USS Jason Dunham Returns to Mayport Following Deployment to U.S. Fourth Fleet

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT, Fla. (Nov 12, 2025) – Arleigh Burke-

class guided-missile destroyer USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109) pulls into Naval Station Mayport after completing a 91-day surge deployment in the U.S. Fourth Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR), Nov. 12, 2025. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1Brandon J. Vinson)
From U.S. 4th Fleet, Nov. 12, 2025

Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109) returned to Naval Station Mayport after completing a 91-day surge deployment in the U.S. Fourth Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR).

While assigned to Destroyer Squadron 40 (DESRON 40), the ship conducted a variety of multi-domain operations and joint training events. The crew qualified for both the U.S. Coast Guard Special Operations Ribbon and the Sea Service Ribbon for its support of interagency operations while deployed.

“I am incredibly proud of my entire crew aboard Jason Dunham,” said Cmdr. Aaron Jefferson III, USS Jason Dunham’s Commanding Officer. “Successfully completing our surge deployment to Fourth Fleet is yet another example of their unmatched resilience and professionalism.”

The ship’s embarked helicopter detachment, HSM-48 Detachment 7, flew 121 sorties while integrating airborne tactical scouting to extend the ship’s maritime domain awareness and reach.

“Over the course of their deployment to the USSOUTHCOM AOR, Jason Dunham and her exceptional crew exemplified the strength of American naval sea power and international cooperation,” said Capt. Anthony James, commander, Naval Surface Group Southeast. “Their efforts reflect the strength of our commitment to maritime security and cooperation with allies and partners in the region.”

Jason Dunham conducted port visits to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Ponce, Puerto Rico; and Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas, U.S.

Virgin Islands, enhancing logistical sustainment and regional security cooperation.

“Our team’s presence in the Caribbean is a clear demonstration of the Navy’s ability to deploy forces anywhere in the world to protect the interests of the American people,” said Jefferson.

USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109) is assigned to Commander Naval Surface Group Southeast and homeported in Mayport, Florida. As an Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, Jason Dunham is a multi-mission surface combatant capable of conducting anti-air, anti-submarine, and anti-surface warfare operations, supporting the U.S. Navy’s goals of forward presence, maritime security, and deterrence.

General Dynamics NASSCO Awarded $1.7B to Construct T-AO 215 and T-AO 216

NASSCO currently under contract to build 17 of the Navy's 20-ship program of record, and has delivered four to date.

From NASSCO

SAN DIEGO, November 10, 2025 – General Dynamics NASSCO, a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE:GD), announced today that it has been awarded $1.7 billion for the construction of T-AO 215 and T-AO 216. The ships are part of NASSCO's current multi-ship contract from the U.S. Navy for the construction of up to eight additional John Lewis-class fleet replenishment oilers (T-AO 214 through 221).

"The T-AO program holds significant importance to the men and women of NASSCO and is one we take great pride in – it's the longest running Navy production series in NASSCO history," said Dave Carver, president of General Dynamics NASSCO. "The timely funding for these two ships will act to stabilize the workforce by sustaining an important backlog and prevent future layoffs. Our entire NASSCO team is honored to continue

to support the critical national security mission of the U.S. Navy.”

In 2016, the Navy awarded NASSCO with a contract to design and build the first six ships in the next generation of fleet oilers, the John Lewis-class. In 2022, that contract was modified to add an additional three oilers (T-AO 211 – 213). In 2024 NASSCO received an additional eight-ship contract to build T-AOs 10-17.

Designed to transfer fuel to U.S. Navy ships operating at sea, the 742-feet vessels have a full load displacement of 49,850 tons, capacity to carry 162,000 barrels of oil and significant amounts of dry cargo, as well as providing aviation capability while traveling at speeds up to 20 knots.

The first four ships of the program have been delivered to the U.S. Navy, with five additional T-AOs currently under construction in the NASSCO shipyard.

SeeByte, BlueZone Group Ally to Strengthen Australian Naval Capabilities

From Seebyte, Nov. 11, 2025

SeeByte, a UK-based leader in advanced maritime defence and uncrewed systems technology, is proud to announce the signing of a representative agreement with BlueZone Group, a trusted Australian defence solutions provider. This partnership is a pivotal step in enhancing the Royal Australian Navy’s operational edge through cutting-edge autonomous maritime technologies.

