

International Submariner-USA

The International Submariners Association/USA is aligned with countries that have associations representing their submarine veterans. Our purpose is to promote brotherhood among submarine veterans of all nations and to remember all lost submariners.

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Our Creed

The Purpose of the ISA-USA is to: Perpetuate the memory of those who have lost their lives in submarines and to further promote and keep alive the spirit and unity that exists among all submarine crewmen, to foster friendship and goodwill internationally, remembering always our belief in the freedom of thoughts, words and deeds. Every Member shall remain loyal to his country at all times.

A Message From the President

The Fiftieth ISA Convention is coming up soon. It begins May 20th and finishes May 24th, in Catania, Sicily, Italy. Today, March 28, 2013 at 2:30 PM it is 61 degrees in San Francisco and 61 degrees in Catania. At last count, we have something like 21 to 23 ISA-USA members registered. Many are departing early for touring before the convention. Some will extend their stay for after the convention.

I am particularly proud that one of our members, Akira (Aki) Tsurukame has started an organization, *Descendants of Submariners* and they will be holding their first meeting in Catania. This is already a multinational organization with members from Japan/US, The Netherlands, Italy and England. I am sure that more will attend this first meeting and hopefully it will grow in the same manner that the International Submariners Association has grown. Perhaps you can mention this group to your progeny, you never know, they may decide to take up on your behalf some day.

We have been too quiet about the election this summer, but it is still on. We need candidates for President and Treasurer. As mentioned previously, the time demand for each of these positions is minor, however the importance if each of these slots is high. The requirements for President is that the candidate must be qualified in U.S. submarines and be a member in good standing. This candidate should have attended a minimum of one ISA Convention. More would be better. The requirements for Treasurer are that the candidate be familiar with banking and how a checkbook works. Most likely all of us fit that requirement. The candidate must be a member in good standing. The Treasurer does not need to be qualified in submarine service. We have a very large pool of viable candidates. Self nominations are welcome. If you know of someone who you think would do a good job in either of these positions, contact that person to obtain permission from them to nominate them and then contact any ISA-USA officer.

We are experiencing slow growth in our Stores activity. You are an important part of this, go there and shop. I have purchased several items, both for my own use and as gifts. Everything I have purchased has been excellent. You will be very satisfied with your purchase. Go here to get good stuff and to help out your organization: www.isausa.org/store/

“Live simply, love generously, care deeply, Speak kindly, and leave the rest to God.”

ISA-USA VICE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Who, What, When, Where and Why. What is the ISA about? We are an organization that experiences visiting with other submariners from many nations. We visit other countries and see places that the ordinary traveler will never have the opportunity to see. While in Turkey we visited the Istanbul Naval base and saw the Cossack demonstration, shopped, toured a Turkish submarine base and was given a tour of an operational submarine. Last year the group went to Kiev and was treated with a side trip to Chernobyl; opportunities that are not on any normal tourist's trip schedule. I am sure there are many stories from the 50 ISA conventions that would have made you wish that you could have been there. The ISA convention will be held in Catania, Italy in May and this is your opportunity to see the art, architecture and sights of Italy while enjoying camaraderie with submariners from all over the world.

Jack Messersmith

IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER FOR THE ITALIAN CONGRESS

There is still a window open to register for the Italian Congress, that window has been extended until 31 March 2013.

Our most recent message from them is that they have 30 to 40 registrations still pending and as a result have moved the actual deadline to the end of March. The door has not yet closed, but it will. You may be wondering why they would have had such an early registration deadline. Well, they have an obligation to provide firm headcount numbers to hotels, restaurants, bus operators and translator services. In most cases they can't wait until the last minutes as there is a lot of planning required at all levels of conducting one of these complex meetings.

If you want to attend this one, you need to act now!

At the present time they have 21 registrants from the USA and a total number of participants of about 240 from the rest of the world. Several of us are arriving in Rome the week of the 13 May 2013 and then traveling by train to Sicily via Naples and Pompeii. If anyone is interested in joining us in Rome during this historic time in the 2000 year old history of the Catholic Church, let us know and we will send you the particulars.

To register or for more information on the Congress, visit www.isa-italy-2013.com

Thanks,
John Bud Cunnally, Secretary ISA/USA

ISA-USA TREASURER'S REPORT

All bills have been paid and are current and the Treasury is in order and solvent. All IRS filings for a non-profit have been filed and accepted by the IRS. If any member wishes to review the Treasury accounts please feel free to contact me for the purpose of reviewing our accounts.

Every member could help the organization by contributing to the BOOSTER FUND which will help fund our newsletter expenses. Please send your check to ISA-USA P.O. Box 664 Folsom, CA 95763-0664.

My second term will expire in September 2013 and we are on a search for our next Treasurer. Please contact our President Ken Earls or myself for further information about filling the Office of Treasurer. Candidates for this office are not required to have qualified or served on Submarines. The term is a two year term and this Office holder can serve two terms.

(Bill) William J. Windle, Treasurer ISA-USA
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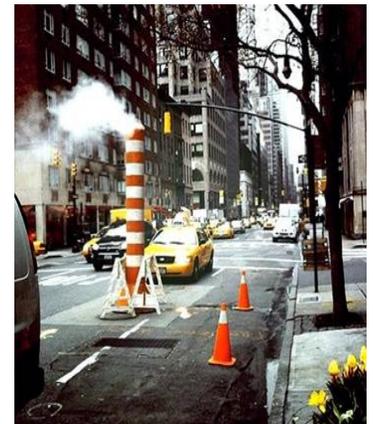


FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

We are all anticipating the 50th ISA congress in Catania, Italy. Even if you cannot make it, all of us that rode the boats feel the pictures and good fellowship that these meetings generate. Just a quick word to thank Ken for mentioning the "*Descendants of Submariners organization*" that Aki-ira (Aki) Tsurukame has begun. Besides Aki I am the second member of this group as my Uncle's son that I met as a very young child, James Patrick Cunnally MoMM1 went on eternal patrol in the USS Seawolf (SS 197) in October 1944. The USS Richard M. Rowell (DE-403) that mistook her for a Japanese Submarine unfortunately sank the boat. I am looking forward to the meeting of the Submarine Decedents in Catania.

