

# Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH  
NOT TO BE RELEASED  
FOR PUBLICATION  
NAVY YARD MARE ISLAND, CALIF

RESTRICTED



7185-114 (1952-71)  
BOWFIN SS-287  
STARBOARD, ALTERATIONS CIRCLED  
ON W. 1. PHOTOS NO. 7257-114 TO 7259-114  
ENC.  
MARE ISLAND, CAL. 24 NOVEMBER 1944.



## USS Bowfin SS-287



## 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**

Nov 09, 2024 @ 1230 hours

At Baden American Legion Post 641

### 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](mailto: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	Jon Jaques	615-893-7800	<a href="mailto:jjaques@bellsouth.net">jjaques@bellsouth.net</a>
Senior Vice Commander	Timothy Carlisle	925-812-4239	<a href="mailto:timothywcarlisle@gmail.com">timothywcarlisle@gmail.com</a>
Junior Vice Commander	Thomas Williams	512-632-9439	<a href="mailto:texsubvet@yahoo.com">texsubvet@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	David Farrugia	813-951-1898	<a href="mailto:DFarrugia@tampabay.rr.com">DFarrugia@tampabay.rr.com</a>
Treasurer	John Sidlovsky	757-328-9796	<a href="mailto:treasurer.ussvi.hrb@gmail.com">treasurer.ussvi.hrb@gmail.com</a>
Past Commander	William Andrea	561-790-1287	<a href="mailto:wcandrea@bellsouth.net">wcandrea@bellsouth.net</a>
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National Office	Sharon Walsh	360-337-2978	<a href="mailto:ussvi@telebyte.net">ussvi@telebyte.net</a>



## USS Requin Base Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	<a href="mailto:hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com">hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com</a>
1st Vice Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	<a href="mailto:jcampisi654@comcast.net">jcampisi654@comcast.net</a>
2nd Vice Commander	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	<a href="mailto:mastersoncf@aol.com">mastersoncf@aol.com</a>
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Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	<a href="mailto:itgeek8088@gmail.com">itgeek8088@gmail.com</a>
Eagle Scout Chair	John Held	724-331-2479	<a href="mailto:petecompost@aol.com">petecompost@aol.com</a>
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	<a href="mailto:dgdiving@gmail.com">dgdiving@gmail.com</a>
Master at Arms	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	<a href="mailto:mastersoncf@aol.com">mastersoncf@aol.com</a>
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	<a href="mailto:rredde@gmail.com">rredde@gmail.com</a>



### Tolling of the Boats for October

#### USS Seawolf (SS-197)

Lost on Oct 3, 1944 with the loss of 83 officers and men and 17 US Army troops when she was sunk just north of Moritai by USS Rowell, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, Rowell mistook Seawolf for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. Seawolf ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk.

#### USS S-44 (SS-155)

Lost on Oct 7, 1943 with the loss of 56 men when it was sunk off Paramushiru, Kuriles. S-44 was on her 5th war patrol after attacking a target thought to be a merchant on the surface, S-44 found herself in a losing gun battle with a heavily armed Japanese destroyer. Two men were taken prisoner and survived the war.

#### USS Wahoo (SS-238)

Lost on Oct 11, 1943 with the loss of 80 men near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo was on her 7th war patrol. Wahoo had won a Presidential Unit Citation and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. She was lost to depth charges dropped by a Japanese patrol aircraft.

#### USS Dorado (SS-248)

Lost on Oct 12, 1943 with the loss of 77 men when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She may have been sunk by a U.S. patrol plane that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or a German U-boat that was in the vicinity.

#### USS Escolar (SS-294)

Lost on Oct 17, 1944 with the loss of 82 men. She was on her 1st war patrol and was most likely lost to a mine somewhere in the Yellow Sea.

#### USS Shark II (SS-314)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 with the loss of 87 men when she was sunk near Hainan. The second boat to carry this name during World War II, she was on her 3rd war patrol. Shark was sunk by escorts after attacking and sinking a lone freighter. Compounding the tragedy, it turned out that the freighter had 1,800 U.S. POW's on board.

#### USS Darter (SS-227)

Lost on Oct 24, 1944 when she became grounded on Bombay Shoal off Palawan and was then destroyed to prevent her falling into enemy hands intact. The entire crew was rescued by USS Dace. Winner of one Navy Unit Commendation, Darter had sunk a heavy cruiser and damaged another and went aground while attempting an "end around" on an enemy formation in hopes of getting in an attack on a battleship.

#### USS Tang (SS-306)

Lost on Oct 25, 1944 with the loss of 78 men in the Formosa Strait. Tang was on her 5th war patrol. Tang ranks 2nd in the number of ships sunk and 4th in tonnage and had won two Presidential Unit Citations. During a daring night surface attack, Tang was lost to a circular run by one of her own torpedoes. Nine of the crew were taken prisoner, including CDR O'Kane and five who had gained the surface from her final resting place 180 feet below. All survived the war, and CDR O'Kane was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

#### USS O-5 (SS-66)

Lost on October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when rammed and sunk by SS Abangarez off the Panama Canal.





## Submarines commissioned during the month of October

Holland SS-1	10/12/1900	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Mackerel SST-1	10/9/1953	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
B-1 SS-10	10/18/1907	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
B-2 SS-11	10/18/1907	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
G-1 SS-19.5	10/28/1912	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
K-3 SS-34	10/30/1914	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
K-4 SS-35	10/24/1914	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-2 SS-63	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-11 SS-72	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-12 SS-73	10/19/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
O-14 SS-75	10/1/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-13 SS-90	10/17/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-19 SS-96	10/7/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-20 SS-97	10/26/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-23 SS-100	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-25 SS-102	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
R-26 SS-103	10/23/1919	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-8 SS-113	10/1/1920	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-23 SS-128	10/30/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-26 SS-131	10/15/1923	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
S-30 SS-135	10/29/1920	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
H-4 SS-147	10/24/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
H-7 SS-150	10/24/1918	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
S-48 SS-159	10/14/1922	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Barracuda SS-163	10/1/1924	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Seadragon SS-194	10/23/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Searaven SS-196	10/2/1939	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Angler SS-240	10/1/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Bashaw SS-241	10/25/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Flier SS-250	10/18/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Haddo SS-255	10/9/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Hake SS-256	10/30/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Rock SS-274	10/26/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Scorpion SS-278	10/1/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Snook SS-279	10/24/1942	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Tang SS-306	10/15/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Chub SS-329	10/21/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Brill SS-330	10/26/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Lagarto SS-371	10/14/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	<a href="#">Eternal Patrol</a>
Sand Lance SS-381	10/9/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Picuda SS-382	10/16/1943	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Springer SS-414	10/18/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	
Tench SS-417	10/6/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>	

