



CLEVER BOY

Vol. III No. 5 January 2020

IN THIS ISSUE—

Jam packed with good stuff**

VETERAN AND NAVY NEWS

SEE PAGES 3, 4, 5, 6

- ◆ Blue Water Navy & Agent Orange benefits update
- ◆ VA Mission Act details
- ◆ VA Medical benefit eligibility

BINNACLE LIST

SURFIN' SUBMARINER—Links to Web Sites of Interest

Movie Night in the After Battery

MAILBAG

ETERNAL PATROL NOTICES

READER'S PUKA — Submarine book, magazine and video reviews & suggestions

****LOADED FOR BEAR—**



Your editor searches far and wide for topical info to pass along. If you see some cool stuff or have a comment, a 'Letter to the Editor' column can be added.

HEADLINE NEWS

USS Arizona and USS Oklahoma to Sail Again

"the next two Virginia-class nuclear fast-attack submarines to be built as the USS Oklahoma (SSN-802) and the USS Arizona (SSN-803)" <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/12/24/uss-arizona-and-uss-oklahoma-sail-again.html>

Navy Changes Tour Lengths for 50,000 Sailors and Boosts Reenlistment Bonuses ...will affect 47 ratings: 20 will have longer sea tours, 22 will see shorter sea tours and seven will have longer shore tours.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/12/03/navy-changes-tour-lengths-50000-sailors-and-boosts-reenlistment-bonuses.html>

Electric Boat & Navy Agree to a Minimum of 9 Submarines over Next 5 Years

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/11/05/electric-boat-navy-agree-minimum-9-submarines-over-next-5-years.html>

Navy Awards Massive \$22.2 Billion Contract for 9 New Attack Submarines

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/12/02/navy-awards-massive-222-billion-contract-9-new-attack-submarines.html>

Navy Submarine That Went Missing with 80 Sailors Aboard Found 75 Years Later—USS Grayback SS-208 Lost 26 Feb 1944

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/11/11/navy-submarine-went-missing-80-sailors-aboard-found-75-years-later.html>

Vid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ubNbxwFb1c>

Vid: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Bod4PLoHrc>

Ranking Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs Statement on House Passage of Nine Veterans' Bills 12Nov2019

<https://republicans-veterans.house.gov/news/email/show.aspx?ID=2XEADKNUYRMOMHCW64SBZIDVVE>

USS SABALO SS-302

BALAO CLASS

DIESEL-ELECTRIC SUBMARINE

IN COMMISSION:

1945-46 & 1951-71

**A Proud Workhorse
of the Fleet**

She made her missions.

We did our best.

We served our country.

This has been done.

* * * * *





Reader's Puka* - Book recommendations and reviews— {send in yours for sharing} may be available from many outlets including eBay, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, ChristianBooks.com, Books-a-Million, Church Source, Kobo, IndieBound and Audible.com.

Why Soldiers Miss War by Nolan Peterson (2019)...from the perspective of both a combatant and later as a witness while a free lance reporter.
Review: <https://www.casematepublishers.com/why-soldiers-miss-war.html#.XihXRYGONP4>

[Google the title of this book and you will find many commentaries from others on the subject with varying points of view.]

Final Patrol by Don Keith (2006) - tells the WWII stories of 17 boats of WWII which are now museum boats. For all of the submarine memorials and boats listed by USSVI: <https://www.ussvi.org/Memorials.asp>

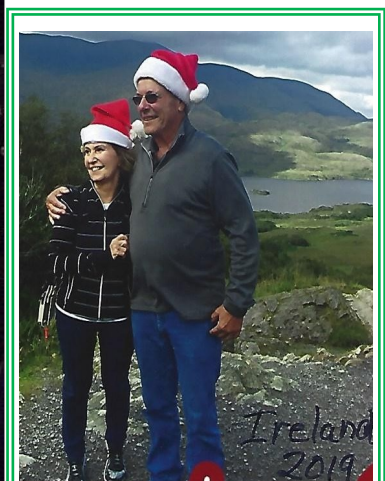
Submarine Commander by British RADM Ben Bryant (1960, reprint 1980/1989) He was the most successful British sub CO, surviving more patrols than any other. Using surface gun action in many instances, and with torpedos also, sank 32 enemy ships and damaged many more. This is out-of-print, but paperbacks can be found for as low as a buck.
<https://www.alibris.com/Submarine-Commander-Ben-Bryant/book/6435033?qsort=p&matches=36>