The Australians are gearing up for a grand old time in Perth/ Freemantle next year. It would be great if we all purchased Navy blue golf shirts with our logo from our on-line store and were seen by the American submarine loving Australians. See the ad for our store on page 17 of this newsletter.

Bud Cunnally
 Secretary ISA USA



**Here's how word reached
 Manhattan's Lexington Ave-
 nue that a new Pope had
 been elected....**

Life is Simple

...either you're qualified or you're not!



How many of these do you own?

Shown above are submariner pins from these countries – top left to bottom right

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Israel | 9. Italy |
| 2. United Kingdom | 10. Japan |
| 3. Unofficial pin | 11. Canada |
| 4. United States | 12. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 13. South Africa |
| 6. Netherlands | 14. Greece |
| 7. France | 15. Australia |
| 8. Sweden | |

Why Join the ISA-USA?

The Purpose of the ISA-USA will be: to Perpetuate the memory of those who have lost their lives in submarines and to further promote and keep alive the spirit and unity that exists among all submarine crewmen, to foster friendship and goodwill internationally, remembering always our belief in the freedom of thoughts, words and deeds.

As a member of the ISA-USA you will benefit in many ways.

1. Be part of a 50 year tradition of international friendships of submarine sailors. Check out www.submariners.org for the history of this association
2. Travel to foreign countries to participate in conventions that usually include fifteen to twenty countries in attendance.
3. Establish friendships with submariners in foreign countries.



Members include veterans and active duty submariners from E-3 to O-10.

Members include currently active submariners, both enlisted and commissioned.

Members include spouses of submariners and adult children of submariners.

Members include submarine veterans from numerous foreign countries.

Members include workers on submarines and others with a strong interest in submarines.



International
Submariner's Association
United States of America



International Friendships Run Silent
and Run Deep

www.isausa.org

Annual conventions of submarine veterans from many different countries.

Recent past conventions:

- 2006—Moscow Russia
- 2007—Cherbourg, France
- 2008—Gydenia, Poland
- 2009—San Diego, USA
- 2010—Israel
- 2011—Istanbul, Turkey
- 2012—Kiev, Ukraine

Upcoming ISA Conventions:

- 2013—Catania, Sicily, Italy
- 2014—Athens, Greece
- 2015—United Kingdom

Other International events:

- 2014—Australian Sub Centennial
- 2014—Canadian Sub Centennial

Each host country's submarine organization treats visitors like VIPs. Attend special tours, dine in special places and see naval installments normally off-limits.

Application for Membership
International Submariners
Association -
United States of America

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Boats _____
Boats _____

(Actual boat experience is not necessary for membership)

Phone _____
Alt.Phone _____
E-mail _____
(Please print clearly)
Spouse/Significant
Other _____

Date Submitted _____

Dues are \$20.00(US) (Jan 1-Dec31)
Life membership \$50.00*

Member of USSVI:

Yes _____ No _____

Mail application to:

ISA-USA
4704 Coppola Drive
Mount Dora, FL 32757

*Subject to change

Life Membership
\$50.00
Annual Membership
\$20.00

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As I was recently reviewing my available resources regarding those Brave Sailors of the ISA-USA Submarine Shipmates Membership Information, I must admit that I was just a little bit surprised to discover that the number of Names of "Our Heroes", listed on the following page seem to be relatively lower than I expected to find in quantity. The thought occurred to me that possibly some names and/or other information about those Sailors on *"Eternal Patrol"* may possibly be missing, and/or incomplete which would certainly be a shame, even for one-single-soul! I am therefore requesting that each of our current surviving shipmates provide me with any missing data you might be aware of including misspelled names or missing shipmates which could be used to complete the listing for our "Submarine Community". All I ask is that the information you provide either be confirmed as correct or reasonably accurate to the best of your knowledge. This would be very helpful and I shall attempt to confirm any estimates if you can provide me with other shipmate's names with whom I can communicate that might be able to provide additional information.



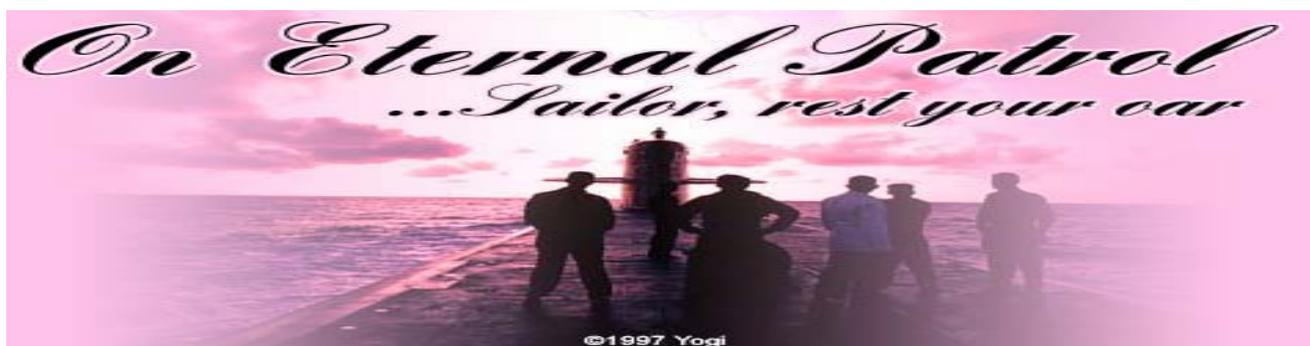
Brad Canutt
Chaplin

Thank you for taking the time to consider this request and particularly if you are able to provide any more information about your shipmates, whose memory we must all attempt to perpetuate. Likewise, if any other information on the next page appears to be incorrect or incomplete I would certainly be pleased to hear from you, preferably by email, so we can minimize the possibility of increased errors.

Please respond to me at BGCEnterprises@msn.com with questions or additional information.

The shipmates' names on the following page are alphabetically listed by Last Name, along with any other information available. If you could help us fill in the blanks, it would be greatly appreciated.