Thornback SS-418	10/13/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Tigrone SS-419	10/25/1944	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Volador SS-490	10/1/1948	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Grampus SS-523	10/26/1949	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Tang SS-563	10/25/1951	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Darter SS-576	10/20/1956	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Blueback SS-581	10/15/1959	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Sargo SSN-583	10/1/1958	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Snook SSN-592	10/24/1961	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Tinosa SSN-606	10/17/1964	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Whale SSN-638	10/12/1968	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Benjamin Franklin SSBN-640	10/22/1965	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Simon Bolivar SSBN-641	10/29/1965	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Grayling SSN-646	10/11/1969	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
La Jolla SSN-701	10/24/1981	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Portsmouth SSN-707	10/1/1983	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Henry M. Jackson SSBN-730	10/6/1984	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
West Virginia SSBN-736	10/20/1990	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Topeka SSN-754	10/21/1989	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Columbia SSN-771	10/9/1995	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Virginia SSN-774	10/23/2004	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
New Hampshire SSN-778	10/25/2008	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
California SSN-781	10/29/2011	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
North Dakota SSN-784	10/25/2014	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Illinois SSN-786	10/29/2016	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Washington SSN-787	10/7/2017	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
Hyman G. Rickover SSN-795	10/14/2023	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>
NR-1 -	10/27/1969	<a href="#">Wikipedia</a>	<a href="#">NavSource</a>





### Binnacle List

### Eternal Patrol

### In Remembrance

Huey Dietrich  
 Mike Pellegrino  
 Ed Derr  
 Edie Dietrich  
 Bev Geyer



Lee Davenport	RMCS (SS)	10/2/2020
Charles Tolbert	CSC(SS)	10/9/2016
Eugene Camarota	QMC(SS)	10/9/2014
Robert "Pete" Watson	MOMM2 (SS)	10/16/2021
Thomas Whalen	MM2(SS)	10/20/2014
John Clarkin	FCSN(SS)	10/21/2015
Charles Schwertfeger	EM2 (SS)	10/22/2018
Lloyd Alfred	EMC(SS)	10/24/2016
Salvatore Nigido	TM3(SS)	10/29/2011
Jack Hart	EM1(SS)	10/29/2010
Major Galloway	FTG2 (SS)	10/30/2018

### Birthdays

#### Member

#### Spouse

#### Anniversaries

Allen McGee	11/4	Ann Sawin	11/1	Ruth Ann & Christopher Shal	11/1
James Lewis	11/6	Judy Elster	11/3	Christine & Bruce Ladrie	11/2
Charles Nixon	11/6	Marianne Phelan	11/5	Jennifer & David Halliday	11/5
Daniel Spencer	11/6	Nancy Bouts	11/6	Jennifer & Stephen Cuddy	11/10
Thomas Junker	11/8	Krissy Wissinger	11/14	Cathleen & Angelo Naso	11/11
Valentine Bolcato	11/9	Heidi Iliff	11/20	Eileen S. & Jeffrey Simon	11/14
James Bence	11/11	Dorothy Bright	11/22	Carrie & Daniel Spencer	11/14
Robert Goldman	11/11	Sherry Nixon	11/22	Trude & Fred Hayes	11/20
Michael Tomon	11/15	Agnes Strang	11/23	Cynthia & Ronald Weaver	11/20
Terry Swinney	11/17	Patsy Bookwalter	11/25	Joan & Rufino Guntang	11/22
James Flaherty	11/18	Betty Dubar Simpson	11/28	Robin & Andrew McGovern	11/24
Clair Bouts	11/22	Renee Stuebgen Coker	11/30	Patsy & Lee Bookwalter	11/30
James Wendell	11/24				
Edward May	11/25				
Robert Davis	11/26				
Christopher Gibson	11/26				
Brian Linville	11/30				





Shipmates: It is that time of year for the Requin Base to collect dues. We have processed over 105 members who have renewed their membership for 2025. Next month is very important for the remaining dues paying members. I have just received a notice from our national office, notifying the base, that our national dues will be increased by \$10.00, starting in 2025.

It is very important to send your dues by December 1<sup>st</sup>, so we have time to forward your dues payment to National, before December 31, so they have time to process your collected dues.

Below is the present and future dues structure!

USSVI Annual & Lifetime Dues Table			
USSVI National Dues	Years Renewed / Age at Lifetime	Current Dues until 12/31/2024	Revised Dues as of 01/01/2025
Annual Dues	1 Year	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00
	Oct-Dec & Next Year	\$ 35.00	\$ 47.00
	3 Years	\$ 85.00	\$ 113.00
	5 Years	\$ 140.00	\$ 185.00
Lifetime Dues	76+ Years	\$ 120.00	\$ 150.00
	66 - 75 Years	\$ 240.00	\$ 300.00
	56 - 65 Years	\$ 360.00	\$ 450.00
	46 - 55 Years	\$ 500.00	\$ 625.00
	Up to 45 Years	\$ 600.00	\$ 750.00

As you can see – the National Dues for current members is increasing by \$10.00 per year. You have until the end of the year to pay the current \$30.00 for National Dues! You can also pay for life dues before the current dues increase -study the table above and make a good discussion!!!!!!

On Sunday Nov 3rd @ 0830 the keepsake ashes of GM3 (SS) Peter Duffy, Plank Owner of the USS Requin SS-481 from 1944-1946, will be interred in a memorial on the Requin. The memorial will be in the stern room. Anyone wishing to attend is welcome and should be onboard NLT 0815.





## 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.**

October 5, 2024  
Golden Corral, Hermitage PA

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

**Attendees:** Willard Ashmore, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, Don Bright, Joe Campisi, Ed & Mary Jane Derr, Huey Dietrich, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bob & Lynn Gourley, David Halliday, Lou Hamill, Mark Hoag, Steve Kerch, Jim & Charlene List, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Meyers, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Jack Sutherin.

**Commander Huey Dietrich:** Quotes of the day: "It is the function of the Navy to bring the war to the enemy so it is not fought on US soil."

**Requin History:** On October 1, 1947 Requin moved north for exercises with her sister radar picket submarine Spinax SS-489. On October 1, 1966, Requin cruised around the South American continent with various South American navies. On October 20th Requin was dedicated as a memorial and exhibit and opened for tours.

**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 SEAWOLF (SS 197) October 3, 1944  
USS S-44 (SS 155) October 7, 1943  
USS WAHOO (SS 238) October 11, 1943  
USS DORADO (SS 248) October 12, 1943  
USS ESCOLAR (SS 294) October 17, 1944  
USS SHARK II (SS 314) October 24, 1944  
USS DARTER (SS 227) October 24, 1944  
USS TANG (SS 306) October 25, 1944  
USS O-5 (SS 66) October 29, 1923

**Base Commander Huey Dietrich** gave the Invocation.

**Secretary Jeff Simon** lead the base in the Pledge Of Allegiance  
Members introduced themselves and the boats they qualified 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** reported that an accounting of base assets, expenditures, and deposits is available upon request. With no objections, the report was approved.

