



April 2022

Published Monthly

STEEL VALLEY DOLPHINS

USSVI REQUIN BASE NEWSLETTER



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

May 14, 2022 @ 1230 hours

At Baden American Legion

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.

Lou Hamill - itgeek8088@gmail.com

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, ATTEND A MEETING!

Our Website

For additional information about what is happening at **YOUR** base, go to

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



USSVI National Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
National Commander	Wayne Standerfer	972-298-8139	lwaynes@charter.net
Senior Vice Commander	Jon Jaques	615-893-7800	jjagues@bellsouth.net
Junior Vice Commander	Steven Bell	704-824-3510	usnret82@carolina.rr.com
Secretary	Raymond Wewers	479-967-5541	raywewers@gmail.com
Treasurer	Paul Hiser	910-691-5650	paulhiser664@gmail.com
Past Commander	John Markiewicz	904-743-2924	markiewiczjohn4@gmail.com
Chaplain	James Sandman	615-975-4792	Jsandman85@gmail.com
Region Director Northeast	Leslie Altschuler	917-748-2275	CdrNJNorthBase@hotmail.com
District Commander EN3	Thomas Denton	301-845-0049	gcmfish@verizon.net
National Office		360-337-2978	office@ussvi.org



USS Requin Base Officers

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1st Vice Commander	Chad Underkoffler	724-809-6830	candj981@verizon.net
2nd Vice Commander	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	mastersoncf@aol.com
Secretary	Jeff Simon	724-502-4505	jeffsimon@zoominternet.net
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	booky143@verizon.net
Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	nicotrafrank@gmail.com
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Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-637-2995	dgdiving@gmail.com
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	itgeek8088@gmail.com
Eagle Scout Chair			
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-637-2995	dgdiving@gmail.com
Master at Arms			
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	rredde@gmail.com



Tolling of the Boats for April

USS Pickerel (SS-177)

Lost on April 3, 1943 with the loss of 74 officers and men, while on her 7th war patrol. She was lost off Honshu. The exact cause of her loss has never been determined, but her OP area contained numerous minefields.

USS Snook (SS-279)

Lost on April 8, 1945 with the loss of 84 officers and men. Snook ranks 10th in total Japanese tonnage sunk and is tied for 9th in the number of ships sunk. She was lost near Hainan Island, possibly sunk by a Japanese submarine.

USS Thresher (SSN-593)

Lost on April 10, 1963 with the loss of 112 crew members and 17 civilian technicians during deep-diving exercises. 15 minutes after reaching test depth, she communicated with USS Skylark that she was having problems. Skylark heard noises "like air rushing into an air tank" - then, silence. Rescue ship Recovery (ASR-43) subsequently recovered bits of debris, including gloves and bits of internal insulation. Photographs taken by Trieste proved that the submarine had broken up, taking all hands on board to their deaths in 1,400 fathoms of water, some 220 miles east of Boston.

USS Gudgeon (SS-211)

USS Gudgeon (SS-211) was probably lost on April 18, 1944 with the loss of 79 men SE of Iwo Jima, but may have been sunk on May 12, 1944 in another attack on an unidentified submarine and heard by several other submarines in the area. Winner of 5 Presidential Unit Citations, Gudgeon was on her 12th war patrol and most likely due to a combined air and surface antisubmarine attack. Gudgeon was the first US submarine to go on patrol from Pearl Harbor after the Japanese attack. On her first patrol, she became the first US submarine to sink an enemy warship, picking off the submarine I-173.

USS Grenadier (SS-210)

Lost on April 22, 1943 near Penang, with no immediate loss of life. She was on her 6th war patrol. While stalking a convoy, she was spotted by a plane and dove. While passing 130 feet, Grenadier was bombed, causing severe damage. She was lodged on the bottom 270 feet and the crew spent hours fighting fires and flooding. When she surfaced, she had no propulsion and was attacked by another plane. While she shot down the plane. When enemy ships arrived, the CO abandoned ship and scuttled the boat. Of the 76 crew members taken prisoner, 72 survived the war.