Brad Canutt



ON ETERNAL PATROL

NAME	RANK	DATES	BOAT(s)
Abels, Jacques "Jack"	Lt (SS)	10/23/1917 - 05/10/2011	USS Thresher, USS Shad
Armstrong, Edward L.	WWII (SS)	Unknown	USS Perch
Barron, Patrick "Pat" J.	EN3 (SS)	07/15/1939 - 12/17/2012	USS Stickleback, USS Wahoo
Brazil, John E.	Unknown	Unknown	USS Francoise
Brown, Donald "Don" E.	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Collard Jr., Raymond "Ray" H.	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Cowles, Edward "Ed"	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Cullivan, Daniel	Unknown	Unknown	USS Crevalle
Follo, David B	Unknown	Unknown	USS Bugara, USS Scamp, USS Ronquil
Glassford, Carl J.	Unknown	Unknown	USS Blower, USS Narwhal
Kinnie, Phillip B	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Kopstad, Albert	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Langfeldt, Rocky	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Larson, Richard A	Unknown	Unknown	USS Nathan, USS Halibut
Laurich, Anthony J	Unknown	Unknown	USS Fulton
Moore, Jack	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Myers Jr., Paul R	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Puras, John J	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Schmidt, Herman R	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Smith, George H	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Stevenson, Jack W	Unknown	Unknown	USS Bass, USS Sennet, USS Sea Cat
Stone, Leroy	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Travers, Joe	Unknown	Unknown	USS Blenny, USS Halibut, USS Stonewall Jackson
Yeich, Lloyd G	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Young, Frank	Unknown	Unknown	USS Dogfish, USS Simon Bolivar

UPCOMING EVENTS

International Submariner Association events coming up in the next few years:

2013

ISA - Catania, Sicily, Italy. May 20 - 24, 2013. The web site shown below is currently sparse on information. The Italians commented that they will be updating the information by November 15, 2013.

www.isa-italy-2013.com

2014

ISA - Athens, Greece. May, 2013.

The Greek web site is to be announced.

Other Submariner activities in 2014:

- Canadian Submarine Centennial celebration. To be held in Victoria, BC, Canada. Details to be announced.
- Australian Submarine Centennial celebration. To be held in Perth / Fremantle, Australia, November 2014. www.submarineinstitute.com/sia-projects/Submarine-Centenary.html Updates will be posted after November 6, 2013. Watch for more specific information to be posted to this web site.

2015

ISA - United Kingdom

Broad stripes and bright stars.... gave proof....

that our flag was still there.

Broad stripes and bright stars

gave proof that our flag was still there.

Veteran

I was a proud veteran
That served my country well
To those that would listen
I had many stories to tell.

We fought for America's freedom
In far away places on foreign land.
Wherever the battle for democracy raged,
America's finest made a stand.

We fought for your future
And the right to remain free.
For we saw what freedom meant
To those not blessed with Liberty.

For you and yours
We would gladly have given our life.
We faced the fears and perils of battle
We braved endless turmoil and strife.

Please remember us veterans
And the sacrifices we made for you.
Please share the blessings of freedom,
Proudly wave the red, white and blue.

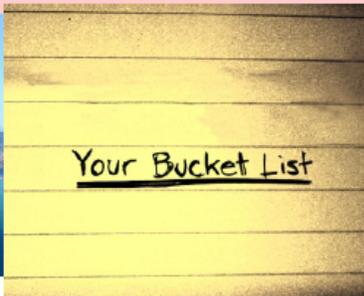
Lyrne Carey
Copyright 2004

IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE, REGISTER TODAY!



International Submariners
Association
50 years
Catania, Sicily, Italy
May 20—24, 2013

<http://www.isa-italy-2013.com/>
Deadline Extended to March 31, 2013
Registration deadline—~~February 15, 2013~~



Do you collect submariner pins? Come to this memorable 50th ISA convention and see if you can snag one of these Italian pins.



The Italian Web-Site now has a PayPal Button for making payments for the Congress. Don Gregg tells us that he successfully used it to process his registration payment. Paid in Euros and his credit card was charged in the correct dollars. We are getting quite a few USA members that are beginning to sign up for this once in a lifetime trip. Thanks Don, I bet its a lot warmer in Italy than New England

THINGS TO DO IN CATANIA

Museum of the Allied Invasion of Sicily

The Historic Museum of the Landing in Sicily 1943 is dedicated to the Allied landing on the southern coast of Sicily on July 10, 1943. The invasion of Sicily is considered the beginning Italy's liberation from fascism.

History

At the beginning of 1943, British prime minister Winston Churchill and US president Franklin D. Roosevelt agreed on a joint invasion of Sicily. Operation Husky was supposed to strike the German Reich and its ally Italy at a vulnerable spot, exerting pressure on Italy to exit the war and clearing transport routes across the Mediterranean. On July 10, 1943, at 2:45 a.m., the British 8th Army led by General Bernard Montgomery and the US 7th Army under General George S. Patton landed on Sicily's south coast. The US troops landed in the Gulf of Gela, while the British troops landed between Pachino and Syracuse on the southern tip of Sicily. The presence of German troops



Gela, July 11, 1943, American SS Robert Rowan being hit by a bomb, U.S. Army Signal Corps

had been reduced because their military leadership fell for Operation Mincemeat, a deception operation of the British Secret Service. Nevertheless, the Allies were met with fierce resistance on Sicily, facing at least 40,000 German soldiers and difficult climactic conditions - in fact, General Patton considered retreating already 24 hours after the landing. Yet due to many factors, such as the war fatigue of the Italian soldiers and the disarray of the army following Mussolini's downfall on July 25, the Allies were able to advance to Messina - the gate to the Italian mainland - by August 17. All of Sicily had been captured.



Marzamemi, 2008, The beach on which British troops landed on July 10, 1943

Though the German troops managed to retreat to the mainland, the success of the invasion was an important strategic step for the Allies. Italy's new head of government, Pietro Badoglio, claimed Italy would continue the war as Germany's ally, but on July 28, he agreed with King Vittorio Emanuele III on contacting the Allies in order to initiate the armistice, which was signed on September 3. On September 8, 1943, the armistice was publicly announced.

