

STEEL VALLEY DOLPHINS



IN MEMORY OF

John Bistolas

ETERNAL PATROL: 21APR26



USS Massachusetts SSN-798



The USSVI Requin Base supports the National Creed

"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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MEETING INFORMATION

Meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month, normally at the Baden PA American Legion. Quarterly meetings are held around our membership area.

Our next meeting will be

13 JUN 2026 @ 1230 hours

American Legion Post 290

BASE LOCATION



American Legion Post 641

271 State St

Baden PA 15005

FROM THE EDITOR

Please send ideas for articles or copies of articles, with full credit information to me for consideration of submission in the SVD. We are a SUBMARINE group. As such, the articles should be SUBMARINE or NAVY-related.

DEADLINE: NO LATER THAN 1600 ON WEDNESDAY AFTER POST MEETING

Frank T. Vereb - fvereb2@gmail.com

OUR WEBSITE

For additional information about events and fundraisers at YOUR Base, please visit

<https://www.requinbase.org/>



USSVI NATIONAL OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
National Commander	Jon Jaques	615-893-7800	jjagues@bellsouth.net
Senior Vice Commander	Timothy Carlisle	925-812-4239	Timothybwcarlisle@gmail.com
Junior Vice Commander	Thomas Williams	512-632-9439	texsubvet@yahoo.com
Secretary	David Farrugia	813-951-1898	DFarrugia@tampabay.rr.com
Treasurer	John Sidlovsky	757-328-9796	treasurer.ussvi.hrb@gmail.com
Past Commander	William Andrea	561-790-1287	wcandrea@bellsouth.net
Chaplain	James Sandman	615-975-4792	Jsandman85@gmail.com
Region Director NE	Jeffrey Walsh	860-449-2103	Neregiondir@yahoo.com
District Commander EN3	Thomas Denton	301-845-0049	gcmfish@verizon.net
National Office	Sharon Walsh	360-337-2978	ussvi@telebyte.net



USS REQUIN BASE OFFICERS

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
Base Commander	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	itgeek8088@gmail.com
1st Vice Commander	Vince Metz	412-613-5554	vincemetz007@hotmail.com
2nd Vice Commander	Rick Flaugh	412-779-0497	flaughre@comcast.net
Secretary	Jeff Simon	920-217-8633	jeffsimon@zoominternet.net
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	booky143@verizon.net
Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	nicotrafrank@gmail.com
Chaplain	Frank T. Vereb	412-328-3390	fvereb2@gmail.com
Past Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Frank T. Vereb	412-328-3390	fvereb2@gmail.com
Webmaster	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	booky143@verizon.net
COB/Historian	Bob Meyers	724-282-1524	bmeyers@zoominternet.net
Photographer	Rick Flaugh	412-779-0497	flaughre@comcast.net
Holland Club Chairman	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi654@comcast.net
Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	dqdiving@gmail.com
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	itgeek8088@gmail.com
Eagle Scout Chair	Eric Greenwald	412-770-7329	ericjgreenwald@gmail.com
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	dqdiving@gmail.com
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	rredde@gmail.com
Kap(SS)4Kid(SS) Chair	Bob Meyers	724-282-1524	bmeyers@zoominternet.net
Charitable Foundation Chair	Dave Halliday	412-537-6841	dwh724@yahoo.com
USS Requin Restor. Chair	Kyle Glaser	309-333-9409	kyle.glas@gmail.com



Tolling of the Boats for May

USS Lagarto (SS-371)

Lost on May 3, 1945 with the loss of 86 men near the Gulf of Siam. On her 2nd war patrol, she is believed to have been lost to a radar equipped minelayer. This minelayer was sunk by the USS Hawkbill (SS-366) 2 weeks later.

USS Scorpion (SSN-589)

USS Scorpion (SSN-589) was returning to Norfolk, VA from a Mediterranean deployment. On May 22, 1968 she reported her position to be about 50 miles south of the Azores. Scorpion was never heard from again. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined. 99 officers and men were lost.

USS Squalus (SS-192)

On May 23, 1939 USS Squalus suffered a catastrophic valve failure during a test dive off the Isle of Shoals. Partially flooded, the submarine sank to the bottom and came 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. 26 men drowned in the after compartments. Later Squalus was raised and recommissioned as the USS Sailfish. In an ironic turn of fate, Sailfish sank the Japanese aircraft carrier carrying surviving crew members from Sculpin, which had located Squalus in 1939. Only one of survived after spending the rest of the war as slave laborers in Japan.

USS Stickleback (SS-415)

Lost on May 28, 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.



Man Our Ship and Bring Her to Life!



Submarines Commissioned During the Month of May

Boat	Commissioned	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Grampus SS-4	5/28/1903	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pike SS-6	5/28/1903	Wikipedia	NavSource	
F-4 SS-23	5/3/1913	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
L-4 SS-43	5/4/1916	Wikipedia	NavSource	
O-4 SS-65	5/29/1918	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-6 SS-83	5/1/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-2 SS-106	5/25/1920	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-6 SS-111	5/17/1920	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-29 SS-134	5/22/1924	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-31 SS-136	5/11/1922	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-38 SS-143	5/11/1923	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-50 SS-161	5/20/1922	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bonita SS-165	5/22/1926	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Narwhal SS-167	5/15/1930	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Grampus SS-207	5/23/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Grenadier SS-210	5/1/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Guardfish SS-217	5/8/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bluefish SS-222	5/24/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bonefish SS-223	5/31/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Herring SS-233	5/4/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Kingfish SS-234	5/20/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Wahoo SS-238	5/15/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Bowfin SS-287	5/1/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cabrilla SS-288	5/24/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cisco SS-290	5/10/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Baya SS-318	5/20/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Becuna SS-319	5/27/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Chopper SS-342	5/25/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Hawkbill SS-366	5/17/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Segundo SS-398	5/9/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sea Cat SS-399	5/16/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sea Devil SS-400	5/24/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Trepang SS-412	5/22/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Irex SS-482	5/14/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Wahoo SS-565	5/30/1952	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Permit SSN-594	5/29/1962	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pollack SSN-603	5/26/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource	
John Marshall SSBN-611	5/21/1962	Wikipedia	NavSource	
John Adams SSBN-620	5/12/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Tecumseh SSBN-628	5/29/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pogy SSN-647	5/15/1971	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Silversides SSN-679	5/5/1972	Wikipedia	NavSource	
William H. Bates SSN-680	5/5/1973	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Jacksonville SSN-699	5/16/1981	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Albuquerque SSN-706	5/21/1983	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Norfolk SSN-714	5/21/1983	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Salt Lake City SSN-716	5/12/1984	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Alabama SSBN-731	5/25/1985	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Hawaii SSN-776	5/5/2007	Wikipedia	NavSource	
North Carolina SSN-777	5/3/2008	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Oregon SSN-793	5/28/2022	Wikipedia	NavSource	

[illegible][illegible]



Requin Base Commanders Column May 2026

Shipmates,

Thank You to everyone that was able to make it to the May meeting.

I'm requesting that every member mark May 24, 2026 on their calendars for the annual Tolling of the Boats ceremony aboard USS Requin SS-481. This event is dedicated to honoring lost submarines and submariners, embodying the core of our mission statement. I encourage everyone nearby to attend - all hands on deck. For those unable to stand, seating will be provided.

We also have our usual parades on the 24th & 25th. A separate email has gone out to sign up for the May events. Please let me know which events you will be participating in.

Please help us build support for the Requin Base Endowment and the 2026 Booster Drive by sharing the endowment and booster letters with individuals or organizations that may wish to contribute.

A copy of the endowment letter is attached to this copy of the SVD. You can also reach out directly to myself or Kyle Glaser.

