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ISSUE: Securing the Future of Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA

One of the firm concepts of the support of Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay by the community is that we would never fight our military if the decision was based on the mission – that we would never say “not our boats”. We’ve been tested and held steady when we lost two of our boats to increased missions in the Pacific.

The fact still remains that Kings Bay was built for 10 submarines: the infrastructure is bought and paid for. The capacity far exceeds that of 10 boats.

What happens in 20 years when the 8 boats we do have begin to retire? These submarines start retiring in 2027. It takes decades to design and construct a new class of ship. What is the future of Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay?

We ask our legislators to actively seek and support any initiative that works toward the follow on for the Ohio Class Trident submarine.

Recommendation: Support the Navy and the Defense Advance Research Projects Agency (DARPA) on their request for \$35 + million in fiscal year 2009 to begin concept work on the next generation Ohio-class submarine. *Inside the Navy* reported that the Navy must complete concept work soon in order for design to commence in the decade.

Support DARPA’s request for \$20.7 million to develop Tango Bravo in FY09. I’ve attached an article I wrote in 2003 and already 5 years have passed! The 20 year life span for our submarines will pass just as quickly.

Support the build rate of two Virginia Class Submarines. It is vital that we maintain the industrial base for submarine construction and the nation needs these submarines.