

**Chapter 1 : History | USS Argonaut ~ SS**

*The second Argonaut (SS) was a Tench class fleet type submarine, built by the Portsmouth Navy Yard and commissioned in She made only one war patrol before the Japanese surrender brought the war to an end.*

Design[ edit ] V-4 was the first of the second generation of V-boats commissioned in the late s, which remain the largest non-nuclear submarines ever built by the United States. V-4 was the behemoth of its class. These submarines were exempt by special agreement from the armament and tonnage limitations of the Washington Treaty. Her configuration, and that of the following V-5 and V-6, resulted from an evolving strategic concept that increasingly emphasized the possibility of a naval war with Japan in the far western Pacific. This factor, and the implications of the Washington Naval Treaty , suggested the need for long-range submarine "cruisers", or "strategic scouts", as well as long-range minelayers, for which long endurance, not high speed, was most important. V-4 and her near-sisters V-5 Narwhal and V-6 Nautilus were initially designed with larger and more powerful MAN-designed diesel engines than the Busch-Sulzer engines that propelled earlier V-boats, which were failures. Unfortunately, the specially built engines failed to produce their design power, and some developed dangerous crankcase explosions. The smaller diesels were required to allow sufficient space for mine storage. V-4 and her sisters were slow in diving and, when submerged, were unwieldy and slower than designed. They also presented an excellent target for surface ship sonar and had a large turning radius. She had four torpedo tubes forward and two minelaying tubes aft. At the time of construction, V-4 was the largest submarine ever built in the U. Navy service for 30 years. She proved perennially underpowered, but engine replacement was postponed by war, [10] and her MAN diesels were a constant source of trouble. This mark was the greatest depth an American submarine had reached up to that time. From there, she participated in battle exercises and made cruises along the West Coast. She carried out minelaying operations, patrol duty, and other routine work. In October and again in May , Argonaut took part in joint Army-Navy exercises in the Hawaiian operating area. Submarine Argonaut A-1] reads between the killer bars: The submarine returned to the West Coast in April to participate in fleet tactical exercises. She was notified by radio of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor when she surfaced a few minutes after sunset on 7 December. Argonaut set general quarters two hours later to investigate naval gunfire around Midway. While designed as a minelayer and not an attack submarine, Argonaut made the first wartime approach on enemy naval forces; but poor maneuverability prevented reaching a suitable position for surfaced torpedo launch against the two Japanese destroyers shelling Midway. One of the destroyers saw Argonaut as she dived to make a submerged second approach in the bright moonlight; but the destroyer was unable to locate the submerged submarine, and Argonaut was again unable to maneuver into position to launch torpedoes. After being held down all night, Argonaut surfaced at dawn to recharge batteries and was unsuccessfully bombed by a United States plane from Midway. By trimming the submarine 17 tons heavy, the crew was able to reduce diving time to 52 seconds by skillfully coordinated pumping between fore and aft ballast tanks; but that time was still considered too slow to avoid hostile aircraft. It appears she was not fitted with bow external torpedo tubes, as were Narwhal and Nautilus, as photos taken after the refit do not show them. Argonaut returned to action in the South Pacific in August. This move was designed to relieve pressure on American forces that had just landed on Guadalcanal. Conditions during the transit were unpleasant, and most of the marines became seasick. The convoy arrived off Makin on 16 August, and at Their rubber rafts were swamped by the sea and most of the outboard motors drowned. Snipers were hidden in the trees, and the landing beaches were in front of the Japanese forces instead of behind them as planned. However, by midnight of 18 August, the Japanese garrison of about 85 men was wiped out; radio stations, fuel, and other supplies and installations were destroyed, and all but 30 of the troops had been recovered. Sinking[ edit ] Argonaut arrived back in Pearl Harbor on 26 August. She was never formally designated SS, but that hull number was reserved for her and a photo shows she occasionally displayed it. A crewman on board the plane saw one destroyer hit by a torpedo , and the destroyers promptly counterattacking. It was apparent that a depth charge had severely damaged the submarine. The destroyers continued circling Argonaut, pumping shells into her; she slipped below the waves

and was never heard from again. On the basis of the report given by the Army flier who witnessed the attack in which Argonaut perished, she was credited with damaging a Japanese destroyer on her last patrol. Since none of the histories of the three escorting destroyers report damage on 10 January , the destroyer "hit" may have been a premature explosion. The bell hanging in her steeple comes from Argonaut, and still rings today for services.

