

# Steel Valley Dolphins

November



The official newsletter of the  
USS Requin Base of the USSVI  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

## USSVI 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."



Meetings held on the second Saturday of the month normally in Leetsdale at the VFW Post and quarterly meetings held around our membership area.

- **Make a difference, get to a meeting!**

----- Pride Runs Deep -----  
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Next Meeting will be at the Christmas Party on December 8th. See the flyer page 3.

## 2012 USS Requin Base Officers

Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com
1st Vice Commander	Frank Hood	412-793-8925	fhood99@yahoo.com
2nd Vice Commander	Ron Goron	724-880-1761	ronnyg@zoominternet.net
Secretary	Jeff Simon	724-502-4505	jeffsimon@zoominternet.net
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	booky143@verizon.net
Storekeeper	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi1@comcast.net
Chaplain	Carl Stigers	412-995-8028	carstenstigers@verizon.net
Past Base Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi1@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Jack Sutherin	330-482-4175	jack.sutherin@comcast.net
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COB/Historian -	Clyde Porter, jr.	740-635-3179	candsporter@comcast.net

----- Pride Runs Deep -----



## December Lost Boats

USS F-1 (SS 20)  
USS S-4 (SS 109)  
USS SEALION (SS 195)

December 17, 1917  
December 17, 1927  
December 10, 1941

### Sickbay

Judy Elser had successful knee replacement surgery and is recovering with pain and torture at home.

Edie Dietrich had successful cornea transplant surgery. She is recovering at home.

Son of shipmate Dave Cochenaur— Allan Stodolsky is being treated for leukemia.



### NEW BASE MEMBERS - NOVEMBER

**Valenttine (Tino) Bolcato** - qualified in 1971 on the USS Lapon SS661. He left the navy in 1974 as a E3(SS). James lives in Natrona Hts, Pa. Please e-mail Tino and welcome him aboard at [bolcato@yahoo.com](mailto:bolcato@yahoo.com)

**David Howton** qualified in 1980 on the USS Daniel Boone SSBN629 (blue crew). He left the navy in 1995 as a TMC(SS). David lives in Johnstown, Pa., with his wife Diane. Please e-mail David and welcome him aboard- at [bubblehead\\_629@yahoo.com](mailto:bubblehead_629@yahoo.com)

**Scott Holzwarth** - qualified in 1976 on the USS Sargo SS583. He left the navy in 1977 and re-enlisted in 1986. His second tour of duty ended in 1992 as a FTG1(SS). Scott lives in Brentwood, Pa. Please e-mail Scott and welcome him aboard at [scottholzwarth@msn.com](mailto:scottholzwarth@msn.com)



*Annual Christmas Party!!*

*December 8, 2012*

*12 to 3:30 P.M.*

*Bella Frutteto Restaurant*

*2602 Brandt School Road*

*Wexford, Pa. 15090*

*724-940-7777*

*RSVP By: December 1,*

*Gerry Gaylor 412-931-3892 or [gaylor1@verizon.net](mailto:gaylor1@verizon.net)*

*The restaurant is located off of Interstate 79 Wexford exit 73, If you are coming north you make a right off of Wexford exit, if coming from the south on interstate 79 Wexford exit 73 make a left, make a right on to Brandt School Road, across from Soergel Orchards, at traffic light make left go up hill. The restaurant is located at the end of the shopping center.*

*We are able to order off of menu and will have separate checks.*

*Doors open at 11:30A.M*

*A Gift exchange will be held, male and female gifts with a 10\$ limit.*



# Commanders Corner

This week turned out to be a GREAT couple of days for the Requin Base. On Thursday, November 8th, the base was the guest of the "CHILDRENS HOME" of Pittsburgh. Shipmates Clair Bouts, Joey Campisi, Edie Dietrich, Ricki Humes our base clown and myself, enjoyed our afternoon with all the little ones. Ricki, really put lots of smiles on so many faces and it became contagious for all of us too. We visited all the play areas and were warmly received by all the nurses and wonderful children.

One of our special hosts, is a little sailor named "TRAVIS". He heard that a group of sailors were coming to visit him and his friends. He gave us such a wonderful surprise. Captain "TRAVIS" was sitting in his little boat and was all decked out in his dress whites and sailor hat. He had the navy emblem on the sail along with the American flag. His name was printed on the side - TRAVIS 2012. What a cheery Lad he truly is -- always having a BIG smile on his face.

We distributed 52 hats, certificates and miniature dolphins which were placed on the older shipmates, making them "HONORARY SUBMARINER'S"

The base was fortunate to have Lincoln Bakery, of Bellevue Pa., donate cup-cakes and assorted cookies to fill their little bellies. My first mate, Edie, was so impressed with the staff, who were caring for the kids. She presented each one with a gold dollar coin as a remembrance of our visit, thanking them for doing such an outstanding job, attending to the all the children. It was such a rewarding experience that we will not soon forget.

