The Snorkel Exhaust

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, TN USSVI

"To Honor Those Who Serve, Past, Present, and Future".

"The USSVI Submariner's Creed"

To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. We pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

OUR ORGANIZATION | OUR FOUNDERS | OUR BROTHERHOOD

Our Mission

The organization will engage in various projects that will bring about the perpetual remembrance of those shipmates who have given the supreme sacrifice. The organization will also endeavor to educate all third parties it comes in contact with about the services our submarine brothers performed and how their sacrifices made possible the freedom and lifestyles we enjoy today.

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE
UNITED STATES SUBMARINE VETERANS INC.
PRIDE RUNS DEEP

Scheduled Meetings

Base meetings are scheduled on the 3rd Thursday of each month at:

MIMI'S CAFÉ,
10945 PARKSIDE DRIVE
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
Dinner & Social Hour @ 1800
Meeting @ 1900
(Guests are Invited)

SNORKEL EXHAUST INDEX OCTOBER 2026

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SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE OFFICERS



BASE COMMANDER
Marlin E. Helms, Jr.
Holland Club Chairman
MM1(SS) USS Spadefish SSN-668 '74



BASE VICE COMMANDER
Robert (Bob) Childs
MMC(SS) USS Nautilus SSN-571 '67



BASE SECRETARY
Ernie Ball
MMC(SS) USS LaFayette (SSBN-616) '75



BASE TREASURER
Jim Rock
MM1(SS) USS Andrew Jackson SSBN-619 '76

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



BASE CHIEF OF THE BOAT
Terry McBride
MMC(SS) USS Woodrow Wilson (SSBN-624) '93



SOCIAL CHAIRMAN
Dick Love
ETMC(SS) USS Darter SS-526 '64



BASE STOREKEEPER
Max Gildner
ET1(SS) USS Tullibee (SSN-597) '71



MEMBERSHIP / RECRUITER
Marlin E. Helms, Jr.
MM1(SS) USS Spadefish SSN-668 '74



WEBMASTER
Marlin E. Helms, Jr.
MM1(SS) USS Spadefish SSN-668 '74



BASE NEWSLETTER
Max Gildner
ET1(SS) USS Tullibee (SSN-597) '71



BASE PHOTOGRAPHER
Bruce Eltzroth
Associate Member
ET1(SU) USS Sculpin (SSN-590)



BASE CHAPLIN
David Pope, EAWS
Associate Member
OMSUBGRU-9, FP DET. 2

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE, USSVI
Meetings, Greetings, Gatherings & Calendar

OCTOBER - 2026

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Scheduled Meetings:

Base meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of each month at

MIMI'S CAFÉ, 10945 PARKSIDE DRIVE located in Turkey Creek, Knoxville, TN







Published by: Smoky Mountain Submarine Base
A Subsidiary of USSVI, a non-profit - 501(C)(19) Corporation. Published monthly on the Base's website.
http://www.facebook.com/pages/Smoky-Mountain-Submarine-Veterans/273222054302

11/1-- Daylight Savings Time Ends 11/3 -- Election Day
11/11 – Veteran's Day 11/19 – SMB Meeting 11/26 – Thanksgiving Day

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

VETERANS ASSISTANCE & RESOURCES

Operation Vet Rescue

Rescuing & Rebuilding Lives of Homeless Veterans

(865) 284-3188

info@ovrtn.org

P.O. Box 23, Greenback, N 37742

VA Regional Office Benefits Assistance on every 4th Friday at 1557 Downtown West Blvd. Units 20-21 Knoxville, TN 0900-1400 Hours

East TN Military Assistance Council Calendar of Events web site: www.etmac.org/calendar

U.S. Military Veterans Discounts
Tennessee State Discounted Fees and Taxes

- $10 one-time fee for hunting and fishing license for eligible disabled veterans.
- Distinctive motorcycle and vehicle license plates; no fee for currently enlisted personnel.
- Exemption from motor vehicle privilege tax for eligible permanently and totally disabled veteran or former POW.
- Reduced fee state park lodging, camping, and golf.
- Veterans Designation on drivers license.



The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1078 meets at The Redemption Church located at 3550 Pleasant Ridge Road, Knoxville, TN on the 2nd Tuesday of

HONOR AND REMEMBER.

The Honor and Remember Flag has been designated as the official TN state symbol of remembrance to honor fallen military service members for their service. For information on obtaining one refer to: http://www.honorandremember.org/the-flag/flag–presentation.

VETERAN'S HOTLINE

988#1

OR

(844) 647-1354



SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE COMMANDER

I am still waiting on the American Legion Post 2 to publish parade positions and instructions. The Knoxville Veterans Day Parade is scheduled for Wednesday, November 11, 2026, beginning at 10:45 AM on Gay Street. With it being on a Wednesday many may not be able to attend so please try to make it. We have done this parade every year since 2011. The banner over our Facebook page is from the Veterans Day parade. Charie Odom is a WWII veteran who is featured in the book War Beneath the Waves and Jim Tidd whose naval academy class was the first to do their summer cruise on a submarine. Both are on Eternal Patrol, can't see ever changing that. Coming up after that is the Army/Navy game at Just1More where we have attended every year since 2012. It is always well attended by Navy and Army personnel and veterans

VICE-COMMANDER

No Report Submitted

BASE TREASURER

On **October 15th**, we had a balance of : **$5,284.27**

SOCIAL CHAIRMAN

Nothing currently planned

BASE NEWSLETTER

Comments or suggestions for future articles are always appreciated. gildnerml@tds.net

BASE STORESKEEPER

The 2027 Submarine Veterans Calendars have been ordered. The cost will most likely be $8.00 if picked up at our meeting and little more if mailed.

