

THE BROADCAST

Official Newsletter of Commander, Submarine Forces

Fall 2022



CENTCOM Commander Embarks USS West Virginia



General Michael "Erik" Kurilla, Commander of U.S. Central Command, conducted a visit aboard the Ohio-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) at an undisclosed location at sea in international waters in the Arabian Sea, Oct. 19.



ZBO

noun acronym

1. Operational signal meaning “the following messages are of concern”.

IN THIS ISSUE

ADMIRAL'S CABIN	1
THE GOAT LOCKER	3
MIDDLE EAST	4
EUROPE	5
DIEGO GARCIA	6
GROTON	7
GUAM	8
HAWAII	10
JAPAN	11
KINGS BAY	12
KOREA	13
NEWPORT NEWS	14
NORFOLK	15
WASHINGTON	16
MAJOR COMMAND RESULTS	18
HOMEcomings	20

The Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) arrived in Gibraltar for a scheduled port visit, Nov. 1.





VICE ADMIRAL WILLIAM HOUSTON
Commander, Submarine Forces

ADMIRAL'S CABIN

“Our people are the true source of our success”



REAR ADMIRAL JEFFREY T. JABLON
Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

As the U.S. Navy endeavors to “Get Real, Get Better”, we must continue maintaining the highest standards, which have shaped and molded our Submarine Force into the world-class organization we know today. We must carry forward our long-established tenets of critical self-assessment, active learning and continuous improvement to sustain our Force’s growth across the spectrum of “Warfighting,” “People” and “Safety”.

Optimizing our lethality and capability, and maintaining our overmatch in the undersea domain, are vitally important to our national security in the era of Strategic Competition.

We must always remember that our people are the true source of our success. We must actively maintain the programs that support our Sailors’ development, their well-being, and their families’ well-being.

Our Submarine Force prides itself on routinely and safely operating in the world’s most challenging environments. Accordingly, we must ensure that safety remains the solid foundation of everything we do.

With these tenets in mind, a discussion of our noteworthy accomplishments over the past year follows.

Warfighting

We have executed multiple exquisite undersea operations vital to national security in which SSNs/SSGNs were the only units capable of accomplishing the mission.

We have increased SSBN operational tempo while simultaneously improving readiness. We expanded global SSBN operations in Guam, Faslane, Gibraltar, Diego Garcia and Arabian Sea.

We recently revised our deployment preparations and certification instruction, which redesigns the FRTP to sustain a higher degree of combat readiness across the Force. It maximizes our submarines’ day-to-day combat readiness as each submarine achieves increasing levels of crew and ship readiness via realigned milestones during the months preceding their deployment.

Our recently-completed FRTP Wholeness Review will translate to CTQS and CTQM program improvements, and these improvements to our training programs will yield better capability and readiness across the Force, while reducing administrative burdens.

Our information warfare (IW) and cyber pilot programs, now in execution, are providing valuable best practices and lessons learned towards raising our warfighting readiness in both the electronic warfare and cyber domains – areas critical to winning in a high-end maritime fight.

The Wolfpack is a new Atlantic Fleet operating model with targeted SSN availability under a “One Atlantic” framework to ensure heightened readiness for defending the homeland. This model has already proven extremely effective in real-world operations.

People

The first female Chief of the Boat reported onboard USS Louisiana – a critical milestone since our Force first integrated female officers onboard submarines in 2011 and female enlisted Sailors in 2016. The first female executive officer (XO) reported onboard an SSBN later this year. This is a non-integrated unit, as female XOs and commanding officers (CO) can be assigned to any submarine. We are now approaching 1,000 female submariners on 12 integrated crews and are moving to increase the speed of integration across more platforms.

Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic has worked with U.S. Naval Forces Northern Command to authorize SSNs and SSGNs to secure the topside roving patrol in Kings Bay (KB), Groton and Norfolk which have a port security barrier installed. This will immediately reduce the watchbill burden on our submarine crews. We are diligently working to effect this change in all of our submarine home ports.

Tiger Teams have been established to help resolve our Sailors’ pay issues. As efforts continue to optimize the Tiger Teams’ effectiveness, our submarine readiness squadrons are also supporting the workload to better support our Sailors.

Auxiliary division sea-returnees are authorized intermediate stops (I-Stops) for Navy enlisted classification (NEC)-based schools during permanent change of station (PCS) travel, which removes the burden of sending Sailors to school after checking into an operational unit.

We are piloting junior officer (JO) split tours on multiple SSNs. This pilot is being evaluated for expansion to a submarine homeport.

To reduce the burden on operational units, we reduced the Security Reaction Force-Basic course length to approximately

(Continued on page 2)



ADMIRAL'S CABIN

(Continued from page 1)

one-third of the standard Navywide school requirement by eliminating non-relevant material.

Naval Nuclear Power Training Command and Trident Training Facility (KB) have piloted the Basic Firefighting Training course for nuclear pipeline students. We are working with the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations to obtain funding to make this effort permanent. This will reduce the burden and training overhead for operational crews.

The 2.5-day training course for non-missile technician (MT) ratings qualifying security force watches on SSBNs is helping reduce qualification time from months to weeks.

We continue to expand leadership development with 360 Feedback and Submarine Leadership Assessment Program (SUBLAP) to ensure our XO's and CO's continue to develop into outstanding leaders.

Safety

Carrying forward the lessons learned from the Connecticut grounding, we issued Change 2 to the Submarine Operations Manual changing how we train the Force, and are accelerating the delivery of advanced tools to ease ECDIS-N [navigation]

planning burdens.

To enhance our in port firefighting posture, we mandated the wear of the improved flame resistant variant coveralls for all duty section personnel on submarines.

Removable in port fire suppression systems are now available for use on our SSBNs during refit periods. Private shipyards are upgrading their fire detection systems to be on par with our public shipyards.

This spring, we will field an improved periscope for SSBNs to enhance safety at periscope depth in busy shipping lanes.

Reflecting on the past year, we have made substantial progress towards improving our warfighting readiness, supporting our people and improving our safety. We have much to accomplish and welcome your feedback to continue removing barriers and improving our Force. We continue enabling our people to innovate, improve and further develop our Force into the most lethal and capable Submarine Force the world has ever seen.

Apex Predators!



Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS West Virginia (SSBN-736) visits U.S. Navy Support Facility (NSF) Diego Garcia during a scheduled patrol. This port visit to Diego Garcia reflects the United States' commitment to the Indo-Pacific region, and complements the many exercises, training, operations, and the other military cooperation activities conducted by Strategic Forces to ensure they are available and ready to operate around the globe at any time.



THE GOAT LOCKER



FORCE MASTER CHIEF NEIL FORD
Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic

“Your input is valued and needed”



FORCE MASTER CHIEF JASON AVIN
Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet

Over the past year we’ve talked about some important issues facing the Force. Some say the military is a microcosm of American society as a whole, and if that is true then the Submarine Force is an even more refined version of that. Each and every day we see examples of American ingenuity, a can-do spirit and the willingness and ability to come together to accomplish seemingly impossible feats by our Sailors. We believe our Navy is a melting pot of acceptance and diversity which makes this nation, our warships and our Sailors second-to-none.