On Saturday, November 10th, the base traveled up to New Castle, Pa., to attend their Veterans Day Parade. Our Nautilus is still in dry dock, but that did not stop the fifteen shipmates, along with some of their first mates, from marching. Richard Beauregard traveled over 100 miles to show his support and patriotism. Our host shipmate, Dave Cochenour and his first mate, Carol, made all the arrangements and opened up their home to us. What gracious hosts, they are.

We had a wonderful time and the people of New Castle showed us their hospitality. The parade crowd gave us rousing cheers as we marched passed them. We conducted our meeting at a local restaurant and enjoyed some down home cooking. Each of us was given a 20% discount on our bill. It was great to see Tom Stewart and his lovely wife Nancy, who live in New Castle.

The Base has been invited, by the Commanding Officer of the NROTC, at Carnegie Mellon University, to participate in a Memorial Service, on board the Requin, on December 7, in remembrance of Pearl Harbor. As soon as I receive Plan of the Day from Capt Tom, I will forward it to the crew. Please let me know if you intend to participate.

See you all at our Christmas meeting and luncheon on Saturday, December 8th at Bella Frutteto in Wexford, Pa.

FAIR WINDS SHIPMATES

## Requin Base Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2012  
New Castle, PA

**Base Commander Huey Dietrich** called the meeting to order.

**Base Secretary Jeff Simon** conducted a roll call of members in attendance.

**Attendees** Richard Beauregard; Lee Bookwalter; Clair & Nancy Bouts; Joe Campisi; David, Dave, Davey, Kaitlyn, & Carol Cochenour, Allan Stodosky, Amber Davis; Huey Dietrich; Bill & Donna Greenlee; Clyde & Sharon Porter; Bob Schmidt; Bernie Sigler, Jeff Simon; George Staas; Tom & Nancy Stewart; Jack & Jenny Sutherin.

**Base Commander Huey Dietrich** gave the quote of the day: "Experience is something you can't get for nothing"

**Requin History:** On November 13, 1945 Requin crossed the Arctic Circle.

**Base Commander Huey Dietrich:** 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. 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.

### Boats Lost:

USS ALBACORE (SS 218)	November 7, 1944
USS GROWLER (SS 215)	November 8, 1944
USS SCAMP (SS 277)	November 9, 1944
USS CORVINA (SS 226)	November 16, 1943
USS SCULPIN (SS 191)	November 19, 1943
USS CAPELIN (SS 289)	November 23, 1943

We also wish to remember our shipmates of the Requin Base: Arlow Julian Jr, Paul Hoffman, Larry Weiss, and Don Roach. Finally let us remember all the brave submariners who died performing their duties aboard submarines, some individually and some in groups, but where the submarine itself was not lost.

**Shipmate Bill Greenlee** gave the Invocation.

**Chief Of The Boat Clyde Porter** led the Base in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Base Secretary Jeff Simon** reported that Minutes of the October meeting were published in the SVD.

**Treasurer Lee Bookwalter** reported that a summary of base assets, expenditures, and deposits was available for review.

**Other Reports:**

Binnacle List includes Judy Elster and Edie Dietrich.

Base membership stands at 165.

A Kap(ss)4Kid(ss) presentation was held at the Children's Home.

Money making efforts include new member welcome aboard boxes; candy, hickory bark syrup, and salad dressing sales. Members may also purchase Kap(ss)4Kid(ss) hats, base coins, and Tink Garlock coins.

**Old Business:**

Nautilus float is still in dry dock being painted.

The canvas garage used to house the Nautilus float is in good shape at Tom Stewart's house.

Dues collection for 2012 is going well.

Christmas meeting and luncheon plans were discussed.

**New Business:**

A revision to the base by-laws will be published with the SVD and voted on at the December meeting.

Motion to purchase hats, mugs and base patches was approved by the members present.

**For The Good Of The Order:**

Nominees for Base Officers are Commander Huey Dietrich, First Vice Commander Joe Campisi, Second Vice Commander Jack Sutherin, Treasurer Lee Bookwalter, and Secretary Jeff Simon.

USSVI Scholarship applications for 2013 are available on the USSVI website.

A Tolling Of The Boats pamphlet was show to the members for consideration.

**Shipmate Bill Greenlee** gave the Benediction and blessing of today's meal.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:** 1200 hours on December 8th at Bella Frutteto Restaurant, 2602 Brandt School Road, Wexford PA.

**REQUIN BASE BY-LAWS Revised 2012**

UNITED STATE SUBMARINE VETERANS, INCORPORATED

Prepared by Board of Directors December 8, 2012

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this base of United States Submarine Veterans, Inc. (hereinafter "USSVI") shall be THE REQUIN BASE OF UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS, INC. The term REQUIN Base shall be synonymous with The REQUIN Base of USSVI."

**ARTICLE II - STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Section 1: To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their 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.

Section 2: The Statement of Purpose for the REQUIN Base shall also be known as the creed.