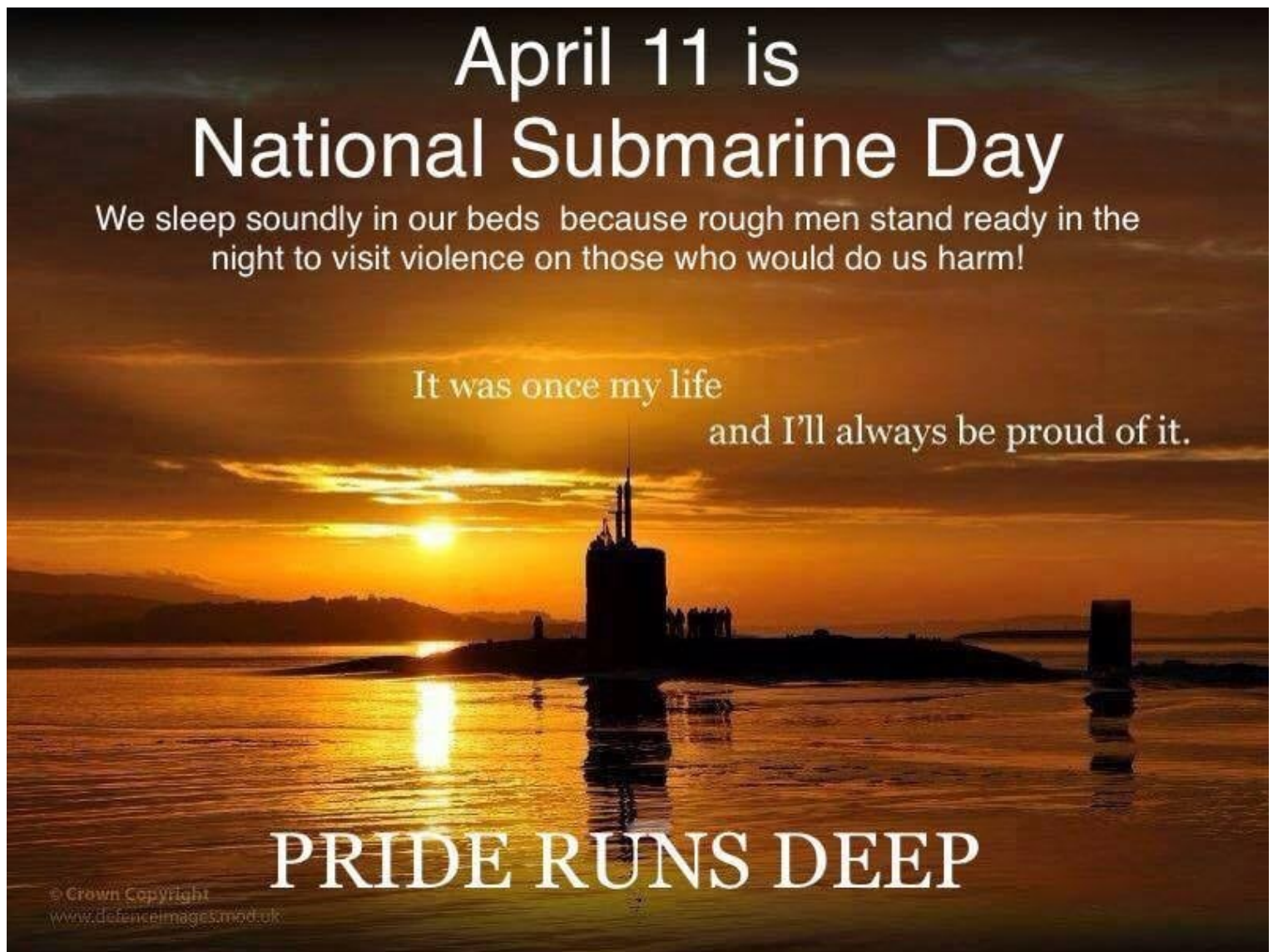




Submarines commissioned during the month of April

L-1 SS-40	4/11/1916	Wikipedia	NavSource	
L-3 SS-42	4/22/1916	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-5 SS-82	4/15/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-3 SS-80	4/17/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-33 SS-138	4/18/1922	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-36 SS-141	4/4/1923	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
S-12 SS-117	4/30/1923	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-18 SS-123	4/3/1924	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Argonaut SS-166	4/2/1928	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Seal SS-183	4/30/1938	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Saury SS-189	4/3/1939	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Gar SS-206	4/14/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Gudgeon SS-211	4/21/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Halibut SS-232	4/10/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Grunion SS-216	4/11/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Skate SS-305	4/15/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Billfish SS-286	4/20/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pargo SS-264	4/26/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Puffer SS-268	4/27/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Barbel SS-316	4/3/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Razorback SS-394	4/3/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Redfish SS-395	4/12/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Hardhead SS-365	4/18/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Croaker SS-246	4/21/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Ronquil SS-396	4/22/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Barbero SS-317	4/29/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Scabbardfish SS-397	4/29/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Entemedor SS-340	4/6/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Medregal SS-480	4/14/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Chivo SS-341	4/28/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Requin SS-481	4/28/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Mapiro SS-376	4/30/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Tusk SS-426	4/11/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sarda SS-488	4/19/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Dogfish SS-350	4/29/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pickrel SS-524	4/4/1949	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sailfish SSR-572	4/14/1956	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Skipjack SSN-585	4/15/1959	Wikipedia	NavSource	

Patrick Henry SSBN-599	4/11/1960	Wikipedia	NavSource
Lafayette SSBN-616	4/23/1963	Wikipedia	NavSource
Dace SSN-607	4/4/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
Daniel Webster SSBN-626	4/9/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
Daniel Boone SSBN-629	4/23/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
James K. Polk SSBN-645	4/16/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
George C. Marshall SSBN-654	4/29/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
Will Rogers SSBN-659	4/1/1967	Wikipedia	NavSource
Ray SSN-653	4/12/1967	Wikipedia	NavSource
Flying Fish SSN-673	4/29/1970	Wikipedia	NavSource
Drum SSN-677	4/15/1972	Wikipedia	NavSource
San Francisco SSN-711	4/24/1981	Wikipedia	NavSource
Albany SSN-753	4/7/1990	Wikipedia	NavSource
Annapolis SSN-760	4/11/1992	Wikipedia	NavSource
Delaware SSN-791	4/4/2020	Wikipedia	NavSource
Vermont SSN-792	4/18/2020	Wikipedia	NavSource





Binnacle List

Eternal Patrol



In Remembrance

Gery Gaylor

All hands present
and accounted for.

David Helmold	TM2(SS)	4/23/2008
Jack Kordes	ETN3(SS)	4/2/2012
Lawrence Simon	SN(SS)	4/3/2015

Birthdays

Member

Spouse

Anniversaries

Bruce Ladrie	5/4
Vincent Metz	5/9
Robert Solinger	5/13
Charles Warren	5/20
Edward Lyons	5/23
John Stewart	5/23
George Pilley	5/25
Larry Boutelle	5/27

Gosia Humes	5/13
Stephanie Foster	5/17
Carrie Spencer	5/17
Alexandra Good Linville	5/18
Donna Greenlee	5/19
Sandra Lindsey	5/20
Cathleen Naso	5/20
Gail Warren	5/20
Judith Underkoffler	5/22
Kimberly Masterson	5/25
Connie Bruce	5/30
Nita Campbell	5/31

Beverly & Richard Geyer	5/8
Lisa & Shawn McGinty	5/8
Renee Stuebgen & Jess Coker	5/11
Carolyn & Harry Sills	5/16
Jill & Joseph Campisi	5/18
Kimberly & Charles Masterson	5/18
Frances & Russ Osborne	5/21
Barbara & Edward Zdarko	5/27
Beverly & James Bence	5/28
Jude & Robert Meyers	5/29
Tina & Brian Siege	5/29





WOW – what a wonderful meeting! Our guest speaker, Dr. Stanley Geyer did a wonderful presentation on Mesothelioma and had everyone paying close attention. All the members truly appreciated all the details he presented. He, his first mate and sister had an opportunity to meet and greet us submariners. They have a standing invitation for future meetings!

All the officers and members take our hats off to all the first mates, who treated us with all the great goodies that everyone enjoyed. Thank you, ladies, and “KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK”.

I personally want to thank the individual (who wants to remain anonymous), for the wonderful gift of the new microphone and sound system. “MANY THANKS”.