The military has often been ahead of the rest of country when it comes to policies related to inclusion and equality. Throughout history, our Nation’s Military has always tried to be at the forefront of inclusion. One example we’d like to highlight for this installment is women. Women have been serving in the U.S. Navy for more than 100 years, and continue to do so with distinction. While roles for women on submarines were not always available, we’re closing that gap quickly. In the last year the Submarine Force has welcomed our first female Chief of the Boat, and our first female executive officer. These are the faces of our Force.

The respect we have and give to one another does not come easily. Respect is earned, and it doesn’t come with the part of town you grew up in or the car you drive, or the college you may have attended. Respect comes from hard work, empathy and trust, and is shown by the dolphins on our chests. It is seen in the knowing nod of shared struggle and the knowledge that no boat wins alone, that it takes the entire Force working together in concert, which rings to a Force Master Chief like a symphony.

The skill, bravery, dedication, readiness, willingness and ability of the Submarine Force has ensured a quiet homefront, albeit not without sacrifice. Now, we look to the road ahead.

To meet the challenge ahead, it’s a time for every Sailor to “get real.” To get real with themselves, get real with their shipmates, and to yes, get real with their leadership. If something or someone isn’t right, call it out, but do so professionally. If there’s a process which could be improved, run it up the chain. If there is any issue affecting your ability to

grow, or our ability be the most lethal warfighting machine on the planet, bring it up.

And this goes for everyone. From the Fireman in the engineering spaces, to the division officer, and every chief in the Mess. Bring. It. Up. And if you hit a wall or hurdle or roadblock – elevate it! Everyone has a boss. Your input is valued and needed.

We will not have the luxury of ‘building the plane as we’re flying it’. When we sail at dawn, we go out with what we’ve got, and so what we’ve got needs to be the best. We believe, in my heart of hearts, that each and every one of you has that in you--that little bit extra that’s going to come up and make others take pause and that together, with a boat full of these Sailors, with a squadron full of these boats, there’s nothing we can’t do.



NEXCOM’s Micro Market is a self-service, self-checkout store that offers a broad array of fresh food, healthy and traditional snacks, and beverage products at a convenient location for ease of access and quick purchases.



MIDDLE EAST

CENTCOM Commander Embarks USS West Virginia Ballistic Missile Submarine

By U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Public Affairs



General Michael "Erik" Kurilla, Commander of CENTCOM, conducted a visit aboard USS West Virginia (SSBN 736), a U.S. Navy Ohio-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine at an undisclosed location at sea in international waters in the Arabian Sea, Oct. 19.

General Michael "Erik" Kurilla, Commander of U.S. Central Command, conducted a visit aboard USS West Virginia (SSBN 736), a U.S. Navy Ohio-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine at an undisclosed location at sea in international waters in the Arabian Sea.

Kurilla was joined on West Virginia by Vice Admiral Brad Cooper, Commander of the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet and U.S. Naval Forces Central Command (USCENTCOM). During his visit onboard the submarine, General Kurilla received a hands-on demonstration of the capabilities of the vessel, which operates globally under U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM).

"I was thoroughly impressed with the crew of the USS West Virginia; these Sailors represent the highest level of professionalism, expertise, and discipline across the U.S. military," said Kurilla. "These submarines are the crown jewel of the nuclear triad, and the West Virginia demonstrates the flexibility, survivability, readiness, and capability of USCENTCOM and USSTRATCOM forces at sea."

USSTRATCOM forces are on watch 24/7 globally, operating in

all domains, while supporting other commands, to defend the nation and our allies.

West Virginia is one of six ballistic-missile submarines stationed at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, and is capable of carrying up to 20 submarine-launched ballistic missiles with multiple warheads.



EUROPE

USS Rhode Island Arrives in Gibraltar

By U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/U.S. Sixth Fleet Public Affairs



The U.S. Navy Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) arrived in Gibraltar for a scheduled port visit, Nov. 1.

The U.S. Navy Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Rhode Island (SSBN 740) arrived in Gibraltar for a scheduled port visit, Nov. 1.

This brief stop in the U.S. Naval Forces Europe area of operations demonstrates the flexibility and adaptability submarines bring to U.S. and allied forces in the region. The last time a U.S. Navy SSBN conducted a port visit to Gibraltar was USS Alaska (SSBN 732) in June 2021.

“Rhode Island’s port visit to Gibraltar reinforces our ironclad commitment to our allies and partners in the region. The U.S. and U.K. share a strong history of cooperation, through exercises, operations, and cooperation activities such as this, that enhance our combined capabilities and partnership,” said Capt. John Craddock, Commander, Task Force 69. “The complexity, lethality, and tactical expertise of Rhode Island epitomizes the effectiveness and strength of the submarine force.”

Prior to her port visit to Gibraltar, Rhode Island visited His Majesty’s Naval Base (HMNB) Clyde, Scotland (Faslane) for a scheduled port visit in July 2022.

Rhode Island, homeported in Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Ga., is an Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine. These submarines are flexible and survivable, with the ability to patrol continuously as a highly-effective element of the U.S. nuclear deterrence force. Assigned to Submarine Group 10, Rhode Island is one of six ballistic-missile submarines homeported at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia.

Commander, Task Force 69 is responsible for submarine

warfare operations in the United States European Command and U.S. African Command areas of responsibility. Specifically, Task Force 69 is composed of attack submarines and guided missile submarines capable of a range of combat and intelligence collection missions.

For over 80 years, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-U.S. Naval Forces Africa (NAVEUR-NAVAF) has forged strategic relationships with allies and partners, leveraging a foundation of shared values to preserve security and stability.

Headquartered in Naples, Italy, NAVEUR-NAVAF operates U.S. naval forces in the U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) and U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) areas of responsibility. U.S. Sixth Fleet is permanently assigned to NAVEUR-NAVAF, and employs maritime forces through the full spectrum of joint and naval operations.



DIEGO GARCIA

USS West Virginia visits Diego Garcia during extended deterrence patrol

By U.S. Strategic Command Public Affairs



Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS West Virginia (SSBN-736) conducts a port visit at U.S. Navy Support Facility (NSF) Diego Garcia during a scheduled patrol.

The Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS West Virginia (SSBN 736) stopped in Diego Garcia for a brief port visit Oct. 25-31, during an extended deterrence patrol providing security and stability to our Allies.

The visit, part of West Virginia's sustained deterrence operations in the U. S. Central Command and Indo-Pacific Command areas of responsibility, emphasizes the unmatched capabilities of a ballistic missile submarine to deter and, if necessary, respond from anywhere on the globe.

"Every operational plan rests on the assumption that nuclear deterrence is holding, and SSBNs like West Virginia are vital to a credible nuclear deterrence for the United States and our Allies," said Adm. Charles Richard, commander of U.S. Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM).

West Virginia is one of 14 Ohio-class SSBNs that make up the most survivable leg of the nuclear triad by serving as an undetectable launch platform for submarine-launched ballistic missiles. Before visiting Diego Garcia, West Virginia surfaced to embark Gen. Michael Kurilla, the commander of USSTRATCOM, in the Arabian Sea and participated in a joint, USSTRATCOM-directed communications exercise to validate emerging and innovative tactics in the Indian Ocean.

"West Virginia, like each of our ballistic missile submarines, is specifically designed for extended deterrent patrols," said Commander of Naval Submarine Forces, Vice Adm. William Houston. "The stealth and response capability of these submarines combined with the crew's training make our SSBNs

the most powerful warships in the world."