**ARTICLE III - POLICY**

The REQUIN Base shall adopt no policy in conflict with the laws and practices of the United States of America or with the Constitution and Bylaws of USSVI.

**ARTICLE IV - FISCAL YEAR**

The fiscal year of the REQUIN Base shall be the same as the fiscal year for USSVI. (1 January through 31 December).

**ARTICLE V - MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1: GENERAL

- a. To be a member of REQUIN Base, membership in good standing with USSVI. is required.
- b. A member is considered "in good standing" if both National and Local Base dues have been paid for the current year.
- c. Members whose dues are in arrears on January 31st of a current year will have their continuous membership in good standing terminated and will be dropped from all rosters.

Section 2: REGULAR MEMBERS.

Regular membership is restricted to U.S. personnel who have been designated "Qualified in Submarines" by the U.S. Navy, and anyone who is a regular member of the U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII.

Section 3: ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

- a. Qualification for Associate Membership is as defined in the National Constitution and Bylaws of USSVI .
- b. Associate members may vote on REQUIN Base matters but may hold only Secretary and/or Treasurer of REQUIN Base as elected office.
- c. In the event an associate member sponsor can no longer sponsor the associate member (such as transfer or call to eternal patrol) the Base will assume sponsorship of the associate member.

## **ARTICLE VI- MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Section 1. REQUIN Base dues will be as directed by the REQUIN Base Board of Directors per fiscal year.

Section 2. National annual dues and National Life Memberships are as established by National Constitution and Bylaws. Dues are due and payable on 1 January each year; dues not paid by January 31st are considered lapsed.

## **ARTICLE VII - OFFICERS**

Section 1: USS REQUIN BASE OFFICERS.

- a. Elected officers of the REQUIN Base will be: Commander, First Vice-Commander, Second Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same individual.
- b. The term of office for all officers will be one year, or until their successors have been elected.
- c. All officers may succeed themselves in office.
- d. The term of office for elected officers will begin immediately after the business meeting at which the elections were conducted.
- e. Appointed officers may include: Chaplain, Historian, Parliamentarian, Legal Officer, Editor of the Newsletter, Committee Chairmanships, Chief of the Boat, and Base Storekeeper
- f. The term of office for appointed offices will begin immediately after confirmation and notification by the Board of Directors.
- g. No officer shall be paid any salary for services rendered on behalf of the REQUIN Base.

Section 2: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a. The Board of Directors shall have the control and general management of the affairs and business of the REQUIN Base.
- b. The Board of Directors will be comprised by the elected officers and the duly appointed officers of the REQUIN Base.
- c. Each duly elected officer will have one vote in the event of a tie vote; the REQUIN Base Commander's vote will carry the decision.
- d. The Board of Directors will develop an annual plan (calendar) and budget for the REQUIN Base each January for the next fiscal year.
- e. The Board of Directors will submit the annual plan and budget to the REQUIN Base membership for approval each February.

## **ARTICLE VIII- DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

Section 1: REQUIN Base COMMANDER

- a. Preside at all REQUIN Base meetings.
- b. Preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors.
- c. Act as chairman "Ex-Officio" of all committees.
- d. Appoint all committees, committee chairmen and appointed officers subject to membership approval at the next regularly scheduled business meeting.
- e. Represent the REQUIN Base at official functions.
- f. Oversee the performance of all committees and REQUIN Base officers.
- g. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief, containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

Section 2: REQUIN Base FIRST VICE-COMMANDER

- a. Assist the REQUIN Base Commander in the performance of his duties.
- b. Preside over meetings in the REQUIN Base Commander's absence.
- c. Serve on the Board of Directors.
- d. Perform all the duties of the REQUIN Base Commander should he become incapacitated.
- e. Serve as the Social Director of the REQUIN Base.
- f. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief; containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

Section 3: REQUIN Base SECOND VICE-COMMANDER

- a. Assist the REQUIN Base Commander in the performance of his duties.
- b. Preside over meetings in the Base Commander's and First Vice-Commander's absence.
- c. Serve on the Board of Directors.
- d. Perform all the duties of the REQUIN Base First Vice-Commander should he become incapacitated.
- e. Serve as the Membership Chairman of the REQUIN Base.
- f. Prepare a "turn over" package for his relief, containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

Section 4: SECRETARY

- a. Keep the minutes of REQUIN Base scheduled meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors.
- b. Answer and keep a record of all REQUIN Base correspondence.
- c. Serve as Newsletter Chairman.
- d. Maintain the Membership Roll of the REQUIN Base.
- e. Serve on the Board of Directors.
- f. Conduct REQUIN Base Elections.
- g. Prepare a "turn over" package for the relief, containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

Section 5: TREASURER

- a. Accept, and keep a record of, all monies and REQUIN Base assets.
- b. Disburse such monies as may be approved by a majority vote of the members.

