



VENTING SANITARY INBOARD

Issue 251, June 2015



OUR CREED:

"To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in pursuit of their 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."

FORWARD BATTERY

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Vacant

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COMMANDER'S LOG

At the June meeting we will have two guest speakers. Dave Vrooman's brother, Pete, is a Civil War re-enactor and he will be speaking about the Civil War dressed in his authentic New York Zouave uniform. Pete Vrooman may also bring another re-enactor representing the Confederate side.

Our ladies will be serving Italian Ziti Casserole with all the trimmings.

So, whether your great grand pappy was a Yank or a Rebel, this should be a fun meeting. Please don't call our guest "fancy pants!"

Hope to see you all there!



The 5th New York Zouaves

Fraternally,

George

George Hudson
Base Commander

ON ETERNAL PATROL: BOATS LOST IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

USS O-9 (SS-70)
Class: O-Class
Launched: 27 Jan 1918
Commissioned: 27 Jul 1918
Builder: Fore River Shipbuilding Co., Quincy, MA
Length: 172' 4"
Beam: 18'
Lost on 20 June 1941
33 Men Lost



On the morning of 20 June 1941, O-9 and two of her sisters, O-6 and O-10, left as a group from the submarine base in New London for the submarine test depth diving area east of the Isles of Shoals. Upon reaching their designated training area some 15 miles off Portsmouth, New Hampshire, O-6 made the first dive, followed by O-10. Finally, at 0837, O-9 began her dive. At 1032, O-9 had not returned to the surface.

Rescue ships swung into action immediately. Sister ships O-6 and O-10, submarine TRITON, submarine rescue ship FALCON and other ships searched for O-9. That evening, pieces of debris with markings from O-9 were recovered. In water 450 feet deep she was thought to be crushed, since her hull was only designed to withstand depths of 212 feet.

Despite setting endurance and depth records for salvage operations, rescue operations were unsuccessful and were discontinued on 22 June. The boat and her 33 officers and men were declared lost as of 20 June.



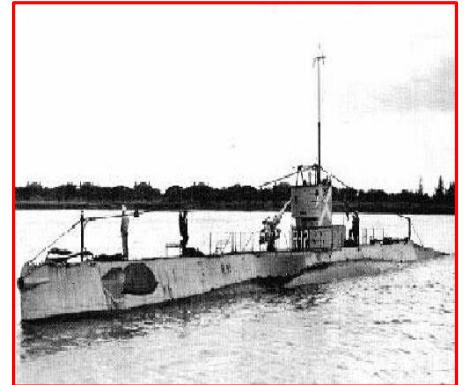
USS S-27 (SS-132)
Class: S-Class
Launched: 18 Oct 1922
Commissioned: 22 Jan 1924
Builder: Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp., Quincy, MA
Length: 219' 3"
Beam: 20' 8"
Lost on 19 June 1942
No loss of life

On June 12, 1942, S-27 departed Dutch Harbor for her first and final war patrol with Lieutenant Herbert L. Jukes in command. She had been ordered to reconnoiter Constantine Harbor at Amchitka Island and to patrol the Kuluk Bay area at Adak Island. On June 16, 1942, she was told to deploy to Kiska Island. On June 18, 1942 she reconnoitered Constantine Harbor, finding no signs of enemy activity. She then headed for Kiska Island as ordered.

When S-27 surfaced that night to recharge her batteries, heavy fog caused her to drift five miles from her estimated position. On June 19, 1942, she grounded on rocks off Saint Makarius Point on Amchitka Island. All attempts to right the boat were unsuccessful.

The entire crew was safely transferred to Constantine Harbor on the 20th, and a camp was established using the buildings and heating equipment that had survived a Japanese bombing. The entire crew was eventually rescued by PBY aircraft. All equipment, classified material, and guns aboard S-27 were destroyed. Only the submarine's flooded hulk remained.

