



COMMISSIONING COMMITTEE
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Rear Admiral Headlines Navy Week with Stop In Springfield

April 12, 2010, Jefferson City, Missouri: Rear Admiral Michael E. McLaughlin, Commander, Submarine Group Two, Groton, Connecticut will be in Springfield Friday, April 23, 2010 to speak with business and community leaders on the current status of U. S. submarine forces. He is in Missouri for Navy Week in Kansas City beginning April 26, 2010. Admiral McLaughlin is visiting Springfield by invitation from the Commissioning Committee for the new *USS Missouri* (SSN 780), the seventh of the new Virginia-class attack submarines. The Commissioning Committee and members Donald Stockton and Burt Ewing, both of the Springfield area, along with Capt. David Durbin, USNR (Ret.) also of the commissioning committee, invited Admiral McLaughlin to visit Springfield.

Submarine Group Two oversees the command of all North Atlantic attack submarine forces. Their primary responsibility is to train, equip and provide submarine forces to the Commander in Chief, the U.S. Atlantic Fleet as well as provides attack submarines to four of the five unified commands which are: European, Southern, Central and Special Operations Commands.

The new *USS Missouri* (SSN 780) will be commissioned in Groton, Connecticut, on July 31, 2010. The Commissioning Committee is responsible for raising funds for a number of special events connected with the commissioning of the new submarine--events for which federal funds may not be used. These include, a barbecue following the commissioning for all those who attend the ceremony, a picnic for the crew earlier in the week and a dinner for the officers, committee members and sponsors. Additionally, the commissioning committee provides support for a number of amenities for crew members--again for which federal funds are limited or restricted.

Admiral McLaughlin will be a guest on KWTO-AM on Friday morning, April 23rd, he will also meet with a number of veterans groups at the Chamber of Commerce and the Navy Operational Support Center, and a luncheon is scheduled with business leaders hosted by Ken Meyer, Meyer Communications.