

A Tribute on this Memorial Day to the lost Submariners of the World



Date: 26 May 2025

As we write this Memorial Day message, it is with a sense of pride and sorrow that we remember the brave Submariner's who have lost their lives in the Undersea Services in which we have all served. Last year, we gathered at the Cliffs of Moher in the Republic of Ireland, the high cliff of Europe, looking out over the Atlantic Ocean; to honor and pray for those "who gave their last full measure of devotion" – Lincoln.

Mindful that the loss of one life is a grievous occurrence, Michael Setzer, HOD Germany, stepped up to read the number of personnel lost to his country. He reported a staggering figure of over 30,000 sailors, which moved us tremendously. It was also deeply touched those in attendance to have Tony Faella, a WWII USN veteran, present with us.

We would be grateful if countries we missed could send us their information along with a photo of your Submariners Memorials so that we may add it to this page for future ISA tributs.

Thanks Bud Cunnally ISA/USA & Ian Vickers ISA/GB

27 May 2024 at the Cliffs of Moher in the Republic of Ireland

(Bud Cunnally) Welcome to the Memorial Service for our sisters and brothers who have answered the call and received their orders to the Eternal Patrol. We who now have the watch call upon the Nations of the International Submariners Association to speak for them.

We call upon the individual countries here assembled to state the number of Submarines their country has lost in Wartime and Peacetime and how many of their sailors Perished. We also want to remember those who have been lost in service and not on Submarines.



(Steve Day) The USA has lost 74 submarines and more than 4,300 sailors since 1901. The USA's largest loss of life came in WWII; there were 52 subs lost and 3,506 sailors killed. This man standing next to me is a hero, and I am honored and humbled to be a fellow brother of the Phin. (Bud) I served with many of them in the 1960s as they finished their 20 years of service and retired from the US Navy. They were my heroes then, and they are still my heroes today. Tony Faella, are we not fortunate to have you with us today? Tony is a youngster who has celebrated his 102nd birthday



He served on board the USS Spearfish (SS 190) on five war patrols in the Pacific and is a survivor of the 1 in five men lost in the Pacific theater of World War II. Bud Cunnally is a surviving family member of his first cousin, James Patrick Cunnally, who was lost on the USS Seawolf (SS197). USA peacetime losses are set at 22 Subs.



(Ian Vickers) United Kingdom. 135 were sunk with the loss of Six Thousand Submariners, who have died in service since 1901. We are close to the home of Captain Bill King who served in the British Navy on board Royal Navy Submarines, and we will learn more about this incredible Submariner later today at his home at Oranmore Castle, Galway. The National Submariners' War Memorial, is a war memorial on the Victoria Embankment in London, England, between Waterloo Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge.

God Rest their Souls.

(Michael Setzer) Germany No country has lost more Submariners than Deutschland. 200 U-boats lost in World War 1 with 4,744 sailors and 739 U-boats in World War 2 have gone to the bottom with the loss of over 30,000 sailors. Their Allies the Austro-Hungarians in WW 1 lost 9 submarines and 95 sailors, and the Italians in WW 2 lost 95 submarines with a total of 1,071 Submariners. In peacetime, Germany lost three submarines in accidents 1911 U-3, 1936 U-18, and in 1966 U-Hai.



God Rest their souls.

(Dominique Salles) France: Among 1650 submariners who have lost their lives from 1905 to the present time, 1100 disappeared during World War 1 and 2 conflicts. Twelve subs sank in peacetime. In less than two years, in 1968 and 1970, the loss of both Minerve and Eurydice was excruciating with the death of 109 submariners. The Eurydice was found a few months after the shipwreck, and Minerve was not discovered until 2019, 51 years after its sinking, offering the families of these missing submariners the opportunity to mourn.



God Rest their souls.

(Michail Proimakis) Greece HS PROTEUS S-3. sank in the Adriatic west of the Greek island of Sasson, on 29 December 1940, with its 48 members. HS GLAFKOS S-6 was in Valletta, Malta for an overhaul. On 27 February 1942, the port of Valletta was attacked by the enemy air force, and the Commander of the submarine, and an officer were killed. On 04 April 1942, the port was again assaulted by the combative air force and the submarine sank. HS TRITON S-5. On 16 November 1942, it was sunk by embolization close to the island of Evia with the loss of 24 (two were British) and 28 of the crew captured, while two escaped by swimming to the island of Evia. HS KATSONIS S-1. It sank on 14 September 1943, at the North Island of Skiathos, with 32 crew members lost and 17 captured. Three escaped by swimming to the coast of Pelion.



God rest their souls.

(Sid Czabotar) Australia Two submarines lost in WW1. Submarine AE1 was lost off the coast of New Britain on 14 September 1914 with thirty-five officers and crew. AE 1 was located and identified on 20 December 2017. AE2 was scuttled on 30 April 1915 off the coast of Turkey during WW1. All crew were captured with 4 dying in captivity. AE2 was located and identified in June 1988.



God rest their souls.

(Stein Flom-Jacobsen) Norway One submarine *Uredd (P41)* lost 34 sailors (including 3 British) and 6 soldiers from Norwegian Independent Company no.1 (Linge Commandos) together with 1 Special Intelligence Service (SIS) agent. *Uredd* was detected in 1985 and is a war grave with a memorial on the mainland close by. None lost in peacetime.

Other than Submarines Norway lost 672 ships and approximately 4800 sailors (at sea) during WWII. This includes both the Merchant Navy and the "home fleet". The Royal Norwegian Navy lost 933 sailors (approx. 46%) and 37 ships/vessels.

