

Steel Valley Dolphins

Monthly Newsletter



USS Bergall SSN-667



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

March 8, 2025 @ 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.

John Held - petecompost@aol.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/>



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Secretary	David Farrugia	813-951-1898	DFarrugia@tampabay.rr.com
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District Commander EN3	Thomas Denton	301-845-0049	gcmfish@verizon.net
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Technology Chair	Lou Hamill	412-445-3998	itgeek8088@gmail.com
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Awards Chair	Dick Geyer	724-822-0401	dgdiving@gmail.com
Public Affairs Chair	Ed Derr	724-854-0781	rredde@gmail.com



Tolling of the Boats for February

USS Scorpion (SS-278)

Lost on Feb 1, 1943 with the loss of 77 officers and men in the East China Sea, on her 4th war patrol. It is assumed she was sunk by a mine.

USS Barbel (SS-316)

Lost on Feb 4, 1945 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 4th war patrol. Based on Japanese records, she was bombed near the southern entrance to the Palawan Passage. The day before, she reported she survived 3 depth charge attacks.

USS Shark I (SS-174)

Lost on Feb 11, 1942 with the loss of 59 officers and men on her 1st war patrol. Shark was the 1st US submarine sunk by enemy surface craft in the Pacific. She was most likely sunk by depth charges.

USS Amberjack (SS-219)

Lost on Feb 16, 1943 with the loss of 72 officers and men on her 3rd war patrol. Off Rabaul, she was attacked by a Japanese patrol plane, attacked by a torpedo boat and then depth charged by a subchaser. One additional man was killed earlier on the last patrol.

USS Grayback (SS-208)

Lost on Feb 26, 1944 with the loss of 80 officers and men on her 10th war patrol. She appears to have been caught on the surface in the East China Sea by a Japanese carrier plane whose bombs made a direct hit. During this patrol she sank 4 ships totaling 21,594 tons and was tied for 11th in the number of ships sunk.

USS Trout (SS-202)

Lost on Feb 29, 1944 with the loss of 81 officers and men on her 11th war patrol. She was sunk by escorts in the middle of the Philippines Basin after sinking a passenger-cargoman and damaging another in a convoy. She carried out several notable special missions, including carrying over two tons of gold bullion out of Corregidor in February 1942.



Submarines commissioned during the month of February

C-5 SS-16	2/2/1910	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Jimmy Carter SSN-23	2/19/2005	Wikipedia	NavSource	
E-1 SS-24	2/14/1912	Wikipedia	NavSource	
E-2 SS-25	2/14/1912	Wikipedia	NavSource	
G-2 SS-27	2/6/1915	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
L-5 SS-44	2/17/1918	Wikipedia	NavSource	
M-1 SS-47	2/16/1918	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-9 SS-114	2/21/1921	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-14 SS-119	2/11/1921	Wikipedia	NavSource	
S-44 SS-155	2/16/1925	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Sargo SS-188	2/7/1939	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Grouper SS-214	2/12/1942	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cavalla SS-244	2/29/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Mingo SS-261	2/12/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Tullibee SS-284	2/15/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Balao SS-285	2/4/1943	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Lancetfish SS-296	2/12/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Shark SS-314	2/14/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	Eternal Patrol
Carbonero SS-337	2/7/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Carp SS-338	2/28/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cusk SS-348	2/5/1946	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Loggerhead SS-374	2/9/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Piranha SS-389	2/5/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Plaice SS-390	2/12/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pomfret SS-391	2/19/1944	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Runner SS-476	2/6/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Conger SS-477	2/14/1945	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Grenadier SS-525	2/10/1951	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Shark SSN-591	2/9/1961	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Theodore Roosevelt SSBN-600	2/13/1961	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Henry Clay SSBN-625	2/20/1964	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Aspro SSN-648	2/20/1969	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Hawkbill SSN-666	2/4/1971	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Finback SSN-670	2/4/1970	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Cavalla SSN-684	2/9/1973	Wikipedia	NavSource	
L. Mendel Rivers SSN-686	2/1/1975	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Georgia SSGN-729	2/11/1984	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Pasadena SSN-752	2/1/1989	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Jefferson City SSN-759	2/29/1992	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Toledo SSN-769	2/24/1995	Wikipedia	NavSource	
Greenville SSN-772	2/6/1996	Wikipedia	NavSource	
South Dakota SSN-790	2/2/2019	Wikipedia	NavSource	



Binnacle List

Eternal Patrol

In Remembrance

Charles Warren
 Bob & Lynn
 Gourley
 Judith Underkoffler

All hands present
 And
 Accounted for

John J. Mills Sr.
 Al Regits
 Chuck Dreer
 Robert K Kaufman
 James S. Ross
 Hubert Brown
 John Donnelly
 Richard R. Claypoole
 Robert E. Vaughn
 Devere Pyatte Jr

QM2(SS) 2/7/2010
 IC2 (SS) 2/9/2022
 ETCM(SS) 2/10/2009
 CAPT 2/10/2019
 QM3 (SS) 2/12/2018
 TM3 (SS) 2/12/2019
 EN3 (SS) 2/23/2021
 FCS3(SS) 2/24/2009
 CAPT 2/25/2013
 LT 2/27/2015

Birthdays

Member

Spouse

Anniversaries

Gregory Poole 3/1
 Lyle Farmer 3/3
 Edwin Derr 3/4
 Reno Farina 3/4
 Michael Pellegrino 3/4
 Richard Elster 3/5
 John Bistolas 3/6
 Thomas Clark Jr 3/8
 Mark Hoag 3/8
 Eric Greenwald 3/10
 David Alters 3/11
 Mike Allen 3/14
 Larry Huntsman 3/15
 Gregory Bushko 3/18
 Jeffrey Thompson 3/18
 James Johnston 3/22
 Thomas Calabrese 3/23
 Thomas Weible 3/24
 Michael Wyckoff 3/24
 Steve Burelson 3/26
 Robert Sampson, III 3/26

Patricia Koppenhaver 3/1
 Cathy Clark Jr 3/9
 Ashlee Amenti 3/10
 Christine Gaines 3/10
 Claudia Bistyga 3/12
 Mary Bayne 3/15
 Karen Lewis 3/17
 Diana Howton 3/19
 Vicky Smith 3/19
 Jacqueline Hall 3/20
 Carol Lyons 3/21
 Kimberly Swords 3/25
 Margaret Ashmore 3/27
 Laura Cherock 3/28
 Eloyse Dietrich 3/30

Sheila & Richard McCullough 3/1
 Valerie & James Wendell 3/15
 Sherry & Charles Nixon 3/20





Thank you to all the shipmates and firstmates that were able to attend our last meeting.

