



# Hawgfish Scuttlebutt



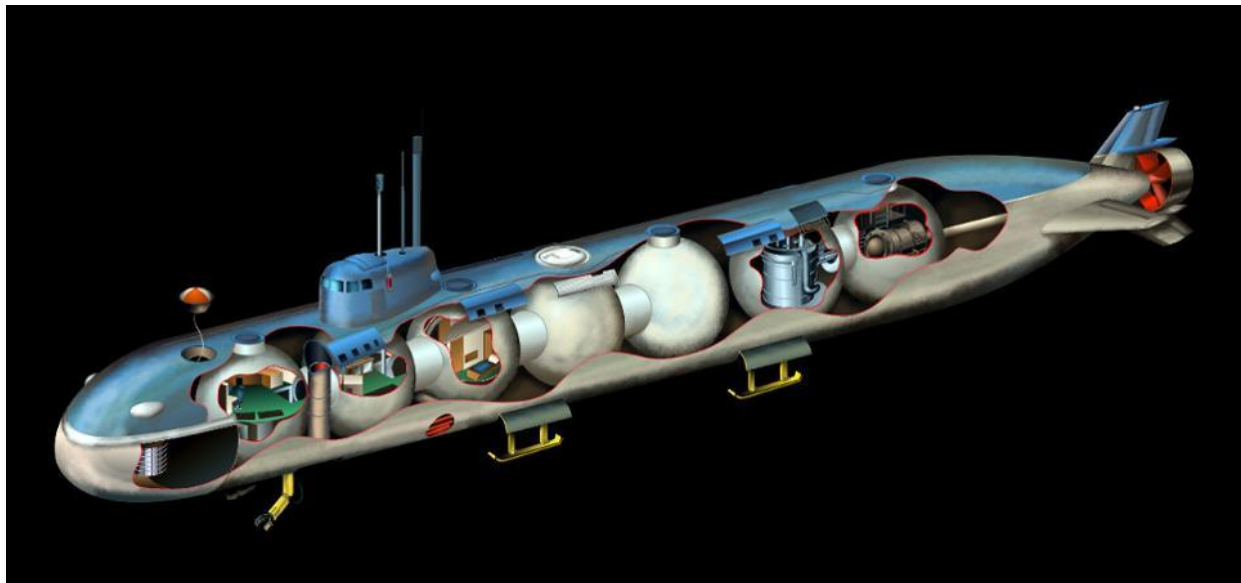
Razorback Base  
United States Submarine Veterans



OCTOBER, 2019

## New Intelligence On Russian 'Losharik' Nuclear Submarine Accident

H I Sutton Contributor  
Aerospace & Defense



Full details may never be publicly known of the July 1 tragedy in the Arctic aboard a deep-diving submarine in which 14 Russian submariners lost their lives. Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov described the submarine's mission as a "state secret." However, based on analysis of open sources, I can reveal details of the submarine's movements before and after the event.

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**To perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds, and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. Pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.**

### ***COMMANDER'S CORNER***



Happy October everyone. This is an exciting month! October 26 is our Halloween party/membership drive. We will start at noon down on the boat. Please mark your calendars; we need all-hands on deck for the party. Please bring a dish to share. Costumes are optional. We need to be at the boat by 11 am. (please wear your vests) I am looking forward to seeing everyone but in the meantime, be safe and enjoy the start of autumn.

V/r,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Boyer". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David Boyer  
Base Commander



(continued from page 1)

The submarine is called Losharik, named after a Russian cartoon horse which is made of a series of balls. More on that later. In official sources she is known by her hull number, AS-12. She is operated by the euphemistically named Main Directorate of Deep-Sea Research, better known as GUGI. And she operates from Olenya Guba which is GUGI's secret base in the Arctic – the same base as the Russian Navy's beluga whales, one of which turned up in Norway in April.

Her mission is protected by state secrecy and, frankly, obscurity. When I wrote analysis before the accident I was one of very few public sources. In layman's terms she is a spy submarine. Her work probably involves the seabed communications cables and sonar networks which litter the world's oceans.

It should be mentioned that Losharik is transported to her missions attached to the underside of a much larger mother submarine. Her all-officer crew are elite submariners known as Hydronauts.

For this fateful mission the mother submarine, BS-64, first called at Severomorsk. I can now say that she arrived on June 24. I believe that Losharik was already under her. They were accompanied by an Oscar-II Class cruise missile submarine. That is possibly a coincidence, but it could also be for protection during some phases of the mission. Also in attendance was the giant Typhoon Class submarine Dmitriy Donskoy, which was later reported to have been involved in anti-submarine exercises around this time. It is unclear whether there is a connection between the presence of all three submarines. For BS-64 the stop-off in Severomorsk may have been to load torpedoes. They left around midday on June 25, five days before the fateful accident.