**Other Reports:**

Binnacle List: Huey & Edie Dietrich, Ed Derr, Bev Geyer, Pellegrino

Eternal Patrol: None

Base membership stands at 202.

**First Vice Commander Joe Campisi** reported on PA License Plate program.

**Shipmate Lou Hamill** reported on Eagle Scouts presentations.

**Old Business:**

Beer Tap handles were sold to several bars in the area.

Red Shirts, 12 sold

**New Business:**

Nominations for Base officers are being taken by Joe Campisi, Jeff Simon or Lee Bookwalter, Huey Dietrich will not be accepting a nomination for next year.

Motion to continue having Base traveling meetings, including at the Golden Coral, Hermitage PA, was approved by the members present.

Letter regarding the USSVI Charitable Foundation was read. A motion for the Base to donate \$2000 from candy sales to the Charitable Foundation was approved by the members present.

**Good of The Order:**

Report on Edie Dietrich’s health was given.

Candy bars are now \$1.25 each.

Sold 106 calendars to interests outside the Base.

Upcoming activities:

October 11 – Navy Ball, Edgewood Country Club. The Base has reserved a table for 8. Rocky Bleier will be the guest speaker.

October 12 – Columbus Day Parade

November 3 – Duffy’s ashes ceremony on USS Requin

November 9 – Base meeting at American Legion Post 641 Baden PA

November 11 – Veterans Day Parade

December 14 – Base meeting at American Legion Post 641 Baden PA

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:** American Legion Post 641 Baden PA at 1230 hours on November 9, 2024





**Congratulations LT Rogers**

# United States Navy **Biography** →



**Lieutenant Taylor A. Rogers**  
**United States Navy**

A native of Ocean Township, New Jersey, Lieutenant Taylor Rogers graduated from Yale University in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

After completing Nuclear Power School and Nuclear Prototype Training in 2018 in Charleston, South Carolina, Lieutenant Rogers completed his division officer tour from January 2019 to November 2021 aboard the fast attack submarine USS HELENA (SSN 725) in Norfolk, VA. He served as the Electrical, Main Propulsion and Damage Control Assistants, Communications Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, and Ship's Diving Officer. He is currently billeted as the Prospective Operations Officer aboard the USS OREGON (SSN 793).

Ashore, Lieutenant Rogers served as a Submarine Control Watch Officer and Staff Officer for COMSUB-NATO at the Allied Maritime Command in Northwood, UK from December 2021 to April 2024.

Lieutenant Rogers is a qualified Submarine Officer whose personal awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



# 249th Navy Ball



Tom,  
Sorry your patrol got extended  
and you couldn't make the ball.

We missed you.

P.S. Polly did a great job.

**BZ Polly**





# Columbus Day Parade







# SSN 799 USS IDAHO COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE

<https://ussidahocommittee.org/>



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



## Shipwright Shop

Here is the link to the customer photos.  
<https://requinbase.org/customer-photos/>



If you would like any of these items, contact Huey Dietrich or Frank Nicotra.  
You may also place your order for these and other items at a base meeting.



# Chaplain's Column

Greetings to all my fellow Requin Base shipmates, spouses, and associate members.

As always, I would like to ask everyone to keep those on the binnacle list in our thoughts and prayers this month.

Remember we are only as good as the information we get. If we don't know of a member passing, we cannot provide the appropriate honors for a fallen shipmate. If you know anyone who is sick or goes on eternal patrol, please give me a call at 724-485-2341 or email at [ebookmiller@comcast.net](mailto:ebookmiller@comcast.net). If you call and I don't answer, please leave a message. This is a land line phone so do not text this number.

If you wish to be placed on the binnacle list but do not want to disclose the specifics, I will maintain your confidentiality.

Eric Bookmiller



## 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.



## Eagle Scouts

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







## Say What???

**Box of Rocks** - Derogatory term for a sailor that has performed their work in an unsatisfactory manner.

**Bug Juice** - Kool-Aid-like beverage in dispensers on the messdecks. Before the turn of the century bug juice was also used as a replacement for cleaning agents to clean decks with. Still used for removing corrosion from brass fittings.



## Upcoming Events

### Meeting

Nov 09, 2024  
1230 hours

American Legion Post 641  
271 State St  
Baden PA 15005

### Base activities

- November 3 0830 Duffy memorial on USS Requin.
- November 9 Base meeting at American Legion Post 641 Baden
- November 11 Veterans Day Parade
- December 14 Base meeting at American Legion Post 641 Baden



## Membership

Primary Members	170	Holland Club	86	USSVI Life Members	83
Secondary Members	13	WWII	1	Base Life Members	66
Associate Members	19	Eternal Patrol	83	Joined Last Year	17
Total Members	202			Joined This Year	3



### New Members



**Go out and get new members.**







History	
<b>Namesake</b>	<u>Bowfin</u>
<b>Builder</b>	<u>Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine</u>
<b>Laid down</b>	23 July 1942
<b>Launched</b>	7 December 1942
<b>Sponsored by</b>	Mrs. Jane Gawne, wife of Captain James Gawne
<b>Commissioned</b>	1 May 1943
<b>Decommissioned</b>	12 February 1947
<b>Recommissioned</b>	27 July 1951
<b>Decommissioned</b>	22 April 1954
<b>Recommissioned</b>	10 January 1960
<b>Decommissioned</b>	1 December 1971
<b>Stricken</b>	1 December 1971
<b>Status</b>	<u>Museum ship in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii since 1 August 1979</u>