The submarine also conducted a complete crew exchange in Diego Garcia and a subsequent replenishment at sea, highlighting the SSBN force's readiness and flexibility to remain on patrol for an extended period of time.

West Virginia is one of six ballistic-missile submarines stationed at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, and can carry up to 20 submarine-launched ballistic missiles with multiple warheads.

Submarine Forces execute the Department of the Navy's strategic deterrence mission in and from the undersea domain. In addition to lending added capacity to naval forces, Submarine Forces, in particular, are expected to leverage those unique advantages that come with undersea concealment to permit operational, deterrent, and combat effects that the Navy and the nation could not otherwise achieve.

USSTRATCOM forces operate around the world, around the clock, to deter strategic attacks and employ forces as directed to guarantee the security of our Nation and our Allies.



GROTON

Vice Chief of Naval Operations visits Navy submariners in Connecticut

By Lt. Cmdr. Seth Koenig

Vice Chief of Naval Operations (VCNO) Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti visited Submarine Force leaders at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Connecticut, Nov. 16.

VCNO is the second highest-ranking commissioned officer in the Department of the Navy, under the Chief of Naval Operations.

Franchetti was hosted in Groton by Rear Adm. Martin Muckian, Commander of the Undersea Warfighting Development Center (UWDC).

During her first visit to the area since becoming VCNO, Franchetti met with local military leaders to discuss Sailor quality of service, readiness, and submarine maintenance.

“This visit was a tremendous opportunity to hear directly from some of the leaders in the Navy’s Submarine Force and discuss how the Navy can best support their continued innovation and readiness in the undersea domain,” said Franchetti. “It’s crucial we maintain, grow and leverage the warfighting advantage that our state-of-the-art submarines and their elite crews provide our country.”

Groton is currently the home of 15 nuclear-powered fast attack submarines and submarine crews, as well as UWDC and a significant portion of the Submarine Force training pipeline, including the Naval Submarine School and Submarine Learning Center. After meeting with area submarine, squadron and support command leaders, Franchetti visited the

submarine school.

“We are honored to host Adm. Franchetti at the U.S. Naval Submarine School and demonstrate the warfighter development of our prospective department heads as we train and mentor them toward excellence,” said Capt. Eric Sager, commanding officer of the submarine school. “The Submarine Officer’s Advanced Course is a pivotal moment in a submarine officer’s career and professional development as leaders, warriors, and tacticians. Her meeting with the students and sharing the Navy’s strategic vision for combat today and in the near future underscores the significance of the submarine as a premier component of each combatant commander’s war plan.”

Also while in Connecticut, Franchetti visited General Dynamics Corp.’s Electric Boat shipyard to discuss the newest Virginia-class fast attack submarines being constructed, as well as the future Columbia-class ballistic missile submarines, the Navy’s number one acquisition priority.

The keel-laying ceremony marking the start of construction for the first of the new class – the future USS District of Columbia (SSBN 826) – was held in June at Electric Boat’s facility in nearby Quonset Point, Rhode Island. When completed, the Columbia-class submarines will be the largest submarines ever built by the United States, with 560 feet in length and a displacement of 20,810 tons.



Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti is joined by Rear Adm. Martin Muckian, Commander of the Undersea Warfighting Development Center (UWDC) during a meeting with fast attack submarine commanding officers, executive officers and chiefs of the boat at UWDC in Groton, Conn., on Nov. 16.

GUAM

SUBMARINE STAFF TALKS BETWEEN U.S. AND REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE NAVY HIGHLIGHT INTEROPERABILITY IN INDO-PACIFIC REGION

By Lt. Cmdr. Robert Reinheimer

Rear Adm. Rick Seif, Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7/Task Force (CTF) 54/CTF 74, held a series of theater security cooperation (TSC) engagements at Polaris Point, Naval Base Guam as part of the fourth submarine staff talks with the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) submarine force, Oct. 18-19, 2022.

During this year's staff talks, Seif and RSN Col. Fong Chi Onn, Commander, 7th Flotilla, discussed a wide range of issues, including upcoming opportunities to demonstrate increased interoperability as well as the submarine support infrastructure available at Naval Base Guam.

"The RSN is one of our leading regional partners, so I was happy that we were able to hold these meetings in-person for the first time since 2019," said Seif. "Staff talks such as these are important relationship-building opportunities, and I look forward to working more closely with their submarine force to further strengthen regional peace and security."

Seif, Fong and RSN submariners toured the submarine tender USS Emory S. Land (AS 39), as well as Naval Submarine Training

Center Pacific (NSTCP) Detachment Guam during their time in Guam.

The two leaders also held an office call with Capt. Carl Trask, Commander, Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 15.

At the conclusion of the staff talks, the two Navy leaders reviewed and signed a set of action items, reaffirming their commitment to continued cooperation and integration of their submarine forces in the coming year.

Submarine Group 7 is responsible for coordinating a diverse fleet of submarines, surface ships and aircraft deployed to the Western Pacific and the Middle East; two forward-deployed submarine tenders and five attack submarines homeported in Guam; Submarine Squadron 21 in Bahrain; five ocean surveillance ships when tasked for theater anti-submarine warfare operations, and two oceanographic survey vessels. Under CSG 7 are two task forces: CTF 74 and CTF 54, which provide theater anti-submarine warfare support from the Red Sea to the International Date Line.



Members of the U.S. and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) pose for a photo at Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, during the 4th RSN and U.S. Navy Submarine Force Staff Talks, Oct. 18. Since 2017, these submarine staff talks have brought together leaders of both the U.S. and RSN submarine forces to discuss increased interoperability and relationship building.

GUAM

CTF 74 Hosts Republic of Korea Navy for SWCM 55 in Guam

By Lt. Cmdr. Robert Reinheimer



Rear Adm. Rick Seif, Commander, Submarine Group 7, left, and Rear Adm. Su Youl Lee, Commander, Republic of Korea (ROK) Navy Submarine Force, present the signed action items at the conclusion of the 55th Submarine Warfare Committee Meeting (SWCM), Sept. 30.

Rear Adm. Rick Seif, Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7/Task Force (CTF) 54/CTF 74, conducted bilateral talks with the Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN) at Polaris Point, Naval Base Guam as part of the 55th iteration of the Submarine Warfare Committee Meeting (SWCM) with the ROKN Submarine Force, Sept. 26-30.

"The U.S.-ROK alliance is absolutely ironclad, and the same can be said of our undersea forces. Together we are among the most interoperable, capable, and dynamic in the world," said Seif. "Having these bilateral discussions in Guam with the ships, Sailors and submarines of our forward-deployed undersea force helps to build deeper cooperation and to maintain readiness with our ROK counterparts."

During SWCM 55, Seif met with Rear Adm. Su Youl Lee, Commander, ROK Navy Submarine Force (CSF), to further enhance the close relationship between the two commands through a slate of tours, meetings, and integrated activities for both U.S. and ROK submariners.

One of the scheduled events during SWCM 55 was a roundtable consisting of women submariners, who offered their perspectives of serving in the submarine force to the ROKN leadership.

"This meeting was a great opportunity to share lessons-learned and various perspectives regarding female integrated

submarine crews, as Korea is getting ready for female integration in submarines as well," said Lee.