As usual, all attendees are cordially invited to socialize at the bar at the conclusion of our meetings.

Our 2025 Booster initiative is underway. At present, we have nine boosters, with several more anticipated to join shortly. It is not too late to become a booster or to discuss the possibility with your local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Legion (AL), or local businesses about supporting our mission.

If you are interested in a USSVI letterman jacket, please follow the instructions on the form in this edition of the SVD. You may also get the form from our website in the document library.

If you are interested in attending the USS Idaho Change of Command, please complete the evite sent out earlier ([Link](#)). Additionally, kindly inform me of your intentions regarding attendance so that we can effectively plan carpooling and hotel reservations.

We are seeking a Kap(SS) 4 Kid(SS) coordinator. Details of the program can be found at <https://www.ussvcf.org/kapss-4-kidss-fund.html>. Although the local Children's Hospital may not be amenable to the program, there are numerous other children's care centers that would likely welcome participation. Our mission is to promote the values of United States Submarine Veterans, and there is no better way to demonstrate our commitment than by dedicating time and attention to children in need. Please give serious consideration to either taking on the role of coordinator or joining as a committee member.



A.L.B

Letterman Jacket Embroidery Form

Order your jacket from Amazon [Stewart & Strauss Original Varsity Letterman Jacket](https://www.amazon.com/Stewart-Strauss-Varsity-Letterman-Jacket/dp/B00MC1MBB6?ref=ast_sto_dp&th=1&psc=1)

https://www.amazon.com/Stewart-Strauss-Varsity-Letterman-Jacket/dp/B00MC1MBB6?ref=ast_sto_dp&th=1&psc=1

Once you have the jacket and are happy with the fit, send it and this completed form to The Vest Lady at:

Jenny Dugan
9515 Jenny CT
Norfolk VA 23503

Name:

Address 1:

57-318-0138
<https://subvest.com/>

Address 2:

City State Zip:

Phone:

Email:

All text will be done in all CAPITALS and gold thread.

You will receive a bill with your completed jacket. Acceptable payment methods Check, Venmo or Zelle.

Logo on back	\$40.00		Base	
			City, State	
Each Additional Line	\$10.00			
	\$10.00			
	\$10.00			
	\$10.00			
	\$10.00			
	\$10.00			
Logo on Left Breast	\$20.00			
Name and Rate on Right Breast	\$20.00		Name	
			Rate	
Return Shipping	\$?	Return shipping will vary and will be added to the bill accordingly.		



USSVI Perch Base Arizona

January 25 at 5:42 PM · 🌐

TRAVELLING TROPHY

While attending his boat reunion for the USS Cavalla in Groton, CT last October, Paul Miller had the opportunity to visit with an old shipmate in Boston. Paul's shipmate introduced him to his Base Commander - Marblehead Base, Mike Hogan. While talking, Mike offered Paul the Requin Base Traveling Dolphins which they had moored for the last seven months. It seemed like a good time for the Dolphins to see a portion of the country other than "The Northeast" or "Mid-Atlantic". So, on 10/07/2024 the Requin Base Traveling Dolphins were handed over to Paul Miller and Perch Base for a safe Southwest journey. Somehow, they fit in Paul's suitcase.

The Requin Base Traveling Dolphins were created by the Requin Base in Baden, PA near Pittsburgh. They were originally donated by Huey Dietrich, Base Commander on 1/1/2011. They have been traveling since that time to mainly Northeast and Mid-Atlantic bases. It's longest time in one port was at the Thresher Base for nearly seven years.

Perhaps we should award the trophy the next time we have a visitor from another base to keep them "travelling?"

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=998021035705271&set=a.464766795697367>



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.

February 8, 2025
American Legion Post 641 Baden PA

Base Commander Lou Hamill called the meeting to order.

Attendees: Mike Allen, Wollard Ashmore, Eric Bookmiller, Lee & Patsy Bookwalter, Clair & Nancy Bouts, George Brown, Ron Campbell, Joe Campisi, Frank Certich, Ken Crosby, Huey & Edie Dietrich, Dick & Beverly Geyer, David Halliday, Lou Hamill, John Held, Jean Lemieux, Bill & Sandy Lindsey, Vince Metz, Bob & Jude Meyers, Frank Nicotra, Mike Pellegrino, Jim & Sondra Schwartz, Chuck Shrump, Harry Sills, Jeff & Eileen Simon, Jack Sutherin, Chad Underkoffler, Charlie Warren, Mike Wyckoff.

Shipmate Bob Meyers lead the Pledge Of Allegiance.

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

Boats Lost:

USS SCORPION (SS 278) February 1, 1943
USS BARBEL (SS 316) February 4, 1945
USS SHARK (SS 174) February 11, 1942
USS AMBERJACK (SS 219) February 16, 1943
USS GRAYBACK (SS 208) February 27, 1944
USS TROUT (SS 202) February 28, 1944

We also honor our departed shipmates of the Requin Base lost in February, Chuck Dreer, Hurbert Brown, Richard Claypoole, John Donnelly, Robert Kaufman, John Mills, Devere Pyatte, James Ross, Al Regits, Robert Vaughn. 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.

Quote Of The Day: "Seek to understand before you seek to be understood."

Requin History: February 1, 1969, Requin was towed to Florida where she served as a Naval Reserve training ship. February 21, 1990 Senator John Hines introduced Senate Bill S2151 which allowed Requin to be transferred as an exhibit at the Carnegie Science Center in Pittsburgh PA.

Members introduced themselves and the boats they served on.

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

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

Other Reports:

Binnacle List: Judith Underkoffler, Chuck Warren, Bob & Lynn Gourley
Eternal Patrol: None

Base membership stands at 202.

