

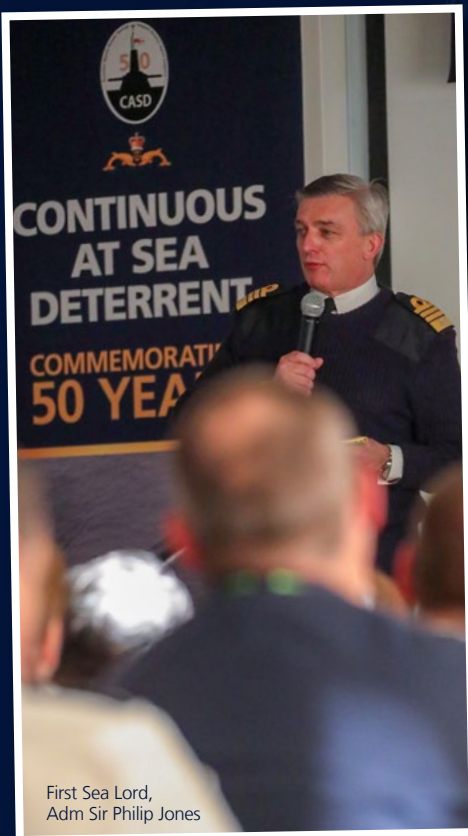


ISSUE 05 / JANUARY 2019

SUBMARINE DIVISION



SUBMARINERS CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF CASD SUCCESS



First Sea Lord,
Adm Sir Philip Jones

First Sea Lord, Adm Sir Philip Jones, visited HMNB Clyde on January 16 for the beginning of a year of events marking the 50th anniversary of the Continuous At Sea Deterrent (CASD).

Adm Jones visited HMS Vengeance where he revealed a new silver badge for RN submariners who have conducted ten nuclear deterrent patrols.

"CASD is the longest sustained military operation ever undertaken by the UK and this 50th anniversary year presents a valuable opportunity to recognise and thank those from the Naval Service and their families, the wider MOD and our many industrial partners who have contributed," said 1SL.

"As we begin our commemoration of this remarkable milestone, it's fitting that we recognise the extraordinary dedication and professionalism demonstrated by our submariners, through the introduction of a new silver deterrent pin, which signifies the completion of at least ten deterrent patrols."

Up to now, submariners who complete a patrol have had the right to wear a pewter pin and those achieving 20 or more presented with a gold deterrent pin. The new silver badge bridges the gap between the two.

During his visit Adm Jones presented six submariners with silver pins: Warrant Officer 2 Kerrigan, Chief Petty Officer Coxswain Daryn Mathieson, Leading Chef Al Crawford, Coxswain Patrick Sheekey, Chief Petty Officer Ormiston and Leading Engineer Technician Scott Munro.

Coxswain Daryn Mathieson, who has completed 18 deterrent patrols, said: "It means a lot to receive my silver deterrent pin on the 50th anniversary of CASD.

"I have served on board Resolution-class and Vanguard-class boats. HMS Resolution was my first submarine after qualifying, although unfortunately I missed her final patrol."

He continued: "50 years of CASD is a real achievement and I'm proud to have played even a small part."

PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM REAR ADMIRAL SUBMARINES (RASM)

A Happy New Year one and all. Firstly, I would like to send out my sincerest thanks to all of you who work long and hard through the Christmas leave period to ensure that we delivered what is required of us. Your professionalism and dedication always impresses me, and it is particularly highlighted at this time of year. As you are all aware it is not just our generation that sacrificed their time and effort over the festive season, and I was starkly reminded of this over in Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, where I attended the commemoration of the sinking of HYM IOLAIRE on 1 Jan 1919, with the loss of over 200 RN personnel. 100 years on from this terrible tragedy, that occurred to those who survived the Great War, it brought into great focus hardship families and those 'left behind' also have to endure. It was a very impressive turnout from the Islanders and the volunteers from HMNB Clyde who represented the Royal Navy with great pride and dignity throughout their time on the Isle. Looking forward 2019 promises to be a year of celebration and change. You will have seen the building progress that is occurring throughout HMNB Clyde as the base turns into the Single Integrated Operating Base, and we will be celebrating CASD 50 through the year, so keep a look out for events that are occurring near you. To end I just wish to repeat the thanks that I gave you during my Town Hall briefs, at the end of last term, and hope that you join with me in looking forward to an exciting and rewarding future.



Rear Admiral John Weale OBE RASM / ACNS(SM) / FOSNI

EXERCISE HELPS HONE SUBMARINE RESCUE SKILLS

Over 110 personnel from France, Norway and the UK gathered at HMNB Clyde on December 3 to take part in the annual NATO Submarine Rescue System (NSRS) Mass Evacuation Exercise, known as MASSEVEX.

The largest evacuation exercise ever to be planned at Faslane, MASSEVEX tested the system and provided an opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences.

