1007 hours, and the March meeting Minutes were approved via motion from Mike, seconded by Dave, and approved by general vote.

Treasurer's Financial Report: Mike Swanson

The Treasurer's Report as of April 16, 2021 was read into the Minutes by Base Treasurer Mike Swanson:

Checking	\$8,048.25
Savings	\$14,884.67
Cash On Hand	\$50.00
Uncleared Checks:	\$00.00
Total	\$22,982.92

All vendors have been paid up-to-date.

Income:	\$100.00
Expenses:	\$33.00

Flower/Booster Club Additions:

Ken Dorn	\$100.00
Harold Staggs	\$100.00

Inkind Donations:

\$00.00

Bill made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Paul, and accepted as reported.

Memorial Report:

Paul Riggs gave a summary of work that has been done on the site. He lauded efforts by the vendor for the landscaping work done. Paul reported that prospects for a Memorial Day ceremony appear slim, as it does not appear the base restrictions will be lifted in time for preparations to be started. Normally such preparation begins in January. Paul indicated that he invites all L.A.-Pasadena Base members to join him in a private mini-ceremony he will perform on that date at

(concluded next page)

Navy Fast-Tracks 'On-Time' Delivery of Columbia Class

Subs are being engineered to be quietest, stealthiest ever.

(From Warrior Maven website via Fox News, published January 18, 2021.)

by Kris Osborn

The entire premise of undersea strategic deterrence is based on the need for nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarines to hold potential attackers at risk of catastrophic destruction, without being found, detected, or seen by enemies in any way.

This reality, which is increasingly becoming more complex for submarine weapons developers, might explain why the Navy's new *Columbia*-class, nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarines are being engineered to be the quietest, stealthiest submarines ever to exist.

The new submarines will also need to be higher tech in the sense that they will need to be less detectable, due in large measure to the reality that enemy platforms capable of submarine detection are getting much more advanced through the use of longer-range, more sensitive sonar systems, harder to detect, long-endurance, small undersea sub-hunting drones and advanced methods of aerial submarine detection; some of these detection systems include the use of air-dropped sonobuoys, high-tech sub-hunting surveillance planes and other systems, including the

(continued on next page)

E-Board Meeting Minutes...

(concluded from previous page)

the Memorial site. He will be there at 0930 to raise and lower the flag to half staff, and perhaps even have a tolling of the boats. Dave mentioned that such a ceremony will have to observe both maximum numbers allowed and social distancing while present. Dave will include reference to this mini-ceremony in his Wardroom comments, and Jeff indicated he will include it in the Base Calendar within the *Periscope*.

Eagle Scouts:

Dave is still looking for a volunteer to assume responsibilities for this program. Paul indicated that Judi Arnold might be a participant, even though Ed Arnold is no longer active in Base or Scouts programs.

New Members:

Dave indicated that while new members numbers are increasing, they have been offset by recent losses, i.e. Joe Lopez and Jack Herron. Dave indicated he spoke with Shirley Herron, and that no public service will be performed for Jack that shipmates can attend.

District Six Commander Position:

Willie Williamson will not be taking on another term in that position, so Dave is asking for any volunteers willing to run for that position. Dave lauded Willie for performing, as Dave characterized it, in the proper manner of conducting the business of that assignment. Dave hoped that whomever does fill the seat, he will continue in Willie's outstanding manner.

Awards:

Dave mentioned National's awards program, and Bill suggested recognizing Dennis Walsh for his outstanding work as Base Secretary for an extended period of time.

For the Good of the Order:

Mike inquired as to the manner of payment for work done at the Memorial site, and Paul explained that he took expenses personally incurred as a tax write-off. Dave then explained how such non-repaid expenses could be claimed as donations for IRS filings.

Dave then inquired of Joe as to the status of potential services for his late wife, to eventually be performed at Riverside National Cemetery. Joe reported maximum attendance restrictions have yet to be eased, which he requires before he can plan services.

Paul inquired as to any special recognition for Harold Staggs. Dave mentioned the past Holland Club recognition in San Diego.

With no further items, Ray made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike and approved by general vote, and the meeting concluded at 1036 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Moak

Secretary, L.A.-Pasadena Base, USSVI

Columbia Fast-Track...

(continued from previous page)

use of surface and shallow-depth laser scanner technologies engineered to find subs on patrol.

In light of this kind of global equation, it is by no means surprising that the Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Michael Gilday's CNO NAVPLAN (Navigation Plan) text specifically cites the pressing need to deliver the new *Columbia*-class boats ... "on time."

The rapid and large-scale proliferation of undersea drones, many of them being quite small, quiet, and less detectable by submarine defenses, presents an entirely new threat calculus for submarine commanders who need to lurk quietly in undisclosed, undetectable, yet strategically vital locations.

The twelve submarines of the *Columbia* class are a shipbuilding priority and will replace the *Ohio*-class submarines reaching maximum extended service life. The *Columbia*-class Program Executive Office is on track to begin construction with USS *Columbia* (SSBN-826) in fiscal year 2021, deliver in fiscal year 2028, and on patrol in 2031.

Also, the Chinese continue to quickly build new Jin-class, nuclear-armed ballistic missile submarines, platforms soon to be armed with

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Note that the following e-bulletins from Regional and National appear in these pages in the order received. The most recent information therefore appears toward the back.—ed.