Museum of the Allied Invasion of Sicily

Victims

The museum is dedicated to all those who died during the battle for Sicily - both soldiers and civilians. Over 150,000 Allied soldiers took part in Operation Husky, one of the largest coastal operations during World War II. They were opposed by 230,000-300,000 Italian and at least 40,000 German soldiers. The battle for Sicily, which according to Allied generals was to last between 5-15 days, took over a month and cost the lives of thousands of soldiers: the British and American troops lost over 2,500 soldiers each, while over 4,000 Italian and over 4,500 German soldiers were killed in action. Around 21,000 Allied soldiers contracted malaria, which at the time was widespread in Southern Italy and frequently fatal.



Catania, 2005, Commonwealth military cemetery, British Consulate in Catania

Remembrance

The graves of the fallen Commonwealth troops - British, Indian, Australian and South African soldiers - can be visited at the military cemeteries in Catania and Syracuse. 490 Canadians, who also fought with the British as members of the Commonwealth, were laid to rest in Agira. Over 4,500 German soldiers were buried in Motta Sant'Anastasia. American soldiers killed in action were either taken back to the US or buried on the Italian mainland.

In 2003, the Historic Museum of the Landing in Sicily 1943 was founded. With 3,000 square metres exhibition space, it is the largest World War II museum in Italy. The museum was designed by Giacomo Leone (building) and Gaspare Mannoia (interior) and it is currently run by the province of Catania.



Ragusa, 2008, Bunkers used in the battle for Sicily

Spread out over three floors, dioramas, artifacts, testimonials and interactive elements illustrate life on Sicily before, during and after the war. Sites and objects such as bunkers, landing crafts, Red Cross tents or bombed villages and cities are portrayed in full detail. A tableau scene depicts the signing of the armistice on September 3, 1943. Wax figures of important historical persons are part of the exhibition. The last room of the exhibition is a memorial room dedicated to the victims. A picture of the Commonwealth military cemetery, which is located not far from the museum in the Bicocca quarter of town, is projected onto the wall and the names of fallen soldiers are read aloud. Until today, traces of the fighting which took place in the summer of 1943 remain visible all over Sicily, especially bunkers - there are 90 bunkers in and around Catania alone.

More Than the Navy's Numbers Could Be Sinking

The shrinking size of the fleet is just one variable in considering its adequacy: the ability to perform assigned missions, especially after withstanding whatever threats may exist, is a far better measure than mere numbers.

As described by the Congressional Research Service, a core mission is to influence "events ashore by countering both land- and sea-based military forces of potential regional threats...including improved Chinese military forces and non-state terrorist organizations." This is similar to the mission described by former defense secretary Robert Gates: "to enhance...overall posture and capabilities in the Asia-Pacific region" with "numbers, speed, and agility to operate in shallow waters."

Whether or not these sentiments are only passing conventional wisdom or profound insight, they represent the current mission. Unfortunately, it is precisely those areas of operation where the mismatch between capabilities and threats is most disconcerting.

The Diesel-Electric Submarine Threat

To put it simply, if naval exercises in the last two decades involving foreign diesel-electric submarines had been actual combat, most if not all, U.S. aircraft carriers would be at the bottom of the ocean: as many as 10 U.S. aircraft carriers have been reported "sunk" in these exercises.

The analytically conservative Congressional Budget Office was alarmed enough to officially report that "some analysts argue that the Navy is not very good at locating diesel-electric submarines, especially in noisy, shallower waters near coastal areas. Exercises with allied navies that use diesel-electric submarines confirm that problem...[For example,] Israeli diesel-electric submarines, which until recently were relatively old, are said to always 'sink' some of the large and powerful warships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in exercises. And most recently, an Australian *Collins*-class submarine penetrated a U.S. carrier battlegroup and was in a position to sink an aircraft carrier during exercises off Hawaii in May 2000." There have been many such exercise "sinkings" since then, including aircraft carriers *Reagan* and *Lincoln*.

Moreover, the problem stems not just from the latest, 21st-century diesel-electric submarine technology from the West, it occurs in the form of various earlier technology submarines built in Russia, operated by China, and/or available to various lesser navies, such as Peru's, and throughout the world.

The latter navies include North Korea's and Iran's. The problem was dramatically demonstrated when a Chinese *Song*-class submarine surfaced—previously undetected—in the middle of a U.S. carrier battlegroup much too close for comfort to the *USS Kittyhawk* in 2006.

Nor is this problem new. When the U.S. Navy still possessed diesel-electric submarines (until 1990), aircraft carrier and major surface combatants were routinely "sunk" in exercises—unless carrier advocates had the exercise ruling reversed for the sake of appearances.

Indeed, the Navy was so neurotic about the repetitive success of this bureaucratically-disfavored submarine technology that in the 1980s it declared classified an analysis of exercises demonstrating their high degree of success written by a congressional staffer in the office of Senator Gary Hart (D-Colo.) on the Senate Armed Services Committee based on open source materials. I came across the memo in a classified-materials safe while working at the General Accounting Office [now the Government Accountability Office] and was informed that the Navy insisted that any public record of the analysis be suppressed via classification.

In the mid-2000s, the Navy was finally rattled enough to start a Diesel-Electric Submarine Initiative (DESI) with allied navies, such as those of Peru, Columbia, Chile and Brazil, to train in anti-submarine warfare. It even leased for two years—complete with crew—a modern Swedish *Gotland*-class submarine to participate in U.S. Navy exercises.

The Swedish sub and crew promptly demonstrated their proficiency by "sinking" a *Nimitz*-class carrier, among other ships and submarines. The lease appears not to have been renewed, even though the Navy continued to have extreme difficulty in finding the Swedish sub at sea. The non-solution of the problem would appear to have been described in 2008 by the to-be



A Navy sonar technician monitors the Anti-Submarine Warfare Module aboard the aircraft carrier USS George Washington in the Philippine Sea in November.

