

Arizona Sub Vets Perch Base

Midwatch

November 1999
Volume 5 - Issue 6

Arizona Sub Vets, Perch Base Officers

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November Eternal Patrol Days

SS75 (012)	20 Nov 1931	0 lost
USS Albacore (SS218)	7 Nov 1944	86 lost
USS Growler (SS215)	8 Nov 1944	84 lost
USS Scamp (SS277)	9 Nov 1944	83 lost
USS Corvina (SS226)	16 Nov 1943	82 lost
USS Sculpin (SS191)	19 Nove 1943	40 lost
USS Capelin (SS289)	23 Nove 1943	76 lost

Lest We Forget Those Still On Patrol

Captain's Night Orders:



Since there has been discussion about how we should honor submarines lost or the men who died on them, I personally believe they are both on eternal patrol. One being the mans' chosen tomb and the other being the man himself. They therefore are inseparable and should share this honor. What are your thoughts on this matter?

As most of us are aware the USSVI got its start as a submarine organization by following the lead set by the U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII. If it weren't for these courageous veterans, our organization would probably not exist, They were our teachers. They were our heroes. However, while the WWII's represent a significant but dwindling membership, they only wish to represent those men who prowled beneath the seas from 1941 to 1945, four years out of one hundred. I understand that we too owe these fine men and their ships a great debt of gratitude. But I also believe the USSVI and specifically Perch Base must extend this recognition not only to those of WWII but to every submarine and shipmate from Holland to Nuke, lost this century. The centennial of the U.S. Submarine Navy is upon us. One hundred years of being in harm's way while in defense of this great country. Freedom has come at great cost. If we are truly an organization that wishes to perpetuate the memories of our shipmates still on patrol in defense of our nation, then I believe we owe it to ALL shipmates - all 100 years of them.

It is for this reason that I ask for approval of the addition to our memorial list the submariners lost in WWII thereby making Perch Base the first base to widen

its scope of recognition in perpetuating the memory of ALL submariners STILL ON PATROL.

Let me know your feelings on the matter, but in the meantime, listed below are the boats I'd like to see added at our monthly "Tolling of the Bells" ceremony. If you know of others or have any comments, please contact me.

Thanks,
Roger

Meeting Attendance. (My View)

Perch Base currently has 85 members and I think that's fantastic given the fact that we're only 4 years old and live in the middle of a desert. Who would dream we would have had such success? Each one of you are to be commended for your support. Thanks! However, meeting participation has dwindled alarmingly of late and that's not good. I'm not saying that we should expect 100% attendance, or even 50% or 25%, but when it falls to 15%, we have "glaring problems", and I want to help solve them before they become a cancer. Your base NEEDS your support. Not only financially but with your presence and vital input. YOU are the backbone of this organization. Sink or swim,, only YOU determine our worthiness. Sure we can grow in membership without attendance but we cannot prosper in any way without your participation. What's the good of having get-togethers if nobody comes? I urge each of you to make our monthly meetings as often as possible. YOUR input is what makes our base a base. We need your input in order to make the newsletter newsworthy. In

Ship	Launched	Cause	Date Lost	Men Lost
F-1/SS20	9/6/11	Collision with F3 (Pickerel 1) off California coast	12/16/17	18
F-4//SS23	01/06/12	Foundered off Honolulu	3/25/15	21
G-2/SS27	01/10/12	Foundered in Long Island Sound	7/30/19	3
H-1/SS28	01/10/12	Foundered off of Mexico during salvage operations	03/12/20	4
SS66 S73/012	09/09/17	Scuttled in Norway	11/20/31	0
SS109/S4	08/27/19	Collided with USCG Paulding off Maine	12/17/27	40
SS110/S5	11/10/19	Foundered off Delaware	09/01/20	0
SS162/S51	12/12/19	Sunk by collision with merchant in Long Island Sound	09/25/25	Unknown
SS192/SQUALUS	09/14/38	Foundered off Portsmouth, NH (raised and recommissioned as SAILFISH)	04/25/39	26
SS345/COCHINO	04/20/45	Sunk by battery explosion	08/05/49	
SS415/STICKLEBACK	01/01/45	Sunk after being rammed by U.S. destroyer escort off Honolulu	04/30/58	Unknown
SSN589/SCORPION	06/06/60	Sunk 400 miles off Azores "Unknown Causes"	May 1968	99
SSN595/THRESHER	11/03/61	Sunk off New England coast "Unknown Causes"	04/10/63	129