FOX Traffic: Bulletins from USSVI—Regional and National

Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: March 25, 2021
Subject: VA to soon provide COVID-19 vaccinations to all Veterans, their spouses and caregivers
Submitted by: William C. Andrea on 3/25/2021

Shipmates,

From the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs:

The VA is soon to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to all Veterans, their spouses and caregivers. For further information, go to the following link:

<https://bit.ly/3lWPvNA>

If the link does not work by clicking on it, copy and paste it into your browser.

Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@USSVI.ORG>
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021
Subject: 021 Convention Broadcast - IMPORTANT
Submitted by: Jay D. Mack, Convention Chair

All Hands,

On March 6, 2021, at the USSVI Mid-Term Board of Director's Meeting, it was announced that June 15th would be the deadline date to decide if the 2021 National Convention would be a "Go or No-Go." This discussion was in direct relation to what is currently the situation in our country with regard to COVID-19. There were forty members in attendance at that meeting including District Commanders and Regional Directors. I am confident that that information was taken back to various districts and regions and shared with membership.

At this point we are at 76% of our room block commitment at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort. That is very encouraging. However, the number of convention registrations we have received is very, very low. If convention registrations were in line with hotel reservations, we would have several hundred members registered for the convention. My concern

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Columbia Fast-Track...

(continued from previous page)

JL-3 long-range nuclear weapons. These new sub-launched JL-3 missiles introduce an ability for Chinese submarines to hold larger portions of the continental U.S. at risk of a nuclear attack.

Given all this, the U.S. Navy naturally needs larger numbers of highly-capable new ballistic missile submarines—but perhaps to an even greater extent, the new submarines may need to be the stealthiest undersea platforms ever to exist. This, interestingly, may in fact be the case due to a Navy effort to integrate an entire suite of new undersea warfare technologies into the *Columbia* class. These technical efforts, emerging after years of successful Navy Science and Technology work, are multi-faceted and wide-ranging, and some of them are even being migrated over to the *Columbia* submarines from the Navy's Block III *Virginia*-class attack submarines. Several attack submarine innovations are being adapted for the much larger *Columbias*, to include the use of a fiber-optic periscope cable enabling commanders to view surroundings within the submarine from different locations, and essentially not have to stand just beneath a periscope dropdown. The *Columbias* also incorporate fly-by-wire computerized navigation controls which, unlike a mechanical

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

is that members are waiting until after June 15th to see what we are going to do. After that date they will send in their convention registrations. The problem with that is it will give us a false understanding of attendance and could cause the convention to be rescheduled to 2024 due to lack of attendance.

The Convention Committee is asking everyone who is planning on coming to the 2021 convention to send in their convention registrations now, or at least prior to June 1st. We have nine boat reunions already scheduled so let's keep the ball rolling and have a great 2021 convention in Orlando. Register today!

Jay D. Mack
2021 USSVI Convention Chairman

Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: March 29, 2021
Subject: USSVI VSO NEWS FOR APRIL, 2021
Submitted by: John Dudas, USSVI VSO

House Passes Bill Allowing All Veterans, Caregivers to Get Vaccinated at VA:
<https://bit.ly/31uZ5xJ>

Bill Would Dramatically Expand Retirement Benefits for 42,000 Veterans:
<https://bit.ly/3szJ7hV>

Time to Renew? DoD Retirees and Dependents Now Getting Redesigned ID Cards:
<https://bit.ly/3sCf8pn>

Vet Groups Make Final Effort to Kill GI Bill Loophole Through COVID Relief Package:
<https://bit.ly/31vegqF>

DFAS My-Pay Two-Factor Authentication Is Mandatory April 27:
<https://bit.ly/3ubDA1r>

DFAS Retiree Newsletter March 2021:
<https://bit.ly/2PjtLbK>

Top Military Court Considers Challenge to DoD's Authority to Court-Martial Some Retirees:
<https://bit.ly/31uPBCH>

Congress Passes Sweeping New Rule Allowing VA to Vaccinate All Veterans, Spouses:
<https://bit.ly/3rtiZUs>

119,000 Retired Military Beneficiaries Still Haven't Payment Plans for Tricare:
<https://bit.ly/39lZo2j>

Federal Tax Deadline Extended One Month. What It Means for Military Members:
<https://bit.ly/3fo7aMX>

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Columbia Fast-Tracked...

(continued from previous page)

hydraulic system, draw upon advanced computer automation to control submarine settings such as depth, speed, and other mission elements, of course when directed by a commander.

It is certainly quite likely that the *Columbia* may incorporate many as-of-yet unknown quieting technologies. One item often discussed by senior Navy weapons developers is its electric drive technology—the high-tech electrical propulsion system is known to be much quieter than existing technologies and also brings very crucial added amounts of mobile electrical power to the submarine, systems of great relevance given the large number of advanced electronics built into the submarine—like newer kinds of command and control, computerized or automated navigational systems, and electrically-powered weapons and sensor interfaces.