We currently have the following items on hand for sale:

Baseball caps w/SMB patch (White, Pink, or Blue) - $14.00. Straw Hats w/SMB patch - $12.00. SMB Iron-on Patches - $7.00. SMB Logo Magnetic Car Plates - $12.00. USSVI or SMB Window Stickers - $3.00. White SMB 11 oz. Coffee Mugs - $16.00. "Nuke, I am your father" coins — $20.00 each or 6 coins for $100.00

Remember, all purchases go to support your Smoky Mountain Base

SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE MEETING MINUTES

Date: October 15, 2026

Meeting called to Order at 1907 hours. Dove the boat.
Presiding: Marlin Helms Base Commander

The Base Chaplain presented the Invocation.

The Base Commander led the Pledge of Allegiance and Vice Commander read the USSVI Creed.

Secretary and Vice Commander. led the Tolling of the Boats and members on Eternal Patrol.

Vice Commander hosted member/guest introductions.
Number of Attendees: 7 members, 5 guest/wife's

September minutes read and approved

Base Treasurer reported - $5284.27 in the account.

Correspondence/Discussion - None

Committees -

- Newsletter – Max Gildner - need officer inputs, need suggestions on Newsletter articles.
- Library – Marlin Helms -
- Storekeeper – Max Gildner - Calendars
- Membership –Marlin Helms - stable
- Scouting – Marlin Helms - still no new contacts
- Media Manager – Marlin Helms - nothing new
- Social Committee - Dick Love - not at meeting

Old business –
USSVI Newsletter Award to Max Gildner.

New Business –
Veteran's Day Parade
Vice Commander asked for items to be added to flag stand

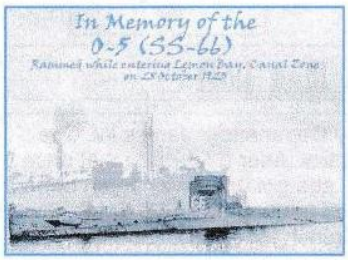
Good of the Order: 50/50 not held due to small attendance

Next Meeting: 1900 hrs. Thursday, November 19, 2026, at **MiMi's Café, 10945 Parkside Dr., Knoxville, TN 37934.**

Meeting Adjourned at 1920 hrs. Boat surfaced.

Ernie Ball, Secretary

Lost Boats of October



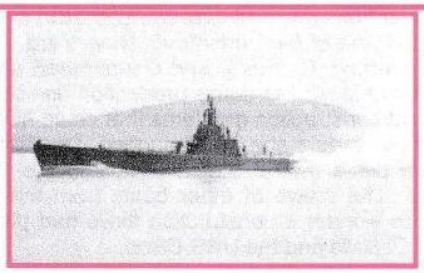
Pre WW-II Lost Boats

USS O-5 (SS-66) - 3 Men Lost

Lost October 29, 1923 with the loss of 3 men when accidentally rammed while entering Lemon Bay, Canal Zone and sunk by SS Ababgarez off the Panama Canal.

WW-II Lost Boats

USS SEAWOLF (SS-197) – 3 OCTOBER 1944 - 102 MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct 3,1944** with the loss of **102 officers and men** when she was sunk just north of Moritai by **USS Richard M. Rowell DE-403**, a Destroyer Escort (DE). In this tragic error, the commanding officer of the **Rowell** mistook **Seawolf** for a Japanese submarine that had just sunk another Destroyer. **Seawolf** ranks 7th for enemy ships sunk. On June 1944 she departed Pearl Harbor on an intelligence gathering mission to the Palau Islands, which would be invaded by U.S. forces a few months later. She then went on to Fremantle, from which she made a trip to Tawitawi to recover an agent. **Seawolf** left Brisbane on her fifteenth patrol in September, assigned to take U.S. Army agents and supplies to Samar, in the Philippines. While en route, breakdowns in communications caused U.S. anti-submarine forces to mistake her for Japanese. On 3 October 1944, after being forced to dive by an air attack by a US warplane, **Seawolf** was depth charged and sunk by the **Richard M. Rowell (DE-403). All her crew and passengers, 102 men, were lost with her.** This grand old lady was at Cavite Submarine Base P.I. when war broke out on Dec7th (Dec 8th across the international date line). She and her sisters were on the front line from day one of the Pacific war and she did not deserve the tragic fate that fell upon her. **"Friendly Fire?" "Friends Don't Shoot At Friends!"**

Two of the 52 United States Submarines lost in World War II were believed to have been sunk by what is euphemistically called "Friendly Fire". Ironically both losses came during the month of October. The **USS DORADO SS-248** was lost with all hands on October 12, 1943, in the Caribbean and the **USS SEAWOLF SS-197** was lost on October 3, 1944 western Pacific. Both appear to have been the victims of over zealous military personnel who were either ignorant of the precautions put in place to protect United States submarines transiting "friendly waters" or they chose to ignore those precautions. Either way, a boat was lost and submariners died at the hands of their fellow Americans. The circumstances of the loss of the **USS SEAWOLF** are particular in several ways that you might find enlightening. Here's the description of her sinking from the website; http://www.subsowespac.org/world_war_ii_submarines/uss_seawolf_ss_197.shtml.