On the afternoon of July 1 a fire broke out in the battery compartment of Losharik. The submarine is constructed from seven cylindrical titanium hulls strung together, except for the uninhabited rear two which contain the nuclear reactor and machinery. The orb-like hulls, although not visible from the outside thanks to a streamlined outer hull, are where the submarine's nickname comes from.

The accident occurred very close to the Russian coast, reportedly as Losharik was docking with the BS-64. The fire was in the battery compartment; even nuclear submarines have batteries as a backup. Some of the crew, including the captain, reportedly stayed in the affected compartment to ensure the safety of the others. These are the men who perished.

This wasn't Losharik's first underwater accident. In 2012 she damaged her manipulator arms while on a mission under the Ice Cap. That time it was not fatal.

Losharik was able to dock with the BS-64, which raced back to Severomorsk to unload the injured submariners. By midnight a local news outlet, SeverLife.ru, broke the story. They reported that between 10 and 14 people died and that about 5 injured. Two of them were in intensive care. The story was later removed.

A camouflaged shelter was placed over a hatch on BS-64's back. Onlookers may have been unaware that the injured submarine was out of sight, attached to the bottom of the visible host submarine. While the story was still making headlines around the globe, on July 4 BS-64 discretely slipped back to Olenya Guba. There special attention continued, with the camouflaged tent used again.

Losharik will likely be returned to service. In the meantime BS-64 has been exercising with a smaller battery powered submersible attached to her back, possibly as a surrogate. The 'state secret' missions will go on.



## Lost Boats –October USS TANG (SS 306)

The following men were lost in the sinking of the USS TANG (SS 306):

Note: October was a bad month, most subs lost in October were lost from friendly fire, grounding, or own ship's torpedoes.

1	<a href="#">John George Accardy</a>
2	<a href="#">Ralph Francis Adams</a>
3	<a href="#">Dwayne Dale Allen</a>
4	<a href="#">Phillip Edward Anderson</a>
5	<a href="#">Charles Andriolo</a>
6	<a href="#">Homer Anthony</a>
7	<a href="#">William Franklin Ballinger</a>
8	<a href="#">Edwin Clarence Bauer</a>
9	<a href="#">Edward Huntley Beaumont</a>
10	<a href="#">Edwin Frederick Bergman</a>
11	<a href="#">Frederick Nicholas Bisogno</a>
12	<a href="#">Wilfred Joseph Boucher</a>
13	<a href="#">Bernard Vincent Bresette</a>
14	<a href="#">John Bush</a>
15	<a href="#">Benjamin Chiavetta</a>
16	<a href="#">Walter Junior Clark</a>
17	<a href="#">Robert James Coffin</a>
18	<a href="#">James Henry Culp</a>
19	<a href="#">Arthur John Darienzo</a>
20	<a href="#">Marvin Verle DeLapp</a>