And what can I say about all the new Holland Club Members They are an outstanding group of distinguished submariners. It was nice to see their 1st mates and family who also attended, to see us honor them for 50 years qualified.

Additional dates to mark into your calendar books:

Baden’s American Stand Down – April 30

Fish Rodeo – May 11th

Grunion Ceremony on the Cod (Cleveland) July 30th

Keystone Base – dedication of the US Submarine Service Memorial.

The May edition will have all the up coming dates for base activities & Parades

Below is a thank you letter for the members of the base who sent their thoughts, feelings, and quotes, on how important for the Requin to be here in Pittsburgh!

We received a letter from Maria from the Science Center which reads – I am overjoyed! You are AMAZING!! Please-Please-PLEASE pass on my thanks to the troops! I just sent my contribution with some of the quotes off to the Powers That Be who requested them. I’m not sure what the grant entails, but if I get any more information, I’ll let you know
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!



Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2022
American Legion Baden PA

Base Commander Huey Dietrich called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Willard Ashmore, John Bistolas, Richard & Claudia Bistyga, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, George Brown, Don Bright, Joe Campisi, Bob & Nancy Clark, Steve Cuddy, Ed & Mary Derr, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Rick & Judy Elster, Lyle Farmer, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bill & Donna Greenlee, Bob & Lynn Gourley, Lou Hamill, John Held, Mark Hoag, James Kontier, Bill & Sandy Lindsey, Jim & Charlene List, Mike Markel, Bat Masterson, Jimmy Metz, Bob & Jude Myers, Frank Nico-tra, Mike Pellegrina, Brian & Lola Peltier, Jim & Sandra Schwartz, Chuck Shrump, Hary Sills, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Keith & Guest Small, Chad Underkoffler, Chuck Warren, Ron & Cynthia Weaver, Andrew & Emma Wolbrueck, Mike & Tina Wyckoff, Dr. & Ms. Geyer

Base Commander Huey Dietrich: Quotes of the day: "Think of it this way. Where can you go to sea in the most awesome piece of equipment ever built, have great chow, outstanding shipmates and piss off Ivan and get paid for it?"

Requin History: April 28, 1945 commissioned with Commander Slay D. Cutter in command. April 4, 1967, Requin departed for 6th Fleet deployment.

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 PICKEREL (SS 177) April 3, 1943

USS SNOOK (SS 279) April 8, 1945

USS THRESHER (SSN 593) April 10, 1963

USS GUDGEON (SS 211) April 18, 1944

USS GRENADIER (SS 210) April 22, 1943

We also remember our departed members of the Requin Base David Helmold, Jack Kordes and Larry Simon. 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.

Acting Chaplain Robert Lindsey gave the Invocation

COB Eric Bookmiller lead the base in the Pledge Of Allegiance
Members introduced themselves and the boats they qualified on.

Secretary Jeff Simon reported 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 are available upon request. With no objections, the report was approved.

Other Reports:

Binnacle List: Gerry Gaylor

Eternal Patrol: None

Membership stands at 191

Storekeeper Frank Nicotra reported on small stores and ordering items online.

Shipmate Vince Metz reported on Eagle Scout court of honor presentations.

Social Events

Baden American Legion is having a Stand Down on April 30

Meeting at Blue Goose was discussed

Old Business:

Letter from USS Idaho regarding donation to their Recreation Fund was read.

New Business:

Specifics of Submarine Group 7 change of command will be posted in the SVD

Good of The Order:

Keystone Base holding a dedication of US Submarine Service Memorial

Fish Rodeo is being held on May 11 in Morningside PA

Grunion Ceremony on USS COD is being held on July 30

Navy Ball will be held on October 14

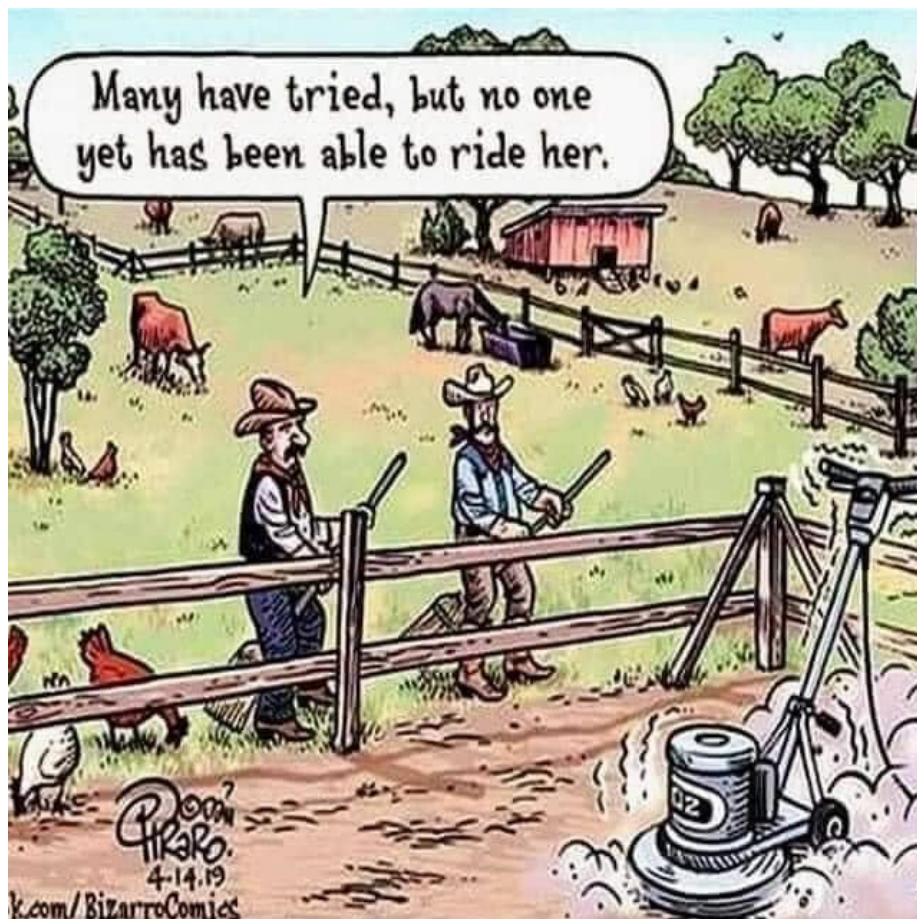
Holland Club inductees: Bistyga, Clark, Horton, Meyers, and Weaver. Also honored was Al Regits with 70 years qualified, who just sailed on Eternal Patrol.

