## Construction of AGOR 28, R/V Sally Ride and Neil Armstrong

**FY 2003**

House NDAA Report

*Navy support of research in oceanography*

The budget request contained $55.2 million in PE 62435N for ocean warfighting environment applied research. The committee believes that scientific knowledge of the oceans and ocean environments makes a Critical contribution to U.S. national security and commercial vitality. The committee notes, that in large part, U.S. scientific expertise in oceanography and ocean sciences is sustained by the Office of Naval Research and the National Science Foundation partnership that provides oversight of the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) fleet.

The committee recognizes the age of the UNOLS fleet and the need for a rational plan for renewal of the fleet over the next ten years. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Navy to submit to the Senate Committee on Armed Services and House Committee on Armed Services no later than February 1, 2003, a report detailing specific requirements and outlining a specific plan for UNOLS fleet renewal. The report should include specific recommendations on the numbers of each class of ship to be maintained in the UNOLS fleet, their geographic distribution, the schedule for their replacement, and estimates of ship construction costs.

**FY 2004**

Senate Appropriations Report

Navy RDT&E, Line 123, Ship Contract Design/Live Fire T&E

UNOLS Research Vessel $4m

Conference Appropriations Report

Navy RDT&E, Line 123, Ship Contract Design/Live Fire T&E

UNOLS Research Vessel $2m

**FY 2005**

Senate Appropriations Report

Navy RDT&E, Line 3, Defense Research Sciences

UNOLS Research Vessel $3.5m

Conference Appropriations Report

Navy RDT&E, Line 3, Defense Research Sciences

UNOLS Research Vessel $1.8m

**FY 2006**

Navy RDT&E PBR

Ocean Class Research Vessel- $4,000

• Assess optimum hull forms for Ocean Class platform/craft oceanographic research mission.
• Assess novel mission equipment options to ensure technology infusion.
• Initiate preliminary and detailed design studies of the selected hull form.
• Initiate a review and prioritize science mission requirements in conjunction with oceanographic research community and University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) members.

House NDAA Bill

SEC. 226. RENEWAL OF UNIVERSITY NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC LABORATORY SYSTEM FLEET.

(a) PROGRAM PLAN. -- The Secretary of the Navy shall develop a plan for a program to renew the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) fleet. The Secretary shall include in the plan provisions for the construction of up to four Ocean-class ships.

(b) FUNDING FOR PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES. -- Of the amount provided in section 201 for fiscal year 2006 for the Navy, $4,000,000 is available, through Program Element PE 63564N (Ship Preliminary Design and Feasibility Studies), to conduct feasibility assessments and initiate design of the first Ocean-class ship that would be constructed under the program referred to in subsection (a).

House NDAA Report

Section 226 -- *Renewal of University National Oceanographic Laboratory System Fleet.*

This section would authorize the Secretary of the Navy to develop a plan for a program to construct ships for the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) Fleet and would require that the Secretary include in the plan provisions for the construction of up to four Ocean class ships. The section would also authorize $4.0 million in PE 63564N, Ship Preliminary Design and Feasibility Studies, to conduct feasibility assessments and initiate design of the first ship of the class.

Senate NDAA Report

*Construction of Navy Research Vessels.* The budget request included $356.9 million in PE 61153N, for defense research sciences, including $4.0 million for design of the next generation of ocean research vessels for the University National Ocean Laboratory (UNOLS) fleet. The academic research community uses UNOLS to conduct experiments and research for the Navy. The committee is concerned with the Navy as plans to fund the construction of academic research vessels in the basic science account in fiscal year 2007. While the ocean class research vessel, a key research tool, provides the Navy with a robust understanding of its battlespace, such diversion of research funds would adversely affect the goals of the innovative research account.

The committee authorizes the $4.0 million requested in PE 61153N for design of the new research vessel in fiscal year 2006, but directs the Navy to request the planned $25.0 million in fiscal year 2007 for ship construction funds in the Navy Shipbuilding and Conversion account. The committee expects that the Navy will continue to use the Shipbuilding and Conversion account to provide for the recapitalization of ocean class research vessels in the Future Years Defense Program.

Senate Appropriations Report
Navy RDT&E, Line 3, Defense Research Sciences
UNOLS Research Vessel $3.5m

*Construction of Navy Research Vessels*.—The budget request includes $4,000,000 in the ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy'' appropriation for design of the next generation of ocean research vessels for the University National Ocean Laboratory [UNOLS] fleet. The academic research community uses UNOLS vessels to conduct experiments and research for the Navy. The Committee is concerned with Navy plans to use basic research funds from the ''Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy'' appropriation to fund the construction of academic research vessels in fiscal year 2007. While these vessels provide the Navy with a key research tool, such diversion of research funds would adversely affect the goals of the basic research funding activity.