At the end of the 5-day event, the two Navy leaders reviewed and signed the SWCM 55 action items, committing themselves to continued work in the coming year to increase readiness and integration of the US/ROK combined submarine force.

SWCM was established in 1994, during the early years of the ROK submarine force. Since then, leaders of both the U.S. and ROK submarine forces have met consistently to deepen partnerships and advance combined submarine training and force integration. SWCM 54 was held in June 2022 in South Korea.

Seif, Lee and ROKN submariners toured the submarine tender USS Emory S. Land (AS 39), as well as Naval Submarine Training Center Pacific (NSTCP) Detachment Guam during their time in Guam.

Lee also held an office call with leadership at Commander, Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 15.

SUBRON 15 is located at Polaris Point, Naval Base Guam in Santa Rita, Guam, and consists of five Los Angeles-class attack submarines.

"Our forward-deployed submarines are always ready to fight, whether supporting our duty to national defense or supporting our allies and partners in the region," said Capt. Carl Trask, Commander, SUBRON 15.

The squadron staff is responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support to commands. The submarine tenders USS Emory S. Land (AS 39) and USS Frank Cable (AS 40) are also based out of Naval Base Guam, and provide expeditionary maintenance and logistics capabilities to the SUBRON 15 submarines and visiting ships.

HAWAII

COMSUBPAC Hosts Undersea Warfare Symposium for Junior Officers

By Lt. Cmdr. Amelia Umayam



Rear Adm. Michael Vernazza, Commander, Fleet Information Warfare Command/Information Warfare Task Force Pacific, addresses a group of junior officers at a flag officer panel held during the inaugural Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Junior Officer Undersea Symposium and Training (Joust) event, Nov. 17.

More than 50 junior officers gathered at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam for the inaugural Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet Junior Officer Undersea Symposium and Training (Joust) event, Nov. 14-18.

Pacific Joust, which focused on developing the U.S. Navy's future undersea warfare (USW) leaders, followed an earlier event which occurred on the East Coast in April and was led by U.S. 2nd Fleet and Commander, Submarine Force Atlantic. Junior officers from the aviation, surface warfare, submarine, naval special warfare, explosive ordnance disposal, and information warfare communities participated in the event.

"This symposium was an all-community event, planned and executed by our best and brightest junior officers, which will help the U.S. Navy maintain its advantage in the undersea domain," said Rear Adm. Jeff Jablon, Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Pacific Fleet (COMSUBPAC). "We know that our competitors seek to challenge our undersea superiority, but events like Joust are bringing together our warfighters in a way that will build unbreakable relationships which will become the foundation for our continued success in the next generation."

During the five-day event, junior officers learned about adversary capabilities and threats, platform-specific USW capabilities and tactics, integrated USW operations with recent examples and lessons learned, theater contingency plans, and future force capabilities. They also toured USW platforms, including a P-8A Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft, MH-60R Seahawk helicopters, the Arleigh Burke-class guided

missile destroyer USS Daniel Inouye (DDG 118), and Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Illinois (SSN 786); received insight from Flag Officer leadership; and participated in a tabletop wargame exercise that provided the opportunity to apply concepts learned during the week. Throughout each session, participants interacted with their peers from other communities in a way that allowed them to build the vital relationships which will benefit them as they progress through the ranks.

"I was asked to take lead on planning this inaugural west coast event, which was honestly a bit overwhelming," said Lt. Dan Araki, the COMSUBPAC Assistant Senior Watch Officer and lead junior officer planning Pacific Joust. "I'm proud of how the event turned out, and all we

accomplished. This event was really about bringing together the future leaders in undersea warfare, and raising our shared level of knowledge in that domain, and I feel we succeeded at accomplishing that."

Pacific Joust was built around a culminating event: a tabletop exercise informed by real world events and scenarios. Participants were organized into cohorts, each representing a task group or task force which conducted planning and course of action analysis and development. The symposium culminated with a tabletop wargame exercise on the final day, with participants working together to apply concepts they had learned.

"It's cool to see other communities' roles in undersea warfare," said Lt. j.g. T.J. Sulu, from Strike Group Oceanography Team San Diego. "You can get caught up in your own community, so being able to see other junior officers' perspectives helps you to see and understand the bigger picture."

Given this year's overwhelming success of both the Pacific and Atlantic iterations of Joust, efforts are now progressing to make these events occur on an annual basis.

"As you move forward, I encourage you to continue actively learning, leading, collaborating, innovating, and overcoming barriers – because these are the efforts that will collectively strengthen our team and maintain our overmatch in the undersea domain," said Jablon during his closing remarks to the group.

JAPAN

COMSUBPAC Visits JMSDF and U.S. Navy Leadership

By Lt. Cmdr. Amelia Umayam



(From left to right) Rear Adm. Rick Seif, Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7, Rear Adm. Jeff Jablon, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Vice Adm. TAWARA Tateki, Commander, Fleet Submarine Force, and Cmdr. TSUCHIYA Toru, commanding officer of the Taigei-class submarine JS Taigei (SS 513) pose for a photo at Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Sept. 12.

Rear Adm. Jeff Jablon, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, traveled to Japan Sept. 12 through Sept. 14 to meet with U.S. Navy leadership and strengthen existing ties with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF).

The U.S.-Japan alliance is a cornerstone of peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific and its navies have worked together for more than 70 years to assure regional security.

To begin the visit, Jablon met with Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7 /Commander, Task Force (CTF) 74, Rear Adm. Rick Seif, who directs U.S. Navy assets conducting undersea warfare within the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Sea as the Theater Undersea Warfare Commander. Seif provided an update on the undersea operations of the Indo-Pacific and how our submarine forces continue to reassure our allies and partners in the region of the Navy's commitment to security and stability.

"Undersea forces who operate in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations frequently train with their Japanese counterparts and visit Japanese ports, and it was beneficial for me to engage with the CTF 74 staff and observe their daily operations first hand" said Jablon. "The Sailors and civilians assigned to Submarine Group Seven are outstanding professionals who work day in and day out to ensure our undersea advantage in the Western Pacific."

Jablon conducted visits to and held discussions with JMSDF

Commander, Fleet Submarine Force Vice Adm. TAWARA Tateki and JMSDF Commander in Chief, Self Defense Fleet, Vice Adm. YUASA Hideki. TAWARA then took Jablon to Yokosuka Naval Base to tour the newest submarine in the JMSDF fleet, the Taigei-class submarine JS Taigei (SS 513).

"This visit was a fantastic opportunity to meet with my counterparts here in Japan, and reaffirm our mutual interest in the undersea domain," said Jablon. "I appreciated being able to visit the newest submarine in the Japanese Fleet, JS Taigei. The excitement from the commanding officer and his crew were palpable, and I wish them the best as they begin to operate in support of their national goals."

Jablon's visit also included visits to meet with other U.S. Navy leadership in Japan including Rear Adm. Erik Eslich, the deputy commander for U.S. 7th Fleet, Rear Adm. Carl Lahti, Commander, Navy Region Japan, and Capt. Will Toraason, commodore of CTF 72. CTF 74 and CTF 72 work closely together within the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations to conduct seamless theater antisubmarine warfare operations.