*On September 21, 1944, captained by Lieutenant Commander Albert M. Bontier, the **Seawolf** left Brisbane on her fifteenth and final war patrol. She arrived at the Manus Island submarine base on September 29, 1944, where she embarked a seventeen-man army reconnaissance party and ten tons of supplies. After topping off her fuel, she sailed the same day to land them on Samar Island in the Philippines, north of General Douglas MacArthur's planned invasion site on Leyte Island.*

*On October 3, 1944, at 0756 hours, the **Seawolf** exchanged recognition signals by radar with the **USS Narwhal (SS-167)**. Both boats were in a safety lane in which American surface forces were prohibited from attacking any submarine unless it was positively identified as an enemy. At 0807 hours, 35 miles east of Morotai Island, the commanding officer of the Japanese submarine RO-41 fired his last four torpedoes at two American escort carriers, the **USS St. Lo (CVE-63)** and the **USS Fanshaw Bay (CVE-70).** The torpedoes missed both escort carriers. However, the destroyer escort **USS Shelton (DE-407),** while turning to evade one of the oncoming torpedoes, was hit on the starboard screw by a second torpedo, which caused severe damage and flooding. The destroyer escort **USS Rowell (DE-403)** came alongside and removed the crew, after counterattacking the RO-41 unsuccessfully with depth charges. The **Shelton** was taken under tow, but eventually capsized and sank. Three hours later, one of the **St. Lo's** aircraft sighted a submarine in the safety lane and dropped two bombs and dye marked its position as the boat submerged. The destroyer escort **USS Rowell (DE-403)** got to the scene and detected the submarine on sonar. The sonar operator reported his equipment was receiving signals consisting of long dots and dashes from the submarine. The Rowell's commander dismissed these as an attempt to jam his sonar and pressed on with firing Mark 10 "hedgehog" projector mortars.* Captain of the **USS ROWELL** thought that the sub was *"trying to jam his sonar" and pressed the attack! Following a second barrage of twenty-four projectiles, the **Rowell** reported, "Three explosions heard. Two large boils [bubbles] observed off port beam. Debris observed in the boils." Four submarines were in the safety lane at the time of these events. Urgent calls from the surface forces to the submarines to report their positions brought responses from three of them, but there was only silence from the **Seawolf**.* ***(Continued next page)***

Lost Boats of October

*(**SEAWOLF—continued**) At that point it became obvious that the submarine the **Rowell** had sunk was the **Seawolf** and not the RO-41.* Note that the **USS Rowell's** sonar operator reported that the submarine that they were attacking was using it's sonar to send a Morse Code recognition signal. On **October 5, 1944,** an inquiry into the incident was held at Manus Island. It was found that the *Rowell* had sunk the ***Seawolf***. The *Rowell's* captain, **Lieutenant Commander Harry A. Barnard, Jr.,** (USNA Class of 1936), was **censured** for making insufficient efforts to identify his target, for dismissing the sound signals, and for attacking the ***Seawolf.*** Here's what Captain Edward L. (Ned) Beach, (of Run Silent, Run Deep fame), had to say about the sinking of **SEAWOLF**; Captain Beach wrote that the **Seawolf** tragedy was due to "**...a lack of the rudiments of common sense.**" He also penned the following poignant visualization of the **Seawolf's** final moments: "And so, alone and friendless, unable to defend herself, frantically striving to make her identity known to her attacker, the old **Wolf** came to the end of the trail. Who can know what terror her crew must have tasted, when it became plain to them that the American destroyer escort above them, specially built and trained to sink German submarines, was determined to sink them also? Who can appreciate their desperation when they realized that the genius of their own countrymen had, by a monstrous miscast of the dice, been pitted against them? And who can visualize the hopeless, futile, unutterable bitterness of the final disaster, when, combined with the shock of the frame-smashing depth charges, came the rapier-like punch of the hedgehogs, piercing Seawolf's stout old hull, starting the hydrant flow of black sea water, and ending forever all hopes of seeing sunlight again." To add insult to injury, the Navy awarded the Rowell's skipper with the **Legion of Merit** for his actions but changed the date from Oct. 3rd to Oct. 24th, (ironically the same date that **DARTER**, **SHARK** and **TANG** were lost).

USS S-44 (SS-155) – 7 OCTOBER 1943 - 56 MEN LOST



On September 26, 1943, the **S-44,** captained by Lieutenant Commander Frank E. Brown, departed Attu Island to begin her fifth and final war patrol in the Kurile Islands area. She was not heard from again. The precise details of how she was sunk became known after two of her crew members were repatriated by the Allies at the end of the war from a Japanese prisoner of war camp. On the night of October 7, 1943, the **S-44** mistakenly identified a radar contact as a Japanese merchant ship. It was actually the 860-ton IGN *Shimushu*-class escort ship *Ishigaki*, armed with three .45-caliber guns and four 25mm anti-aircraft guns. The **S-44** approached the vessel on the surface, firing at it with her deck gun. *Ishigaki* commenced firing at **S-44** with its guns. **S-44** was critically damaged and began sinking. The order was given to abandon ship. Only two crew members were picked up by *Ishigaki* even though many others were in the forty-degree water struggling to survive. The two crew men picked up by *Ishigaki* were taken to the Japanese naval base at Paramushiro Island. Later they were transferred to the Naval Interrogation Camp at Ofuna. The two submariners spent the last year of World War II working in the Ashio copper mines.

