

# Navy Uses Science to Guard Harbors Against Enemy Subs

**By NORMAN BELL**  
**SAN DIEGO (AP)**—Much has been said about the threat of atomic attack on the United States by air. But why couldn't enemy submarines plant atomic bombs in harbors or launch guided missiles from the sea?

The Navy has the answer to potential enemy submarine action both in distant waters and near our shores. It's creating a deadly, far-ranging anti-submarine force of hunter-killer air and sea craft.

Vice Adm. William Callaghan, commander of U.S. naval forces in the Far East, terms this combination "the greatest potential capability against this (Communist) submarine threat."

At the same time he estimated that 80 of 375 Russian submarines were operating in the Pacific.

That actual but not hostile contact had been made with some Communist submarines at unspecified points was reported not long ago by Adm. Felix B. Stump, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet.

The disclosures came while the Navy's anti-submarine Carrier Divisions 15 and 17 were conducting their continuing hunter-killer maneuvers.

**Self-Guiding Torpedoes**  
 Some who have seen tests off Southern California say it would be impossible for a detected submarine to escape, explaining: A submarine would be "pin-pointed on the line of no escape" on tracking instrument panels of the sea and air craft bearing down upon it with rockets, depth bombs and homing (electrically self-guiding) torpedoes.

Should it survive the air attack, it would still be subject to heavier and relentless weapons of the destroyers, now equipped with sonar (undersea sound detecting) device greatly improved over those of World War II.

Other craft in the Navy's hunter-killer force include helicopters, land-based planes, harbor-based flying boats and anti-submarine submarines.

**Anti-Sub Service**  
 In addition to the small escort "jeep" carriers of Divisions 15 and 17, five of the 27,000-ton attack carriers are now in the anti-

submarine service. They are the Princeton, Valley Forge, Enterprise, Leyte and Antietam.

The Philippine Sea, Franklin, Bunker Hill and two others of the same class are being, or are scheduled to be, remodeled for the same purpose.

One of the jeep carriers, the Badoeng Strait, has a squadron of the Navy's first carrier plane that can both hunt and kill. It previously took two planes for the job.

The first of a second squadron of the two-engine Grumman SZF1 "Sentinel" hunter-killers was on the deck waiting for the escort carrier Point Cruz on its arrival here from the Far East recently with Carrier Division 17, commanded by Rea Adm. Lester K. Rice.

**Catapult-Launching**  
 A catapult launches the hunter-killers, the Navy's second largest carrier-based plane, from these smallest class carriers.

The SZF1 planes, with their radar-sonar detection devices, helicopters, which can dip a detector into the sea and hover or move along; and the destroyers are all part of the hunting force.

Any contact is reported to the carrier flagship's combat communications center by radio. It is then relayed to the admiral on the bridge. He orders the attack. Carriers were used in the At-

lantic in World War II against German submarines but their planes were limited to sighting undersea craft on or near the surface. Their attack weapons also were limited in comparison with those of today.

**Defend Shipping**  
 The present carriers, equipped and manned for the specific mission, range the seas in defense of shipping or other Navy forces. They also are capable of shifting quickly to offensive action. They could carry attacks across the oceans to strike, possibly with atomic bombs or other nuclear weapons, at the home pens and operating bases of enemy submarines.

Protection of United States coasts and ports is left primarily to land and harbor-based planes and surface patrol craft. The newest of such planes, the P5M2 Martin Mariner flying boat, is also a hunter-killer. The first squadron has been assigned to the Alameda, Calif., Naval Air Station.

Six World War II fleet submarines are reportedly being modernized to join the Navy's three new hunter-killer undersea craft.

Their role is to search the depths for enemy submarines, then destroy them, or report their locations to the surface and air teams, leaving it to them to make the kills.

## Socialists Given \$10,000 Check

**NEW YORK (AP)**—When Norman Thomas celebrated his 70th birthday recently, admirers handed him a \$10,000 check. The veteran Socialist leader obviously was taken by surprise.

"As an old-time Socialist campaigner," he said, "I always thought people forged signatures on \$10,000 checks."

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## French Root Up Grapes

**PARIS (AP)**—Premier Pierre Mendes-France's government is planning to pay up to \$228.57 an acre to farmers willing to tear up low grade grape vines.

The idea is to improve the quality of French wine, and get the submarginal farmers producing crops more important to the country.

One of the substitute crops favored is rice.

Mendes-France is also campaigning against excessive drinking, which is encouraged by the availability of cheap low-quality wine. Tearing up the bad vines will tend to raise both the quality and price of wine on the market, and reduce the quantity.

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