the past we have had some great submarine articles printed in the newsletter but most of those came from published sources rather than from personal experiences. The personal touch is what breathes life into a story whether it be comedy or drama. As a two year, four year, ten year, or thirty year veteran undersea warrior, all of us have stories. Please scribble down some of yours and send them to me. Your name would be appreciated but not necessary - your story is, however. I promise, no one is going to criticize the content of your spelling. This is not a "grading" scenario, just a sea story. I can be reached at any of the locations printed under V. Cdr on this front cover.

By the way, sure would like to see more of our old faithfuls: **Jim Clewett, Steve Day, Doug Eddy, Charlie Greene** ("Chas, please call me with your new phone number"), **Dave Harnish, Bill Hatcher, Steve Hough, "Bubba" Loftus, Hubert Maxie, Paul Miller, Bobby Moore, Joe Otreba, Kenny Wayne, Jeff Duncan,** and **Larry Krueger**, among others. Call me if there's a problem, then let's solve it.

Chaplains's Corner:

In the future there will be a Chaplain's Corner in each newsletter. This column will allow the membership to know what's happening to their Perch Base shipmates (e.g., illness, death, births, etc.). Input from you is imperative (contact Vice Commander). In this case, **Gary Patterson** has undergone and is recovering from successful cancer surgery. **Lou Tejera** is fighting the flu, angina, and asthma, all at the same time. His address is 10914 Willow Brook Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373. I know cards would be most welcome in both cases. **John Redding** is also recovering from a successful cancer surgery.

Year 2000 Centennial Calendars

To my knowledge, Perch Base is the only organization of the USSVI to put out a Centennial Calendar Issue of the United States Submarine Service. This glossy, full color calendar measures 8 1/2 x 17 (opened), lists every boat lost by month and year, not just the WWII's. It has beautiful color underway photos suitable for framing and offers monthly date boxes large enough for memos. Let me quote just one inspirational saying found in this calendar, "I would appreciate if you, today's submarine sailors, to whom I have passed the "Torch of Victory" and heritage of our history, would take a few minutes to pay respect to my sacrifice. I appreciate our sacrifices and wanted you to know how I feel. I am watching with pride. The echo is growing fainter, but I still hear some of you. "God Bless You Shipmate", author unknown. Have goose pimples? Me too.

Should you wish to obtain your Centennial Calendar, please fill out the enclosed form, with your remittance of \$11.50 each including postage. Allow 2 weeks for delivery. Make checks payable to USSVI Perch Base and mention "Centennial Calendar" Please send to Bob May (see front cover.) To allow one week for

delivery, make checks payable to USSVI Perch Base, mention Centennial Calendar and send to Don Wannamaker, 17287 N. Conestoga Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373. A reminder, the Holidays are upon us. What a great gift for a friend, old buddy, or member of the family. **Pride DOES Run Deep.**

P.S. We also still have the official Perch Base Cook Books for sale. It is professionally done and also makes a great holiday gift. It sells for \$6.00 + \$1.00 for shipping. Use the back of the calendar order form if you wish to receive this book. (Mention "Cookbook", the quantity ordered, name, address, and amount enclosed.

Christmas/Hanukkah Party:

Seasons Greetings

Perch Base Holiday Dinner Dance

Our Annual Christmas/Hanukkah Party will be held this year at the Phoenix Elks Club 5525 W. Colter Street in Glendale. A Full Course Dinner and Live Music will be provided.