CHILDHOOD INJURIES:
FELL OFF MY BIKE
FELL OUT OF A TREE
TWISTED MY ANKLE

ADULT INJURIES:
SLEPT WRONG
SAT DOWN TOO LONG
SNEEZED TOO HARD

USS SEAWOLF SSN-21 STEERING STATION - [Link](#)



John & Linda Patrick

Ireland 2019

JOIN U.S. SUBMARINE VETERANS

877-542-DIYE

More Info:
<https://ussabalo.org/USSVI.html>

SHIT ON A SHINGLE

That famous stuff. Love it or hate it. On page 7 is a recipe for the 'red' variety. *Let me know if you try it!*

CLEVER BOY is a privately authored and published newsletter of the **USS Sabalo Association**. The Association is an informal group for the preservation of the submarine's history, the assemblage of the list of all who served in her, chronicling her exploits and missions, and celebrating the memories of those who manned her . "Clever Boy" was the radio call sign for Sabalo, and NXYO was her flag identification code.

CLEVER BOY is currently distributed via online and hard copy to over 400 veterans of the U.S. Navy submarine, USS Sabalo SS-302. If you can no longer receive email, please remember to communicate so that you can be switched to receive a hard copy. The cost of those who receive hard copies is supported by donations. If you have no interest in this newsletter, please communicate so funds can be conserved.

<http://ussabalo.org>

The **Sabalo web site** has much information about the men who served in her, and the ship details and exploits, and copies of all the past **Clever Boy** newsletters beginning from 2009

PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF ANY CHANGES OF ADDRESS EITHER USPS OR EMAIL.

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Jeff Owens, ETN2(SS) Aboard Mar 67-Aug 69

Editor Emeritus: Ronald Gorence, QMC(SS), Ret.
 (Final Patrol-Apr 2018)



THE MYTH OF SOLAR POWER - an opinion by the editor - Jeff O.

So many green energy freaks want a complete conversion to wind and solar power. First problem to overcome with that is how to generate anything when the sun isn't shining or the wind blowing. Dopes just say it can be overcome by using batteries.

Without going into a full blown discussion on why this can't happen, here's some facts: With present solar panel technology it takes a minimum of about 2.8 acres of panels per 1 gigawatt hour. At the current consumption, it takes about 4 million GWh of electricity annually to provide enough energy to power the entire USA. Therefore it would take a minimum of about 11,200,000 acres of land (figuring 100% coverage, which can't happen) to give us what we need to produce the 4,000,000 GWh of solar power.

Or an alternate, even higher estimate, starting with some still conservative assumptions in a 2013 National Renewable Energy Labs (NREL) report, it takes about 3.4 acres of solar panels to generate 1GWh of electricity over a year. Given the U.S. consumes about 4 petawatt hours of electricity per year, we'd need about 13,600,000 acres or 21,250 square miles of solar panels to meet the total electricity requirements of the United States for a year using this figure. <https://www.freeingenergy.com/how-much-solar-would-it-take-to-power-the-u-s/>

Just how much land is that?. 21,250 square miles is a square about 145 miles on each side . The U.S. has 3,797,000 square miles of land. Only about half a percent of that would be needed to provide enough solar energy to power the country.

As an example, the State of New York uses 150 million megawatthours/yr. Using the above requirements, this calculates to either 343,000 or 510,000 acres of panels to supply N.Y. To place that in perspective, the whole state of R.I. is 776,957 ac.