**Chapter 2 : American Submarine War Patrol Reports: USS Argonaut**

*The second Argonaut (SS) submarine was laid down on 28 June , at the Portsmouth Navy theinnatdunvilla.comed on 1 October , she was sponsored by Mrs. Allen R. McCann. Commissioned on 15 January , her first commanding officer was Lieutenant Commander John S. Schmid.*

She was launched on 1 October sponsored by Mrs. Argonaut held shakedown in the Portsmouth area and in Narragansett Bay and returned briefly to Portsmouth on 27 March for post-shakedown availability. She then sailed on 14 April for Key West, Florida , where she conducted special tests for lighter-than-air craft and training operations with the Fleet Sound School. Reaching Pearl Harbor on 11 June, the submarine spent two weeks in repairs and training exercises before beginning her first war patrol on 28 June. On 16 July, Argonaut spotted a downed aviator, picked him up, and later transferred him to Quillback. Since she terminated her patrol at Guam on 21 August, six days after Japan capitulated, this was her only combat action during World War II. Early in , Argonaut was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet and was based at Panama. The submarine was in for major repairs for many months at New London, Connecticut. In July , the submarine underwent a major conversion at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard , during which she received a snorkel system and a streamlined sail. These changes gave the submarine greater underwater endurance. Unlike most, possibly all, other submarines which were converted to streamlined sails in the early s, Argonaut retained her 5-inch deck gun. The gun was removed by Following this move, Argonaut was converted to a guided missile submarine armed with a Regulus I missile. The submarine returned to Norfolk, Virginia in When the alterations were completed, the submarine resumed her routine of supporting antisubmarine warfare ASW training operations out of Norfolk. She then had a routine overhaul at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. The yard work was completed on 13 May , and the submarine sailed to the New London area for refresher training. After further training in the Virginia Capes area, she got underway on 19 August for the Mediterranean and service with the 6th Fleet. The submarine returned to home port on 15 December. Argonaut continued her routine of operations along the U. Argonaut left the shipyard on 10 June for sea trials, and on 20 January headed for New London for refresher training. She then provided services to the submarine school at New London through the remainder of Argonaut took part in Operation "Springboard" through the rest of January and most of February before leaving the Caribbean on 23 February to return to Norfolk, arriving there five days later. For the next two months, Argonaut prepared for a North Atlantic and Mediterranean cruise. She sailed on 26 May and made her first port call at Trondheim, Norway. She remained in the local operating area through the duration of the year. The submarine traveled to New London on 6 February , entered drydock there on 9 February, and remained in it through 26 February. Argonaut left the keelblocks on 27 February and returned to Norfolk. Three days later the submarine got underway for her home port. Upon her arrival in Norfolk on 29 March, she assumed a schedule of local operations. This was interrupted by another cruise to Port Everglades in October. She returned that month to Norfolk and began preparations for deactivation. Argonaut was decommissioned on 2 December, and her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register that same day. Canadian service[ edit ] In Argonaut was put up for sale by the United States. The purchase was approved after Maritime Command claimed that Grilse was no longer fit for service and Canada needed a replacement for training purposes. In November the submarine was prepared for departure from Norfolk, Virginia. Argonaut was in poor condition however, with only one of her four diesel engines in working condition, her electrical generator unusable and the boat was leaking. The modernization took eight months to complete and following its completion, Rainbow took up the duties of the out-of-service Grilse of performing anti-submarine warfare training on the West Coast.

**Chapter 3 : USS Argonaut SS - Mesothelioma & Asbestos Exposure Navy Ships**

*During World War II, the United States Navy employed two submarines named Argonaut on operations. The first was a giant mine layer, designated SMBuilt in the , the first Argonaut made three war patrols, the first, off Midway, having started before commencement of hostilities on 7 December*

