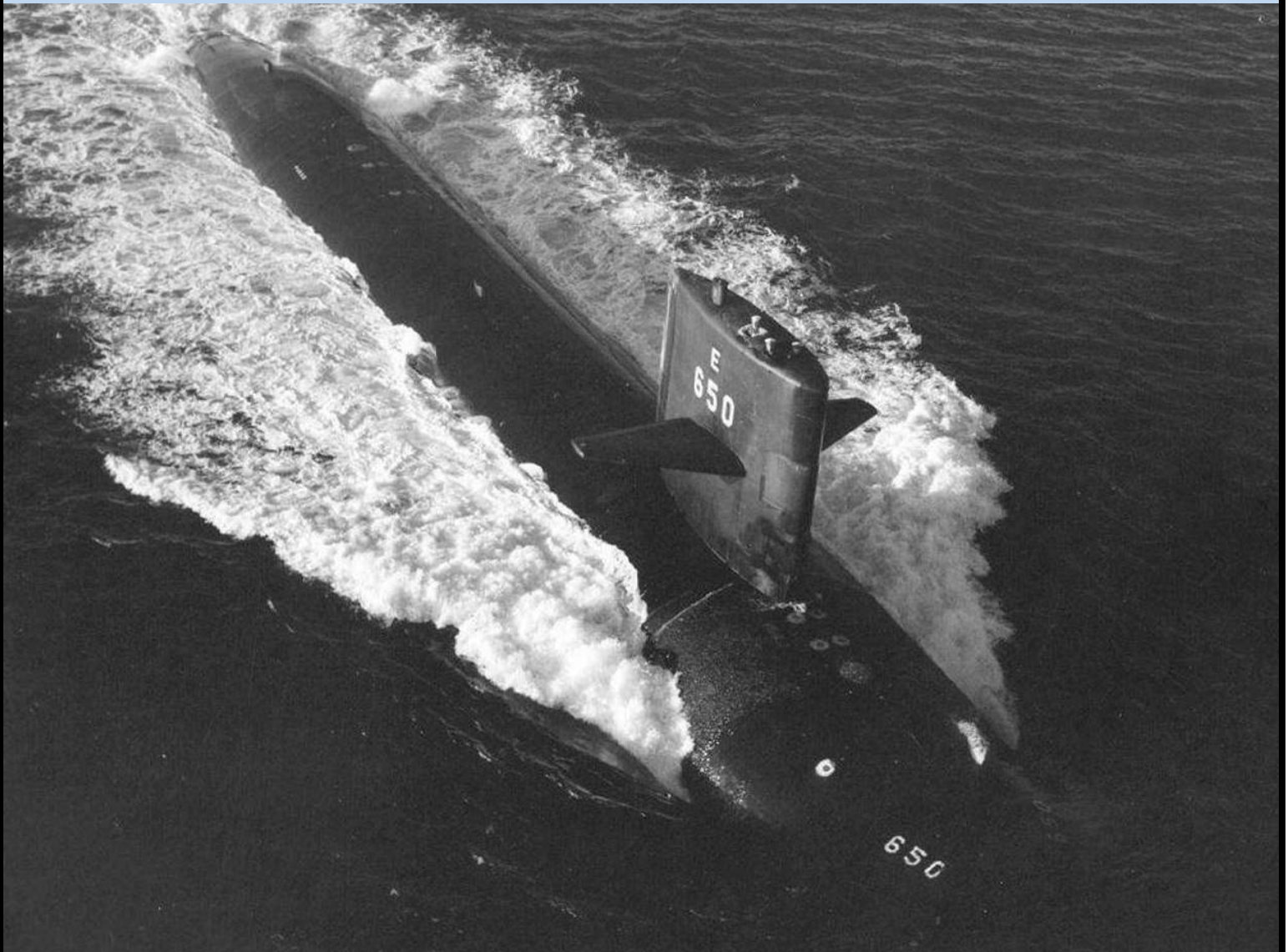


Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



USS Pargo SSN-650



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

January 18, 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

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



USS Requin Base Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	eMail
Base Commander	Hubert C. Dietrich	412-486-2635	hueyfromglenshaw@aol.com
1st Vice Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi654@comcast.net
2nd Vice Commander	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	mastersoncf@aol.com
Secretary	Jeff Simon	920-217-8633	jeffsimon@zoominternet.net
Treasurer	Lee M. Bookwalter	412-795-8337	booky143@verizon.net
Storekeeper	Frank Nicotra	412-835-6540	nicotrafrank@gmail.com
Chaplain	Eric Bookmiller	724-485-2341	ebookmiller@comcast.net
Past Base Commander	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi654@comcast.net
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Photographer	Rick Flaugh	412-779-0497	flaughre@comcast.net
Holland Club Chairman	Joe Campisi	412-322-3201	jcampisi654@comcast.net
Asst. Holland Club	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	dgdiving@gmail.com
Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	itgeek8088@gmail.com
Eagle Scout Chair	John Held	724-331-2479	petecompost@aol.com
Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	dgdiving@gmail.com
Master at Arms	Chuck "Bat" Masterson	724-869-1938	mastersoncf@aol.com
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	rredde@gmail.com



Tolling of the Boats for December

USS Capelin (SS-289)

Lost on Dec 2, 1943 with the loss of 76 men. She was on her 1st war patrol, but her exact location, date and cause of loss remain a mystery. She may have been lost to mines or an operational casualty.

USS Sealion (SS-195)

Lost on Dec 10, 1941 with the loss of 4 men. To prevent her from falling into enemy hands, she was scuttled in Manila Bay after incurring severe bomb damage during the initial Japanese attack. One other Sealion man was later captured and died in POW camp.

USS F-1 / Carp (SS-20)

Lost on December 17, 1917 with the loss of 19 officers and men when it was sunk after collision with the USS F-3 (Pickrel(SS-22)) off San Clemente, CA.

USS S-4 (SS-109)

Lost on December 17, 1927 with the loss of 40 officers and men when it was sunk after being rammed by USCG Paulding. Salvaged in 1928 and recommissioned.