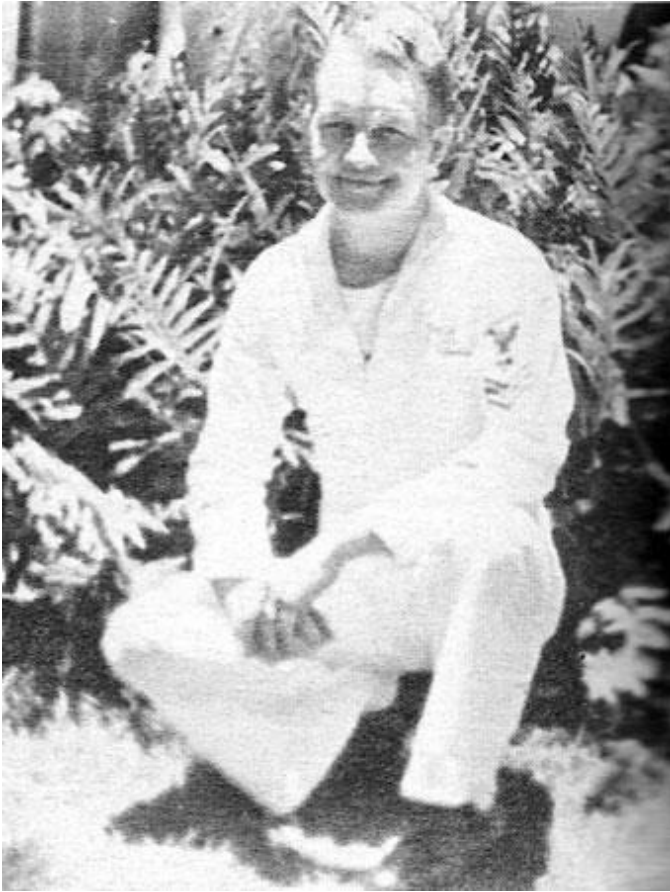
21	<a href="#">William Edwin Dorsey</a>
22	<a href="#">Fred Melvin Enos, Jr.</a>
23	<a href="#">Lawrence Hall Ericksen</a>
24	<a href="#">Daniel Clyde Felicetty*</a>
25	<a href="#">Bruce Hampton Finckbone</a>
26	<a href="#">John William Fluker</a>
27	<a href="#">John Morris Foster</a>
28	<a href="#">William Carter Galloway</a>
29	<a href="#">Thomas Edison Gentle</a>
30	<a href="#">George Jacob Gorab, Jr.</a>
31	<a href="#">Osmer Dennis Gregg</a>
32	<a href="#">Howard Wayne Hainline</a>
33	<a href="#">Frank George Harms</a>
34	<a href="#">Glen Olen Haws</a>
35	<a href="#">John Francis Henry</a>
36	<a href="#">John Henry Heubeck</a>
37	<a href="#">Albert Leroy Hudson</a>
38	<a href="#">Homer Wesley James, Jr.</a>
39	<a href="#">Stewart Samuel Imwold</a>

40	<a href="#">Donald Morgan Jenkins</a>
41	<a href="#">Sidney William Jones</a>
42	<a href="#">Louis Charles Kaiser</a>
43	<a href="#">John Theodore Kanagy</a>
44	<a href="#">John Thomas Kassube</a>
45	<a href="#">John Andrew Key</a>
46	<a href="#">Ralph Bernard Knapp</a>
47	<a href="#">Richard Jerome Kroth</a>
48	<a href="#">LeRoy Richard Lane</a>
49	<a href="#">Paul Lewis Larson</a>
50	<a href="#">Robert Peter Lee</a>
51	<a href="#">Lindley Herbert Llewellyn</a>
52	<a href="#">Charles William London</a>
53	<a href="#">Chester Loveless</a>
54	<a href="#">Ellroy Lytton</a>
55	<a href="#">Robert Vance McMorrow</a>
56	<a href="#">John Joseph McNabb</a>
57	<a href="#">John Jefferson Parker</a>
58	<a href="#">Basil Charles Pearce, Jr.</a>

59	<a href="#">Rubin MacNiel Raiford</a>
60	<a href="#">Francis John Reabuck</a>
61	<a href="#">Darrel Dean Rector</a>
62	<a href="#">Ernest Reinhardt</a>
63	<a href="#">James Lester Roberts</a>
64	<a href="#">George Louis Robertson</a>
65	<a href="#">Seymour Golding Smith, Jr.</a>
66	<a href="#">Frank Howard Springer</a>
67	<a href="#">Edward Frank Stepien</a>
68	<a href="#">Fred Louis Sunday</a>
69	<a href="#">Paul Benton Vaughn, Jr.</a>
70	<a href="#">Charles Waite Wadsworth</a>
71	<a href="#">Howard Madison Walker</a>
72	<a href="#">Leland Stanford Weekley</a>
73	<a href="#">Robert Edward Welch</a>
74	<a href="#">James Milton White</a>
75	<a href="#">Walter Herman Williams</a>
76	<a href="#">Paul Thornton Wines</a>
77	<a href="#">George Wukovich</a>
78	<a href="#">George Zofcin</a>



# Marvin Verle DeLapp



Rank/Rate Chief Motor Machinist's Mate  
 Service Number 321 27 45  
 Birth Date July 23, 1915  
 From Lawndale, California  
 Decorations Bronze Star, Purple Heart  
 Submarine [USS Tang \(SS-306\)](#)  
 Loss Date October 25, 1944  
 Location Formosa Strait near Turnabout Island  
 Circumstances Sunk by circular run of own torpedo  
 Remarks Marvin was born in Grange Township, Pipestone County, Minnesota.