More Than the Navy's Numbers Could Be Sinking

chief of naval operations, Admiral Jonathan Greenert, who demurely stated "We are not satisfied with [our progress] right now."

Subsequent to that time, I have found no public reports of the results of exercises with diesel-electric submarines—suggesting that either the exercises have stopped or the results have been suppressed. However, there is some indirect evidence that the exercises continue, as well as indications of continuing difficulties in locating diesel-electric subs. This serious problem apparently remains very unsolved.

The Mine Threat



The mine countermeasures ships USS Pioneer, USS Devastator, USS Sentry, and USS Dexrous (l-r) approach Afloat Forward Staging Base (Interim) USS Ponce to get supplies, somewhere near Iran, in August.

Diesel-electric submarines are not the U.S. Navy's only undersea problem: in the post-World War II-era 19 of its ships have been sunk or seriously damaged, 15 of them by sea mines. In the 1980s "tanker war" in the Persian Gulf, the guided-missile frigate *Samuel B. Roberts* struck a 1908-design Russian mine and was kept afloat only after heroic damage control efforts by the crew. In 1991, during Operation Desert Storm, the *Aegis*-class cruiser *Princeton* and the amphibious warship *Tripoli* were both seriously damaged by mines.

The Navy became sufficiently intimidated by the mine threat laid by Iraq that the Marines cancelled plans for an amphibious assault against Kuwait city. Things have not improved since then: in 2012 the Navy conducted joint anti-mine exercises with 34 allies in the Persian Gulf; over 11 days, 24 ships (including eight of the U.S. Navy's paltry fleet of 14 minesweepers) with 3,000 sailors found only half of the 29 simulated mines laid for the exercises.

The Navy asserts that retiring and not replacing the specialized *Avenger*-class of U.S. mine-hunting ships will result in an increase in anti-mine capabilities with 24 mine-warfare modules added, at times, to Littoral Combat Ships. That the capability may increase is entirely theoretical; the LCS mine countermeasures module has proven problematic, and operational testing of it will not even start until 2014.

It is a real question whether ships not primarily designed for mine hunting with organic crews that have little to no experience in such specialized tasks (but augmented by 38 mine specialists) can outperform the specialized capability—albeit quite limited—being retired with the *Avenger* class.

While the Navy has ignored mine warfare, allowing capability to remain inadequate, others have not: China reportedly has 80,000 sea mines, Iran has from 2,000 to 3,000, and worldwide 50 nations have an inventory of 250,000.

Just as primitive land mines (euphemistically called Improvised Explosive Devices) made an unpleasant surprise from the start of the Iraq war continuing to this very day in Afghanistan, sea mines — even primitive ones — constitute a present and real threat to the U.S. Navy that it has not demonstrated an ability to deal with effectively.

However, the Navy is threatened not just from below the sea, but also from above.

The Air Threat

The first evaluation I was given when I joined the Government Accountability Office in the late 1980s focused on the performance of the *Aegis* air-defense system against anti-ship cruise missiles. We found that in highly-unrealistic, that is to say obliging, tests, *Aegis* generally performed at a mediocre level against its own criteria.

Even though the Navy classified all but the vaguest and most mundane parts of our assessment, it is possible to say, unclassified, that against the more-stressful targets in terms of speed and altitude, the *Aegis* system performed well below that. Against the most difficult targets — traveling at supersonic speeds at very low, sea-skimming altitudes — the test results were, to put it mildly, depressing.

In tests using surrogates that were both slower and higher than the Mach 2 Soviet SS-N-22 *Sunburn* missile, it was clear that the *Aegis* system could not be relied on for an effective defense of itself or aircraft carriers it was escorting. Both China and Iran now possess that missile. Moreover, the *Sunburn* has been supplanted by the significantly faster and even lower-

More Than the Navy's Numbers Could Be Sinking

flying SS-N-27 *Sizzler*, also now in the possession of China and Iran.

More than one director of the Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) shop in the Pentagon has expressed serious concern that the Navy has not even been able to replicate the *Sizzler* in tests. Worse, Russian arms dealers are now marketing a version of this missile that can be deployed and used from shipping containers on merchant ships or littoral craft.

To make matters still worse, the Chinese are now developing an additional but very different anti-ship technology, an anti-ship ballistic missile, the DF-21D. It is also very problematic to defend against: so problematic that in February 2012, the current DOT&E reported "No Navy target exists that adequately represents an anti-ship ballistic missile's trajectory....[the Navy] has not budgeted for any study, development, acquisition or production" of a DF-21D target. Apparently, we do not even know how good or poor our defenses are against this newer threat; however, previous *Aegis* performance against high-angle, high-speed targets suggests this is a serious problem awaiting solution.

If these very-high and very-low altitude, high-speed missiles work as intended—and that is always a legitimate question—the U.S. Navy has a long way to go to demonstrate that it has the ability to intercept existing threats.

The threats from these missiles, sea mines and diesel-electric submarines have all been real and existing for decades. They have also been without an effective response from the Navy, which seems more interested in high-profile, high-cost, show-the-flag forces that are best usable against enemies like Afghanistan, Libya, and Iraq – nations that have little, if any, weapons to use against us.

Our contemporary wars have amounted to little more than "clubbing baby seals" at sea. We have been lucky in the past, and escaped with only a few ship casualties.

Can we expect our luck to continue?