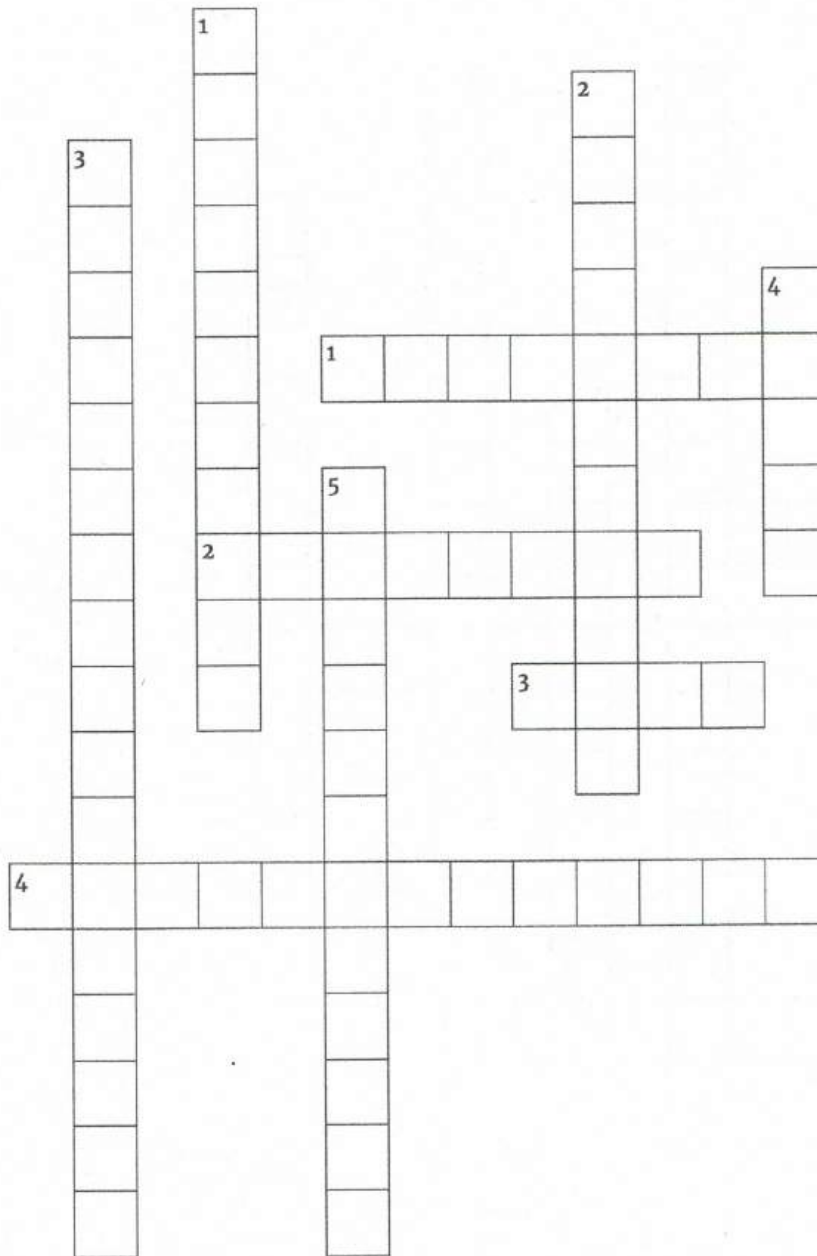
★ ★ ★ **SUBMARINE MUSEUM** ★ ★ ★

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

General characteristics	
<b>Class and type</b>	<u>Balao-class diesel-electric submarine</u> <sup>1</sup>
<b>Displacement</b>	1,526 <u>long tons</u> (1,550 t) surfaced 2,414 <u>long tons</u> (2,453 t) submerged
<b>Length</b>	311 ft 9 in (95.02 m)
<b>Beam</b>	27 ft 3 in (8.31 m)
<b>Draft</b>	16 ft 10 in (5.13 m) maximum
<b>Propulsion</b>	4 × <u>General Motors Model 16-248 V16 Diesel engines</u> driving <u>electric generators</u> 2 × <u>126-cell Sargo batteries</u> 4 × <u>high-speed General Electric electric motors</u> with <u>reduction gears</u> two propellers 5,400 <u>shp</u> (4.0 MW) surfaced 2,740 <u>shp</u> (2.0 MW) submerged
<b>Speed</b>	20.25 <u>knots</u> (37.50 km/h) surfaced 8.75 <u>knots</u> (16.21 km/h) submerged
<b>Range</b>	11,000 <u>nautical miles</u> (20,000 km) surfaced at 10 knots (19 km/h)
<b>Endurance</b>	48 hours at 2 knots (3.7 km/h) submerged 75 days on patrol
<b>Test depth</b>	400 feet (120 m)
<b>Complement</b>	10 officers, 70–71 enlisted
<b>Armament</b>	10 × <u>21-inch (533 mm) torpedo tubes</u> (six forward, four aft; 24 <u>torpedoes</u> ) one <u>4 in (100 mm)/50 caliber</u> deck gun one <u>40 mm (1.57 in) Bofors anti-aircraft</u> cannon two <u>.50 cal (12.7 mm) machineguns</u> <sup>[4]</sup>



# US Navy Crossword Puzzle 10



### ACROSS

- 1. Location Of The Us Navy's Headquarters
- 2. In Wooden Ships, What Is The Term Used For The Longest Seam Of The Ship That Runs From The Bow To The Stern?
- 3. G (Phonetic Alphabet)
- 4. The First Nuclear Carrier In The Fleet

### DOWN

- 1. Longest Continuous Battle That The Navy Has Participated In
- 2. The First Nuclear Submarine
- 3. Who Started Great Lakes Naval Station?
- 4. What Is Coming Alongside In The U.S Navy Signal Flags?
- 5. Who Was The First MCPON?

# USS MONITOR

A	M	M	Y	V	A	N	N	A	I	S	S	U	R	V
E	P	W	L	B	L	L	E	O	X	E	C	E	Y	F
U	J	P	V	R	N	H	V	L	X	E	E	B	L	H
X	A	T	S	D	A	O	Z	N	K	T	Y	E	E	A
B	K	E	L	H	V	V	R	T	R	V	G	K	G	A
F	E	A	N	W	A	E	J	O	J	U	P	S	I	T
V	F	K	Y	F	L	R	W	O	N	A	T	E	O	B
L	S	R	F	T	F	C	Z	V	F	E	P	R	N	J
I	R	A	W	D	L	R	O	W	N	N	E	B	A	E
A	D	W	W	U	E	A	R	O	U	H	X	E	R	W
Z	C	Q	J	W	E	F	R	O	U	R	P	G	Y	J
Z	N	D	G	F	T	T	E	I	M	Y	R	I	R	C
Q	L	P	O	U	N	V	F	B	M	R	Y	K	S	R
G	V	P	X	G	I	F	M	T	R	D	A	D	W	J
V	D	Z	I	Y	I	R	O	N	C	L	A	D	M	R

ADMIRALTY  
ARMOR  
HOVERCRAFT  
IRONCLAD

LEGIONARY  
NAVAL FLEET  
RUSSIAN NAVY  
WAR

WORLD WAR I

**10/02/1943**

A mine laid by USS Silversides (SS 236) four months earlier damages Imperial Japanese Navy mine-sweeper W 28 off Kavieng Bay, New Ireland, Bismarck.

**10/02/1944**

USS Pomfret (SS 391) attacks a Japanese convoy in Luzon Strait, sinking an army transport about 75 miles southeast of the southern tip of Formosa.

**10/06/1944**

USS Whale (SS 239) sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Akane Maru while under the escort of Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No. 21 west of Balintang Channel, Philippines. USS Seahorse (SS 304) then sinks Coast Defense Vessel No.21 as the ship is rescuing survivors from Akane Maru, 140 miles northwest of Cape Bojeador, Luzon.