Guest Speaker, Dr. Stanley J Geyer, gave a talk on "Specifics of Mesothelioma".

Acting Chaplain Robert Lindsey gave the Benediction and blessing of today's meal.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: American Legion Baden PA at 1230 hours on May 14, 2022





Month in Review



The Blue Goose is the latest establishment to buy a submarine beer tap handle. We had a great time there when we delivered the handle. If you're in the area stop by and have a cold one and or a great meal.

605 Mt Royal Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15223 - <https://www.thebluegoosesaloon.com/>

Chad Underkoffler delivered the new and improved sub vest to Tom Strang.

Chad organized and worked with the sub vest lady to custom make a vest for Tom.



2022 Holland Club

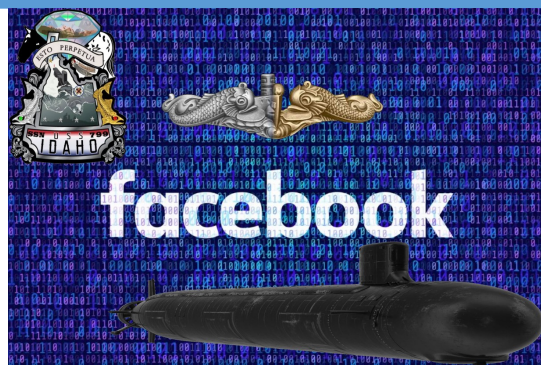
Robert Meyers
Robert Clark
Ronald Weaver
Richard Bistyga
Ronnie Horton



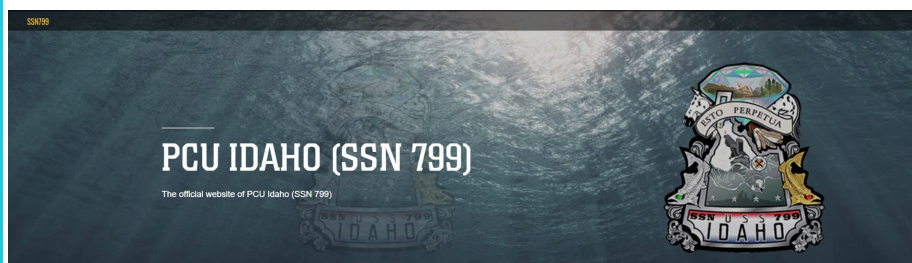
A great shout out goes to
Dr. Stanley Geyer.

Dr. Geyer gave us a better
understanding of mesotheli-
oma and how it may or may
not effect us.

Thank You Dr. Geyer.



<https://www.facebook.com/SSN799>



<https://www.sublant.usff.navy.mil/SSN799/>

Here is the link to the customer photos.

<https://requinbase.org/customer-photos/>



If you would like to order a submarine beer tap handle [with or without the stand], a challenge coin holder or a newly added cribbage board.

contact [Huey Dietrich](#) or

Place your order for these and other USS Idaho items at

<https://requinbase.org/product-category/uss-idaho/>



Make living your life with absolute integrity and kindness your first priority.

Richard Carlson



Store Keepers 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.



2015 Convention



Challenge Coins



Hats



Non Specific



Patches



Pins



Requin Base



USS Idaho



**Keystone Base
United States Submarine Veterans, Inc.**

**Invites you to attend the dedication of the completed
United States Submarine Service Memorial**

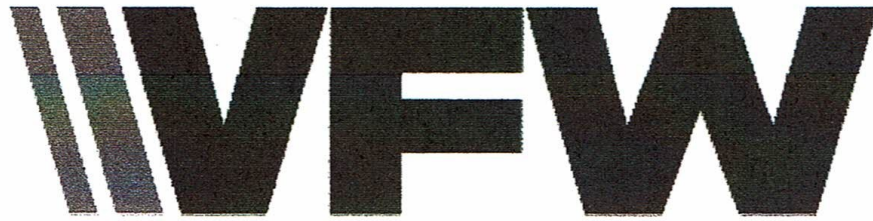
**Saturday, May 7, 2022
11 a.m.**

**Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
Indiantown Gap Road (Rt. 934)
Annville, PA, 17003-9618
Memorial Pathway
Section 24D**



**Reception to follow at 1 pm at
the Fort Indiantown Gap Community Club**

**RSVP: Earl Gee at earlgee1@comcast.net (preferred)
or 717 580-4514.**



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

POST 3945 MORNINGSIDE POST

WHAT: 10TH ANNUAL FISH RODEO

DATE: MAY 11, 2022

TIME: 10AM TO 2PM

**WHERE: OHARA TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY PARK 300 FOX CHAPEL
ROAD (ACROSS FROM POLICE
STATION)**

**ALL VETERANS ARE WELCOME
NURSING HOME VETS INCLUDED**

**For questions call
John Santoriello @ 412 897 0776**



Upcoming Events

Meeting

May 14, 2022
1230 hours

American Legion Post 641
Baden PA

Base activities for Memorial Day weekend

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Requin Base Memorial Service (on board Requin) | May 29 |
| 2. Carnegie, Pa Memorial Day Parade | May 29 |
| 3. Sewickley, Pa Memorial Day Parade | May 30 |
| 4. Coraopolis, Pa Memorial Day Parade | May 30 |

Submarine Group 7 Change of Command Ceremony 4/13/2022

<https://www.facebook.com/submarinegroup7/videos/991372741518610/>



Membership

Primary Members	163	Holland Club	94	USSVI Life Members	72
Secondary Members	14	WWII	4	Base Life Members	55
Associate Members	13	Eternal Patrol	69	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	191			Joined This Year	3



