

NAVY/GENERAL

GOODWIN, C.E.

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May 26, 1987

The Honorable James H. Webb, Jr.
Secretary of the Navy
Department of the Navy
The Pentagon
Room 4E686
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to urge your support in having one of the new Trident submarines named the **U.S.S. West Virginia**.

As you are aware, the U.S. battleship West Virginia, was one of the battleships berthed at Pearl Harbor on that fatal Sunday, December 7, 1941. She also led the parade of Pearl Harbor veterans into Tokyo Bay to witness the surrender ceremony on the U.S.S. Missouri. The U.S. battleship West Virginia was decommissioned on March 1, 1959. This five star battleship served our country well throughout World War II, and West Virginians were proud to have her bear the name **U.S.S. West Virginia**.

Since 1959, there has been no capital ship in the U.S. Navy fleet which carries the name **U.S.S. West Virginia**. West Virginia has been one of the highest states, per capita, to sacrifice its sons in our country's service. As a strong Navy supporter, I would appreciate your giving favorable consideration to commission one of the new Trident submarines the **U.S.S. West Virginia**.

I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you personally, at your earliest convenience.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Robert C. Byrd

RCB:bj