USS WAHOO (SS-238) – 11 OCTOBER 1943 - 79 MEN LOST









Lost on **Oct. 11, 1943** with the loss of **79 men** near La Perouse Strait. Under command of one of the great sub skippers of World War II, **LCDR "Mush" Morton, Wahoo** was on her 7th war patrol. **WAHOO** had won a *Presidential Unit Citation* and ranks 5th in the number of enemy ships sunk. On 9 September, *Wahoo* again departed Pearl. She topped off with fuel at Midway and left there on 13 September heading for the dangerous but important Japan Sea. Shortly afterwards, **USS *SAWFISH* (SS-276)** left Midway and also headed for this area. ***WAHOO*** was to pass through Etorofu Strait, in the Kurile Islands, and La Perouse Strait, between Hokkaido and Karafuto, and enter the Japan Sea about 20 September. She was to head south and remain below 43 degrees north after 23 September, and below 40 degrees north after 26 September. ***SAWFISH*** was to follow ***WAHOO,*** entering the Sea of Japan about 23 September and patrolling the area north of ***WAHOO.*** ***WAHOO*** was reported missing and presumed lost on 9 November 1943.

Dudley "Mush" Morton (1907-1943), was commander of **USS WAHOO SS-238** during its third through seventh patrols. Morton and ***Wahoo*** disappeared in 1943 during a patrol near La Perouse Strait. A native of Owensboro, Kentucky, **Morton** graduated from the Naval Academy in 1930. There he received the nickname "Mushmouth", after a character in the cartoon strip "Moon Mullins" whose large square jaw and prominent mouth resembled Morton's. The nickname was shortened to **"Mush",** by which he was known for much of his life. Promoted to Commander October 15, 1942, Morton took command of ***Wahoo*** on December 31, 1942, in Brisbane, Australia. Between January 26, 1943 and October 11, he carried out four offensive patrols, during which ***Wahoo*** was responsible for sinking 19 cargo and transport ships for a combined total of 55,000 tons.

Morton was given the highly dangerous assignment of penetrating the Sea of Japan. Commander Morton and Wahoo were reported missing in action in December, when his submarine was presumed lost.

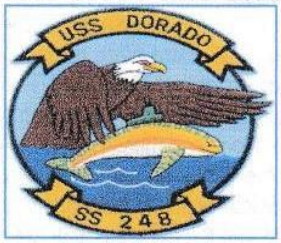
After the war, it was determined from Japanese records that, on October 11, in the time frame in which the *Wahoo* was expected to exit through La Perouse Strait an antisubmarine aircraft found a surfaced submarine and attacked, dropping three depth charges.

Declared deceased on January 7, 1946, Morton had been awarded the Navy Cross, three gold stars in lieu of a second, third, and fourth Navy Cross, and the Army Distinguished Service Cross.



Lost Boats of October

USS DORADO (SS-248) - 12 OCTOBER 1943 - 78 MEN LOST





Lost on **October 12, 1943** with the **loss of 78 men** when she was sunk in the western Atlantic near Cuba. Newly commissioned, she had departed New London and was enroute to Panama. She did not arrive at Panama nor was she heard from at any time after sailing. She may have been sunk by a **U.S. patrol plane** that received faulty instructions regarding bombing restriction areas or she may have been attacked by a German U-boat that was known to be in the area.

It was standard practice *in WWII* of imposing bombing restrictions within a "box" measuring *fifteen miles on each side of, fifty miles ahead and one hundred miles astern of the unescorted submarine's course while it was* transiting through friendly waters. A convoy was so routed as to pass through the bombing and attack restriction area surrounding **DORADO** on the evening of October 12, 1943. Commandant, NOB, Guantanamo assigned a patrol plane to furnish air coverage for the convoy on the evening of October 12th. It is possible the air crew received *faulty instructions* as to the location of the bombing and attack restriction area surrounding **DURADO** since at 8:49 PM, local time, the plane delivered a surprise attack of three depth charges on an *unidentified* submarine within **DURADO's** safety zone. About two hours later, the plane sighted another submarine with which it attempted to exchange recognition signals without success. This submarine fired upon the plane. A German submarine was known to be operating near the scene of these two contacts.

USS ESCOLAR (SS-294) - 17 OCTOBER 1944 - 82 MEN LOST



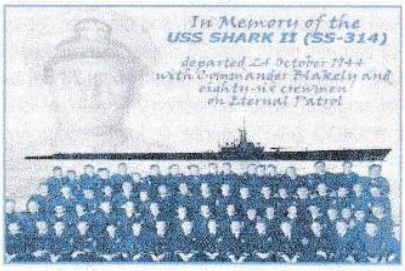
Lost on **Oct 17, 1944** with the **loss of 82 men**. **ESCOLAR** had her final training for combat at Pearl Harbor, from which she put out for her first war patrol September 18, 1944. After topping off fuel at Midway, she joined **CROAKER** (SS-246) and **PERCH** (SS-313) for a coordinated war patrol in the Yellow Sea which she directed. On 30 September, she engaged a small craft in a surface gun action, and reported to her sisters that she was undamaged, without mentioning what her gunfire had done to the enemy ship. Her last communication was with **PERCH** on October 17th; she was never heard from again.

Since Japanese records consulted after the war show no antisubmarine action at that time in the area where **ESCOLAR** is believed to have been, it is assumed that she struck a mine and sank with all hands.