The NSRS is available to respond to a stricken submarine anywhere in the world. The equipment can be transported by road or air before being loaded to a ship which sails to location of the submarine in distress.

Once there, the Submarine Rescue Vehicle can dive to the submarine, engage with the escape hatch and

begin the process of ferrying the crew to the waiting Transfer Under Pressure System.

During the exercise the rescue team practiced and honed the transfer process.

Maître Thomas of the French Navy said: "This is my first time attending an exercise of this scale and it has been a good experience; training with the other nations is an excellent way of sharing knowledge and learning from the experience of others. I look forward to being involved in similar exercises in the future."

Also attending were Medical Officers from the US Navy who observed the scenario-led training with the aim of developing relationships and sharing knowledge.

Caption xxxxxxxxxxx xxxxx





SUBMARINE FLOTILLA UPDATE

The Festive Season has again been an extremely busy period for the Submarine Flotilla with nearly 550 submariners away at sea over Christmas, and as we start the new year the pace has not slackened. This month has seen a major milestone with all 3 Commissioned A class SSNs at sea, deployed either on work-up or operations. Alongside this Flotilla continues to support the Continuous at Sea Deterrent (CASD) as we approach the 50th anniversary of CASD; with the first event being the visit of the 1st Sea Lord to Faslane on

Wednesday 16 January. He awarded deserving submariners with the first Silver "Bomber Pins". If you have completed 10 or more bomber patrols you are entitled to one via request form signed by your CO.

The New Year has seen a number of personnel changes within Flotilla, with Capt Ed Ahlgren OBE RN attending Higher Command Staff Course for the first 4 months of 2019, Capt Neil Lamont OBE RN has moved across from the Cdr SM position to assume the duties of Captain Faslane Flotilla.

This means Cdr Jim McGuire will be dual hatted as Chief of Staff and Cdr SM and Lt Cdr Ian Shropshire, recently returned from Bahrain, has stepped in as Deputy Chief of Staff. He will be the point of contact for all CASD 50th events within the Flotilla. The other addition to the Flotilla team is Cdr John Livesey, well known throughout the naval base for his passion for car parking, he is now in charge of standing up the Operational Support Crew to support submarines at the water front.



ROYAL NAVY PAYS TRIBUTE TO HMY IOLAIRE

Submariners, sailors and Royal Marines joined HRH Prince Charles on New Year's Day to pay tribute to 201 troops who died in one of the UK's biggest maritime tragedies.

At 1.55am on January 1, 1919, HMY Iolaire struck rocks off the entrance to Stornoway Harbour. Onboard were 280 sailors, many of them Royal Navy Reservists, who were returning home after the horrors of the First World War.

Tragically, the ship went down just metres from home, in sight of many family members and loved-ones gathered on shore to welcome them back.

It is a disaster which left an indelible scar on the Islanders. And so, for the centenary, the Prince, the First Minister of Scotland, Flag Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland RAdm Weale, and relatives of those who perished gathered for a poignant ceremony to remember those who died.

Making up the Royal Navy guard were personnel from HMNB Clyde and aircraft carrier Prince of Wales. Also attending was the RM Band.

"The men who perished in the tragedy were sailors and it is absolutely fitting that the Royal Navy pays tribute to their sacrifice," said RAdm Weale.

"I applaud the community for their determination to keep the memory of those men and the disaster alive today and for tomorrow."



CASD50 NEEDS YOU – I AM CASD

We are still looking for volunteers to be part of the IAMCASD mosaic campaign. If you would like to have your picture taken to be included in

the mosaic or contribute to the video on how you contribute to CASD please email navy-sm-casd50mailbox@mod.gov.uk

NEW YEARS HONOURS FOR ROYAL NAVY

Two senior submariners were among the recipients of military awards in the New Year Honours list.

Head of the Submarine Service, RAdm John Weale, was made a Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath (CB) for his work as the “face” of the RN in Scotland and Northern Ireland and his dedication to the Silent Service.

Current Commanding Officer of HMS Vengeance Starboard, Cdr Neil Lamont, also picked-up an award, receiving an OBE – Officer of the Most Excellent Order or the British Empire.

Cdr Lamont said: “This award is a reflection of the operational success that HMS Vengeance Starboard has achieved and continues to achieve as we enter the 50th year of the Continuous At Sea Deterrent.

“Of course, none of this is possible without the unseen support of our families who are just as deserving of recognition as the men and women that go to sea.”

SUBMARINE CALENDAR – WHAT’S ON – GET INVOLVED

22 – 24 March 2019 - Submariners Association Annual Reunion and National Council Conference. This will be held in the Holiday Inn Leicester

WHAT’S IN NEXT MONTH

2019 – THE YEAR OF DELIVERY
K-13 MEMORIAL SERVICE

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