



This issue is dedicated to the WWII heroes who taught us our trade and exemplified our pride—RonG
(I've ordered the book)

PHOTO ABOVE: This (unknown) WWII submariner in his bunk aboard a Gato Class fleet boat (fwd port top rack in Hogan's Alley?) is reading *The Stray Lamb*, by James Smith Jr. ...American writer of humorous fiction ... (most of it involving sex, lots of drinking, and supernatural transformations, and aided by racy illustrations).

•If you received a hard copy of this Newsletter through the mail, but have access to the Internet, please send me an email with your current email address— AND MENTION THAT IT'S A NEW ADDRESS. Printing and Postage is our biggest expense. In all sincerity, it I consider it an honor to to print, collate, fold, staple, address, stamp and mail 120 copies of this issue—but like all submariners, if there's an easier way.... [Ed]



----- Pride Runs Deep -----

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From the Tomato Basket:

I spent September in Colorado, elk hunting in the S.W. corner of the state with brothers Roy & Dave; then went to NE Colorado for the wedding of my wife's nephew. Meanwhile, I hope the Norfolk convention was pleasurable for all my shipmates who attended.

Many have offered suggestions for another full scale reunion but not yet with a consensus of when and where. Keep your ideas coming, and I'll try organizing one if we think we can achieve reasonable attendance.

In this issue, Ron comments about our duty to vote. Generally *Clever Boy NL* editorial policy is to avoid liberal vs. conservative arguments and politics in general.

However, we both receive some occasionally preposterous and untrue items, and also a good deal of informative and useful information—often of political nature concerning DOD matters, and current events pertinent to our national situation. If you want to participate in contributing/receiving such material, let me know by email, and I will try to include you on distribution of whatever someone deemed important.

For instance, few years ago while touring the USS X in Groton our group was being led by the navigator. In the aux. engine space,

jammed with so much stuff there was no room to work on anything. One of us noticed the familiar "coffin covers" of FM almost hidden by all the stuff; surprised to learn that the boats still used them, he asked the gold-dolphin-wearing tour guide who the engine's manufacturer was; thinking a few moments the guide responded "Ingersoll-Rand". I wondered just what questions he was asked during his final walk through. I admit the increasing complexity, and to additional knowledge needed for reactor operations, but quals now seem more closely aligned to on board duties while ignoring the equipment. Knowing how to perform at any man's station does not now seem to be a requirement for dolphins.

The readiness and increased mission pressures of today boats certainly demonstrate the ability of the Sub Force to perform. But I wonder if relaxed/diminished levels of overall abilities might be a problem in the future. Add the news of officer after officer being relieved, even in the submarine command; is it really a quality problem, or just another manifestation of the idiotic 'political correctness' strangling on our national psyche.

V/R Jeff Owens

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Several Sabalo vets and their guests met at the Outback Restaurant adjacent to Convention hotel for a very pleasant dinner on Thursday, 5 Sept. 2012. I really, really enjoyed the much-too-short event ... but I'm afraid I have to lie: my dog ate the napkin I so carefully wrote names on.

Attending (I think):

Ralph Piatek (WWII vet) & Daughter
Connie Moore & son
Joe Lyons & wife, and...
Almedia? Darrell? Elzinga?
Ron Gorence

Informal survey for future reunions:
Reno:2; Las Vegas: 2; San Diego:1 and
Branson:1. Your choice? Other?
Let us know!

It is truly a triumph of rhetoric over reality when people can believe that going into politics is *public service*, but that producing food, shelter, transportation, or medical care is not. Thomas Sowell



Thru the TBT:

Well, shipmates the USSVI event in Norfolk was my first without my wife serving SP duty, and I survived. I attended 3 boat reunions: Razorback's combined business meeting/dinner had 14 of our twenty-some convention attendees (mbrs/guests). Sabalo had a dinner of 10, and DFAS (DieselFastAttackSubs) for Tang-class boats, about 20 dinner guests. In my tiny brain, if 2 shipmates showed up, I'd be just as enthusiastic, but at the same time—very disappointed. We must work on an 'offer you can't refuse'.

•This issue looks again like a bitch session re what's happening in our *social experiment* Navy; sorry, but that's mostly what's out there.

•**Progress Report:** There are just over 1,400 Sabalo sailors listed in Jeff's records: (A) 464 on mailing list—351 email, 113 USPO; (B) 454 on Eternal Patrol; and (C) 485 with insufficient data to contact. I keep (A) current to publish *Clever Boy*, but we need to work on the rest. Only time will tell if we're moving more shipmates from C to A or just waiting for them to end up going from C to B.

•**Non-political plea:** Less than one fourth voted in the last USSVI election—poor turnout, but we trust our brothers both those running for office and our proxy voters. In U.S. National Elections during our Navy years, many of us didn't vote because we were already sworn to do our duty regardless of who won...and then elections began to look like contests between two peas in a pod: *Jolly Green Giant vs. Little Sprout*—peddling the same corn. Many of us never took seriously our duty to vote, but times have changed. It is not our brothers now holding our proxy!

Sadly, 43% of eligible U.S. voters did not bother to participate in the last Presidential Election. This November, only if large numbers of them do bother to vote, can a genuine valuation of our choices be carefully counted, and honorably accepted. If they do not, we will only get (deserve) the usual **B.S.** from professional politicians 'teaching' us what

"The American people really want" —using data based on a 51% majority of the 57% who actually vote. That's 0.51 X 0.57, or 29% of voters deciding — as 71% scratch their head.

'Probable voters' have been segregated into demographic groups, and each candidate will spend over a \$billion to influence members of those groups. We will be bombarded with countless carefully-directed TV ads, but— even at Superbowl advertising rates—the largest slice of each \$billion will be used for other sophisticated and more subtle methods of influencing particular groups, like adjustment of Opinion-Poll results and false predictions of landslides, both to attract the *me-too* vote. Carefully-selected passions will be aroused and exploited — today slick politicking is far more effective than simple old-fashioned, but still useful, vote-buying. Schemes have been developed and proven to effectively discourage/encourage votes for specific candidates and/or to lure people to/away from voting booths; these often used precisely in reverse for different target groups. All this broadcast to millions on the internet—not just two or three news channels.