The U.S. Pacific Submarine Force provides anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, precision land strike, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and early warning, special warfare capabilities, and strategic deterrence around the world.



Rear Adm. Rick Seif, Commander, Submarine Group (CSG) 7, left, and Rear Adm. Jeff Jablon, Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, held an office call at Fluckey Hall, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Sept. 12.

KINGS BAY

Trident Refit Facility Kings Bay Dry Dock Completes Recapitalization Project; Holds Re-Opening Ceremony

By Chief Petty Officer Ashley Berumen



Senior leaders cut ribbon signifying the re-opening of the Trident Refit Facility Kings Bay dry dock, during a ceremony held at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, Oct. 18. The event marks the completion of a 15-month project. The base is home to all East Coast Ohio-class submarines.

Trident Refit Facility Kings Bay held a ceremony marking the re-opening of its dry dock at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, Georgia, Oct. 18.

The nearly \$600 million Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Southeast recapitalization project began in the summer of 2020.

More than 1,000 people worked on the project, spearheaded by Alberici-Mortenson, Joint Venture.

"I am super proud of what Resident Officer in Charge of Construction (ROICC) Trident and our contractor partners have been able to accomplish in 15 short months," said Cmdr. Marcel Duplantier, ROICC Trident. "To be able to look out across the dry dock and see the massive transformation this project has provided to this critical infrastructure is truly remarkable."

The 15-month project consisted of three phases which included construction of temporary work and storage spaces, procurement of long lead items, replacement of roof and wall panels, recoating of all structural steel, replacement of utility systems that support the docked submarine and replacement of all of the dry dock systems that move water in and out of the dock, as well as various upgrades.

Having a functional dry dock ensures the eight Ohio-class submarines homeported at the base can keep up with maintenance schedules, remain operational and continue the mission of strategic deterrence.

"This dry dock is of historic significance to this Georgia community, to our Navy, and to our National security," said Rear Adm. Thomas R. "TR" Buchanan, Commander of Submarine Group Ten. "As one of the largest dry docks in the Northern Hemisphere, this dry dock has been and continues to be critical to supporting the operational cycle of our Ohio-class submarines and has ensured the continuity of their certification and warfighting readiness."

The dry dock will be essential in continued maintenance support and upgrades as Columbia-class submarines begin arriving in Kings Bay.

"This dry dock will support the Columbia-class as it comes on line later this decade," said Buchanan. "As these new class of submarines begin to arrive to Kings Bay, they will become the cornerstone of our strategic deterrence, a mission the submarine force has successfully performed for over 60 years continuously. This dry dock re-opening will ensure the successful transition from the Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarines to the new Columbia-class and the continued strategic deterrence far into this century."

During her speech, Rear Adm. Lore Aguayo, Commander of Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic, thanked industry partners and workers for over a year of continuous work through days and nights to renew the Navy's critical infrastructure.

"NAVFAC began this journey over four years ago when the Submarine Force came to us with a requirement to completely recapitalize the aging infrastructure of the Kings Bay dry dock," said Aguayo. "It was going to have to be done in a timeframe few thought was possible in order to minimize the impacts to the strategic deterrence mission. The glue that binds this team together, the two key items that made the unthinkable possible is - one, a common mission in support of national security, and two, our industry partnerships."

Trident Refit Facility's mission is to provide quality industrial and logistics support for the incremental overhaul, modernization, and repair of Trident submarines and to provide global submarine supply support.

KOREA

Key West Visits Republic of Korea during Indo-Pacific Deployment

By Lt. Cmdr. Robert Reinheimer



Republic of Korea Navy sailors welcome the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Key West (SSN 722) as it prepares to moor in Busan, South Korea, Oct. 31. Key West is forward-deployed to Guam and routinely operates in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations, conducting maritime security operations and supporting national security interests.

The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Key West (SSN 722) arrived at Busan, Republic of Korea (ROK), for a scheduled port visit as part of its deployment to the Indo-Pacific, Oct. 31.

“Pulling into Busan and seeing the reception on the pier is a great visual representation of the strength of the U.S./ROK alliance,” said Cmdr. Jeremy Parm, Key West’s commanding officer. “I’m excited the crew gets to experience this country, and for the work they have done on deployment thus far.”

Key West is one of five submarines forward deployed to the island of Guam and has a crew of approximately 140 officers and enlisted. Los Angeles-class submarines make up the majority of the U.S. Navy’s submarine force with 40 still in service.

For many aboard the submarine, this is their first time visiting Busan.

“I joined the Navy to see the world and serve my country,” said Electronics Technician (Navigation) Seaman Olegario Sanchez. “I’m excited to spend some time in Busan and to

experience the local culture!”

Measuring more than 360 feet long and weighing more than 6,900 tons when submerged, Key West is one of the stealthiest, most technologically advanced submarines of the world. Los Angeles-class submarines support a multitude of missions to include anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, surveillance and reconnaissance, and strike warfare.

Alliances and partnerships are vital to regional stability. Since its establishment in 1953, the U.S./ROK Alliance has proven strong and durable in the face of new global conditions and is among the most interoperable, capable, and dynamic bilateral alliances in the world.

Key West is the third ship to bear the name of the city of Key West. It was built in Newport News, Virginia, launched July 1985 and commissioned September 1987.

NEWPORT NEWS

Navy Lays Keel for Future USS Arkansas

By Team Submarine Public Affairs



Six sets of initials of the Little Rock Nine have been etched onto metal plate of the Virginia-class submarine Arkansas (SSN 800).

Senior Navy leaders, members of Congress, and shipbuilders gathered at Newport News Shipyard (NNSY) to attend a keel-laying ceremony for the future Virginia-class submarine USS Arkansas (SSN 800), Nov. 19.

SSN 800 will be the fifth naval vessel to bear the name Arkansas. The original Arkansas was a Civil War-era screw steamer. In 1902, an Arkansas-class monitor, one of the last monitors in the U.S. Navy, was commissioned with the same name. The third Arkansas, a Wyoming-class battleship, was commissioned in 1912. The fourth, which saw service from 1980 until 1998, was a Virginia-class nuclear-powered guided missile cruiser.

“Today is a momentous occasion. Not just for the shipbuilders who will pour their considerable skills into building this submarine, but also for the Sailors who will deploy aboard Arkansas and patrol the ocean’s depths in service of our nation and our way of life,” said Rear Adm. Jon Rucker, Program Executive Office, Attack Submarines. “Virginia-class submarines, such as Arkansas, and their dedicated crews will ensure our Navy remains ready to deter maritime aggression, maintain freedom of the seas, and defend our country and allies well into the future.”

The submarine’s sponsors are the six women of the Little Rock Nine – Dr. Melba Pattillo Beals, Elizabeth Eckford, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Carlotta Walls Lanier, Minnijean Brown Trickey, and Thelma Mothershed Wair. In a 1954 landmark decision, the Supreme Court ruled racial segregation of schools as

unconstitutional. Three years later, nine African-American children were the first people of color to attend Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, a previously all-white campus. President Dwight D. Eisenhower would eventually federalize the Arkansas National Guard to protect the students during their integration. The Little Rock Nine, as they came to be known, have spent their lives advocating for quality education.

Per Navy tradition, shipbuilders welded the six women’s initials onto steel plates that will be affixed to the ship. The men of the group – Ernest G. Green, Dr. Terrence J. Roberts, and the late Jefferson Thomas – were also honored during the ceremony.