Pride Runs Deep

Lou Hamill

Commander USS Requin Base



Lou Hamill
Commander USS Requin Base
4984 Apple Ridge Drive, Allison Park PA 15101
itgeek8088@gmail.com
412-445-3998
<https://requinbase.org>



February 05, 2026

Dear Sir or Madam:

The United States Submarine Veterans of the "USS Requin Base" in Pittsburgh PA is sponsoring an endowment to support the maintenance and operation of the USS Requin SS-481 at the Kamin Science Center. Our desire is that this fund will be inclusive of all veterans' organizations and individuals. Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$50,000 this calendar year to ensure the fund is "named" and invested for use. The fund can be contributed to at any time in the future.

With the help of our shipmates and supporters like you, USS Requin SS-481 will continue to be an artifact of history and science that young and old alike can learn from.

Your donation to this fund is tax deductible.

An annual report on the status of the fund and how it was used will be available to all donors from USS Requin Base.

We cannot do this alone, please consider becoming a member of the USS Requin Base endowment fund. Personal presentations by Science Center staff and myself are available by request.

Send donations (check - made payable to Carnegie Institute) to:

Kamin Science Center
ATTN: Kyle Glaser
1 Allegheny Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Respectfully

Lou Hamill
USS Requin Base Commander

Please include the information below with your check.

Donor	
Donor Address	
Donor email	
Donor Phone	
Amount	
Fund	USS Requin Base



Lou Hamill
Commander USS Requin Base
4984 Apple Ridge Drive, Allison Park PA 15101
itgeek8088@gmail.com
412-445-3998
<https://requinbase.org>



January 13, 2026

Dear Sir or Madam:

The United States Submarine Veterans of the "USS Requin Base" in Pittsburgh PA is having our annual Booster Drive for 2026.

There are six giving levels: Shipmate: Less than \$100.00, Silver: \$100.00, Gold: \$200.00, Platinum: \$300.00, Diamond: \$400.00 and Nuclear: Greater than \$500.00.

We are made up of submariners from sixteen (16) states, with the core of our base, from the Tri-State area. We participate in community events and parades, with our float, "The Nautilus" and as needed, a specially designed people mover for our shipmates that can't walk the entire parade route.

Our base activities include the "KAP(SS) 4 KID(SS)" program where we give honorary submarine hats and certificates to boys and girls who have cancer or other medically challenging situations.

We are also involved with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts who attain the rank of Eagle Scout or Gold Award. We present the scout with a patch, certificate and a Requin Base challenge coin to honor them in their accomplishment.

Every year on the Sunday before Memorial Day onboard the USS Requin SS481, the Requin Base conducts a tolling of the boats memorial service to honor the memory of all submariners who lost their lives in the line of duty. The Marine Detachment of the Three River Leather-Necks and the VFW Post 9199 supply the color and honor guards for this ceremony.

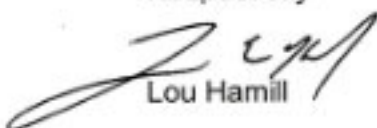
Additionally, we support the crew and families of the USS Idaho SSN-799.

With the help of our shipmates and supporters like you, we will be able to continue our programs and hopefully add more. Please consider becoming a BOOSTER of the Requin Submarine Base for 2026.

Send Booster donation (check - made payable to Requin Base) to:

Lou Hamill - Commander USS Requin Base
4984 Apple Ridge Drive
Allison Park PA 15101

Respectfully


Lou Hamill





MEETING MINUTES

These are the minutes as recorded at the base meeting and are not edited or moderated by the newsletter editor. You can address any issues or concerns in the minutes with the [Base Secretary](#).

Requin Base Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2026

American Legion Post 641 Baden PA

Base Commander Lou Hamill called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Willard Ashmore, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Don Bright, George Brown, Dan & Kathy Busby, Joe Campisi, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Rick Flaugh, Dick Geyer, Kyle Glazer, Bob & Lynn Gourley, David Halliday, Lou Hamill, John Held, Jean Lemieux, Chuck & Nancy Loskoch, Bob & Jude Meyers, Frank Nicotra, Ed Perlowitz, George Reed, Jeff Simon, James & SuzAnne Taylor, Chad Underkoffler, Frank Vereb, Craig & Lori Volland, Mike Wychoff.

COB Bob Meyers led the Pledge Of Allegiance.

Base Commander Lou Hamill: We dedicate this meeting to our Shipmates on Eternal Patrol, to perpetuate their memories in our lives and to honor our Shipmates on active duty in the service of the first line of defense of our Nation. Let us at this time, with a moment of silent prayer, remember our Shipmates who made the supreme sacrifice that we may gather here in Peace.

Boats Lost:

- USS LAGARTO (SS 371) May 3, 1945
- USS SCORPION (SSN589) May 22, 1968
- USS SQUALUS (SS 192) May 23, 1939 (Re-commissioned as USS SAILFISH (SS 192) 1940)
- USS STICKELBACK (SS 415) May 30, 1958

We also remember our departed shipmates of the Requin Base: George Pilley, George Staas, Robert Lindsay, John Yaksich, Richard Tate, James Vamey, Ed Figas, and Donald Tamburello. Let us also remember the brave submariners who died performing their duties aboard submarines, some individually and some in groups, but where the submarine itself was not lost.

Chaplain Frank Vereb gave the Invocation.

Quote Of The Day: "The time is always right to do what is right." - Martin Luther King, Jr

Requin History: May 1, 1949, Requin sailed east for her first deployment with the Sixth Fleet. May 14, 1949, arriving at Gibraltar, Requin operated in the Mediterranean Sea. May 2, 1955, Requin sailed for her 5th Mediterranean deployment. Detached at the end of July, she returned to Norfolk VA and remained on the east coast with cruises to the Caribbean until November 1957 when she resumed duty with the Sixth Fleet. May 28, 1968, Requin departed Norfolk VA as part of search efforts for the missing nuclear attack submarine Scorpion SSN-589. May 24, 1990, Requin was towed to Tampa Shipyard for dry docking and hull repairs in preparation for her move to Pittsburgh PA.

Members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

Secretary Jeff Simon reported that Minutes of the previous base meeting were published in the SVD. With no objections, the minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer Lee Bookwalter gave an accounting of base assets, expenditures, and deposits. With no objections, the report was approved.

Other Reports:

Binnacle List: Eileen Simon, Clare Bouts, Ron Zahner, Dan Busby

Eternal Patrol: John Bistolas

Base membership stands at 182.

Storekeeper, many submarine items on sale

Eagle Scouts

PA License Plates

Kap(SS)4Kids(SS), May 11th at 1100 at Children's Hospital, two teams of two (Hamill, Meyers, Lindsey, Vereb).

Mush Morton award was presented May 1 by Lawton Gaines.

Requin Endowment, fund raising stands at approximately \$28,050 towards a goal of \$50,000. Charitable Foundation

Booster Fund over \$4350 collected so far this year.

Social Committee

Past Events: Commissioning of USS Idaho SSN-799

Upcoming Events:

- May 11 - Kap(SS)4Kids(SS) at Children's Hospital
- May 13 - 17th Annual Fish Rodeo - 9:00 AM O'Hara Township Community Park, 330 Fox Chapel Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15238
- May 16 - Armed Services Day 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM Baden Borough Municipal Complex, 149 State Street Baden, PA 15005
- May 24 - Tolling of the Boats on USS Requin SS-481, muster at 0900, ceremony starts at 10000, Scott Buzzard USS Iowa COB attending
- May 24 - Carnegie Parade, muster at 1300
- May 25 - Sewickley Parade muster at 0900 with People Mover
- May 25 - Lawrenceville Parade muster at 0900 at Teamsters Temple with Nautilus float
- May 25 - Coraopolis Parade muster at 1230.
- May 29 - CSS-2 Change of Command, CAPT Jason Deichler departing

Old Business: None

New Business: Donation of \$250 to Fish Rodeo was approved by the members present.