Yet another way to remain less detectable is through the use of missile-tube launched undersea reconnaissance drones. Many of these drones are now being built by the Navy to bring new launch and recover surveillance systems to undersea warfare through the use of missile tubes. The technical ability to dispatch and track unmanned sonar and underwater reconnaissance systems, increasingly able

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

How the Tricare Catastrophic Cap Affects Your Health-Care Costs:

<https://bit.ly/3dg06za>

The VA Just Got \$17 Billion in COVID Relief Money. Here's How They Plan to Spend It:

<https://bit.ly/3cAxa5G>

Copayment Debt: Refunds, Forgiveness:

<https://bit.ly/39n9mQL>

Sweeping Measure Would Provide Care, Disability to Thousands of Vets Sickened by Burn Pits:

<https://bit.ly/3fmmTAd>

Groundbreaking VA Study Shows How Long COVID-19 Vaccine Immunity May Last:

<https://bit.ly/3wcsBqg>

VA Expects to Open COVID-19 Vaccines to All Vets by May 1:

<https://bit.ly/2Pap4ft>

Biden Signs Sweeping New Law Allowing VA to Vaccinate All Veterans, Spouses:

<https://bit.ly/39n9Kib>

Shipmates and Ladies,

Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.

Dave

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>

Date: April 2, 2021

Subject: USSVI National Awards Nominations Reminder

Submitted by: Harold W (Bill) Scott II, USSVI National Awards Chair

Shipmates,

Another reminder for you about USSVI National Awards Nominations and important deadlines.

April 30 - All nominations except the NLOY awards are due to me NLT close of business on that day.

May 15 - All NLOY nominations are due to me NLT close of business on that day. I will then send all nominations to the on committee chairs for tabulation and self award winners. Refer to the Awards Manual for other deadlines.

Nominations received after those deadlines will not be considered, and the sender will be notified. If mailing nominations via snail mail, they must be postmarked no later than that day to be considered.

When preparing your nominations, be creative and don't use the 'cookie cutter' method of taking a previous write-up, changing the names of previous nominations and adding new activity. This applies particularly for those shipmates who were previously nominated, but did not get selected and who are still deserving of that particular award, or for a different award this year. Remember, no photos and font size 12pt, and preferably in Word

(continued on next page)

Columbia Fast-Track...

(concluded from previous page)

to share data in real-time with larger host submarine platforms, can enable a large *Columbia* class boat to linger more safely in “impossible to detect” locations, allowing forward-operating undersea drones to enter higher-risk areas to patrol for threats such as enemy subs.

Kris Osborn is the Managing Editor of Warrior Maven and the Defense Editor of The National Interest.



PRIDE RUNS DEEP

Ad Still Here by
Popular Demand!



Just the Place for Killer MidRats!

Hey, know anyone on boats out of New London? Or, planning a visit to Groton yourself? Drop anchor at this local dive: **Wings'n'Pies** at 924 Route 12, just down the road from the Base's Main Gate. Your editor enjoys firsthand knowledge that the pizzas here are some of the tastiest and sloppiest around. Forget those extra napkins—just wipe your greasy fingers on your shirt and they'll think you've been hanging out with the A-Gang!

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Document format for all nominations except for NLOY. See the Awards Manual for any additional guidance.

When sending your nominations, be sure to include the nominee's base, base position, BC's name and address. In addition for the NLOY award nominations, include the editor's name. I'm also suggesting the inclusion of the District Commander's name and address also for mailing awards to the recipients in case they aren't at the convention.

Nominations as of 3/31: 1 - Negri Award, 24 - Link Awards, 2 - DCOY, 3 - Meritorious Individual Awards, 1 - Meritorious Base Award, and 2 - NLOY.

I am looking for someone familiar with the Awards program who might be interested in assisting me at the convention to organize the awards (plaques, patches, certificates, etc.). Thanks go out to those members at the last BOD meeting for volunteering to help me at the convention.

Honored to Serve,

Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN RET.
USSVI National Awards Chair
Central District 4 Commander
Chief of the Boat, USSVI Central Texas Base
CTB Newsletter Editor,
512-826-8876

*Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave*

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: Sunday, April 4, 2021
Subject: 2nd Qtr. *American Submariner* magazine now online
Submitted by: Wayne Standerfer, National Commander

Shipmates,

The 2021 2nd Quarter Edition of our *American Submariner* magazine is now posted on our National Website.

Open the USSVI website <https://www.ussvi.org/home.asp>

Log On with your Login Name and Password.

Click on the blue “USSVI Magazine” button about half-way down the left-side menu

Click on the top left button “Current Edition”.

All the Best,
Wayne Standerfer
National Commander
c/o
Michael “Willie” Williamson EN2/SS
WD6 Commander
(909) 754-0326 cell

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

ent award this year. Remember, no photos and font size 12pt, and preferably in Word Document format for all nominations except for NLOY. See the Awards Manual for NLOY guidance.

When sending your nominations, be sure to include the nominee's base, base position, BC's name and address. In addition for the NLOY award nominations, include the editor's name. I'm also suggesting the inclusion of the District Commander's name and address also for mailing awards to the recipient in case the recipients aren't at the convention.

Nominations as of 3/5: 1 – Negri Award, 4 – Link Awards, 1 – Meritorious Base Award, 1 – DCOY, and 1 – NLOY. I am looking for someone familiar with the Awards program who might be interested in assisting me at the convention to organize the awards (plaques, patches, certificates, etc.). Thanks go out to those members at the meeting for volunteering to help me at the convention.

Honored to Serve,
Harold W (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN RET.
USSVI National Awards Chair
Central District 4 Commander
Chief of the Boat, USSVI Central Texas Base CTB Newsletter Editor,
512-826-8876

SoCal Shipmates and Ladies,

Here's information about services for Collie O'Gorman, a Bonefish Base shipmate who has departed on Eternal Patrol. Bonefish and L.A.-Pasadena Bases began collaborating on the Annual Independence Day Parade in Huntington Beach some years back, and Collie was with us every year. He had a LOT of good stories about his experiences, and it was a pleasure to spend time with him.