Submarines commissioned during the month of December

B-3 SS-12	12/3/1907	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Connecticut SSN-22	12/11/1998	Wikipedia	NavSource	
H-1 SS-28	12/1/1913	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
H-2 SS-29	12/1/1913	Wikipedia	NavSource	
K-7 SS-38	12/1/1914	Wikipedia	NavSource	
K-8 SS-39	12/1/1914	Wikipedia	NavSource	
L-6 SS-45	12/7/1917	Wikipedia	NavSource	
L-7 SS-46	12/7/1917	Wikipedia	NavSource	
T-3 SS-61	12/7/1920	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-1 SS-78	12/16/1918	Wikipedia	NavSource	
R-14 SS-91	12/24/1919	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-16 SS-121	12/17/1920	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-28 SS-133	12/13/1923	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
S-43 SS-154	12/31/1924	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cachalot SS-170	12/1/1933	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pike SS-173	12/2/1935	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Snapper SS-185	12/15/1937	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Seawolf SS-197	12/1/1939	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Gato SS-212	12/31/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Flying Fish SS-229	12/10/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Silversides SS-236	12/15/1941	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Gabilan SS-252	12/28/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Harder SS-257	12/2/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Hoe SS-258	12/16/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Steelhead SS-280	12/7/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Manta SS-299	12/18/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Sablefish SS-303	12/18/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Tilefish SS-307	12/15/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bullhead SS-332	12/4/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Bumper SS-333	12/9/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cabazon SS-334	12/30/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Dentuda SS-335	12/30/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cubera SS-347	12/19/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Guavina SS-362	12/23/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Lizardfish SS-373	12/30/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Bang SS-385	12/4/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pilotfish SS-386	12/16/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Toro SS-422	12/8/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Torsk SS-423	12/16/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Quillback SS-424	12/29/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Albacore AGSS-569	12/6/1953	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Skate SSN-578	12/23/1957	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Seadragon SSN-584	12/5/1959	Wikipedia	NavSource	

George Washington SSBN-598	12/30/1959	Wikipedia	NavSource
Haddo SSN-604	12/16/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
Guardfish SSN-612	12/20/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
Haddock SSN-621	12/22/1967	Wikipedia	NavSource
James Monroe SSBN-622	12/7/1963	Wikipedia	NavSource
Woodrow Wilson SSBN-624	12/27/1963	Wikipedia	NavSource
Sam Rayburn SSBN-635	12/2/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
Nathanael Greene SSBN-636	12/19/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource
Kamehameha SSBN-642	12/10/1965	Wikipedia	NavSource
Lewis and Clark SSBN-644	12/22/1965	Wikipedia	NavSource
Queenfish SSN-651	12/6/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
Francis Scott Key SSBN-657	12/3/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
Mariano G. Vallejo SSBN-658	12/16/1966	Wikipedia	NavSource
Lapon SSN-661	12/14/1967	Wikipedia	NavSource
Gurnard SSN-662	12/6/1968	Wikipedia	NavSource
Archerfish SSN-678	12/17/1971	Wikipedia	NavSource
Glenard P. Lipscomb SSN-685	12/21/1974	Wikipedia	NavSource
Memphis SSN-691	12/17/1977	Wikipedia	NavSource
Birmingham SSN-695	12/16/1978	Wikipedia	NavSource
Phoenix SSN-702	12/19/1981	Wikipedia	NavSource
Tennessee SSBN-734	12/17/1988	Wikipedia	NavSource
Hartford SSN-768	12/10/1994	Wikipedia	NavSource





Binnacle List

Eternal Patrol

In Remembrance

Ron Weaver
 John Swords
 Bat Masterson
 Mary Jane Derr
 Judith Underkoffler



James St Clair	EN2 (SS)	12/12/2022
David J. Chatlos	LT	12/17/2017
George W. Denny	CS2(SS)	12/19/2015
Robert J. LaLonde	LT	12/19/2014
Clyde "Chip" Porter Jr.	MM2 (SS)	12/22/2020
Calvin G. Boring	ENC(SS)	12/23/2009
Henry W Colling	EN3(SS)	12/24/2012
Donald E. Robbins	MMCM(SS)	12/24/2005
Jack E. Schneider	ETCS(SS)	12/28/2011
Wilfred C. Carlton	RMC(SS)	12/29/2016

<https://requinbase.org/eternal-patrol/>

Birthdays

Member

Spouse

Anniversaries

Arthur Kalimon	1/1	Kelly McKinney	1/5	Kim & Robert Bittner	1/6
John Held	1/3	Nicole LaPietra Cowher	1/6	Lynn & Robert Gourley	1/8
Larry Iden	1/5	Cynthia Weaver	1/7	Susan & John Sutherin	1/8
Daniel Phelps	1/6	Joan Hughes	1/8	Gosia & Carl Humes	1/18
Andrew McGovern	1/7	Barbara Farina	1/9	Margaret & Willard Ashmore	1/19
Robert Moore	1/8	Sandra Morgan	1/10	Margie & Eric Bookmiller	1/19
Jeffrey Iliff	1/9	Michelle Deichler	1/14	Rita Ann & Arthur Kalimon	1/20
Jess Coker	1/13	Tina M. Siege	1/15	Patricia & Frederick Nelson	1/26
Robert Clark	1/14	Sheila McCullough	1/19	Diana & David Howton	1/27
Herbert Wise	1/14	Julie May May	1/31	Karen & Richard Keys	1/29
Michael Markel	1/15				
Robert J. Schmidt	1/15				
James Phelan	1/20				
Aubrey Smith	1/20				
Robert Meyers	1/21				
Thomas Strang	1/21				
Brian Siege	1/23				
Emmett Lowry	1/24				
Angelo Naso	1/27				
Frederick Nelson	1/29				
John Algee	1/31				





HAPPY HOLIDAY'S

Our base meeting was a great success, in spite of a computer glitch. Over fifty members did not receive the meeting notice! It was kicked back to us after three days being sent out. It seems the base members, who are on COMCAST did not receive it. We attempted to send them another message! I always say dot your I's and cross your tee's!

George Brown and his first mate Cindy set up the meeting room and decorated in a Christmas spirit! Thanks to all who put the meeting room back in order!

Special thanks to Pelligrino for his wonderful cake and desserts, along with Edie and first mates, who really made it special.

Our veteran quilt of valor winner was Lea Bookwalter. Our male-female grab bags sure did make everyone very happy with their gift exchange. Here is the break down of our due's dinks for 2025 - Aux 1, Pa 11, Out of Pa 8 & Calendars 7.

Of the 20 DINKS — four have notified me that the check is in the mail. We have received 183 members which makes us the fifth largest base in the USSVI. Shipmates, if you are having financial issues, please reach out to me. We have members who have offered to help any member who needs any assistance.

Our Board of Directors for 2025 is as follows: Commander, Lou Hamill, 1st Vice Commander, Vince Metz, 2nd Vice Commander, George Brown, Secretary, Jeff Simon and Treasurer, Lee Bookwalter. Anyone interested to attend the USS Texas-change of command- contact Lou Hamill. Andy McGovern, Requin Base Member, will be taking command.

Our January base meeting has been moved to the 3rd Saturday because of the change of command ceremony. Please read the attached letters- The Wall that heals- Mark Duffy — Eagle Scouts — Charitable Foundation!