In a really stupid analogy by the so-called genius, Elon Musk, with far less need requirements being quoted "If you wanted to power the entire U.S. with solar panels, it would take a fairly small corner of Nevada or Texas or Utah; you only need about 100 miles by 100 miles of solar panels to power the entire United States. The batteries you need to store the energy, to make sure you have 24/7 power, is 1 mile by 1 mile. One square-mile. That's it."

That estimate equals 6,400,000 ac and in an impossible and totally simplified math equation minimizes all of the reality. -- Such a statement totally ignores the physics of the impossibility of concentrating the sun's energy in such a small area, and most problematic is the distribution lines needed and losses to be incurred when trying to carry power that far from a source.

One last reality making such an idea impossible is the availability of the special materials needed to make solar panels. Not considering the more available materials, the most critical material is the "rare earths" needed. For just two examples: as early as mid-2011, a combination of panic and speculation had driven prices through the roof. Neodymium, an ingredient in everything from hybrid car batteries to headphones, had risen from \$42 to \$283 a kilogram. Samarium, used in the making of missiles, spiked from \$18.50 to \$146. The problem of cost is far overshadowed by scarcity. <https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060011478>

Musk must be in touch with aliens from another galaxy with unimagined technology. Green freaks are believing his nonsense.



The best nourishment for any soul is to create your own risks.

Jim Lehrer, journalist, news anchor

Is the CoEd Military Really Working?

24Oct2019- The Naval Academy received 32 reports of sexual assault in the 2017-2018 school year, according to the Department of Defense Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies. That's three more than the previous academic year. Estimated rates also increased at the United States Naval Academy for both women (56 percent in 2018 versus 51 percent in 2016) and men (17 percent in 2018 versus 12 percent in 2016)

from: Naval Academy Midshipman Charged with Sexually Assaulting Three Students

read more: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/24/naval-academy-midshipman-charged-sexually-assaulting-three-students.html>

What is an Acoustic Technician?

10Dec2019 The Navy is authorizing a new chief warrant officer insignia for acoustic technicians, which is approved for wear by all warrants with a 728X designator. The service redesignated submarine electronics technicians as acoustic technicians in 2017, reopening the field, which had been closed since 2011. The electronics technician insignia had depicted a helium atom. The new insignia will be a throwback to earlier Navy acoustic ratings, and feature a globe with a sea horse in the center and a trident emerging from it.

Acoustic Technicians serve within the Integrated Undersea Surveillance System (IUSS) and are tasked with providing superior acoustic analytical expertise and sound tactical employment of undersea sensors in support of fleet and strategic undersea warfare objectives. As acoustic intelligence experts, Acoustic Technicians serve onboard Surveillance Towed Array Sonar System (SURTASS) vessels as afloat SURTASS Mission Commanders (SMC); as Tactical Watch Officers (TACWO) at Naval Ocean Processing Facilities (NOPF); and Quality Assurance (QA) specialists for Commander, Undersea Surveillance (CUS). As expert system managers and naval leaders, Acoustic Technicians oversee IUSS training commands (Submarine Learning Center (SLC) / Trident Training Facility (TTF) Detachments) and supervise man / train / equip programs for the IUSS Type Commander (TYCOM), Commander, Submarine Forces Pacific Fleet (CSP). [More Info](#)

—◆—

*Never say 'no' to adventures. Always say 'yes,'
otherwise you'll lead a very dull life.*

Ian Fleming,
writer, journalist, British naval intelligence officer

Can You Really Be Recalled to Active Duty at Any Time?

The rules vary but, generally speaking, any reservist can be recalled to active duty for the duration of a declared war or national emergency, plus an additional six months. This emergency or war declaration must be issued by Congress. If Congress isn't in session, the president can use his or her authority to recall them immediately.

For the Navy, when an enlisted member retires after 20 years of active duty, they are transferred to the Fleet Reserve. They remain in the Fleet Reserve until they have a total of 30 years' service, and then are transferred to the retired rolls. That means that, if you are a Navy retiree who retired nine years ago, you may be recalled to active duty if there is a reserve recall. Other services don't have that stipulation.