Storekeeper

Eagle Scouts presentations.

PA license plates

Float status

Mush Morton awards.

Upcoming events:

February 21 - SOAC Graduation for LT James Reynolds, Lawton Gains representing the base.

March 7 - USS Idaho change of command, fill out invitation online if attending

March 8 - meeting, American Legion, Baden PA

March 15 - St Patrick's Day Pittsburgh

Old Business:

USS Requin Base Scholarship program update

Facebook page is up and running "USSVI Requin Base"

New Business:

Jason Deichler is putting together a beer themed basket for the dolphin scholarship auction in New England. Requin Base will donate a beer tap handle at a cost of \$40 plus shipping.

COD Base will join us in June for combined meeting.

Booster Letters were emailed to all members. 66 letters mailed to VFWs and American Legions within 20 miles to Pittsburgh. Over \$1000 has been received from this effort so far.

Letterman jackets order form can be found on the base website.

Traveling Dolphins, last seen at USS Perch Base.

Kaps(SS)4Kid(SS), a coordinator is needed

Good of The Order:

VA is looking for volunteers for a cancer study. Call Karen Smith at 412-360-2410 for details.

Chaplain Eric Bookmiller gave the Benediction.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: American Legion Post 641 Baden PA at 1230 hours on March 8, 2025



<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>





Say What???

Blue Nose - A person who has crossed the Arctic Circle and been initiated.

Bilge Pickers – A long thin tool used to pick items out of out-of-reach areas.

D.A.D. – Day After Duty. Usually a day off after duty afforded to sailors who worked throughout the night.



Upcoming Events

Meeting

March 8, 2025
1230 hours

American Legion Post 641
271 State St
Baden PA 15005

February 21

March 7

March 15

Base activities

Mush Morton Award Presentation

Idaho Change of Command

St. Patrick's Day Parade



Membership

Primary Members	169	Holland Club	104	USSVI Life Members	83
Secondary Members	13	WWII	1	Base Life Members	70
Associate Members	20	Eternal Patrol	84	Joined Last Year	5
Total Members	202			Joined This Year	

New Members

Let's encourage our shipmates to join and partake in the comradery of qualified in submarines





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

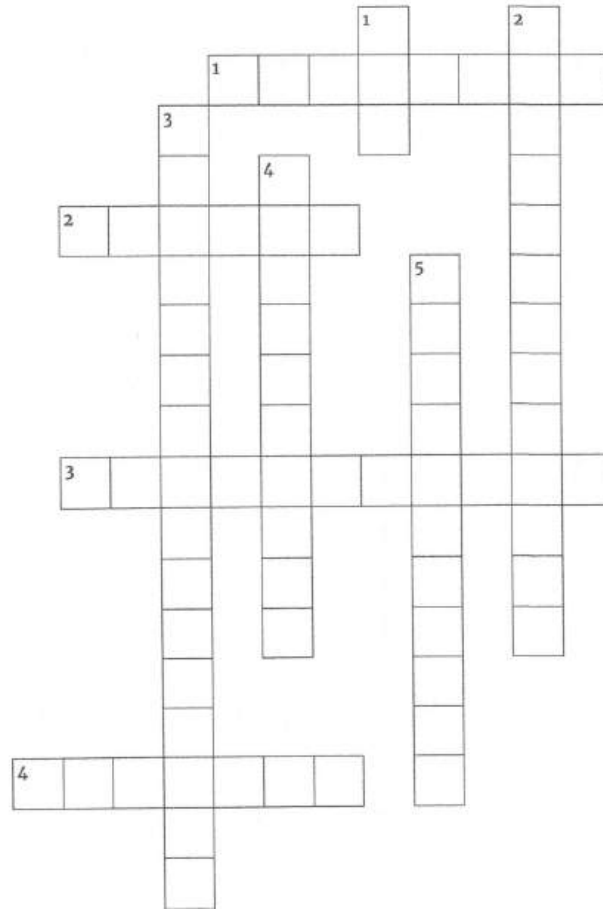


General characteristics	
Class and type	<u>Sturgeon-class attack submarine</u>
Displacement	4,007 long tons (4,071 t) light 4,301 long tons (4,370 t) full 294 long tons (299 t) dead
Length	292 ft 3 in (89.08 m)
Beam	31 ft 8 in (9.65 m)
Draft	28 ft 8 in (8.74 m)
Installed power	15,000 <u>shaft horsepower</u> (11.2 <u>megawatts</u>)
Propulsion	One <u>S5W nuclear reactor</u> , two <u>steam turbines</u> , one <u>screw</u>
Speed	15 <u>knots</u> (28 km/h; 17 mph) surfaced 25 knots (46 km/h; 29 mph) submerged
Test depth	1,300 feet (400 meters)
Complement	109 (14 <u>officers</u> , 95 <u>enlisted men</u>)
Armament	4 × 21-inch (533 mm) <u>torpedo tubes</u>

History	
Name	USS <i>Bergall</i> (SSN-667)
Namesake	The <u>bergall</u> , a small fish found along the <u>Atlantic</u> coast of <u>North America</u>
Ordered	9 March 1965
Builder	<u>General Dynamics Electric Boat</u>
Laid down	16 April 1966
Launched	17 February 1968
Sponsored by	Mrs. Ray C. Needham
Commissioned	13 June 1969
Decommissioned	6 June 1996
Stricken	6 June 1997
Motto	<i>Invisible, Invulnerable, Invincible</i>
Fate	Scrapping via <u>Ship and Submarine Recycling Program</u> completed 29 September 1997



US Navy Crossword Puzzle 14



ACROSS

- 1. Of The Chiefs Of Staff Is The Presidential Advisor On Military Matters
- 2. The Navy's Founding Vessel
- 3. The First Admiral Of The Navy
- 4. J (Phonetic Alphabet)

DOWN

- 1. Force Maintains Air Superiority
- 2. The Coast From Which The First Warship Departed In September 1775
- 3. First And Only Naval Officers To Hold The Rank Of Fleet Admiral
- 4. The Father Of The Navy
- 5. The Youngest Midshipman, Appointed A Midshipman At Two Years Old, Reported For Active Duty At Six Years Old.