- c. Assure the Tax Exempt status of the REQUIN Base.
- d. Keep complete and accurate financial reports.
- e. Serve on the Board of Directors.
- f. Submit the REQUIN Base “Control Report” and membership monies to the National Office, copy of the National Membership Chairman, as required.
- g. Prepare a “turn over” package for REQUIN base, containing all information and correspondence relative to the office.

**ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS**

Section 1: Meetings of the REQUIN Base shall be in keeping with the normal parliamentary procedures set down by “Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised.”

Section 2: The REQUIN Base will conduct meetings, at a time and place announced by the Board of Directors at a prior meeting and published in the newsletter.

Section 3: At all meetings of the REQUIN Base a moment of silence in memory of all departed shipmates will be observed.

Section 4: The agenda for regularly scheduled meetings shall be:

- a. Call to Order.
- b. Moment of Silence in memory of our departed shipmates.
- c. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- d. Introduction of: National Officers, Regional Officers, Guests, and New Members.
- e. Minutes of Previous Meeting.
- f. Secretary’s Report
- g. Treasurer’s Report
- h. Storekeeper’s Report.
- i. Board of Director’s Report.
- j. Old Business.
- k. New Business.
- l. Good of the Order.
- m. Announcement of upcoming meetings and events.
- n. Adjournment.

**ARTICLE X - QUORUM**

Section 1: The members present and at least two elected officers shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 2: Three members of the Board of Directors, two of which are elected officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business at a duly called meeting for the Board of Directors.

Section 3: Once a quorum has been established, no member absents himself shall destroy the quorum.

Section 4: In the event of a quorum not being present, a lesser number may adjourn the meeting to some future time and date.

**ARTICLE XI- VOTING**

Section 1: Each member or associate member in good standing shall be entitled to vote in person at any meeting of the Base; provided however, that the members name appeared on the membership roll at least fifteen days prior to such meeting.

Section 2: There shall be no voting by proxy; any member in good standing not voting will be considered as abstaining.

**ARTICLE XII - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Section 1: The Commander, First Vice-Commander, Second Vice-Commander, Secretary, and Treasurer will be elected by a majority vote of the members in good standing at the regular meeting held in the month of December.

Section 2: A nominating committee will be appointed in the month of October to solicit nominations and will present the slate of nominees to the membership at the November meeting.

Section 3: Additional nominations may be made by any member on the floor of the meeting prior to the election.

Section 4: Any vacancy in office shall be filled by REQUIN Base Commander appointment, with approval of the Board of Directors, to complete an unfulfilled term.

**ARTICLE XIII- AMENDMENTS**

Section 1: Any member in good standing may submit recommendations to amend these Bylaws by forwarding a proposed change to an elected officer of the REQUIN Base. Proposed change recommendations must:

- a. Be complete statements that stand on their own merit.
- b. Clearly state the intent of the author and the section of organization policy affected.
- c. Reflect the estimated or actual cost, if any, involved.
- d. Be signed and dated by the author.

Section 2: These Bylaws shall be amended by a majority vote of the votes cast at a regularly scheduled meeting of the REQUIN Base; provided that the proposed changes have been distributed to all members in good standing at their last known email address or postal address two weeks prior to such meeting.



Section 3: Amendments that are passed will become effective at the close of the meeting.

#### **ARTICLE XIV - STANDING RULES**

Section 1: Standing Rules relating to the administration (not parliamentary) of the REQUIN Base shall be made as attachment to these Bylaws.

Section 2: Standing rules may be adopted, changed, or suspended at any regular meeting, without previous notice, as any other ordinary action of the REQUIN Base may be.

Section 3: LOST SHIPMATES: It is established that this base will recognize the death of a shipmate by contributing \$50 to the USSV Scholarship Fund in memory of our deceased member in lieu of sending flowers. In addition, the Base will submit a Letter of Condolence and a Certificate of Death to the family. The Base Commander will present these to the family as he determines most appropriate.

Section 4: REQUIN REUNIONS. The REQUIN Base shall cooperate with the USS REQUIN crewmembers to assist in their reunions whenever they are conducted at the USS REQUIN, in Pittsburgh. For example, the Base may conduct the Tolling of the Bells and conduct joint meetings and functions.

#### **ARTICLE XV - DISSOLUTION**

In the event the base dissolves or discontinues activities all assets and monies of the organization shall be turned over to the National Senior Vice-President.

## **What it was like in the “Old Day’s”**

### **Topic: How it was in the old days-Part 1**

Before WWII an Apprentice Seaman's pay was \$21.00 per month. Pays increased in WWII with Apprentice Seaman to \$50.00 per month and to around \$120.00 per month for a Chief. All personnel on Submarines got 50% submarine money and 20% sea duty pay. When added together added up to about 80% extra pay.

