



USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER

Commissioning Committee

c/o Union League Club of Chicago

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HONORARY MEMBERS:

Admiral John M. Richardson (USN, Ret.)
*former Chief of Naval Operations and Director,
U.S. Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program*
Honorary Co-Chair

Admiral Cecil D. Haney (USN, Ret.)
*former Commander, U.S. Strategic Command and
Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet*
Honorary Co-Chair

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator, Illinois

Commander Eleonore B. Rickover (USN, Ret.)

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Dear Friends of the United States Navy:

The Commissioning Committee for the USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER (SSN-795) has the privilege of providing civilian support to the RICKOVER and her crew as the boat begins service in defense of our nation, and of honoring the legacy of Admiral Hyman G. Rickover. Many years ago, I raised my right hand and took the oath of a commissioned naval officer to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic, and I am sure that either you or someone you know has taken the oath. Participating in the commissioning of the RICKOVER gives us all a chance as civilians to support our national defense, and those individuals who provide that defense. I therefore ask that you step up to join our Committee in supporting the RICKOVER by making a tax-deductible donation to our work.

Funds from patriotic donors such as yourself are needed for three reasons:

- The commissioning ceremony for a Navy ship is a long-standing and revered tradition that promotes patriotism among those who attend and shows the crew of the newly-commissioned vessel that the public appreciates the great sacrifices they make to defend our nation. A commissioning ceremony is costly, and Congress provides only very limited funds for basics such as bunting, attendee stands, and bus transportation from a local hotel to the ceremony. To give the crew and the public a proper ceremony, our Committee must raise the funds and organize the ceremony and the accompanying celebrations.
- Donated funds are used to buy items for the crew that are not supplied by the Navy, such as exercise equipment to be used while at sea, and other amenities that make life easier for the crew as they spend many months at sea in very close quarters, away from their homes and families in defense of our nation. Funds are also used for plaques and other memorabilia that honor the crew for being the "plank owners," which are the first personnel to man a ship.
- The commissioning ceremony and accompanying activities will also honor Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, an American success story who continues to inspire new generations. As a young boy, he and his family immigrated to the United States and settled in Chicago from present-day Poland to escape anti-Jewish pogroms in what was then the Russian Empire. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1922, he was the driving force behind the development of the first nuclear submarine in 1955, and he became the "Father of the Nuclear Navy." He revolutionized Navy ship propulsion, quality control, personnel selection, and training and education to build the nation's nuclear fleet.

Please join our Committee in supporting our national defense and those who provide that defense, by donating to our Committee's work. A form with additional information, as well as instructions for donating, is here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Nissen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William Nissen
Chairman
USS HYMAN G. RICKOVER
Commissioning Committee

The USS Hyman G. Rickover (SSN-795) Commissioning Committee is a division of the Armed Forces Council of Chicago (AFCC), which is sponsored by the Union League Club of Chicago to honor and support America's Armed Forces. The AFCC is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and donations are deductible to the extent permitted by law.