Dave

From: Michael Williamson <williess582@gmail.com>
Date: Saturday, April 3, 2021
Subject: Reminder of Columba "Colly" O'Gorman's celebration of life, April 11th

Ahoy,

I was just talking with Shipmate Rocky Rockers and he asked me when Colly's celebration of life was. I had to look up my registration and thought maybe it could sneak up on some more of us. Check the link here on Evite: Free Online Invitations, Premium Cards and Party Ideas | Evite—the site used by Colly's son:

Columba Broome O'Gorman
Hosted by: Shawn O'Gorman
Sunday, April 11 at 11:00 AM PT
Monteleone Meadows - 35245 Briggs Road Murrieta, CA 92563
If you have registered, I hope to see you there to honor our shipmate.

V/R
Willie

Michael "Willie" Williamson EN2/SS
WD6 Commander
(909) 754-0326 cell

(Too late to participate via this notice, I realize, but included here anyway in case some hadn't learned of his passing.—ed.)

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

Shipmates,

Ron Wagner's note below may be of help to those of you who do "business" with the Veterans' Administration.

Dave

From: Ron Wagner <res0gd4t@verizon.net>
Date: Thursday, April 8, 2021
Subject: "...debt forgiveness related to copayments..."

Hi Dave,

I tracked down the rumor that vet VA copays were to be either suspended or forgiven to this front page:

<https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5639>

I call attention to the second bullet.

I have been using the VA for my HMO since 2001. I have been receiving a bill at the end of each month that I have received services. Those were suspended in March, 2020, and came due for \$428 through 11/16/20, just before the first hip replacement. I paid that. Then with a due date 1/21/21, I received another for near \$2000, including the hip replacement hospital stay and drugs issued. Due to my protesting about \$300 for drugs I say were sent in error, I have not yet paid that bill. Now it looks like that debt may be forgiven. I will know for sure when I receive a credit for that \$428 paid last November.

So it looks like no charge for VA health care services for vets through 30 September, 2021.

Note that there is a link to the printable version midway down on the left.

I hope this is useful for other vets like me.

Ron

Shipmates and Ladies,

Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.

Dave

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: Sat., April 10, 2021
Subject: USSVI Convention Boat Reunions info.
Submitted by: Jay D. Mack, Convention Chairman

Attention Boat Reunion Coordinators!

At the present time we have 10 boat reunions tying up at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort during the 2021 USSVI National Convention. The Rosen has graciously offered four complimentary suites to be used by those boat reunions. Obviously, we can't reasonably divide those four suites between ten reunions. So, we are going to have a raffle of sorts. Our Convention Boat Reunion Coordinator, Ozzie Osentoski, will choose a number between 1 and 100. Any boat reunion coordinator who would like a chance to win the use of one of those suites also needs to choose a number between 1 and 100. You will then send an e-mail to National Commander Wayne Standerfer at lwaynes@charter.net with the number you choose by no later than April 30, 2021. On May 1st, Wayne Standerfer will find the four numbers closest to Ozzie's number and those will be the winners. An email will be sent to all participants showing the drawing results.

Any boat reunions who have not made arrangements to have their reunion during the convention, but who would like to do so, can contact Ozzie prior to the April 30th deadline if you would like to participate in this raffle.

(continued on next page)

USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

The convention room rates will be valid August 28 thru September 5, 2021.

Contact Ozzie Osentoski at ussronquil@yahoo.com with comments or questions.

Current boat reunions at the convention are: *Andrew Jackson, Gato, Hardhead, John Marshall, Los Angeles, Pintado, Ronquil, Sam Rayburn, Skate and Theodore Roosevelt.*

Jay D. Mack
2021 Convention Chairman

*Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave*

This one's near and dear to my heart, since I'm proud to now be an Associate Editor for American Submariner magazine, working for our own Chuck Senior.—Jeff

From: "USSVI POC: William C. Andrea" <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: April 19, 2021
Subject: *American Submariner* magazine IMPORTANT
Submitted by: Chuck Senior, Editor, *American Submariner* magazine

All bases, all members, now hear this:

The gmail account for the *American Submariner* magazine is no longer used for magazine submissions. Effective immediately, ALL submissions intended for the magazine should be sent exclusively to: editor@americansubmariner.org

Please refer to the attached publication guidelines before submitting your material.

All other correspondence related to the publication should be sent to: chuck@americansubmariner.org

Other pertinent contact information is listed quarterly in the publication sidebar on page 4.

Below is a copy of the **publication guidelines**.

The *American Submariner* is published quarterly. Submissions are accepted on an ongoing basis, but submissions for consideration in specific issues must be received on or before these deadlines:

Spring Issue: December 1 • Summer Issue: March 1 • Autumn Issue: June 1 • Winter Issue: September 1

Submission does not guarantee publication. All submissions should include the author's name, telephone number, and email address at the top of the first page.

Document Format:

Articles are accepted in the following formats: .doc, .docx, .odt, .rtf, or .txt.

Style:

The *American Submariner* does not require many specifics, but we do strive for correctness and consistency. Please observe the following when typing your document:

- Use only one space following periods, commas, semicolons, colons, exclamation points, question marks, and quotation marks. Use no spaces on either side of a hyphen.