For officers, after retirement, their commission normally remains in force and effect forever. In return for the privilege of being legally entitled to being addressed by their military rank and getting all their retirement benefits, they basically remain an "Officer of the United States" until death. They can resign their commission, but few do. If there is a 'national emergency recall', officers can be brought back without an act of Congress or official presidential recall.

More: <https://www.military.com/join-military/eligibility-requirements/can-you-really-be-recalled-active-duty-any-time.html>

The Military's Next Agent Orange

Failing to learn the lesson from burn pit problems of the Desert Storm—Desert Shield operations in 1990-91, these methods of trash disposal continue in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Soldiers had been struggling to run fast enough to pass their fitness tests, becoming tired with normal activity, and generally having difficulty breathing.

Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of service members back from Iraq and Afghanistan are developing lung diseases and ailments that all link back to the same environmental hazard burn pits.

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/10/23/militarys-next-agent-orange.html>

A Man and a woman-

A man has six items in his bathroom: toothbrush and toothpaste, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, and a towel.

- The average number of items in the typical woman's bathroom is 337. A man would not be able to identify more than 20 of these items.

BLUE WATER NAVY—AGENT ORANGE UPDATE

Exposure to Agent Orange has special meaning for Sabalo Vets who visited the Tonkin Gulf. Numerous incidences of rare and common cancers have been reported.

“Blue Water Navy” Veterans who served on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia as defined in Public Law 116-23. These Veterans are now entitled to a presumption of service connection for illnesses related to Agent Orange exposure. This is a result of [Public Law 116-23](#), the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. The law was signed on June 25, 2019, and took effect on January 1, 2020.

About the Agent Orange Registry health exam

This comprehensive health exam includes an exposure history, medical history, physical exam, and any tests if needed. A VA health professional will discuss the results face-to-face with the Veteran and in a follow-up letter.

Important points about registry health exams:

- **Free** to eligible Veterans and **no co-payment**
- **Not a disability compensation exam** or required for other VA benefits
- **Enrollment in VA’s health care system not necessary**
- Based on **Veterans’ recollection** of service, not on their military records
- Will **not confirm** exposure to Agent Orange
- Veterans can receive **additional registry exams**, if new problems develop

Veterans' family members are **not eligible** for an Agent Orange Registry health exam.

Eligibility for Agent Orange Registry health exam

These Veterans are eligible for the Agent Orange Registry health exam:

Vietnam [other locations can be found on the web site, but not related to Sabalo activities]

- Veterans who served in Vietnam between 1962 and 1975, regardless of length of time.

Blue Water Navy Association

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

Check for updated news from this group, a prime watchdog and promoter of topics regarding VA benefit recognition of Agent Orange exposure.

- Veterans who served aboard smaller river patrol and swift boats that operated on the inland waterways of Vietnam (also known as “Brown Water Veterans”)

“Blue Water Navy” Veterans who served on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia as defined in Public Law 116-23.

Navy and Coast Guard Ships Associated with Service in Vietnam and Exposure to Herbicide Agents Oct 28, 2019

<https://www.va.gov/shiplist-agent-orange.pdf>

Over 700 ships listed—[NOT ONE SUBMARINE — Therefore, it remains to be determined how actual position details will be verified. My experience in viewing some of the Deck Logs at the Nat’l Archives is that specific latitude and longitude are not recorded, only general descriptions of operating activities and locations. Special Ops are omitted and/or vague entries are found in periods where some shipmates have indicated that operating positions are SECRET. —Ed.]

Comment found on a blog:

“The 12 nautical mile line is a joke. It does not include most of the Carriers and the Carriers are the largest and most important ships to the Vietnam War. The desalination units on the ships suck up the sea water remove the salt but not the Agent Orange then we drank the water, our food was cooked in the water and we showered in the water. So even if your ship was 12.5 miles off shore it is like the water was ok to drink then. What a joke we served and are now dying from poison our Country used. Think of this if they admit the water was poison within 12 miles would you feel safe drinking the water 25 miles off shore. The Australian Navy has no silly 12 mile line for their sailors who served. Thousands of us sailors who served our Country in Vietnam who were paid combat pay and received Vietnam Service Metals are left to die because of a line draw on a map at 12 NM offshore. It is very sad we served and are now forgotten.”