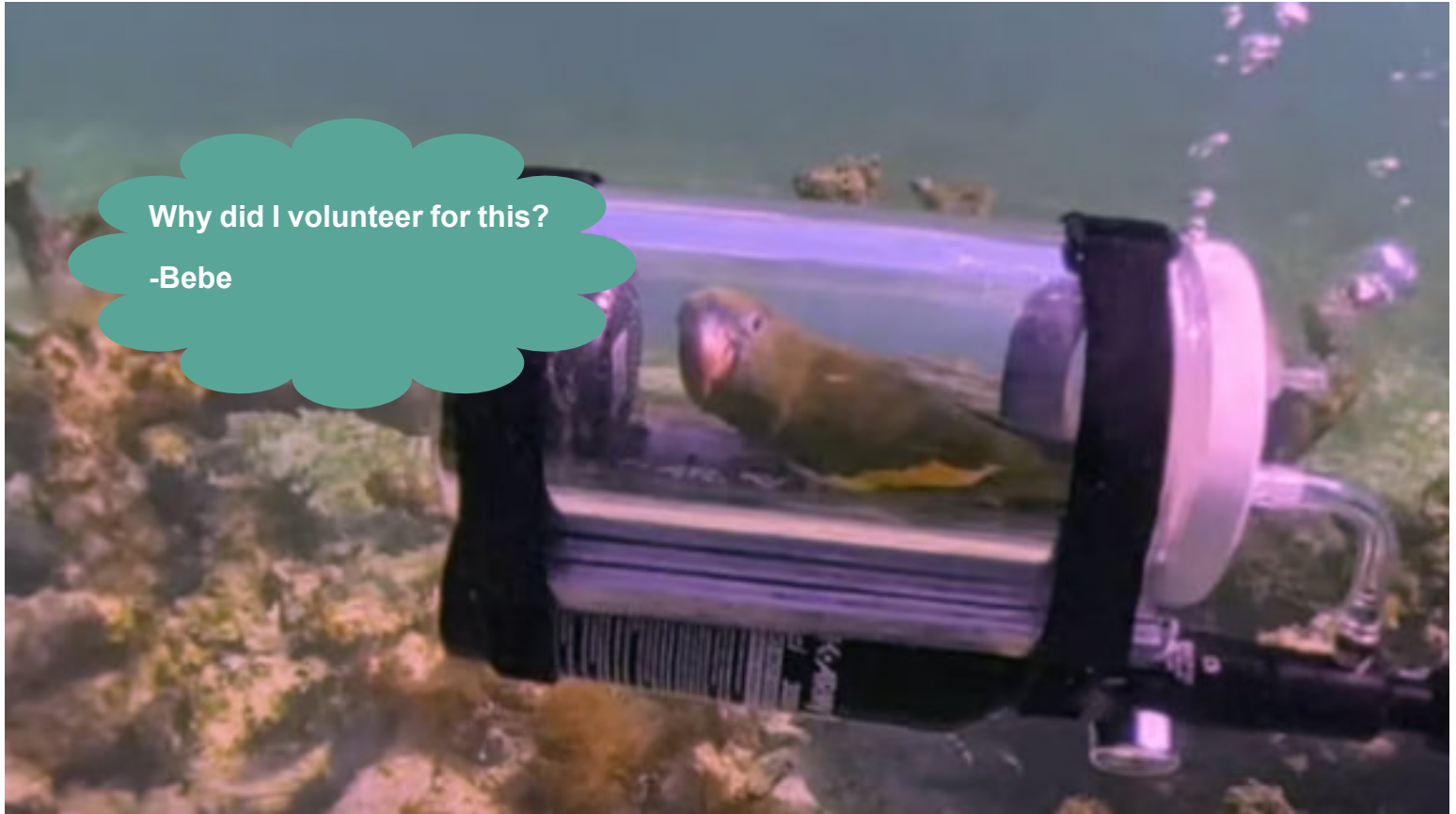
Good of The Order:

- Donations for John Bistolas shadow box were taken.
- Cups honoring Gerry Gaylor were passed out.

Chaplain Frank Vereb gave the Benediction.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: American Legion Post 290, 44403 OH-14, Columbiana, OH 44408 at 1230 hours on June 13, 2026



MONTH IN REVIEW

USS Idaho Commissioning













SW PA Veterans Center



Therapy Donkeys!

2026 National Convention Update

Shipmates,

Your 2026 National Convention in Corpus Christi is less than 5 months away! The room block is filling fast (well over 50%), registrations are steadily coming in, and a few tours are about to sell out. Make sure you don't miss out, register and book your rooms now at <https://subvetconvention.org>! And don't forget to follow us on Facebook/Instagram.

Just in case you are one of the few still on the fence and wondering why you should attend this year's convention here's a list we've come up with.

#10 – Have you ever taken a sunset cruise in Corpus Christi Bay?

#9 – How about a fishing trip, either Bay or in the Gulf?

#8 – You can visit the Texas State Aquarium and see the fish you didn't catch.

#7 – Visit 1 or more of 10 uniquely different beaches including Padre Island National seashore with 60 miles of wild beach and drive on the beach.

#6 – Learn about Radio Controlled submarines, paddling a kayak down the Mississippi, Henry Breault and many other topics by a variety of various speakers we have slated throughout the week.

#5 – Largest collection of submarine related vendors along with local ones also that there is each year. Any cigar smokers out there? You won't want to miss this one.

#4 – Opportunity to win some cool door prizes throughout the week, prizes will be drawn for at all catered hotel events. Each registrant gets 1 ticket and others can be purchased. Oh Yeah, don't forget about the 50/50 also!

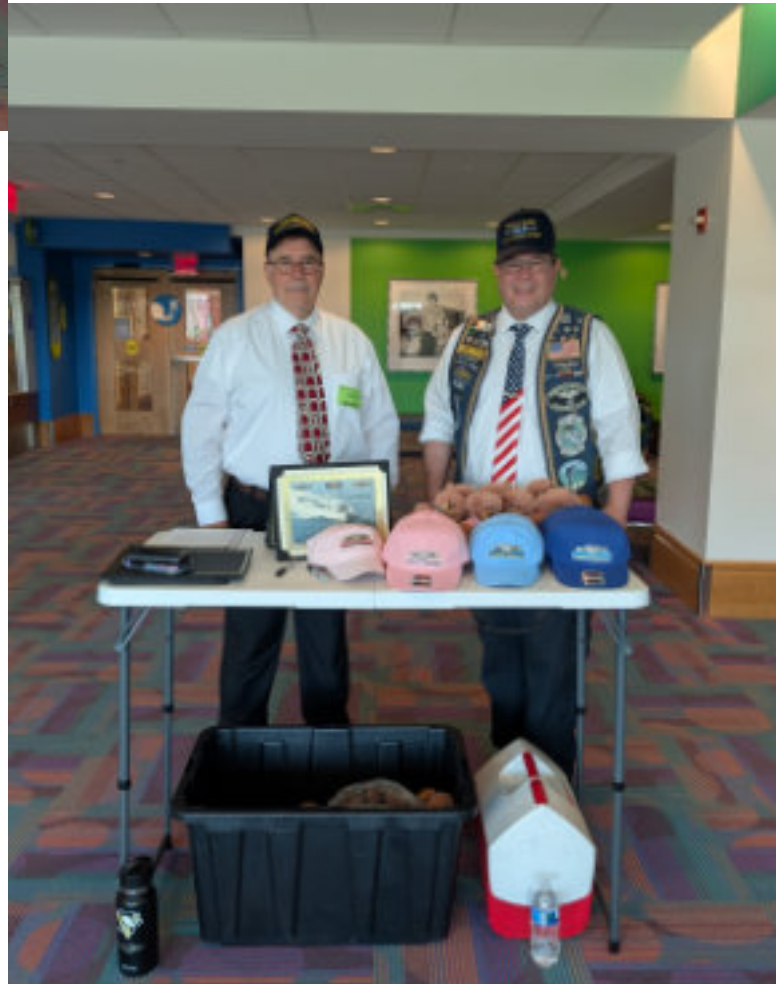
#3 – How about food? Enjoy some outstanding fresh Gulf seafood and of course there will be plenty of opportunities to enjoy some of Texas' 2 major food groups (BBQ and Tex-Mex).