Americans have always been individualists however most humans tend to seek the companionship of like-minded friends, and some are so busy earning a living, or raising a family, that they forget the need to constantly water the tree of liberty. The only defense we have against billion-dollar-manipulations of a gullible 29% minority of **actual voters** is to stand up: The Founders accurately anticipated our current problems, and told us exactly what to do—they gave us seed for the greatest government in the history of the world. When asked what they'd created, Ben Franklin said, "A Democratic-Republic ... if you can keep it." By *you*, he meant we, the people!

Vote for the Man, or the Country, or for your own comfort. Vote from your hopes, your fears, or from your gut— just...please vote. Our Troops, right now, are refreshing the tree of liberty with their blood... for that inalienable right!

V/R, RonG

The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government, lest it come to dominate our lives and interests. Patrick Henry 1736-1799

End of an era - Submarine Veterans of WWII disbands Submitted by: Pat Householder on 9/19/2012]

•The National SVWWII organization, established in 1955 to honor WWII subvets and remember the submarine men lost in WWII, formally closed it's national administration at the joint 2012 USSVI-SVWWII Convention in Norfolk .

•"There are memorials all over this country they've built," said retired Vice Adm. Al Konetzni, who has long been close with the World War II veterans even though he is not of that era. "These guys started in 1955 doing this for their buddies, so they would not be forgotten. It's a wonderful story of self-image. They said, 'Hey, we're going to do it, and we will do it.'"

•Walter "Gus" Kraus, final President of SVWWII said the WWII sub veterans considered themselves a unique group and that uniqueness forged a strong bond. The end of the organization, he said, also represents the "end of an era where we were able to get together and blow our own horn, remembering the circumstances under which we fought." •"They will never be forgotten, ever, ever, ever," said Konetzni, a former deputy commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "They gave us our traditions and our spirit. They were our leaders."

•Of the remaining 2,146 WWII members, due to the passage of time and the ravages of age, only 62 were able to attend the closing ceremony. 1,102 of these WWII men are also members of USSVI.

•Each of the SVWWII Chapters has the option to continue meeting as a local 'sub club' and all World War II Submariners are always welcome to attend USSVI meetings in their area.

[the following excerpts were added from] AP article of September 23, 2012: NL, Cn.

•The submarine veterans of World War II have seen this coming for a long time.

•U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II disbanded in Norfolk, Va. And now

local chapters now must decide whether to continue operating under another name or to dissolve as well.

•This month in Groton, J. "Deen" Brown announced to his fellow WWII submarine veterans that the Thames River Chapter has a new name: "Eastern USA Chapter U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII," before their monthly luncheon at the U.S. Submarine Veterans clubhouse. Brown, who was state commander in the national organization, said the veterans who live locally enjoy getting together and want to continue as a group. The new name is intentionally broad, Brown said, because they expect veterans to join from other states when chapters disband.

•"We simply have to face the fact that we're all getting older and, as we do so, eventually we simply cannot remain a viable national organization," said Brown, 90, of Oakdale.

•Walter "Gus" Kraus... said the veterans who wanted to keep the national group going "until the last man is gone" ... of the 1,100 members, the youngest is 86. The oldest is 102.

•"I hope we will continue to be remembered for many, many years to come." - George Jones, WWII submariner

•"The guys said, 'I was all for staying. My shipmate came to the convention with me. He's gone now and I don't feel like coming,'" said Kraus, 91, of Crescent Springs, Ky.

•Kraus said the sub veterans considered themselves a unique group and that uniqueness forged a strong bond. The

end of the organization, he said, also represents the "end of an era where we were able to get together and blow our own horn, remembering the circumstances under which we fought."

•Konetzni, who gave the keynote speech at the closing ceremony, said in an interview that the World War II veterans "lived the horror" and "lived the glory," but they do not need the administrative burdens of a federally chartered organization to preserve their memories.

•"They will never be forgotten, ever, ever, ever," said Konetzni, former deputy commander of U.S. Fleet Forces Command and the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. "They gave us our traditions and our spirit. They were our leaders."

•About 120 World War II submariners live in Connecticut. After Brown announced the national organization's decision and the name change at the luncheon, Warren Wildes said, "It was time."

•Wildes, 86, of Groton was eating with LeRoy Webb, 88, of Mystic. "I hate to see them do it but the day had to come sooner or later," Webb said. He told Wildes he had just read ... that a chief on the USS Moray, one of the submarines he had served on during the war, had died. "I used to take his girlfriend's picture and put it under my pillow," he said with a laugh at the prank he used to pull to irritate the chief.

•Webb said he served on 15 submarines in his career and was away so much that when his wife was asked how long she had been married, she cut the time in half.

•Both Webb and Wildes said they thought it was great that the local group would continue to meet.

•"We look forward to seeing our buddies every month and swapping lies," Wildes said. "Sometimes you hear the same stories over and over again," Webb said. "But they're still interesting."

•Many of the World War II submariners are also members of the U.S. Submarine Veterans Inc., which is open to all U.S. Navy submariners. The younger ones in that group began maintaining the memorials and conducting ceremonies when the World War II veterans could no longer do it.

•The local World War II veterans turned over the upkeep of the U.S. Submarine Veterans WWII National Submarine Memorial East to the Subvets Groton base and the city of Groton in 2005, said John Carcioppolo, base commander. Subvets willingly took on the responsibility.

•"The World War II guys are part of our heritage," Carcioppolo said. "And it's up to us to preserve that heritage."

•George Jones, 92, another World War II submariner who attended the luncheon, said it's important to him that the memorial is well taken care of because his friends' names are on its Wall of Honor.

•"I lost a lot of friends during the war and I came close myself," Jones, of Waterford, said. "I hope we will continue to be remembered for many, many years to come."



Sabalo Association's WWII Veterans:

ON MAILING LISTS: Joe Belmont, Ben Heck, Curt Mast, Wayne Momsen, Charlie Odom, Ralph Piateck, Delmar Schwichtenberg, Richard Sedlak,
INSUFFICIENT CONTACT DATA: Carl Abrahamson,

Bananas & Politicians? Green, then yellow, and then rotten.

So... what the \$%&# could possibly go wrong?(Healthcare Diagnosis in one sentence)

"We are going to be gifted with a healthcare plan we are forced to purchase and fined if we don't, which reportedly covers at least ten million more people without adding a single new doctor, but provides for sixteen thousand new IRS agents, written by a committee whose chairman says he doesn't understand it, passed by a Congress that didn't read it but exempted themselves from it, and signed by a president who smokes, with funding administered by a treasury chief who didn't pay his taxes, for which we will be taxed for four years before any benefits take effect, by a government which has already bankrupted Social Security and Medicare, all to be overseen by a surgeon general who is obese - and financed by a country that's broke."