# Bruce Hampton Finckbone



Rank/Rate Electrician's Mate, Second Class  
 Service Number 321 45 11  
 Birth Date January 28, 1913  
 From Gravity, Iowa  
 Decorations Purple Heart  
 Submarine [USS Tang \(SS-306\)](#)  
 Loss Date October 25, 1944  
 Location Formosa Strait near Turnabout Island  
 Circumstances Sunk by circular run of own torpedo



TREASURER'S REPORT		SEPTEMBER 30 201
<b>TOTAL BASE FUNDS BEGINNING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 13,502.34</b>
<b>General Fund Beg. Balance</b>		<b>\$ 3,799.94</b>
Alan Malone, Joe Mathis, Greg Schwerman		
<b>Booster Club Bill Woods</b>		<b>\$ 100.00</b>
<b>Dues</b>		<b>\$ 40.00</b>
<b>National Dues</b>		<b>\$ 25.00</b>
<b>General Fund Ending Balance</b>		<b>\$ 3,914.94</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>		
<b>Maint. Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 2,502.66</b>
<b>Charity Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 372.00</b>
<b>Snook Memorial Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 1,386.86</b>
<b>Designated Fund Balance</b>		<b>\$ 4,261.52</b>
<b>Checking Balance (General + Designated Funds)</b>		<b>\$ 8,170.46</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>		
CD Balance		<b>\$ 5,299.88</b>
Cash on Hand Balance		<b>\$ 147.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BASE FUNDS ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$ 13,617.34</b>

## Booster Club

Mark Taylor (9)  
 Pete Jilek (19)  
 John Barr (9)  
 Tom Salisbury (6)  
 Greg Zonner (9)  
 Bob Christians (9)  
 Joe Mathis (9)  
 Greg Schwerman (9)  
 Alan Malone (9)

## Birthdays for July

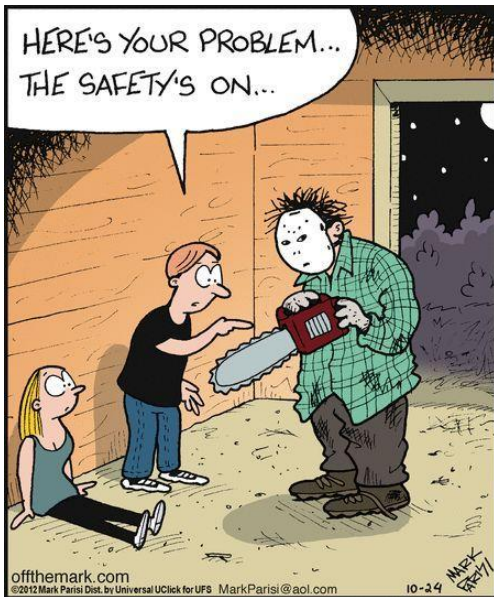
James W. Barnes	1
Scott Pursley	2
Pete Jilek	7
Edward M. Lemke	10
Robert C. Howard III	12
Dexter D. Bates	13
Donald L. Booker	15
James William Mason	15
Mark Taylor	18
John F. Cameron	20
David E. Dinwiddie	25
Michael J. Wingeier	28
Forest E. Harrell	29

# HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Halloween party will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the boat. We are combining the party with a membership drive and potluck. Lots of fun by all. John Barr updated our trifold to give out to potential new members. Arrive by 11 am and bring your potential base members along with you! You don't have to dress up but it is fun and adds to the excitement. Bring your favorite dish to share!



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## Base Officers

Base Commander	David Boyer	479-227-9633	chopper1267@yahoo.com
Base Vice Commander Mem. and Ceremonies, Base Treasurer	Mark Taylor	501-416-2488	empty704@aol.com
Chaplain, COB	Joe Manning	501-366-0331	joe.manning@att.net
Newsletter, Past Base Commander	Alan Malone	501-206-7248	o5retired@yahoo.com
Holland Club & Storekeeper, Past Base Commander	Billy Hollaway	501-758-3266	retldousn@earthlink.net
Base Historian National Archives Chairman	Joe Mathis	501-565-6021	rnc95ret05@gmail.com
Membership	Johnny Baker	607-426-6492	johnnie@smarthomeintegration.net
Base Webmaster Past Base Commander	Greg Zonner	501-307-5522	gzonner@aimmmuseum.org
Activities Past Base Commander & USSVI Sec	Jim Gates	479-967-5541	gates.jim@sbcglobal.net
Past Base Commander	Paul Honeck	501-580-4680	pneckerar@gmail.com
Past Base Commander	James Barnes	501-319-5888	jimandsue59@sbcglobal.net
Past Base Commander	Carl Schmidt	501-778-6583	bonnyclyde@classicnet.net
Past Base Commander	Ray Wewers	501-843-7855	<a href="mailto:raywewers@gmail.com">raywewers@gmail.com</a>
Past Base Commander	Greg Schwerman	501-804-0386	gschwerman@suddenlink.net