“With advances in sound silencing, acoustic sensors, and weapons delivery systems, Arkansas

will traverse the world’s oceans and seas as an Apex Predator,” said Vice. Adm. Bill Houston, Commander, Naval Submarine Forces. “Representing our asymmetric advantage in the undersea domain, Arkansas will have no equal.”

Arkansas will be the 27th Virginia-class submarine. Boats in this class are the most advanced attack submarines in the world, with superior stealth, firepower and maneuverability than previous classes. They can hit shore-based targets with highly accurate Tomahawk cruise missiles and are capable of long-term, stealth surveillance of sea forces, littoral waters or ground targets. Their design also provides for Special Forces delivery and support, mine delivery and minefield mapping, and anti-submarine and anti-ship warfare.

“With advances in sound silencing, acoustic sensors, and weapons delivery systems, Arkansas will traverse the world’s oceans and seas as an Apex Predator.”

NORFOLK

Commander, Submarine Forces Hosts French Delegation

By Petty Officer 1st Class Cameron Stoner



Vice Adm. William Houston, right, Commander, U.S. Submarine Forces, and French Vice Adm. Jacques Fayard, left, Commander, Strategic and Oceanic Submarine Force, speak during Fayard's visit to Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads, Oct. 11.

Vice Adm. William Houston, Commander, Submarine Forces, hosted French Navy Vice Adm. Jacques Fayard, Commander, Strategic and Oceanic Submarine Force (ALFOST) along with French staff members, in Norfolk, Virginia, Oct. 11.

Fayard's stateside visit was in conjunction with the annual bilateral U.S.-French submarine staff talks, Oct. 11-12, which promoted the close cooperation and interoperability between the two Nations' submarine Forces.

"Even before the founding of our Nation and especially when times were dark, France supported us," said Houston. "Not far from here, the monuments at Yorktown memorialize the start of our shared alliance. With that history in mind, it is my great pleasure to host Vice Admiral Fayard and his staff for discussions that will add to the rich partnership we enjoy at sea."

Houston went on to emphasize the importance of U.S. and French trust and cooperation in the undersea domain.

"In particular, our Nations' undersea forces have a strong and tested foundation of cooperation in shared missions in every theater of operations around the world, a foundation built on trust," said Houston.

Fayard also took time to thank Houston and the rest of the Submarine Force Atlantic staff in attendance for their invitation.

"I took command of ALFOST barely a month ago, but this is already the second working engagement Vice Admiral Houston and I have shared," said Fayard. "This fact alone should point to the priority my Navy places on the relationship between our Submarine Forces. I look forward with great optimism to building on the deep ties forged by our predecessors and enhanced by the strong ties between our staffs."

Capt. Dan Packer, Submarine Force Atlantic's Director for Plans, Policy and International Engagement, also spoke on the importance of holding staff talks to learn from each other.

"In our partnership, we realize that each submarine force has specific strengths, and the goal of these talks

is to continue the dialogue that allows us to learn from the other's best qualities," said Packer. "Joining with each other's Submarine Forces is critical in overcoming any challenges we face together while also expanding upon the NATO cooperation and interoperability goals."

During the visit, the French delegation also had the opportunity to meet with Adm. Daryl Caudle, Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, as well as take a tour of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS New Mexico (SSN 779).

Fayard continued his stateside visit to Commander, Submarine Group TEN in Kings Bay, Georgia.

U.S. Submarine Forces execute the Department of the Navy's mission in and from the undersea domain. In addition to lending added capacity to naval forces, Submarine Forces, in particular, are expected to leverage those special advantages that come with undersea concealment to permit operational, deterrent and combat effects that the Navy and the Nation could not otherwise achieve.

WASHINGTON

First Woman to Serve as a Submarine XO Reports for Duty

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Molly Crawford

“It’s 2022 and women are still doing the ‘first’ of things?” is how Lt. Cmdr. Amber Cowan started her conversation in the public affairs office at Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

The submarine officer stopped by for an interview between classes while completing Submarine Command Course in Pearl Harbor.

The Colorado Springs, Colo. native has two grandfathers who served in the U.S. Air Force, and she attended the University of Washington on a scholarship from the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps, her head full of dreams of becoming an aviator. Her eyesight kept her grounded, but then the opportunity to be among the first women to serve aboard submarines opened up. It was everything she was looking for, and she’s never looked back.

On Nov. 12, Cowan became the executive officer (XO) of the Gold Crew of the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Kentucky (SSBN 737), making her the first woman to serve as XO of a U.S. Navy submarine.

Cowan was in the first cohort of women to serve aboard submarines. After graduating from the University of Washington in 2010, she received her first set of orders to attend Nuclear Power School in Goose Creek, South Carolina, the first of many schools required for submarine officers. The Nuclear Power School curriculum covered topics like math, physics, chemistry and nuclear reactor technology, and after completing Power School she attended Naval Prototype Training Unit and Submarine Officer Basic course. Then Cowan, along with the rest of her classmates, reported to submarines across the Navy as division officers.

Cowan’s first boat was the Ohio-class ballistic missile submarine USS Maine (SSBN 741) (Blue). Over the course of three years, which included three-and-a-half strategic deterrence patrols, she served as the main propulsion assistant, damage control assistant and tactical systems officer.

“I started in the engine room, which is where we build our foundation,” said Cowan. “It teaches officers to trust their enlisted counterparts and also have ownership of and in a watch team.”

One of Cowan’s favorite memories from her division officer tour is from a duty day, when she found herself making rounds



at night as the engineering duty officer and ship’s duty officer. Her ship was in dry dock at the time, and as she walked around and under the nearly 600-foot submarine she thought to herself, “I can’t believe it is my job to be in charge of this!”

Following her time with Maine (Blue), she served as the assistant nuclear programs coordinator at Naval Service Training Command in Pensacola, Fla., and then attended the Submarine Officer’s Advanced course in Groton, Conn. in preparation to serve as a department head.

By May of 2017, Cowan was serving as the engineering officer aboard the Virginia-class fast-attack submarine USS Texas (SSN 775). On Texas, she enjoyed seeing the difference in attack submarine missions compared to her previous experience aboard a ballistic missile submarine. Cowan observed that regardless of the platform, working as a team with the other Sailors on board was essential to mission success.

“A lot of submarining is communicating with others and understanding the people-to-people dynamic in a stressful environment,” Cowan explained.

After Texas, Cowan served at Commander, U.S. Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet as the force radiological controls officer. When she was selected to serve as an XO, she began the Submarine Command course at the Naval Submarine Training Center, Pacific.

While the mantle of being the first at something may weigh heavy at times, Cowan takes it all in stride and remembers the inspiring words of one of her grandfathers, who told her, “If anybody’s going to do it, you gotta show ‘em how to do it right.”

Her passion for what she does is visible when she speaks. She talks about submarining as a verb, and fondly remembers the many ‘we really just did that’ moments she’s shared with her shipmates underway. While some may relish shore duty, she’s genuinely excited to be going back to a boat.

“I have missed being a part of a crew, and solving problems together as a team,” said Cowan.

Cowan had this to say to anyone considering the silent service: “I, we, need smart talented people like you. If you are good with team success, the Submarine Force is for you as well. It’s going to challenge you in ways you won’t find anywhere else on the planet.”