Dr. Barbara Bellar, Illinois State Senate candidate

There have been many major changes in the U.S. Navy Submarine Service since the WWII Diesel Boat Era. It might be interesting historically to note some of them.

Initially there were only seven pay grades (actually eight). They ran from one to seven with Apprentice Seaman (AS) as one, Seaman Second Class (S2/c) as two, Seaman First Class (S1/c) as three, Petty Officer Third Class (e.g. MM3c) as four. Petty Officers Second and First Class as five and six. Chief Petty Officers were initially promoted to "seven A" for one year (Acting Appointment) and then to Chief Petty Officer as pay grade seven. There were no Master or Command Chief, etc. The "C" for Chief Petty Officers preceded the rate designation, for example CMM not MMC as today. For all of the seaman ratings there was a comparable Fireman (F)

The Officer's rank structure has remained consistent with minor exceptions. During WWII a five star Fleet Admiral rank was added and bestowed on Nimitz and King. No one promoted to that rank since WWII. Another thing there was no Commodore rank utilized. Officers were promoted from Captain to Rear Admiral (lower half) and hence to Rear Admiral (upper half). The Rear Admiral (Lower Half) replaced the Commodore rank. As it is custom to call any Commanding Officer Captain it also was custom to call a Submarine Squadron Commander Commodore.

Before WWII an Apprentice Seaman's pay was \$21.00 per month. Pays increased in WWII with Apprentice Seaman to \$50.00 per month and to around \$120.00 per month for a Chief. All personnel on Submarines got 50% submarine money and 20% sea duty pay. When added together added up to about 80% extra pay.

If you were married and/or had dependents your pay was reduced by \$28.00 per month the U.S. Navy supplemented another \$22.00 and your dependent was sent a monthly check for \$50.00. Consequently, an Apprentice Seaman would get \$22.00 per month. However, enlisted personnel below pay grade four could not marry without the permission of their Commanding Officer. This

breached more often than observed and obviously many entered the service married.

At one time the Navy Paymasters would pay personnel with \$2.00 bills so that when spent it would indicate to the local economy the impact of the service. Also when being paid by the Paymaster on board a tender you would line up with your "pay chit" to draw your pay. When you reached the pay desk you would salute the Paymaster, put your fingerprint on the "pay chit" and draw your money. There was a posted pay list indicating what you had on the "books" and you could draw all or whatever amount you desired

Submarine and sea pay were a real boon especially when sea store cigarettes at six cents a pack and a bottle of beer on Bank St. was twenty-five cents. Later when you came in off patrol you would have that back pay and be really flush. Due to rapid expansion of every aspect of the U.S. Navy, if you could cut the mustard, promotions were forthcoming. Many a serving enlisted person commissioned (called mustangs) or advanced in rating because of the enormous need to fill billets in new construction and replace casualties. Classes at the U.S. Naval Academy graduated early. Personnel with special qualifications were coming into the service rated and/or commissioned. You could see a Chief Petty Officer with no hash marks. These ratings were derided and called "slick arms" (no hash marks) and/or "Tajo" ratings by the old-timers. Some enlisted personnel commissioned as regular line officers, Warrant Officers and Limited Duty Officers (LDOs) in specific areas. Such commissions initially were considered temporary with reversion back to their permanent grades at the conclusion of hostilities

They created many specialty ratings. In their "Crow" specialty designator was a diamond with a letter inside, e.g., the letter "A" would be for a coach or professional athlete who would conduct physical conditioning, etc. Most, if not all, of these ratings ceased to exist with the end of the war. Some referred to these as "square knot" rates.

There were right and left arm rates. Right arm rates were considered "Sea

Going Rates" (BM, QM, GM, SM, FC, TM, etc.) and the "Crow" was worn on the right arm. Left arm rates were ancillary and were MM, Y, EM, RM, MOMM, ET, etc. Right arm rates were senior to left arm ratings. There was no Boatswain Mate Third Class they were called Coxswains.

Seamen and Firemen wore a "watch stripe" round the right shoulder - white for seamen red for firemen. There was other colors of "Watch Stripes" for aviation, CBs, etc. Indication of rate was on uniform cuffs. One white/red stripe for AS/FA, two for S2c/F2/c and three for S1/c and F1/c. The present diagonal 1, 2, or 3 stripe(s), in color was originally for WAVE uniforms and after WWII were adopted for the present enlisted uniform and the watch stripe was eliminated.

The "T-Shirt" a part of the enlisted uniform initially served two purposes. (1) It was to be worn without the Jumper on work details, especially in tropical locations. (2) It was meant to have the high white neckline to show in the "V" of the Jumper. Some personnel, to enhance the appearance would cut the tab off and wore the "T-shirt" backward for a better appearance especially if with age and washings it seemed to sag. The popularity of the T-Shirt expanded into wide public acceptance after WWII and in now utilized, not only as an undergarment but as outerwear with various designs, logos, etc.

There were no Silver Metal Dolphins for enlisted personnel. Dolphins for enlisted personnel consisted of embroidered "patches". (white for blues and blue for whites) sewn on the right forearm. Silver Metal Dolphins for enlisted personnel was authorized after WWII.

All enlisted personnel wore embroidered "patches" as distinguishing marks e.g., if you were a designated striker you could wear the insignia for that specialty on the left upper sleeve.

Other distinguishing marks for enlisted personnel were "patches" on uniforms, e.g., an Expert Lookout "patch" binoculars, a diver a divers helmet (M for Master. with degree of qualification indicated on the chest section of the helmet. These worn on the right upper sleeve and there were many of them. One "perk" that has persisted is the wearing of gold rating

insignia and hash marks for those with 12 years of good conduct.

Chief Petty Officers merely pinned their fouled anchor hat insignia to the front top of their hat covers. The black band and background for the insignia was initiated after WWII.

Officers did wear Gold Metal Dolphins as they do today.

Unknown today was also the fact that there was a dress white uniform for enlisted personnel. The collar and cuffs were blue and were adorned with piping. What is worn today are "undress whites". Pictures of them are in old "Bluejacket Manuals".