USS SHARK (SS-314) - 24 OCTOBER 1944 - 90 MEN LOST







Lost on **Oct 24,1944** with the loss of **90 men** when she was sunk near Hainan. On September 23, 1944, the ***Shark***, captained by Commander Edward N. Blakely, left Pearl Harbor and proceeded to the submarine base at Saipan to rendezvous with the **USS *Seadragon* (SS-194)** and the **USS *Blackfish* (SS-221).** On October 3, 1944, the three boats left Saipan to form a coordinated attack group under Blakely's command in the Luzon Strait. Their assigned area of operations was along the 20th parallel, covering an area about midway between Hainan Island and the western end of Bashi Channel. This departure marked the beginning of the ***Shark's*** third and final war patrol. On October 24, 1944, the ***Shark*** informed the ***Seadragon*** by radio that she was preparing to attack an old freighter. It was the last word ever received from Blakely. All further attempts to contact the ***Shark*** by radio failed. On November 27, 1944, she was reported as presumed lost. Japanese records reviewed after the war revealed that the ***Shark*** was probably lost on **October 24, 1944**, as a result of depth-charge attacks conducted by the IJN destroyers *Take* and *Harukaze* in Shark's vicinity. The attack occurred after Blakely had torpedoed and sunk the 6,886-ton enemy freighter *Arisan Maru*, in the same area. Blakely did not know the freighter was transporting 1,782 American prisoners of war from Manila to Japan. Only nine of the American prisoners survived the sinking. **October 24, 1944** would prove to be a black-letter day for the submarine force; in addition to the ***Shark***, the **USS *Tang* (SS-306)** and the **USS *Darter* (SS-227)** were also lost on that day.

USS DARTER (SS-227) - 24 OCTOBER 1944 - NO MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct. 24, 1944**, without the loss of a single crewman. In the early morning of October 23, 1944, both **DARTER** and **DACE** contacted and tracked a large enemy force heading north through Palawan Passage en route to engage our forces in the battles for Leyte Gulf. They attacked while the enemy were unable to alter course appreciably and in brilliant pre-dawn submerged attacks, sank the heavy cruisers ATAGO and MAYA, and so severely damaged the heavy cruiser TAKAO, that she was useless for the rest of the war. During daylight, **DARTER** tried a submerged attack on TAKAO, which had been stopped, but was driven off by screening destroyers. Thus a night coordinated attack plan was drawn up by the two boats. Since she could not surface to take sights, **DARTER** was forced to navigate on a 24-hour-old dead reckoning plot. At 2200 TAKAO got underway, and **DARTER** began a surface attack. Detecting two radars sweeping, she decided to do an end around, and then make an attack at radar depth. At 0005 on October 24, 1944, **DARTER** grounded on Bombay Shoal, and making 17 knots at the time, rode up to a draft of nine feet forward. Efforts to get off the reef were unsuccessful, and a message was sent to **DACE** requesting assistance. **DACE** closed **DARTER** and, after confidential gear had been smashed and classified matter burned, the men of **DARTER** were transferred to **DACE**. This was all done before dawn, and there were no losses of **DARTER** personnel. **DARTER** was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for her final patrol.

Lost Boats of October

USS TANG (SS-306) – 25 OCTOBER 1944 - 80 MEN LOST



Lost on **Oct 25,1944** with the **loss of 80 men** in the Formosa Strait. **TANG** was on her 5th war patrol. She was a 1525-ton Balao class submarine, built at the Mare Island Navy Yard, California. Commissioned in October 1943, she deployed to Hawaii in December 1943 to begin an intense and eventful combat career under the leadership of

Commander Richard H. O'Kane.

TANG'S first war patrol, conducted in the central Pacific during January and February 1944, removed five ships from Japan's logistics system. A second patrol, into the Palaus, resulted in no direct losses to the enemy, but was very important in another way. In three days of lifeguard duty during U.S. aircraft carrier raids on the Japanese base at Truk, **TANG** rescued 22 downed Navy aviators, a "score" of a positive sort that was unsurpassed until very late in the Pacific War.

In June and July 1944, **TANG** made a very productive patrol into the East China Sea area, sinking ten ships in a series of daring attacks. The next war patrol, her fourth, was in Japanese home waters, where her torpedoes sank at least two more enemy ships during August. Late in September, **TANG** departed Pearl Harbor to begin her fifth patrol. Operating in the vicinity of the Formosa Strait, she struck a convoy on 10-11 October, sinking two ships. Other convoys were the targets of night surface attacks on the 23rd and 24th, producing five more sinking's. However, **TANG'S** last torpedo made a circular run that the submarine could not evade. She was hit aft and quickly sank in relatively shallow water off the China coast. Nine of her crew, including **Commander O'Kane**, survived the accident and were taken prisoner.

TANG was awarded two *Presidential Unit Citations* for her exploits, which officially recognized sinking's of 24 Japanese ships, totaling nearly 94,000 tons. Among U.S. Pacific War submarines, she thus had the **second highest score** in terms of numbers and the **fourth largest** based on tonnage calculations. **Commander Richard (Dick) O'Kane** and **TANG** are forever linked in the annals of the Silent Service. His skill and daring made him and **TANG** the highest scoring United States submarine in World War II.