ISA-USA Website Store

Go to WWW.ISAUSA.org
and click on the Store page



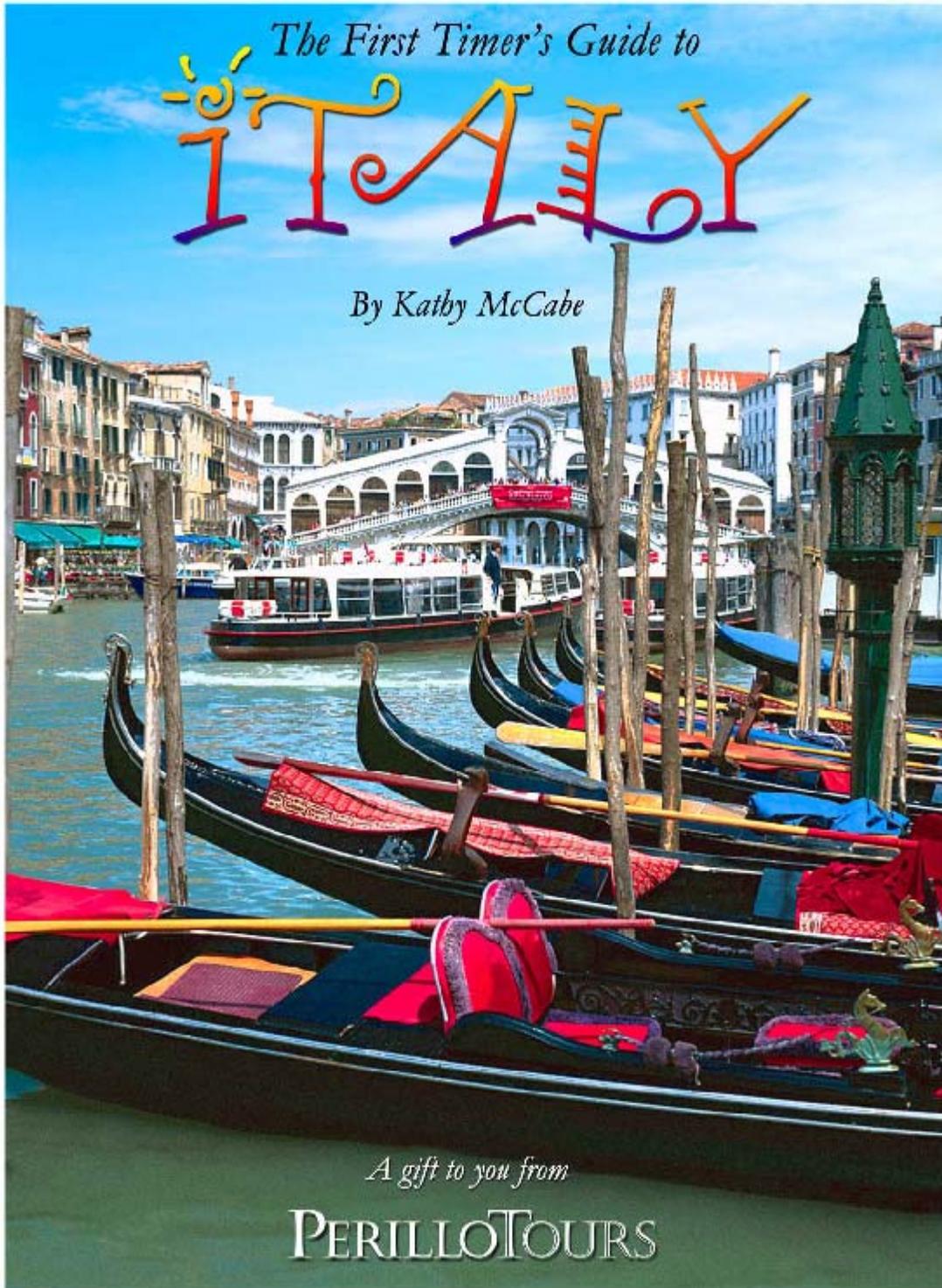
This and much
more, all
priced at
very good
prices.
Identify
yourself
as an ISAUSA
member.



All the items at the ISA-USA Store are high quality items. The denim shirt is excellent and the polo shirt and T-shirt quality is as good as you can buy anywhere. All the logos on the shirts and hats are embroidered and will stay sharp for a very, very long time.

And lastly, you cannot beat these prices!

A continuation of information on traveling to Italy. Here are the final pages in this series.





Dining Out

Let's face it, one of the reasons you're going to Italy is to eat well — really well! Italy has some of the best cuisine in the world — fresh, simple and delicious. Be prepared to eat more than usual, but all the walking you will be doing should counteract any weight gain. Don't miss the homemade pasta, pizza unlike any you've ever had, fresh seafood, Bistecca Fiorentina (Florentine steak), risotto (rice) and gelato (Italian ice cream). You can wash it all down with some of the world's finest wines, many of which cost less per glass than a Diet Coke!

Breakfast (Colazione)

Breakfast for the typical Italian is not a big meal. The traditional breakfast usually consists of *cappuccino* and a pastry (*brioche*), which may be eaten at home or at the local bar/café. Nearly every hotel includes breakfast in their nightly room rate and you can expect a self-service buffet. Items usually include various breads, pastries, ham, cheese, yogurt, cereals, Nutella and fruit. Occasionally freshly made eggs and omelets will be offered.

TIP:

“ Chances are you will find yourself in a café/bar looking for a shot of espresso or a quick snack. Always pay at the cashier (*cassa*) first and then bring your receipt (*ricevuto*) with you to the bar to get your drink. Stand at the bar to have your drink and snack. You'll pay more to sit down. ”



Lunch (Pranzo)

For the typical Italian, lunch is the main meal of the day, particularly on Sundays. (See the dinner entry for what a full Italian meal entails.) It can last several hours. Since you will be touring, you probably won't want to devote that amount of time and energy each day to a big meal. (But definitely do partake in the long Italian lunch when you can.) Alternatively, you can stop at a *pizzeria* where you can choose exactly the size of pizza slice you would like. If you're looking for sandwiches (*panini*), stop in at a *paninoteca*.

Dinner (Cena)

It is a good idea to make reservations for dinner. Using reservations is much more common in Italy than in the U.S. While it is fine to walk into a restaurant without a reservation, you may have a hard time getting a table if it is crowded. Italians generally eat later than Americans



with most restaurants opening at 7:30 p.m. and not really filling up for an hour or so.

The full traditional Italian meal consists of antipasti (appetizers such as sliced meats and grilled vegetables), *primo piatto* (first dish — pasta or rice), *secondo piatto* (second dish — meat or fish) with *contorno* (side dish — vegetables or potatoes), followed by a dessert (*dolce*), fruit or cheese. While dining at an Italian restaurant, you are by no means required to partake in all of these

courses. For instance, you can order pasta as your main meal and skip the meat course.