Shipmates — let me share with you my last comments at our Base Meeting — To the Base Officers stepping down — I thank you for your service, hard work and dedication to your shipmates of the Requin Base! To the Officers stepping up — thank you for wanting to serve your shipmates of the Requin. I thank the base officers who worked and supported me over the last 15 years and mostly to all my shipmates who I proudly say "BRAVO ZULU"

THE WALL THAT HEALS

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL REPLICA



Coming to Shaler Township - Anderson Field
Friday, May 23 - Monday, May 26, 2025

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund - vvmf.org/The-Wall-That-Heals/

At Saint Matthew Parish in Etna, Pennsylvania on December 10th, there was a Court of Honor for Troop 173.

The two new Eagle Scouts are, left to right: Pierce B. Osterholm and Luca A. Zgurzynski.



Mark Duffy

HD

603-781-1227
Duffy8043@roadrunner.com
405 Brackett Rd., Sanbornville NH 03872

To

Huey Dietrich
USS Requin Base
213 Andrew Drive Glenshaw, PA 15116

Dear Huey,

Please distribute the thank you letters to your members that attended my dad's memorial. Tammy & I were overwhelmed with the attendance and care you all put towards making this possible. You went above and beyond, I am forever in your debt for taking charge and leading this through to the end. My family was very happy to see the picture of the group on the sub with his picture and cross.

I don't know how often you see Marie but put a thank you in with your members. I put two coins in hers knowing she has a caretaker that may appreciate one also. If I have missed anyone that was there or had anything to do with this let me know. I don't want to miss a thank you for this gracious and thoughtful event.

I felt Dad there, my eyes were wet but filled with joy that I could do this for him. He was the one that had tears in his eyes talking with Captain Slade Cutter because they did not go on a war patrol. Being on the Requin through its lay down, launching and preparation along the way to Peral Harbor. I am sure he was stoked and proud to be part of a cause and serve his country in a time of need. Well, his wife and family were glad he made it home, because none of us might be here today. Kind of ironic that my Air Force days long past, I now work for and service the United States Submarine Force at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Dad was never around to know that. He would be proud but sure he is smiling in heaven.

Thank You Huey for your service then and now, keeping us all together to support the Submarine Force of yesterday and today!

Mark Duffy



November 22nd, 2024



13757 Trentino St.
Venice, FL 34293

USSVI Requin Base
2291 Chapparral Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15239

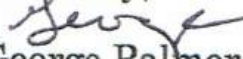
Dear Requin Base Shipmates,

Your generous donation to the Charitable Foundation's Scholarship Fund will find its way to help a deserving and qualified young scholar following the upcoming scholarship selections. Just this past year we were able to help 59 applicants with grants of \$2,200 to help reduce the costs of their educations. That was the largest group and the highest monetary awards in the twenty-five-year history of the Foundation.

Hopefully the example you have set with your munificence will inspire other bases to follow suit and dig deep for these deserving young scholars. In the meantime, Requin Base takes the top slot on our leader board.

As a token of our thanks, I am enclosing a USSV Charitable Foundation patch in the hope that you will pass it around during your next base meeting. I'm told that the luck in it will rub off on each of you. Again, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,


George Palmer

VP-ED
USSV Charitable Foundation
www.ussvcf.org



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.

December 14, 2024
American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA

Commander Huey Dietrich called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Able Martin, Willard Ashmore, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, George & Cindy Brown, Ron Campbell, Joe & Jill Campisi, Joe Capito, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Rick Flaugh, Dick & Beverly Geyer, Bob & Lynn Gourley, David Halliday, Jean Lemieux, Bill & Sandy Lindsey, Jude Meyers, Frank Nicotra, Mike Pellegrino, Ed Perlowitz, Jim & Sondra Schwartz, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Chuck Shrump.

Base Commander Huey Dietrich: Quotes of the day: “A ship is always referred to as ‘SHE’ because it cost so much to keep one in paint and powder.”

Requin History On December 1, 1948, the USS Requin left shipyard with new radar equipment and reported to New London CT for duty in Submarine Squadron 8. On December 3, 1968, USS Requin was decommissioned and on December 20, 1971, USS Requin was struck from the Navy Register.

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 CAPELIN (SS 289) December 2, 1943
- USS SEALION (SS 195) December 10, 1941
- USS F-1 (SS 20) December 17, 1917
- USS S-4 (SS 109) December 17, 1927

Let us also remember our fellow shipmates of the Requin Base, Calvin Boring, Wilfred Carlton, David Chatlos, Henry Colling, George Denny, Robert LaLonde, Clyde Porter, Donald Robbins, Jack Schneider and James St. Clair who were lost in December. 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.

Chaplain Eric Bookmiller gave the Invocation.

Secretary Jeff Simon lead the Pledge Of Allegiance

Members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

Binnacle List: Mary Jane Derr, Ron Weaver, John Swords, Bat Masterson, Judith Underkoffler.

Motion to suspend normal business of the Base was approved by the members present.

Electric Boat is looking for submarine veterans having knowledge or operating experience for diesel snorkels used for both induction and exhaust. See Eric Bookmiller for details.

Change of Command for USS Texas will be held on January 11, 2025. Those interested in attending should contact Lou Hamill.

Due to conflict with USS Texas change of command, the Base meeting for January is being moved to January 18.

Vietnam Wall That Heals will be on display in Shaler PA on May 23-26, 2025. Our Nautilus float may also be in attendance.

Thank You letter from the family of Mark Duffy was read.

Closing remarks from Huey Deitrich

Court of Honor was held in Etna

Letter from USSVI National was read regarding the Base's donation to the Charitable Foundation.

The following nominees for 2025 Base Officers were approved by the members present:

Commander: Lou Hamill

First Vice Commander: Jim Metz

Second Vice Commander: George Brown

Secretary: Jeff Simon

Treasurer: Lee Bookwalter

Christmas 40-40-20 raffle for the year was won by Joe Capito.

Chaplain Eric Bookmiller gave the Benediction and blessing of today's meal.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: American Legion Post 641, Baden, PA, January 18, 2024, at 1230 hours.





LT Will Kinsley was born and raised in Littleton, CO and proceeded out of state to attend college at Auburn University on a NROTC Scholarship. Graduating in 2017 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, he commissioned and reported to NNPTC at the end of the same year. After completing the nuclear officer training pipeline, he reported to the USS Louisville (SSN 724) in early 2019 and completed her home port shift and decommissioning as the RCA and CRA. During this time, he rode the USS Connecticut (SSN 22) for ICEX 2020 and completion of his submarine qualification. He spilt-toured to USS Oklahoma City (SSN 723) out of Guam at the completion of Lady Lou's decommissioning in 2021, relieving as the AWEPS prior to OKCs final WEST-PAC deployment.