Officers wore swords for ceremonial occasions as they do today but back before WWII Chief Petty Officers had a cutlass for ceremonial dress occasions.

Another uniform item that is now passé is the flat hat. Once the ribbon had the name of your ship but this discontinued for security reasons and all flat hats merely had U.S. Navy in gold on the ribbon. In boot camp all of your uniform items were stenciled with your name and service number. There were no doors on lockers and each item had a prescribed method of folding and stowing. It was even prescribed as to how you would pack your seabag.

Originally, the entire submarine base was literally below the railroad tracks. Later as the base expanded it was called "lower base". Most of the upper base buildings, i.e., Morton Hall, Dealey Center, etc., were constructed for WWII. The road from the present main gate past the golf course was the Groton-Norwich road. About half way up the road was an overhead railroad bridge. The entrance to the base was under the bridge and the Marine guard stationed there in a guard shack. The base commanders office was housed in a small brick building about half way between the training tower and the Torpedo Shop.

Submarine School - six weeks enlisted and three months for officers.

Of some 250,000 men who applied for submarine duty less than 10% made it to Sub School and many of those washed out. Submarine School was the sole tyrannical domain of one Chief Torpedoman Charles Spritz. Submarine School was called "Spritz's Navy". He ruled with an iron hand and was feared by instructors and students alike. He had little

regard for rate whether you were a Seaman First Class or a Petty Officer First Class. To call him eccentric was a gross understatement. He did not smoke, did not drink and was single. It is open to debate as to if he ever even pulled a liberty. His total devotion was to the Submarine School. It was universally conceded that he had gone "asiatic", not 100% stable and perhaps as a youngster he might have been dropped on his head.

He insisted that personnel, at all times, be properly and neatly attired in the regulation "Uniform of the Day" without exception. No tailor made, proper rolled neckerchief down to the "V" in the Jumper with immaculate white T-Shirt showing, shoes well shined, etc. He did not permit smoking nor any type of horseplay. He demanded that all personnel move at a fast pace.

Chief Spritz had the uncanny ability to be everywhere at all times and pity the poor individual who crossed his path. His discipline was swift and sure. He felt it was his personal mission to ascertain that anyone leaving sub school for submarine duty was in every respect ready. He had many axioms but his favorite was "There is room for anything on a submarine except a mistake". Sub school students were not "boots", many, if not most, had time in the U.S. Navy and were rated.

There is an article in POLARIS issue of August, 2000 (Submarine Saga segment) which delves into more detail relative to Chief Spritz and is briefly incorporated here as it is a definite part of the Diesel Boat Era.

Sub Vets of WWII in recognition of respect, and a fealty obligation to this once feudal lord and master, wear a "Spritz's Navy" patch on their vests.

It would seem that the screening at Sub School served us well. Friction between members of the crew was unbecoming and unacceptable. If an individual demonstrated an inability to "get along" he could be transferred to another boat. If the same conduct prevailed there he would be transferred out of submarines. The training tower caused many a wash out for both physical and mental reasons. If a person could not "pop" his ears it could cause pain and even bleeding from the ears. Your voice changed dramatically to a high pitch under pressure. All personnel had to qualify from the 100' lock

with the Mommsen Lung. Right after the war it was noted that some German submariners had made emergency escapes using free ascents. A number of crews from boats went to the tower and made free ascents.

We had less pomp insofar as the ceremony observed when a member of the crew qualified than is apparent today. The individual, thrown over the side then sewed dolphins on his uniforms and wore them with pride. They have always been, and always will be, a badge of honor regardless of manner in which bestowed.

There was less reverence on some other occasions also., e.g., when a "Good Conduct Medal" was awarded to a member of the crew it would be given by the Captain (or perhaps the Exec) at quarters amid "hoots and hollers" with cries of "Undiscovered Crime". There was also a bonus system for awards ranging from \$1.00 per month for the Good Conduct Medal to \$5.00 per month for the Congressional Medal of Honor.

"Tailor Made" dress blues were the uniform of the day for liberty. The jumper was skin tight with a zipper in the side so that it could be taken off. Accentuated bell bottoms were mandated. The inside of the cuffs were decorated with embroidered color decorations, usually dragons, etc., and were only visible when the cuffs were turned up.

When you made Chief you initially bought the cheapest hat you could find since it was also considered appropriate and properly respectful to have all of the crew urinate in your first hat.

Sad to note in this day and enlightened age all of the military services of the United States were segregated during our era. The practice abolished by President Truman over 50 years ago. Stewards, at that time, recruited from America territories and from American minorities. Even in such a tight knit group as American Submarines two racks in the Forward Torpedo Room hung off the overhead beneath The Torpedo Loading Hatch were reserved for the Stewards. Rated Stewards wore uniforms similar to Chiefs.

The submarine sailor was a very irreverent individual with an avid distaste for regulations, etc. The average life span of a submarine sailor was four patrols (about a year). Despite bravado, that

thought prevailed to varying degrees depending upon the individual. That premise however, was unsaid but used as an excuse for hell-raising. Rarely mentioned in tales of WWII submarine lore was the fact that going through minefields was as apprehensive as being depth charged.

Submarine Officers and crews were very young - anyone past thirty was a very old man. Admiral Charles Lockwood (Uncle Charley) Com Sub Pac was most forgiving, as were Skippers and Execs, of transgressions of both Officers and men. Returning from patrol crews were treated extremely well.

Another "perk" of the submarine force was that any record of "minor" disciplinary action that a member of the crew suffered would be entered into the "page 9" of his service record. Virtually all disciplinary action was handled internally on the boat. However, both the original and carbon copy (BuPers Copy) retained in his jacket. When transferred, the original and copy, removed by the Yeoman to be deep sixed. Unless there was a serious offence personnel transferred with a clean record.

Many friendships were formed in sub school, plus other training and schools and transfers were not uncommon due to the needs of new construction, promotions, etc. Consequently, the force became even more closely knit. It was the rare boat that did not have personnel whom you knew.