Directions:
I-17 to Camelback, West 3.7 miles.
North on 55th Avenue for 1/4 mile.
Left onto Colter.

Please let shipmate Roger Cousin know by the November 20th cut-off date.

(623) 546-9980 December 18

Time: 1830

Price: \$5.00/Person

Dress: Casual



Perch Base Calendar of Events for 2000

- 13 Nov 1999 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours.
- 18 Dec 1999 Christmas/Hanukkah Party, Elks Club Glendale.
- 8 Jan 2000 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
- 12 Feb 2000 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 (Possible picnic in Phoenix TBD).
- 11 Mar 2000 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours.
- 8 Apr 2000 Submarine Centennial Day Picnic in Phoenix, TBD.
- 13 May 2000 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours.
- 29 May 2000 Memorial Day services at Veterans Cemetery, Phoenix, time TBD.
- 10 Jun 2000 Meeting at DAV, Peoria, 1300 hours
- 8 Jul 2000 Meeting at Prescott, American Legion TBD.
- 12 Aug 2000 Meeting at DAV 1300 hours.
- 9 Sep 2000 Base Picnic and Meeting at Prescott TBD.
- 14 Oct 2000 Meeting at DAV 1300 hours.

11 Nov 2000 Meeting at DAV 1300 hours.
Dec 2000 Base Christmas/Hanukkah Party, date
TBD.

Perch Base Meetings

Unless otherwise specified, all regular membership meetings will be held on the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Disabled American Veterans Post 8447 at North 61st Avenue in Glendale. The post is located between Northern and Dunlap (Olive) avenues. Meetings to commence at 1300 hours. Executive (E) Board Meeting will commence at 1200 hours for all officers.

Free chow is offered to all meeting attendees. Next meeting is November 13th. MARK IT DOWN. Topics to be determined.

Perch Base Booster Club for 1999

Jerry Allston	Hubert Maxey	Tyler Smith
Jerry Becker	Bob May	Bob Stanfelner
Joe Bernard	Bill McNay	Jim Srasfels
Mike Breitner	Paul Miller	Adrian Stuke
Tom Burke	Bob Mitchell	Bob Sungey
Roger Cousin	Joe Mullins	Ken Wayne
Earl Crowley	Jim Nelson	Don Whitehead
Steve Day	Joe Otreba	Jerry Yowell
Doug Eddy	Gary Patterson	
Ray Graybeal	Tom Patterson	
Billy Grieves	Royce P ettit	
Mike Haler	Scott Prothers	
Bill Hatcher	John Redding	
Glenn Herold	Frank Rumbaugh	
Monica Helms	Ray Samsom	
Steve Hough	George Sara	
Larry Krieger	Joe Schwartz	

On behalf of the base officers we thank you for your added financial support.

E-Mail Addresses

If you are on line and have an e-mail address. Please e-mail it to your club's officers (front page) for the most expedient communication.

Telephone Rope

A telephone communication link for the good of the base is being set up by area code. Volunteers are needed who are willing to make calls on behalf of the club as matters arise.

(520) Gary Patterson 520-445-1249 and Larry Krieger
520-771-0093 Prescott Area
(580) John Redding 480-893-0136 and Carl Scott
480-754-1856 East Phoenix/
Mesa
(623) Roger Cousin 623-546-9980 West Phoenix
/Sun Cities
(602) (not covered) Phoenix/Central

Small Stores



The 100th Anniversary Sub Vet Patch is here and can be ordered from your storekeeper (see front cover) It's a white 4 1/2 x 3 embroidered oval and cost only \$6.50 including shipping. It's a great design This is what it looks like.