LT Kinsley transferred off OKC following her home port shift to Bremerton for decommissioning and reported to NAVSUBSCOL as a Tactics Instructor in early 2022. After two years as an instructor, he switched from behind the podium to in front of it as a SOAC student. Upon completion of SOAC, he has orders to relieve as WEPS onboard USS Virginia (SSN 774).

In the "Believe it or Not" category, LT Will Kinsley is the husband of LT Megan Kinsley who was the first recipient of the Mush Morton award. LT Will Kinsley worked with CDR Andy McGovern and USS Requin base in the development of the Mush Morton Award. To add an additional twist of crazy, Will be relieving his wife as Weps on the USS Virginia.

Congratulations Will.



Congratulations Pierce and Luca

Left to Right: Pierce B. Osterholm and Luca A. Zgurzynski.



<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. 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>



Congratulations

Troop 173

Pierce B. Osterholm

Luca A. Zgurzynski





Say What???

“Works fine, fails safe, drains to the bilge” – A general phrase normally used when describing when a piece of equipment is repaired and put back in operation. Many variations exists.

“You have a green card. You will be there.” One of the most hated phrases meaning that you have a Navy identification card, are the Navy’s property and you will be here no matter whether you had plans scheduled already.



Upcoming Events

Meeting

January 18, 2025
1230 hours

American Legion Post 641
271 State St
Baden PA 15005

Base activities

January 04

USS Requin Base Annual Board Meeting
All members invited
12:30 PM Baden American Legion

January 10

Change of Command USS Texas SSN-775
Contact Lou Hamill for additional Information



Membership

Primary Members	170	Holland Club	85	USSVI Life Members	83
Secondary Members	13	WWII	1	Base Life Members	70
Associate Members	20	Eternal Patrol	84	Joined Last Year	7
Total Members	203			Joined This Year	5



New Members

Mark Duffy (Associate Member) son of Peter Duffy who qualified on the USS Requin SS-481. Mark lives in Sanbornville New Hampshire with first mate Tammy. Please e-mail Mark and welcome him aboard - duffy8043@roadrunner.com

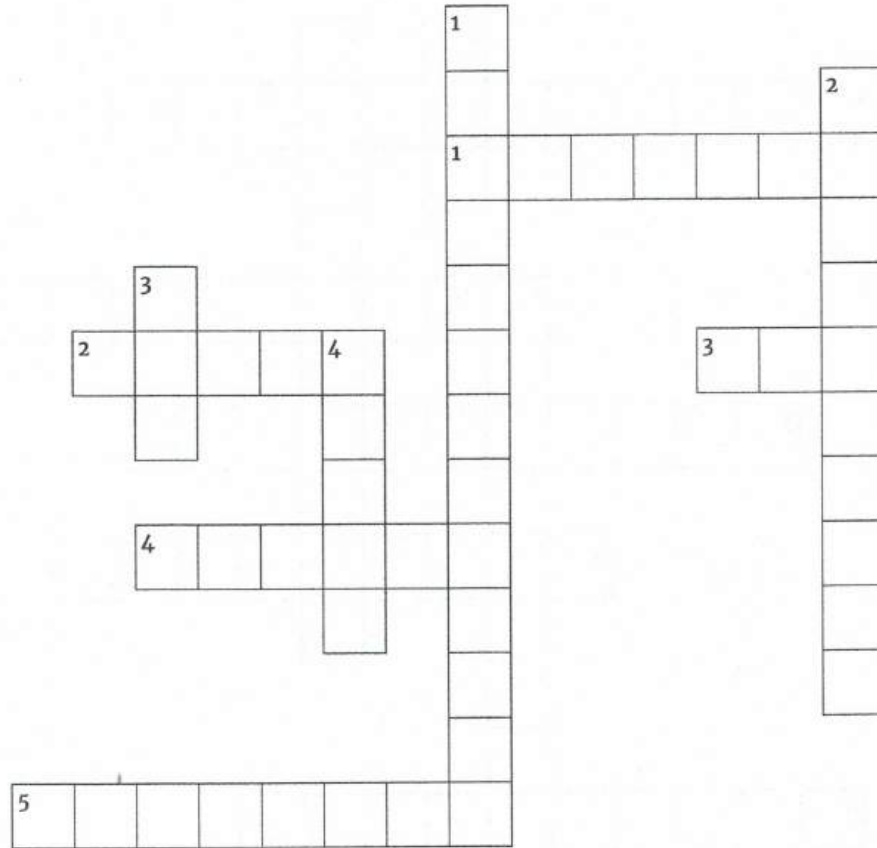


History	
Name	USS <i>Pargo</i> (SSN-650)
Namesake	The pargo, a fish of the <u>genus <i>Lutjanus</i></u> also known as the <u>red snapper</u>
Ordered	26 March 1963
Builder	<u>General Dynamics Electric Boat</u> , <u>Groton</u> , <u>Connecticut</u>
Laid down	3 June 1964
Launched	17 September 1966
Sponsored by	Mrs. <u>James L. Holloway, Jr.</u>
Commissioned	5 January 1968
Decommissioned	14 April 1995
Stricken	14 April 1995
Motto	<i>For Land, For Honor, For Courage</i>
Fate	Scrapping via <u>Ship and Submarine Recycling Program</u> begun 1 October 1994, completed 15 October 1996

General Characteristics	
Class and type	<u>Sturgeon-class attack submarine</u>
Displacement	4,600 long tons (4,674 t)
Length	292 ft (89 m)
Beam	31 ft (9.4 m)
Draft	28 ft 8 in (8.74 m)
Installed power	15,000 <u>shaft horsepower</u> (11.2 <u>megawatts</u>)
Propulsion	One <u>S5W nuclear reactor</u> , two <u>steam turbines</u> , one <u>screw</u>
Speed	Over 20 <u>knots</u> (37 km/h; 23 mph)
Complement	107
Armament	4 × 21-inch (533 mm) <u>torpedo tubes</u> <u>UUM-44A SUBROC missiles</u> <u>Mark 48 torpedo</u> <u>Tomahawk missile</u>



US Navy Crossword Puzzle 12



ACROSS

- 1. British Frigate That John Paul Jones Captured
- 2. H (Phonetic Alphabet)
- 3. How Many Movements Are In A Left-Face?
- 4. What Is The Require Assistance In The U.S Navy Signal Flags?
- 5. The Last Continental Navy Ship To Go

DOWN

- 1. The First U.S. Destroyer
- 2. The U.S. Navy's First Modern Commissioned Submarine
- 3. The Front End Of The Ship
- 4. History's Largest Naval Battle

COMMODORE

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

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12/01/1943

USS Bonefish (SS 223) sinks Japanese transport Nichiryō Maru in the Celebes Sea while USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks the Japanese transport Shoko Maru north of Ulithi. Also on this date, USS Peto (SS 265) sinks Japanese transport Tōnei Maru.