GUARDHOUSE

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

MARTIAL
 MILITAIRESQUE
 NAWCWPNS
 NONMILITARY

NSWC
 NUWC
 REDOUBT
 SOLDIERLY

TRIREME

02/01/1902

USS Plunger (SS-2), the lead ship of the Plunger-class submarine, launches. She is commissioned Sept. 19, 1903, at the Holland Company yard at New Suffolk, Long Island, N.Y. Ensign Chester W. Nimitz is the submarine's final commander when Plunger is decommissioned Nov. 6, 1909 at the Charleston Navy Shipyard.

02/01/1944

Three US Navy submarines, Guardfish (SS 217), Hake (SS 256) and Seahorse (SS 304), attack Japanese convoys, sinking a destroyer, cargo ship and another vessel.

02/02/1942

USS Seadragon (SS 194) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Tamagawa Maru.

02/03/1944

USS Tambor (SS 198) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks Goyu Maru and merchant tanker Ariake Maru about 200 miles southeast of Shanghai.

02/04/1942

While the battle for Bataan rages throughout the night, USS Trout (SS-202) loads 20 tons of gold bars and 18 tons of silver coins as ballast to replace the weight of ammunition they had just delivered to US and Philippine forces in Manila.

02/05/1944

USS Flasher (SS 249) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Taishin Maru off Mindoro. Also on this date, USS Narwhal (SS 167) lands 45 tons of ammunition and cargo to support Filipino guerrilla operations at Libertad, Panay, Philippines.

02/06/1945

U.S. Navy submarine USS Pampanito (SS 383) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks merchant tanker Engen Maru about 200 miles northeast of Singapore. Also on this date, USS Spadefish (SS 411) sinks Japanese merchant passenger-cargo ship Shohei Maru off Port Arthur, Korea.

02/07/1943

USS Growler (SS 215) fights a desperate night battle with the Japanese supply ship Hayasaki, during which the boat's commanding officer, Lt. Cmdr. Howard W. Gilmore, rams the enemy ship, badly bending Growler's bow. Wounded by machine gun fire and unable to go below, Gilmore gives the order "Take her down!" sacrificing himself so his submarine could dive to safety. For his "distinguished gallantry and valor" on this occasion and earlier in the patrol, he is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and promoted one rank.

02/07/1945

USS Bergall (SS 320) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks Coast Defense Vessel No. 53 off Cam Ranh Bay. USS Guavina (SS 362) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks merchant tanker Taigyo Maru, off Saigon, French Indochina while USS Parche (SS 384) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Okinoyama Maru in Tokara Retto.

02/08/1942

A Japanese destroyer sinks after being torpedoed by Navy submarine S37 (SS 142) the day before off Makassar.

02/08/1943

USS Snook (SS 279) attacks a Japanese convoy off the west coast of Kyushu and sinks the transport Lima Maru and survives depth charges about 30 miles southeast of Goto Retto.

02/09/1960

USS Sargo (SSN 583) becomes the third submarine to surface through the ice at the North Pole.

02/10/1943

USS Pickerel (SS 177) sinks Japanese freighter Amari Maru off Sanriku.

02/10/1944

USS Pogy (SS 266) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks destroyer Minekaze and freighter Malta Maru 85 miles north-northeast of Formosa.

02/10/1945

U.S. Navy submarine USS Batfish (SS 310) sinks three enemy submarines from Feb. 10-13.

02/11/1944

USS Gudgeon (SS 211) sinks Japanese freighter Satsuma Maru that was previously damaged by Chinese B-25s off Wenchow, China.

02/12/1945

USS Hawkbill (SS 366) sinks the small Japanese cargo vessel Kisaragi Maru and the two large boats she is towing, at Lombok Strait, N.E.I.

02/12/1947

The first launch of a guided missile, the Loon, takes place on board USS Cusk (SS 348).

02/13/1945

USS Sennet (SS 408) is damaged by gunfire of Japanese gunboat (No.8 Kotoshiro Maru or No.3 Showa Maru), east of Tanega Shima, but then Sennett sinks No.8 Kotoshiro Maru after it had been shelled by USS Lagarto (SS 371) and USS Haddock (SS 231). Haddock then sinks No.3 Showa Maru, which had already been shelled by Lagarto and Sennett.

02/14/1945

USS Gato (SS 212) sinks Japanese Coast Defense Vessel No.9 in the Yellow Sea and USS Hawkbill (SS 366) sinks Japanese auxiliary submarine chasers Cha 4 and Cha 114 in the Java Sea.

02/15/1943

USS Gato (SS 212) sinks Japanese stores ship Suruga Maru in Bougainville Strait and USS Pickerel (SS 177) attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks cargo vessel Tateyama Maru off the east coast of Honshu.

02/16/1944

USS Skate (SS 305) sinks the Japanese light cruiser Agano as she deploys from Truk, Caroline Islands.

02/20/1945

USS Pargo (SS 264) sinks Japanese destroyer Kokaze off Cape Varella, French Indochina and survives counter-attack by destroyer Kamikaze, which had been steaming in company with Nokaze during the attack.

02/21/1942

USS Triton (SS 201) sinks Japanese merchant cargo vessel Shokyu Maru in the East China Sea, 60 miles south of Quelpart Island.

02/22/1945

USS Becuna (SS 319) sinks Japanese merchant tanker Nichiyoku Maru off Cape Padaran Bay despite the presence of two escort vessels.

02/24/1945

USS Lagarto (SS 371) sinks Japanese submarine I 371 and freighter Tatsumomo Maru off Bungo Strait, Kyushu.

02/25/1944

USS Hoe (SS 258) attacks a Japanese convoy at the mouth of Davao Gulf, sinking the fleet tanker Nissho Maru and damaging the fleet tanker Kyokuto Maru, while USS Rasher (SS 269) sinks Japanese army cargo ship Ryusei Maru and freighter Tango Maru off the north coast of Bali.

02/27/1944

Three US Navy submarines sink three Japanese cargo ships: Grayback (SS 208) sinks Ceylon Maru in the East China Sea; Cod (SS 244) sinks Taisoku Maru west of Halmahera while Trout (SS 202) sinks Aki Maru.