Submariners were very independent and resourceful, both individually and as a group. Needs (and desires) of the boat as prescribed by the U.S. Navy, did not always coincide with what was considered proper nor adequate. Therefore, a system of "midnight requisitioning" and "midnight small stores" developed to enhance efficiency. This avenue of acquisition considered a solemn duty in promoting the war effort. Those proficient and innovative in this endeavor were greatly admired. It was an art as well as a science executed individually or as a group cooperative effort. Some of these escapades took great ingenuity as well as "brass balls". As a term of affection they were called "scroungers" and/or "dog robbers". If a Skipper or Exec made an "innocent" passing remark that some particular thing might be "nice" it would appear mysteriously in due time.

On board an informal, but professional,

attitude prevailed. Although we had an evaporator to make fresh water, battery watering was primary. In the design and scheme of things, personal hygiene or washing of clothes did not seem to be considered. One Engineering Petty Officer, called the "Water King" ran the evaporators. Personal hygiene or washing of clothing was an afterthought. The use of after-shave lotions, deodorants and especially talcum powders prevailed. Large cans of "Lilac" were the norm, purchased inexpensively and sprinkled liberally.

To the unacquainted it could appear that the rapport between Officers and men was quite informal and to a degree it was but it in no way detracted from efficiency, military courtesy, tradition or discipline. There was a strong mutual respect. Aye-Aye Sir, Very Well and Well Done were accorded as appropriate. The vast majority of the crew was rated and competent in their skills. Obviously so were our officers. There was no such thing as stenciled ratings on dungaree shirts so a person coming aboard a submarine at sea would have a difficult time determining any individuals rate. Also there was an axiom that in submarines "you left your rate on the dock". Ability was the hallmark.

When conditions approached that of a Chinese garbage scow junk with an overflowing head and the crew in dire need of fumigation the Skipper might decide to allow showers piecemeal by sections. You lined up to enter the shower, the Chief of the Boat turned on the water for 2 seconds and shut it down while you soaped down. You were then allowed a correspondingly brief rinse.

Each member of the crew was allotted one locker which measured about 12" high, 18" wide and about 18" deep. You kept your uniforms under your mattress. Your rack had a plastic zip around cover. Your mattress was encased in a "mattress cover" which was akin to an oversized pillow case. Able to be turned over once and some even turned them inside out and got two more uses. Less the uninitiated be stunned by that you must be cognizant of lack of water for regular laundry.

Internal communications on board were conducted by the 1MC and 7MC phone and speaker systems.

To reenter a submarine after handling lines etc. when returning to port was a

shocking revelation. It was impossible to believe that you had survived that malodorous environment. Politely put the atmosphere was conducive to a shanty town house of ill repute that also was inundated by a backup of its sewer system. Pity the poor relief crew that had to come on board and make the boat shipshape again.

You could immediately identify an Electrician on a submarine. He was the individual with the most shredded moth eaten dungarees.

Ribald humor was the tenor of the day. No topic or human frailty was off limits. Nothing was sacred. Horseplay and trickery were the order of the day. The antics and demeanor of the crew, both at sea and ashore, would not be socially acceptable nor politically correct nowadays. I fear that the late Admiral Rickover would have been aghast.

One real advantage was food, especially when you first went out. Although they were ridden without mercy the cooks did an excellent job of feeding the crew. We ate family style off china plates. Our officers ate exactly what the enlisted personnel did. The stewards would come back to the After Battery Galley and fill their serving plates and bring it to the Forward Battery for the Wardroom.

When leaving port rations were stored in every conceivable space (including the shower since it wouldn't be needed). However, as supplies diminished the cooks were hard pressed to come up with varied favorable menus. All boats had "open icebox" so you could prepare and cook anything you wanted at any time as long as you cleaned up after yourself. The After Battery "Mess" was for chow, off duty recreation, meeting space and a hang-out.

This is a collective attempt at recollection after the passing of a half-century so any errors or omissions hopefully forgiven as "senior frailties". Much of this is collective memory and is a compilation of boats in general. There is no pride of authorship so any comments, additions, corrections and/or deletions are welcome and appreciated. This is merely a historical comparison as best one can do and is in no way a negative reflection between "then and now".

GOD BLESS ALL SUBMARINERS - Past, Present and Future, Michael Skurat, SubVets WWII, USSVI [RIP]



After years of anticipation, a date for assigning women to attack submarines has been set: next year.

Attack boats represent the next phase of the Navy's gradual integration of the submarine force, which began last year when female officers joined ballistic- and guided-missile subs. Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jon Greenert told sailors recently that this new phase would begin as soon as next year, when female officers are assigned to Virginia class subs. "I think next year we're going to bring some officers into the Virginia class," Greenert said Aug. 22 at an all-hands call in New London, Conn.

So far, the fleet's first female submariners have fit well into billets on Ohio-class

boomers and guided-missile boats. But with two dozen female officers entering submarines each year, officials are looking for more hulls and more opportunities.

That's why they're moving to integrate the Virginia class, the Navy's latest class of attack boats. Recruiters are seeking talented female midshipmen for sub duty, but the number of volunteers has been lower than officials anticipated.

"They're not quite as high as we thought they'd be, frankly, in the officer ranks," said Greenert, who explained the integration effort will continue gradually, hewing to lessons from the earlier integration of ships and aviation squadrons, such as putting female officers onboard first and providing them

with female mentors. But he hinted the Navy may soon start looking for female enlisted volunteers, too.

"What about the enlisted?" he asked. "We need chiefs and first class females that would be willing and ready to go into submarines."

The CNO did not say when enlisted women may join the sub force, but his comments signaled it likely would be part of a later phase of the integration.

While attracting a lot of press coverage, women remain a very rare presence in the sub force. There were only 24 women assigned to boats as of Aug. 30, counting both female submarine officers and Supply Corps lieutenants serving as their mentors. They serve aboard the blue and gold crews of

the ballistic missile subs Wyoming and Maine and the guided-missile sub Ohio, as well as the gold crew of the guided-missile sub Georgia. Five more crews are planned to be integrated in January: Georgia's blue crew, and blue and gold crews on the guided-missile sub Florida and ballistic-missile sub Louisiana. Sub leaders haven't selected which Virginia-class subs will be integrated or planned specifically for when the first female crew members will report aboard them, a Submarine Forces spokeswoman said. The next wave of 24 female submariners is now in the officer training pipeline, with 18 more waiting to enter after them, said Cmdr. Monica Rousselow.

Hill Wants Sex Assault Cases Out Of Commands

Military Com|Sarah Blansett

Congress has floated a bill that would take ruling authority from commanders in sexual assault cases and hand it over to an independent panel.