12/02/1944

USS Sea Devil (SS 400) attacks a Japanese convoy in the East China Sea and sinks merchant tanker Aki-gawa Maru and passenger-cargo ship Hawaii Maru, while USS Gunnel (SS 253) evacuates 11 rescued aviators from Palawan, Philippines and turns over all available stores to Filipino forces ashore.

12/03/1943

USS Tinosa (SS 283) sinks the Palau-bound Japanese fleet tanker Azuma Maru northwest of Sonsorol.

12/04/1944

USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks Japanese destroyer Kishinami and damages a merchant ship in the South China Sea. Flasher is the only U.S. submarine to sink more than 100,000 tons of enemy shipping in World War II.

12/05/1943

USS Narwhal (SS 167) embarks nine evacuees at Alubijid, Mascalcar Bay and then sinks Japanese cargo ship Himeno Maru off Camiguin Island.

12/05/1944

USS Hake (SS 256) evacuates downed aviators and turns over all supplies that can be spared to Filipino guerilla forces ashore at Libertad, Panay, Philippines.

12/08/1943

USS Sawfish (SS 276) sinks Japanese transport Sansei Maru southeast of Chi Chi Jima. Also on this date, TBFs sink Rabaul-bound fishing boats No. 3 Yusho Maru, No.7 Fukuri Maru, No.2 Takatori Maru, and No.1 Hoko Maru.

12/09/1941

USS Swordfish (SS 193) makes initial U.S. submarine attack on Japanese ship, torpedoing a ship 150 miles west of Manila. Her claim of sinking, though, is not confirmed in enemy records.

12/10/1982

The nuclear powered USS Ohio (SSBN 726), first Trident-Class submarine, returns from its first deterrent patrol.

12/11/1944

USS Gar (SS 206) lands 35 tons of supplies at Darigayos Inlet on the west coast of Luzon and picks up secret intelligence documents. Also on this date, USS Sea Owl (SS 405) sinks Japanese auxiliary submarine chaser Cha 76 in the East China Sea.

12/13/1943

USS Sailfish (SS 192) sinks Japanese cargo ship Totai Maru east of Tokara Strait while PBY aircraft sink Tokiwa Maru in the Bismarck Sea.

12/15/1944

USS Hawkbill (SS 366) sinks the Japanese destroyer Momo west of Luzon.

12/16/1944

USS Swordfish (SS 193) attacks a Japanese convoy south of Hainan Island and sinks Japanese army transport Atsutasan Maru.

12/17/1942

USS Grouper (SS 214) sinks the Japanese army passenger cargo ship Bandoeng Maru about 15 miles northwest of Cape Henpan, Buka Island, Solomons and survives the counterattack by submarine chaser Ch 29.

12/18/1943

USS Aspro (SS 309) attacks a Japanese convoy in Sakishima Gunto, damaging fleet tankers Sarawak Maru and Tenei Maru, and escapes counter attacks by destroyer Shoikaze. Meanwhile, USS Grayback (SS 208) sinks Japanese freighter Gyokurei Maru east-northeast of Naha, Okinawa and escapes counter attacks by destroyer Numakaze.

12/19/1943

USS Grayback (SS 208) sinks the Japanese destroyer Numakaze 50 miles east-northeast of Naha, Okinawa.

12/19/1944

USS Redfish (SS 395) sinks the Japanese carrier Unryu 200 nautical miles southeast of Shanghai, China. In the course of this engagement, Redfish is damaged and terminates her patrol early.

12/21/1942

USS Seadragon (SS 194) sinks Japanese submarine I-4 between New Britain and New Ireland while I-4 is engaged in a resupply mission to Guadalcanal.

12/22/1942

On board USS Silversides (SS 236), Pharmacists Mate 1st Class Thomas A. Moore performs an emergency appendectomy on Fireman 3rd Class George M. Platter while the submarine is submerged and on war patrol in the Solomon Islands. Platter returned to duty within a few days of the operation.

12/23/1944

USS Blenny (SS 324), despite an escort vessel close by, sinks the Japanese merchant tanker Kenzui Maru off San Fernando, Luzon, Philippines.

12/25/1944

USS Barbero (SS 317) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks transport Junpo Maru.

12/27/1943

USS Flying Fish (SS 229) sinks the Japanese fleet tanker Kyuei Maru in the South China Sea west of Luzon Strait. Also on this date, USS Ray (SS 271) sinks the Japanese fleet tanker Kyoko Maru (ex-Dutch Semiramis) west of the Celebes.

12/29/1943

USS Silversides (SS 236) sinks the Japanese transport Tenposan Maru, the army cargo ship Shichisei Maru, and the freighter Ryuto Maru while also damaging the army cargo ship Bichu Maru off Palau.

12/30/1942

USS Greenling (SS 213) attacks a Japanese convoy 180 miles northeast of Manus, Admiralty Islands and sinks Army cargo ship Hiteru Maru and damages cargo ship Ryufuku Maru while USS Thresher (SS 200) sinks the Japanese freighter Haichan Maru west of Mata Siri Island, off the southern tip of Borneo.