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(continued from previous page)

- Use the final comma in a series of three or more elements: (i.e. cat, dog, and mouse).
- Spell out numbers below 100 (i.e. five, eight, thirty-two, seventy-five, etc.)
- Format dates as October 5, 2021 rather than 1 October 2021.
- The period and comma always go within the quotation marks. The dash, semicolon, question mark and exclamation point go within the quotation marks when they apply to the quoted matter only. They go outside when they apply to the whole sentence.
- Ship names should not be in all caps. USS Virginia, not USS VIRGINIA.
- Hull numbers should be placed in parentheses and be hyphenated. USS Texas (SSN-775).
- Subvets should be one word, all lowercase except when starting a sentence.

Photos:

Images should be supplied digitally and in high-resolution, preferably the original unedited image from the camera. Send images as separate attachments—do not include them within the body of the article. Both color and black and white are acceptable. Please include a brief description identifying who and what is depicted.

Editing:

The *American Submariner* reserves the right to edit submissions for publication due to space constraints, grammatical correctness, writing quality, clarity, etc.

Submitting your Article:

Contributions should be emailed to editor@americansubmariner.org. Files and images too large to email can be sent via sendthisfile.com. Hard copy submissions are discouraged.

By submitting material for publication, the writer agrees to hold *American Submariner* harmless and assumes full responsibility for permission to publish all content, including photos and graphics. Be aware that much of the content found on the internet (written material, photos, graphics, etc.) is subject to copyright protection and should not be used unless determined to be in the public domain, or permission to use is granted to the *American Submariner* in writing by the copyright holder.

Fraternally,
Chuck Senior
Editor, *American Submariner*

Shipmates and Ladies,
Forwarding USSVI correspondence to L.A.-Pasadena Base members.
Dave

From: USSVI POC: William C. Andrea <NJVC@ussvi.org>
Date: Saturday, April 24, 2021
Subject: Awards deadline rapidly approaching
Submitted by: Bill Scott, USSVI National Awards Chair

Another reminder for you about USSVI National Awards Nominations and important deadlines. This is the last call for all nominations except the NLOY award nominations which are due as noted below.

Nominations as of 4/24: Joe Negri Award (2) • Robert Link Awards (29) • DCOY Nominations (3) • Meritorious Individual Awards (7) • Meritorious Base Award (3) • Ben Bastura Award (1) • NLOY (4).

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USSVI Regional and National News Bulletins...

(concluded from previous page)

April 30 – All nominations except the NLOY awards are due to me NLT close of business on that day.


May 15 - All NLOY nominations are due to me NLT close of business on that day. I will then send all nominations to the committee chairs for tabulation and selof award winners. Refer to the Awards Manual for other deadlines.

Nominations received after those deadlines will not be considered, and the sender will be notified. If mailing nominations via snail mail, they must be postmarked no later than that day to be considered.

When preparing your nominations, be creative and don't use the "cookie cutter" method of taking a previous write-up, changing the names of previous nominations and adding new activity. This applies particularly for those shipmates who were previously nominated, but did not get selected and who are still deserving of that particular award, or for a different award this year. Remember, no photos and font size 12 pt, and preferably in Word Document format for all nominations except for NLOY. See the Awards Manual for any additional guidance.

When sending your nominations, be sure to include the nominee's base, base position, BC's name and address. In addition for the NLOY award nominations, include the editor's name. I'm also suggesting the inclusion of the District Commander's name and address also for mailing awards to the recipients in case they aren't at the convention.

Honored to Serve,
Harold W. (Bill) Scott II, STSCS(SS) USN Retired
USSVI National Awards Chair, Central District 4 Commander
Chief of the Boat, USSVI Central Texas Base
CTB Newsletter Editor, 512-826-8876



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USS <i>Delaware</i> (SSN-791)	USS <i>Kentucky Blue</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Greenville</i> (SSN-772)	USS <i>Kentucky Gold</i> (SSBN-737)
USS <i>Helena</i> (SSN-725)	USS <i>Maine Blue</i> (SSBN-741)
USS <i>Hyman G. Rickover</i> (SSN-795)	

Questions?

Jack Messersmith
(928) 227-7753
or e-mail
MesserJ109@gmail.com

Russia's Monster Submarines Are Even Scariest Than You Imagined

It's hard to grasp the sheer size of the Typhoon-class subs, the biggest ever built.

(Reproduced from the Popular Mechanics website—published March 3, 2021.)

by Kyle Mizokami



Typhoon-class submarine in Murmansk. (Georges DeKeerle/Getty Images.)

If you've ever seen *The Hunt for Red October*, you're probably familiar with Russia's truly massive Typhoon-class submarines. These Cold War giants still stand as the largest subs ever built.

Just how big are we talking? Each submarine stretched to nearly 600 feet long and was wider than the average American house—and almost three times as tall, to boot.

In the 1970s, the Soviet Union embarked upon a new nuclear weapons program (code name: Typhoon) to develop a new missile-firing submarine and nuclear missiles. The subs (code name: Akula) were designed to be 566 feet long, 76 feet wide, and nearly 38 feet tall.

The Typhoon-class submarines displaced 23,200 tons in order to accommodate a payload of twenty RSM-52 ballistic missiles. Although most subs are relatively spartan in amenities, the sheer size of the Typhoons made it possible for engineers at St.