Launched on 1 October , she was sponsored by Mrs. Following shakedown in the Portsmouth area, she sailed for Key West on 14 April , where she conducted special tests for lighter-than-air craft and participated in training with the Fleet Sound School. She spent the next two weeks conducting voyage repairs and doing yet more training, then departed on her first and only war patrol on 28 June She picked up a downed aviator on 16 July, later transferring him to U. Her only attack occurred on 12 August, when she destroyed a ton junk by gunfire. On 13 August, Argonaut spent several hours working into position to attack what was tentatively identified as a Japanese submarine. At the last minute the target disappeared, and Schmidt later wrote that he suspected the target might have had radar detection gear, or even a 10 cm radar set, and had been aware of their presence for some time. This missed opportunity was their last of the war, as the order to stand down was received three days later. Argonaut ended her patrol at Guam on 21 August, and departed for home on 1 September. She arrived in New York on 4 October, then proceeded to Portsmouth for overhaul. Early in ,Argonaut was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet. Both ships sustained only minor damage, and Argonaut was able to continue on the Panama. This involved addition of a snorkel, and the installation of a streamlined conning tower fairwater, allowing greater underwater endurance. The Fleet Snorkel program was intended to extend the usefulness of the fleet type submarines, but involved less expense and less extensive modifications than the GUPPY program, which also included streamlining the superstructure and replacement of the batteries and electric motors. Following that move she was converted to a guided-missile submarine, equipped with the Regulus I missile. In she was reassigned to San Juan, Puerto Rico, where she remained for the next year. She returned to Norfolk in A overhaul saw the removal of her missile equipment. After this, she continued routine training duties, mostly as a target for surface anti-submarine warfare training. In October , Argonaut saw service during the Cuban Missile Crisis, serving as part of the blockading squadron. This was followed by another overhaul, this time at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Following refresher training at New London, and additional training off the Virginia Capes, she departed for the Mediterranean on 19 August , for service with the Sixth Fleet. She returned to her home port on 15 December. The next several years consisted of training duties, as well as deployments in European waters. On 2 December here long active service with the United States Navy came to an end as she was decommissioned and stricken from the Navy List. This did not, however, end her active service. Her Canadian service lasted until , and she was finally sold for scrapping in

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Edit V-4 was the first of the second generation of V-boats commissioned in the late s, which remain the largest non-nuclear submarines ever built by the U. These submarines were exempt by special agreement from the armament and tonnage limitations of the Washington Treaty. V-4 and her sister ships V-5 Narwhal and V-6 Nautilus were designed with larger and more powerful diesel engines than those that propelled earlier V-boats, which were failures. Unfortunately, the specially built engines failed to produce their design power, and some developed dangerous crankshaft explosions. V-4 and her sisters were slow in diving and, when submerged, were unwieldy and slower than designed. They also presented an excellent target to surface ship sonar and had a large turning radius. She had four torpedo tubes forward and two minelaying tubes aft. At the time of construction, V-4 was the largest submarine ever built in the U. Navy service for 30 years. She proved perennially underpowered, but engine replacement was postponed by war, [9] and her MAN diesels were a constant source of trouble. This mark was the greatest depth an American submarine had reached up to that time. From there, she participated in battle exercises and made cruises along the West Coast. She carried out minelaying operations, patrol duty, and other routine work. In October and again in May , Argonaut took part in joint Army-Navy exercises in the Hawaiian operating area. Submarine Argonaut A-1] reads between the killer bars: The submarine returned to the West Coast in April to participate in fleet tactical exercises. After sunset on 7 December, Argonaut surfaced and heard naval gunfire around Midway. It was assumed the Japanese were landing a large invasion force. Argonaut then submerged to make a sonar approach to the "invasion force. The "invasion force" turned out to be two Japanese destroyers whose mission was shore bombardment on Midway. The ships may have detected Argonaut, and one passed close by the submarine. They completed the bombardment then retired before Argonaut could make a second approach. One week later, Argonaut made contact with three or four Japanese destroyers. Barchet wisely decided not to attack. While there, her diesels were replaced with Winton Ss [11] and her minelaying gear was removed. This move was designed to relieve pressure on American forces that had just landed on Guadalcanal. Conditions during the transit were unpleasant, and most of the marines became seasick. The convoy arrived off Makin on 16 August, and at Their rubber rafts were swamped by the sea and most of the outboard motors drowned. Snipers were hidden in the trees, and the landing beaches were in front of the Japanese forces instead of behind them as planned. However, by midnight of 18 August, the Japanese garrison of about 85 men was wiped out; radio stations, fuel, and other supplies and installations were destroyed, and all but 30 of the troops had been recovered. She was never formally designated SS, but that hull number was reserved for her. A crewman on board the plane saw one destroyer hit by a torpedo , and the destroyers promptly counterattacking. It was apparent that a depth charge had severely damaged the submarine. The destroyers continued circling Argonaut, pumping shells into her; she slipped below the waves and was never heard from again. Japanese reports made available at the end of the war recorded a depth charge attack followed by gunfire, at which time they "destroyed the top of the sub". On the basis of the report given by the Army flier who witnessed the attack in which Argonaut perished, she was credited with damaging a Japanese destroyer on her last patrol. Since none of the histories of the three escorting destroyers report damage on 10 January , the destroyer "hit" may have been a premature explosion. An Illustrated Design History. United States Naval Institute. Jack; Roberts, Stephen S. Register of Ships of the U. The Fleet Submarine in the U. Naval Institute Press, , p.