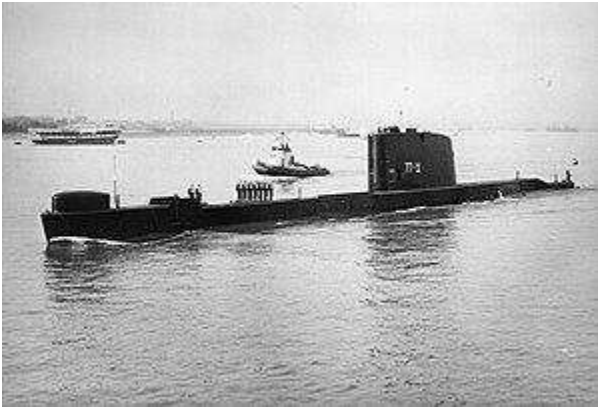


God rest their souls.

(Lars Nordenberg) Sweden Loss of HM Submarine ULVEN On April 15, 1943, the greatest tragedy in the history of the Swedish submarine force occurred. The submarine Ulven was blown up by a mine in Swedish territorial waters, killing all 33 crew members. An entire nation mourned. Our country was not heavily affected by the atrocities of war, but it still suffered a great loss of life. It was a difficult time that followed the disaster, especially for relatives, friends, and submarine companions.



God rest their souls.



(Israel)

INS Dakar was a [diesel-electric submarine](#) in the [Israeli Navy](#). The vessel, a modified [World War II British T-class submarine](#), was purchased by [Israel](#) from the [Government of the United Kingdom](#) in 1965. Dakar and her entire 69-man crew were lost en route to Israel on 25 January 1968. Despite extensive searches over the course of three decades, its wreckage was not found until 1999, when it was located between the islands of [Cyprus](#) and [Crete](#) at a depth of approximately 3,000 m (9,800 ft). The Submarine's [conning tower](#) was salvaged and is on display outside the Naval Museum in [Haifa](#). The exact cause of Dakar's sinking remains unknown.

God rest their Souls.



(I Choi Lee) Republic of Korea The ROKS Cheonan sinking occurred on 26 March 2010, when [Cheonan](#), a [Pohang-class corvette](#) of the [Republic of Korea Navy](#), carrying 104 personnel, sank off the country's west coast near [Baengnyeong Island](#) in the [Yellow Sea](#), killing 46 seamen. The cause of the sinking remains in dispute. An international team of experts investigated, which concluded that the warship was sunk by a North Korean Torpedo fired by a Midget Submarine. God rest their Souls.



(Yevgen Livshyts) Ukraine. Until December 1991, Ukraine as a Union Republic was part of the Soviet Union, we Ukrainians served on submarines alongside representatives of the other 14 Union Republics, together defending our common state. In the battles of World War II, 110 Soviet submarines were lost, and the sea took in 3,374 submariners. After World War II, the Soviet Navy lost 8 diesel and 4 nuclear submarines, and 769 submariners died in these disasters and accidents on other submarines. Today we also mourn the deaths of 38 thousand military personnel and 10 and a half thousand civilians, including about 500 children, from the Russian aggressive invasion of Ukraine. God rest their souls.



(Skip Whitfield) Canada During World War II, The Royal Canadian Navy fielded 341 fighting ships. Of that number 21 were lost.

God Rest their souls.



(Bud Cunnally) The Republic of Ireland Since the 1960s, 88 personnel (87 from the [Irish Army](#) and one from the [Air Corps](#)) have died in overseas deployments. The deployments were mostly serving the United Nations Peacekeeping Force, The First World War accounted for about 35,00 men killed. The Irish War for Independence and the Civil War produced hundreds of fatalities.

God rest their Souls.

(IAN Vickers and Bud Cunnally) THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

O God, we pray Thee that the memory of our comrades may be ever sacred in our hearts; that the sacrifice which they have offered for their country's cause may be acceptable in Thy sight; and that an entrance into Thine eternal peace may, by Thy pardoning grace, be open unto them through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Conclude with the Lord's Prayer by all hands.)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us for our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the power and the glory forever. Amen

(BUD) Eternal rest is granted to them, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of Christ rest in peace. Amen.

The Jewish Faith

And let the words of our mouths express the meditations of our hearts. O God, full of compassion, Thou who dwellest on high! Beneath the sheltering wings of Thy presence, among the holy and pure

who shine as the brightness of the firmament, grant perfect peace unto their souls), who has gone unto eternity. Lord of mercy, bring him/her under the cover of Thy winds and let his/her soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life. Be Thou his/her inheritance and may their repose be in peace. Amen. (Ivan Serdyuk) Since 1945, The month of May has been celebrated as Victory in Europe in many countries around the world. Almost 83 years have passed since the end of WWII, and in 2004 the United Nations established May 8-9 as the Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for those who died during the World Wars. The international community of veteran submariners came to reconciliation much earlier. Since 1961, we have been holding the annual Congress of Remembrance, Reconciliation, Friendship, and Peacebuilding. Today is a time of remembrance and mourning for those who died during the Wars, among whom were many of our fellow submariners. Rest in peace Brothers and Sisters.

(Bud Cunnally & Ian Vickers). Amazing Grace by Tony Kelly the Piper a Republic of Ireland Army Veteran, concludes our memorial ceremony for the year 2024. Sailors rest your oars. We have the watch!