Petersburg's Rubin Design Bureau to squeeze in such unprecedented perks as a solarium, swimming pool, and sauna.

The first submarine in the Typhoon class, *Dmitri Donskoy* (TK-208), entered service in 1981. Russia built five Typhoons in total, but today, only *Donskoy* remains in service. The sub has spent its post-Cold War career as a test bed for a new generation of Russian submarine technologies and missiles, and was instrumental in testing the buggy Bulava submarine-launched ballistic missile.

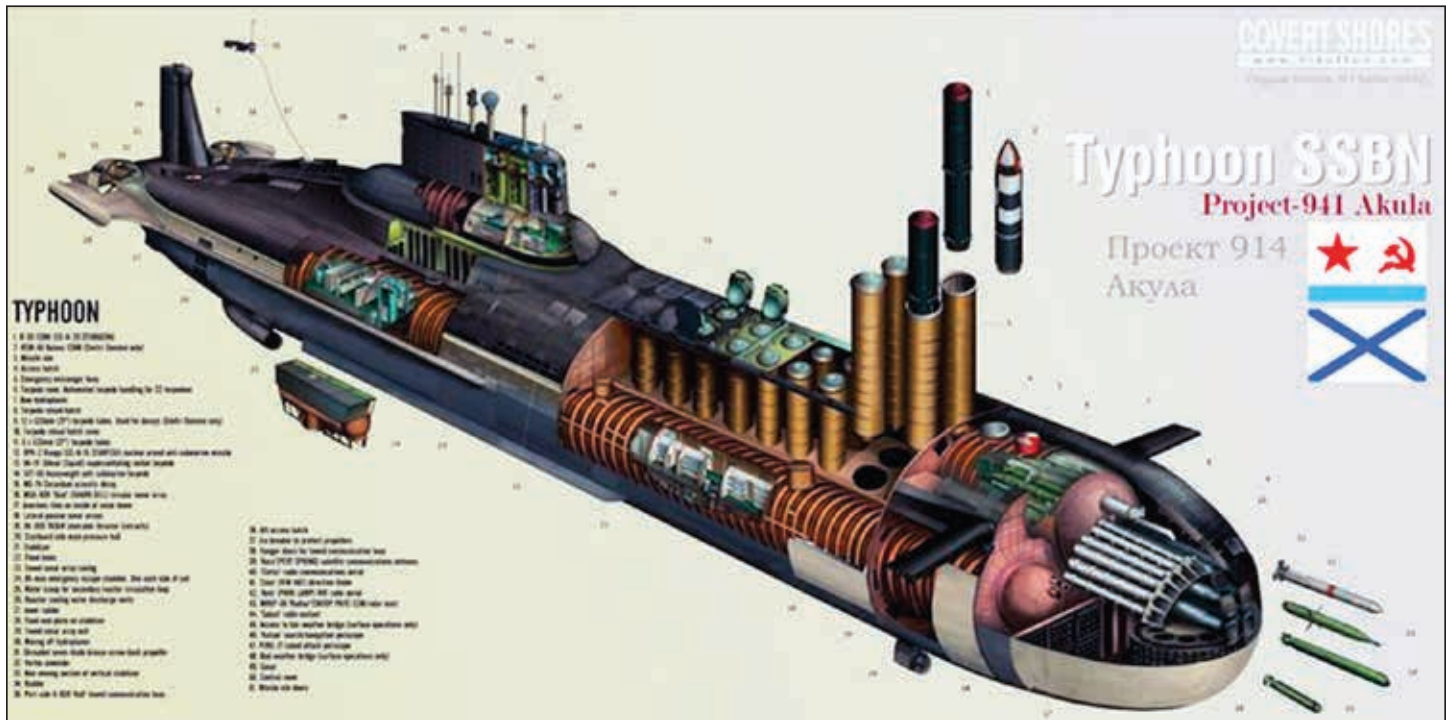
The images above, which undersea warfare authority H.I. Sutton created, show the Typhoon in relation to the American *Ohio*-class ballistic missile submarines and the average American house. While the Typhoon-class subs are only 17 feet longer than the *Ohio* boats, they're considerably wider and taller.

A Typhoon sub looks so menacing because its sail (also known as the conning tower) is located behind the missile silos instead

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Russia's Monster Subs

(continued from page 25)



