

2017 Navy League Youth Scholarship – Winning Essay

The Impact on the Sea Services over the Next Four Years with the President and the Majority in Both Houses of Congress Being of the Same Party

By Grayson Roach

After a long sometimes brutal campaign year, the American people elected a Republican president and decided the 115th Congress will have a Republican majority in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. One might expect this would ensure the priorities of the Republican Party, typically defense, healthcare reform, and infrastructure, would be advanced rather easily, but this may not be the case.

President George Washington said, “To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace.” The Republican Party has a similar thought to be “the party of peace through strength.” They believe the United States holds a natural position as the world leader and that injustices throughout the world will be defeated by a strong America, backed up by a strong US military. The Republican Party website states “the Republican Party is committed to rebuilding the US military into the strongest on earth, with vast superiority over any other nation or group of nations in the world.” President Trump plans to seek what he is calling a “historic” \$54 billion increase in defense spending in his 2018 budget. Updating our aging naval ships and increasing fleet size is one of the main focuses. Given the Republican desire for military superiority and the president’s goal of increasing the size of the Navy from approximately 275 to 350 ships, I believe the Republican Congress and president will have a significant impact on the US Navy over the next four years.

The biggest hurdle in getting the budget approved is sequestration. Sequestration is a provision of the Budget Control Act of 2011 that imposes across-the-board spending cuts aimed at reducing the budget deficit. It requires \$1.2 trillion in cuts across federal agencies including \$500 million to the military over the next decade. Sequestration will be in effect through 2021. It has been estimated that building a fleet of 350 ships would add an additional \$25 billion per year to the existing budget or approximately 60 percent more than the amount of funding the Navy has received on average for shipbuilding over the past thirty years.

There are many advantages to increasing the number of ships, planes, and submarines in the Navy. The president wants to be a job creator and put America first and a budget increase could help boost the US economy in a variety of ways. First, jobs will be created at the shipyard and in the Navy. The shipyards will have to hire additional personnel with the skills to build ships. The Navy will have to recruit personnel to man the ships. Since it takes time to train the workers and sailors, these people will have to be hired in advance of the ship building efforts. The shipyards spend money to buy the equipment and upgrade machinery to support the increased ship building efforts. They will also have to purchase the raw materials necessary to build our ships. If the Congress directs the shipyards to “buy American” this would also be an additional improvement to our economy.

One concern is the cost to the tax payer. If the President and Congress implement aggressive tax cuts, as he promised during his campaign, the cost of the increased ship building could cause the Congress to offset the increase in shipbuilding funds by taking the money from other areas of the Navy’s budget. This could result in cutting the operating and maintenance budget. It could also result in the cutting of programs designed to help Navy families. This could have a significant negative impact on the ability of the fleet to respond to crises, to win wars, and to keep the seas safe.

This president has big dreams for the military. But due to sequestration, it may be hard to get his budget approved. One thing is certain, even though Republicans are in the majority, help from the Democrats will be needed to get the budget approved. Republicans tend to be pro military but they are also the party of fiscal responsibility. With this in mind, overturning sequestration and getting the budget approved will be a challenge.

Camden - Kings Bay Council

Navy League of the United States



Sea Services

Awards Ceremony and Recognition Banquet

Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay

11 May 2017

Guest Speaker

Rep. Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (GA-01)



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter is an experienced businessman, health care professional and faithful public servant. As the owner of Carter's Pharmacy, Inc., South Georgians have trusted Buddy with their most valuable assets: their health, lives and families for more than thirty years. While running his business, he learned how to balance a budget and create jobs. He also saw firsthand the devastating impacts of government overregulation which drives

his commitment to ensuring that the federal government creates policies to empower business instead of increasing burdens on America's job creators.

A committed public servant, Buddy previously served as the Mayor of Pooler, Georgia and in the Georgia General Assembly where he used his business experience to make government more efficient and responsive to the people. Buddy is serving his second term in the United States House of Representatives and is a member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. As the only pharmacist serving in Congress, Buddy is the co-chair of the Community Pharmacy Caucus and is dedicated to working towards a health care system that provides more choices, less costs and better services.