Blue Water Navy Veterans’ disability claims to be decided beginning Jan.1, 2020

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/69370/blue-water-navy-veterans-disability-claims-now-decided/>

Some details on eligibility and claim filing.

SHIP’S STORE — DID I MISPLACE OR FORGET YOUR REQUEST? PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

The Ship’s Store page on the web site will soon be revised. Still working on source to print some more posters of the ‘Sabalo Battle Flag’. Check the web site for details on what may be available, or call.

https://ussabalo.org/Ship's_Store.html

☛ Surfin' Submariner

Online *CB* viewers can use these clickable links or others can find these sites online using the URL

RAO Bulletin— <http://www.nhc-ul.org/rao.html>

USS Grunion (SS-216) Wreckage Found—

Bow of WWII US Submarine Discovered Near Remote Alaskan Island (link missing last issue) w/1 min vid. <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/08/02/bow-wwii-us-submarine-discovered-near-remote-alaskan-island.html>

Additional 3 min. vid: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHZ_I30iWNE

Victory At Sea - Episode 21 Full Fathom Five (Complete Episode)
<https://youtu.be/Jsk9BJ2gdQM>

Take a Ride Inside the USS Ohio (5:53)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhTSrYehJCO>

10 Most Devastating Submarines of the Future

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-D9zgAACKUI>

50 Insane Submarine Facts That Will Shock You

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wg_vlcwTZQ

Non-VA medical care paid by the VA THE VA MISSION ACT

The new program started on 1 Jan 2020

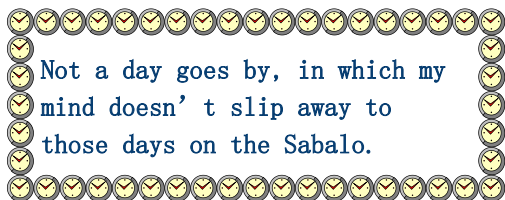
The VA web site has a new link to help find facilities near you. <https://www.va.gov/find-locations/>
Use the drop down box for Search for, and select Community Care, and then enter "Urgent Care" in the Service Type box.

The ability to use non-VA services has numerous pre-conditions that have differing criteria from the past programs. This link shows the many checks on when and how non-VA services can be used: <https://www.va.gov/community-care-quick-start-guide.pdf>

Note: If any shipmate needs help in determining your VA status or how to get benefits, I will gladly help. Give me a call. See contact info on page 3.—Jeff

Not in the VA System ?—Find Out How

<https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/>



Not a day goes by, in which my mind doesn't slip away to those days on the Sabalo.

In the Jargon Department –

Load— In a diesel-electric submarine everything relies upon power from the batteries or generators. The **Load** is the amount of electricity needed for operation. Propellers get power through electric motors and all systems on board need electricity. **Carrying the Load** relates not only to ship systems, but to the necessity of any crew member's ability to perform their duties satisfactorily. A **Non-Hacker** is one that can't 'carry the load', an incompetent



Vanity (Custom) License Plates

If you have plates that show something sub related, please send a pic.

US Troops May Be Overpaid, New Study Finds

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/12/20/us-troops-may-be-overpaid-new-study-finds.html>

Last issue, info on the large enlistment bonuses that can be earned for specialists in highly technical fields was mentioned. Now in contrary thinking, maybe the services are getting too much pay. This piece states that enlisted are about 90%, and officers about 83% of civilian equivalents.

"AN ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT CAN CROSS THE U.S. BORDER, HAVE A BABY AND GET ACCESS TO TAX FUNDED SERVICES IMMEDIATELY. A DISABLED VETERAN COMING BACK FROM AFGHANISTAN HAS TO WAIT A YEAR TO RECEIVE HIS OR HER BENEFITS. IT'S DISGRACEFUL."