12/30/1943

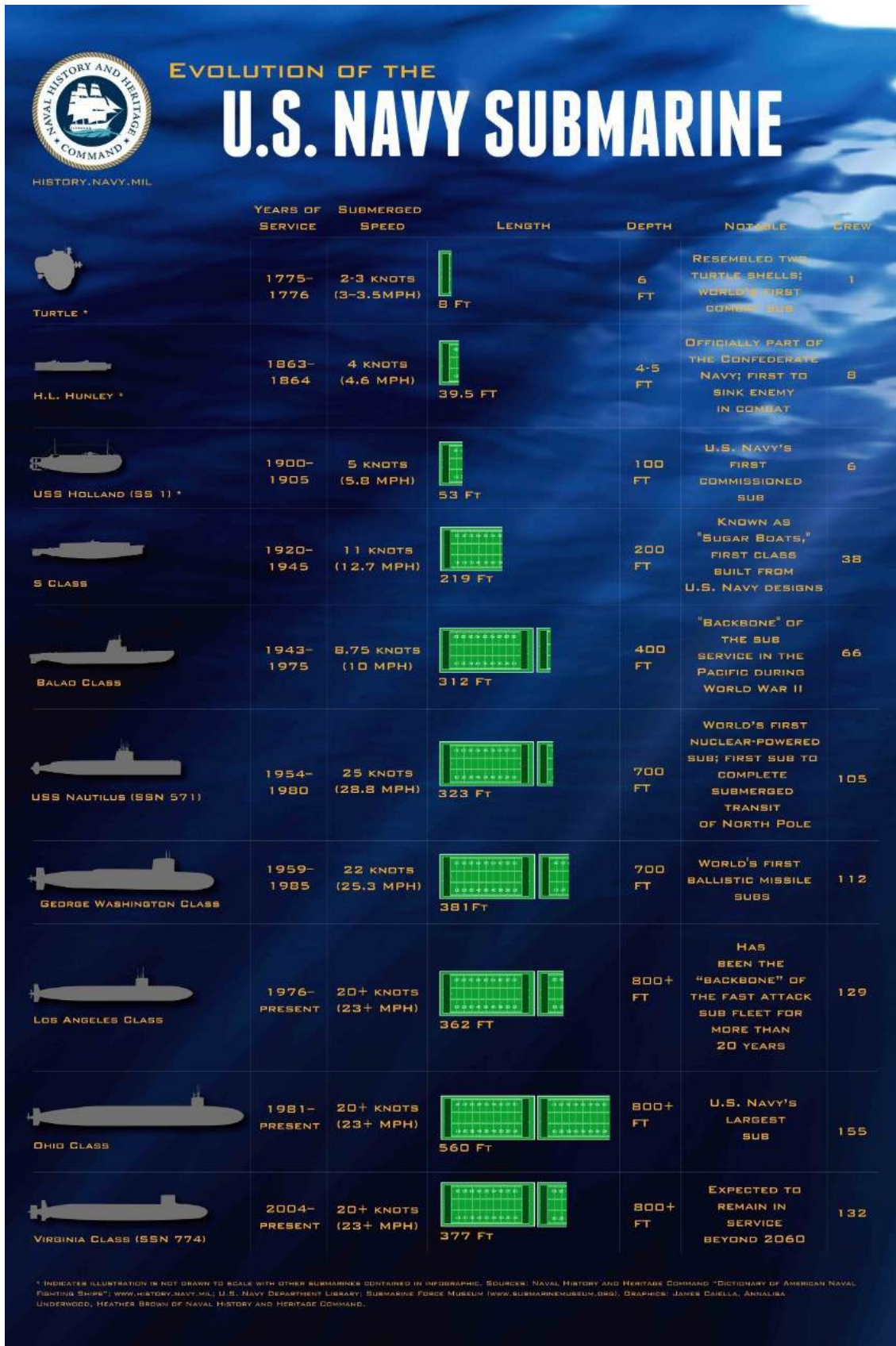
USS Bluefish (SS 222) sinks Japanese oiler Ichiyu Maru in the Java Sea.

12/30/1944

USS Razorback (SS 394) attacks a Japanese convoy going from Manila to Takao, about 60 miles south-east of Formosa, and sinks the destroyer Kuretake in the Bashi Channel. The Japanese cargo ships Brazil Maru and Oi Maru are also damaged during this attack.

12/30/1959

The first fleet ballistic missile submarine, USS George Washington (SSBN 598), is commissioned.





Congress Is Putting More Money into These Submarines in New Spending Bill

The Middletown Press, Conn. | By Alexander Soule
Published December 16, 2024

https://www.military.com/daily-news/2024/12/16/congress-putting-more-money-these-submarines-new-spending-bill.html?ESRC=eb_241217.nl



*The Virginia-class attack submarine USS South Dakota (SSN 790) is led by the tug John P. Wronowski in a transit of the Thames River to the submarine's homeport of Naval Submarine Base New London, July 25, 2024.
(Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maxwell Higgins/U.S. Navy photo)*

With Russia's recent use of a hypersonic missile alarming U.S. military planners, Congress is putting more money into submarine power and by extension keeping General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard busy as it faces tight delivery windows for two major sub programs.

The National Defense Authorization Act passed by the U.S. House of Representatives included an expected increase in funding to support construction of a new fleet of ballistic missile submarines, and an unexpected boost for future attack submarine construction. Electric Boat has its main shipyard in Groton, an engineering office in New London, and an auxiliary shipyard in Rhode Island that barges components to Groton for final assembly.

The defense bill also includes a 14.5% increase in pay for junior enlisted members of the military, as ser-

vice branches amp up [recruiting](#) to fill a gap in projected force numbers. About 14,500 active-duty service members were stationed in Connecticut at last report, the large majority in Groton at [Naval Submarine Base New London](#).

U.S. Rep. John Larson, D-1st, was the lone member of Connecticut's Congressional delegation to vote against the bill in its current form. In response to a CT Insider query, Larson indicated he balked at an element that would ban insurance coverage for gender-affirming care for children in military families. Larson called it "a difficult vote" that ran counter to his support of defense spending bills in prior years.

"The NDAA contained important wins for our service members and Connecticut jobs," Larson stated in an email response forwarded by an office staff member. "It was shameful for Republican leadership to disrupt the bipartisan process of passing a defense authorization bill to insert a provision to ban gender affirming care for service members' children. Health care decisions need to be made by families and medical professionals, not politicians."

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Connecticut, a member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Armed Services, indicated he will vote in favor of the bill in its current form.

"I regret some of the provisions in the bill -- including limitations on health care for the families of military personnel -- and am talking to my colleagues about opportunities to change them," Blumenthal said in an email forwarded by staff.

U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Connecticut, declined comment on the bill in advance of an expected Senate vote sometime next week, according to a spokesperson in Murphy's office.

Columbia Sub a Priority

A CT Insider analysis of line items for major military systems made in Connecticut shows \$35.6 billion in total spending, down slightly from \$36 billion a year earlier, including for fighter jets that use engines from Pratt & Whitney based in East Hartford. Those figures do not include additional revenue from Connecticut-based companies that provide subsystems for installation in major Pentagon programs, which are not easily identifiable by line item.

At least \$19.2 billion will support submarine construction at General Dynamics Electric Boat as well as the Huntington Ingalls Industries Newport News shipyard in Virginia, or systems that go into new and existing submarines. That includes procurement of materials and systems for subs that will be assembled later, some supplied by companies based in other states.

While Congress is ordering one fewer [Virginia-class](#) sub amid ongoing struggles by Electric Boat and Newport News to obtain parts from suppliers who have experienced labor shortages since the COVID-19 pandemic, that is more than offset by an extra \$3.8 billion for the new Columbia class of attack submarines.

U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, D-2nd, supported the bill despite Congress eliminating one Virginia-class sub from the program. He serves as the ranking member of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee.

The program is getting an extra boost of \$357 million to support the purchase of systems for future subs, which was not included in the Pentagon's original funding request. Last week, Electric Boat reported the successful completion of sea trials for the USS Iowa, the 24th sub in the Virginia-class fleet stationed currently at Naval Submarine Base New London, which is to be commissioned next spring.