By appointing BlueZone Group as its official representative in Australia, SeeByte is reinforcing its commitment to supporting the Royal Australian Navy’s focus on future force readiness, autonomous systems integration, and maintaining strategic advantage in the maritime domain.

Under this agreement, BlueZone Group will represent SeeByte in Australia, acting as its exclusive local representative across government, defence, and industry engagements. This includes supporting business development, strategic partnerships, and programme delivery in the maritime domain, with a focus on

autonomous platforms, mission systems, C2 integration, and ISR capabilities.

“As we expand our operational footprint in the Indo-Pacific, we are pleased to formalise this partnership with BlueZone Group” said Robert Johnson, Chief Commercial Officer at SeeByte. “Australia is a pivotal strategic region for SeeByte, and this collaboration helps empower them with cutting-edge technology, strengthening sovereign capability, and advancing combat readiness.”

“We look forward to representing SeeByte and supporting their integration into the Australian defence ecosystem. Their cutting-edge technology and operational experience will add significant value to Australia’s future capability landscape”, said Neil Hodges, Managing Director at BlueZone Group.

The agreement enhances SeeByte’s ability to engage directly with the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and key stakeholders supporting AUKUS Pillar II initiatives.

Future Attack Submarine Utah Christened at Electric Boat

By Richard R. Burgess, Senior Editor

ARLINGTON, Va. — The future Virginia-class nuclear-powered attack submarine Utah (SSN 801) was christened during ceremonies at the General Dynamics Electric Boat shipyard in Groton, Connecticut, on October 25, 2025.

According to a posting on X @GDElectricBoat "The Virginia-class assembly building at shipyard was all decked out on October 25 for the christening of PCU Utah (SSN 801). EB shipbuilders, the ship's crew, U.S. Navy personnel and government officials joined both live and virtually to celebrate this significant milestone commemorated by a joint swing. Mrs. Sharon Lee (left) and Mrs. Mary Kaye Huntsman, co-sponsors of Utah, broke a bottle of sparkling cyser — a honey and apple cider wine from Utah — on the ship's hull to commemorate the christening."

When commissioned, the USS Utah will be the 10th and final Block 4 version of the Virginia-class submarines to be built

by General Dynamics Electric Boat and HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding.

Industry leaders Unite to Deliver Combat System Capability for SSN-AUKUS

From General Dynamics Mission Systems

CHANTILLY, Va. – Four major defense companies have proposed the establishment of an AUKUS Combat Systems Collaborative Team in contemplation of a potential role for Australia’s SSN-AUKUS conventionally armed nuclear-powered submarines, under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed Wednesday, Nov. 5.

BAE Systems, Raytheon Australia, General Dynamics Mission Systems and Thales propose to lead the design and lay the foundations for manufacture and integration of combat systems for SSN-AUKUS under agreements to be negotiated with the Commonwealth of Australia and United Kingdom government. SSN-AUKUS will be based on the UK’s next-generation design and incorporate technology from all three nations. The combination of technology from all three nations is intended to deliver a world-class submarine that meets Australia’s long-term defense requirements.

The collaboration draws on over 150 years of collective experience in the design, integration, and delivery from industry leaders across three nations, an expertise that is intended to meet the demands of delivering a cutting-edge combat system for SSN-AUKUS in a way that reduces both programmatic and workforce risks across the program while

accelerating speed to capability.

Under the MOU, the parties have agreed to work collaboratively to design a best of class tri-national Combat System as a shared solution for Australia and the UK in support of SSN-AUKUS. This system builds on General Dynamics Mission Systems' existing AN/BYG-1 combat control system that is cofunded by the U.S. and Australia and leverages the existing industrial base and workforce supporting both the U.S. Navy and the RAN.

AN/BYG-1 is an open-architecture system which integrates tactical control, payload and weapons control and information assurance. The system is installed on Australia's Collins class submarines, as well as the U.S. Navy's Virginia, Los Angeles, Ohio, Columbia, and Seawolf-class submarines.

The Collaborative Team intend to optimize Australian involvement in Combat System design and delivery, while facilitating skills, technology and knowledge transfer across the AUKUS nations to strengthen Australian industry for the SSN-AUKUS program.

Craig Lockhart, Chief Executive Officer of BAE Systems Australia, said:

"This Memorandum of Understanding is another strategic step forward to developing the most effective and advanced combat system for SSN-AUKUS, simultaneously strengthening Australia's operational sovereignty and industrial capability.