By the way our storekeeper has all kinds of goodies, 6 or 7 styles of ball caps, tee shirts, golf shirts, submarine logo mugs, beer mugs, pens silver dolphins, belt buckles, USSVI small or large patches, bumper stickers, boomer pins, dolphin tie clasps, and a slew of other "stuff". If you need to reach the storekeeper see the front cover. A complete list and prices will be forthcoming in future newsletters.

1999 National Convention in Reno

I want to take this time to thank our former Commander, Frank Rumbaugh for attending this meeting and doing a laborious job formulating the minutes - he writes:

Leadership: - Gary Stewart resigned as National Commander, Sr. Vice Commander John Fredricks assumed the office of National Commander.

Treasury: - One tax return was filed and a second return will follow. The application is in and will be processed for 501 C 3 status by 12/31 for charitable organization. Ten bases are using the direct deposit method and is working well. Treasurer hopes to have all bases using it by 2001. Revenue is based on 7000 members with \$128,000 projected for 2000. \$150,000 is in the life members fund. The new National Office is budgeted for \$20,000.

The National Chaplain attended three funerals in 1999, officiating at two. He requests that all bases keep the Chaplain notified of any deceased. There is a widow's package that he sends out with condolences and offers of help.

Holland Club membership has risen 1999 from 191 to 600, due in large part to the waiving of the five year membership rule and replacing it with a one year requirement.

Dallas base is the new editor/publisher of the American Submariner. They would like to expand the "Reporting from the Bases" feature.

The National Storekeeper reports that he has an inventory/cash totaling \$10,000 with \$800

outstanding. He also states that any purchases from small stores must be through the Base SK because of pricing structure. The Storekeeper buys in bulk and sells at a small markup going to the general fund. Bases can follow suit.

The National Membership Chairman says membership stands at 5287 annual members, 2500 life members. 379 Members at Large and 96 Associate Members. The Member at Large issue surfaced again with the reiteration that MAL's are low maintenance members.

Scholarships: - The daughter of Kenny Wayne, a Perch Base Member, was the recipient of an award.

Constitution and By-law:

Ten proposed changes were received, six were returned, four were recommended.

Four new bases were approved, Ohlo, Dover, Yakama, and Reno.

All Incumbents accepted nominations. A resolution that was a carry-over from the Mobile Convention (1997) to provide the American Submariner to widows of members if they choose to receive it free of charge was carried.

Boat sponsorship - 95 boats and crews received sponsorship with none being turned down. There were 24 dual sponsorships and 2 museum sponsorship. The program is being expanded to sponsor Submarine Commands any other the donors wish. 11/15/99 is the deadline for sponsorships.

Base Commanders Meeting Report - The waiver of 50/50 rule splitting with National for the three bases hosting the '98, '99, '00 conventions was questioned. It was determined that the contracts with these bases, although verbal, were binding. The ruling was made at the Mobile Convention (1997) and the bids were accepted under that rule. The bases will share 10% of the convention revenues. After debate, the issue was tabled for further study.

An effort to standardize the "official" USSVI hat was made. Presently the hats are purchased through the National Storekeeper at a Navy NX. Hats purchased in another market are of different material and looks. Boston Base has an original hat that may act as a pattern for the Storekeeper's procurement. National advertising in the magazine "Modern Maturity" (magazine of AARP) was suggested. No action was taken.

Convention 2000: - The date for the 2000 Centennial Convention is firm, October 16-20, 2000 in Atlantic City. The **Grouper** reunion attendees presented a resolution to have USSVI support the NC Historical Society in raising the **CSS HUNLEY** with appropriate honors being paid to the lost crew. Motioned and passed. (It's about time we honor those men)

Perch Base Minutes of 10 Oct 1999 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 1300; Vice Commander Roger Cousin presiding.

Opening ceremonies observed. It was announced that Perch Base Centennial Calendar was for sale. All hands are urged to purchase same or take them on consignment for resale.

