

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 94

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the sinking of U.S.S. *Thresher* (SSN 593).

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 9, 2013

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KING)
submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 50th anniversary of the sinking of U.S.S.
Thresher (SSN 593).

Whereas U.S.S. *Thresher* was first launched at Portsmouth
Naval Shipyard on July 9, 1960;

Whereas U.S.S. *Thresher* departed Portsmouth Naval Ship-
yard for her final voyage on April 9, 1963, with a crew
of 16 officers, 96 sailors, and 17 civilians;

Whereas the mix of that crew reflects the unity of the naval
submarine service, military and civilian, in the protection
of the United States;

Whereas at approximately 7:47 a.m. on April 10, 1963, while
in communication with the surface ship U.S.S. *Skylark*,
and approximately 220 miles off the coast of New Eng-
land, U.S.S. *Thresher* began her final descent;

Whereas U.S.S. *Thresher* was declared lost with all hands on April 10, 1963;

Whereas in response to the loss of U.S.S. *Thresher*, the United States Navy instituted new regulations to ensure the health of the submariners and the safety of the submarines of the United States;

Whereas those regulations led to the establishment of the Submarine Safety and Quality Assurance program (SUBSAFE), now 1 of the most comprehensive military safety programs in the world;

Whereas SUBSAFE has kept the submariners of the United States safe at sea ever since as the strongest, safest submarine force in history;

Whereas, since the establishment of SUBSAFE, no SUBSAFE-certified submarine has been lost at sea, which is a legacy owed to the brave individuals who perished aboard U.S.S. *Thresher*;

Whereas from the loss of U.S.S. *Thresher*, there arose in the institutions of higher education in the United States the ocean engineering curricula that enables the preeminence of the United States in submarine warfare; and

Whereas the crew of U.S.S. *Thresher* demonstrated the “last full measure of devotion” in service to the United States, and this devotion characterizes the sacrifices of all submariners, past and present: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the 50th anniversary of the sink-
3 ing of U.S.S. *Thresher*;

1 (2) remembers with profound sorrow the loss of
2 U.S.S. *Thresher* and her gallant crew of sailors and
3 civilians on April 10, 1963; and

4 (3) expresses its deepest gratitude to all subma-
5 riners on “eternal patrol”, who are forever bound to-
6 gether by dedicated and honorable service to the
7 United States of America.

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