

"Newseyletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Deposit Balance \$ _____

U S Coast Guard seized \$181 million in cocaine



The USCGC STRATTON returned to San Diego to unload \$181 million dollars worth of cocaine today. The cocaine was confiscated when the STRATTON intercepted a semi-submersible submarine on it's way to the US. Four occupants of the semi-submersible were arrested. Most of the cocaine was removed to the STRATTON, but some bundles were left aboard as ballast. The ballast did not help as the submarine sunk while under tow as evidence.

Anyone covering submersible dives?

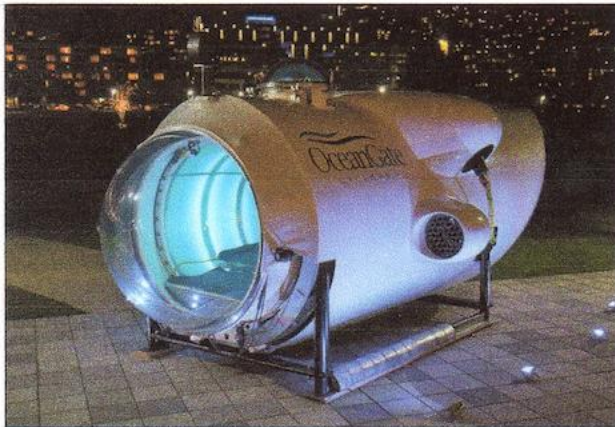
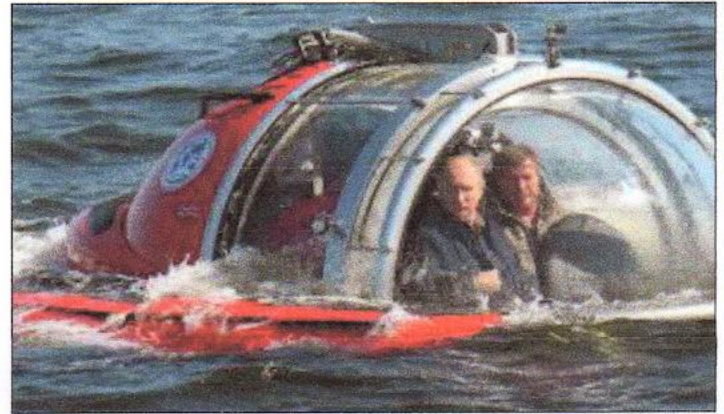


Photo of Cyclops 1 by OceanGate

Around the world I am seeing renewed interest in dive submersibles. Both manned and unmanned craft. China, Russia and other nations as well as the US have paraded out new submersibles recently. Has anyone started to compile information on sending covers to them? It was a very active part of naval cover collecting many years back until funds ran out for such exploration and research. It does not take too much to look up information on current expeditions, each probably is a chance to send for covers. Cyclops 1 is owned by OceanGate in Seattle.

A search of the Internet shows they have two vehicles performing dives and a third under construction. The most recent expedition was to the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary off Texas. Later they expect to dive to survey the site of the USS MACON disaster off Point Sur, California. While I don't presently collect submersible dive covers, perhaps some of you will rekindle interest in this area of cover collecting.

Did you have covers aboard either of these dive vessels?



Yes, that is President Vladimir Putin of Russia in two different submersibles. Not really "deep" diving vessels, but it got him a lot of publicity. I doubt if any covers were carried.

New Facebook page for resurrection of USCS Coast Guard Study Group

In an effort to bring together collectors of USCG covers and ephemera, we have created a USCG Chapter 111, Facebook page. The site is a place to share your Coast Guard covers and related collectibles. Please visit and enjoy the postings. If you do not have Facebook, you can't join the site. So, consider opening your own Facebook page so you can access the site and upload USCG covers to it that you would like to share with other collectors. Try this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/926783114076581/>