



USS Cusk SSG 348 Newsletter

Volume I Issue 3

Fall 2005

We are starting our second year of the Cusk newsletter. Things are going fine. The Cusk booster club has had a real good response, as you will see later in this newsletter. On the down side, we are spending too much money on mailing to wrong addresses. When you change your information, phone No., addresses, e-mail, etc. please let me know.

Planning for the next reunion, at Branson MO in 2006, is well under way. Delmer and Shirley have made a sight trip to Branson, and signed a contract. The information will appear later in this newsletter.

In the next newsletter will be a sign-up sheet for the reunion. Please keep your information coming.

Sick

Shipmate L. W. "Vern" Speed had a massive heart attack in September. At this time I do not

know the outcome. If anyone has more information please share it with us.

Mike Fallatt had recovered from his illness and was able to join Delmer and Shirley on their trip to Branson, MO. Karen Lyons also joined them.

After he returned home, he was informed that the tumor had returned. As far as Mike is concerned, any further operation is not an option.

He and Terry have put their house on the market and are going to relocate in Rogers, Arkansas, to be closer to family. At this time, I don't have the Fallatts address. They are going to Catalina Island for a 4-day trip in November and then a Mexico Cruise from San Diego the 1st week in December. All this before they go East. They would love to hear from people, so call anytime. Phone No. is (619) 575-8985 San Diego.

Booster Club

In order to raise funds for the Cusk newsletter, I am starting a Booster Club. Anybody who sends a contribution will have their name added to the Booster Club list. Make contribution checks to the Cusk Newsletter Fund and mail to:

William E. Vincent
Cusk Newsletter Editor
10249 Ainsworth Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014-1001
(408)749-8541
e-mail wvincen1@pacbell.net

USS Cusk Newsletter Boosters 2004-06

(Boosters contribute money to cover the cost of the newsletter)

Charles A. Bell, Charlie Boushley, Donald Call, Bob Dalton, Robert D. Duncan, Jack H. Dunaway, Mike Fallatt, Herbie J. Gamble, Clayton Gatlin, Richard Godfrey, Billy P. Hrbacek, Charles F. Harner, George Harlow, J.W. Hickman, Sam Houston, Larry J. Hudson. Nelson Kirsch, Leo P. Kunkel, Bob Lowry, Sam Lyons, Mark Markum, Richard McKenzie, William McNay, David D. Meyer, Robert F. Miller, Joe Muller, Craig Pagden, Ray Peckenpaugh, Larry Ratliff, William B. Rawding, Bob Robison, Glen Rowe, Wayne Smith, Gerald Spielman, Wayne A. Thomas, John J. Tracey, Jim Tow, Richard G. Tucker, William Vincent, Edward L. Webersky, Phillip E. Williamson, Earl R White.

10 great reasons

BY LORI ERICKSON

Branson, Missouri

Branson livens up southern Missouri this holiday season. Whether it's riding the Ducks or a roller coaster at Silver Dollar City, excitement awaits here this winter.



In November and December, Branson and its environs glow with thousands of winking lights for its Area Festival of Lights.

1 Beginning in November, spectacular **holiday lights** are everywhere in Branson for the Branson Area Festival of Lights: on buildings, in trees, along highways, in shops, and on stages. Don't miss the displays on the Trail of Lights at the Shepherd of the Hills Homestead and on the Festival of Lights Parkway at the intersection of Highway 65 and the Branson Hills Parkway.

2 Each year the **Veterans Homecoming** in Branson is the country's largest Veterans Day celebration for those who have served in the nation's military. Veterans and their families gather for a week's worth of festivities (many events are free) leading up to Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

3 The **56th Annual Adoration Parade and Lighting Ceremony** will be held in historic downtown Branson on Dec. 5. The event features a festive nighttime parade, crèche lighting ceremony, and more than 70 marching bands and floats.

