

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT THE NATION'S SUBMARINE FORCE AND THE INDUSTRIAL BASE

“I am personally grateful to everyone who has lent their talent, their time, and their treasure to the USS Indiana, and I know that President Trump is thankful as well. This submarine is the most advanced to ever serve America. The steel within her skeleton -- all 7,600 tons -- and the steel in the hearts of her crew form the unbreakable, unshakeable backbone of American freedom.”

*Vice President Mike Pence
April 29, 2017*

[USS Indiana Christening Ceremony Remarks](#)

“We're going to have to grow the fleet. That's all there is to it. But also what we're going to do in strengthening the military by making certain the new Columbia-class (submarine) is at the top of her game.”

*Secretary James Mattis
August 9, 2017*

[Speech at Troop Event](#)

“The Columbia class submarine is the most important acquisition program the Navy has today. This contract represents a significant investment in maintaining our strategic deterrent into the future.”

*Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer
September 21, 2017*

[Press Release](#)

“The Virginia-class submarine is one of the more successful acquisition programs. It's delivered on schedule and on budget.”

*Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee
December 7, 2017*

[Hearing Remarks](#)

“Sufficient and stable funding is the starting point for expanding submarine and shipbuilding capacity. Industry proved decades ago that it can steadily deliver four submarines per year. We have done this before. We can do it again. Congress should work with industry to identify responsible and cost-effective ways to incentivize investments in facilities and capital equipment.”

*Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower
June 13, 2017*

[Floor Remarks](#)

“Fast-attack submarines remain one of the most effective and sought after tools in our nation's arsenal. The Navy's December 2016 Force Structure Assessment (FSA) supported the testimony of our military commanders in stating that the United States should maintain a force of at least 66 fast attack submarines.”

*Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA-01), Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT-02), Rep. Jim Langevin (D-RI-02) and 33 others
January 3, 2018*

[Letter to the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations](#)

“Thanks to the hard work, dedication and unparalleled skill of our nation's shipbuilders, who continue to produce the finest submarines in the world, our Navy will continue to dominate the undersea domain long into the future.”

Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean Stackley
April 27, 2017
[Press Release](#)

“Significant investments in our next-generation Virginia-class submarines... ensure our Navy remains dominant under the sea.”

Senator Jack Reed (D-RI)
September 13, 2017
[Floor Remarks](#)

“This submarine [USS Washington] not only represents the spirit, ingenuity and strength of the American people, but also recognizes the critical role that the State of Washington provides to our national security. I am grateful to the men and women of Newport News Shipbuilding and to all of their partners for delivering such an extraordinary capability that will ensure our future advantage over any potential adversaries.”

Acting Under Secretary of the Navy Thomas Dee
October 5, 2017
[Press Release](#)

“We really do need submarines. Undersea is an advantage for the U.S. Navy; we want to sustain that advantage, so investing in capacity and upgrades, new technology – those are all things that are supported as we budget.”

Vice Admiral David Johnson
November 10, 2017
[Comments to Reporters](#)

“The Virginia class continues to be a high-performing program with each successive submarine delivering with improved quality, less deferred work, and reduced acquisition cost.”

Rear Admiral Michael Jabley
March 9, 2017
[Comments to Reporters](#)

“Submarines are the silent sentinels of the deep and are in constant demand around the world. The forthcoming Virginia class fast attack boats, which will come with the addition of payload modules, bring additional long range striking power that will be critical in taking on new anti-access/area denial systems presently emerging.”

Dr. Jerry Hendrix, Center for New American Security
July 25, 2017
[Congressional Testimony](#)