#2 – Attend a truly special Tolling ceremony onboard the USS Lexington with a catered BBQ meal w/ cash bar onboard right after. We think this event is looking to be very special.

#1 – Of course, we will have all the usual meetings and hoopla but the biggest reason and what you hear every year is the chance to reconnect with past shipmates, meet new ones, share stories and make new memories.

There is no place better than at a National Convention to do this!

Kap(SS)forKid(SS)





Congratulations, LT Joshua Hanna

"LT Joshua Hanna was born and raised in Winfield, KS. Together with his wife, Jamie, he has one daughter, Clara. LT Hanna graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering. LT Hanna then participated in the Bowman Scholar program at the Naval Postgraduate School. In 2019, he graduated with his Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

LT Hanna completed both Naval Nuclear Power Training and Prototype Training at Naval Weapons Station, Joint Base Charleston. He then reported as initial manning to the PCU Massachusetts (SSN 798) at Huntington Ingalls Shipyard in Newport News, Virginia. While there, he joined the USS New Mexico (SSN 779) for a EUCOM deployment. On the USS New Mexico, LT Hanna served as the Electrical Assistant and later on the PCU Massachusetts, he served as Operational Safety Officer.

For his shore tour, LT Hanna was an instructor of the Prospective Nuclear Engineering Officer Course at Naval Submarine School, Submarine Base New London. LT Hanna will next serve as the Weapons Officer aboard the USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 795) in Groton, CT."



SSN 795 - USS Hyman G. Rickover

BADEN BOROUGH

ARMED SERVICES DAY

★ **RECOGNITION** ★

AMERICA 250



SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2026

10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

BADEN MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

149 STATE STREET, BADEN, PA 15005



Food - Entertainment - History



- ◆ Honoring The Legacy.
- ◆ Helping Those Who Served..
- ◆ Supporting The Future...

Learn more at ussvcf.org or scan the QR Code



Brotherhood Fund



- ◆ Mike Ferranti can help with grants up to \$3000
- ◆ Disaster relief
- ◆ Medical emergencies
- ◆ Help when most needed



Building Fund

- Supports any building owned by or serving USSVI
 - Maintenance
 - Expansion
- Can serve as a “bank” to collect project donations until ready to be used
- Fund manager (Steve Day) can authorize up to \$3000 in expenditures



Kap(ss) 4 Kid(ss)

- ◆ Respite for the sickest children
- ◆ Since 2007
- ◆ Over 25,000 children served
- ◆ John Riley has expanded program
- ◆ 10 bases now sponsor programs



Legacy Fund

- ♦ Opportunity to invest in what USSVI stands for
- ♦ Contribute by participating in the CF's *Living Legacy Fund*
 - ♦ \$10,000 pledge spread over 10 years
- ♦ Generates sustainable income to support programs preserving the heritage, dignity, and future of submarine veterans
- ♦ You decide which fund your contribution supports
- ♦ Supporting the CF is easy
 - ♦ Direct donations, planned giving, or a *Living Legacy* donation
- ♦ Contact Mike Talpai (legacy@ussvcf.org) for more information and assistance



Library Fund

- ♦ Over 2500 collected books & items
- ♦ Currently dormant and in storage
- ♦ Moving to St Mary's Submarine Museum spring 2026
- ♦ Fund managed by Joe Mathis



Monuments & Memorial Funds

◆ Perpetuating our Legacy.

- ◆ Supporting maintenance
- ◆ Adding new memorials
- ◆ Fund manager (Don Young) can authorize grants up to \$3000



Scholarship Fund



- ◆ Any member's child, step or grandchild, or legal ward may apply
- ◆ Awards (59 last year) based on applicant's merit and financial need
- ◆ Student must apply (www.ussvcf.org choose the "MORE" dropdown and find "APPLICATION") for the process
- ◆ Cutoff date is May 19th
- ◆ Dr Alan Fickett manages



CHAPLAIN'S COLUMN

Friends,

Memorial Day is fast approaching, the Super Bowl for Veterans groups. I know I will be seeing many of you at parades and ceremonies in the days to come. While thinking on my Chaplain duties and what words I should share with you, I stumbled on **1 Thessalonians 4:14**, which states:

"Brothers, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you will not grieve like the rest, who are without hope."

In this verse, the Apostle Paul addresses the early church's concern regarding believers who had died before Christ's return, urging them not to despair like those without faith. This perspective is grounded in the Christian belief in the Resurrection, which provides a living hope that distinguishes the grief of believers from the hopeless sorrow of those without faith in the afterlife.

As I mulled this scripture, I realized that my Funeral Detail Prayer from my time at AL Post 464 echoed this sentiment exactly:

"Grant us, O Father, that our present sorrow may bring us closer to Thee, and that our hearts may be cleansed and purified by Thy grace. We thank Thee for the understanding that death does not really separate us from the departed. Help us to look beyond the grave and see the glories of that new Life. Help us to know that our loved ones who have passed on are not dead, but are living and enjoying Thy Grace and love more than when here on earth."

So I ask that you keep these words in mind as we remember not just those who died in defense of our country, but our fallen brothers from our Base, like John Bistolas. As you all know, John went on Eternal Patrol just a few weeks ago. I'd like to close this column with the idea that our Shipmates are not gone forever; we will meet again. Know that until then they rest by the side of God, in His Kingdom. Till we meet again.



In His Service,

Frank T. Vereb

412-328-3390 fvereb2@gmail.com



STOREKEEPER'S REPORT

Please visit our online store at
<https://requinbase.org/shop/>

You can have your items shipped to you at home via USPS [for a small fee], or pick them up at the next USSVI meeting.



SAY AGAIN?

Sat: Slang for "satisfactory," or "good enough for government work."

Biologics: Supposedly the sealife that emits noise we pick up on our sonar and the noise when we crash headlong into it submerged in excess of CLASSIFIED knots.

Towed Array: Pronounced "toe ta ray." A long skinny cable that unravels behind the submarine and emits a mild but effective electric shock to sedate any biologics that just won't shut up so we can please get 4 or 5 hours of sleep please God sat.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Base Meeting

American Legion Post 290
13 JUN 2026 @ 1230

Base Activities

May 11 - Kap(SS)4Kids(SS) at Children's Hospital
May 13 - Fish Rodeo sponsored by VFW 3945
May 16 - Armed Services Day 1000 to 1800 at Baden Municipal Complex
May 24 - Tolling of the Boats on USS Requin SS-481, all hands on deck
May 24 - Carnegie Parade
May 25 - Sewickley Parade with People Mover
May 25 - Lawrenceville Parade with Nautilus float
May 25 - Coraopolis Parade
May 29 - CSS-2 Change of Command, CAPT Jason Deichler departing



MEMBERSHIP

Primary:	153	National Life:	84	Holland Club:	98
Secondary:	13	Base Life:	80	WWII:	1
Associate:	16	Joined Base Last Year:	6	Eternal Patrol:	92
Total Members:	182	Joined Base This Year:	2		



NEW MEMBERS:

Please welcome Craig Volland and George Reed to Requin Base!

George lives out in Altoona with his First Mate and qualified on the Billfish (SSN-676).

Craig lives in Harmony with his First Mate and qualified on the Lafayette (SSBN-616 BLUE).

Anyway, send George a note to welcome him at gtreed@yahoo.com and Craig as well at craig.volland@gmail.com.