Rear Admiral **Richard Hetherington "Dick" O'Kane** was a United States Navy submarine commander in World War II, who received the Medal of Honor for his service on the ***Tang***. He also served on the ***Wahoo***, as executive officer and approach officer. He participated in more successful attacks on Japanese shipping than any other submarine officer during the war. ***Richard (Dick) O'Kane*** *and* ***TANG*** *live in legend in the annals of the* ***Silent Service***. *His skill and daring made him and* ***TANG*** *the highest scoring United States submarine in World War II.*







SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE MEMBERS ON ETERNAL PATROL

Bobby Lawson October 19, 2021



CUSTOM SMOKY MOUNTAIN BASE APPAREL

I'm sure many of you have already seen one of these t-shirts that are fashioned after the USSVI vest. The ones currently out there admittedly appear a bit faded but were limited by the available processes at the time. Today's printing processes are much better with brighter colors rivaling embroidering. The clothing is Navy Blue in color

Shirts start at $35. If you're interested in ordering one (or more) of these shirts, including a variety of t-shirts and sweatshirts, please use the link below. Orders are being taken exclusively via the form at the link below.

https://forms.gle/vz1rnuKoRghB1AYZ7

A sample mockup is pictured below.



I've also added SUBMARINE SWEETIE and SUBMARINE WIFE designs for your significant others. Long sleeves and sweatshirts are also available.

Editor's Note: The order form is easy to use and offers various forms of payment for your order. Half of the net profits will go to support our base.

SUBMARINES IN THE MOVIES

PART 3a – POST WW 2 ABOUT WW 2 RE-

Following World War 2, there were many movies made about submarines due to their significant impact on the outcome of the war. As is true of all victors of a conflict, they tend to tell the winner's side of the story. Nevertheless, the editor has selected some movies that are considered "classics" by many of our submariner brothers.

RUN SILENT, RUN DEEP: A 1958 B&W movie by Universal Pictures directed by famed director Robert Wise and "loosely based" on the book of the same name by Captain Edward L. Beach Jr. Capt. Beach served a distinguished Naval career during WW2 and is best known for being the commanding officer of the USS Triton (SSRN-586) during its submerged circumnavigation of the Earth in 84 days and 41,000 statute miles in 1959-60.

The story plot centers around a World War II US Navy submarine officer, Commander P.J. Richardson, (Clark Gable) that is determined to get revenge on Japanese destroyer *Akikaze* and its captain, nicknamed "Bungo Pete," who has sank four U.S. submarines in the Bungo Straits. .He single-mindedly trains the crew of his new boat, the USS *Nerka*, to return to the Bungo Straits and sink Bungo Pete, in spite of the Navy having expressly forbidden him from entering the Bungo Straits on this mission. Richardson's executive officer, Lieutenant Jim Bledsoe, (Burt Landcaster) resents Richardson and the Navy leadership for denying him command of the *Nerka* and worries about the safety of his boat and his crew. Upon Richardson's incapacitation following a severe depth charge attack, he assumes command and completes the mission successfully. Richardson dies and is buried at sea.

The film is set almost entirely on board the submarine. The Navy provided extensive help with the actual USS *Redfish* (SS-395) (Balao Class) as the fictional *Nerka* for surface and interior shots. The fictional *Akikaze* was portrayed by USS *Kidd* (DD-661) in several close-up and exterior scenes. Director Robert Wise had real submariners working with the cast until they could realistically depict the complexities of these torpedo attacks. The special effects were completed using miniatures, considered to be state-of-the-art in 1957, when the film was made.













THE ENEMY BELOW: A 1957 color Twentieth Century Fox movie directed by actor Dick Powell based on a novel of the same name by British Royal Navy Officer, Commander Denys Rayner. It is a straightforward World War 2 about an American Destroyer Captain played by Robert Mitchum and a German Submarine Captain played by Curt Jurjens. Both men are seasoned professional seamen that are equally matched. Their characters are mirror images of each other dedicated and proficient in their tasks. Both men are tired of the war that has taken close family members to their deaths. The American lost his girlfriend when his merchant ship was torpedoed before he joined the US Navy. The German lost his two sons - one lost at sea and the other in a downed aircraft. Their cat and mouse game is more like a chess game between two Grand Masters, each intent on bettering their opponent.

The movie was filmed in the Pacific Ocean near Oahu, Hawaii and near Long Beach, CA. The fictional destroyer escort USS *Haynes* was actually the USS *Whitehurst* (DE-634). The cast spent about a month filming on board. Many of the crew appeared in the movie. Lt. Commander Walter Smith, the skipper of the *Whitehurst*, served as the technical adviser on the film. He also played a bit part as the ship's chief engineer.

Albert Beck, a former German Submariner, was the technical advisor for the U-Boat sequences. All of the German submarine scenes were sets or models. They were depicted as much more spacious or modern than an actual German Type VIIc. The final scene was filmed aboard the USS *Alfred E. Cunningham* (DD-752) near Long Beach, CA.

A quirky side story to this movie is that Darry F. Zanuck, the long-time head of 20th Century Fox, has a cameo as a navy cook.

The movie won the 1957 Academy Award for Best Visual Effects.