Members Needed

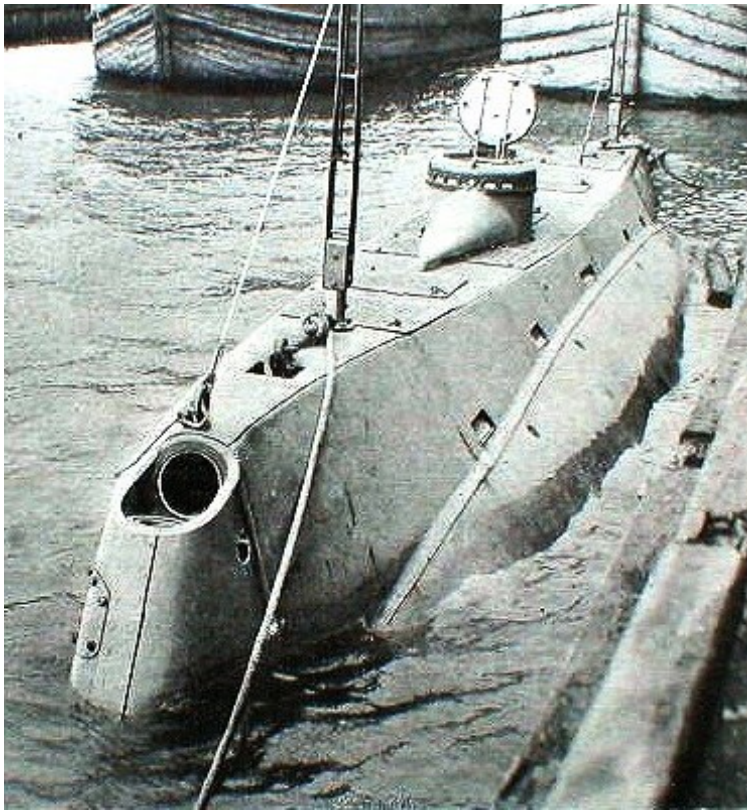


Eagle Scouts

Please direct all Eagle Court of Honor requests to <https://requinbase.org/eagle-coh>

Congratulations to:

Joshua Friel Fedorek Troop 560
Christopher Stone Troop 743
Julian LaPietra Troop 743
R. Harrison Miller Troop 560



Class overview

Preceded by	none
Succeeded by	<u>Plunger class</u>

USS Holland (SS-1) was the United States Navy's first modern commissioned subma-
rine, although not the first military submarine
of the United States, which was the 1775 sub-
mersible Turtle.

The boat was originally laid down as **Holland VI** at the Crescent Shipyard of Elizabeth, New Jersey for John Holland's Holland Torpedo Boat Company, and launched on 17 May 1897.

She was acquired by the USN on 11 April 1900 and commissioned on 12 October 1900, Lieutenant H. H. Caldwell commanding



General characteristics

Class and type	<u>Midget submarine</u>
Displacement	64 long tons (65 t) surfaced 74 long tons (75 t) submerged
Length	53 ft 10 in (16.41 m) <u>LOA</u>
Beam	10 ft 4 in (3.15 m) extreme
Draft	8 ft 6 in (2.59 m)
Installed power	45 <u>bhp</u> (34 kW) surfaced 75 bhp (56 kW) submerged
Propulsion	1 × <u>gasoline engine</u> , 1 × <u>electric motor</u> , 66- <u>cell battery</u> , 1 shaft
Speed	6 <u>knots</u> (11 km/h; 6.9 mph) surfaced 5.5 knots (10.2 km/h; 6.3 mph) sub- merged
Range	200 <u>nmi</u> (370 <u>km</u> ; 230 <u>mi</u>) at 6 kn (11 km/h; 6.9 mph) surfaced 30 <u>nmi</u> (56 <u>km</u> ; 35 <u>mi</u>) at 5.5 kn (10.2 km/h; 6.3 mph) submerged
Test depth	75 feet (23 m)
Complement	6
Armament	1 × <u>18 inch (450 mm) torpedo</u> <u>tube</u> (3 <u>torpedoes</u>) 1 × 8.425-inch (214.0 mm) <u>dynamite</u> <u>gun</u>

History

Name	<i>Holland VI</i> (1897–1900) <i>USS Holland</i> (1900–1932)
Namesake	<u>John Philip Holland</u>
Builder	<u>Crescent Shipyard</u> <u>Elizabeth, New Jersey</u>
Laid down	November 1896
Launched	17 May 1897
Acquired	11 April 1900
Commissioned	12 October 1900
Decommissioned	17 July 1905
Stricken	21 November 1910
Fate	Sold 18 June 1913; on display in a park in <u>Paterson, New Jer-</u> <u>sey</u> until sold for scrap, 1932

04/01/1943

USS Shad (SS 235) torpedoes and damages the Italian blockade runner Pietro Orseolo, shortly after the Italian ship reaches the Bay of Biscay and her escort of four German destroyers.

04/02/1943

USS Tunny (SS 282) sinks the Japanese transport No.2 Toyo Maru west of Truk.

04/02/1991

USS Chicago (SSN 721) arrives at San Diego, Calif., homeport following Operation Desert Storm. During the six-month deployment, the attack submarine works with US and coalition forces deployed to the South-west Asia area of operations, conducting surveillance and reconnaissance operations.

04/03/1943

USS Haddock (SS 231) sinks Japanese fleet tanker Arima Maru north of Palau, and USS Pickerel (SS 177) sinks Japanese submarine chaser Ch 1.

04/04/1943

USS Porpoise (SS 172) sinks the Japanese whaling ship Koa Maru near Eniwetok.

04/06/1945

USS Besugo (SS 321) and USS Hardhead (SS 365) sink ships in Japanese convoy HOMO-03.

04/07/1990

The Los Angeles-class fast attack submarine USS Albany (SSN 573) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk.

04/07/1979

USS Ohio (SSBN 726), the first Trident submarine, launches at Groton, Conn. She is commissioned into the Navy in November that same year. Following a conversion to a guided-missile submarine in 2006, she is now SSGN-726.

04/08/1944

USS Seahorse (SS 304) and USS Trigger (SS 237) successfully attack a Japanese convoy off Guam, damaging a Japanese destroyer and a tanker.

04/10/1942

USS Thresher (SS 200) torpedoes and sinks Japanese merchant cargo ship Maru six miles north of Oshima, near the entrance to Tokyo Bay, Honshu, Japan.

04/10/1963

During diving tests, USS Thresher (SSN 593) is lost with all hands east of Cape Cod, Mass., including commanding officer and 17 civilian technicians.

04/11/1900

United States Navy Acquires USS Holland (SS-1)

04/11/1944

USS Redfin (SS 272) sinks the Japanese destroyer Akigumo in the eastern entrance to Basilan Strait.

