

# Decatur Chapter #4 Newseyletter

Stephen Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS  
Richard F. Hoffner, USCS # H-4456, Chapter Cachet Director  
415 Moyer Road, Souderton, PA 18964-2319

Phone: 215-721-8606

e-mail: pauscg@gmail.com

Mid-June 2020

Current Deposit Balance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Long delays are almost over.

The number one reason was the lack of covers returning from Norfolk VA and Bath ME post offices. I have almost reached a point where I have all the Bath ME covers back. The *USS CARL M. LEVIN DDG 120* keel laying (2-1-19) are due in any day. They are being processed at "The Caves" (USPS) in Kansas City.

A letter of complaint (Certified Mail) was sent to the Postmaster in Norfolk VA to find out what's going on there. I currently have seven events there that the person who has been cancelling our covers since the retirement of Hervey Trimyer, has somehow just beamed up. Letters and emails to her have gone unanswered. If you have had any covers returned from Norfolk recently, let me know.

Additionally, I became a snow bird and was in Florida most of December and all of January and February. Don't ask me where March and April went, it seems it took me two months to catch up on everything, including a dining room table chuck full of mail.

## Japan builds new surveillance warship targeting Chinese, North Korean submarines



Photo: Twitter/ JMSDF

Japan has launched its first dedicated submarine-hunting warship in nearly 30 years, with Tokyo concerned primarily with monitoring Chinese submarines operating close to and within its waters, while also keeping an eye on North Korea's submersibles. The twin-hulled ship, named Aki, was unveiled by the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) at a launch ceremony on January 15 at Mitsui Engineering & Shipbuilding's facilities in

Okayama Prefecture, central Japan. It is currently being fitted out before it can start sea trials.

## Intercepted Russian reconnaissance aircraft were watching US submarines during ICEX 2020



USS Toledo (SSN 769) arrives at Ice Camp *Seadragon* on the Arctic Ocean, March 4. (U.S. Navy/MC1 Michael B. Zingaro)

*USS CONNECTICUT SSN 22* and *USS TOLEDO SSN 769* took part in IceX 2020. Both surfaced at Camp SEADRAGON.



The commander of U.S. Northern Command told lawmakers on Capitol Hill Wednesday that a pair of Russian reconnaissance aircraft intercepted by U.S. and Canadian jets March 9 were loitering around a U.S. submarine exercise known as ICEX. Air Force Gen. Terrence J. O'Shaughnessy told lawmakers during a House Armed Services Committee hearing that the Russian aircraft were "operating in one of our ICEX exercises we had where submarines actually pop up out of the ice." O'Shaughnessy said the Russian aircraft loitered about 2,500 feet above a camp that was built for the submarine exercise. He said the Russian aircraft "loitered" with an F-22 and F-18 on their wing.