The question was raised regarding Perch Base involvement in some kind of centennial event either by ourselves or in conjunction with local WWII Vets. A discussion followed describing events planned nationally by USSVI, the Submarine League, and The Navy League. No resolutions were adopted and the matter tabled.

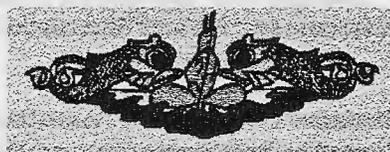
VC Cousin displayed several items received on consignment from Ron Martini's ship store. Object was to see if there was base interest in these items. A discussion followed regarding the procurement of inventory by Perch Base Storekeeper. The ground rules laid down by the former e-board regarding procurement were reiterated. A lively discussion ensued. Storekeeper Harnish requested status of hats ordered by shipmate Glen Herrold. Hats are being made in Prescott and will be expedited. Gary Patterson will attempt to solve this problem.

VC Cousin sent a press release to the Arizona Republic, Wester, and Independent, reference the meeting notice with a request that they publish same at no cost to the base.

**Please insert the following under "Club Calendar" for November 13th. I understand this is a free community service and would appreciate having it appear in all Valley issues.

We could use your help by asking your local paper to run this ad.

Arizona Submarine Veterans
Did you wear these?



Then come join your shipmates at their monthly meeting on Saturday, November 13 (and the 2nd Saturday of every month) at 1300 at the Disabled American Vets Post 8447 N. 61st Avenue, Glendale, between Dunlap (Olive) & Northern. All invited from S Boats to Nukes. Contact Roger Cousin (623) 546-9980 or e-mail: rleecousin@aol.com for more information.

A motion was made seconded and passed to expend \$75 for an ad in the American Submariner for the sale of Perch Base calendars. A second motion was passed to expend a second \$75 for an ad in the American Submariner to sell Perch Base cookbooks. A 50/50 drawing was held, Royce Pettit won. The report of the National Business Meeting was read.

Benediction followed, meeting adjourned and socializing followed.

Annual Picnic

In the past, we have always had a great turnout and participation with our Subvet Annual Picnic which has been held at Thumb Butte Park in Prescott.

Well, this year's picnic on August 14, was a total bust and it is still a mystery to us why so few people showed up for this year's event. If anyone thinks they have the answer, please let us know. It certainly wasn't for lack of advance notification.

We bought for 70 people and had a grand total of **17 people** turned out! That number includes all guests. Fortunately, we were able to keep the meat frozen and will use it at a later date, but a lot of beer, soda and buns were given away to the small number of attendees.

Our plans are to utilize what we saved and have another picnic in Phoenix sometime after the first of the year. Hopefully, we will see a much larger turnout with the large majority of our members living in the Phoenix area.

We will get the word out when we have a firm date and place to have the Winter Picnic.

Membership

We've had quite a few new members sign up since the first of the year and I'm way overdue in recognizing the new members in our newsletter. Since I'm not sure where we stopped, I'm going back to the first of the year to include all that have joined Perch Base since January 1.

Woods, George C., Quartermaster to Lieutenant, qualified on **USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN598)** in 1968. George also served on **CROAKER (SS246)** and the **FRANCIS SCOTT KEY (SSBN657)**. He is a National Life Member and transferred from the Long Island Base. George and his wife Alice make their home in Phoenix.

Fooshee, Thomas E. is our first "Associate Member" and is sponsored by Bob Moore. Tom and his wife Lita, live in Glendale.

Wannamaker, Donald, MMC(SS), (Ret), qualified on **SAILFISH (SS572)** in 1958. Don also served on **USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (SSBN598)**, **GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER (SSBN656)** and **QUEENFISH (SSN651)**. Don came down from the Minneappolis- St. Paul Base where he was Base Commander. He and his wife Judith make their home in Sun City.