WASHINGTON

Ribbon cutting ceremony marks completion of major infrastructure project at NBK Bangor

By Lt. Cmdr. Christopher F. Donnelly



Mr. Peter Fleck, Submarine Development Group 5 facility operations manager, left, Adm. Stuart Munsch, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa, Capt. Gary Montalvo, Commodore, Submarine Development Group 5, and Capt. Kevin Pickard, Chief of Staff, Navy Region Northwest, cut a ribbon during a ceremony for a newly-completed service pier located on Naval Base Kitsap – Bangor, Oct. 19.

Submarine Development Squadron (DEVRON) 5 held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 19 on a newly-completed service pier extension located on Naval Base Kitsap Bangor, Washington.

The ceremony marked the completion of a major infrastructure project, nicknamed the “Olympic pier” due to its proximity to the Olympic Mountain Range, which will support the arrival of fast attack submarines, including the planned change of homeport for USS Seawolf (SSN 21) and USS Connecticut (SSN 22) from Naval Station Bremerton to Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor.

The ceremony, which was led by Capt. Gary Montalvo, Commodore of DEVRON 5, hosted the event which featured Adm. Stuart Munsch, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa, as the keynote speaker.

The service pier extension project was more than a decade in the making. Originally envisioned in 2008 and supported by Munsch, who was the DEVRON 5 commodore at the time, was a project that was needed to service all classes of SSNs. Construction began in 2020.

“Your efforts, and that of many others over the years, to build this pier and ready it to sustain our most advanced submarines, represents the best of the many organizations working together, fighting any and all obstacles to build capability to enhance our undersea dominance,” said Montalvo.

The service pier extension includes state-of-the-art technologies for security and pier services for moored

submarines. The shore power configuration incorporates the latest technology to provide multiple fully redundant power sources, ensuring continuous safe in-port operations and minimizing the affects due to normal wear and tear or natural disasters. The pier boasts a first-of-its-kind captured mooring system that compensates for tidal changes, which will ensure all classes of submarines remain securely moored without need to frequently adjust mooring lines.

A full environmental assessment of the project was performed during the design phase in order to minimize the environmental impacts to the Hood Canal and its local fish and wildlife.

Environmental considerations include a newly-designed, all-electric crane which will provide service on the pier, and the deliberate positioning of backup diesel generators located upland, away from the water.

Upland support infrastructure for the service pier extension include a newly constructed parking lot to provide safe and convenient access for submarine crews and support personnel. The pier has maintenance support facilities dedicated to units moored at the service pier extension.

“The completion of Olympic Pier advances a visionary shore infrastructure plan designed to improve quality of work for our Sailors, increase operational availability of fast attack submarines in the Pacific Northwest, and advance the research, development, test and evaluation needed to deliver decisive warfighting advantage,” said Munsch. “Olympic Pier enables us to bring together intellectual and industrial partners with the Submarine Force’s most experienced operators of advanced undersea systems and, now, the right current and future submarines to test and field those decisive new capabilities.”

The service pier extension provides substantial immediate and long term benefits to the Submarine Force and the Navy. The planned change of homeport for Seawolf and Connecticut will improve the quality of service to the units while in port. Dedicated pier and maintenance facilities promote efficiency for maintenance.

Support, training and oversight provided by DEVRON 5, the Immediate Superior in Command, will be improved by the close physical proximity of the boats. Longer-term benefits include the capability to maintain increased persistent presence of fast attack submarines in the northern Pacific region, and the continued development of future undersea warfare capabilities.

MAJOR COMMAND RESULTS

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE SELECTED

SUBMARINE MAJOR COMMAND:

**JONATHAN V. AHLSTROM
ERIC L. ASTLE
DARRELL W. BROWN
MICHAEL G. CHARNOTA
JEFFREY C. FASSBENDER
TYLER W. FORREST
RONALD V. HATT
RODERICK L. HODGES
STEVEN C. LAWRENCE
CHARLES C. LITTON
CRAIG E. LITTY
BRIAN T. MURPHY
NATHAN A. MURRAY**

**TERRY A. NEMEC
DANIEL A. PATRICK
LESTER O. PATTERSON
MATTHEW M. PIANETTA
MICHAEL J. POPLAWSKI
DOUGLAS PRATT
ROBERT W. ROSE
JOSEPH M. SPINKS
PHILLIP SYLVIA JR.
STEVEN TARR III
ADAM J. THOMAS
JOHN M. THORPE
MATHIAS J. VORACHEK**

SUBMARINE MAJOR PROGRAM MANAGER:

KENNETH T. COOKE

JEREMY M. JOHNSTON

NUCLEAR LIMITED DUTY OFFICER MAJOR COMMAND:

MICHAEL K. SIMS

NON-NUCLEAR LIMITED DUTY OFFICER MAJOR COMMAND:

ROBERT J. LOPEZ

***CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR
FUTURE SUBMARINE FORCE LEADERS!***

APEX PREDATORS!

The USS San Juan (SSN 751) transits the Thames River as the ship returns from routine operations to Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., Sept. 2.

BOARD RESULTS

THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE SELECTED

SUBMARINE COMMANDING OFFICER SPECIAL MISSION:

JEFFREY C. BUENAVENTURA

MATTHEW J. CAMPBELL

ANTHONY K. DEVOTO

EDWARD J. GREWAY JR.

ALFRED L. KELLER JR.

CHRISTOPHER A. LINDAHL

FRANCISCO D. MARTINEZ

JASON D. PARADIS

BRIAN R. PENNINGTON

BRIAN G. RIGEZ

JOHN V. RUSSELL

LIMITED DUTY OFFICER COMMANDER COMMAND:

ERIC D. BROOKS

BRANDON D. CARVER

DRYDOCK COMMANDING OFFICER:

JASON D. BAKER

GREGORY T. JOHNSON JR.

LIMITED DUTY OFFICER STRATEGIC WEAPONS OFFICER:

DERRICK J. BAUDER

STEVEN S. SUAREZ

GREGORY W. BOWMAN

AARON J. T. WESCOTT

MICHAEL A. GANDARA

***CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR
FUTURE SUBMARINE FORCE LEADERS!***

APEX PREDATORS!

Historic Ship Nautilus (SSN 571) is guided out of Auxiliary Repair Dry Dock (ARDM) 4 on Wednesday, June 22, 2022. Nautilus left the Submarine Force Library and Museum in Groton, Conn. in October 2021 and traveled up river to Submarine Base New London where the Navy's first nuclear powered underwent an overhaul and refurbishment.

HOMECOMINGS



A Sailor assigned to the USS North Dakota (SSN 784) is greeted by his wife and newborn daughter during a homecoming event at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn., Oct. 27.



A Sailor assigned to the USS North Dakota (SSN 784) embraces his loved one during a homecoming event at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn.



An officer assigned to the USS North Dakota (SSN 784) gives flowers to his children during a homecoming event at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn.



The Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Chicago (SSN 721) returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after completing a deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations.