-STEVE LONEGAN





UNDER THE HEADING OF POLITICALLY CORRECT B.S.

Pagan Nevada Guard Soldier Gets Waiver to Grow Beard; More May Follow

... first religious accommodation waiver granted a [Norse Pagan soldier](#) permission to grow a beard. ...waiver for the groomed, maximum 2-inch beard could be suspended at any point if there's a "threat of toxic exposure" in Afghanistan.

Movie Night in the After Battery

The Command (2018) A dramatization of the sinking of Russian sub Kursk K-141 in 2000. It should be said that sub sailors can never watch a sub movie, or any Navy movie for that matter, without finding fault in even the tiniest technical mistakes. Remember the hooting and hollering on board when such glitches came up? This flick is one where almost every scene has bogus visuals or phony operating orders. Major goof: Although the film implies that the 23 survivors of the initial blasts lived up to a week, just dying before rescue, later discovery is that they had actually all died within 11 hours. No rescue attempts had even begun at that point. On the whole it does generate suspense and sympathy for the men and families about the way senior Russian officials reacted. (117 min) Can be found online for streaming. Netflix is one opportunity.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sUJRcuJ3E>

And as a side note: Documentary of raising the Kursk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sUJRcuJ3E>

The Russian Typhoon Submarine—the largest sub ever—574 ft length / 48,000 tons (10:45 time)

<https://youtu.be/agUwISJUtb>

Crush Depth - A submariner stuck in a failing sub - soon to reach Crush Depth , How will he escape? (16 min)

.. Hokey b.s. that would elicit howls in the after battery. The trapped guy looks like Adam Schiff. If someone needs to go down with the ship, let's hope it's him.—ed.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SQ4AfZ3_Zqw



☛ In case you're stuffed with all kinds of rich food from gorging over the holidays here's something more familiar. Some Navy men love it, some hate it. It is a subject of ridicule and abuse for the chronic grippers.

Ground Beef Creamed or in Tomato Sauce

In the American navy, "**Shit on a Shingle**" was a minced beef and tomato sauce flavored with onion and nutmeg and served over toast. The sauce would be thickened with flour or cornstarch.

Beginning in the late 1960s, some parts of the US military began to use ground beef for the dish that people called "Shit on a Shingle." The army version with ground beef stuck with a cream sauce, made from evaporated milk and beef stock thickened with a roux. You fried the ground beef, drained excess fat, stirred flour into the ground beef, letting its fat interact with the flour to make the roux, and then made the sauce from there, either with evaporated milk or reconstituted powdered milk.

Here's a recipe adjusted for 4-6 persons:

U. S. Navy Minced Beef Gravy on Toast

30 minutes preparation, ~30 minutes cooking time

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 lbs ground beef
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- cooking oil, if needed
- salt and pepper
- 5 tablespoons flour, approximate
- 1 (16 ounce) can whole tomatoes, diced
- 5 1/2 ounces tomato juice
- 2 cups hot water, approximate
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg, to taste
- 1/2 teaspoon sugar, to taste

1. Crumble the ground beef into a skillet and brown with the onions. If beef is very lean, add a tablespoon or two of cooking oil. (Salt and pepper to taste.)
2. Once meat begins to brown, Add flour, one tablespoon at a time, mixing in each spoonful, before adding the next. The flour must be cooked to preclude a starchy taste. Add enough flour to absorb most of the oil. Hint: if you pre-mix each tbs of the flour with a couple tbs of the water it makes it easier to combine.
3. Stir in the tomatoes and the tomato juice, followed by some of the remaining water to adjust consistency as necessary. Allow to simmer on low heat to thicken. .
4. Add nutmeg and sugar and adjust to taste.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY— Try to remember the greener grass across the fence may be due to a septic issue.

➡ On the subject of : This is No B.S.