**10/06/1958**

USS Seawolf (SSN 575) completes a record submerged run of 60 days, logging more than 13,700 nautical miles.

**10/07/1944**

USS Hawkbill (SS 366) and USS Baya (SS 318) attack a Japanese convoy and sink the Japanese cargo ship Kinugasa Maru about 400 miles west of Manila, while USS Cabrilla (SS 288) sinks Japanese transport No.8 Shinyo Maru off Vigan, Luzon.

**10/07/1944**

USS Greenling (SS 213) sinks the Japanese transport No 8 Kiri Maru and the merchant tanker Kotai Maru.

**10/07/2017**

The Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Washington (SSN 787) is commissioned in a ceremony at Naval Station Norfolk. Washington, named in honor of the 42nd state, is the 14th Virginia-class, fast-attack submarine to join the Navy's operational fleet.

**10/08/1943**

USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kashu Maru north-northwest of the Admiralty Islands while USS Gurnard (SS 254) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Taian Maru and transport ship Dainichi Maru off the northern tip of Luzon.

**10/09/1943**

USS Kingfish (SS 234) torpedoes and sinks Japanese oiler Hayamato in Sibitu Channel. Also on this date, USS Rasher (SS 269) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Kogane Maru 28 miles from Ambon, while USS Wahoo (SS 238) sinks Japanese cargo ship Hankow Maru off Oga Peninsula.

**10/10/1943**

USS Bonfish (SS 223) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Isuzugawa Maru and merchant transport Teibi Maru off Cam Ranh Bay, French Indochina.

**10/11/1944**

USS Tang (SS 306) sinks Japanese freighters Joshu Go and Oita Maru in the Formosa Strait. Also on this date, USS Trepang (SS 412), in an attack on a Japanese convoy south of Honshu, sinks landing ship T.105 about 105 miles southwest of Tokyo Bay.



**10/14/1942**

USS Greenling (SS 213) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Takusei Maru six miles off Todo Saki near the northern coast of Honshu and USS Sculpin (SS 191) sinks the Japanese army cargo ship Sumiyoshi Maru 75 miles southwest of Kavieng, New Ireland.

**10/14/1965**

The 1,200-nautical-mile range Polaris A-1 fleet ballistic missile is retired from service when submarine Abraham Lincoln (SSBN 602) returns to the United States for overhaul and refitting with 2,500-nautical-mile range Polaris A-3s.

**10/14/2023**

Virginia class submarine USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN 795) is commissioned in Groton, CT.

**10/15/1943**

USS Tullibee (SS 284) attacks a 10-ship Japanese convoy in Formosa Strait and sinks the transport Chicago Maru.

**10/16/1942**

USS Thresher (SS 200) mines the approaches to Bangkok, Thailand, the first US Navy submarine mine plant during World War II.

**10/17/1942**

USS Trigger (SS 237) sinks the Japanese freighter Holland Maru near the mouth of Bungo Strait off Kyushu, Japan. Lost in action with all hands later in the war, Trigger receives 11 battle stars for her World War II service and the Presidential Unit Citation for her fifth, sixth, and seventh war patrols.

**10/17/1943**

USS Tarpon (SS 175) sinks German auxiliary cruiser Michel (Schiffe No. 28) off Chichi Jima, Bonin Islands.

**10/18/1944**

USS Bluegill (SS 242) and USS Raton (SS 270) attack a Japanese convoy in the South China Sea. Bluegill sinks the army cargo ships Arabia Maru and Chinsei Maru and freighter Hakushika Maru. Raton sinks the army cargo ships Taikai Maru and Shiranesan Maru.

**10/20/1991**

USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) is commissioned at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, GA. It is the third U.S. Navy ship to be named for West Virginia, and the 11th of 18 Ohio-class submarines.

**10/21/1942**

USS Guardfish (SS 217) sinks Japanese freighter Nichiho Maru about 120 miles north-northeast of Formosa while USS Gudgeon (SS 211) attacks a Japanese convoy in the Bismarck Sea and sinks the transport Choko Maru.

**10/21/1989**

Los Angeles-class submarine USS Topeka (SSN 754) is commissioned at Groton, CT

**10/23/1942**

USS Kingfish (SS 234) sinks Japanese gunboat at the entrance to Kii Suido, Honshu, Japan.

**10/23/1961**

Submarine Ethan Allen (SSBN 608) makes the first underwater launch of a Polaris A-2 fleet ballistic missile. The Polaris soars 1,500 miles down the Atlantic Missile Range.

**10/23/2004**

USS Virginia (SSN 774) is commissioned at Naval Station Norfolk, Va., the sixth U.S. Navy ship named Virginia; she is the first of its submarine class.

**10/24/1944**

USS Shark (SS 314) is lost in the vicinity of Luzon Strait while participating in a coordinated attack by Task Group 17.15 with USS Seadragon (SS 194) and USS Blackfish (SS 221). Also, USS Richard M. Rowell (DD 403) sinks Japanese submarine I-54, 70 miles east of Surigao, and USS Tang (SS 306) is lost when she runs into her own torpedoes.

**10/25/2008**

Virginia class submarine USS New Hampshire (SSN 778) is commissioned at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine.

**10/25/2014**

Virginia class submarine USS North Dakota (SSN 784) is commissioned at Groton, Conn.

**10/26/1944**

Three U.S. Navy submarines sink a number of Japanese vessels: USS Drum (SS 228) sinks freighter Taishu Maru, cargo ship Taihaku Maru and damages transports Aoki Maru and Tatsura Maru; USS Icefish (SS 367) sinks freighter Taiyo Maru and USS Rock (SS 274) sinks Takasago Maru.

**10/26/1963**

USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN 619) launches the first Polaris A-3 missile while cruising submerged 20 miles off Cape Canaveral, Fla.

**10/29/2011**

Virginia class submarine USS California (SSN 781) is commissioned at Norfolk, Va.





## Navy Awards GD Electric Boat \$1.28B in Contracts While Service Continues Sub Negotiations

Mallory Shelbourne October 10, 2024

<https://news.usni.org/2024/10/10/navy-awards-gd-electric-boat-1-28b-in-contracts-while-service-continues-sub-negotiations>



*A Virginia-class under construction at General Dynamic Electric Boat. EB Photo*

The Navy this week issued General Dynamics Electric Boat two contract modifications worth \$1.28 billion to keep submarine suppliers operating while the service and the shipyard continue contract negotiations for 17 planned submarines.

The service issued two separate contract modifications on Oct. 8 – one for \$878 million for future USS *Baltimore* (SSN-812) and SSN-813, both Block V Virginia-class attack submarines, and another \$350 million for long lead materials for Block VI Virginia-class boats.