04/11/1992

USS Annapolis (SSN 760) is commissioned at the Electric Boat Division at Groton, Conn. The 10th of her Los Angeles "Improved" class of attack submarines.

04/12/1944

USS Halibut (SS 232) sinks Japanese army passenger/cargo ship Taichu Maru despite the presence of at least three escort vessels.

04/13/1942

USS Grayling (SS 209) sinks the Japanese freighter Ryujin Maru off southeast tip of Shikoku, Japan.

04/13/1944

USS Harder (SS 257) sinks the Japanese destroyer Ikazuchi, 180 miles SSW of Guam.

04/14/1945

USS Tirante (SS 420), commanded by Lt. Cmdr. George L. Street III, attacks a Japanese convoy in the approaches to the Yellow Sea and sinks a transport ship and two vessels. Street earns Medal of Honor for his actions.

04/16/1942

USS Tambor (SS 198) sinks the Japanese stores ship Kitami Maru 50 miles southeast of Kavieng, New Ireland.

04/17/1942

USS Searaven (SS 196) begins rescue of stranded Australian sailors, airmen, and soldiers from Japanese-occupied Timor, N.E.I.

04/20/1944

USS Seahorse (SS 304) torpedoes and sinks Japanese submarine RO 45 off the Mariana Islands.

04/20/1964

USS Henry Clay (SSBN 625) launches a Polaris A-2 missile in the first demonstration to show that Polaris submarines could launch missiles from the surface as well as from beneath the ocean.

04/22/1945

USS Hardhead (SS 365) sinks Japanese cargo vessel Mankei Maru off Chimpson and USS Cero (SS 225) sinks the Japanese guardboat Aji Maru west of Tori Jima and damaged the guardboat No.9 Takamiya Maru.

04/24/1943

USS Seawolf (SS-197) sinks Japanese Patrol Boat #39 off east central coast of Formosa, while the enemy warship is screening the towing of the wrecked Nisshin Maru.

04/23/1945

USS Besugo (SS 321) sinks the German submarine U 183 in the Java Sea.

04/24/1981

USS San Francisco (SSN 711) is commissioned at Norfolk Naval Station, Va.

04/25/1944

USS Crevalle (SS 291) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kashiwa Maru, north of Borneo and USS Guvania (SS 362) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Tetsuyo Maru, northwest of Chichi Jima.

04/26/1960

USS George Washington (SSN 598) conducts a Polaris missile test firing in Long Island Sound in the Atlantic Ocean.

04/27/1944

USS Bluegill (SS 242) torpedoes the Japanese light cruiser Yubari west of Sonsorol Island, while USS Halibut (SS 232) sinks Japanese minelayer off Okinawa.

04/27/1963

USS Daniel Webster (SSBN 626) is launched at Groton, Conn. Commissioned a year later, she serves until decommissioned in August 1990.

04/28/1945

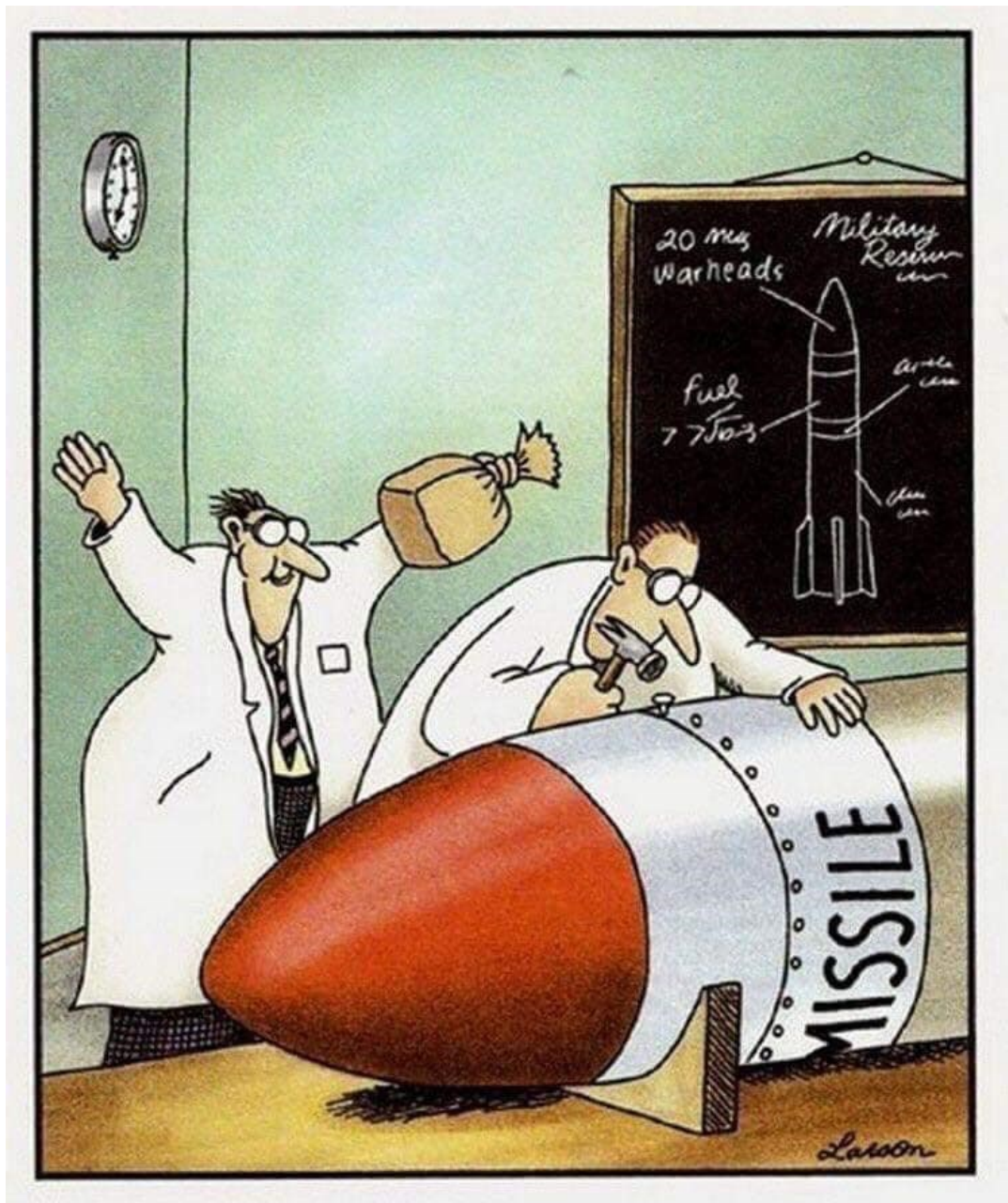
USS Sennet (SS 408) sinks the Japanese cable layer Hatsushima off Kii Strait, south southeast of Miki Saki; USS Springer (SS 414) sinks the Japanese submarine chaser CH 17 west of Kyushu as she is escorting landing ship T.146, and USS Trepang (SS 412) sinks T.146 off Ose Saki, Japan.

