

Foreword

Fifty years ago a small group of submarine officers took action to establish Submarine Development Group Two. They were not responding to direction but acting on their intuitive feel for the need to focus on the potential of the submarine. While this was post war period, turbulent for both the country and the Navy; these were men who were not easily deterred. They had fought World War II in the Submarine Service. They were intelligent, aggressive and drew upon the natural cohesiveness of submariners.

We owe them much.

Submarine Development Group Two/Development Squadron Twelve played a fundamental role in guiding the employment of submarines during the long Cold War. From diesel boats to nuclear powered attack and ballistic missile submarines; this organization guided the development of tactics and employment for torpedoes, mines, cruise missiles, sonar, electronic countermeasures, surveillance, barriers, intelligence gathering, support of battle groups and a host of subjects too classified to mention.

The success of this organization was rooted in close association with the boats, rigorous at sea testing, “warts and all” analysis and careful preservation of lessons learned. Its accomplishments became well known throughout the Navy and its modus operandi was imported by other branches.

This 50th anniversary is a time both to reflect on the many accomplishments of this unique organization and to take stock of the future. The country and the Navy are once again in a post war period. Budgets are down and the future is unfocused. We have attempted to reflect this duality—celebration and assessment—in our approach.

We are most appreciative of the efforts put in by our speakers and the supporting organizations. The research, thoughtful candor and vision were noteworthy. We particularly thank Applied Mathematics, Analysis & Technology, Electric Boat, the Naval Submarine League and SAIC for their generous assistance.

Please enjoy this Proceedings as a fitting tribute to this unique organization.

Admiral Bruce DeMars, USN (Ret)