4 Looking for holiday gifts? Branson is a top **shopping** destination with more than 200 shops in three outlet malls plus hundreds of specialty stores, upscale boutiques, and artisan studios selling traditional crafts, such as quilts, baskets, pottery, and wrought iron.

5 The beautiful **Ozark Mountains** and nearly 100,000 acres of forest and conservation areas surround Branson. The rolling terrain beckons hikers and

mountain bikers, and anglers can enjoy good fishing even in the winter months on Taneycomo, Bull Shoals, and Table Rock lakes.

6 For a trip across land and sea, **ride the Ducks**. These World War II-era amphibious vehicles transport you on a tour of Branson, Baird Mountain, and Table Rock Lake.

7 You can savor award-winning vintages at the **Stone Hill Winery**, where tours include tales from the days of Prohibition, as well as an overview of the wine-making process. Be sure to sample their famed cream sherry.

8 From the latest top acts to old-fashioned hill-billy tunes, Branson is synonymous with country music, but with nearly 50 performance venues and more theater seats than Broadway, the town has **music shows** to match nearly every taste. Theaters feature pop, swing, rock 'n' roll, gospel, and big-band acts, as well as magic, comedy, and nostalgia shows. Perennial favorites include Jim Stafford, Andy Williams, and Tony Orlando, while chart-topping artists, such as LeAnn Rimes and

Brad Paisley, also tour through Branson.

9 If Trigger still snorts in your dreams, visit the **Roy Rogers-Dale Evans Museum**, which houses an extensive collection of memorabilia from their lives and careers plus live entertainment by Roy "Dusty" Rogers Jr. and The High Riders at the Happy Trails Theater.

10 Celebrate an old-fashioned Christmas at **Silver Dollar City**, a theme park that re-creates 1880s-era Ozark Mountain life with period costumes, crafts, festivals, and food. December events include a holiday parade, Charles Dickens-inspired theater performances, and a wonderland village where Mr. and Mrs. Claus live.



Destination Details

For more information, contact the Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau, (800) 214-3661; www.explorebranson.com.

• *Lori Erickson is a freelance writer from Iowa City, Iowa.*

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PROFILE: Hotel and Conference Entertainment Center

LOCATION: Conveniently on West hwy 76, next door to Mickey Gilley's Theatre and Restaurant and across the street from the Jim Stafford Theater. Six Major Theaters, White Water theme park, Go-Carts, Mini Golf and 90 Store Outlet Mall within walking distance.

GUEST ROOMS: 190

MEETING ROOMS: 6

MEETING SPACE: 11, 100 square feet

ROOM FEATURES: Voice Mail
 Coffee Makers
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 Iron / Ironing Board
 Cable T.V.
 Jacuzzi Bath (Select Rooms)
 Refrigerators and Microwaves (Select Rooms)

HOTEL FEATURES: Room Service
 Indoor All Season Heated Pool & Hot Tub
 Poolside Snack Bar and Game Room
 Rafters Steak & Seafood Grille for Family Dining
 Club Vegas Supper Club for fine Dining, Cocktails, Dancing and Live Entertainment
 Hughes Brothers Celebrity Theatre
 Concierge Service
 Hair & Nail Salon
 Massage Therapist
 3 Gift and Apparel Shops
 Meeting Rooms
 Hospitality Suites
 Audio/Visual Equipment
 Banquet/Catering Service

PARKING: Ample Free Level Parking

ADMINISTRATION: Joann Chamberlain - Sales Manager
 7 years Meeting / Convention Planning Experience

Meeting Room	Usable Sq. Footage	Room Dimensions	Theatre Style	Classroom Style	U-Shape	Conference Style	Banquet Style	Reception Style
Crystal Hall	4712	62x76	500	250	50	70	475	375
Club Vegas	4216	62x68	196	196	N/A	N/A	240	300
Ozark Room	893	19x47	100	54	36	36	70	90
Remington Room	627	19x33	80	36	28	28	N/A	50
Hospitality 255	312	13x24	30	15	12	24	N/A	N/A
Hospitality 355	377	13x29	40	24	12	24	N/A	N/A

* Theater Rental Available

Greetings Cusk Mates and Wives

We have arrangements made for our Cusk reunion Aug. 23-27 2006, Branson, Mo. If you did not keep information from previous Cusk newsletter, will bring you up to date.