Jones, David P., STSCS(SS), (Ret), qualified on the **USS AMBERJACK (SS522)** in 1960. Davy also served on **HENRY CLAY (SSBN625)**, **SARGO (SSN583)**, **JOHN MARSHALL (SSBN611)** and **NATHAN HALE (SSBN623)**. Davy came over from the San Diego Base and now lives in Phoenix. He was sponsored by Frank

Rumbaugh.

Anderson, Kenneth R., EM3(SS), qualified on **GREENFISH (SS351)**, year unknown. Ken also served on **CORPORAL (SS346)**. He is sponsored by Roger Cousin and makes his home with wife, Noreen, in Sun City West.

Grosseta, Warren A., Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired), qualified on **USS CABRILLA (SS288)** in 1944. Warren also served on **BRILL (SS330)**, **SEALION II (ASPP315)**, **CREVALE (SS291)** and **BERGALL (SS320)**. Captain Grosseta is a National Life Member and makes his home with his wife, Margaret, in Tucson.

Jones, David C., ET1(SS), qualified on **USS NATHAN HALE (SSBN623)** in 1964. He also served on **SCULPIN (SSN590)**. David and his wife, Patricia, live in St. Albans, Mo. and he is sponsored by his cousin, our own Jim Newman. David is also a National Life Member.

Patterson, Larry R., IC3(SS), qualified on **USS SCAMP (SSN588)** in 1962. He is the brother of Perch Base Membership Chairman, Gary Patterson, and is also a National Life Member. With the startup of the Topeka-Jefferson City Base, Larry will probably shift his base membership back a little closer to home where he and his wife, Pat, live in Manhattan, KS.

Butler, Bradley L., SK2(SS), qualified on **USS JOHN ADAMS (SSBN629)** in 1967. He also served on board **USS SENNET (SS408)**. Brad is sponsored by Kenny Wayne and makes his home in Glendale with wife Peggy.

Bowman, Edward A., EM2(SS), qualified on **USS BLACKFIN (SS322)** in 1960. Ed is sponsored by John Redding. He and his wife, Frances, make their home in Phoenix.

Oakley, Ronald T., MM1(SS), qualified on board **USS ASPRO (SSN648)** in 1976. Ron also served on **USS DRUM (SSN677)**. Ron and his wife, Kathy, make their home in Phoenix and he is sponsored by Roger Cousin. Perch Base Membership now stands at 85.

Gary Patterson
Prescott

SSN 774 Virginia-Class Nuclear-Powered Attack Submarine

Overview: Formerly dubbed the "New Attack Submarine," the Virginia-class (SSN774) nuclear-powered attack submarine will provide advanced war-fighting and acoustic superiority and sustain minimum attack-submarine force levels as early units of the Los Angeles-class SSNs continue to leave the fleet. Although the Virginia class has been designed and engineered for traditional open ocean antisubmarine and

antisurface warfare missions, the primary design and combat engineering focus has been on multi-mission operations in the littoral warfare environment. Key warfare tasks include offensive and defensive mining, mine countermeasures, reconnaissance, special operations forces insertion/extraction, battle-group support, intelligence collections and surveillance, and land attack/strike. Moreover, the SSN-774's modular design will allow it to be specifically configured to adapt easily to special missions and emerging future requirements. The weapons handling space especially can be reconfigured to host an augmented special operations force or to support other special systems capabilities. The Virginia SSNs also will be fully configured to operate as integral elements within the Navy's emerging concept of Network Centric Warfare. The Virginias' will be powered by life-of-ship S9G pressurized water reactors, two turbine engines, one shaft, and a pump-jet propulsion. Speeds in excess of 28 knots and depths greater than 800 feet have been advertised. For its management of the first major defense program to fully implement acquisition-reform initiatives, the Virginia-Class SSN Program Office (PMS450) has twice received the David Packard Award for Acquisition Excellence.