“The material being procured for the two SSNs include items such as valves, pumps, castings, forgings among other items that are required in the construction of the submarines,” Naval Sea Systems Command spokesperson Jamie Koehler told USNI News in a statement.



Both modifications will bolster the “furtherance of the Navy’s commitment to the health and stability of the industrial base,” according to the Oct. 8 contract announcements. The goal of the contract is to keep critical submarine suppliers operational and solvent while the Navy and EB continue to negotiate the contract for the two submarines, a source familiar with the underlying reason for the contract modification told USNI News.

Asked to explain this language, NAVSEA said in a statement: “The Navy is committed to the health of the industrial base and providing stable demand is one manner to do so. This contract modification supports that demand signal and continues the Navy’s commitment to improving the health of the industrial base through continued procurement efforts.”

The awards come as the Navy and General Dynamics struggled to reach a deal for 17 planned submarines: the two Block V Virginias that the service is purchasing as Fiscal Year 2024 boats and multi-year procurement contracts for ten Block VI Virginia-class attack boats and five Build II Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines.

The ongoing negotiations for the 17 submarines comes as the Navy proposed a new funding proposal called Shipyard Accountability and Workforce Support (SAWS) for the FY 2024 Block V Virginia boats. That proposal could allow the service to pull money forward for submarines not yet on contract so HII Newport News Shipbuilding and Electric Boat could increase the labor wages for shipyard workers, [USNI News previously reported](#).

Labor shortages and rising costs have been a problem for the Navy’s submarine programs since the COVID-19 pandemic. Building costs for submarines have gone up 20 percent since early 2020, USNI News understands.

Under the SAWS proposal, the Navy could separate payments to different parts of the submarine workforce, allowed the shipbuilder to have more flexibility in how it pays laborers. The proposal would create a pool of funding to pay crane operators and supervisors who work throughout the yard, while the costs to pay welders and pipe fitters would be attached to each submarine hull.

The White House Office of Management and Budget rejected the proposal, which received some support from congressional authorizers. Congressional appropriators are more skeptical of the proposal.

Cost increases on the FY 2024 boats, mostly due to increased labor wages, led the White House to ask for another [\\$1.95 billion](#) for SSN-812 and SSN-813, which are not part of a previous Block V multi-year deal. That request did not make it into the current continuing resolution Congress passed to fund the government into Fiscal Year 2025.

One of the FY 2024 Block V Virginia-class attack boats is a specialized submarine for seabed warfare, while the other will be a standard Block V boat with the Virginia Payload Module.

# Congress to Investigate Faulty Sub, Carrier Welding at Newport News

Sam LaGrone September 26, 2024

<https://news.usni.org/2024/09/27/lawmakers-announce-investigation-into-faulty-submarine-carrier-welding-at-newport-news-shipbuilding-ships-affected-in-low-single-digits-officials-say>



THE PENTAGON – The House Armed Services Committee is investigating substandard welding on submarines and aircraft carriers at Newport News Shipbuilding, the committee announced on Friday.

Following a Thursday report in USNI News, lawmakers are now looking into how shipbuilders at the Virginia yard had violated proper welding procedures on work that made it into current in-service submarines. The flawed work was found by quality assurance teams at Newport News Shipbuilding, which has led to a wider investigation into welding quality that's prompted a notification to the Department of Justice, USNI News reported.

"It is deeply concerning to learn that faulty welds may have been knowingly made to U.S. Navy submarines and aircraft carriers. The House Armed Services Committee is investigating how this occurred. The safety of our sailors is our top concern, and we need to immediately understand any risks associated with the faulty work," reads the statement from HASC chair Rep Mike Rogers (R-Ala.), ranking member Rep Adam

Smith (D-Wash.) and House Armed Services seapower and projection forces subcommittee leaders Rep. Trent Kelly (R-Miss.) and Rep. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.).

“The Department of Defense needs to immediately provide our committee with answers and a plan for how they will protect U.S. Navy vessels against tampering. Absolute transparency with Congress is essential.”

The Congressional query comes as the Navy and shipbuilder HII are gauging the scope of the ships that were affected overall. The number of in-service Virginia-class submarines that have been affected are in the “low single digits” and an ongoing analysis of under-construction Virginia, Columbia-class submarines and Ford-class aircraft carriers could stretch into October, a defense official told USNI News on Friday.

Earlier this year, quality assurance teams at Newport News discovered the sub-standard welds and reported the violations in procedure to both the Navy and the Department of Justice, according to a Friday statement on LinkedIn by Newport News president Jennifer Boykin.

“We recently discovered that the quality of certain welds on submarines and aircraft carriers under construction here at NNS do not meet our high-quality standards. Most concerning is that some of the welds in question were made by welders who knowingly violated weld procedures.” she wrote.

“We immediately put together a team made up of both internal and independent engineering and quality subject matter experts to determine the root causes, bound the issue and put in place immediate short-term corrective actions as we work through longer-term solutions.”

Boykin went on to say HII notified both the Navy and the Department of Justice on the sub-standard work.

In a Tuesday internal memo to senior Navy leaders, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition Nickolas Guertin said the intentional nature of the procedure violations prompted HII to call the DoJ. Parts of that memo began circulating on social media prompting accusations of purposeful sabotage of the ships by workers, which several sources told USNI News, independent of Newport News, was not accurate and that there was no evidence of malicious intent from the shipyard workers.

In a separate statement to USNI News, HII said that while the shipyard workers had violated the welding rules, they did not have “malicious intent” to damage the submarines or aircraft carriers they were working on.

“We discovered through internal reporting that some welders knowingly circumvented certain welding procedures. Based on our initial investigation, there is no indication of malicious intent,” reads the statement. “We do not tolerate any conduct that compromises our company’s values and our mission of delivering ships that safeguard our nation and its sailors.”

Neither HII nor the Navy have said when the initial faulty work was discovered.

While the assessment of the overall welds on the ships under construction could extend into next month, the Navy and HII now have the tedious task of reinspecting the welds and determining solutions.

Twice in the 2000s, the Navy mounted separate investigations into suspicious welds into then Northrop Grumman-managed Newport News Shipbuilding. In 2007, the Navy found welders used the wrong filler material in non-nuclear pipping on Virginia submarines. In 2009, the Navy had to reinspect the welds on nine submarines and four aircraft carriers after a shipyard inspector admitted to falsifying inspection reports, [\*according to The Virginian Pilot\*](#).

The inspections can involve analyzing welds that are difficult to reach throughout a submarine or aircraft carrier. The subsequent weld checks after the 2009 investigation took years, USNI News understands.