If you were married and/or had dependents your pay was reduced by \$28.00 per month the U.S. Navy supplemented another \$22.00 and your dependent was sent a monthly check for \$50.00. Consequently, an Apprentice Seaman would get \$22.00 per month. However, enlisted personnel below pay grade four could not marry without the permission of their Commanding Officer. This breached more often than observed and obviously many entered the service married.

At one time the Navy Paymasters would pay personnel with \$2.00 bills so so that when spent it would indicate to the local economy the impact of the service. Also when being paid by the Paymaster on board a tender you would line up with your "pay chit" to draw your pay. When you reached the pay desk you would salute the Paymaster, put your fingerprint on the "pay chit" and draw your money. There was a posted pay list indicating what you had on the "books" and you could draw all or whatever amount you desired Submarine and sea pay were a real boon especially when sea store cigarettes at six cents a pack and a bottle of beer on Bank St. was twenty-five cents. Later when you came in off patrol you would have that back pay and be really flush.

Due to rapid expansion of every aspect of the U.S. Navy, if you could cut the mustard, promotions were forthcoming. Many a serving enlisted person commissioned (called mustangs) or advanced in rating because of the enormous need to fill billets in new construction and replace casualties. Classes at the U.S. Naval Academy graduated early. Personnel with special qualifications were coming into the service rated and/or commissioned. You could see a Chief Petty Officer with no hash marks. These ratings were derided and called "slick arms" (no hash marks) and/or "Tojo" ratings by the old-timers. Some enlisted personnel commissioned as regular line officers, Warrant Officers and Limited Duty Officers (LDOs) in specific areas. Such commissions initially were considered temporary with reversion back to their permanent grades at the conclusion of hostilities

They created many specialty ratings. In their "Crow" specialty designator was a diamond with a letter inside, e.g., the letter "A" would be for a coach or professional athlete who would conduct physical conditioning, etc. Most, if not all, of these ratings ceased to exist with the end of the war. Some referred to these as "square knot" rates. There were right and left arm rates. Right arm rates were considered "Sea Going Rates" (BM, QM, GM, SM, FC, TM, etc) and the "Crow" was worn on the right arm. Left arm rates were ancillary and were MM, Y, EM, RM, MoMM, ET, etc. Right arm rates were senior to left arm ratings. There was no Boatswain Mate Third Class they were called Coxswains. Seamen and Firemen wore a "watch stripe" round the right shoulder - white for seamen red for firemen. There was other colors of "Watch Stripes" for aviation, CBs, etc. Indication of rate was on uniform cuffs. One white/red stripe for AS/FA, two for S2c/F2/c and three for S1/c and F1/c. The present diagonal 1, 2, or 3 stripe(s), in color was originally for WAVE uniforms and after WWII were adopted for the present enlisted uniform and the watch stripe was eliminated.

The "T-Shirt" a part of the enlisted uniform initially served two purposes. (1) It was to be worn without the Jumper on work details, especially in tropical locations. (2) It was meant to have the high white neckline to show in the "V" of



the Jumper. Some personnel, to enhance the appearance would cut the tab off and wore the "T-shirt" backward for a better appearance especially if with age and washings it seemed to sag. The popularity of the T-Shirt expanded into wide public acceptance after WWII and is now utilized, not only as an undergarment but as outerwear with various designs, logos, etc. There were no Silver Metal Dolphins for enlisted personnel. Dolphins for enlisted personnel consisted of embroidered "patches". (white for blues and blue for whites) sewn on the right forearm. Silver Metal Dolphins for enlisted personnel was authorized after WWII. All enlisted personnel wore embroidered "patches" as distinguishing marks e.g., if you were a designated striker you could wear the insignia for that specialty on the left upper sleeve. Other distinguishing marks for enlisted personnel were "patches" on uniforms, e.g., an Expert Lookout "patch" binoculars, a diver a divers helmet (M for Master. with degree of qualification indicated on the chest section of the helmet. These worn on the right upper sleeve and there were many of them. One "perc" that has persisted is the wearing of gold rating insignia and hash marks for those with 12 years of good conduct. Chief Petty Officers merely pinned their fouled anchor hat insignia to the front top of their hat covers. The black band and background for the insignia was initiated after WWII.

## [The Navy pivots to Asia.](#)

*Foreign Policy - Adm. Jonathan Greenert, Nov.14*

Our nation's security priorities, and our military, are in transition. In the Middle East, we ended the war in Iraq and are reducing ground troops in Afghanistan with the shift of security responsibilities to Kabul. At home we are reassessing our military's size and composition as we seek to align our spending with our resources. And around the world we face a range of new security challenges, from continued upheaval in the Arab world to the imperative of sustaining our leadership in the Asia-Pacific. These challenges place a premium on the flexibility and small ground footprint of naval forces, which are being deployed longer and more often to advance our nation's interests.