02/27/1945

Submarine USS Scabbardfish (SS 397) sinks Japanese guardboat No. 6 Kikau Maru, 100 miles northeast of Keelung, Formosa, while USS Blenny (SS 324) attacks a Japanese convoy off French Indochina and sinks merchant tanker Amato Maru off Cape Padaran.

02/27/2017

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Albuquerque (SSN 706) is decommissioned after 33 years of service during a ceremony held at Keyport Undersea Museum.

02/28/1944

USS Balao (SS 285) and USS Sand Lance (SS 381) sink Japanese army cargo ship Akiura Maru, transport Shoho Maru about 90 miles northwest of Manokawari, New Guinea and transport Kaiko Maru just east of Musashi Wan, off Paramushir, Kurils.

02/29/1992

Fast Attack Submarine USS Jefferson City (SSN 759) is commissioned.



SUBMARINE QUIZ

How much do you know about US Navy submarines?
Read and choose the correct options and find out!



- 1** What year did the US Navy have its first submarine commissioned?
 - a) 1776
 - b) 1861
 - c) 1900
 - d) 1924
- 2** What is most important for a successful submarine?
 - a) How deep it can go
 - b) How quiet it can be
 - c) How fast it can go
 - d) How many weapons it can carry
- 3** Which of the three submarine types is the "hunter"?
 - a) Ballistic (SSBN)
 - b) Fast Attack (SSN)
 - c) Guided Missile (SSGN)
- 4** What is the length of the biggest US submarine?
 - a) 560'
 - b) 360'
 - c) 860'
 - d) 1,092'
- 5** What powers our submarines?
 - a) Diesel Engine
 - b) Batteries
 - c) Nuclear
 - d) All the Above
- 6** What limits how long a US submarine can be at sea?
 - a) Fuel
 - b) Food
 - c) Oxygen
 - d) Fresh Water
- 7** How does a submarine "see" when very deep?
 - a) Windows
 - b) Periscope
 - c) Sonar
 - d) Radar
- 8** What is the biggest threat to the US submarines?
 - a) Enemy ships and submarines
 - b) Enemy Planes
 - c) Enemy Satellites
 - d) Sea
- 9** What type of weapons does all US submarines carry?
 - a) Missile
 - b) Torpedo
 - c) Both A & B
- 10** How does a submarine dive deep and then return to the surface?
 - a) Nuclear Power
 - b) Sea Water
 - c) Crew runs to front of sub to dive and then runs to back of sub to surface!



Chinese experts: If the collision of USS Connecticut happened with a sunken ship or container, then the US nuclear submarine has problems with onboard equipment

October 9 2021



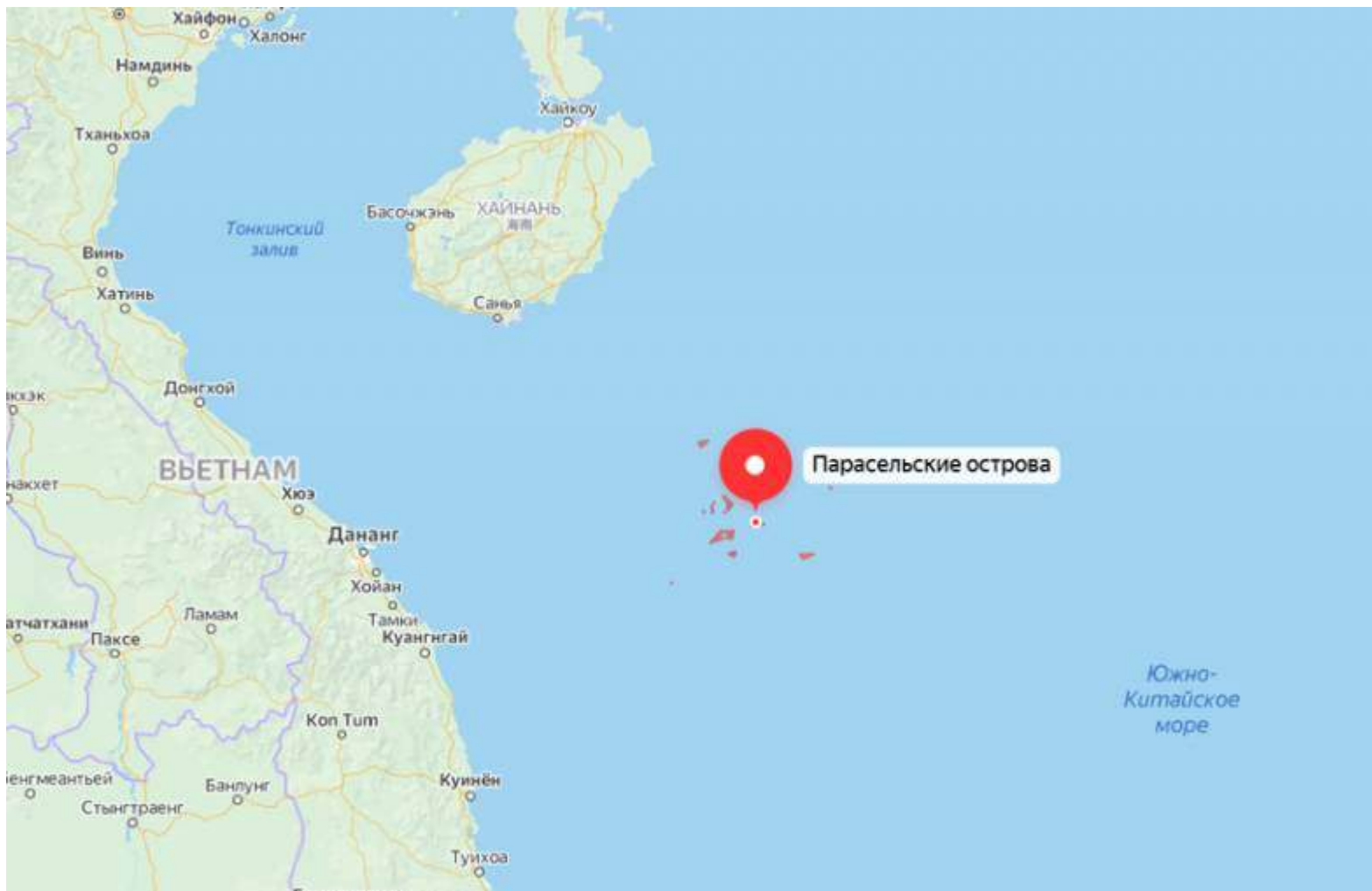
Experts discuss the incident with the American nuclear submarine Connecticut in the South China Sea.