USS R-12 (SS-89)
Class: R-Class
Launched: 15 Apr 1919
Commissioned: 23 Sep 1919
Builder: Fore River Shipbuilding Co., Quincy, MA
Length: 186' 2"
Beam: 18'
Lost on 12 June 1943
42 Men Lost



Shortly after noon on 12 June 1943, R-12, while underway to conduct a torpedo practice approach, sounded her last diving alarm. As she completed preparations to dive, the forward battery compartment began to flood. The collision alarm was sounded and a report was made that the forward battery compartment was flooding. Orders were given to blow main ballast, but the sea was faster.

In about 15 seconds, R-12 was lost. The commanding officer, one other officer, and three enlisted men were swept from the bridge as the boat sank but were rescued. Forty-two lives were lost. R-12 was stricken from the Naval Vessel Register on 6 July 1943.



USS HERRING (SS-233)
Class: GATO Class
Launched: 5 Jan 1942
Commissioned: 4 May 1942
Builder: Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, ME
Length: 311' 9"
Beam: 27' 3"
Lost on 1 June 1944
83 Men Lost

BOATS LOST IN THE MONTH OF JUNE

(Continued From Page 2)

HERRING's eighth war patrol was to be both her most successful and her last. Topping off at Midway Island on 21 May 1944, Herring got underway for the Kurile Islands patrol area. Ten days later she rendezvoused with BARB (SS-220). HERRING was never heard from or seen again.

However, Japanese records prove that she sank two ships, Ishigaki and Hokuyo Maru, on the night of 30-31 May. Ishigaki had been responsible for the sinking of USS S-44 (SS-155) on 7 October 1943. HERRING's exact manner of loss can also be determined from these records. Two more merchant ships, Hiburi Maru and Iwaki Maru, were sunk while at anchor in Matsuwa Island on the morning of 1 June 1944. During the Japanese counter-attack, enemy shore batteries scored two direct hits on the submarine's conning tower and "bubbles covered an area about 5 meters wide, and heavy oil covered an area of approximately 15 miles."

On her final patrol, HERRING sank four Japanese ships for a total of 13,202 tons. In all she had sunk six marus totaling 19,959 tons and a Vichy cargo ship. HERRING received five battle stars for her service in World War II.

USS GOLET (SS-361)

Class: GATO Class

Launched: 1 Aug 1943

Commissioned: 30 Nov 1943

Builder: Manitowoc Shipbuilding Co., Manitowoc, WI

Length: 311' 9"

Beam: 27' 3"

Lost on: 14 June 1944

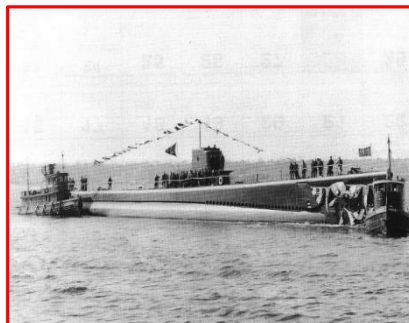
82 Men Lost



GOLET, Lieutenant James S. Clark commanding, departed Midway Island on 28 May 1944 to patrol off northern Honshū, Japan, and was never heard from again.

GOLET had been scheduled to depart her area on 5 July and was expected at Midway Island about 12 or 13 July. She failed to acknowledge a message sent her on 9 July and was initially presumed lost on 26 July 1944.

Japanese antisubmarine records available after the war revealed that GOLET was the probable victim of a Japanese antisubmarine attack on 14 June 1944. These records mention that the attack brought up cork, rafts, and other debris and a heavy pool of oil, all evidence of the sinking of a submarine.



USS BONEFISH (SS-223)

Class: GATO Class

Launched: 7 Mar 1943

Commissioned: 31 May 1943

Builder: Electric Boat Co., Groton, CT

Length: 311' 9"

Beam: 27' 3"

Lost on: 18 June 1945

85 Men Lost

During a rendezvous with TUNNY on 16 June, BONEFISH reported sinking Oshikayama Maru, a 6,892 ton cargo ship. In a second rendezvous two days later, she requested and received permission to conduct a daylight submerged patrol of Toyama Bay, an area farther up the Honshū coast.