Hotel: Lodge of Ozarks, 3431 West Hwy 76 , Branson, Mo. Phone 1-877-327-9894

Ask for Cusk reunion or account number **0526** Room rate \$70 plus taxes. Rates will be in effect 2 days before and 2 days after. Check in 3 p.m. on Aug. 23; Check out Aug. 27 11 a.m.

The hotel has level parking, snack bar, 2 restaurants, cocktail lounge, in room coffee, hair and nail salon, ticket service desk, full time security, handicapped rooms, elevators. Make your reservations as soon as possible. They have different selection of bed sizes in the room, some rooms with Jacuzzi tubes. You may park your motor home in the hotel parking lot, but you cannot sleep in it.

Airport is in Springfield, about 40 miles from Branson. Airlines coming into there is NorthWest, American, American Eagle, United and Delta. Transportation from the airport is per shuttle or taxi. There are car rentals at the airport. Those flying, car rental may be as cheap as anything. Delmer may shuttle some to the hotel from the airport. By then, we will know how many are flying in.

Camp Ground (Musicland Kampground) Phone 888-248-9080 (116 N. Gretna Rd.) Park offers, showers, laundromat, shaded sites, swimming pool, paved streets, valet parking, cable TV, security. The camp ground is a short distance behind the hotel where we are having the reunion. Reservations are in order, advance deposit.

Shopping Centers:

90 store outlet on Gretna Rd, short distance from the hotel, are available. Also Target Outlets, West Hwy 76. There is a Wal Mart, not far from the hotel and a Jubilee grocery store on the same site. Upon checking in, the hotel will give you a voucher for continental breakfast for each morning. The amount of the voucher can be applied to a larger breakfast selection.

Thursday August 24

We will be going to Silver Dollar City during the day. There is a lot of activities there, shows, rides and attractions, craftsmen, shops, restaurants

and concessions. Thursday, August 24, evening open to go to any shows you would like. Hospitality room will be open.

Friday August. 25

Morning and early afternoon open. Hospitality room will be open for a 3 p.m. Memorial Service at the Showboat Branson Belle site. After the Memorial service, we will be boarding the Branson Belle for a meal and then entertainment. Leisure dress.

Saturday Morning August 26

9 a.m. ladies hot breakfast, by the pool area. Ladies please bring a hat that you can decorate. It could be any style of hat, pill box, straw hat, bucket hat, cowboy hat, dress hat, beaded band style hat, vintage hat. Bring what you will put on the hat for decorations. If you have a glue gun bring it. Needles, thread, scissors will be provided. Decorations could be large buttons, ribbon, flowers, feathers, whatever. Maybe you would like the hat to match what you will be wearing on Saturday evening.

Saturday morning mens hot breakfast, and business meeting, approx 9 a.m. at Crystal Hall which is next to the hospitality room.

Saturday Evening August 26

Be in the hotel lobby at 4 p.m. We have a photographer that will provide pictures. Be dressed up for evening. Picture will be an 8 x10 color print. Cost will be \$12 per picture. After picture taking, we are going to Club Vegas in the Lodge, for dinner and show. Ladies if you would like, you could wear your hat. This should be a really fun evening for all especially saying goodbys. The hospitality room will be open between activities.

Sunday August 27

Will be departure day for most of the guests. Plans will be set for the 2008 Cusk Reunion. We will have information at the reunion in regards to where the churches are located and the times. Other sites to think about if you have a car. Eureka Springs is a small historic town south of Branson. Stone Hill Winery Tour, free, one hour long, wine tasting included. Cedar Lodge is about 10 miles south of Branson and has a breakfast buffet. All you can eat and they prepare anything while you stand in front of them as they are preparing it for you.