Status: Advanced procurement funding for the lead ship was approved in FY 1996 and full funding was provided in FY 1998. The keel of the **Virginia** was laid in September 1999; construction on the second ship of the class, **Texas**, began in FY 1999. The first four ships will be built under innovative teaming arrangements between General Dynamics Electric Boat Corporation (EB) and Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS), under which construction of the first four ships will be shared by ship sections. EB will build all hull sections for use at EB and NNS, as well as the engine-room modules and command-and-control system operating spaces. NNS will build the bow, stern, sail, and selected forward sections for each submarine. EB will assemble the first and third ships, scheduled for delivery in FYs 2004 and 2006, respectively; NNS, the second and fourth, to be delivered in FYs 2005 and 2007. A total of 30 Virginia-class SSNs have been identified in Navy program planning. The acquisition strategy for SSN 778 and follow-on boats has not yet been determined and remains a congressional high-interest item. A program of at least two Virginia-class SSNs per year will be needed beginning in the middle of the next decade in order to maintain the QDR-approved 50-SSN minimum essential force level. The administration requested \$1.106 billion for FY 2000 SSN-774 R&D and procurement; the House authorized \$1.121 billion, and the Senate \$1.116 billion.



USS ESCOLAR (SS294)

Displacement 1870 tons (surf), 2391 tons (subm)
 Length 312', Beam 27'
 Speed 20 Knots (surf) 9 Knots (Subm)
 Test Depth - 400'
 Armament - 1-5"/25, 6-21" tt. fwd, 4 21" tt. aft.
 Compliment - 6 Officers, 60 Enlisted men
 Class - BALAO

Keel laid down by Cramp Shipbuilding Company, Philadelphia, PA 10JUN42; Launched: 18APR43; Sponsored by Mrs. J. Billisly Hudgins; Commissioned: 2JUN44 with Cdr William J. Millican in command (Transferred to Boston Navy Yard after Launch and then to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard prior to Commissioning)

USS ESCOLAR (SS294) had her final training for combat at Pearl Harbor, from which she put out for her first war patrol 18 September and proceeded to Midway to top off with fuel. There she joined **USS CROAKER (SS246)** and **USS PERCH (SS313)** and left on 23 September to conduct a coordinated patrol in the Yellow Sea north of 30IN. Cdr Millican was in command of this coordinated attack group, which was designated "Millican's Marauders."

On 30 September, when **ESCOLAR** was estimated to be about north of the Bonin Islands, the following partial message was received from her: "This from **ESCOLAR**:

"X attacked with deck gun boat similar to ex-Italian Peter George five OTYI —."

Although no further transmissions were ever received by bases from **ESCOLAR**, who was forced to break off the transmission and the engagement with the gunboat at that time, **CROAKER** had stated that she suffered no damage and was in frequent communication with **PERCH** and **CROAKER** until 17 October 1944.

PERCH reported that on 17 October she had received a message from **ESCOLAR** stating that she was in position 331-44'N; 1271-33'E, and was heading for 331-44'N; 1291-06'E. Neither **PERCH** nor **CROAKER** could raise **ESCOLAR** by radio after this transmission was received.

Had **ESCOLAR** left her area on the scheduled date, she would have arrived at Midway about 13 November 1944. All attempts to contact **ESCOLAR** failed and she was reported on 27 November 1944 as presumed lost. It is assumed that she was lost about 17 October. Information supplied by the Japanese on antisubmarine attacks gives no clue as to the cause of her loss, but the Yellow Sea area is thought to have been mined. A course line plotted between the two positions given above does not cross any known Japanese mine lies, but positions of mines laid before April 1945 are not definitely located. The known minefields in Tsushima Strait were laid in April 1945. However, there were mines in the general area of **ESCOLAR's** predicted position, and the most likely explanation for her end is that she detonated a mine.

Compiled by SUBNET from "UNITED STATES SUBMARINE LOSSES - WORLD WAR II," - Navy Department; "Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships," - Navy Department; "UNITED STATES NAVAL SUBMARINE INFORMATION BOOK" — J. Christley

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