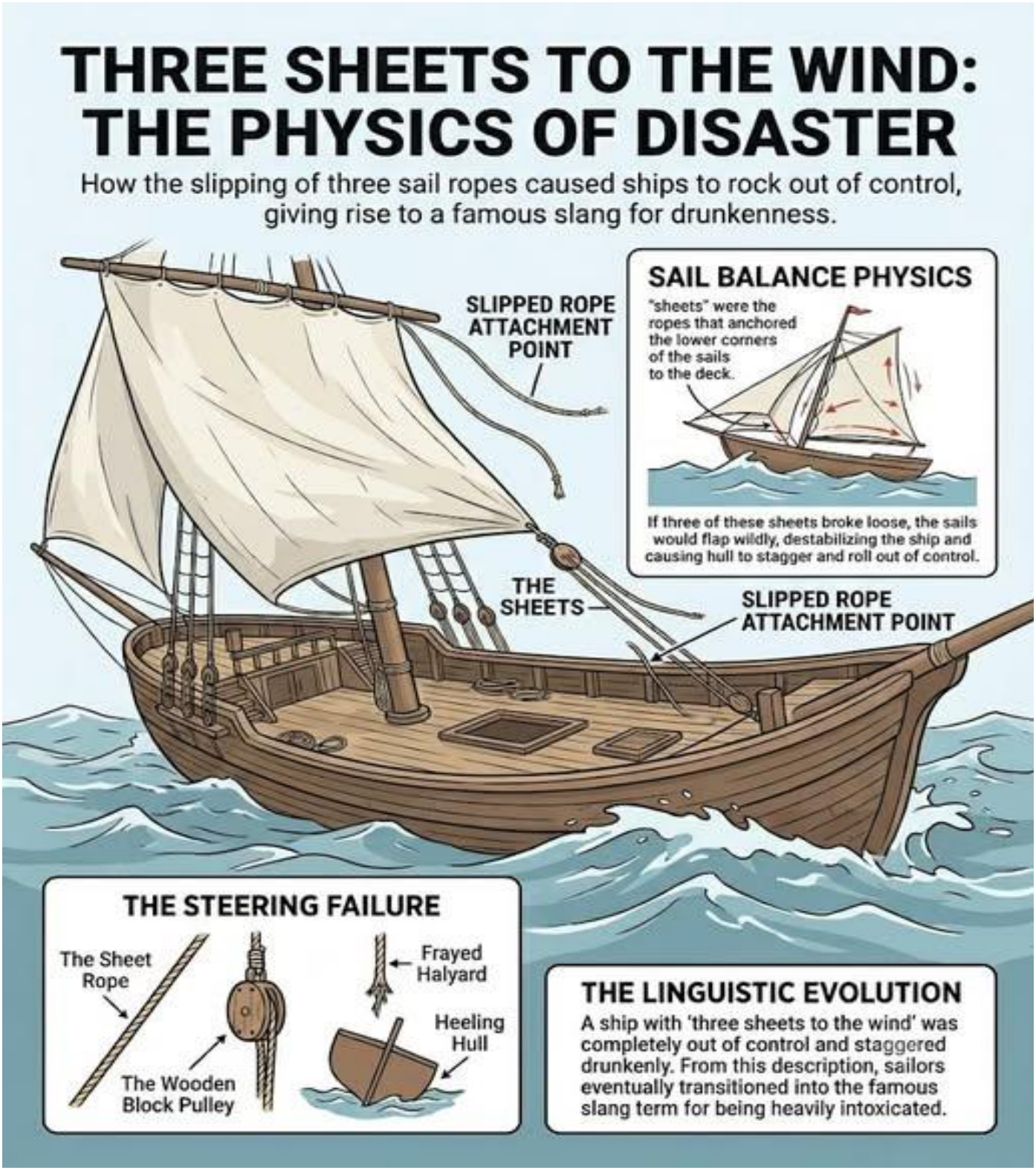








THE ORIGIN OF NAVAL TERMS, SAYINGS, AND TRADITIONS



USSVI APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Regular ☐ Life ☐ Associate ☐

OUR CREED: "To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivatio toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America & its Constitution."

With my signature below I affirm that I subscribe to the Creed of the United States Submarine Veterans, Inc., and agree to abide by the Constitution, all Bylaws, Regulations and Procedures governing the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc., so long as they do not conflict with my military or civil obligations. I will furnish proof o my eligibility for Regular membership, including my discharge under honorable conditions, and proof of my U.S. Navy (SS) Designation, if required by the Base o the national Membership Chairman. If I am not discharged, the discharge requirement is waived. If I am not U.S. N. submarine qualified, I am applying as an Assoc ate and my sponsor is indicated below.

☐ I certify that I was designated qualified in USN Submarines aboard _____ in _____ (Yr)
(Honorary designations regardless of source do not apply under any circumstances.)

☐ I certify that I received a discharge under Honorable Conditions (if not currently in military service) in _____ (Yr)

Name: (Print /Type)_____ **Address:** _____

City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zip Code:** _____-_____ **Tel:** (_____) _____-_____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____/_____/_____

Your E-Mail Address _____ **Base/Chapter Desired:** _____

The Member Dues year runs from Jan 1st thru Dec 31st. Please indicate your term preference: _____

Nat'l Dues: 5 Yr term: $140.00; 3 Yr term: $85.00; 1 yr term (Jan thru Sep) $30.00; (Oct thru Dec adds the next yr): $35.00;
Nat'l Life: 76+ yrs = $120.00; 66 thru 75 yrs = $240; 56 thru 65 yrs = $360.00; 46 thru 55 = $500.00; Thru 45 yrs = $ 600.00;

Smoky Mountain Base dues are $15 per year ($10 after August 1st).

How did you find USSVI? ☐ Friend, ☐ Boat Assn, ☐ Local Event/News, ☐ Internet, ☐ Other (_____)

Who is your sponsoring USSVI Regular Member? (Mandatory for Associate Members) _____

Associate Applicant is: ☐ **Veteran,** ☐ **Spouse of Veteran,** ☐ **Other (specify)** _____

YOUR U.S. NAVY BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Date Of Birth (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____ **If other military service, What Branch?** _____

Highest Rate & Rank Attained: _____ **Mil Retired** (Y/N): _____ **On Active Duty?** (Y/N): ____

YR entered Mil Service: _____ **YR left Mil Service** _____ **(Active/Inactive reserve time also counts.)**

☐ **Check here if your Military Service falls within these time periods: Dec 7, 1941, thru Dec 31, 1946, June 27, 1950, thru Jan 31, 1955; Aug 5, 1964, thru May 7,1975; and from Aug 2, 1990 to date.**

☐ **Check here if you have been awarded an Expeditionary Medal.**

Submarines and ships served aboard as ship's company (Use back if you need more space.)