We will remind that initially it was reported about the collision of the US Navy nuclear submarine with an unknown object during the dive, as well as the fact that there were no injuries on board, damage - too. After some time, the American military command admitted that several crew members received injuries of varying severity, as well as that the bow of the submarine was damaged. As Voennoye Obozreniye has already reported, the submarine arrived on its own at one of the American military bases on the island of Guam about 6 days after the incident.

In the United States, they continue to declare that there are no problems with the S6W nuclear reactor on board the submarine. Meanwhile, China is calling on the Americans to disclose all the details of the incident and provide data on whether there was a radiation release in the area of the incident. The official authorities and the US command remain silent in this regard.

Chinese experts, meanwhile, point to the statements made by the American side in connection with the incident. For example, it was stated that the nuclear submarine "probably collided with a sunken ship or container." It is noted that if this is so, then the US Navy actually admits that USS Connecticut was actually moving in the area of the bottom, but how else can one collide with a sunken object? Taking into account that the maximum immersion depth of the submarines of this project ("Seawulf II") is 610 m, respectively, and the collision with the "unidentified" object occurred in that part of the South China Sea, which corresponds in depth to such parameters. For reference: the average depth of this sea is over 1 km.

In this regard, it has been suggested that USS Connecticut could have been damaged in the area of the Parcel Islands (south of Hainan Island), which are disputed territories. The PRC considers these islands its own, calling Xisha, Vietnam - its own, calling Kuandao Hoangsha. Taiwan also puts forward its territorial claims with respect to the Parcel Islands.



American submarines are frequent guests in this area.

At the same time, experts point out that the onboard equipment of the submarine would make it possible to identify a large or relatively large metal object, which includes a sunken ship or container. Therefore, the opinion was expressed that the submarine could collide with an object of the bottom relief - for example, with a reef part. Although in this case it is strange that the object remained unnoticed.

Chinese military experts:

If the Connecticut submarine collided with a sunken ship or container, then the US nuclear submarine has problems with onboard equipment. Moreover, they call the object "unknown".

It is pointed out that in any case, the US Navy is hiding a lot in the case of the incident in the South China Sea.

Top war/ Military Review/ News

The Navy's SSN(X) Submarine Will Redefine Undersea Warfare

Story by Maya Carlin



The Navy's SSN(X) Submarine Will Redefine Undersea Warfare

The next-generation SSN(X) submarine is expected to deliver greater transit speed under increased stealth conditions in every ocean environment.

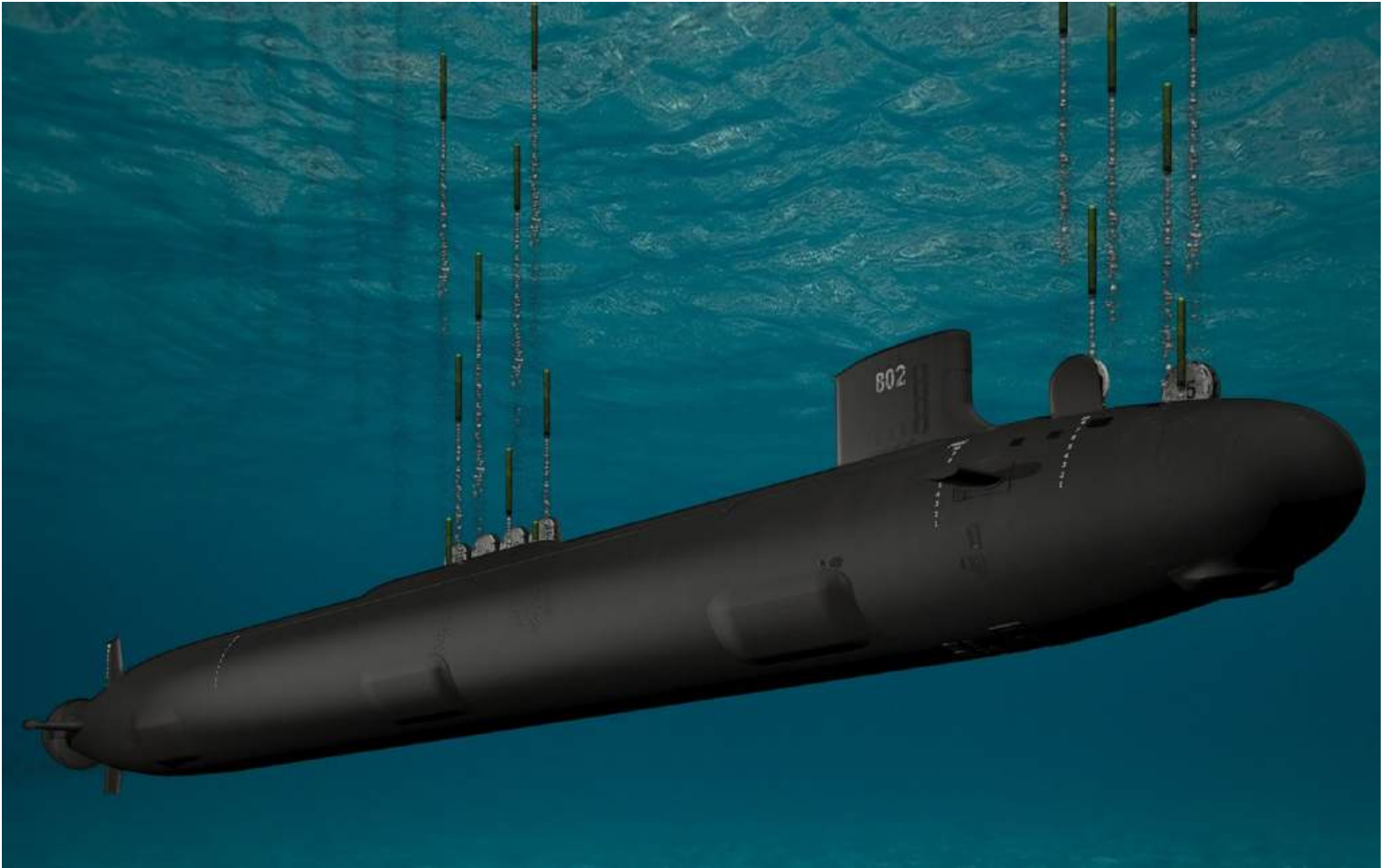
Budgetary constraints and labor shortages have hindered the development of nearly every next-generation project for the U.S. Navy. From the service's SSN(X) submarine to its F/A-XX fighter and DDG(X) destroyer proposals, the timely arrival of any new platform will no longer be possible. Currently, the Navy's Next-Generation Attack Submarine program has been pushed back to Fiscal Year 2040. Considering the ramp-up in tensions between Washington and Beijing, the Navy's ability to maintain its sea-based dominance is critical. The service's existing *Virginia*-class and *Columbia*-class nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs) are certainly advanced; however, the next-generation SSN(X) vessels are being designed with newer technologies aimed at countering near-peer adversaries.