"By aligning with our industry and trilateral partners, this signing will accelerate and enhance combat system development that is interoperable by design, reaffirming our role as a trusted partner to the Commonwealth of Australia and Royal Australian Navy."

Ohad Katz, Managing Director of Raytheon Australia, said:

“As Australia’s sovereign submarine combat system partner, Raytheon Australia and our workforce bring more than 25 years of expertise in design, integration and sustainment, including upgrades and updates, of the Collins Class submarine combat system to this team, establishing the base for a truly sovereign capability ready to deliver the RAN’s most ambitious naval program.

“As the RAN moves to a multi-class submarine fleet, leveraging the existing workforce, with proven processes that sustain Collins will ensure continuity, confidence, and low-risk delivery.”

Laura Hooks, vice president and general manager of Maritime and Strategic Systems, at General Dynamics Mission Systems, said: “We are excited to formalize a collaborative path forward as we work together to strengthen critical defense capabilities in the Indo-Pacific region.

“The MOU acknowledges that the team successfully delivering submarine combat system capability to the three nations via separate efforts today should be entrusted to sustain and integrate combat systems aboard Virginia and AUKUS submarines in the future, ensuring continuity, confidence and low-risk delivery. It sets a standard of teamwork that will allow us to more efficiently explore future business opportunities in the United States, United Kingdom, and Australia.”

Steven Lockley, Chief Operating Officer of Underwater Systems, Defence Mission Systems, Thales UK said: “Success on international programs such as AUKUS requires strong international partners in order to deliver maximum customer value and sustained capability. Thales is pleased to continue its long-term Combat Systems relationships with BAES and Raytheon Australia and look forward to also working with a new partner in General Dynamics Mission Systems. Together, we will deliver a hugely capable and sustainable AUKUS Combat System maximising the attributes of our companies across the AUKUS

countries.”

General Dynamics Mission Systems is the prime contractor for the US Navy’s AN/BYG-1 Combat Control System, Common Weapon Launcher (CWL), and Torpedo Guidance and Control Subsystems.

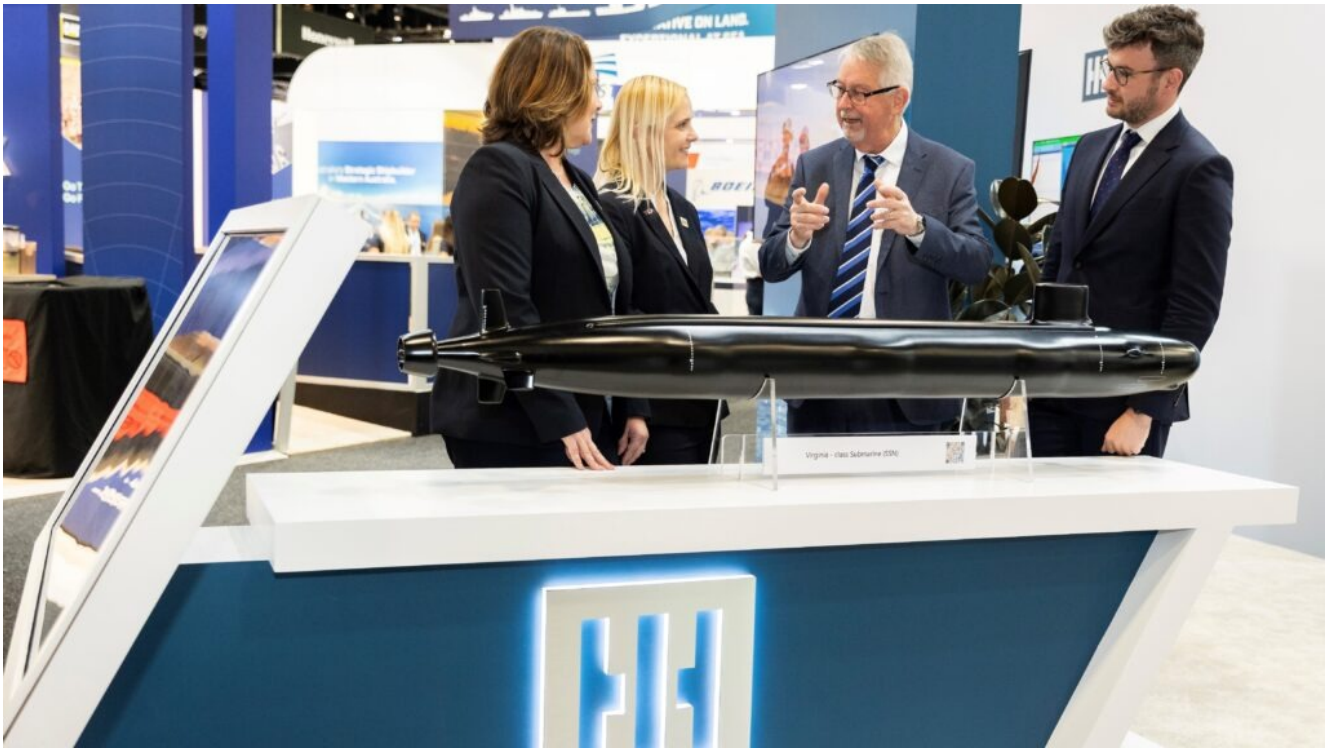
BAE Systems is the prime contractor for the design and manufacture of the Royal Navy’s UK submarine fleet and will produce the design of the SSN-AUKUS submarines and build the UK’s SSN-AUKUS submarines in Barrow, UK. BAE Systems Australia Submarines, alongside ASC Pty Ltd, has been selected by the CoA to build Australia’s SSN-AUKUS submarines in Adelaide, Australia based on that UK SSNAUKUS design.