The [Navy](#) is putting increased emphasis on submarine power as concerns grow over potential vulnerabilities of surface ships to drone or missile attacks. This fall, Russian forces fired a hypersonic missile at a Ukraine target that traveled more than 10 times the speed of sound, representing a formidable challenge

for shipboard defense systems given the velocity and maneuverability of hypersonic missiles.

Missile Development, Fighter Jets

In the defense bill for fiscal 2025, Congress approved \$2.1 billion for hypersonic missile development and procurement, with Lockheed Martin and Raytheon among the companies developing missiles.

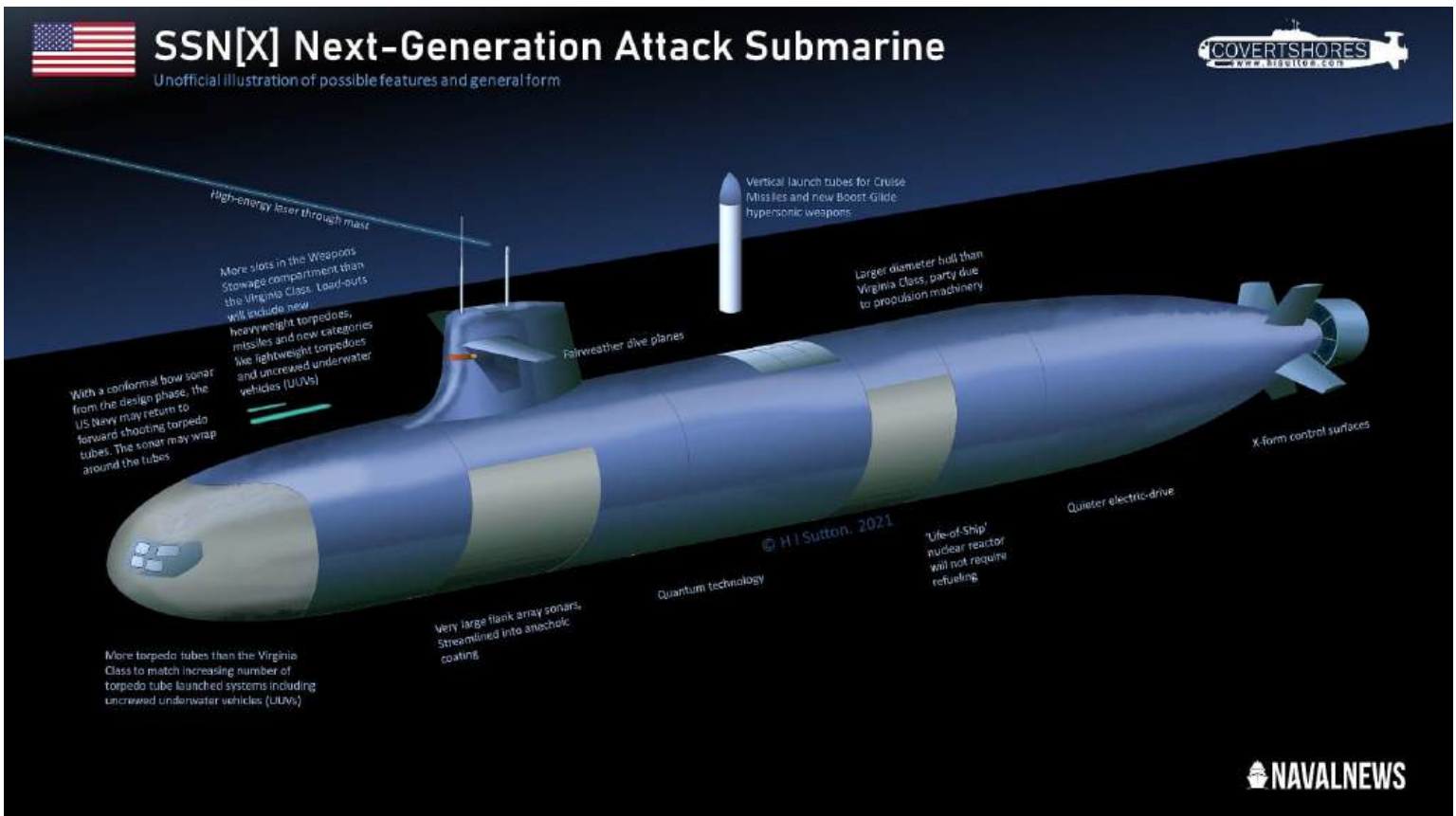
Under the current version of the bill, Congress would authorize the purchase of 20 fewer F-35 Lighting II fighter jets from Lockheed Martin than the 68 aircraft the Department of Defense had requested.

The F-35 Lighting II uses the F135 jet engine made by Pratt & Whitney in East Hartford, with U.S. Rep. Rosa DeLauro stating the fiscal 2025 bill includes \$537 million to support F135 upgrades by Pratt & Whitney.

The lower purchase volume is a setback for Pratt & Whitney and parent Raytheon, however, which have been scrambling since last year to complete a recall of commercial jet engines. The recall has forced airlines to ground planes for more than a year as engines are removed from wings for repair.

Another \$2.1 billion is earmarked for 20 new CH-53K King Stallion cargo helicopters built in Stratford for the U.S. Marine Corps by the Sikorsky subsidiary of Lockheed Martin, and \$707 million will go for two dozen Sikorsky Black Hawk helicopters for the U.S. Army. Overall Black Hawk funding is down for the 2025 fiscal year due to the Army scrapping a program to modernize some of its older helicopters.

The bill cuts by \$15 million the allocation for the Sikorsky Jolly Green II rescue helicopter for the U.S. Air Force, for a fiscal 2025 appropriation of just under \$148 million.



Navy Bases Virginia-class Attack Boat in Guam

November 27, 2024

Aaron-Matthew Lariosa

<https://news.usni.org/2024/11/27/navy-bases-virginia-class-attack-boat-in-guam>



Virginia-class fast attack submarine USS Minnesota (SSN-783) arrives onboard U.S. Naval Base Guam, Nov 26, 2024.

US Navy Photo

Naval Base Guam received the USS *Minnesota* (SSN-783) on Tuesday, marking the first forward deployment of a Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine to the strategically positioned American territory in the Indo-Pacific.

Minnesota's arrival is part of the Navy's "strategic laydown plan" across the region, which will see the service "station the most capable units forward."

"This posture allows flexibility for maritime and joint force operations, with forward-deployed units ready to rapidly respond to deter aggression and promote a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region," reads a Navy press release.