If the Navy's upcoming SSN(X) features the stealth and acoustic quietness of the *Virginia*-class in addition to other enhancements, these submarines will undoubtedly be unstoppable underwater. Since these vessels are already suffering from service delays, any future infringement on the class's eventual arrival will be a detriment to the Navy.

Shipbuilders, Navy Want Deal on 2 Virginia Attack Boats ‘As Soon as Possible’

<https://news.usni.org/2025/02/06/shipbuilders-navy-want-deal-on-2-virginia-attack-boats-as-soon-as-possible>

February 06, 2024 Sam LaGrone



Rendering of Block V Virginia-class submarine with Virginia Payload Module. General Dynamics Electric Boat Image

The Navy and its nuclear submarine shipbuilders are closing in on a deal to put two long-awaited Virginia-class submarines under contract, company leaders said in earnings calls over the last week. Supported by a \$5.7 billion anomaly for submarine construction in the most recent continuing resolution to fund the federal government, the Navy, General Dynamics Electric Boat and HII’s Newport News are finalizing the detail design and construction contracts for the Block V *Baltimore* (SSN-812) and *Atlanta* (SSN-813) attack submarines following an injection of funds to make up for cost overruns.

As part of the Fiscal Year 2024 defense spending bill, Congress appropriated \$9.4 billion for the two boats, but were short by almost \$2 billion to cover the rising cost of labor and supplies.

The funds “allow the Navy to cover fact-of-life cost increases on the two FY 24 boats and one FY 25 boat. They also provide funds for additional workforce development and allow us to target funding at specific productivity areas that we are working at with our customer,” General Dynamics CEO Phebe Novakovic said in a Jan. 29 earnings call.

“We are working with our customer to get this under contract as soon as possible.”

The Fiscal Year 2025 boat will be the first of nine or ten Block VI attack boats. The Navy is also set to negotiate contracts for five Build II of the Columbia-class nuclear ballistic-missile submarines.

The year-plus delay in signing contracts for the 17 boats has been at the center of a struggle for how Navy, Congress and industry should manage the ballooning costs of submarine construction after the COVID-19

pandemic. HII is pushing a plan called the Shipbuilder Accountability and Workforce Support, or SAWS, that the Navy developed and then abandoned.

SAWS allows HII and EB to take some workforce money in existing contracts for boats that haven't begun construction and break those open to create a pool of more than \$10 billion to apply more freely to infrastructure and labor costs.

"Block VI and Columbia Build II, we're going to have to see the acquisition approach for those boats they developed," HII CEO Chris Kastner said during a Thursday earnings call.

"Anything that brings additional investment into the industrial base that accelerates shipbuilding production is positive, but we're going to take this one step at a time."

In addition to the cost for the new construction boats, HII and EB also have to contend with the pre-COVID-19 Block IV fixed price contracts for four boats — *Idaho* (SSN-799) and *Utah* (SSN-801) at EB and *Massachusetts* (SSN-798) and *Arkansas* (SSN-800) at HII's Newport News Shipbuilding.

Those boats will require additional money to complete due to the same labor and supply pressures and SAWS could help with those costs, supporters of the proposal have told USNI News. Those opposed to SAWS worry that the money would live outside of oversight controls.

Last week at the WEST 2025 conference, Vice Adm. John Skillman, deputy chief of naval operations for integration of capabilities and resources (N8), said the Navy is working through the two yards' concerns in the contracting process.

"I would say that bottom line, regardless of the fiscal strategy that was, some of the functionality that SAWS provided for would help the yard be better at building submarines," he said.

The CR anomaly listed specifically where the development money would go "to help them in the very near term and then working the [upcoming] contract to figure out what we would do in the next contract," Skillman said.

"That's what they're working on and that's why it's taken a little while."



Sailor who survived 1941 Pearl Harbor attack in battleship's belly dies at age 103

Wyatt Olson February 1, 2025

<https://www.stripes.com/veterans/2025-01-31/pratt-pearl-harbor-attack-obituary-16674789.html>



William Pratt, shown in here in an undated photo taken during World War II, survived the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. He died at age 103 on Jan. 23, 2025, in Fresno, Calif. (Pacific Historic Parks)

William Henry Pratt, who survived both the 1941 surprise attack on Pearl Harbor and a series of dangerous patrols aboard a submarine during World War II, died Jan. 23 in Fresno, Calif. He was 103.

At the time of the attack, Pratt was aboard the battleship USS Nevada, the only warship that managed to get underway in the midst of the flaming carnage on Battleship Row.

His brother Bazil, who served beside him aboard the Nevada, also survived.

Pratt's death was announced in a Facebook post Thursday by Pacific Historic Parks.

He had been among just over a dozen still-living veterans who survived the Japanese attack that killed 2,335 service members and 68 civilians on Oahu on Dec. 7, 1941.