04/29/1944

USS Pogy (SS 266) sinks the Japanese submarine I 183, 30 miles south of Ashizuri Saki, Japan.

04/30/1944

USS Bang (SS 385) attacks a convoy engaged the previous night and sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Nittatsu Maru off the northwest of Luzon. Also on this date, USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks the Vichy French gunboat Tahure in the South China Sea off Cape Varella, French Indochina.

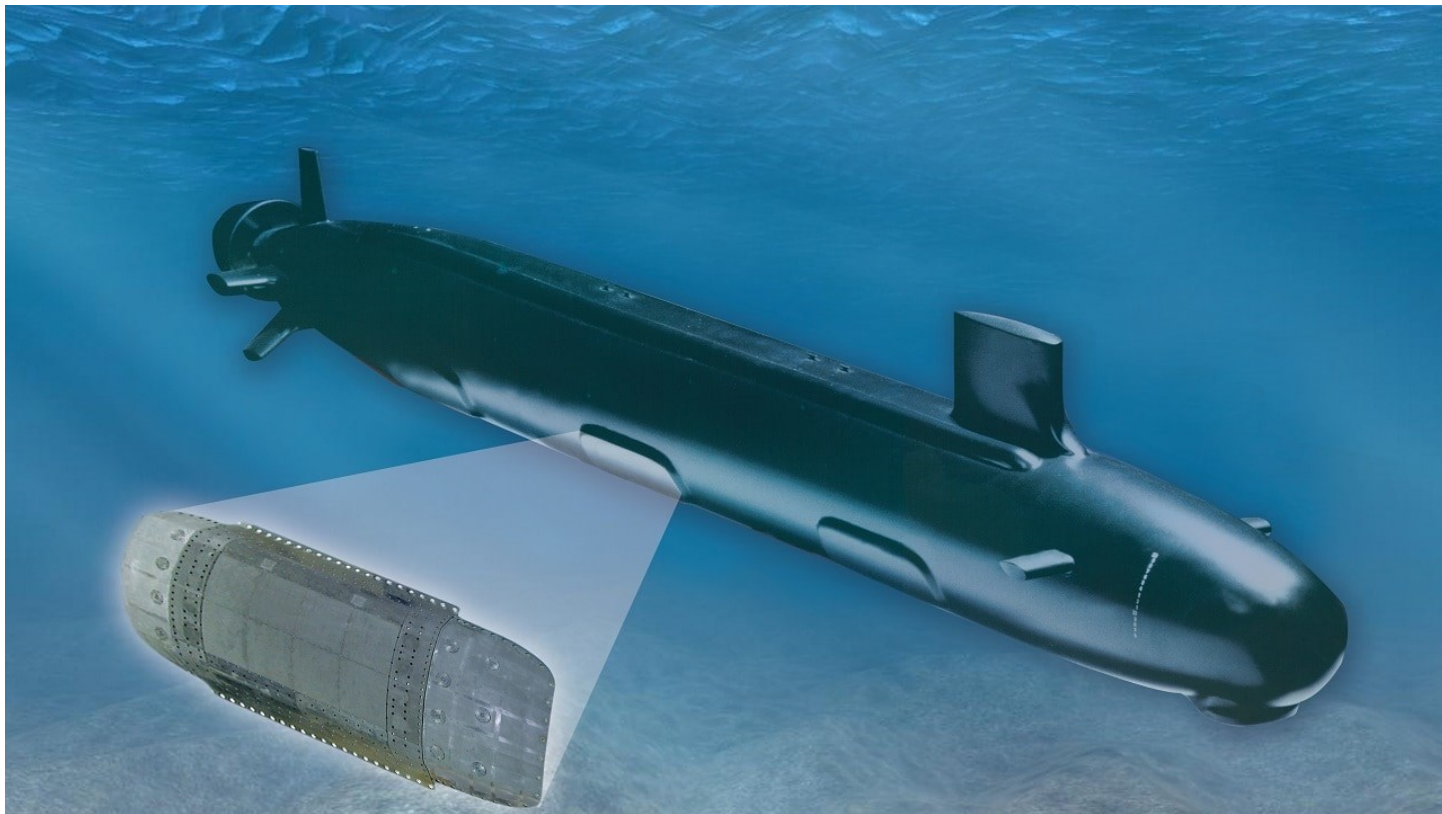




Meet The Apex Predator: SSN(X) Attack Submarine Is The US Navy's Future

By Ethen Kim Lieser

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/04/meet-the-apex-predator-ssnx-attack-submarine-is-the-us-navys-future/>



Block IV Virginia-class Submarine.

The US Navy has big plans for a new class of attack submarines – Coming soon: the SSN(X) attack submarine. With that, the U.S. Navy appears to be ramping up the technology and weaponry for this new underwater weapon of war.

“We are looking at the ultimate apex predator for the maritime domain,” Vice Adm. Bill Houston, who is now the head of Naval Submarine Forces, Submarine Force Atlantic, and Allied Submarine Command, said of the new program at a Navy League event this past summer.

SSN(X) Attack Submarine: Only Best Features

According to military and defense writer Benjamin Brimelow at *Business Insider*, “the new submarine is dubbed SSN(X), indicating that the design is not yet determined, but Houston said the boats would take the best features of the Navy’s three previous sub designs: the Seawolf- and Virginia-class attack submarines, or SSNs, and the still-in-development Columbia-class ballistic-missile submarines, classified as SSBNs.”

Houston noted that “we’re taking what we already know how to do and combining it together.”