**Chapter 5 : USS Argonaut SM-1 - Asbestos Exposure & Mesothelioma**

*Argonaut Crew at Time of Loss. U.S.S. Argonaut was lost with all hands on 10 January , during her third war patrol. She was sunk by gunfire from Japanese destroyers after attacking a Japanese convoy southwest of New Britain, at 5° 22' S., 156° 22' E.*

Navy Yard, launched on 1 October ; sponsored by Mrs. McCann, the wife of Capt. McCann; and commissioned on 15 January , Lt. John Sneed Schmidt in command. The submarine held shakedown in the Portsmouth area and in Narragansett Bay and returned briefly to Portsmouth on 27 March for post-shakedown availability. She then sailed on 14 April for Key West, Fla. Reaching Pearl Harbor on 11 June, the submarine spent two weeks in repairs and training exercises before beginning her first war patrol on 28 June. On 16 July, Argonaut spotted a downed aviator, picked him up, and later transferred him to Quillback SS Her only contact with Japanese vessels during the patrol came on 12 August, when Argonaut sank a ton junk with fire from her millimeter and millimeter guns. Since she terminated her patrol at Guam on 21 August, six days after Japan capitulated, this was her only combat action during World War II. Both ships sustained minor damage and Argonaut continued on to Panama. In July , the submarine underwent a major conversion at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, during which she received a snorkel system and a streamlined conning tower. These changes gave the submarine greater underwater endurance. Following this move, Argonaut was converted to a guided-missile submarine armed with a Regulus I missile. The submarine returned to Norfolk in When the alterations were completed, the submarine resumed her routine of supporting antisubmarine warfare ASW training operations out of Norfolk. On 15 October , Argonaut performed duties in conjunction with the naval quarantine of Cuba. The yard work was completed on 13 May , and the submarine sailed to the New London area for refresher training. After further training in the Virginia capes area, she got underway on 19 August for the Mediterranean and service with the 6th Fleet. The submarine returned to home port on 15 December. Argonaut continued her routine of operations along the east coast with periodic deployments to the Mediterranean through 1 December On that day, she commenced overhaul at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Argonaut left the shipyard on 10 June for sea trials and, on 20 January headed for New London for refresher training. She then provided services to the submarine school at New London through the remainder of Argonaut took part in Operation "Springboard" through the rest of January and most of February before leaving the Caribbean on 23 February to return to Norfolk, arriving there five days later. During the next two months, Argonaut prepared for a North Atlantic and Mediterranean cruise. She sailed on 26 May and made her first port call at Trondheim, Norway. She remained in the local operating area through the duration of the year. The submarine traveled to New London on 6 February entered drydock there on 9 February, and remained in it through the 26th. Argonaut left the keelblocks on 27 February and returned to Norfolk. She made a patrol in the Jacksonville, Fla. Three days later, the submarine got underway for her home port. Upon her arrival in Norfolk on 29 March she assumed a schedule of local operations. This was interrupted by another cruise to Port Everglades in October. She returned that month to Norfolk and began preparations for deactivation. Argonaut was decommissioned on 2 December, and her name was struck from the Navy list that same day. Argonaut won one battle star for her World War II service.

Chapter 6 : theinnatdunvilla.com Crew List - Reunite with old US Navy Buddies

*U.S.S. Argonaut (SM-1 & SS) During World War II, the United States Navy employed two submarines named Argonaut on operations. The first was a giant mine layer, designated SM*