Thales, a supplier of integrated sonar systems for submarines, surface ships and airborne platforms, has been appointed as the Main Sonar Design Authority and Integrator, and Sonar Contracting Authority (MSDA&I and SCA) for the UK SSN Programme by BAE Systems UK as the Combat Systems Integrator (CSI).

Raytheon Australia is a combat system integrator and naval sustainment partner for the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) submarine and surface ship combat systems and is the combat system manager and integrator for the RAN Collins Class Submarines and a key partner in the joint US/Australian AN/BYG-1 Submarine Combat Control System.

General Dynamics Mission Systems, a business unit of General Dynamics (NYSE: GD), provides mission critical solutions to the challenges facing our defense, intelligence and cyber security customers across all domains. Headquartered in Chantilly, Virginia, General Dynamics Mission Systems employs approximately 12,000 people worldwide. For more information about the General Dynamics Mission Systems broad portfolio of capabilities, visit gdmissionsystems.com.

HII Welcomes UK’s Westley Group as Strategic Supplier, Strengthening Submarine Supply Chain



Release From HII

SYDNEY, Nov. 04, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) — At the Indo Pacific International Maritime Exposition in Sydney, HII (NYSE: HII) announced the addition of Westley Group, a leading United Kingdom-based manufacturer of high-integrity metal castings, as a strategic supplier supporting the U.S. Navy’s submarine industrial base.

This milestone marks another step forward in advancing allied defense collaboration under the AUKUS trilateral partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Westley Group is now approved by HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding division, builder of nuclear-powered submarines and aircraft carriers for the U.S. Navy, to deliver critical castings for U.S. Navy platforms.

“Consistent with the need to have a more integrated supply chain, creating this new supplier that builds essential components adds to the incremental volume required to construct more submarines to meet national security needs,” said Matt Mulherin Jr., HII’s Newport News Shipbuilding division vice president of supply chain and strategic sourcing. “This benefits everyone in the partnership and is a key step toward strengthening and creating a more robust supplier network to meet the expanded need for nuclear-powered submarines.”

The partnership underscores HII’s commitment to expanding industrial integration across AUKUS nations and building a more resilient, globally connected supply chain to support submarine program execution.

This collaboration highlights deepening industrial integration under the AUKUS framework and strengthens collective readiness across the trilateral partnership.

Advanced Navigation Unveils Compact Boreas 50 Series For High-Integrity Maritime and

Naval Navigation

From Advanced Navigation, Nov. 3, 2025

Global, November 2025 - Advanced Navigation, a global leader in assured positioning, navigation and timing (APNT) and autonomous system, has announced the expansion of its Boreas range with the new 50 series – the company's most compact fiber-optic gyroscope (FOG) inertial navigation system (INS), delivering rapid North-seeking in challenging GNSS-denied maritime environments.