FEATURED BOAT: USS Massachusetts SSN-798



History



United States

Name	<i>Massachusetts</i>
Namesake	Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Ordered	28 April 2014 ^[1]
Builder	Newport News Shipbuilding , Newport News, Virginia
Laid down	11 December 2020 ^[2]
Launched	23 February 2024
Sponsored by	Sheryl Sandberg ^[2]
Christened	6 May 2023 ^[3]
Commissioned	28 March 2026
Identification	Hull symbol : SSN-798
Motto	<i>Pro Patria</i> ("For Country")
Status	In active service

General characteristics

Class & type	Virginia-class submarine
Displacement	7,800 tons
Length	377 ft (115 m)
Beam	34 ft (10.4 m)
Draft	32 ft (9.8 m)
Propulsion	S9G reactor auxiliary diesel engine
Speed	25 knots (29 mph; 46 km/h)
Endurance	can remain submerged for up to 3 months
Test depth	greater than 800 ft (244 m)
Complement	15 officers 120 enlisted
Armament	12 VLS tubes, four 21 inch (530 mm) torpedo tubes for Mk-48 torpedoes BGM-109 Tomahawk





THIS MONTH IN US SUBMARINE HISTORY

05/01/1943

USS Pogy (SS 266), in attack on a Japanese convoy, torpedoes and sinks the Japanese gunboat Keishin Maru off Iwaki, Japan.

05/02/1942

USS Drum (SS 228) sinks Japanese seaplane carrier, and USS Trout (SS 202) sinks a Japanese freighter off the southeast coast of Honshu.

05/02/1945

USS Springer (SS 414) torpedoes and sinks the Japanese frigate in the Yellow Sea and then sinks a Japanese coastal defense ship the next day.

05/03/1942

USS Spearfish (SS 190) evacuates naval and military officers, including nurses, from Corregidor before surrendering island to Japan.

05/03/2008

USS North Carolina (SSN 777) is commissioned at Port of Wilmington, N.C., before sailing for its homeport of Naval Submarine Base Groton in Groton, Conn.

05/05/2007

USS Hawaii (SSN 776) is commissioned at Groton, Conn. The Virginia-class submarine, the first to be named after the Aloha State, arrives at its homeport of Pearl Harbor July 23, 2009 following her maiden underway period.

05/10/1944

USS Cod (SS 224) attacks a large Japanese convoy and destroyer off the west coast of Luzon. USS Silversides (SS 236) attacks a Japanese convoy about 120 miles south-southwest of Guam.

05/10/1960

USS Triton (SSRN 586), commanded by Capt. Edward L. Beach, completes a submerged circumnavigation of the world in 84 days following many of the routes taken by Magellan.

05/14/1944

USS Bonefish (SS 223) attacks a Japanese convoy bound for Sibitu Passage, Borneo, and sinks Japanese destroyer Inazuma near TawiTawi, east of Borneo and survives counter-attacks by Japanese destroyer Hibiki. Also on this date, USS Aspro (SS 309) and USS Bowfin (SS 287) attack a Japanese convoy and sinks cargo ship BisanMaru.

05/15/1969

The pre-commissioned submarine Guitarro (SSN 665) accidentally sinks while moored at U.S. Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Calif. Due to the damage, her commissioning date is rescheduled to Sept. 1972.

05/17/1942

USS Tautog (SS 199) sinks Japanese submarine I-28; USS Triton (SS 201) sinks the Japanese submarine (I 64), and USS Skipjack (SS 184) sinks a Japanese army transport ship.

05/20/1944

USS Angler (SS 240) sinks Japanese transport Otori Maru and survives depth charging by its escort, while both USS Silversides (SS 236) and USS Bluegill (SS 242) sink enemy vessels.

05/21/1983

USS Albuquerque (SSN 706) is commissioned at Submarine Base New London, Groton, Conn.

05/22/1968

USS Scorpion (SSN 589) is lost with her crew south-west of the Azores. In late Oct. 1968, her remains are found on the sea floor more than 10,000 feet below the surface by a deep-submergence vehicle towed from USNS Mizar (T-AGOR-11).

05/23/1939

USS Squalus (SS 192) suffers a catastrophic main induction valve failure during a test dive off the New Hampshire coast and is partially flooded, killing 26 crew members.

05/24/1939

Vice Adm. Allan McCann's Rescue Chamber is first used to rescue 33 men from the sunken USS Squalus (SS 192). Four Navy divers receive the Medal of Honor for their heroic actions on May 24-25 to rescue the trapped men.

05/25/1944

USS Flying Fish (SS 229) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks guardboat Daito Maru and freighter Osaka Maru north of Palau.

05/25/1985

USS Alabama (SSN 731) is commissioned at Naval Submarine Base New London, Conn.

05/26/1943

USS Saury (SS 189) attacks a Japanese convoy south of Kyushu and sinks transport Kagi Maru, about 10 miles north of the Nansei Shoto. Also on this date, USS Whale (SS 239) sinks Japanese gunboat Shoei Maru (which is transporting men of the Guam Base Detachment) about 17 miles north-northwest of Rota, Mariana Islands.

05/27/1943

USS Runner (SS 275) departs Midway for her third war patrol but is never heard from again. Overdue and presumed lost in July 1943, she is struck from the Navy list that October.

05/28/1943

USS Peto (SS 265) sinks Japanese hydrographic-meteorological research ship Tenkai No.2 northeast of Mussau Island. Also on this date, USS Tunny (SS 282) sinks Japanese gunboat Shotoku Maru off the west coast of Rota, Mariana Islands.

05/28/1945

USS Ray (SS 271) sinks Japanese freighter Biko Maru northwest of Changshan. Also on this date, USS Blueback (SS 326) and USS Lamprey (SS 372) damage Japanese submarine chaser Ch1 in a surface gunnery action off Japara, N.E.I.

05/29/1945

USS Sterlet (SS 392) sinks Japanese army cargo ships Kuretake Maru and Tenyro Maru despite the close proximity of the escort Coast Defense Ship No. 65.

05/30/1944

USS Guitarro (SS 363) sinks Japanese freighter Shisen Maru, 60 miles south-east of Keelung, Formosa. Also on this date, USS Pompon (SS 267) sinks Japanese freighter Shiga Maru off Muroto Saki, Japan while USS Rasher (SS 269) sinks the gunboat Anshu Maru about 110 miles north-northeast of Halmahera.

05/31/1944

USS Barb (SS 220) and USS Herring (SS 233) attack Japanese shipping in the Sea of Okhotsk about 150 miles west of Matsuwa Island, Kuril Islands, sinking several ships.



ARTICLES OF INTEREST

3 submarines and 2 cruisers among 14 ships Navy plans to remove from service

By Gary Warner

Published 30 APR 2026



U.S. Navy SEALs operate in December 2021 from the USS Georgia using a special compartment affixed to the hull of the submarine. (Russell Rhodes Jr./U.S. Navy)

The U.S. Navy plans to remove 14 ships and submarines from its fleet this year, according to a Pentagon report.

Plans for disposing of or reusing the vessels were contained in an April 26 administrative memo from Rear Adm. M. D. Behning, the acting deputy chief of naval operations for warfighting requirements and capabilities.

The inactivation list includes three Cold War-era nuclear-powered submarines: Los Angeles-class fast attack submarines USS Newport News and USS Alexandria, and the Ohio-class missile submarine USS Georgia.

The Navy has been phasing out the Los Angeles-class submarines as it received new Virginia-class attack submarines.

The Newport News, commissioned in 1989, collided with the Japanese tanker Mogamigawa while submerged in the Strait of Hormuz in 2007. The Alexandria was commissioned in 1991.

The Georgia was commissioned in 1984 as an Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine, carrying Trident I missiles to launch at targets in the event of nuclear war. The submarine collided in March 1986 with harbor tugboat USS Secota near Midway Island. The Secota sank, with the loss of two sailors. The Georgia suffered only minor damage.

The Georgia was converted in 2005 to a guided-missile submarine that could fire volleys of Tomahawk cruise missiles. It could also operate with a special compartment on its hull to carry and deploy special forces commandos.

The three submarines are to be “recycled,” a process at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in which they are decommissioned and stripped of parts, and their nuclear reactors are removed. The reactors are encased in protective materials and taken by barge from Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean, then down the Columbia River, where they are unloaded into a special trench for spent nuclear waste at the Hanford Nuclear site in southeastern Washington state.

The other vessels are either scrapped, designated as logistics support assets or turned over to the U.S. Maritime Administration for disposal.