Cost of Reunion Activites.

Will be \$300 per couple, \$150 per single. This \$300 will cover hospitality room supplies, name badges, Thursday trip to Silver Dollar City; Friday trip to Branson Belle, Saturday morning men and ladies hot breakfast, Saturday evening dinner show, some transportation to Silver Dollar City and to the Branson Belle.

By the end of June 2006, money needs to be sent to:

Delmer L. Wetering
27025 465th Ave,
Tea, South Dakota 57064.

Make checks payable to Cusk Reunion.

By July 1 2006, please let Delmer know if you are driving or flying. If you are flying let us know your arrival time, flight number, air lines and departure time.

There will be another reminder Cusk newsletter about the reunion in the spring of 2006. Keep this newsletter for the details that are included.

Delmer and Shirley hope to see all of those that usually attend the reunions plus we welcome new sub vets.

Hope to see everyone in Branson

Delmer & Shiriey

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Shipmates:

I need your help. I need an update on your information for the Cusk newsletter.

First name	MI	Last name	Spouse	Address		
City		\State	Zip	Rate	Time on ship	

Phone No.

And most important e-mail (if there is one)

Send to:

William E. Vincent
Cusk Newsletter Editor
10249 Ainsworth Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014-1001
(408)749-8541
e-mail wvincen1@pacbell.net

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USS Cusk Shipmates on Final Patrol since October, 2004

These are the names of Cusk crewmates that are on final patrol. Anyone who knows of others who are deceased, please send to Bill Vincent.

- Keith Cisewski 2005
- Don Howell 2005
- Jesse Kelly 2004
- Sam Lyons 2004
- John A. Hegg 2004

Lost Shipmates

Does anyone know of the whereabouts of these shipmates? Their names appear on past rosters but their addresses can't be verified. If you know anything about these shipmates please fill out the form (appearing elsewhere in the newsletter) and mail to Bill Vincent.

Name	Rate	Time on boat
John Michael Barr		
Edward "Eddie" Bernight	TAD	68
Norwood Bridgers		
Don Birch		

Lawrence Cummings	STS2 (SS)	
A. W. "AL" Covington	TM 1 (SS)	54-56
Joe L. Davis	QMSN(SS)	53
Pete Esterle		
Don Floyd		46
Roger Gile		
Don Gill	TM3 (SS)	61-52
Irving Goldberg		45
Garry "Goose" Gosney	TMC (SS)	65
Walter Hanau		
George Henry		
Don C. Holtin		
Ernest Keeran		
Maurice "Dusty" Knight		
Creighton Knutson		
Earl L. Krabill		
Jim Le Blanc	YN3 (SS)	58-59
David J. La Pierre	STS3 (SS)	64-66
Vince "Mac" Mahany	IC3 (SS)	64-66
Robert Manton	RM3	62-66
Gary W. Markwell		
Mark K. Maynard		
James B. McIlvaine		
Richard J. Murphy		

Robert H. Nelson	FTG3 (SS)	66-69
Darrel F. Nickerson	IG3 (SS)	66-69
Arthur O'Maelly Jr.		
Frank Quinalivan		
Roby Richards		
Herbert Rinn		
William A. Roberts		
Lee E. Rupert	MM2 (SS)	67-69
Richard E. Rusconi		
Richard Saunders		
Jullius J. Sedtal Jr.		67-69
Kerby L. Sheets		
Wesley M. Shrum		
Peter Smith		
Richard L. Smith		
Lavern W. Speed		
Jim Spivey	EN3 (SS)	60-62
Robert Laird Starkey		
Doug Stall	LTJG	53
Alfio Toni		
Jammie D. Tipton	IC1 (SS)	68-68
Jerry L. Weaver	TMCS (SS)	
Dennis Weller		
Robert E. Woods		

Old Standby at NTC Is Sailing into History

by Shannon Snow San Diego Union Tribune

August 13, 2005

A wooden-hulled ship that never set sail in its 44-year Navy career is being recognized today as a California state historical landmark.