The 50 Series includes two high-performing variants:

- The A50 – an attitude and heading reference system (AHRS)

- The D50 – a strategic-grade INS

Each is equipped with a North-seeking gyrocompass capable of rapidly determining true North. Powered by Advanced Navigation's advanced sensor fusion, the series delivers intelligent, reliable navigation within a SWaP-optimized form factor.

Featuring all-band GNSS receivers, the D50 offers enhancements in signal availability, heading accuracy, and greater resilience in challenging environments. For defense missions operating in particularly high-threat scenarios, it also offers an extra layer of protection through optional Electronic Protection (EP) capabilities.

Maximilian Doemling, Head of Product at Advanced Navigation, said,

"Accurately determining position and heading remains a persistent challenge in maritime and naval operations. That's where the Boreas 50 Series comes in. It plugs straight into new and existing platforms and starts delivering fast, reliable positioning and North-seeking where traditional systems aren't able to.

For high-threat operational environments, the D50's advanced EP capabilities deliver uncompromising protection against nefarious attempts of GNSS jamming and spoofing. It is a powerful counter-Electronic Warfare solution built to operate under direct electronic attack, giving operators the resilience and reliability they need to stay on course against any adversary."

Compact North-Seeking in Tough Environments

Real-time North-seeking: The Boreas 50 series contains precise North-seeking gyrocompassing, capable of detecting Earth’s rotation to determine true North in real time, completely independent of GNSS signals or magnetic interference. This is housed in a compact form factor weighing 910 grams, enabling easy integration into space- and weight-constrained platforms.

Advanced sensor fusion: Advanced Navigation’s proprietary sensor fusion draws on sophisticated algorithms to interpret and filter sensor data. The software is designed to dynamically weigh the input from each sensor, adjusting in real time based on reliability scores, environmental conditions, and operational context. This ensures continuous, high-confidence state estimation even when GNSS signals are lost or degraded.

All-band GNSS capabilities: The D50 incorporates dual-antenna, all-band GNSS receivers, supporting access to the newer L6 band. This broad-spectrum support enables significantly faster convergence times to centimetre-level positioning accuracy.

Optional EP: The D50 is available with optional EP functionality. While adversaries create GNSS signal attacks, the D50 proactively detects and neutralises these attacks to maintain a reliable, uninterrupted positioning.

Confidence from Surface to Underwater

The Boreas 50 Series integrates effortlessly into both new and legacy defense and commercial platforms to streamline upgrades, reduce installation time, and lower overall costs.This flexibility enables rapid deployment across a wide range of applications.

Maritime vehicles: The denial of GNSS signals blinds a vessel’s precision capabilities, risking its ability to

navigate effectively or accurately identify and track incoming threats. The 50 Series is engineered to endure GNSS denial, navigate precisely, and deliver assets on target to maintain tactical advantage on the seas.

AUVs and ROVs: Accurate positioning is critical for AUVs and ROVs. The 50 series can find true North without magnetic sensors, eliminating magnetic interference. Advanced algorithms and integration with DVL and other sensors ensure long-endurance, high-accuracy underwater navigation.

Autonomous Surface Vessel: The 50 series combines North-seeking capability, precision sensors, and survey-grade fusion algorithms to deliver consistent performance for ASVs. With dual-antenna GNSS, DVL, and environmental sensor integration in a compact housing, it provides a robust navigation core that withstands GNSS outages, harsh weather, and violent vessel motion.

Boreas 50 Series Specifications

- Heading accuracy: Gyro compassing 0.5 degrees secant latitude
- Roll and pitch accuracy: 0.03 degrees
- Positional accuracy: 0.01 m CEP50
- Electronic Protection capabilities are available on the Boreas D50

Defense Veterans Continue to Drive Rapid Innovation

Beyond unmatched speed, Advanced Navigation’s defense team consists entirely of military veterans, a global force the

company plans to more than double within the year to ensure its technologies are shaped by those who understand and have experienced the battlespace.

The veterans partner closely with system integrators, program offices, and military end-users to deliver tailored APNT solutions that meet rigorous performance, compliance, and security standards. Their military experience enables seamless communication between technical teams and military operators, accelerating timelines and reducing the risk of misalignment.

The Ultimate Capability is Availability

Advanced Navigation’s products are developed and delivered on stringent timelines, supported by the company’s vertically integrated manufacturing. This sets a new standard by guaranteeing the shortest production lead times in the industry – ready in weeks, not years, and is backed by a three-year warranty.