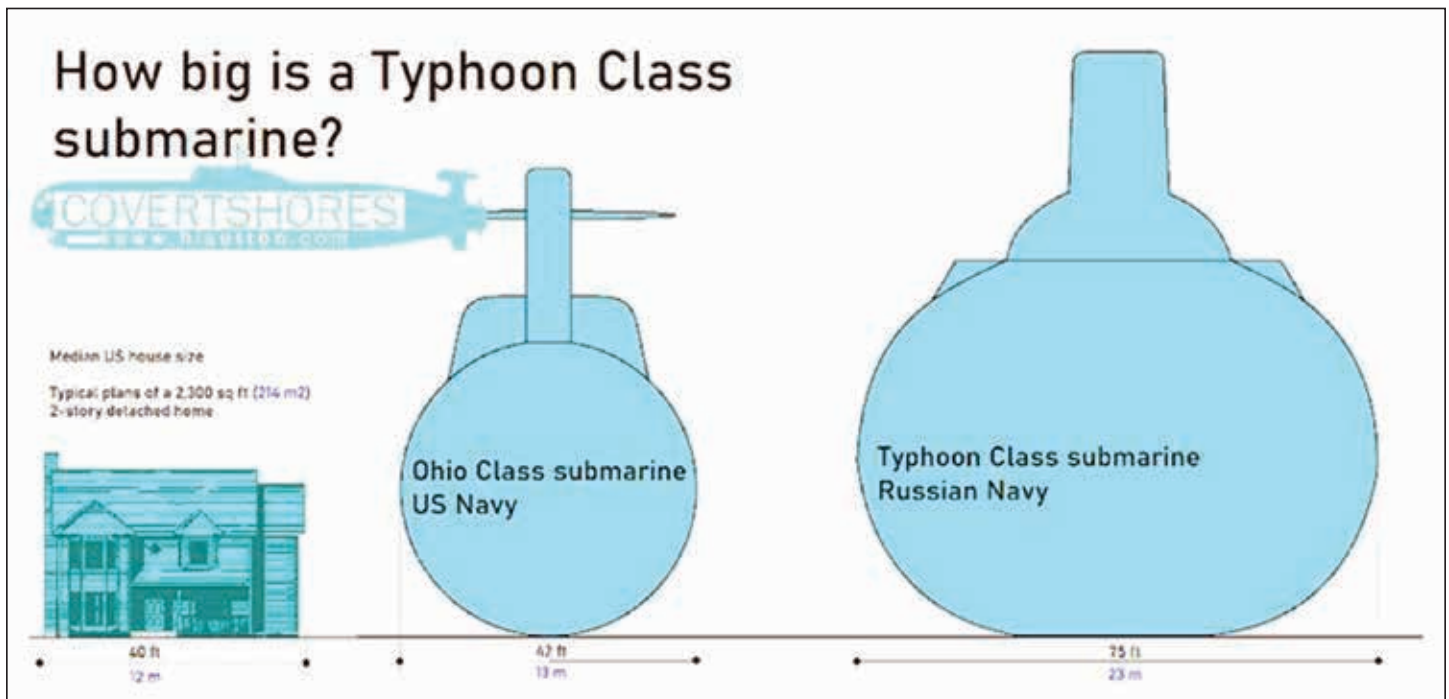
Cutaway of a Typhoon-class submarine. Note that the submarine still retains torpedo tubes. (H.I. Sutton/Covert Shores Image.)

of in front of them, meaning the missiles are always included in any picture of the sub.

The titular *Red October* was supposed to be a fictional super-variant of the Typhoon class, equipped with six more RSM-52 missiles, for a total of 52,000 kilotons of nuclear firepower. (The atomic bomb exploded at Hiroshima, by comparison, had a

yield of 16 kilotons.)

The *Red October* came packed with a magnetohydrodynamic drive (MHD) system, a real-life propulsion system that supposedly gave the ship a first strike capability. In both *The Hunt for Red October* and the novel on which it was based, the sub was designed to use its near-silent MHD propulsion to sneak to a



The Typhoon class compared to the Ohio-class ballistic missile subs and the average American house. (H.I. Sutton/Covert Shores Image.)

Russia's Monster Subs

(concluded from page 26)



The Borei-class missile submarine Kynaz Vladimir (*Count Vladimir*) arrives at Russian northern fleet base. (Lev Fedoseyev/Getty Images.)

position off the eastern seaboard of the U.S., launching its missiles in a surprise attack. This unadvertised capability was the final straw for ship captain Marko Ramius, who defects with his submarine to the U.S.

Today, a newer generation of Russian missile submarines, the *Borei* class, are replacing the Russian Navy's aging Typhoon- and Delta-class subs. The *Borei*-class subs carry sixteen Bulava missiles, for a total explosive yield of 7,200 kilotons, though the Bulava missiles are likely much more accurate than their predecessors.

And since the *Boreis* are smaller and more space-efficient than their ancestors, they probably don't have swimming pools. Russia plans to build at least eight *Borei* submarines, split between the Northern (Atlantic) and Pacific Fleets.

At forty years old, *Dmitri Donskoy* is nearing retirement age. The Soviets built the Typhoon boats during a time before computers and compact ballistic missiles, and their size was dictated in large part by their enormous RSM-52 missiles. There may never be a class of submarines as big as the Typhoons...though never say never.



Dmitri Donskoy arriving at the Kronstadt Naval Base, St. Petersburg, July 2017. (AFP Contributor/Getty Images.)

Missile Boats to be Recycled

(continued from page 1)



Tugs guide USS Ohio out of dry dock in Bangor, Washington, August 15, 1983. (Corbis via Getty Images.)

ballistic-missile submarines, classified as SSBNs, and meant to replace the aging boats of the five previous SSBN classes, known as the “41 for Freedom,” which were commissioned between 1959 and 1967.

The SALT I and SALT II treaties between the U.S. and the Soviet Union put limitations on their nuclear forces, including the number of submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBMs) silos each could possess. As a result, a number of SSBNs were retired or refitted and reclassified as attack subs to make room for *Ohio*-class subs to enter service.

As the newest SSBN in the Navy, *Ohio* was a considerable upgrade. At 560 feet long and 42 feet wide, *Ohio* and its follow-on boats are the largest submarines in U.S. history. It was originally armed with four torpedo tubes and twenty-four missile silos—eight more than its predecessors—capa-

(continued on page 29)

ble of firing UGM-96 Trident I SLBMs.