You will notice a small charge on your bill for “Pane e coperto.” That literally means “bread and cover,” and it is basically a service charge for dining. So you’re not expected to tip what you normally would in an American restaurant. If the service was very good, leave a few extra euros on the table when you leave.



Money

Like other member countries of the European Union, Italy uses the euro, symbolized by “€”. For the current conversion rate between the dollar and the euro you can check a currency exchange Web site such as www.xe.com Even if you are traveling on a fully inclusive tour, you’ll want to have euros for extras such as a cup of coffee or souvenirs. The best way to get cash in Italy is to use your ATM card.

Cash machines (*bancomats*) are everywhere in Italy as they are in the United States. The Cirrus and Plus systems are the most widely available. Be aware that many Italian cash machines will not accept card with PIN codes, five numbers or longer so be sure to reset your PIN to a four numbers before you go. You may also have a problem accessing a savings account so be sure the ATM card(s) you are bringing are linked to checking accounts. You may also be able to use your credit card for a cash advance if it has a PIN code (fees will apply).

Many travelers wonder about bringing travelers checks with them and it simply isn’t a good idea anymore. You’ll pay a fee for the checks at home, will need to find a bank (banks are usually open for a few hours in the morning and a few hours in the afternoon on week days) when it is open, wait in line and pay another service fee when receiving euros.





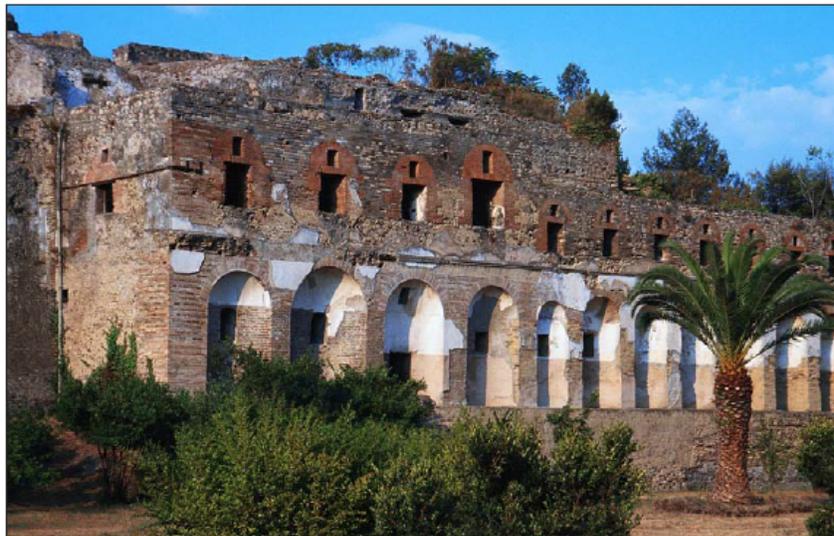
Credit cards are widely accepted throughout Italy. Visa and MasterCard are more commonly accepted so if you're bringing an American Express card, be sure to bring a Visa/MasterCard as well. Many credit card companies (Capitol One is an exception) are now charging a transaction fees for international purchases. Be sure to check with your credit card company before leaving home.

Finally, cash is king in Italy. Italian merchants hate paying service fees on credit card transactions and will often give you a discount (*sconto*) for paying cash. Of course, they also like to hide their earning from the tax authorities too, but that's a whole other story.

TIP:

“ If you're really a savvy traveler, you can do as this author's father always does. Get a small amount of euros at your home bank – say \$100 worth. Any commercial bank in the U.S. should be able to give you euros. – Check this. Then you're really prepared to hit the ground running. ”

Shopkeepers are also open to giving discounts if you are buying multiple items. Don't be afraid to ask for a *sconto*!



Pompeii



Keeping in Touch

Phone Use

Chances are that you own a cell phone. So your question might be, will it work in Italy? First you need to find out if your phone is GSM (Global System for Mobile - some 50% of cell phones sold in the U.S. are), which means it will work in Europe. If it is you're in luck and can use it in Italy. Call your service provider and find out what the per-minute charge will be abroad. It will likely be about \$1 per minute if you pay a small monthly fee for an international plan. This will get your cell phone working abroad, but is not really an affordable option for much talk time.

A better option is to purchase an Italian SIM card to use in your GSM phone. This will allow you free incoming calls from anywhere in the world and outgoing calls at about .35€ per minute. In order to use an Italian SIM card, you need to make sure your phone is "unlocked." You can go online to find out how to do this.



TIP:

If you're bringing your laptop computer with you to Italy, you can sign up for a free account at www.skype.com. Skype allows you to make free international phone calls through your computer to anyone else in the world who also has the free software on his/her computer. For a small fee, you can set it up to make calls from your computer to any phone — cell or landline — in the world. ”



CellularAbroad.com offers Italian SIM cards for sale online so you can get one before you hit the ground in Italy. This company, among many others, also offers cell phone rentals in case you don't have a GSM phone.

Whether or not you bring a cell phone to Italy, you'll probably want to buy a prepaid international telephone card once you're in the country. You can buy them at any local tobacco shops (*tabacchi*) — out front you'll see a dark brown sign with a white capital T. The card costs 5€ and entitles you to hundreds of minutes of international calling time from any landline. You simply dial a toll-free number (*numero verde*) and the code provided on the card.

Whatever you do, don't make direct international calls from your hotel room phone. Your telephone bill might exceed the nightly cost of your room!

CENTENNIAL OF AUSTRALIAN SUBMARINE SERVICE

Fellow Submariner or Associate

The Royal Australian Navy Submarine Service will celebrate 100 Years of Service in 2014 and will welcome National and International Visitors to our celebration and Memorial Services.

There are many events planned throughout the forthcoming period with special attention on SUBWEEK 2014 to be celebrated in Fremantle Western Australia from 7th November 2014.

Fremantle of course was the Secret Harbour for the USN, RN and Dutch Navy Submarines in World War II.

The purpose of this e-mail is to advise you and through you to your other members and associates of the activities planned and for you to have a contact point in Australia for further information.

As more detailed information becomes available it will be disseminated to the International Submarine Community.

