Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

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Russia Launches Nuclear Icebreaker URAL



ST PETERSBURG, Russia, May 25, 2019 (Reuters) – Russia launched a nuclear-powered icebreaker on Saturday, part of an ambitious program to renew and expand its fleet of the vessels in order to improve its ability to tap the Arctic's commercial potential. The ship, dubbed the *Ural* and which was floated out from a dockyard in St Petersburg, is one of a trio that when completed will be the largest and most powerful icebreakers in the world.

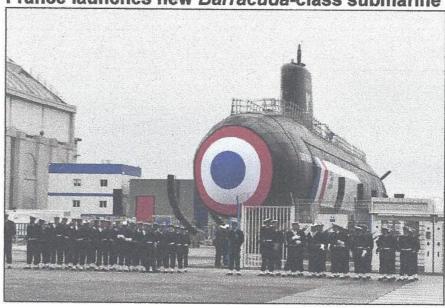
Official Start of Construction Oct, 1, 2020 for USS Columbia SSBN 826



The Navy will have the most complete design ever and will be well into construction when the "official start" of construction on the lead Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine occurs on Oct. 1, 2020, the service's program manager said. Capt. Jon Rucker said this week that his Columbia class of SSBNs is on a tight schedule – not just to deliver the lead ship in time for an October 2031 first patrol, but to deliver each subsequent ship on time for their own patrols too, as the Ohio-class boomers retire in rapid succession. But his program is managing the risks

associated with the tight timeline as best as it can, including bumping up quite a bit of work before the construction phase officially begins.

France launches new Barracuda-class submarine



France has launched the first of its six nextgeneration nuclear attack submarines in a ceremony in Cherbourg. On July 12, 2019, President of the French Republic Emmanuel Macron presided over the unveiling of SNA Suffren before a crowd of construction personnel and dignitaries. It is the first of the Barracuda class that will replace the French Navy's aging fleet of Rubis-class boats. Technically, the ceremony wasn't exactly a launch in the conventional sense of the word. Suffren, like most modern combat submarines, is a highly complex vessel that was built using a modular system in a protected shed, and since it can be moved about using modern machinery, there is no need for the traditional ride down the slipways, which might damage its systems. Instead, it has been transferred to a dry dock where, after extensive testing, it will be floated later this year and its reactor brought online. SNA Suffren is the first of the Barracuda-class, which will include SNA Duguay-Trouin, Tourville, De Grasse, Rubis, and Casabianca over the next decade.

Submitted late, somehow it "fell through the cracks"