The Virginia class joins four older Los Angeles-class nuclear fast attack boats — USS *Asheville* (SSN-758), USS *Jefferson City* (SSN-759), USS *Annapolis* (SSN-760) and USS *Springfield* (SSN-761) — in Submarine Squadron 15 at Naval Base Guam. Guam is also the home port of the Navy's only submarine tenders,

USS *Emory S. Land* (AS-39) and USS *Frank Cable* (AS-40). Plans to increase the base's submarine maintenance and training capabilities were announced two years ago in an attempt by the service to hedge against the numerically superior People's Liberation Army Navy fleet. The Navy described the presence of these submarines as the "tip of the spear."

"*Minnesota* is composed of exemplary individuals who represent some of our brightest sailors in the Fleet. They're eager to get out into the local community and stand ready to contribute to our strategic objectives and maintain warfighting readiness in the Pacific," Cmdr. Isaac Pelt, commanding officer of the *Minnesota*, said in a press release.

Guam's importance in American force posture in the Indo-Pacific has been highlighted in recent years with calls for more basing and air defenses on the strategic island. Anderson Air Base has long acted as a hub for American aerial operations across the region. Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz was activated last January and is set to host 5,000 Marines in the coming years.

In order to protect these installations from air and missile threats, particularly from China and North Korea, an advanced air defense network, dubbed the Guam Defense System, is slated to be completed in the 2030s and provide 360-degree coverage of the island.



UPDATED: OMB Pitches \$7.3B in Additional Funds for Columbia, Virginia Sub Construction

Sam LaGrone

November 25, 2024

<https://news.usni.org/2024/11/25/omb-pitches-7-3b-in-supplementals-for-columbia-virginia-sub-construction>



Pre-commissioning unit (PCU) Hyman G. Rickover (SSN-795) seen prior to a christening ceremony at General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard facility in Groton, Conn., on July 31, 2021. US Navy Photo

This post has been updated to include additional information from the administration.

The White House asked Congress on Monday for \$7.3 billion split across two requests for additional funds for the Navy to pay for Columbia and Virginia-class submarines, USNI News has learned.

According to a senior Navy official, the White House Office of Management and Budget is asking Congress for an additional \$5.69 billion to pay for cost overages on three Virginia-class submarines and workforce development at General Dynamics Electric Boat and HII's Newport News Shipbuilding. In a separate ask, OMB wants Congress to fund \$1.59 billion to keep Columbia-class nuclear ballistic missile submarine construction on track during the current stop-gap federal funding bill, which expires in about a month.

The \$5.69 request is an "emergency appropriations ... that's designed to address shortfalls in our Virginia-class fast attack submarine program," a senior Navy official told reporters on Monday.

"Our Virginia-class fast attack submarine program is not where it needs to be right now, the program and the shipyards are not producing submarines at the rate that our national security strategy and the national defense strategy require."

Currently, the yards deliver Virginias at a rate of 1.3 boats per year – far short of the two-per-year cadence the Navy needs to meet its national security goals and the 2.33 rate it needs to meet the commitment to the AUKUS Pillar 1 agreement between the U.S., Australia and the U.K., that will provide the Royal Australian Navy with three to four Virginia-class boats.

The \$5.69 Virginia emergency funding request includes:

- \$1.95 billion to cover the unplanned cost increases for Block V attack boats *Baltimore* (SSN-812) and *Atlanta* (SSN-813) over the \$9.5 billion already appropriated.
- \$1.53 billion over the \$7.3 billion Fiscal Year 2025 request for the first Block VI Virginia boat.
- \$518 million for “wage productivity enhancements” at Electric Boat and Newport News.

\$1.95 billion for “other productivity enhancements” at the two yards.

Additionally, the request includes a legislative proposal for the Navy to directly support wages at the two nuclear yards in the future.

The OMB request for emergency funding comes as the Navy and the White House have distanced themselves from a competing proposal that would allow EB and Newport News to access money that has been appropriated for submarines not-yet under construction. The proposal, also created by the Navy but then abandoned, would pay for current cost gaps in wages and improve infrastructure as part of the negotiations for 17 submarines the service wanted to get under contract this year.

The Shipbuilder Accountability and Workforce Support, or SAWS plan, as a means to ease the spike in worker wages following the COVID-19 pandemic OMB elected not to use the plan and offered up its expanded supplemental instead.

“We believe [OMB’s] proposal offers the best way forward to improve shipyard performance while allowing the executive and legislative branch to direct this money where it will go and hold ourselves accountable based on the metrics that we’ve been using with Congress,” the senior official said.

“There are no easy solutions.”

The current OMB proposal and competing SAWS funding model are acknowledgments of the more than 20 percent increase in workforce cost since the Block V Virginia-class multi-year submarine contract. SAWS would have created a pool of about \$10 billion for the shipyards to use as they needed for workforce development and infrastructure, several sources familiar with the proposal have told USNI News.

Creating that pool of funds under SAWS was part of larger contract negotiations for 17 total submarines between EB, Newport News and the Navy. Those included *Baltimore*, *Atlanta*, 9 to 10 Block VI boats and five Build II Columbia-class submarines.

OMB elected to go with an incremental funding approach focusing on the three Virginias and then wants to wait and see.

“We’re trying to make targeted investments based on our conversations with industry that will address the most acute pain points, and then see if those investments have, in fact, generated the return,” the official said.

“This is not about addressing a challenge associated with 17 boats. This is about putting in place productivity enhancements that can make the two yards more productive, while ... addressing the challenges that are closest to our current fiscal cycle.”

Both EB and HII previously expected to sign the contracts for the 17 boats by the end of this calendar year,

but revised their revenue targets to reflect the stalled negotiations. HII, which doesn't have the diversified portfolio that General Dynamics has, saw a stock drop of more than 20 percent when it revised the revenue targets.

A spokesperson with EB declined to comment on the OMB proposal.

In a Monday statement to USNI News, HII's CEO Chris Kastner defended the SAWS proposal over the OMB supplemental pitch.

"A piecemeal approach will not yield the sustained production rate increases required a) to complete current construction contracts that pre-date the pandemic, and b) to meet the generational increase in the demand for submarines," reads the statement.

"By annualizing support services using funds already within the Navy's current FYDP – ie, requiring no new appropriations unlike OMB alternative – SAWS recognizes the underlying realities: a tight fiscal environment, inflation, increased wage expectations for skilled labor, and extended supplier lead times... We look forward to resolving these challenges with the Navy, through SAWS or a comparable alternative."

Following an earlier version of this post, Rep. Joe Courtney (D-Conn.) told USNI News the OMB proposal was a late recognition of Navy funding shortfalls in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget.

"The Navy's request is a belated recognition of short-term funding shortfalls in the Virginia program that its original 2025 budget omitted. This delay has also impeded the completion of a new contract for 17 submarines that is 18 months overdue," Courtney said.

"I look forward to hearing from the Navy on how today's request will enable the submarine industrial base





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