With a deep understanding of the applications its products operate in, Advanced Navigation’s global field experts are dedicated to meeting the needs of maritime and naval customers with responsiveness, exceptional quality and genuine care. The team partners closely with system integrators, OEMs, and end-users to deliver tailored solutions that overcome commonplace industry concerns such as integration challenges, cost uncertainty and risk aversion. By leveraging engineering excellence, unmatched speed and quality customer support, Advanced Navigation is accelerating the path towards maritime autonomy.

Navy Pacific War Vet Attends Navy's 250th Birthday Celebrations in Philadelphia

Edward Desmond, center, gets a VIP tour of the battleship USS New Jersey. *Photos courtesy of the Desmond family*

Soon to be 100-year-old Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward D. Desmond from Boston was invited by the Navy to attend the

Navy’s 250th Birthday Celebrations in Philadelphia in early October.

He spent four days in Philadelphia and enjoyed everything from attending the Navy’s Gala Birthday dinner wearing his tuxedo to enjoying a visit to the Battleship USS New Jersey and the Cruiser USS Olympia wearing his newly issued Navy pea coat to keep him warm in the unusually cold weather.

At the Navy 250 Gala birthday dinner held in the Great Hall of the National Constitution Center at Independence National Historical Park, within sight of the Liberty Bell, Desmond received recognition from Navy leaders as he was the oldest Navy Sailor in attendance.

He received a standing ovation from the more than 750 guests in attendance and was able to participate in the ceremonial cutting of the birthday cake alongside Admiral Daryl Caudle, 34th chief of naval operations.

As the oldest Sailor in attendance, 99-year-old Desmond was then presented the first slice, with the second slice presented to the youngest Sailor, just 22 years old. The moment captured the Navy’s enduring legacy honoring those who have served before while also celebrating the newest generation of Navy Sailors who will continue to carry its proud traditions forward.

Desmond swapped challenge coins with Admiral Daryl Caudle, the chief of naval operations.

Challenge Coins

On the following day, Desmon was given a VIP tour of the historic Battleship New Jersey where he again met CNO Caudle to share sea stories and where the admiral presented Desmond with a commemorative Navy 250 challenge coin.

Desmond had a surprise for the admiral as he countered by offering Caudle his own challenge coin, a unique coin representing and honoring the service of 10,000 landing craft support Sailors who served on LCS ships during the Pacific

war. The U.S. built 130 of those heavily armed gunboats in a hurry in 1944 and 1945 and sent them to the Pacific. They were designed to provide close-in gunfire support for the landing boats carrying Marines and Army troops ashore at such places as Iwo Jima, the Philippines and Okinawa.

Desmond was also the guest of the crew of a smaller, 21st century Navy LCS rafted alongside the battleship New Jersey: the USS Billings (LCS 15) a Freedom-class littoral combat ship.

Desmond noted with delight he had the privilege of being aboard the Billings two years earlier when the ship was at its homeport at Naval Station Mayport in Jacksonville, Florida. Desmond got a tour of the ship and had a front-row seat on the bow for observing Navy small boat forces performing a mock assault on a small ship on the Delaware River.

As Desmond was departing the Billings, the senior gunners mate presented him with a shell casing from the bow gun, a 57mm Mk 110 naval gun capable of a high rate of fire against air, surface, and shore-based threats.

Desmond told the gunners mate that his battle station assignment aboard LCS 128 eight decades ago was at a 20mm anti-aircraft gun and, with a twinkle in his eye, let the gunners mate know that “my 20mm gun had a firing rate of 300 rounds per minute” compared to the 220 rounds per minute firing rate of the MK 110.

That same evening, Desmond rallied and attended a 2.5 hour “Victory at Sea” concert which included performances by the U.S. Navy Band, the Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps and a special performance from Patti LaBelle.

On the last day of Desmond’s trip, he was the guest of a different kind of Navy, the famous Schuylkill Navy, sponsor of all of the rowing clubs in Philadelphia. Desmond took a tour

of Boathouse Row, including the Saint Joseph's University Boathouse, and took a few minutes to try out one of the rowing machines.

He had worked up an appetite, so he asked if there was any place close by where he could get a Philly cheesesteak. His wish was granted and he gave the iconic Philly sandwich a big thumbs up.

The indefatigable 99-year-old then headed to his hotel to get ready for a second Navy birthday dinner hosted by the Navy Museum Development Foundation at the prestigious Union League Club.

