



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE
SHIPS
1333 ISAAC HULL AVENUE
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376-2101

IN REPLY REFER TO
4520
Ser 333G/108
APR 16 2004

Ms. Karen Cronin, Vice President for Operations
Independence Seaport Museum
211 South Columbus Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19106-3199

Dear Ms. Cronin:

The purpose of this letter is to summarize the results of the Navy's inspection of ex-BECUNA (SS 319) as part of the Ship Donation Inspection Program.

The ex-BECUNA (SS 319) was inspected on November 15, 2003, at the Independence Seaport Museum, by members of Naval Reserve Naval Sea Systems Command Detachment 304.

The Navy reviewed the inspection results for completeness, technical and safety concerns, trends in preservation and material condition. Enclosure (1) provides detailed comments in the eight functional areas inspected. Below is a summary of the deficiencies and concerns that need to be addressed.

a. The following material condition deficiency should be addressed in the maintenance plan: No cathodic protection system exists. Enclosure (1), Section 3.4 refers.

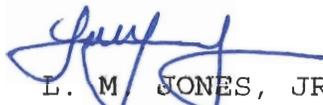
b. The following safety and health concerns dealing with category A (topside/exterior areas) and category B (interior spaces open to the public) should be corrected: None noted.

c. Other areas that need to be addressed: Oily water was noted in the bilges of the lower level of the Motor-Generator Room. Enclosure (1), Sections 6.10 and 7.5 refer. This is a deficiency cited previously.

Your request for the Navy to verify the cathodic protection system requirement for museum ships berthed in "freshwater" has been considered. The Navy has concluded that while the Delaware River, in the vicinity of Philadelphia, is considered to be "freshwater," there still exists a minimal amount of conductivity in the water that could lead to corrosion over time. In light of ex-BECUNA's present hull condition, I suggest that you continue with the existing passive cathodic protection system and monitor hull zinc deterioration on a routine basis.

Your hospitality toward the members of the inspecting team and your cooperation with the Navy's Ship Donation Inspection Program are greatly appreciated. Please provide a formal response by letter to me regarding the status of your efforts to address the issues identified above no later than May 15, 2004. Timely submission of your plans to address these items is very important. We look forward to future inspections. If we may be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. M. Jones, Jr.", written over a printed name.

L. M. JONES, JR.
Captain, U.S. Navy
Program Manager
Inactive Ships Program Office

Enclosures: 1. Ship Donation Inspection Program Sheet