Its nuclear reactor enabled *Ohio*, like other SSBNs, to stay submerged for months at a time. It also gave *Ohio* the ability to dive deeper than diesel-electric submarines and allowed it to have a virtually unlimited range, restricted only by its food supply.

At *Ohio*'s commissioning, then-Vice President George Bush said the vessel was “a new dimension in our

nation's strategic deterrence,” while Adm. Hyman G. Rickover, known as the “father of the nuclear Navy,” said *Ohio* should “strike fear in the hearts of our enemies.”

All but one of the *Ohio*-class boats were named after U.S. states, a tradition the Navy previously reserved for battleships and cruisers.



USS Ohio undergoing conversion to a new class of guided missile submarine at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington, March 15, 2004. (U.S. Navy/Wendy Hallmark.)

Missile Boats to be Recycled

(continued from page 28)



Members of Gold Crew on duty in Control aboard USS Ohio, January 23, 2021. (U.S. Navy/MCS2 Kelsey J. Hockenberger.)

SSBN and SSGN

After training and shakedown operations, *Ohio* was transferred to the Pacific Fleet, arriving at its homeport of Bangor, Washington, in August 1982. In October that year, *Ohio* began its first strategic deterrent patrol, the first such patrol with a Trident I SLBM, which lasted seventy days.

Ohio would conduct strategic deterrent patrols out of Bangor for the next twenty years and did a number of Trident test launches in that time. After a brief overhaul from 1993 to 1994, *Ohio* returned to patrol duties in 1995.

In 1994, the Nuclear Posture review determined that the Navy only needed 14 of its 18 SSBNs. As a result, the first four *Ohio*-class submarines were to be converted to SSGNs to assist ground operations in a more tactical role.

Ohio's conversion lasted from 2002 to 2005. *Ohio* and its fellow SSGNs are now equipped with 22 Vertical Launching System tubes, giving them the ability to fire up to 154 Tomahawk land-

attack cruise missiles.

The four SSGNs have more than half of the U.S. Navy's submarine vertical-launch payload capacity, with *Ohio* alone carrying more Tomahawks than a single Arleigh Burke-class destroyer.

The remaining two missile tubes were converted into swimmer lockout chambers, which, combined with its ability to carry a dry deck shelter, allows the *Ohio* to deploy up to sixty-six Navy SEALs or Force Reconnaissance Marines for special operations.

Returning to active service in 2006, *Ohio* continued to conduct patrols in the Pacific and participated in a number of exercises with the U.S.'s Asian allies. In 2010, *Ohio* and two other SSGNs surfaced simultaneously in the Western Pacific in response to Chinese missile tests in the East China Sea.

In April 2017, *Ohio* entered a two-year refit, which upgraded most of its onboard systems, and returned to service in August of 2019.

(concluded on page 30)

Missile Boats to be Recycled

(concluded from page 29)



Force Reconnaissance Marines in combat rubber raiding craft approach USS Ohio during an exercise off Okinawa, February 2, 2021. (U.S. Marine Corps/Sgt. Destiny Dempsey.)

To ensure continuous operation at peak performance, *Ohio* is operated by two rotating 155-man crews, dubbed Blue and Gold. Each crew deploys for seventy to ninety days before returning to port to swap places with the other.

Plans for Recycling

Ohio is currently operating in the Pacific with the U.S. 7th Fleet. It recently conducted an exercise with Force Reconnaissance Marines from the III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, who practiced deployments via submarine and rubber raiding craft.

Ohio is expected to enter the recycling process in 2026, along with sister boat USS *Florida*. For submarines, the process has four stages: inactivation, missile compartment dismantlement, reactor compartment disposal, and recycling.

Inactivation begins after the sub has been disarmed and put into a drydock. The reactor is shut down and completely defueled. The main storage battery is then removed.

The submarine is cut open to allow easy access to the reactor. The fuel is moved to

a shielded transfer container that is placed in a specially designed shipping container before being sent to the Naval Reactors Facility in Idaho.

After this, the missile launchers are removed from the submarine and cut apart to ensure their destruction in accordance with the terms of the SALT II Treaty.

When this is done, the reactor is thoroughly cleaned, sealed in a protective case, and removed by crane to be sent to the Department of Energy's Hanford waste disposal site in eastern Washington.

Any remaining parts of the submarine that can be used in active subs is removed and stored. The hull is then scrapped.

Eventually, all *Ohio*-class SSBNs will be replaced by the *Columbia* class. The four SSGNs, meanwhile, will be replaced by the *Virginia*-class nuclear attack submarine, which will have vertical-launch systems capable of firing twelve to forty Tomahawks or Harpoon anti-ship missiles.



USS Ohio at a naval base in Busan, South Korea, with its dry deck chamber open, February 26, 2008. (KIM JAE-HWAN/AFP via Getty Image.)



USS Cobia (SS-245)

*On display as a museum boat
in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.*

*In memory
of the
fifty-two
submarines
lost in
World War II*



SEALION
S-36
S-26
SHARK I
PERCH
S-27
GRUNION
S-39
ARGONAUT
AMBERJACK
GRAMPUS
TRITON
PICKEREL
GRENADIER
RUNNER
R-12
GRAYLING
POMPANO

CISCO
S-44
DORADO
WAHOO
CORVINA
SCULPIN
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SCORPION
GRAYBACK
TROUT
TULLIBEE
GUDGEON
HERRING
GOLET
S-28
ROBALO
FLIER

HARDER
SEAWOLF
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