The Department of Defense's January 2012 strategic guidance, Sustaining U.S. Global Leadership - Priorities for 21st Century Defense, addressed this new environment and our security priorities in it. Overall, the strategy focuses on important regions and current readiness and agility, while accepting reduced capacity and level of effort in less critical missions. In particular, the strategy directed that our military rebalance toward the Asia-Pacific while continuing to support our partners in the Middle East. Naval forces will be at the heart of both efforts.

After two decades of ground conflict in the Middle East, our security concerns and ability to project power in the region both center on the sea. U.S. ground forces continue to draw down in Afghanistan and around the region, so our commanders increasingly rely on naval aircraft to support and protect troops. Meanwhile, Iranian leaders speak provocatively about impacting maritime traffic throughout the Arabian Gulf. In response, we turned to maritime forces, doubling our minesweeping forces in the Gulf and deploying an additional carrier strike group to the region.

The focus of our rebalance, the Asia-Pacific, is fundamentally a maritime region. Our friends there depend on the sea for their food and energy, while more than 90 percent of trade by volume makes its way through the region over the water. Maritime security for Pacific nations is a matter of economic survival. Militarily, the vast maritime distances in the region make access via the sea essential to deterring and defeating aggression. Our fleet deployed in the Asia-Pacific will exploit the mobility of being at sea to project power against aggressors and avoid attacks, while their reinforcements and supplies will arrive via the ocean from the United States or regional bases.

The importance of the Asia-Pacific, and the Navy's attention to it, is not new. Five of our seven treaty allies are in the region, as well as six of the world's top 20 economies. We have maintained an active and robust presence in the Asia-Pacific for more than 70 years and built deep and enduring relationships with allies and partners there. While we remain present and engaged in the Middle East to address today's challenges, the Navy will build on its longstanding Asia-Pacific focus by rebalancing in four main ways: deploying more forces to the Asia-Pacific; basing more ships and aircraft in the region; fielding new capabilities focused on Asia-Pacific challenges; and developing partnerships and intellectual capital across the region.

### **Deploying more forces to the Asia-Pacific**

The most visible element of our rebalance toward the Asia-Pacific region will be an increase in day-to-day military presence. Although it is not the only way we are rebalancing, forces operating in the region show our commitment to the Asia-Pacific and provide a full-time capability to support our allies and partners. About half of the deployed fleet is in the Pacific -- 50 ships on any given day. These ships and their embarked Marines and aircraft train with our allies and partners, reinforce freedom of navigation, and deter conflict. They are also the "first responders" to large-scale crises such as the Great East Asian Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011.

The long distance between the continental United States and Asia makes it inefficient to rotate ships and aircraft overseas for six to nine months at a time. To avoid this transit time and build greater ties with our partners and allies, more than 90 percent of our forces in the Asia-Pacific are there permanently or semi-permanently. For example, about half of our 50 deployed ships are permanently home-ported in Japan and Guam along with their crews and families. Our logistics and support ships use rotating civilian or military crews to obtain more presence for the same number of ships.

Although we plan to reduce our future budgets, the Navy will continue to increase its presence in the Asia-Pacific region. The benchmark year of the Defense Strategic Guidance is 2020, and by then the Navy Fleet will grow to approximately 295 ships. This, combined with the impacts of our plans for operations and basing, will increase the day-to-day naval presence in the Asia-Pacific by about 20 percent, to 60 ships by 2020. In addition to growing the fleet, three factors will allow us to increase the number of ships in the Asia-Pacific by 2020:

First, we will permanently base four destroyers in Rota, Spain over the next several years to help defend our European allies from ballistic missiles. Today we do this mission with 10 destroyers that travel in rotation to the Mediterranean from the United States. The six destroyers freed up in the process will then be able to rotationally deploy to the Asia-Pacific.

Second, new Joint High Speed Vessels (JHSV) and Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) under construction today will enter the fleet and take on security cooperation and humanitarian assistance missions in South America and Africa, allowing the destroyers and amphibious ships we use today for those missions to deploy to the Asia-Pacific. These amphibious ships will begin deploying instead to the Asia-Pacific in the next few years to support Marine operations, including those from Darwin, Australia. Additionally, the new JHSV and LCS are also better suited to the needs of our partners in Africa and South America.

Third, we will field more ships that spend the majority of their time forward by using rotating civilian or military crews. These include the JHSV, LCS, and our new Mobile Landing Platforms and Afloat Forward Staging Bases (AFSB).

In addition to more ship presence in the Asia-Pacific, we will increase our deployments of aircraft there and expand cooperative air surveillance operations with regional partners. Today we fly cooperative missions from Australia, the Philippines, and Thailand, where we build our shared awareness of activities on the sea by either bringing partner personnel on board or sharing the surveillance information with them. We may expand these operations in the future to new partners concerned about threats from piracy, trafficking, and fisheries violations. To expand our surveillance capacity, the Navy version of the MQ-4 Global Hawk unmanned air vehicle will operate from Guam when it enters the fleet in the middle of this decade.