A lifelong resident of the First District, Buddy was born and raised in Port Wentworth, Georgia and is a proud graduate of Young Harris College and the University of Georgia where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy. Buddy married his college sweetheart, Amy, 38 years ago. Buddy and Amy now reside in Pooler, Georgia and have three sons, two daughters-in-law and three grandchildren.

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Program

Master of Ceremonies
Sam Colville
President, Camden-Kings Bay Council

1800 - 1845

Social Hour

1845 - 1930

Welcoming Remarks

2016 Sea Services People of The Year
Parading of the Colors – Joint Services Color Guard
Invocation – Barbara Johns, V.P. Youth Services
Dinner

1930

2016 SEA SERVICES RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Presentation of Award - USS Alaska SSBN (732)
Introduction of Guest Speaker
Sheila McNeill
Past National President, Navy League of the United States

Guest Speaker – Rep. Earl L. “Buddy” Carter (GA-01)

Presentation of Awards
CMDCM Matt Suzor, CMC TRIDENT Training Facility

Banquet Sponsors Recognition
Cheryl Aston, National Director, V.P. Sea Service & Family Support
Camden - Kings Bay Council

Closing Remarks

MC² Bradley Gee, Photographer Group 10

2016 Kings Bay Sailors, Marine and Coast Guardsman of the Year

USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728)(BLUE)

STS1(SS) Thomas Hudgins

COMSUBRON 16 SEA

COMSUBGRU 10 SEA

COMSUBLANT SEA

SGT Thomas Erwin
MARINE CORPS SECURITY FORCE
BATTALION KINGS BAY

BM2 Maria Collett
U.S.C.G. MARITIME FORCE PROTECTION
UNIT KINGS BAY

BM1 Morgan Gardiner
U.S.C.G. MARITIME SAFETY AND
SECURITY TEAM 91108

MM1(SS) Tyler Thigpen
USS FLORIDA (SSGN 728) (GOLD)

MM1(SS) Phillip Wellons
USS GEORGIA (SSGN 729) (BLUE)

MT1(SS) Roland St. Germain
USS GEORGIA (SSGN 729) (GOLD)

MM1(SS) Nicholas Gerloff
USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) (BLUE)

MT1(SS) Joshua Kistler
USS ALASKA (SSBN 732) (GOLD)

USS WEST VIRGINIA (SSBN 736)(GOLD)

MMN1(SS) Zachary Montgomery

COMSUBRON 20 SEA

MMA1(SS) Joshua Monds
USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) (BLUE)

MMN1(SS) Donald Maloney
USS MARYLAND (SSBN 738) (GOLD)

ETR1(SS) Timothy Palowski
USS WYOMING (SSBN 742) (BLUE)

MM1(SS) Jacob Stephens
USS WYOMING (SSBN 742) (GOLD)

STS1(SS) Christopher Pierce
USS TENNESSEE (SSBN 734) (BLUE)

EMN1(SS) Joshua Harper
USS TENNESSEE (SSBN 734) (GOLD)

ETV1(SS) Demanuel Cooper
USS WEST VIRGINIA (SSBN 736) (BLUE)

EMN1(SS) Eben Smith
USS RHODE ISLAND (SSBN 740)

COMSUBRON 16 STAFF

YN1(SS) Fausto Viera

COMSUBGRU 10 SHORE

ITS1(SS/IDW) Travis Butera
COMSUBGRU 10 STAFF

QM1(SW) Ultrianna Hamilton
NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE KINGS BAY

BM1(SW) Joshua Mayo
TRIDENT REFIT FACILITY

EMN1(SS) Zachary Moore
NUCLEAR REPAIR MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

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TRIDENT TRAINING FACILITY

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STRATEGIC WEAPONS FACILITY ATLANTIC

HM1 Courtney Veiga
NAVAL BRANCH HEALTH CLINIC KINGS BAY

MT1(SS) Michael Bargmann
NAVAL SUBMARINE SUPPORT CENTER
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