In 2011 service members filed over 3,000 sexual assault reports. Gen Mark Welsh described the spike in assaults which tore apart Lackland AF Base with multiple reports of basic military instructors assaulting recruits. U.S. Rep Jackie Speier (D-Ca) said Pentagon needs to relieve commanders from the burden. Nancy Parrish (president of Protecting Our Defenders) said it's a conflict of interest...epidemic where 23% of women and 26% of men say their attacker was in their chain of command...absurd as having to report your rape to the president of your company and then letting them decide whether or not you are allowed to go to the police.

In 2011, 791 subjects of the 3,192 sexual assaults reported that year were disciplined because commanders felt there was a lack of sufficient evidence to prosecute cases...

"A politician is like a drunk who walks into a bar, sees a sign that says "All you can drink for \$1", and orders \$2 worth." -- Cafrman

DARPA RFP202-321554fdd1 A Firm Fixed Price RFP, (Request for Proposal) for modifications required to add the Pheromone Monitoring System (PMS) capability to Air Monitoring Systems (AMS) currently in use by U.S. Navy Submarines, and other ships.

Background: CO2 is lethal at high concentrations and must be continually scrubbed from recirculating air in confined living spaces such as submarines. Oxygen must be constantly replenished in closed atmospheres to maintain life. Pheromones, chemical compounds, are produced and secreted by humans, can negatively influence behavior of the opposite sex, and have been found to be inadequately controlled.

Appendix X references current functional Navy AMS's suitable for conversion IAW requirements of this RFP.

Executive Summary: DARPA RFP202-321554fdd1 This proposal will address the Study, Design, and Development of a functional AMS/PMS prototype incorporating PMS into an existing AMS. Prototype to demonstrate ability to measure, monitor, and maintain minimally-optimal levels of free pheromones. Circulating air content to be monitored/corrected through constant air sampling. Only human pheromones need be considered, however analyses of GLBT variances may be appraised in Change Order format.

Related RFP Companies with USN approved Chemical / Medical capacity may include a Phase II proposal as follows:

(DARPA RFP12-321554fdd21) The study, design, and development of medical absorption patches of variable potency and release-rates for administering an appropriate dosage regimen of Estrogens and testosterone to deployed U.S. Navy submarine crews. Include data supporting efficacy of patches to be worn by persons ranging in weight between 100 and 250 pounds in both relaxed and highly stressful living/working conditions. Minimization of long-range

effects (i.e.: chemical gelding and/or castration) will be heavily weighted in the assignment of this contract. Interested unionized bidders will be exempted from FDA/EPA restrictions.

[Ed note: This RFP is not real—it is sick humor. Please do not let this fall into the hands of a politician who may not realize that.]

Mail Bag

- 8/25/12 I'm writing to let you know that Thomas Arndt who served on the USS Sabalo during the Vietnam war died on Aug. 17, 2012 at his home in Oakland... domestic partner... just found a belt buckle... was with Tom when he died... with Tom 6 years ... a privilege to be with him... proud to have served on subs... and told stories about it..Regards, Eleanor Landi
- I served with Tom and remember him well...dedicated and competent professional in his job as FC Tech...working long hours... maintaining critical equipment ... watch standing ...on radar and sonar equipment crucial to a submarine's operations. Please accept condolences on behalf of the Sabalo Crew Association, and please convey same to his family and friends. Sincerely, Jeff Owens
- Keep up the good work...wish this check was for more...fighting cancer since November, but every mailing [CB] takes me back to '50's aboard Sabalo where I learned so much about life and living. F.W. Grantham [Say a prayer for him. Note that he is one our generous CB supporters, helping his shipmates even as he fights cancer]
- Hi Ron Ether Reno or Vegas is good for us. Jim & Laura Potts
- Hola, Dennis lives in Tacaes de Grecia de Alajuela de Costa Rica. They don't have street addresses here.
- Thanks for your dedication to the news letter. I recently connected with an old shipmate. Dennis Weller
- 7/24 Good to hear from you again ... Hope to see you at ... future get togethersBill Towery
- thanks for the NL... enjoy it... will be in Chula Vista ... my love has to have vascular surgery John Wade
- 7/18 ... one is the best yet... content .. highly relevant...currently topical... not easily encountered elsewhere... maybe some ..shipmates & readers ... feel confronted by opposite political thinking... a time ...that the truth needs attention.... Jeff Owens
- 7/17 thank you for ...time and effort ... look forward to my copy... sorry to read ... Otto Husak ... on EP...family lived next to us in Hawaii ... tried to teach my wife ... a stick shift. Someone I wanted to get in touch with but always put it off. Any information would be appreciated. Keep up .. will not be at the convention ... time. Ken Burner
- 7/16 ...my dear husband ... Eternal Patrol. Robert A. Stiles "Bob" ... on 7/11/12. ...so his shipmates will know...We did attend a reunion several years ago in San Diego
- 7/16 Great job on the newsletter. Thanks. Jim Organ
- Pete says John Robert Husky... in Benicia, Ca '77. Thanks Ron for ... newsletter -- makes Pete's day. Rita Ouellette
- Hi Ron. Superb newsletter! ... enjoyed Dex's & Chaplain's ...and the news of shipmates all. Please be advised that Edwin (PIERRE) Dispennette (sp?) passed away this past year. .Howard (Vinnie) Venezia ('53-'57)
- Jim Boyd, (ENFnSS, '52-'54 on 302) is having trouble with VA (service-connected hearing loss). Any Sabalo vets successful in getting hearing aids from the VA have some advice? Call or send an email: 231-972-0808 doloresb8733@yahoo.com

SABALO SHIP'S PATCHES

I had many past requests for ship's patches, and based on comments received, had a batch made using new artwork to differ from some of the commercial offerings which seem to have some distortions from those offered on board during Sabalo's active duty. The fish image, in particular, was looking more like a bulldog than an Atlantic Tarpon, or Sabalo as it is alternately called. The new versions are available for \$10 each which includes mailing cost. [Best-looking Sabalo patch available. RonG]

As always, for any of the readers who don't have email capability, please call me with any questions or input. Jeff Owens



International Submariners Association

My name is Bill (Butterbean) Dixon. I have the opportunity and pleasure to serve on the membership committee for ISA-USA group. ISA-USA has the same challenge as does USSVI, in that Submarine Veterans simply do not realize that we exist. DBF, Butterbean TM2SS
 For information: goldbow@att.net Use the subject line: ISA-USA INFO
 Membership: \$25, Life: \$100.
 2012 Convention was in Ukraine, 2013 Italy, and 2014, Greece.