Over the years, through Korea and Vietnam, tens of thousands of recruits at the Naval Training Center scampered aboard what originally was a two-thirds-scale model of a destroyer escort. The structure, remodeled into a guided missile frigate in 1982, is 41 feet high and 233 feet long.

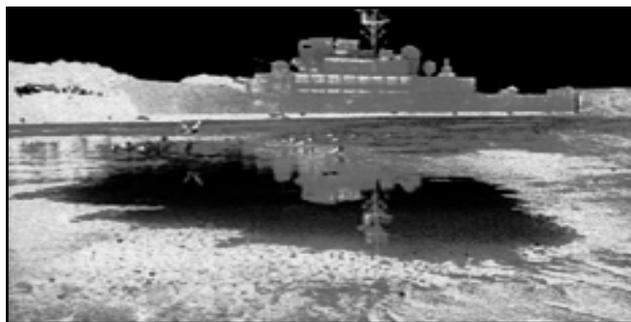
"It's an iconic building," said Alan Ziter, executive director of the NTC Foundation, which oversees the Recruit and 25 other structures at what used to be NTC.

Years ago, Clint Steed had charge of recruits during their tours aboard the ship, teaching such essentials as boarding protocol, seaman's language and damage control.

"We didn't educate. We trained," said Steed, who was aboard the Recruit from 1988 to 1993.

The ship, also known as the USS Neversail, was a teaching tool until 1993. Four years later, NTC itself was shut down.

Tied up at North Harbor Drive and Laning Road, the Recruit today resembles a ghost ship:



File photo

The Recruit, the longtime, non-sailing training ship at NTC, has achieved recognition as a state historical landmark.

lines are tattered and the gray exterior is turning brown with rust. The anchor chain . . . has no anchor.

The NTC Foundation wants to restore the Recruit's exterior by early 2007 as part of a planned renovation of the area into a cultural district.

Town houses, schools and office buildings are being developed on the 361-acre NTC site, now called Liberty Station.

The Recruit has space that could be used to house service organizations or an NTC museum, Ziter said. Navy representatives, ex-sailors, historians and community supporters are developing options for the Recruit. Alan Makinson of E Clampus Vitus, which worked for more than two years to secure the landmark designation, said that honor is important to preserving local history.

“The Recruit touched so many lives here in San Diego,” said Makinson, whose group paid \$4000 for the Recruit landmark plaque. “Practically every time I mention it, someone says, ‘I trained on that thing!’ ”

DEFENSE DEPARTMENT NUDGES NAVY TOWARD DEVELOPING DIESEL SUBS

Date: March 7, 2005

Admirals have previously dismissed the idea, but recent instructions from the Pentagon have prompted the Navy to explore developing diesel submarines to complement the fleet’s force of nuclear submarines, according to senior Navy officials and Pentagon budget documents.

Navy officials publicly discussed their interest in diesel submarines at a House Armed Services projection forces subcommittee hearing March 2.

The culture of the Navy, for so many decades, has been nuclear when it comes to submarines, not non-nuclear, said Rep. Robert Simmons (R-CT), whose state is home to General Dynamics’ Electric Boat shipyard. He asked whether the Navy should seriously consider — as part of the Navy’s transformation — developing smaller submarines that are less capable than today’s nuclear submarines. These smaller subs could operate in littoral regions, he suggested. This would also provide work for submarine designers, he said.

We are working with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, which really led the initiative to put the funds in there, said Navy acquisition executive John Young. ‘My understanding of their view of that is it’s everything you said and probably bigger than that. It’s a clean sheet of paper look at how we perform that undersea mission with consideration given to ways to make submarines lower cost. Certainly alternate propulsion options, including conventional propulsion, are on the table for discussion, as are unmanned undersea vehicles,

airborne sensors that feed UUVs and a networked force to perform the mission in the most effective way, he said.