Pratt was born on Dec. 19, 1921, in Bloomington, Ill., sharing a home with three brothers and two sisters.

As adulthood beckoned, joining the military was a compelling choice for a generation raised during the Great Depression, Pratt said in an interview with Hometown Heroes Radio on Dec. 12, 2021.

"Life was pretty rough," he said. "My dad worked here and there and we traveled around the country."

Pratt looked at the Navy as "a job, a paying job," he said. "That was the only paying job a young guy could get."

After boot camp, he was assigned to the USS Nevada, a 583-foot-long battleship that had been in service since before World War I.

Pratt was below deck on the Nevada the Sunday morning of Dec. 7.

“I began to hear bombs going off, but of course I didn’t know they were bombs,” he said. “I started to go up topside to see what was going on when general quarters sounded.”

With that, Pratt raced to his battle station in a propeller-shaft room in the lowest deck of the ship, where he was sealed in by watertight doors. There, his job was to ensure that the automatic lubrication of the shaft continued, and, if it didn’t, oil it manually, he said.

Shortly after the attack began, the ship lost power and Pratt was plunged into utter darkness.

“It was dark and it was scary because I didn’t know what was going on,” he recalled in the interview. “We were listing to the side because we’d been hit on the port side. Torpedo planes had gotten to the port side.”

Pratt thought the end had come.

“I really thought it was over,” he said. “Of course, you do a lot of things, even pray.”

Eventually, the ship’s generators brought light back to the lower decks.

Unlike other ships in Battleship Row, the Nevada was not snugly moored to sister ships, and thus it was able to get underway, despite being pummeled by bombs.

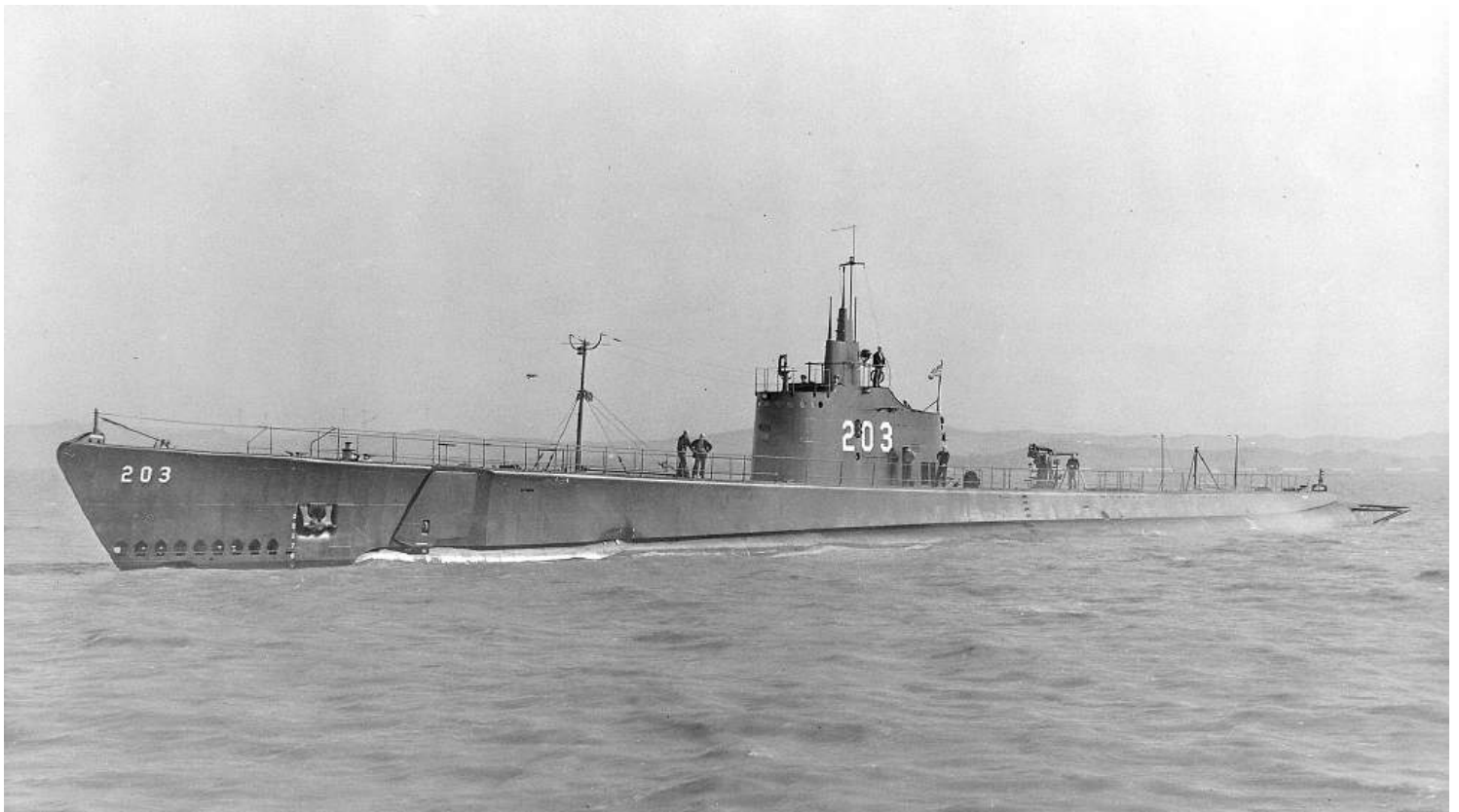
The ship was grounded on a sandy beach in the harbor to prevent it from sinking or blocking passage.

“They gave me, all of us, rifles and told us to shoot at anything that moves,” Pratt said, adding that many expected a Japanese invasion force would land following the aerial attack.

Sixty men died and another 109 were wounded on the Nevada that day.

Later in the war, Pratt served aboard the submarine USS Tuna, which was credited with sinking numerous Japanese ships, including the Kurohime Maru in March 1943 and the Takima Maru in May 1944.

He is survived by his wife of over 70 years, Pauline Pratt, and son, William B. Pratt. He will be buried with military honors on Feb. 4 at Belmont Memorial Park in Fresno.





Requin Base Supporters

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



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