The Committee recommendation includes the $4,000,000, as requested, for design of the new research vessel in fiscal year 2006. The Committee, however, directs the Navy to request the planned $25,000,000 in fiscal year 2007 for ship construction in the ''Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy'' appropriation. The Committee expects the Navy will continue to use this account to provide for the recapitalization of the UNOLS fleet in the Future Years Defense Plan.

**FY 2007**

Navy RDT&E PBR
Ocean Class Research Vessel- $4,000
• Initiate assessment of optimum hull forms for Ocean Class platform/craft oceanographic research mission. • Initiate assessment of novel mission equipment options to ensure technology infusion.
• Initiate preliminary and detailed design studies of the selected hull form.
• Initiate a review and prioritize science mission requirements in conjunction with oceanographic research community and University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) members.
• Initiate program management.

**FY 2008**

Navy Shipbuilding and Conversion PBR

AGOR Oceanographic Class

The 2007 Department of Defense Appropriations Act included a Congressional add for T-AGS Oceanographic Survey Ship. The ship will be capable of deep ocean and coastal surveys, oceanographic sampling and data collections of surface, midwater and ocean floor parameters, shipboard oceanographic data processing and sample analysis, and operation of remotely operated vehicles (AUVs) and hydrographic survey launches (HSLs). In FY11 and FY12, funds are added for a new class of general purpose research vessels (called AGOR Ocean), designed for integrated, interdisciplinary research that will support science, educational, and engineering operations in all oceans.

[Projected $92.5m in FY11 and FY12]

Navy RDT&E

$3M in FY08 is designated for RDT&E efforts for the AGOR Oceanographic Ships Program.

**FY 2009**

Navy RDT&E PBR

0603564N/Ship Preliminary Design & Feasibility Studies

0408 Ship Development project supports the evaluation of advanced and alternative technologies through the Surface Ship Technology (SURFTECH) process for suitability for meeting total ship concepts capability needs.

The objective of this project is to provide the decision makers with feasible, affordable alternatives to be selected for further development. AGOR Ocean - Funds in FY08-FY10 are for design development efforts to support procurement of two AGOR Ocean Class Vessels in FY12 & FY13.

0408/Ship Development (ADV)

This project supports the evaluation of advanced and alternative technologies through the Surface Ship Technology (SURFTECH) process for suitability for meeting total ship concepts capability needs. The objective of this project is to provide the decision makers with feasible, affordable alternatives to be selected for further development. In support of surface ship advanced technology development and transformation, the surface ship community has instituted a technology evaluation process to coordinate, identify, prioritize, and integrate technology insertion and development efforts and assist RDT&E community efforts to initiate appropriate technology development. The current acquisition guidelines require the development of critical technologies after Milestone A. If significant gap analysis, planning, and early development efforts are not conducted in parallel with Concept Development the Navy will not be able to provide broad, cross-platform direction to surface navy development efforts in an effective

manner and will not effectively leverage limited resources to quicken the pace of both development and transition of critical mission technologies for timely acquisition.

AGOR OCEAN - Funding has been placed in FY08-FY10 to support FY11 and FY12 procurement of two general purpose research vessels designed for integrated, interdisciplinary research. These vessels will support science, educational and engineering operations in all oceans. The vessels will operate within University Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS).

**FY 2010**

Navy RDT&E PBR

0603564N/Ship Preliminary Design & Feasibility Studies $1.4m

AGOR OCEAN - Funding supports the acquisition of general purpose research vessels which will conduct science, educational and engineering operations in all oceans, and will be operated by the University Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS)

**FY 2011**

Navy Shipbuilding and Conversion PBR

AGOR Oceanographic Class

The T-AGS 66 will be capable of deep ocean and coastal surveys, oceanographic sampling and data collections of surface, midwater and ocean floor parameters, shipboard oceanographic data processing and sample analysis, and operation of remotely operated vehicles (AUVs) and hydrographic survey launches (HSLs). FY11 and FY12 funds a new class of general purpose research vessels designated AGOR Ocean. These vessels are designed for integrated, interdisciplinary research that will support science, educational, and engineering operations in all oceans. [Includes $88.6m in FY11 and $88.9m in FY12]