# SECNAV Del Toro is ‘Evaluating All Legal Options’ Over Suspected Faulty Welds at Newport News Shipbuilding

Sam LaGrone October 3, 2024

<https://news.usni.org/2024/10/04/secnav-del-toro-is-evaluating-all-legal-options-over-suspected-faulty-welds-at-newport-news-shipbuilding>



Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro greets sailors aboard the Ford-class aircraft carrier Pre-Commissioning Unit John F. Kennedy (CVN-79) on Aug. 28, 2024. US Navy Photo

Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro told the House Armed Services Committee that “the Navy is evaluating all legal options” over suspected faulty welds on three in-service ships and 23 ships yet-to-be delivered at HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding, according to an Oct. 3 letter obtained by USNI News.

Additionally Del Toro told the committee that “this matter has been referred to the Department of Justice to investigate any potential claims for breach of contract or false claims.” *Navy Times* first reported on the message from Del Toro on Friday.

HII referred USNI News to the Department of Justice when asked about a potential investigation.

The letter came the same day as a [HASC request this week](#) to Del Toro to provide the committee more information about several welds on aircraft carriers and Virginia-class and Columbia-class submarines that were made by shipyard workers at HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding who did not follow proper procedures.

“NNS reports that the issues involve welders who did not follow welding procedures properly ... As of today, the Navy has identified three in-service ships that are affected by this welding deficiency: USS *George Washington* (CVN-73), USS *Hyman G. Rickover* (SSN-795) and USS *New Jersey* (SSN-796),” wrote Del Toro.

“Naval Sea Systems Command has assessed that the welds were not components or systems that affect ship safety or operations. NAVSEA ... has determined the ships are safe to operate.”

In addition to the two Virginia-class attack boats and *George Washington*, Del Toro said NAVSEA is in the process of evaluating welds on a combination of 23 new construction ships and aircraft carriers during their mid-life refueling and overhaul, with a goal of completing the assessment by mid-October.

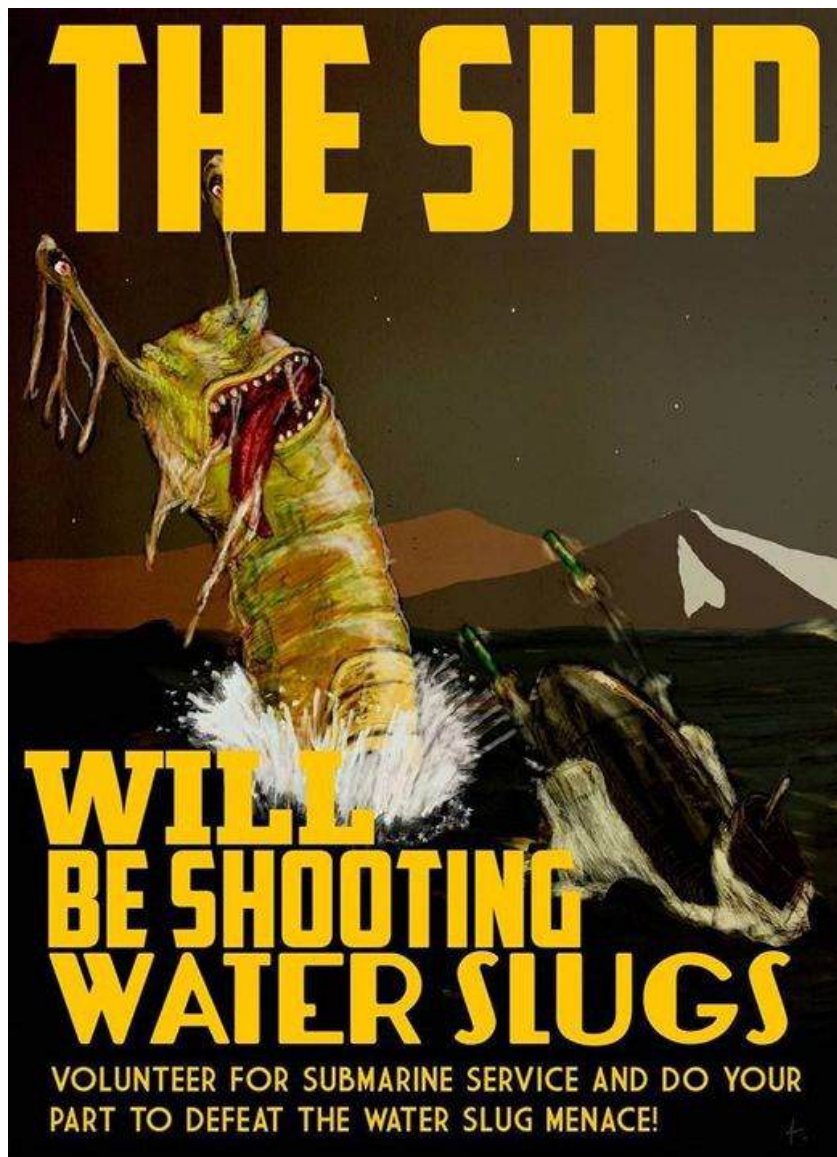
Del Toro said he was initially informed of the suspected faulty welds on Sept. 24.

Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition Nickolas Guertin wrote in a Sept. 24 memo to Del Toro and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa Franchetti that the nature of the procedural violations prompted HII to notify the Department of Justice. It’s unclear when HII initially discovered the problems and reported them to the Navy.

In a statement earlier this week, HII told USNI News that “upon discovery of some welders not consistently following procedures we followed our protocol and took action to communicate with our customers and regulators in a timely manner and began working the issue with the Navy.”

Del Toro has ordered additional inspections and said that the shipyard is increasing training for welders.

“While I am deeply disappointed about this failure to uphold quality on the part of the shipyard as required by contract, my top priority is ensuring the safety of our sailors and platforms and communicating transparently with the Congress and the American people,” he wrote.





# Hicks Named Sponsor of Newly Named Nuclear Submarine

C. Todd Lopez 09/20/2024

<https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3913231/hicks-named-sponsor-of-newly-named-nuclear-submarine/>

The Navy today revealed that its next Virginia-class, nuclear-powered submarine, SSN-812, will be called the USS Baltimore. The service also announced that Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen Hicks would serve as the vessel's sponsor.



During a naming ceremony today aboard the historic USS Constellation, a Navy warship built in 1854 that now serves as a museum ship in Baltimore Harbor, Carlos Del Toro, the secretary of the Navy, announced the name of the new submarine and that Hicks would serve as sponsor once it was constructed.

"The ship's sponsor fills a critical role throughout the life of a warship, serving as the bond between the ship, her crew and the nation they serve," Del Toro said. "I can think of no one more fitting to take on this vital role, no one with more resilience and grit and whose spirit embodies that of Baltimore than Deputy [Defense] Secretary Hicks."

Growing up in a Navy family, Hicks was exposed to the world of submarines early on. Her father, retired Rear Adm. William J. Holland, was a submariner who served on a variety of nuclear-powered submarines.