I am the Submarines Association Australia's National Co-coordinator for the Submarine Centenary and look forward to you joining us for the celebrations.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul T Meakin

SAA National Coordinator for SUB100

Please note that although we are inviting all members of the ISA for SUBWEEK100 (7-15th Nov 2014) in Fremantle Western Australia it is not a formally recognized ISA Congress but your welcome will be just as warm.

I have been advised on the best authority that although lots of Submariners will be in Fremantle for some time we will not run out of Beer.

Access by Air to Perth Airport (closest to Fremantle) is now a lot easier with 17 Airlines servicing the city including flights by Emirates, QATAR, QANTAS (All flights can be seen at <http://www.perthairport.com.au/FlightInformation/Airlines/International.aspx>)

The Program will allow plenty of opportunity for sightseeing and retail therapy for you and your partner.





**CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF THE AUSTRALIAN
SUBMARINE SERVICE 1914-2014**

**SUBMARINES ASSOCIATION
AUSTRALIA
WEST AUSTRALIAN BRANCH**



SUB 100/SUBWEEK NOV 2014

Dear Member of the National and International Submarine Community

2014 will be the Centenary of the Australian Submarine Force and it is intended to celebrate the occasion with a Submarine Week from 7th to 18th November 2014 in Fremantle, Western Australia. The Submarines Association of Australia, the Submarine Institute of Australia and Submarine Force Personnel invite the International Submariners to join them. There will be many activities taking place in various towns and cities around Australia throughout 2013/14 which will culminate in SUBWEEK Nov 2014 in FREMANTLE Western Australia centred around Remembrance Day 11th November 2014. Overall planning programs for the lead up to SUBWEEK and the current details for SUBWEEK are attached. All major activities will take place in the Fremantle area, well known by US and UK Submariners as a secret submarine base in WWII. The Australian Submarine Force is based in Western Australia in close proximity to the Fremantle area.

It is planned that the week will start on Friday 7th November with the Royal Australian Navy Submarine Force, marching to a brand new dedicated March of the Silent Service, being recognised by the City of Fremantle by the award of the Freedom of the City in an ages old ceremony. All visitors to SUBWEEK will then be welcomed to Western Australia with a Meet and Greet in WA's, Maritime Museum.

<http://museum.wa.gov.au/museums/maritime>).

Accommodation is readily available at the Esplanade Hotel <http://www.esplanadehotelfremantle.com.au> which is also the venue for the Centenary Ball on Saturday 8th November.

Sunday 9th November will be shared with the Festival of Fremantle City with those able veterans marching with Pride in the Street Parade. The Remembrance Day Service will be held alongside HMAS OVENS on Tuesday 11th November Details of the remainder of the week may be seen on the attachments. Please feel free to register your interest in attending to me and to pass this message on to fellow shipmates.

Yours sincerely

Paul T Meakin

SAA Centenary National Co-ordinator

19 March 2013

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A book review by Ken Earls*

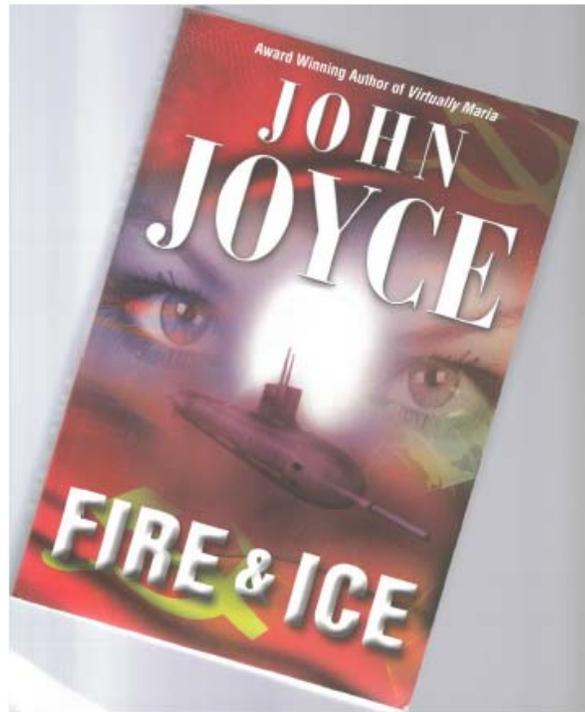
November 2012

Fire & Ice

John Joyce, PhD

Spindrift Press

October 2012



It's fun to read a good book. Many people can enjoy this book, but if you are a Navy veteran, with submarine experience; if you live in Arizona or have ever visited the Grand Canyon, you will love it. If you have ever wondered if telepathy would work; if you remember the Cuban missile crisis, then you can relate to this book. As I read this book, I was amazed at the parallel path the book takes with my life. My experiences with nuclear power submarines and with the Cuban missile crisis are right in line with this book, as well as living only one hundred miles from the book's Arizona location. Dr. Joyce has woven enough facts together to lend credibility to this novel. Then he brings us to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon and even down into the Canyon. I felt as though I had been to each of these places. Everything is realistic and I could see exactly where he was taking us.

Every submarine veteran will relate to the captain and crew of this boat as it strives to complete its assignment. Every submarine veteran will relate to the isolation and tenseness of the stalking and hiding. There may be one point where someone who has served on a nuclear submarine would wonder how that could happen, but that one little point doesn't detract from the story. Some Americans will wonder what is being discussed when Dr. Joyce refers to a caravan during an important scene, but that doesn't detract from the story. (In Europe, a caravan is a trailer). Most importantly, Dr. Joyce has created a compelling mystery novel. It will keep you glued to your book from start to the end and the conclusion is fun, satisfying and leaves you with a sense of wonder about "what if".

* Mr. Earls is currently the President of the International Submariners Association-USA and is a Life Member of the United States Submarine Veterans organization. He is a retired financial executive and lives in Prescott Valley, AZ. He has traveled to numerous countries in Europe, Asia, South America and Australia as well as having visited all fifty states in the United States of America.

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If you are receiving this via the U.S. Postal system it is because we don't have your e-mail address. That also means you are missing out on other information sent in our bulletins.

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