#### **Basing more ships and aircraft in the region**

To support our increased presence in the Asia-Pacific, we will grow the fraction of ships and aircraft based on the U.S. West Coast and in the Pacific from today's 55 percent to 60 percent by 2020. This distribution will allow us to continue to meet the needs of Europe, South America, and West Africa while more efficiently providing additional presence and capacity in the Asia-Pacific.

Each ship that operates from an overseas port provides full-time presence and engagement in the region and delivers more options for Combatant Commanders and political leaders. It also frees up ships that would otherwise be needed to support a rotational deployment. Today, we have about two dozen ships home-ported in Guam and Japan. In 2013, with the USS Freedom, we will begin operating Littoral Combat Ships from Singapore, eventually growing to four ships by 2017. The LCS will conduct maritime security operations with partner navies throughout Southeast Asia and instead of rotationally deploying to the region, the ships will stay overseas and their crews will rotate in from the United States, increasing the presence delivered by each ship.

#### **Fielding new capabilities focused on Asia-Pacific challenges**

We will also bolster the capabilities we send to the Asia-Pacific. Using the approach described in the Air-Sea Battle concept and in concert with the U.S. Air Force, we will sustain our ability to project power in the face of access challenges such as cruise and ballistic missiles, submarines, and sophisticated anti-air weapons. Air-Sea Battle's operations to disrupt, destroy, and defeat anti-access threats will be essential to maintain the credibility of our security commitments and ability to deter aggression around the world. Our improved capabilities will span the undersea, surface, and air environments.

#### **Undersea**

The Navy's dominance in the undersea domain provides the United States a significant advantage over potential adversaries. Our undersea capabilities enable strike and anti-surface warfare in otherwise denied areas and exploit the relative lack of capability of our potential adversaries at anti-submarine warfare. We will sustain our undersea advantage in part through continued improvements in our own anti-submarine warfare capability, such as replacing the 1960s-era P-3 Orion maritime patrol aircraft with the longer range and greatly improved sensors of the P-8A Poseidon.

We will also field improved platforms and systems that exploit the undersea domain for power projection and surveillance. In the coming years, newer, multi-mission Virginia-class submarines with dramatically improved sensors and combat systems will continue to replace aging Los Angeles-class submarines. With their conversion from Cold War-era ballistic missile submarines, our four Ohio-class guided missile submarines (SSGN) are now our most significant power projection platforms. During Operation Unified Protector, USS Florida launched over 100 Tomahawk missiles at Libyan air defenses to help establish a "no-fly" zone. When she and her counterparts retire in the mid 2020s, the Virginia-class submarine "payload module" will replace their striking capacity with the ability to carry up to 40 precision-strike cruise missiles, unmanned vehicles, or a mix of other payloads.

Improved sensors and new unmanned systems allow us to augment the reach and persistence of manned submarines, and are essential to our continued domination of the undersea environment. These unmanned vehicles will enhance the persistence

of undersea sensing, and expand its reach into confined and shallow waters that are currently inaccessible to other systems. This will enable detection of threats, for example, to undersea infrastructure.

### **Surface**

But undersea forces have limited effectiveness at visible, day-to-day missions such as security cooperation, humanitarian assistance, missile defense, and freedom of navigation. Surface ships will continue to conduct these operations and show our presence in the Asia-Pacific. Our surface fleet and embarked personnel will continue to be the most versatile element of the naval force, building partner capacity and improving security in peacetime and transitioning to sea control and power projection in conflict. Their credibility and their ability to execute these missions depends on their ability to defeat improving threats, especially anti-ship cruise missiles (ASCM) and anti-ship ballistic missiles (ASBM).

We will defeat ASCMs at long range using an integrated fire control system that combines the proven Aegis weapon system and upgraded airborne early warning aircraft with new long-range anti-air missiles on cruisers and destroyers. To defeat ASCMs at short range, the Navy is upgrading point-defense missiles and electronic warfare systems to destroy incoming missiles or cause them to miss by deceiving and jamming their seekers.

Navy forces will defeat ASBMs by countering each link in the operational chain of events required for an adversary to find, target, launch, and complete an attack on a ship with a ballistic missile. The Navy is fielding new systems that jam, decoy, or confuse the wide-area surveillance systems needed to find and target ships at long range. To shoot down an ASBM once launched, the fleet will employ the Aegis ballistic missile defense system and SM-3 missile. And, to prevent an ASBM from completing an attack, the Navy is fielding new missiles and electronic warfare systems over the next several years that will destroy, jam, or decoy the ASBM warhead as it approaches the ship.

To improve the ability of surface forces to project power, we will field new long-range surface-to-surface missiles aboard cruisers and destroyers in the next decade and improve our ability to send troops ashore as new San Antonio-class amphibious ships replace their smaller and less-capable 30-year-old predecessors over the next two years.