Two Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruisers — USS Lake Erie and USS Shiloh — along with the dock landing ship USS Germantown and replenishment oiler USNS John Ericsson, will be used as “logistics support assets” to be “cannibalized” for spare parts, Behning says in the memo.

The Freedom-class littoral combat ship USS Fort Worth would be dismantled.

Five ships would be transferred to the U.S. Maritime Administration. Three are the vehicle cargo ships USNS Red Cloud, USNS Watkins and USNS Pomeroy.

The agency would also receive the offshore petroleum distribution vessel USNS VADM. K. R. Wheeler, and the replenishment oilers USNS Pecos and USNS Big Horn.

Navy Commissions Submarine USS Idaho

By Darren Moore

Published 27 APR 2026



The crew of the submarine USS Idaho stand at attention during the boat's commissioning ceremony at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., April 25, 2026.

The Navy commissioned the submarine USS Idaho in a traditional ceremony at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut, April 25.

The ceremony marked the culmination of a multiyear construction process and officially brought the USS Idaho into the fleet. It is the fifth Navy vessel named for the Gem State. The most recent predecessor, USS Idaho, was a battleship commissioned in 1919 that earned seven battle stars for its service during World War II, including action at Iwo Jima and Okinawa, Japan.

Sen. James Risch of Idaho delivered the principal address as the ceremony's keynote speaker.

Hung Cao, acting Navy secretary, also delivered remarks, emphasizing the strategic importance of the new submarine.

"We are a maritime nation, bordering on both the Atlantic and the Pacific [Oceans]. Our commerce depends on safe and secure sea lanes of communication," Cao said. "President [Donald J.] Trump's commission to our military is simple: to achieve peace through strength. The USS Idaho joins the fleet ready to answer the call to action, in any ocean, at any time."

Navy Cmdr. Chad J. Guillerault, commanding officer of the Idaho, addressed the attendees, speaking on behalf of the crew and the submarine's rich heritage.

"The Idaho connection is more than a name, it is a legacy — a legacy built before us that is being reborn today," Guillerault declared. "I am incredibly proud to be the commissioning captain of a vessel so steeped in tradition ... and most importantly, honored to be the captain of a crew so mighty that they have outshone all those before them."

The ship's sponsor, Teresa Stackley, gave the traditional order to "man our ship and bring her to life," at which point the crew ceremonially ran aboard to man the submarine.

"This moment is for you, Cmdr. Guillerault, and your crew," Stackley said. "Please note that when you sail, my heart sails with you."

The Idaho is the 26th Virginia-class submarine and the eighth of the advanced Block IV configuration. The ship was christened on March 16, 2024, at the shipyard in Groton.

As the newest submarine to join the fleet, the Idaho brings cutting-edge warfighting capability to the nation's undersea forces. Virginia-class submarines feature enhanced stealth, sophisticated surveillance capabilities and special warfare enhancements to meet the Navy's multimission requirements.

These submarines are 7,800 tons, 377 feet in length and have a beam of 34 feet. They are powered by a nuclear reactor plant that will not require refueling during the planned life of the ship, reducing lifecycle costs and increasing operational availability.

The commissioning of the USS Idaho reinforces the Navy's commitment to maritime superiority and national security. For 250 years, American naval power has projected strength across the globe. That mission continues and intensifies with the addition of the nation's most advanced undersea assets.



The crew of the submarine USS Idaho run aboard the submarine while A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft assigned to the Idaho Air National Guard's 190th Fighter Squadron conduct a flyover during the boat's commissioning ceremony at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., April 25, 2026.

WAR PATROL!

Editor's Note: In this month's WAR PATROL!, we follow the [USS S-33 \(SS-138\)](#) as she receives friendly fire in the form of PBVs dropping depth charges during her 7th War Patrol [04 JUN 1943 to 07 JUL 1943](#). Read as the sub stalks two sam pans and sends them to the bottom. Check it out in this issue of WAR PATROL!



U.S. SUBMARINE "S-33"
MOV. S. 800. SAN PEDRO-CAL.
S. 7. 1940. SURFACE - 2. 1940.



United States

Name	USS S-33
Builder	Union Iron Works, San Francisco, California
Laid down	14 June 1918
Launched	5 December 1918
Sponsored by	Mrs. Thomas M. Searles
Commissioned	18 April 1922
Decommissioned	15 June 1922
Recommissioned	21 December 1922
Decommissioned	1 December 1937
Recommissioned	16 October 1940
Decommissioned	23 October 1945
Stricken	1 November 1945
Fate	Sold for scrap 1946

General characteristics

Class & type	S-class submarine
Displacement	854 long tons (868 t) surfaced 1,062 long tons (1,079 t) submerged
Length	219 ft 3 in (66.83 m)
Beam	20 ft 8 in (6.30 m)
Draft	15 ft 11 in (4.85 m)
Speed	14.5 knots (16.7 mph; 26.9 km/h) surfaced 11 knots (13 mph; 20 km/h) submerged
Complement	38 officers and men
Armament	1 × 4 in (102 mm) 50 deck gun 4 × 21-inch (533 mm) torpedo tubes

Service record

Operations	World War II
Awards	1 battle star

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

PROLOGUE

Arrived U.S. Submarine Base, DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA at 1749(X) May 23, 1943 from sixth war patrol. Commenced routine refit, readiness date June 7, 1943. Repaired all defects found on sixth war patrol. Not depermed nor wiped, no training period.

1. NARRATIVE

June 4, 1943

0921(W) Underway from U.S. Submarine Base, DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA with U.S.S. SC 1025 as escort.
1050(W) Submerged for trim dive.
1051(W) Fathometer issued forth smoke from starting panel.
1100(W) Set clocks back one hour to zone plus 11 time.
1143(X) Surfaced.
1230(X) No. 5 port main engine exhaust valve stuck open.
1249(X) Radar sweep ceased operation.
1345(X) Fired 4 rounds from deck gun at drifting target.
1425(X) Proceeding through AKUTAN PASS. Escort still trying to recover target.
1435(X) Released escort.
1535(X) While midway through AKUTAN PASS, No. 5 port main engine rocker arm bracket broke. Slowed to two thirds speed on starboard engine and went backwards over the ground against a full flood current for an hour and a half. This casualty occurred on the same valve that had been repaired only two hours previously. The exhaust valve was renewed. A sticky residue, mahogany in color, was on the old valve.
1750(X) Radar repaired.
1807(X) Port engine back in commission and went ahead two thirds speed on both engines.
1850(X) Fathometer repaired.
1903(X) Sighted transport plane on easterly course. Exchanged recognition signals.

June 5, 1943

1032(X) Submerged for trim dive.
1105(X) Surfaced.
1110(X) Lieut. (jg) E. J. SOPH, USNR, was turned in with diagnosis undetermined (intestinal influenza) vomiting and with a temperature of 101.8° F.
1840(X) Sighted FBY plane on opposite course, passing 6 miles abeam to north. Apparently not sighted by plane.

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U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 6, 1943

0322(X) Submerged for trim dive.
0343(X) Surfaced.
1800(X) Set clocks back one hour to zone plus 12.

June 7, 1943.

0258(Y) Submerged for trim dive. Went to test depth.
0343(Y) Surfaced.

June 8, 1943

0322(Y) Submerged for trim dive.
0332(Y) Surfaced.

June 9, 1943

0321(Y) Submerged for trim dive.
0402(Y) Surfaced.
0920(Y) Sighted PBY plane which passed about 8 miles abeam.
Apparently were not sighted by the plane.
1200(Y) Lieut. (jg) E.J. SOPH, USNR. returned to duty.

June 10, 1943

0326(Y) Submerged for trim dive.
0440(Y) Surfaced.
0620(Y) Sighted plane similar to Ventura bomber coming in astern on parallel course. Submerged, making emergency identification signal.
0645(Y) Surfaced, nothing in sight.
0850(Y) Sighted PBY plane on opposite course which passed approximately 8 miles abeam and apparently did not sight us.