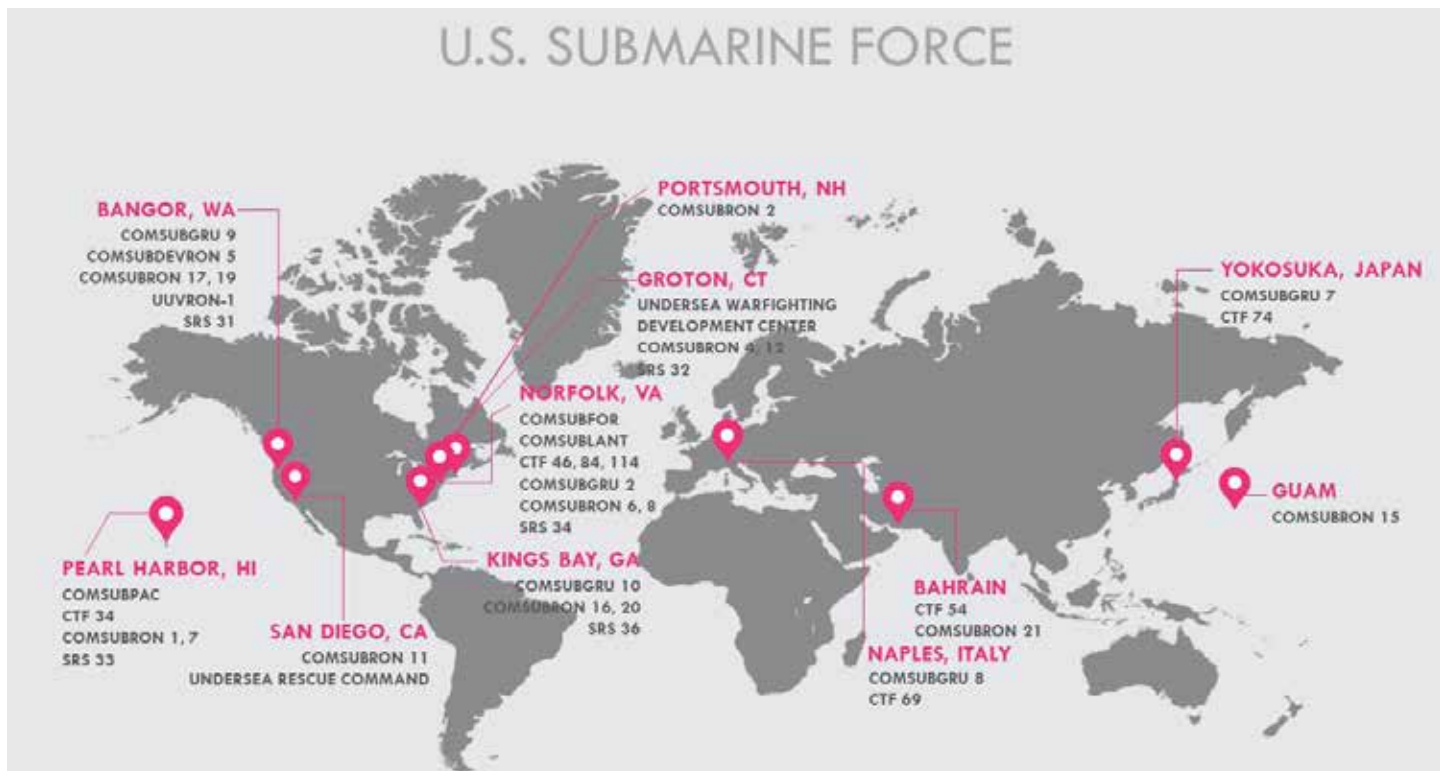


Machinist's Mate (Nuclear) 1st Class Derek Moffatt, assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Chicago (SSN 721) reunites with his family after the boat returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam after completing a deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.



Chief Electronics Technician (Navigation) Antonio Vasquez, assigned to the Los Angeles-class fast-attack submarine USS Chicago (SSN 721) reunites with his family after the boat returns to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam from deployment in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of responsibility.

CONTACT INFORMATION



NORFOLK, VA

- **SUBLANT:** 757-836-1341
- **CTF84:** 757-836-5366
- **CTF114:** 757-836-3560
- **CSG2:** 757-836-2891
- **CSS6:** 757-967-6985
- **CSS8:** 757-396-3643
- **SRS34:** 757-967-2529

GROTON, CT

- **UWDC:** 860-694-5528
- **CSS4:** 860-694-3229
- **CSS12:** 860-694-2753
- **SRS32:** 860-694-3606

PORTSMOUTH, NH

- **CSS2:** 207-438-2529

KINGS BAY, GA

- **CSG10:** 912-573-3733
- **CSS16:** 912-573-2454
- **CSS20:** 912-573-2422
- **SRS36:** 912-573-0853

NAPLES, ITALY

- **CSG8/CTF69:**
(DSN) 314-626-3604

BAHRAIN

- **CSS21/CTF54:**
(DSN) 318-439-3081

PEARL HARBOR, HI

- **SUBPAC:** 808-473-2418
- **CTF34:** 808-473-0696
- **CSS1:** 808-473-2891
- **CSS7:** 808-473-3267
- **SRS33:** 808-473-1080

BANGOR, WA

- **CSG9:** 360-396-6821
- **CSS17:** 360-396-5591
- **CSS19:** 360-396-6269
- **CSDS5:** 360-315-4102
- **UUVRON-1:** 360-315-5662
- **SRS31:** 360-396-6505

SAN DIEGO, CA

- **CSS11:** 619-553-8666
- **URC:** 619-674-8688

GUAM

- **CSS15:**
(DSN) 671-343-6154

YOKOSUKA, JAPAN

- **CSG7/CTF74:**
(DSN) 315-243-5006

NAVY NUKES!

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KEY DATES



- 2022 -

December

- 6-8 - Man Command Board
- 7 - Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 7 - Major Command/LDO Dry-Dock CO Board
- 25 - Christmas Day*

- 2023 -

January

- 2 - New Year's Day*
- 12 - Active O6 Line Promotion Board
- 16 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
- 26 - National Spouses Day
- 30 - O3 FITREPs
- 31 - Joint GAMCOTS

February

- Black History Month
- 1-2 - Joint GAMCOTS/SUBFOTS
- 15 - Active O5 Line Promotion Board
- 16 - Nuclear LDO ISP Board
- 20 - President's Day*
- 28 - O2 FITREPs

* Federal Holiday

March

- Women's History Month
- 3 - Navy Reserve Birthday
- 15 - W5-W3 FITREPs, E5 EVALS
- 25 - Medal of Honor Day
- 29 - Vietnam War Veterans Day

April

- Sexual Assault Prevention Month
- Month of the Military Child
- 1 - CPO Birthday
- 11 - 123rd Submarine Force Birthday
- 15 - E9 EVALS
- 31 - O1 FITREPs

May

- Military Appreciation Month
- Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- 6 - Spouse Appreciation Day
- 8 - Mother's Day
- 17-19 Submarine Technology Symposium
- 22 - USS Scorpion Anniversary
- 23-26 - CO/XO/DH Board
- 29 - Memorial Day*
- 30 - O1 FITREPs

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AND WHERE TO GET HELP, VISIT MILITARYONESOURCE.MIL OR CALL THE MILITARY CRISIS LINE 1-800-273-TALK

This newsletter is a collection of inputs from around the Submarine Force. If you have suggestions for articles, please contact the Submarine Force Atlantic Public Affairs Office:

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