The new work on SSN(X) is coming at a time when the United States is confronting increased competition with China and its fast-growing navy forces, which the Pentagon has mentioned is the largest on the planet.

SSN(X) “really needs to be ready for major combat operations,” Houston said.

“It’s going to need to be able to go behind enemy lines and deliver that punch that is going to really, really establish our primacy. It needs to be able to deny an adversary ability to operate in their bastion regions,” he continued.

As for the features of the SSN(X), the Navy claimed that it will possess “a renewed priority in the anti-submarine warfare mission against sophisticated threats in greater numbers,” while Brimelow added that “the new subs need to be able to defend themselves against unmanned underwater vehicles.”

However, “given the requirements, combining the best of three nuclear submarines makes sense, although it is a monumental task,” he continued.

Same Design Team

According to Houston, the Navy is expected to use the same design team for both the SSN(X) and the [Columbia-class sub](#).

“We’re going to capitalize on that design team, and we’re going to time (it) such that when Columbia is ramping down in production, we’ll be ramping up in SSN(X) because we’ll have the design and the (research, development, testing, and evaluation) done,” Houston said.

“We’re very confident we can get there. It’s a daunting task, but the team is more than capable of doing it,” he added.

According to *Business Insider*, “the Navy’s sub fleet will shrink in coming years as older boats are retired, but recent administrations have proposed plans to build a fleet of roughly seventy attack subs over the next three decades.”

When Will the SSN(X) Attack Submarine Join the Navy?

It added that the “Navy plans to procure its first SSN(X) boat in 2031, with follow-on orders beginning in the mid-2030s.”



The Seawolf Submarine: The US Navy's Plan To Fight Russia

By Sebastien Roblin

<https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/04/the-seawolf-submarine-the-us-navys-plan-to-fight-russia/>



The U.S. Navy's newest attack submarine, USS Seawolf (SSN 21), conducts Bravo sea trials off the coast of Connecticut in preparation for its scheduled commissioning in July 1997.

The Seawolf-class submarine was a Cold War legend and built to wage undersea again Russia. Sadly, the US Navy old built three of them. Why? Late in the 1950s, the Soviet Navy's nuclear-powered submarines—starting with the November-class attack submarine—could dive twice as deep as most of their American counterparts and often had higher maximum speed. But they had a conspicuous flaw: they were a lot noisier.

That meant American subs were routinely detecting and trailing the Soviet submarines from a distance without being detected in return—a huge advantage had there ever been a conflict. In the 1980s, however, the Soviet Navy began to improve its acoustic stealth game. The Japanese Toshiba and Norwegian Kongsberg firms had sold propeller-milling technology to the Soviets that allowed for a much quieter seven-bladed propeller on its new Akula-class attack submarines.

U.S. Navy studies concluded the Akula exceeded the mainstay of the U.S. submarine force, the *Los Angeles* class, for acoustic stealth and roughly matched the Improved Los Angeles variant. As the Pentagon was flush with money during the Reagan administration, in 1983 the Navy began designing the biggest, baddest—and fastest and quietest—attack submarine possible to restore its edge over the Soviet Navy.

The resulting *Seawolf* laid down by Electric Boat in October 1989 had a wider hull than the 7,000-ton *Los Angeles*, displacing over 9,000 tons submerged and measuring 108 meters in length. Whereas the *Los Angeles* carried 37 torpedoes in four tubes, the *Sea Wolf* could lug fifty heavy-weight 533-millimeter Mark 48 torpedoes or Harpoon anti-ship missiles, which it could launch through eight over-sized 660-millimeter torpedo tubes. (The tubes size was meant to future-proof in case the Navy adopted larger weapons. It didn't.) The *Seawolf* could also use the tubes to launch surface-attack Tomahawk missiles.

The *Seawolf* submarine was built entirely out of higher-strength HY-100 steel so that it could endure dives

as deep as 490 meters. Its sail (conning tower) was reinforced for operations Arctic ice, where Soviet ballistic-missile submarines were known to lurk. Moreover, its S6W pressurized water reactor gave the *Seawolf* an extraordinary maximum speed of 35 knots (40 miles per hour), allowing it to chase down disengaging adversaries.

But most impressive were the *Seawolf's* advancements in acoustic stealth: a *Seawolf* was an order of magnitude quieter than even the Improved *Los Angeles* boats at 95 decibels. Oceanic background noise averages 90 decibels.

Even better, the *Seawolf's* propeller-less pump-jet propulsion system allowed it to maintain acoustic stealth even when cruising a brisk 20 knots, whereas most submarines are forced to crawl at 5-12 knots to remain discrete. Its huge 7.3-meter diameter spherical sonar array on the bow was supplemented by wide-aperture flank arrays and TB-16D and TB-29 towed arrays. These feed sensor data to the *Seawolf's* BSY-2 combat system, which can engage multiple targets simultaneously using Mark 48 torpedoes directed either via a wire connected to the sub, or using their own organic sonar.

Thus, the *Sea Wolf* was designed as the ultimate submarine-hunter: stealthier, more heavily armed, and able to match or exceed its adversaries in speed and maneuverability.

These exquisite capabilities came at a steep price—namely \$33 billion for twelve Seawolves, cut down from the initial plans for 29. Adjusted for 2018 dollars, that comes out to nearly \$5 billion per sub, three times the cost of the *Los Angeles* boats. The HY100 steel also particularly suffered extensive weld-cracking problems, necessitating additional reconstruction.

Following the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the *Seawolf's* premium capabilities and expense could hardly be justified as large numbers of Russian submarines rusted away at their docks. Thus the *Seawolf* order was downsized to just three submarines which launched between 1995 and 2004: the *Seawolf*, the *Connecticut*, and the *Jimmy Carter*, numbered SSN-21 through 23. All three are based on the Pacific Ocean at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor in Washington State.

The last boat, the *Carter* uniquely was modified at an extra cost of \$887 million into the ultimate spy and special operations submarine. Its hull was lengthened by 30 meters to incorporate a special Multi-Mission Platform which can carry divers, or manned or unmanned underwater reconnaissance vehicles which can be deployed using special locks. The 12,000-ton *Carter* also boasts thrusters allowing it to maneuver more precisely while in treacherous shallow waters and ocean floors. It is also understood to carry instruments allowing it to tap the undersea cables through which the internet and other long-distance communications travel.



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