

USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project  
<http://ThresherMemorial.org>

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Kathryn A. Condon  
Executive Director  
Army National Military Cemeteries  
Arlington National Cemetery  
Arlington, VA 22211-5003

Dear Ms. Condon

I am writing you today to demonstrate my support for the mission of the USS Thresher Arlington National Cemetery Memorial Project to erect a privately funded national commemorative memorial to USS Thresher in Arlington National Cemetery. This memorial will be designed to perpetuate and honor the memories of the 129 patriots who perished in the worst submarine accident in United States history nearly 50 years ago.

On April 10, 1963, USS Thresher (SSN 593) was conducting sea trials after undergoing a major maintenance period at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine. During those trials, Thresher suffered an emergency from which the crew could not recover. This tragedy took the lives of 108 of the ship's force, four observing Navy officers, and 17 civilians.

In response to Thresher's loss, the Navy established a Submarine Safety and Quality Assurance (SUBSAFE) program that is charged with providing the maximum reasonable assurance that our Navy and our Nation will never have to endure such a loss. To date, no SUBSAFE certified submarine has been lost - a fitting tribute for those lost in April 1963.

I ask that you approve and recommend to the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable John McHugh, the building of the USS Thresher Commemorative Memorial in the most hallowed ground in the United States in honor of the 129 brave men who lost their lives aboard Thresher.

Very Respectfully,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