The attack group was to depart the Sea of Japan via La Perouse Strait on the night of 24 June. BONEFISH did not make the scheduled pre-transit rendezvous. Still, TUNNY waited in vain off Hokkaidō for three days. On 30 July, BONEFISH was presumed lost.

Japanese records reveal that the 5,488 ton cargo ship Konzan Maru was torpedoed and sunk in Toyama Wan on 19 June and that an ensuing severe counterattack by Japanese escorts brought debris and a major oil slick to the water's surface. There is little doubt that BONEFISH was sunk in this action.



COMING ATTRACTIONS

- May 25 Memorial Day
- May 25 Memorial Service/Tolling of the Boats Ceremony
(Veterans Memorial Park, Beaverton from 1100-1300)
- June 6 Anniversary of D-Day (1944)
- June 11 Base Meeting (Chow this Month)
- June 14 Flag Day
- June 21 Father's Day
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 9 Base Meeting (No Chow this Month)
- August 8 Base Meeting/Picnic at Clackamette Park @ 1100



BLUEBACK BASE MEETING MINUTES

14 May 2015

1730 E-Board Meeting called to order by Commander Hudson. POD reviewed and some items added. Bills presented and Commander Hudson ordered them to be paid. Meeting adjourned at 1805.

1900 Base Meeting called to order by Base Commander George Hudson.

Invocation: Scott Duncan

Flag Salute: Commander Hudson

Tolling of Lost Boats: Jay Agler/Arlo Gatchel

Moment of Silence for Lost Shipmates

Reading of USSVI Purpose and Creed: Commander Hudson

Introductions

Secretary's Report E-Board Meeting: Dennis Smith

Treasurer's Report: Mike Worden

Commander's Report: George Hudson

Old Business: Commander Hudson announced that the Chief of the Boat position has been filled by Arlo Gatchel.

During introductions it was announced that Alan Brodie is our newest Base member. Alan has accepted the position of Editor of the "Venting Sanitary Inboard" newsletter. Alan was Editor of the newsletter at his previous Base which won the USSVI National Award for Newsletter of the Year. Thank you, Alan; we are looking forward to a great newsletter. Special thanks to Bob Sumner for all the great newsletters during his tenure as Editor. They were all outstanding!

Arlo Gatchel reported on Tim Smart's son's Scout project. He is looking for a new project as the old one is no longer available. Mike Worden made a motion to withdraw the \$2,000 support for that project. Ray Lough amended the motion to table Mike's motion until we find out more about the new project that is being considered. Motion passed as amended.

Commander Hudson announced that he had received a letter from the VFW Hall where we meet. The letter was a notice of the possibility of the Hall closing. The VFW is having a tough time meeting its rent and Insurance payments. Jay Agler is a member of this VFW Post and he filled us in on some of the details.

BLUEBACK BASE MEETING MINUTES

(Continued from Page 5)

E- Board members are going to look around for other possible meeting places just in case the Post has to close.

Dave Vrooman is going to look at the possibility of having Challenge Coins made.

50/50 Break

New Business: Commander Hudson reminded everyone about the Memorial Day event at Veterans Park in Beaverton. Attendees should wear hats and vests. There will be a separate Tolling of the Boats ceremony at the Albacore Memorial immediately following the main Ceremony. The main Ceremony will commence on Monday, May 25th at 1100 hours.

Rogue River Base in Medford has asked to borrow the Albacore Float for its 4th of July Parade. Arlo Gatchel presented information about the Vietnam Traveling Wall that will be at Milwaukie High School July 23-26th. There will be a parade on Saturday, July 25th. A motion was made and seconded to allow Rogue River Base to borrow the float as long as it is returned so that we can use it for the July 25th parade in Milwaukie. Motion passed. Arlo Gatchel is looking for volunteers to man the wall as a group.

For the Good of the Order: Commander Hudson is still looking for someone to fill the position of Ways and Means Chairman.

Commander Hudson presented Holland Club Certificates to three Blueback Base members: Gerald Keffer, Patrick Kelley, and Mike LaPan. Congratulations, gentleman on this significant milestone and thank you for your service. Welcome to the Holland Club!