The Hunley Sinks the Housatonic

>>>On February 17, 1864, Lt. Dixon and his crew set out to attack their prey. Housatonic lay at anchor approximately two and a half miles offshore. Although a lookout eventually detected the approaching Hunley, it was too late in raising the alarm. The sub-marine rammed the ship with a spar torpedo affixed to her bow, planting a 135-pound explosive charge against the warship. As the submarine quickly backed away, Union bullets pelted the hull, but the 150-foot rope used to detonate the charge drew taut and detonated the charge, tearing an enormous hole in the Housatonic's side. She went down within three minutes.

Only five crewmen were lost on Housatonic, with many others escaping to the nearby USS Canandaigua. It was from that refuge that the Housatonic's executive officer, Lt. F.J. Higginson, reported the event the following day.

"At about 8:45 p.m. the officer of the deck... discovered something in the water about 100 yards from the moving ship. It had the appearance of a plank moving in the water. It came directly toward the ship, the time from when it was first seen till it was close alongside being about two minutes. During this time the chain was slipped, engine backed, and all hands were called to quarters. The torpedo struck the ship forward of the mizzenmast, on the starboard side, in a line with the magazine. Having the after pivot gun pivoted to port we were unable to bring a gun to bear upon her. About one minute after she was close alongside the explosion took place, the ship sinking stern first and heeling to port as she sank."11

Unfortunately, H.L. Hunley never returned from her successful mission. Although most believed that she succumbed to the explosion of her own torpedo, it is now believed that the submarine escaped the encounter safely, but went down soon after for other reasons. An agreed-upon signal – a blue light from the submersible – had been planned to indicate that the boat was on its way back to base. This light was seen from the shore following the explosion, but nonetheless, the Hunley never returned.

Full story in Fall 2006 Ed. Of *Undersea Warfare*

https://www.public.navy.mil/subfor/underseawarfaremagazine/Issues/PDF/USW_Fall_2006.pdf

I Read a Book

I read a book when I was but a lad
Standing barely belt high to my dad.
That book had an impact on my life
Second only to the girl who became my wife.

It told the story of heroes true
Who chose to fight beneath the oceans blue.
It told of battles lost and won
And how these men did a job well done.

It told of those who never came back
That suffered death by enemy attack.
It told of all the young lives lost
Paying for freedom with the highest cost.

Of the ones who returned it also told
Telling about these men brave and bold.
But each one I've known is quick to deny
He's anything but an ordinary guy.

I read the book as a lad of ten
And made up my mind there and then.
I knew I just had to grow up to be
A sailor who fought beneath the sea.

I earned my dolphins and wore them with pride
With all my shipmates by my side.
No matter which boat I always knew
All hands would know just what to do.

I was lucky or so I'm told
For the war I fought was known as Cold.
I never knew a torpedo shot in anger
But that's not to say there was no danger.

The only thing I have come to regret
Is there are some things that are secret yet.
I pray before I leave this veil of tears
I can tell my family about those years.

...Myron Howard 9/29/2000

MAILBAG

From Otto & Sharon Husak [Xmas letter] - Sharon reports Otto is more or less on the binnacle list with doctor visits for macular degeneration, hearing and heart monitoring, but "he's still Otto.!" Sharon had planned to compete in a national senior bowling tourney in Wichita, but right before it she hurt her foot and had a "Paul Bunyan boot" on a sprain, and missed the event. She did make it before that to the Neb. State tournament in May. They remain active and don't travel as much, but got some different wheels, a 2017 Mitsubishi SUV.

BINNACLE LIST

Oles, Merton "Ben" (IC2(SS) abd Mar67-Aug69) via telcon reports he has multiple problems and he has started to pursue a claim with the VA. He has been diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, diabetes, and neuropathy. [Agent Orange??]