Senate Appropriations Report

Navy Shipbuilding and Conversions, Line 19, Oceanographic Ships $88.6m

Final Enacted

Navy Shipbuilding and Conversions, Oceanographic Ships $88.6m

**FY 2012**

Navy Shipbuilding and Conversion PBR

AGOR OCEANOGRAPHIC CLASS

FY07 T-AGS 66 will be capable of deep ocean and coastal surveys, oceanographic sampling and data collections of surface, midwater and ocean floor parameters, shipboard oceanographic data processing and sample analysis, and operation of remotely operated vehicles (AUVs) and hydrographic survey launches (HSLs). FY11 and FY12 funds a new class of general purpose research vessels designated AGOR Ocean. These vessels are designed for integrated, interdisciplinary research that will support science, educational, and engineering operations in all

oceans. The Ocean Class AGOR ships will be modern monohull research vessels capable of an integrated, interdisciplinary, general purpose oceanographic research in coastal and deep ocean areas. The vessel will support scientific research of various types including marine geology and geophysics, ocean engineering and marine acoustics, bathymetry, gravimetry, magnetometry, physical/biological/ chemical oceanography, and other multi-disciplinary environmental investigations. AGOR are Research Vessels built in support of the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) research consortium of US oceanographic institutions that date back to 1972. [Includes $89m for FY12]

House Appropriations Report
Navy Shipbuilding and Conversions Auxiliaries, Craft, and Prior-Year Program Costs
Oceanographic Ships $89m

Senate Appropriations Report
Navy Shipbuilding and Conversions, Line 18, Oceanographic Ships $89m

Final Enacted
Oceanographic Ships, $89m

## AGOR Service Life Extension Program, R/Vs Thompson, Revelle, Atlantis

**FY 2013**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research PBR: $49.6m
House: $64.6m (Includes +$15m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $49.6m
FY13 CR: $64.6m (Includes +$15m for AGOR mid-life refit)

**FY 2014**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research PBR: $45.7m
House: $60.6m (Includes +$15m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $45.7m
Final: $45.7m

House NDAA Report (Includes +$18m for AGOR mid-life refit)
RDT&E, Navy
*Service Life Extension of Navy Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research vessels*
The budget request contained $45.7 million in PE 62435N for the Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research program.
For academic research, the Navy operates and maintains Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research (AGOR) vessels. Three of these vessels require a midlife overhaul, partial funding for which was provided in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–6). The committee notes that funding provided to

date does not fully support all of the items that the Navy has determined are necessary to fully extend the life of these AGOR ships to 40–45 years.

Accordingly, the committee recommends $63.7 million, an increase of $18.0 million, in PE 62435N for Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, to procure the entirety of a mid-life overhaul. The committee notes that the inclusion of this authorization of appropriations is predicated on merit-based selection procedures in accordance with the requirements of section 2304(k) and 2374 of title 10, United States Code, or on competitive procedures (p. 60-61).

**FY 2015**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research
PBR: $45.4m
House: $65.4m (Includes +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $45.3m
Final: $65.4m (Includes +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit)

House NDAA Report (Includes +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Navy RDT&E
*Oceanographic research*

The budget request contained $45.4 million in PE 62435N for the Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research program.

For academic research, the Navy operates and maintains Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research (AGOR) vessels. Three of these vessels require a mid-life overhaul, partial funding for which was provided in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2013 (Public Law 113–6). The committee notes that funding provided to date does not fully support all of the items that the Navy has determined are necessary to fully extend the life of these AGOR ships to 40–45 years.

Accordingly, the committee recommends $65.4 million, an increase of $20.0 million, in PE 62435N for Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, to procure the entirety of a mid-life overhaul. The committee notes that the inclusion of this authorization of appropriations is predicated on merit-based selection procedures in accordance with the requirements of section 2304(k) and 2374 of title 10, United States Code, or on competitive procedures.

The committee continues to believe that oceanographic research is a core function of the Navy, and remains committed to ensuring the ability of the Navy to sustain its research priorities, even in the face of fiscally constrained budgets. The committee is concerned that the Navy has been decreasing funding in oceanographic research, especially sea-going research, and about the negative long term implications these trends are likely to have on areas like anti-submarine warfare and battlespace awareness. The committee believes that the Navy infrastructure such as the AGOR vessels, deep submergence facilities such as the Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory, or the instrumentation investments made by the Defense University Research Instrumentation Program are vital components to the Navy's program. Navy science and technology funding also plays a key role in information stewardship, including ocean mapping, oceanographic and meteorological data, that supports Navy, national and international scientific goals.

Senate NDAA report no mention of AGOR SLEP.

Final Enacted NDAA report included +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit and no language.