About Originally named V-4, Argonaut was commissioned in 1918. At the time, she was the largest submarine in the U. Navy, a distinction she retained until the advent of nuclear submarines in the 1950s. As originally configured, 60 mines were carried. Argonaut was assigned to Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese attack, but was at sea near Midway on 7 December. In company with U. Trout, Argonaut approached a suspected enemy force. Barchet then took the boat back to Mare Island for a much-needed refit and modernization. Barchet went on to serve in a number of important posts both during and after the war. Still designated as a mine-layer upon her return to Pearl Harbor, the decision was made to convert Argonaut into a transport submarine. Her mine handling gear was removed and her mine tubes were cut out and blanked off at the after bulkhead, with the remaining sections outside the pressure hull pierced to allow them to be free-flooding. The space formerly allocated for mines was now filled with bunks, heads, mess facilities, and washroom. About 100 Marines could be accommodated. She was redesignated APS-1 after this conversion. Their heavy gun armament, intended for commerce raiding, lacked the centralized fire control system it would have needed to be of any practical value against a warship. Transporting raiding parties and other special missions appeared to be the most practical use for these oversized boats. Nautilus, unlike Argonaut fitted with only temporary troop accommodations, carried another 90 Marines. Both submarines attacked shipping during the raid, then picked up the raiders after two days. On 10 January, Argonaut attacked a five-ship convoy, escorted by three destroyers. The others, Isokaze and Maikaze, attacked at once with a heavy depth charging. The Japanese destroyers opened fire with their guns, sinking Argonaut with the loss of all hands. She carried a crew of 100 at the time of her loss.

## Chapter 7 : USS ARGONAUT (SS) Deployments & History

*USS Argonaut (SS) was a Tench-class submarine operated by the United States Navy (USN). Constructed at Portsmouth Navy Yard during the second half of*

Argonaut held shakedown in the Portsmouth area and in Narragansett Bay and returned briefly to Portsmouth on 27 March for post-shakedown availability. She then sailed on 14 April for Key West, Florida, where she conducted special tests for lighter-than-air craft and training operations with the Fleet Sound School. Reaching Pearl Harbor on 11 June, the submarine spent two weeks in repairs and training exercises before beginning her first war patrol on 28 June. On 16 July, Argonaut spotted a downed aviator, picked him up, and later transferred him to Quillback. Since she terminated her patrol at Guam on 21 August, six days after Japan capitulated, this was her only combat action during World War II. Early in , Argonaut was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet and was based at Panama. Both ships sustained minor damage and Argonaut continued on to Panama. In July , the submarine underwent a major conversion at the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard , during which she received a snorkel system and a streamlined conning tower. These changes gave the submarine greater underwater endurance. Following this move, Argonaut was converted to a guided-missile submarine armed with a Regulus I missile. The submarine returned to Norfolk, Virginia in . When the alterations were completed, the submarine resumed her routine of supporting antisubmarine warfare ASW training operations out of Norfolk. She then had a routine overhaul at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. The yard work was completed on 13 May , and the submarine sailed to the New London area for refresher training. After further training in the Virginia Capes area, she got underway on 19 August for the Mediterranean and service with the 6th Fleet. The submarine returned to home port on 15 December. Argonaut continued her routine of operations along the U. Argonaut left the shipyard on 10 June for sea trials, and on 20 January headed for New London for refresher training. She then provided services to the submarine school at New London through the remainder of . Argonaut took part in Operation "Springboard" through the rest of January and most of February before leaving the Caribbean on 23 February to return to Norfolk, arriving there five days later. For the next two months, Argonaut prepared for a North Atlantic and Mediterranean cruise. She sailed on 26 May and made her first port call at Trondheim, Norway. She remained in the local operating area through the duration of the year. The submarine traveled to New London on 6 February , entered drydock there on 9 February, and remained in it through 26 February. Argonaut left the keelblocks on 27 February and returned to Norfolk. Three days later the submarine got underway for her home port. Upon her arrival in Norfolk on 29 March, she assumed a schedule of local operations. This was interrupted by another cruise to Port Everglades in October. She returned that month to Norfolk and began preparations for deactivation. Argonaut was decommissioned on 2 December, and her name was struck from the Naval Vessel Register that same day. The entry can be found here. An Illustrated Design History. United States Naval Institute. Jack; Roberts, Stephen S. Register of Ships of the U. Submarines Through pp.

## Chapter 8 : ARGONAUT APS 1 - NavalCoverMuseum

*V-4 was renamed Argonaut on 19 February , and redesignated SM-1 (submarine, minelayer) on 1 July. On 30 June , she arrived at Pearl Harbor, where she was assigned to SubDiv 7. She carried out minelaying operations, patrol duty, and other routine work.*

## Chapter 9 : USS Argonaut (SS) - Wikipedia

*In April of , the U.S. Navy commissioned one of the largest non-nuclear subs it would ever built, the 2,ton (surfaced displacement) minelayer USS V-4 (SM-1/APS-1/SS).*