MAILBAG

From: Alice McCauley [Recd 4 May 18]

“Donald passed November 4th 2017 - cause of death - failure for adult to thrive. In other words—Alzheimers. He was diagnosed about 4 years ago. He stayed at home until the end of May last year. I could no longer take care of him and had to place him in a facility. He hated it there and couldn't understand why he couldn't come home. He really never knew why he was ill but knew there was something wrong. He went to hospice in October and died the 4th of November. It was very fast considering those who last for years.

He wanted to be buried at sea. I took him to Hawaii in March, rented a catamaran, about a mile off shore of the Hale Koa and put him in the water. It was almost as heart wrenching as his death, I guess cause it was almost like he died again. Leaving the Island was as difficult as the cremation.

Pearl Harbor was his first sub - SABALO. Ironically, the day he died they put his SABALO tee shirt on him, the one he got from the SABALO reunion of the past.“

From Mary Ellen Schwichtenberg, [Recd

18Dec2019] Jeff I am so saddened to let you know of Del's passing on 12/12/19 . He would have been 98 in January this coming year. Please notify any of the crew that may still remember him. Military Service

Honors will be on January 7, 2020 at Walton's Funeral home here in Carson City and the interment will be in Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley NV.

From: Lee Downing [Recd17 Jan 2020]

Dear Jeff Owens,

...This morning I looked up the submarine's number and found your site. My Dad just died, Jan 6, 2020 (age 89). William Perry Downing Jr ended his Naval career as Master Chief Petty Officer with 38 years. He also served aboard the USS Greenfish. [and others not known] It's funny he didn't seem to be too interested in the Navy after he retired because he was obsessed with golf. He wasn't one to look things up on a computer, he'd rather be outside.

OBIT: <https://www.heritagegardensfuneralhome.com/notices/William-Downing>

Thank you for your service and for providing these fine men a way to reconnect.—Lee

From John & Linda Patrick [picture Xmas card]

The picture is the happy couple in Ireland during September. They report a great time in a beautiful country. Nice pic—John looks like he's getting older and Linda is getting younger. See pg 2

Eternal Patrol Notices

Downing, William Perry, Jr. d.6Jan2020 (age 89) Santa Rosa Beach, CA— YN1(SS) abd 302 Jan 61-?61; later YNCM(SS), Ret. 38 yrs service.

Eppinette, Donald Gene d.26Nov2016 (age 77) Floresville, TX- IC2(SS) abd Jul60-?63

Gardner, Donald J. D.23Sep2019 (age 92) Canastota, NY ST1(SS), Ret., abd 302 Jul-Oct69, was originally EN2(SS), also served on : 242 Bluegill; 269 Rasher; 590 Sculpin; 573 Salmon; 405 Sea Owl; 377 Menhaden

Gollen, Russell Theodore, Sr. d.20Jul2018 (age 91) Bellingham, WA -CS2(SS) abd 302 May51-Jul51; later FTG1(SS), Ret. 1959; WWII vet; served on 11 ships including 8 subs.

Marshall, Roy Eugene d.30Oct 2016 (age 73) Haslett, TX— MM2(SS) abd Jul63-?64; Q on 302

McCauley, Donald Gene d.4Nov2017 (age 80) Prior Lake, MN EM3(SS) abd Mar56-Sep58; Q on 302; Ret. EMCS(SS) 1973; Served on: SS-307, SS-302, SSN-596, SSN-597, SSN-615, SSBN-656, SSBN-602

Schwichtenberg, Delmar John d. 12Dec2019 (ag 97) Carson City, NV ENC(SS) abd 302 Dec52-Oct53; Ret. CWO2 Sep 1960, WWII Vet, Served on: O-6 (Q-1941), SS-381, SS-401, SS-302, ASR-8—made 5 war patrols on Sand Lance SS-381 as COB, Originally was MoMM,

Scott, Dale Vernard d.17Oct2019 (age 79) Plainfield, WI—MM2(SS) on 302; later MMCM(SS), Ret. 1980 Served on: LKA-115, DD-698, SS-302, SS-582, APSS-282, SSR-573, SSN-604, SSN-613

SAILOR REST YOUR OAR !