Russia’s shot across the bow Sneaky submarine bad sign for U.S. readiness

By Adm. James A. Lyons Tuesday, August 28, 2012

A Russian Akula-class cruise-missile attack submarine ... operated undetected in the Gulf of MexicoThe US did not find out until after it left. This should not have come as a surprise... naval resources ... have been decimated... 600-ship Navy ... atrophy to ... 285 ships. With ... anemic shipbuilding plan ... headed for the smallest Navy since WWI.

The undetected Akula ... compounded by the fact that Iran ... missile bases in Venezuela ... can reach ... American cities ... what Iran is doing in Venezuela today is what the Soviet Union tried to do in Cuba in 1962 ... Monroe Doctrine ... under ... Kennedy, backed up by a massive deployment of naval ships to impose a quarantine around Cuba...Nothing less is acceptable today ... implementation... removal of the Iranian missiles from Venezuela...current impasse over the Iranian nuclear weapons program... unacceptable....

Russia’s assertive Akula deployment follows a June exercise of its strategic bombers and support aircraft in the Arctic, simulating strikes against Alaska... July, a Russian Bear H strategic bomber most likely simulated strikes against California from the Gulf of Alaska... intercepted before, hopefully, it was able reach its simulated missile-launch position... Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty ... requires 14-day advance notification ... No notification was given... a false sense of security because ...deceptive purposes. As a commander, you always want to retain the initiative and thereby keep your potential enemies off balance. You want to remain unpredictable... you raise the level of deterrence.

So much for the Obama administration’s “reset” with Russia... clearly has been given new marching orders by ... Vladimir Putin at a time when our national leadership is perceived to be weak. Social engineering imposed on our military by the administration has not enhanced our military capabilities. Our military has been involved in two wars over the past decade and has been run hard and put away wet.

These factors, when combined with looming, draconian budget cuts, will weaken our military capabilities and our ability to deter aggression. Our potential enemies see these growing weaknesses as opportunities to be exploited. There is no question that we are being challenged.

Retired Adm. James A. Lyons was commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and senior U.S. military rep. **to the U.N.**

Study Says Military Drinking Culture Now a Crisis Sep 18, 2012 Associated Press| by Pauline Jelinek
Abusing alcohol and drugs has been part of military culture historically: Troops do it for fun, to ease the stresses of war or to be part of the brotherhood.....armed forces' programs and policies have not evolved to effectively address... misuse and abuse...Substance abuse has "long been a concern ... as far back as the Revolutionary ...Today...treating substance abuse "tends to be old-fashioned... military's reluctance to use medications that can combat cravings

The reason Politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they could not make a living under the laws they've passed.

“Sabalo #1”

NEW: (Oct 2012) list of Shipmates who have no address, phone number or known obituaries: Abbotts, J - Cutting, C.
Next January’s **CB** will include **Sabalo #2**, listing the next ~100 men: Dadas, N - Hill, G. and we hope to have gone thru all 485 men by the end of 2013, when we plan to re-start with ‘A’ and a much-reduced total. Please continue to contact Jeff or Ron with clues (alone, we will soon only have obits to search, because the clock keeps ticking.

Abbotts, J	Bacong, F	Bessette, E	Brown, G	Causey, B	Collins, J
Abrahamson, C	Badget, K	Birchmore, H	Brown, K	Chandler, D	Combe, J
Adams, T	Bagwell, W	Bird, D	Buckner, G	Chapman, D	Cone, R
Akazawa, S	Baker, J	Bird, J	Burke, R	Chason, D	Cook, K
Albert, J	Banks, J	Bishop, C	Burtilo, D	Chesnut, R	Coon, W
Alexander, J	Barton, R	Bishop, G	Busch, K	Chestnut, L	Corfield, C
Alexander, R	Bates, J	Blanco, A	Butler, E	Chochette, ?	Corpus, M
Alley, W	Baumruk, B	Borce, ?	Butler, G	Christian, S	Corriveau, J
Alonzo, F	Beach, R	Bostian, J	Callaway, D	Clark, G	Cowning, W
Anderman, M	Beatty, J	Bottita, T	Campbell, W	Clark, M	Crawford, R
Anderson, A	Beckley, C	Bouchard, A	Capilitan, R	Claussen, H	Creel, J
Anderson, A	Beech, J	Boufford, L	Carey, C	Cleland, D	Crossley, R
Ansaldi, V	Beltran, J	Bouroleis (sp), R	Carlas, A	Cobb, R	Crowe, G
Appel, D	Bennett, J	Bramshee, D	Carnes, J	Cock, K	Cummings, E
Armstrong, T	Bennett, R	Braziel, S	Carrier, C	Cody, ?	Curley, W
Arquilla, A	Benson, W	Brooks, H	Carroll, R	Cofer, H	Curry, B
Ashook, M	Berkey, R	Brown, E	Carter, B	Cohen, G	Cutting, C

What's the problem? Our EEOC (Equal Employment Opportunity Commission) has made it easier. They carefully spelled out some [stupid] signs a CO should watch for under the heading: **Would You Recognize Sexual Harassment?**

VERBAL:

- Sexual stories or questions about a person's sexual experiences or preferences.
- Jokes.
- Using "four-letter" obscenities.
- Inappropriately commenting on a person's body and/or appearance.
- Asking for dates.
- Making suggestive sounds or whistling.
- Calling someone names such as honey, doll, babe; stud, hunk.

NON-VERBAL

- Staring at a person.
- Following or blocking a person.
- Showing sexually explicit pictures, cartoons or other visuals.
- Making suggestive gestures.
- Sending unwanted notes or other material.
- Giving unwanted personal gifts.
- Exposure

PHYSICAL:

- Touching a person.
- Leaning over a person.
- Kissing.
- Caressing.