Internal budget guidance approved by Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz in December — program budget decision No. 753 — directed the Navy to allocate \$600 million for an Undersea Superiority System. The budget document also cut a total of \$30 billion from various defense programs, including the Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine program.

The document instructs the Navy to design a future undersea superiority system alternative to the reduced [Virginia-class] submarine program that includes considerations of new propulsion systems. The PBD specifically directs the Navy to not just add funds to existing systems.

Subsequently, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark released his 2005 guidance for the Navy, which directs Naval Sea Systems Command and the Office of Naval Research to study and develop proposals for alternate propulsion methods for submarines and surface combatants by July.

Submariners have previously bashed the idea of adding diesel subs to the U.S. fleet, although some U.S. allies operate diesel subs.

Vice Adm. John Grossenbacher, then the naval submarine forces commander, said in November 2002 that he did not want diesel subs in the U.S. fleet, because nuclear subs provide more endurance and stealth. He retired from the Navy in 2003.

“I don’t want diesel submarines, because I think as capable as they are, and they are very capable — they don’t suit the needs of the United States,” he told a group of defense reporters. “I don’t want to fight undersea adversaries off the East Coast and West Coast of the United States. That’s what’s going to happen if you have diesel submarines.”

At the West 2002 conference in San Diego in January 2002, Rear Adm. John Padgett, then commander of submarine forces for the Pacific Fleet, said he saw no need to move away from nuclear propulsion or to implement a high-low mix that would incorporate diesel subs into the U.S. fleet. Padgett also retired from the Navy in 2003.

“If you accept a high-low notion, then you’re saying you’re sending somebody into combat with less than the best,” Padgett said. And, because most littoral combat will likely take place far away from U.S. shores, the nuclear sub’s high-speed agility is a necessary asset, he said. — Christopher J. Castelli

Funnies

(Gleaned from church bulletins, location unknown, thanks to Maj. L.R. King, U.S. Army (ret) of Arizona)

Bless Those Church Ladies Who Prepared the Bulletins

The sermon this morning: “Jesus Walks on Water.” The sermon tonight: “Searching for Jesus.”

Ladies, don’t forget the rummage sale. It’s a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don’t forget your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Don’t let worry kill you off—let the church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang “I will not pass this way again,” giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don’t know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles, and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

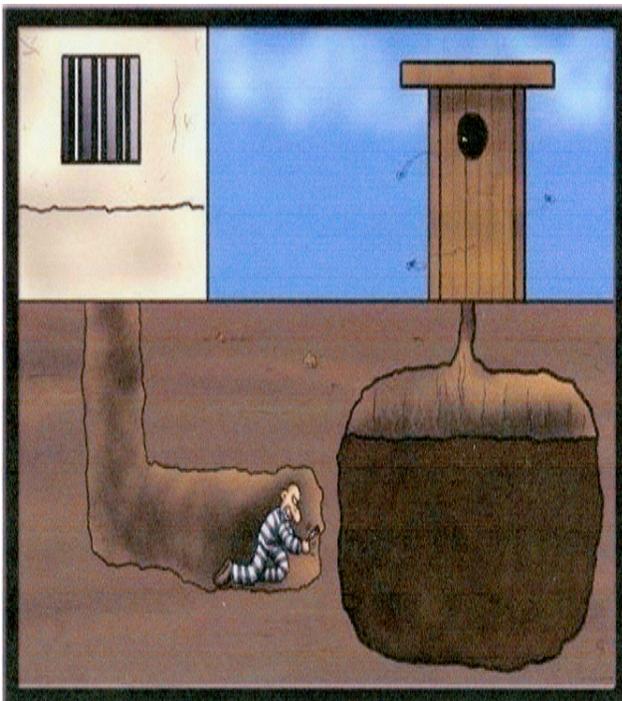
The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Low Self Esteem Group will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. Please use the back door.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance.

The associate minister unveiled the church’s new tithing slogan last Sunday. “I Upped My Pledge—Up Yours!”