June 11, 1943

0335(Y) Submerged for trim dive.
0415(Y) Surfaced.
1130(Y) Entered Area.
2230(Y) Radar picked up land bearing 315° T., distant 3500 yards. Fathometer indicated we were 10 miles off shore. Investigation showed that the ranging element of the radar is out. The radar is still useful as a pure detection device.

June 12, 1943

0608(Y) Submerged. Visibility varies between 4,000 and 12,000 yards. Too rough to hold periscope depth and last the day out so commenced cruising at 90 feet with periodic sweeps at periscope depth.
1700(Y) Radar repaired with a jury rig. Ranges are a little better, but still are out an indeterminate amount.
2210(Y) Surfaced.
2244(Y) Commenced lying to charging batteries.

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U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 13, 1943

0201(Y) Cut rate to one engine on battery charge.
0513(Y) Sighted TORISHIMA ROCKS through rain and mist of the storm about 10,000 yards west.
0515(Y) Submerged. Too rough for periscope depth so continued cruising at 90 feet with periodic sweeps at periscope depth.
2145(Y) Surfaced.
2211(Y) Commenced lying to for battery charge. It is still light but visibility is poor.

June 14, 1943

0358(Y) Sighted small patrol craft. Submerged. Vessel was never seen after diving, nor were propellers heard. After searching for the craft sighted on the surface, went deep and rose to periscope depth for periodic periscope sweeps.
0757(Y) Sighted patrol vessel similar to our 110 foot submarine chasers. He was soon lost in the mist.
2150(Y) Surfaced. All hands were groggy from headaches. They probably resulted from the 18 hours of submergence combined with diving while charging batteries on the finishing rate.

June 15, 1943

0440(Y) Radar picked up land. Believed it was CAPE LOPATKA. Fairly steady and heavy winds and seas have been running for two days.
0548(Y) Submerged.
0827(Y) Sighted sampan.
0902(Y) Made battle surface to sink sampan by gunfire. On surfacing, saw what was apparently the patrol vessel sighted yesterday, and discovered that both the sampan and we were heading directly for SHIRO ROCK, about three miles away. This made the radar land contact SHIMUSHU ISLAND instead of CAPE LOPATKA.
0906(Y) Submerged.
1900(Y) Visibility had closed to an estimated 2,000 yards, so surfaced. Commenced running on one engine and charging batteries on the other.
1930(Y) No. 2 starboard main engine exhaust rocker arm bracket broke. Secured charge and continued at one engine speed.
2012(Y) Sighted vessel in fog ahead. It appeared to be a merchantman distant about 8,000 yards. Submerged. Headed toward, but never regained contact. He probably was coming out of OTOMAYE BAY and turned to parallel the coast.
2120(Y) Surfaced.
2143(Y) Sighted vessel in the fog headed toward us. Submerged. From the surface, it appeared to be a merchantman about 5,000 yards distant.

CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 15, 1943 (Cont'd)

- 2145(Y) Passed sampan abeam 200 yards to starboard. Felt something snag on the periscope. This sampan must have been what we thought was the merchantman.
- 2150(Y) Sighted lighted sampan about 1 mile from the one we just passed.
- 2234(Y) Surfaced, festooned with a fishing net. Main engines repaired with our last spare bracket.
- 2305(Y) While lying to charging batteries, sound picked up high speed screws. These were heard crossing astern at approximately half hour intervals for the next hour and a half. The closest range was estimated at 3,000 yards. We were probably just outside the southwestern limit of a patrol vessel's sweep. His apparent courses were 050° T. and reverse.

June 16, 1943.

- 0230(Y) Commenced closing the coast to transit ONEKOTAN STRAIT. The fog is dense, so have decided to try going through the strait on the radar around ONEKOTAN ISLAND.
- 0920(Y) The fog has been progressively lifting and is extremely patchy. Sighted ship, estimated range 24,000 yards, through perfectly clear gap in the mist. Submerged and came to normal approach course. Ship was never sighted through the periscope.
- 1132(Y) Sighted patrol vessel running station patrol across eastern mouth of ONEKOTAN STRAIT. This vessel appeared to be about 150 feet long and to have been converted from an ice breaker or buoy tender. Its salient characteristics were a pronounced spoon bow, a heavy tripod foremast and a well deck forward. His patrol course is apparently 205° T. and reverse.
- 1508(Y) Sighted two trawlers. Changed course to close. They are about 1,500 yards apart. Commenced approach. Both are making bare steerageway. They are about 175 feet long and of 400 to 500 tons. Decided to fire two torpedoes at each.
- 1605(Y) Made torpedoes ready for firing. When flooding the tubes, the ship became extremely heavy forward. Caught her at 150 feet by blowing main ballast.
- 1700(Y) Regained trim, checked and tested torpedo tube and forward trim manifold valves. All were tight. Apparently a torpedo tube outer door, torpedo tube drain valve and the forward trim tank flood valve were all open at once.
- 1729(Y) Sighted the trawlers still making steerageway. Commenced approach. They are now too far apart for divided fire.
- 1855(Y) When the range was 800 yards and while getting the last set-up before firing, the target went ahead, turned 140° to port, presented an angle on the bow of 150°, and headed out the strait.

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U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 16, 1943 (Cont'd)

We may have been sighted, but there was a perfect periscope sea, the longest periscope exposure inside 2,000 yards was 12 seconds, and periscope exposed was only one foot. Speed was half-switch. He did not man his 3 inch gun forward, nor was he observed to signal to the other trawler. The most probable explanation is that we arrived too late.

2224(Y)

Surfaced.

June 17, 1943

0508(Y)

Submerged. Sea was glassy calm.

1130(Y)

Bow plane clutch for hand operation jammed with both power and hand control engaged. Went to 80 feet to make temporary repairs.

1330(Y)

Bow planes repaired. Resumed periscope patrol.

2211(Y)

Surfaced.

June 18, 1943

0248(Y)

Sighted large sampan in the fog. Manned the deck gun. Secured battery charge. Shifted to motors.

0252(Y)

Commenced firing. While firing sighted a second large sampan.

0255(Y)

Left the first sampan completely enveloped in flames. Ceased firing.

0302(Y)

Commenced firing on the second sampan.

0310(Y)

The second sampan became a mass of flames. Ceased firing.

0315(Y)

Resumed course closing coast and resumed battery charge.

0357(Y)

Sighted third sampan.

0410(Y)

Commenced firing at third sampan.

0414(Y)

Observed third sampan to be sinking, although not on fire. Secured from battle stations.

0420(Y)

Sighted fourth sampan. Finally made out that he was around 3,000 to 4,000 yards off. Decided it was getting too light for further attacks so at

0426(Y)

Submerged.

0630(Y)

Sea is glassy calm. Decided to go deep. It must be time for aircraft pretty soon.

0745(Y) to

0750(Y)

Heard three explosions. No propellers or pinging were heard. They were probably aircraft bombs. None were close. Was cruising at 120 feet.

0830(Y)

Heard distant pinging.

1245(Y)

Heard pinging, still distant but somewhat closer. Continued to hear pinging intermittently throughout the day. Supersonic equipped vessels are searching for us to the eastward. Am running north parallel to the coast.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 18, 1943 (Cont'd)

1957(Y) to

1959(Y)

Aircraft dropped 3 bombs. Was at 80 feet this time. The sea is still calm, but not glassy as it was in the morning. Went to 150 feet, then changed course to westward.

2037(Y) to

2240(Y)

Sound heard pinging almost continuously. By plotting true bearings and estimating range by assuming their echo ranging was the same strength as our own, a destroyer was apparently steaming in squares or circles of increasing radius from the point of bombing as a center. Each cycle was getting closer.

2320(Y)

Decided searching vessel was on the far reach of the leg, so surfaced and ran on both engines. A full moon had risen half an hour before and visibility was sickeningly excellent. Could take bearings on ARAIDO ISLAND 40 miles away. By rigid economy all day, the battery was not down badly, but the air, in spite of using a can of CO₂ absorbent midway through the dive, reached 3% CO₂ by 2130. All hands had headaches and were panting noticeably by the time of surfacing and about one third of the crew was coughing.