.. "He uses statistics as a drunken man uses lamp-posts... for support rather than illumination." - Andrew Lang

THE DEMISE OF JACK TAR

Author Unknown

The traditional male sailor was not defined by his looks. He was defined by his attitude. His name was Jack Tar. He was a happy go lucky sort of bloke. He took the good times with the bad. He didn't cry victimisation, bastardisation, discrimination or for his mum when things didn't go his way. He took responsibility for his own sometimes, self-destructive actions. He loved a laugh at anything or anybody. Rank, gender, race, creed or behavior, it didn't matter to Jack. He would take the crap out of anyone, including himself. If someone took it out of him he didn't get offended. It was a natural part of life. If he offended someone else, so be it. Free from many of the rules of a polite society Jack's manners were somewhat rough. His ability to swear was legendary. Jack loved women. He loved to chase them to the ends of the

earth and sometimes he even caught one (less often than he would have you believe though). His tales of the chase and its conclusion win or lose, is the stuff of legends.

Jack's favorite drink was beer, and he could drink it like a fish. His actions when inebriated would, on occasion, land him in trouble. But, he took it on the chin, did his punishment and then went and did it all again.

Jack loved his job. He took an immense pride in what he did. His radar was always the best in the fleet. His engines always worked better than anyone else's. His eyes could spot a contact before anyone else's and shoot at it first. It was a matter of personal pride. Jack was the consummate professional when he was at work and sober.

He was a bit like a mischievous child. He had a gleam in his eye and a larger than life outlook. He was as rough as guts. You had to be pig headed and

thick skinned to survive. He worked hard and played hard. His masters tut-tutted at some of his more exuberant expressions of joie de vivre, and the occasional bout of number 9's or stoppage let him know where his limits were.

The late 20th Century and on, has seen the demise of Jack. The workplace no longer echoes with ribald comment and bawdy tales. Someone is sure to take offence. Whereas, those stories of daring do and ingenuity in the face of adversity, usually whilst pissed, lack the audacity of the past.

A wicked sense of humor is now a liability, rather than a necessity. Jack has been socially engineered out of existence. What was once normal is now offensive. Denting someone else's over inflated opinion of their own self-worth is now a crime "AND SO A CULTURE DIES."

A Prayer for Fathers

Mender of toys, leader of boys, Changer of fuses, kisser of bruises, Bless him, O Lord.
 Mover of couches, soother of ouches, Pounder of nails, teller of tales, Reward him, O Lord.
 Hanger of screens, counselor of teens, Fixer of bikes, chastiser of tykes, Help him, O Lord.
 Raker of leaves, cleaner of eaves, Dryer of dishes, fulfiller of wishes, Bless him, O Lord.

Eternal Patrol

- 08/07/2012: Arndt, Thomas, FTG2(SS) (aboard Sabalo '67-68) of massive coronary at age 67.
- 07/11/2012: Stiles, Robert, SOSN(SS) (aboard Sabalo '53-55) He and his wife were attended the last reunion in San Diego.
- 09/22/2008: Dispennette, Edwin L. RM1(SS) (Aboard Sabalo '54-56), "super shipmate, contributed incredibly to morale; RIP" Vinnie Venezia.

Our Sabalo Shipmates on Eternal Patrol [Fourth segment, K-Ma]

Kappeler, Robert F.	Knapp, Ezra Brooks "Pappy"	Liberty, Richard J.	Madrid, Armand (nmn)
Keeling, Wayne George	Knorr, Harold W.	Lindayen, Frank (n)	Main, Elwin N.
Keich, Edwin G.	Kolb, Robert F.	Lindsay, Robert Gardner Jr.	Maire, Rex
Keiler, Ronald Dean	Kooistra, Robert W.	Lineback, Kenneth L.	Mallory, William C.
Kelly, Curtis Clay	Korzilius, John H.	Lockman, James C. "Leaky"	Malone, Laurence W. III "Larry"
Kelly, William E.	Krause, Edward Albert	Logan, William C. Jr.	Marcus, Claude Edward Jr. "Ed"
Kessler, Herbert Charles	Kreps, Orrin Charles Jr. "Kreps"	Long, Ernest Pierce "Steve"	Marrill, Arnold Roy
Kidd, Ronald J	Kusza, Jerome James	Loosli, Leo Daniel	Martinez, Erminio F.
Kiehl, Ronald Alfred	Lacy, Edward A.	Loveless, Ray H.	Martz, Daniel Albert
Kilgore, David Stuart	Lee, Harold Gordon	Ludden, Cyrus Leroy	Maschka, Gordon Arthur "Jake"
King, Marvin Earl	Lewis, Edgar Lycurgus	Lute, James H.	Masek, Jr., William
King, Jr., Bruce B.	Lewis, Loy C.	Lynch, Owen F.	Mathes, Robert H.
Kist, Arthur H.	Lewis, Robert W. "Hog"	Maccini, Arthur	Maton, Bert E.
Klich, Donald J.	Lewis, Jr., Donald Arthur	Madalinski, Arnold J	Matthews, Thomas A.

Sabalo Association Membership Data: Our Association charges no dues for membership, *Clever Boy* or other expenses. The Association's founder, Jeff Owens, spent thousands of hours collecting data on all U.S.S. Sabalo shipmates over the years—our newsletter now reaches over 460 Sabalo Veterans. Jeff's data was obtained from sources like USSVI, phone calls, postcards, and micro-fiche; then it was painstakingly transcribed from 3X5 cards to the database from which this issue was addressed. The "Thank You" on page 2 is to those Sabalo shipmates who contribute to the cost of sending *Clever Boy* to our shipmates who have no access to online copies.

The bulk of the work has been done, but each bad address and change of address will cost the editor and Jeff at least half an hour's work—usually two or three times that for each of us—if we have to handle misdirected rejects. Please help us keep the following records up to date.

Name: _____ Low/Highest Rank/Rate on Sabalo: _____
 Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Date Of Birth: _____ Spouse/next of kin: _____
 Years on Sabalo (Month, if known): _____ to _____
 Qual Boat/Year: _____ USSVI Base: _____ Retired (Y/N, Yr): _____
 E-Mail Address: _____ Home Town: _____

Brandywine?

Scorpion's call sign

Footnotes:

Bravo Zulu: ="Well Done!"



NTINS: "Now This Is No Sh*t," as opposed to Fairy Tales which begin with, "Once upon a time...."

TBT - Target Bearing Tracker (on the Bridge)

UQC: An underwater telephone (AKA Gertrude). 302's voice call sign was *Clever Boy* her radio/visual call was NXYO =

Continued: The End: