

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the U.S.S. Pompon was a naval submarine which was built in Manitowoc, Wisconsin and commissioned in 1942, which weighed over 1500 tons, was over 300 feet long, and could submerge to a depth of 300 feet; and

WHEREAS, the Pompon survived nine war patrols during World War II, plying the water around Australia, Japan, China, South and North America, and the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Pompon had a most distinguished service record, sinking several enemy vessels, including a 742 ton cargo ship and a 300 ton trawler, surviving the failure of one of its hatches causing it to flood while being pursued by enemy convoy, and the Battle of Saipan, ultimately earning four battle stars for its war service; and

WHEREAS, over 300 Americans served on board the "Peaceful P" in the service of their country during World War II, including such prominent citizens as Thomas O. Paine, who later served as Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and who led the space program during which time the first seven Apollo missions were flown, 20 astronauts orbited Earth, 14 traveled to the moon, and four walked upon its surface; and

WHEREAS, the Pompon was decommissioned in 1946 and recommissioned in 1953 as a radar picket submarine, operating in the Atlantic around Europe and the Caribbean from her homeport in Norfolk, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, decommissioned in 1960, the Pompon was sold for scrap and its propeller stored by the Naval Historical Center at the Navy Yard until the City of Alexandria was granted its request and the 7-foot, 2800 pound, four blade, starboard propeller was relocated to the City's waterfront behind the Torpedo Factory Arts Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim this day March 27, 2007 to be:

"U.S.S. POMPON REMEMBRANCE DAY"

FURTHER, I urge all citizens of the City to attend and pay homage to this symbol of valor and the sacrifices made in the name of freedom, and we proudly salute the veterans of the U.S.S. Pompon, are humbled by their patriotism and honor them now - those who were lost, those who came home, and those who are with us still. They are the sons of liberty who today become the sons of Alexandria, as well as part of celebrated history that is past but not forgotten.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 27th day of March 2007.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR

On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk



<george@pacerfarm.org>

03/27/2007 06:54 AM

Please respond to
<george@pacerfarm.org>

To <jackie.henderson@alexandriava.gov>

cc

bcc

Subject COA Contact Us: re: proclamation, USS Pompon (SS-267)

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3-27-07

Time: [Tue Mar 27, 2007 05:54:42] IP Address: [71.255.225.241]

Response requested: []

First Name: George T.
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15 the Circle
P.O. Box 898
City: Washington Grove
State: MD
Zip: 20880-0898
Phone: 301 869 4111
Email Address: george@pacerfarm.org
Subject: re: proclamation, USS Pompon (SS-267)
I was pleased to learn that the City Council is going to
proclaim 27 March as "USS Pompon Remembrance Day",
as noted in the draft proclamation on the city's website

<http://dockets.alexandriava.gov/fy07/032707rm/di4.pdf>

Comments: my father, the late Dr Thomas O. Paine, served on it during
WW II as the text indicates, and I am planning to attend this
evening's meeting when the proclamation is to be made.

the text does contain a minor typographical error: his middle
initial is the letter "O".

thank you.