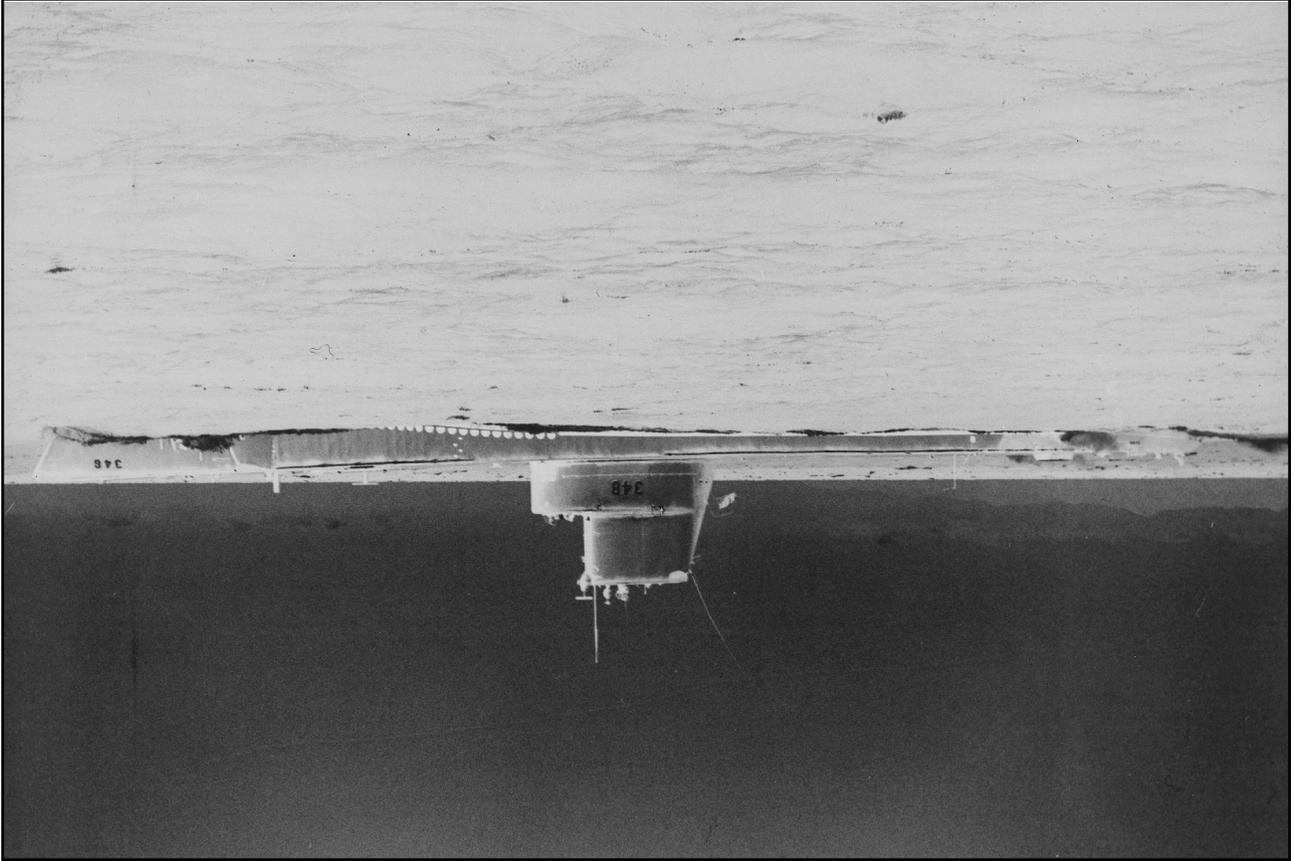
Having a bad day



The Sensitive Man



USS Cusk SSG 348



USS Cusk SSG 348
Newsletter



Cusk Newsletter Editor
William Vincent
10249 Ainsworth Dr.
Cupertino, CA 95014-1001
e-mail wvincent@pacbell.net