### **Air**

The Navy and Air Force will improve their integrated ability to defeat air threats and project power in the face of improving surveillance and air defense systems. This evolution involves the blending of new and existing technology and the complementary use of electronic warfare, stealth, and improved, longer-range munitions. The carrier air wing in Japan recently finished upgrading to F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet strike fighters with improved jamming and sensor systems and the new E/A-18G Growler electronic attack aircraft. This air wing will also be the first to incorporate the F-35C Lightning II, which will enable new operational concepts that combine the F-35C's stealth and sensor capability with the payload capacity of the F/A-18 E/F to project power against the most capable air defense systems.

#### **Developing partnerships and intellectual capital**

Perhaps most importantly, rebalancing the Navy's emphasis toward the Asia-Pacific region includes efforts to expand and mature our partnerships and establish greater intellectual focus on Asia-Pacific security challenges.

First, we are increasing the depth and breadth of our alliances and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific. Our relationships in the region are the reason for our engagement there and are the foundation of our rebalanced national security efforts. Our connection with Asia-Pacific allies starts at the top. Our naval headquarters and command facilities are integrated with those of Japan and South Korea and we are increasing the integration of our operating forces by regularly conducting combined missions in areas including anti-submarine warfare and ballistic missile defense. We are also establishing over the next year a headquarters in Singapore for our ships that will operate there.

We build our relationships with operational experience. The Navy conducts more than 170 exercises and 600 training events there every year with more than 20 allies and partners -- and the number of events and partners continues to grow. Our 2012 Rim of the Pacific Exercise, or "RIMPAC," was the world's largest international maritime exercise, involving more than 40 ships and submarines, 200 aircraft, and more than 25,000 Sailors from two dozen Asia-Pacific countries. This year RIMPAC included several new partners, such as Russia and India. It also incorporated naval officers from Canada, Australia, and Chile as leaders of exercise task forces. Like our other exercises, RIMPAC practices a range of operations, building partner capacity in missions such as maritime security and humanitarian assistance while enhancing interoperability with allies in sophisticated missions such as anti-submarine and surface warfare and missile defense.

Second, we are refocusing attention on the Asia-Pacific in developing and deploying our intellectual talent. The Naval War College is the nation's premier academic center on the region and continues to grow its programs on Asian security, while the Naval Postgraduate School expanded its programs devoted to developing political and technical expertise relevant to the Asia-Pacific. We continue to carefully screen and send our most talented people to operate and command ships and squadrons in the Asia-Pacific.

Third, as described above, the Navy is sharpening its focus on military capabilities needed in the Asia-Pacific. Most important is the ability to assure access, given the distances involved in the region and our treaty alliances there. Having a credible ability to maintain operational access is critical to our security commitments in the region and the diplomatic and economic relationships those commitments underpin. We are developing the doctrine, training and know-how to defeat access threats such as submarines and cruise and ballistic missiles through our Air-Sea Battle concept. With Air-Sea Battle, we are pulling together the intellectual effort in needed areas, including intelligence and surveillance, cyber operations, anti-submarine war-

fare, ballistic missile defense, air defense, and electronic warfare. The Air-Sea Battle Office leads this effort with more than a dozen personnel representing each military service.

Our credibility in these missions rests on the proficiency our forces deployed every day in the Asia-Pacific. We increased our live-fire training in air defense and in surface and anti-submarine warfare by more than 50 percent, and expanded the number and sophistication of training events we conduct in theater with our partners and allies. For example, in RIMPAC 2012, U.S. allies and partners shot 26 torpedoes and more than 50 missiles from aircraft and ships against a range of targets and decommissioned ships.

### **A Global Fleet**

Even as we rebalance to the Asia-Pacific, the Navy will remain engaged around the world. We will maintain our presence to deter and respond to aggression in support of our partners in the Middle East. In Europe we will build our alliance relationships. Our basing of ballistic missile defense destroyers to Spain is part of this effort, as an element of the overall European Phased Adaptive Approach. The home-porting of U.S. ships in Europe will yield greater opportunities for integration with European forces as well.

In South America and Africa we will shift, as the Defense Strategic Guidance directs, to "innovative, low-cost approaches," including JHSV, AFSB, and LCS. In contrast to our approach today, which is to send the destroyers and amphibious ships we have when available, these new ships will be better suited to operations in these regions and will be available full-time thanks to their rotational crews.

The Asia-Pacific will become increasingly important to our national prosperity and security. It is home to the world's largest and most dynamic economies, growing reserves of natural resources, and emerging security concerns. Naval forces, with their mobility and relevance in peacetime and conflict, are uniquely poised to address these challenges and opportunities and sustain our leadership in the region. With our focus on partnerships and innovative approaches, including new ships, forward homeporting, and rotational crewing, the Navy can rebalance toward the Asia-Pacific while being judicious with the nation's resources. We will grow our fleet in the Asia-Pacific, rebalance our basing, improve our capabilities, and focus intellectually on the region. This will sustain our credibility to deter aggression, preserve freedom of maritime access, and protect the economic livelihood of America and our friends.