**FY 2016**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research PBR: $42.3m
House: $72.3m (Includes +$30m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $42.3m
Final: $72.3m (Includes +$30m for AGOR mid-life refit)

House NDAA Report (Includes +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit) Navy RDT&E
*Service life extension program for Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research*

The budget request contained $42.2 million in PE 62435N for the Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research program.

For academic research, the Navy operates and maintains Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research (AGOR) vessels. Three of these vessels require a mid-life overhaul, partial funding for which was provided in the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 113–235). The committee notes that funding provided to date does not fully support all of the items that the Navy has determined are necessary to fully extend the life of these AGOR ships to 40–45 years.

Accordingly, the committee recommends $62.2 million, an increase of $20.0 million, in PE 62435N for Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, to procure the entirety of a mid-life overhaul. The committee notes that the inclusion of this authorization of appropriations is predicated on the Navy's use of merit-based selection procedures in accordance with the requirements of section 2304(k) and 2374 of title 10, United States Code, or on competitive procedures, to conduct these overhauls.

The committee continues to believe that oceanographic research is a core function of the Navy, and remains committed to ensuring the ability of the Navy to sustain its research priorities, even in the face of fiscally constrained budgets. The committee is concerned that the Navy has been decreasing funding in oceanographic research, especially sea-going research, and is concerned about the negative long-term implications these trends are likely to have on areas like anti-submarine warfare and battlespace awareness. Navy science and technology funding also plays a key role in information stewardship, including ocean mapping, oceanographic and meteorological data, that supports Navy, national, and international scientific goals.

Senate NDAA Report included +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit and no language.

Conference NDAA Report included +$20m for AGOR mid-life refit and no language.

**FY2017**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research
PBR: $42.6m
House: $81.6m (Includes +$30m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $42.6m
Final: $81.6m (Includes +$30m for AGOR mid-life refit)

House NDAA Report (Includes +$32m for AGOR mid-life refit)

Navy RDT&E
*Service life extension program for Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research*
The budget request contained $42.6 million in PE 62435N for the Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research program.
For academic research, the Navy operates and maintains Auxiliary General Purpose Oceanographic Research (AGOR) vessels, and these vessels require a mid-life overhaul. The committee notes that funding provided to date does not fully support all of the items that the Navy has determined are necessary to fully extend the life of these AGOR ships to 40–45 years.
The committee continues to believe that oceanographic research is a core function of the Navy and remains committed to ensuring the ability of the Navy to sustain its research priorities, even in the face of fiscally constrained budgets. The committee is concerned that the Navy has been decreasing funding in oceanographic research, especially sea-going research, and is concerned about the negative long-term implications these trends are likely to have on areas like anti-submarine warfare and battlespace awareness. Navy science and technology funding also plays a key role in information stewardship, including ocean mapping, oceanographic and meteorological data, that supports Navy, national, and international scientific goals.
Accordingly, the committee recommends $74.6 million, an increase of $32.0 million, in PE 62435N for Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied Research, to procure the third major overhaul in the class of three AGORs. The committee notes that the inclusion of this authorization of appropriations is predicated on the Navy's use of merit-based selection procedures in accordance with the requirements of section 2304(k) and 2374 of title 10, United States Code, or on competitive procedures, to conduct these overhauls.

Senate NDAA Report no mention of AGOR SLEP.

Conference NDAA Report included +$30m for AGOR mid-life refit and no language.

**FY2018**

Navy RDT&E Ocean Warfighting Environment Applied ResearchPBR: $42.4m
House: $62.4m (Includes $15m for AGOR mid-life refit)
Senate: $49.9m
Final: $74.9m (Includes $20m for AGOR mid-life refit)

House NDAA Report includes $15m for AGOR mid-life refit, no language.

Senate NDAA Report
*Ocean warfighting environmental applied research*
The budget request included $42.4 million in Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Navy, PE 62435N, for ocean warfighting environment applied research. The committee notes that large research vessels, such as the AGOR–23 class, are vitally important to the U.S. oceanographic research effort due to their range payload, duration, and ability to effectively conduct scientific operations in remote areas and high-sea states. As the size and capability of the university-laboratory oceanographic laboratory system fleet have generally declined in recent years, the demand for research vessels like those in the AGOR–23 class has increased and has made that class among the highly-subscribed vessels in the fleet. These vessels and the research they conduct are critical to our national security and central to the Navy's anti-submarine

warfare, mine warfare work, and operational warcraft efforts. Therefore, the committee recommends an increase of $15.0 million in PE 62435N for a total of $57.2 million.

Conference NDAA Report includes $15m for AGOR mid-life refit, no language.