Coming Up on 100

Desmond's daughter was his accomplice on his visit to Philadelphia and reported her father said the Navy's 250th birthday celebration weekend was a once-in-a-lifetime event and he would send a big thank you to the Navy for hosting him at such a prestigious event.

Desmond and his family are now looking to celebrate his 100th birthday on Nov. 10, which just happens to be the Marine Corps' 250th birthday.

Desmond again, with a twinkle in his eye, said maybe he should send one of his challenge coins to the commandant of the Marine Corps and see if he might get invited to come back to Philadelphia for the Marine's 250th birthday.

Ghost Shark Factory Opens in Sydney, First Vehicle Off the Line Ready for Testing

Credit: Anduril

[Release From Anduril Industries]

Just seven weeks after the Royal Australian Navy awarded a A$1.7 billion Program of Record, Anduril today officially opened its new, state-of-the-art Ghost Shark manufacturing facility in Sydney. The opening – attended by the Hon Pat Conroy MP, Minister for Defence Industry; Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AO, Chief of Navy; Dr Shane Arnott, SVP, Anduril Industries; and David Goodrich OAM, Chairman & CEO Anduril Australia – coincides with a major milestone: the first Ghost Shark Extra Large Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (XL-AUV) has rolled off the line ahead of schedule and is ready for sea acceptance testing ahead of planned delivery to the Royal

Australian Navy in January 2026.

The factory opening follows the Royal Australian Navy's award of a A$1.7BN contract to Anduril Australia to deliver a large fleet of Ghost Sharks over the next five years. Anduril announced the successful Program of Record designation after successfully completing the co-development contract and delivering three Ghost Shark XL-AUVs ahead of schedule and on-budget. This was a part of the AU$140M co-development contract to design and develop three Ghost Shark XL-AUVs in three years.

The new 7,400m² facility is purpose-built to produce Ghost Shark, and its commercial baseline the Dive-XL, at-scale and, subject to Government approval, for export to allies and partners around the world. It combines advanced robotic manufacturing, AI-driven logistics and a custom test tank for in-water verification of buoyancy, electrical systems and safety before sea trials.

The Ghost Shark manufacture program has commenced with Low-Rate Initial Production, moving to full scale production in 2026. It incorporates input from a supply chain of over 40 Australian SMEs and companies that provide a broad range of components, subcomponents and materials.

Key facts

- A$1.7 billion Program of Record awarded by the Royal Australian Navy.
- First vehicle off the line and ready for undersea testing; planned RAN delivery January 2026.
- Factory footprint: 7,400m² with integrated robotic production, AI ground vehicles and gantry tracking.

- Custom in-water test tank and adjacent engineering labs for live software and hardware tuning.

- Production ramp: Low-Rate Initial Production underway, transitioning to full-scale production in 2026.

- Supply chain: over 40 Australian SMEs contributing parts, components and materials.

- Local impact: more than 150 high-skilled jobs created and a strengthened sovereign supply chain.

Beyond the XL-AUV, the facility is configured to manufacture Dive-XL and Dive-LD variants and is ready to support future platforms such as Anduril's Copperhead family of high-speed Autonomous Underwater Vehicles

Factory is ready to produce vehicles for export to allies and partners around the world (subject to Australian government approval)

