

# "Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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## Christmas 2012

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### USS Key West Departs for New Homeport

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Steven Khor,  
COMSUBPAC Public Affairs

(PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii) - Friends and families of the crew from *USS Key West (SSN 722)* gathered at the submarine piers at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam to say goodbye as the Los Angeles-class submarine departed for its new homeport of Naval Base Guam, Sept. 20. In Guam, Key West will be assigned to Commander, Submarine Squadron 15 as one of three forward-deployed submarines. The change of homeport is part of a swap between *Key West* and *USS Buffalo (SSN 715)* which is scheduled to arrive in Pearl Harbor next year. "The crew has been waiting for this day for a long time. They know that they are going to a forward-deployed homeport and are excited to be at the tip of the spear as a forward-deployed unit," said Cmdr. Curtis P. Duncan, *USS Key West* commanding officer.

### Newport News Shipbuilding and General Dynamics Electric Boat Exchange Submarine Modules

Defpro.com, Sept. 20



06:20 GMT, September 21, 2012  
NEWPORT NEWS, Va. | Huntington Ingalls Industries' Newport News Shipbuilding (NNS) division shipped two Virginia-class submarine modules to program partner General Dynamics Electric Boat on Sept. 19 — a first for the program and part of the plan to increase shipment capacity in support of the U.S. Navy's two-submarines-per-year build rate. The module that comprises the torpedo room for *North Dakota (SSN 784)* was loaded onto the sea shuttle, which is used

for the two-plus-day voyage to Electric Boat's main shipyard in Groton, Conn. Right behind it was the module containing the auxiliary machine room (AMR) for *John Warner (SSN 785)*, which is headed to Electric Boat's fabrication plant in Quonset Point, R.I. The AMR, which departed on a commercial barge, comprises machinery such as a back-up diesel generator, pumps, motors and other electrical equipment. This use of the commercial barge also represented the first time two major modules were being moved simultaneously between Virginia and southern New England.



"These shipments represent the 99th and 100th barge shipments between Electric Boat and Newport News Shipbuilding," said Jim Hughes, NNS' vice president, Submarines and Fleet Support. "It's satisfying to see these units being exchanged at such a remarkable pace, and we look forward to turning the final products over to the U.S. Navy." In addition to these 100 shipments, General Dynamics Electric Boat has made about 900 shipments between its Groton and Quonset Point facilities using its sea shuttle barge, said Kurt A. Hesch, Electric Boat's vice president for the Virginia program. "Barge shipments help make modular construction possible," Hesch said. "Without this, heavy lift capability shipments would have to be much smaller, much more assembly would have to be done at the delivery yard, and there would be a corresponding loss of efficiency."

### USCGC JARVIS WHEC-725 Decommissioned

The U S Coast Guard placed the *USCGC JARVIS WHEC-725* in reduced commission on October 2, 2012.



The chapter did a cover for the Decommissioning Ceremony. The crew is to replace the *USCGC MORGENTHAU WHEC-724* and take that cutter to Pearl Harbor. No date was available for that changeover. The *CGC JARVIS* will eventually be turned over to a foreign navy, as part of our nations Foreign Assistance Act (FAA).

### Iran's dance with the U.S. Navy continues



Photo of TAREQ from PressTV, Iranian International news network

### Iran Announces Naval Advancements, Complete With "Yes We Can!" Banner

ibtimes.com, Sept. 20

Iran announced on Wednesday that it had finished refitting a major submarine for its naval forces. Photos from Jaam-e Jam news [1], published by the state-owned Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, show a ceremony in which naval officers in their dress whites inspected the submarine, decorated with colorful flags. A banner placed across the front sail of the vessel (that's the part protruding from the top) carried the enthusiastic phrase "Yes We Can!" (translated by Payvand News, a U.S. based English language Iranian news site, which claims to be apolitical).

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