

The End of An Era

*One ship leaves the Navy today
One ship of hundreds
Will feel the ocean one last time.
Yet she takes with her the knowledge
That she has served her nation and her men
As well as any ship could.
This one submarine which carries her name
The history of all such craft
That have ever flown our nation's flag.
The HENRY L. STIMSON is before us now,
Twenty-seven years serving with pride.
What was once a smooth hull and pristine lines,
The newest and the best of all.
Now shows scars from welder's torch;
From repairs and patches made of necessity.
No innocent youth, this ship,
She wears her age well, with pride,
For even at the end,
She is among the best.*

1966 - 1993