June 19, 1943

0027(Y)

Stopped and commenced battery charge lying to. Our friend the echo ranging vessel must have gone home. If he were within 8 or 9 miles, we could have seen him. Sound heard no more pings. Since we were last sighted off the north end of PARAMUSHIRU and running north-east, decided to make an end run to the southern part today.

0625(Y)

Submerged.

2247(Y)

Surfaced.

June 20, 1943

0458(Y)

Submerged.

2256(Y)

Surfaced.

June 21, 1943

0010(Y)

Sighted steady white light. Probably a sampan. Got ready on one engine, secured lying to and ran away for 20 minutes.

0452(Y)

Submerged.

0838(Y)

Heard pinging. Plotted to be in the spot where we were lying to charging batteries. Decided to go through ONEKOTAN STRAIT today instead of tomorrow and see what is east.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 21, 1943 (Cont'd)

1145(Y)

JK receiver of WCA 1 sound unit went out of commission. After working all day to determine the cause of the trouble, shifted the torpedo room JK receiver to the control room.

2257(Y)

Surfaced in a fog which had just set in.

June 22, 1943

0857(Y)

Fog lifted. Submerged.

2118(Y)

Surfaced. Fog had set in again.

2350(Y)

While lying to charging batteries in the fog, radar made contact at 3800 yards. Secured charging. Tracked course as 070° T. and started pursuit on engines at full power.

June 23, 1943

0155(Y)

Reached position ahead and turned in for a 90° track. Stopped and waited for target to come on firing bearing.

0203(Y)

Fired one torpedo on radar range of 950 yards and radar bearing. Target not in sight. Next radar bearing a few seconds later showed that target was by and torpedo missed well astern. Swung ship to bring tubes to bear but bearing changed faster than the ship's swing.

0207(Y)

Heard fairly distant explosion, probably torpedo at the end of the run. Tracked target and he seemed to continue on his way so at

0220(Y)

Went ahead on both engines and resumed chase. Target opened range because he had changed course radically. Our previous one knot speed advantage did not seem to exist any more. Apparently the noise of the torpedo explosion goaded the target into a knot more speed.

0307(Y)

After getting no more than steady range and steady bearing gave up the chase. When the target was first picked up, it was believed to have been possibly a submarine enroute to KISKA. However, his maximum speed was shown to be eleven knots, so he must have been a small freighter. The target was never sighted.

0314(Y)

Resumed lying to charging batteries.

1148(Y)

Fog lifted. Submerged.

1250(Y)

QC training gear is jammed mechanically.

1700(Y)

1900(Y)

to

Fishing fleet of at least 13 sampans passed over us en route to the banks. Some came from OTOMAYE WAN and others from MUSASHI WAN.

1945(Y)

Our periscope was sighted by a fisherman lying to close aboard. He immediately got underway and headed for OTOMAYE WAN, presumably to spread the alarm.

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S.S. S-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 23, 1943 (Cont'd)

- 2035(Y) Heard scrapping noises along hull. We went through a fishing net. Went deep to keep from acquiring any more souvenirs to assist the searchers, which will soon be out.
- 2135(Y) Heard screws dead astern close aboard. We are apparently being tracked. Rigged for depth charge. Stopped for 13 minutes and our pursuer finally lost us after alternately stopping his screws and kicking ahead.
- 2230(Y) While rising for a periscope sweep, went through another fishing net. There are too many fishing boats close by. Will have to wait for total darkness and trust to luck in surfacing.
- 2340(Y) Surfaced. Went through another fishing net in the process. The bridge, periscope shears, gun and stub masts look like they are camouflaged for an air raid. We are also right in the middle of the fishing fleet. Most of the fishermen obligingly are burning single white flare-up lights. Went ahead at standard speed on both engines. Passed two darkened sampans. Went through at least four more nets on the surface. They seem to be about five to fifteen feet under the water at the top. Most of them slide under the keel. The first one produced a thrill because the sudden disturbance of the highly phosphorescent water made a perfect replica of a torpedo wake on a 90° track.

June 24, 1943

- 0050(Y) Finally rounded the end of the sampan line. It was noted that the last vessel of the line burned a steady red light. The number of boats was estimated at twenty. They were in pairs 1,000 to 1,500 yards apart with nets between them. Often one of the pair would be darkened.
- 0325(Y) Radar made contact at 4500 yards. Turned toward. By noting ranges and bearings, we were already past the target's beam. Dawn was breaking so could not get ahead for a submerged attack. Let him go. Minimum range was 3,900 yards.
- 0534(Y) Submerged.
- 2243(Y) Surfaced. Am able to keep listening watches by carrying the torpedo room JK receiver to the control room on the surface, and returning it to the torpedo room while submerged.

June 25, 1943

- 0517(Y) Submerged.
- 1313(Y) Surfaced in a fog. Closed coast on one engine, charging batteries on the other. Covering east side of HARUMUKOTAN STRAIT.

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U.S.S. 3-33 Report of Seventh War Patrol

June 25, 1943 (Cont'd)

1354(Y) Fog lifted completely. Submerged.
1640(Y) Sighted large land plane. Went deep.
2253(Y) Surfaced.
2300(Y) Sighted small vessel. Could not make it out but it
looked to be the patrol vessel stationed off the eastern
entrance to ONEKOTAN STRAIT. Avoided.

June 26, 1943

0203(Y) Completed 2 engine part of charge. Set course to depart
area, charging on one engine.
1700(Y) Left Area.

June 27, 1943

0415(Y) Made trim dive.

June 28, 1943

0343(Y) Made trim dive.

June 29, 1943

0400(Y) Made trim dive.

June 30, 1943

0305(Y) Made trim dive.

July 1, 1943

0000(Y) Set clocks ahead one hour to zone plus 11.
0344(X) Made trim dive.

July 2, 1943

0313(X) Made trim dive.

0327(X) Surfaced.

0400(X) Set all clocks ahead one hour to conform to zone plus
10 time.

2136(W) Moored at U.S. Submarine Base, DUTCH HARBOR, ALASKA.

REQUIN BASE SUPPORTERS

The task of perpetuating the memory of our lost shipmates is forever and cannot be done alone. This task takes time, money, dedication and patriotism from all walks of life, both veteran and civilian. USS Requin Base would like to recognize all those that help us fulfill the task of remembering and honoring those we have lost to secure the freedoms we enjoy today. <https://requinbase.org/customer-photos/>



American Legion Posts

80 106 249

290 368 481

641 902

VFW Posts

191 249 311

1821 3945 7505

8168 9199



Stinky's Bar & Grill
4901 Hatfield Street
PGH, PA 15201

Teutonia Männerchor
857 Phinneas Street
PGH, PA 15212

Huntz's Tavern
645 Butler Street
PGH, PA 15223

Talor Garden Scaping
1728 Crosby Avenue
PGH, PA 15216

Nox's Tavern & Grille
720 Blaw Ave
PGH, PA 15238

Allegheny County Rifle Club
99 Schuetzen Park Rd
PGH, PA 15209

The Bulldog Pub
1818 Morningside Ave
PGH, PA 15206

Main Street Bar & Billiards
604 Main Street
Sharpsburg, PA 15215

Z Florist
804 Mt Royal Blvd
PGH, PA 15223

Monte Cello's Italian Restaurant
2198 Babcock Blvd
PGH, PA 15209

Cavaliere Brothers
1412 Mt Royal Blvd #1
Glenshaw, PA 15116

Verdetto's Bar & Restaurant
814 Madison Avenue
PGH, PA 15212

The Blue Goose Saloon
605 Mt Royal Blvd
PGH, PA 15223

Danny's Bar & Grill
1511 Center Ave
West View, PA 15229

Nox's on 8
3008 William Flinn Hwy
Allison Park, PA 15101

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SHIPMATE

Jason Rinker (State Farm)