Benediction: Scott Duncan

Meeting Adjourned: 1945

Sailing List: Agler; Brodie; Bryan; Collins; Darkes; Duncan; Gatchel; Hudson; Jackson; Keffer; Kelley; LaPan; Lough; McLaughlin; Musa, Sandra; Musa, Bill; Savage; Shoesmith; Smith, Alan; Smith, Dennis; Solheim; Stowe; Sumner; Vrooman; Webb; Worden.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Smith

Secretary
Blueback Base



BLUEBACK BASE INDUCTS THREE INTO HOLLAND CLUB



At the most recent Base meeting held on May 14th, Base Commander George Hudson welcomed three Blueback Base members into USSVI's prestigious **Holland Club**. Named for John P. Holland, the designer of the U.S. Navy's first submarine, the Holland Club is an exclusive group within USSVI wherein the core requirement for membership is to have been designated "Qualified in Submarines" for a minimum of fifty years.

These men are the pioneers who led the way and set the standards of excellence by which all Submariners who followed would be measured. Through their membership in this exclusive fraternity, Holland Club members represent the living history of our rich submarine heritage. We would not be where we are today without them, and they should be justifiably proud – not only of their accomplishments, but for having achieved this significant milestone.

CONGRATULATIONS and **BRAVO ZULU** to Shipmates LaPan, Kelley and Keffer!



Michael LaPan
MM2(SS), USN
Qualified in USS CARBONERO (SS-337) in 1963



Patrick Kelley
QM2(SS), USN
Qualified in USS BLUEGILL (SS-242) in 1965



Gerald Keffer
TM3(SS), USN
Qualified in USS SEA POACHER (SS-406) in 1965

Nomination for Next Chief of Naval Operations Announced

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Defense Secretary Ashton Carter announced during a Pentagon press briefing that he has recommended Adm. John M. Richardson as the next Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). A career submarine officer, Richardson is currently director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. If confirmed, Richardson will replace Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert who has been CNO since September 2011. Greenert will retire this fall after 40 years of naval service.

"John Richardson is one of our finest officers and I have great confidence that he is the right leader for our Navy," said Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus. Greenert also praised Richardson if confirmed. "Admiral John Richardson is an ideal strategic leader to keep our Navy moving forward," he said.

"He cares about our Sailors, has the background and experience in dealing with tough challenges combined with expert judgment that will guide our Navy well," Greenert continued. "He has played a fundamental role in addressing many of our current and future challenges. I am confident he will ensure our Navy's seapower, now and in the future."

Richardson, 55, hails from Petersburg, Virginia. He graduated with a degree in Physics from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland in 1982. Richardson also holds Masters Degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, and the National War College.

As one of the Navy's top leaders, Richardson has a broad-based record as an operational commander. Richardson commanded the nuclear attack submarine USS Honolulu (SSN 718), served as a naval aide to the President of

the United States, as well as numerous other assignments through his career. Richardson received the prestigious Vice Adm. James Stockdale for inspirational leadership award in 2001, among a long list of personal and unit awards.



WASHINGTON (May 13, 2015) Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter announces during a Pentagon press briefing that he has recommended Adm. John M. Richardson as the next Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Nathan Laird/Released)

Mabus also praised Greenert, the man who has been at the helm of the Navy for the past four years as the current CNO.

"Jon Greenert should be incredibly proud of the accomplishments of the U.S. Navy under his leadership," said Mabus. "Our Navy is better able to respond to the myriad of challenges around the world because of his stewardship in deploying the greatest fighting fleet the world has ever known."

*By Chief Mass Communication Specialist Julianne Metzger,
Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs*

THIS MONTH IN SILENT SERVICE HISTORY

June 1, 1943 - **USS TRIGGER (SS 237)** sinks Japanese merchant collier Noborikawa Maru off Kominato, southern Honshu.

June 2, 1943 - **USS TAMBOR (SS 198)** sinks Japanese transport Eika Maru in the Tonkin Gulf off the coast of French Indochina.