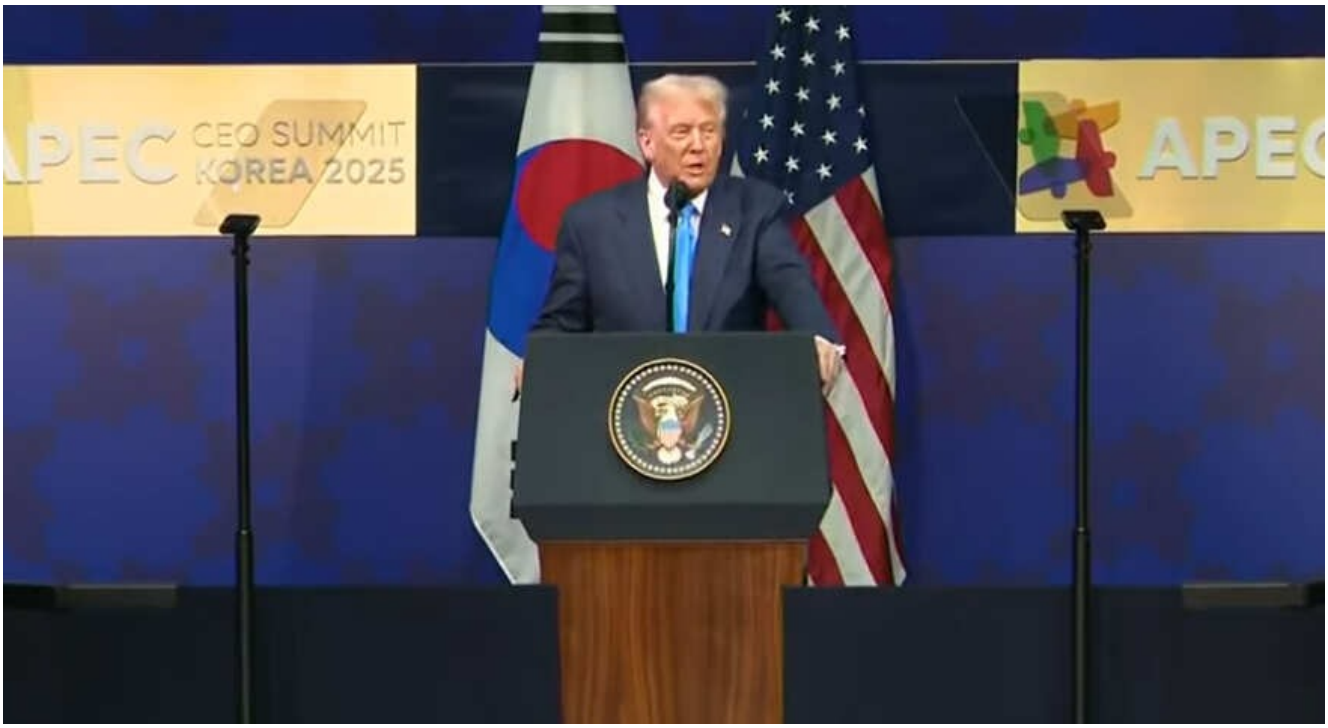
Quotes attributable to Minister for Defence Industry, the Hon Pat Conroy MP

"The Ghost Shark is the most high-tech long range autonomous underwater capability that exists in the world today and the Albanese Government is proud to have supported its development," said the Hon Pat Conroy MP, Minister for Defence Industry. "The opening of this factory is about backing Australian ingenuity and innovation, but also securing hundreds of well-paid high-skilled jobs and a future made in Australia."

Quotes attributed to David Goodrich OAM, Chairman and CEO Anduril Australia

David Goodrich OAM, Chairman & CEO, Anduril Australia, said: “Today marks a defining moment in our mission to bring sovereign undersea capability to Australia. With the opening of this new facility, we are not only building local infrastructure and workforce – we are investing in innovation, in partnerships, and in the future defence of our nation. Affordable, disruptive and distributed mass is a central tenet of undersea deterrence, and we look forward to supporting Australia and its allies by producing Ghost Sharks right here in Sydney.”

President Trump Touts Hanwha’s Philly Shipyard During APEC Address



Release From Hanwha USA, Oct. 29, 2025

On Wednesday, President Trump addressed the Asia-Pacific

Economic Cooperation CEO Summit and reinforced his partnership with South Korea to bolster shipyards in the United States.

“And today we’re not really building ships and we’re going to start and we’re going to have a very thriving, very thriving shipbuilding industry and we’re working it with South Korea very much so. In fact, some of the people in this room, they bought the Philadelphia shipyard.

“I think it’s going to be one of the most successful yards in the world anywhere in the world. It’s great.”

Why it matters: In August 2025, Hanwha announced a multibillion-dollar infrastructure plan for Hanwha Philly Shipyard that will be dedicated to the installation of two additional docks and three quays to increase capacity and is reviewing plans for a new block assembly facility.

In addition to its multibillion-dollar commitment to build capacity, it will also train skilled shipbuilding personnel and bolster the shipbuilding industrial base. Hanwha’s planned expansion at Philly Shipyard, from roughly one ship annually to as many as 20, aligns directly with U.S. goals to restore competitive shipbuilding capacity and rebuild the industrial workforce.

Read more about Hanwha’s commitment to the Philly Shipyard here.

The full transcript of President Trump’s remarks can be found here.