"Like all prospective nuclear submariners in those days, he was personally interviewed by [Navy] Adm. [Hyman G.] Rickover, the father of the nuclear navy," Hicks said. "Throughout [his] career, the submarine community was more than just his professional home. It was a family support system; one in which my mother, Anne Holland, was a leader. One that played an important role for me and my six older brothers and sisters. It was the community I was born into."



Hicks said her family history would play an important role in her responsibility as the USS Baltimore sponsor.

"As sponsor of the future USS Baltimore, SSN-812, I will continue to carry on our family's legacy of service and commitment to the submarine force," she said.

The USS Baltimore, not yet constructed, will be a Block V, Virginia-class, nuclear-powered submarine. So far, more than 20 Virginia-class submarines have been constructed and are now home-ported with the Navy in Hawaii, Connecticut, and Virginia. The new subs replace retiring Los Angeles-class submarines and include several innovations that enhance warfighting capabilities.

According to a U.S. Navy fact sheet, the Virginia-class submarine has special features to support special operations forces, including a reconfigurable torpedo room that can accommodate a large number of personnel and their equipment. Also, in the Virginia-class, traditional periscopes have been replaced with photonics masts that host visible and infrared digital cameras atop telescoping arms. With this change, the submarine's control room has been moved and now provides more space and an improved layout.

"When Baltimore joins the fleet with a world-class crew, it will be among the most agile, lethal, resilient and capable conventional nuclear-powered submarines we've ever made," Hicks said. "The Baltimore belongs to a continuously modernized class of attack submarines that are not only larger, more powerful, and more lethal, [but] they also run quieter, deeper and faster."

Hicks described the new Virginia-class subs as a "Swiss Army knife of naval capabilities" and said they support anti-surface and strike missions, anti-submarine warfare and special operations capabilities. She also said they provide more inputs into multi-domain awareness, are interoperable with U.S. ally and partner forces, and are built to be upgraded with future technology and capability.





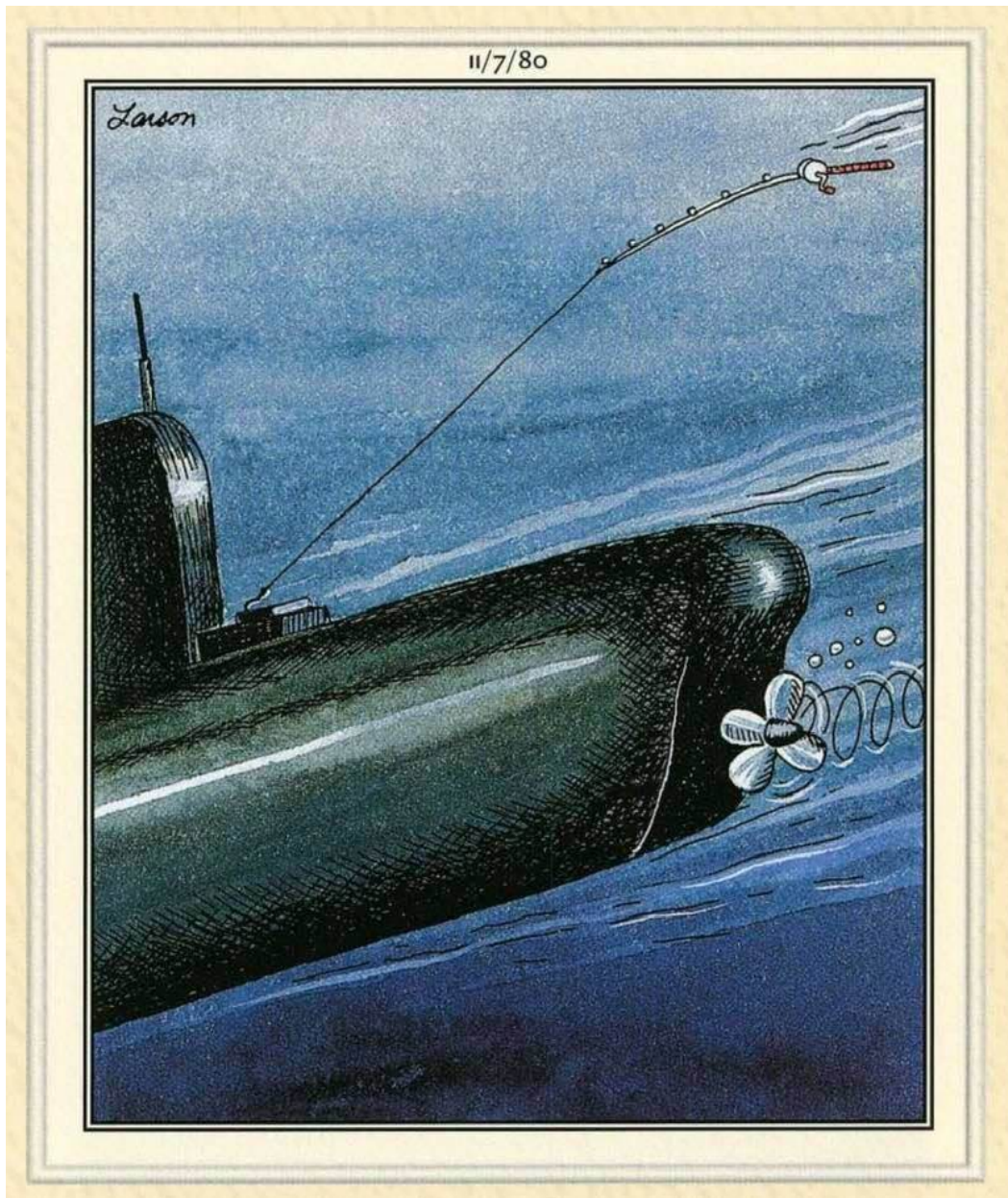
The biggest asset of the USS Baltimore and other Virginia-class subs, she said, will be their deterrence capability.

"Like all of our submarines, conventional and otherwise, we build them not to provoke war, but rather to prevent wars through deterrence," she said. "Whenever our would-be adversaries consider the risks of aggression, sometimes they will see the 'big stick' of U.S. and allied military assets, like the USS Theodore Roosevelt and our other aircraft carriers. They certainly send a signal and have the firepower to back it up."

Other times, she said, it's not necessary to put that kind of capability on display; it's enough that adversaries know it exists.

"[The] USS Baltimore — with its stealth, endurance, lethality and speed — will be just such an asset, part of our unseen advantage," Hicks said. "And the only thing the adversary will hear is the sound of silence."

The USS Baltimore will be a Block V submarine equipped with the Virginia payload module. It will be 461 feet long, have a displacement of 10,200 tons, a speed of greater than 25 knots, and carry a crew of 132. With the Virginia payload module, the USS Baltimore will incorporate four additional large-diameter payload tubes, each capable of carrying seven Tomahawk cruise missiles.





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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/>



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