June 4, 1944 - **USS FLIER (SS 250)** sinks Japanese troopship Hakusan Maru about 375 miles southwest of Chichi Jima, Bonin Islands. Also on this date **USS GOLET (SS 361)** sinks.

June 5, 1944 - **USS PUFFER (SS 268)** attacks a Japanese convoy in the Sulu Sea and sinks underway replenishment vessel Ashizuri and oiler Takasaki while also damaging tanker No.2 Hishi Maru, northeast of Borneo. Also on this date, **USS SHARK (SS 314)** sinks Japanese transport Tamahime Maru and Army transport Takaoka Maru west of the Mariana Islands.

June 8, 1943 - **USS FINBACK (SS 230)** attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks auxiliary minelayer Kahoku Maru about 100 miles north of Palau.

June 9, 1959 - **USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN 598)**, the first U.S. Navy nuclear-powered fleet ballistic missile submarine, is christened and launched at Groton, Conn. Her nuclear capability is removed in 1983, and she is classified as SSN 598 serving until

1985. USS GEORGE WASHINGTON is later processed in the nuclear recycling program at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in 1998.

June 10, 1945 - **USS SKATE (SS 305)** sinks Japanese submarine (I-122) in the Sea of Japan.

June 12, 1942 - **USS SWORDFISH (SS 193)** sinks Japanese freighter Burma Maru northwest of Pulo Wai in the Gulf of Siam.

June 14, 1945 - **USS SEA DEVIL (SS 400)** sinks the Japanese transport Wakamiyasan Maru in the Yellow Sea.

June 18, 1944 - **USS BULLHEAD (SS 332)** sinks Japanese auxiliary sailing vessel (No. 58) Sakura Maru in Sunda Strait, off Merak. Also on this date, **USS DENTUDA (SS 335)** sinks Japanese guardboats Reiko Maru and Heiwa Maru in East China Sea west of Tokara Gunto.

June 20, 1941 - **USS O-9 (SS 70)** sinks off Portsmouth, NH during a test dive. Salvage ships located her in more than 400 feet of water, but she had suffered crushing damage from the water pressure at that depth and all 33 men on board had been killed.

June 22, 1963 - The nuclear-powered submarines **USS TECUMSEH (SSBN 628)**, **USS DANIEL BOONE (SSBN 629)**, **USS FLASHER (SSN**

THIS MONTH IN SILENT SERVICE HISTORY

(Continued from Page 9)

613), and **USS JOHN CALHOUN (SSBN 630)** are all launched in one day, emphasizing the Navy's accelerated nuclear-submarine construction program.

June 24, 1945 - **USS SEA DEVIL (SS 400)** sinks the Japanese transport Wakamiyasan Maru in the Yellow Sea.

June 25, 1942 - **USS NAUTILUS (SS 168)** sinks the Japanese destroyer, Yamakaze, southeast of Yokosuka, Japan.

June 26, 1945 - **USS PARCHE (SS 384)** attacks a Japanese convoy and sinks gunboat Kamitsu Maru and freighter Eikan Maru seven miles of Todo Saki, southern Honsju.

June 27, 1945 - **USS BLUEBACK (SS 326)** sinks Imperial Japanese Navy submarine chaser, (CH 2), north of Lombok, Java Sea.

June 28, 1943 - **USS PETO (SS 265)** and **USS TUNNY (SS 282)** sink Japanese hydrographic-meteorological research ship Tenkai No.2 northeast of Mussau Island and gunboat Shotoku Maru off the west coast of Rota, Mariana Islands.

June 29, 1944 - **USS DARTER (SS-227)** sinks the Japanese minelayer Tsugaru in the Dutch East Indies.

June 30, 1942 - **USS PLUNGER (SS 179)** sinks Japanese freighter No.5 Unkai Maru off the China coast near Shanghai.

June 30, 1945 - **USS BAYA (SS 318)** and **USS CAPITAINE (SS 336)** attack the Japanese Makassar to Surabaya convoy MASU 705 and engage escorting submarine (Ch 5) and later sink cargo vessel Bandai Maru.

Life is Simple



...either you're qualified or you're not!