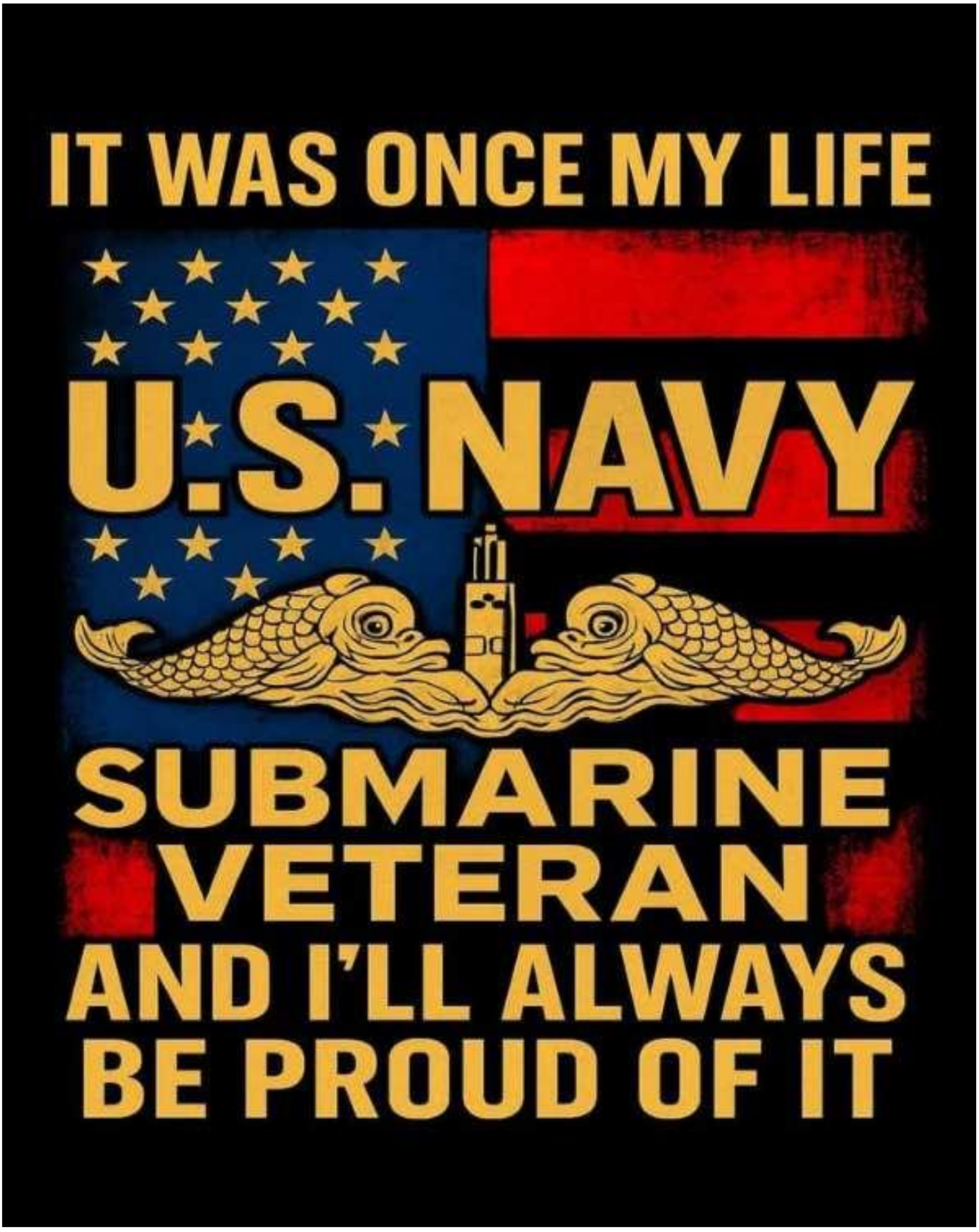
1. _____ **Hull#**_____ **Rank/Rate** _____ **From Yr.**_____ **to Yr.** _____
2. _____ **Hull#**_____ **Rank/Rate** _____ **From Yr.**_____ **to Yr.** _____
3. _____ **Hull#**_____ **Rank/Rate** _____ **From Yr.**_____ **to Yr.** _____
4. _____ **Hull#**_____ **Rank/Rate** _____ **From Yr.**_____ **to Yr.** _____
5. _____ **Hull#**_____ **Rank/Rate** _____ **From Yr.**_____ **to Yr.** _____

Next of Kin: Name: _____ **Relationship:** _____**(Spouse, Partner, Son, Daughter, Parent, Other)**

Address:_____ **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Tel:** _____

(Leave this address line blank if it is the same as your home address)

Upon completion, give this form, including your National and Base membership DUES to Marlin Helms, or if you do not know of a base near you, mail t
USSVI National Office, P.O. Box 3870, Silverdale, WA 98383-3870. **Questions: Call Marlin Helms @ (865) 387-5625 .**


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U.S. NAVY
SUBMARINE
VETERAN
AND I'LL ALWAYS
BE PROUD OF IT