

***** Please note the Room Change of this Seminar *****

Department of Ocean & Resources Engineering

Seminar

The Search for the World War II Japanese Midget Submarine Sunk off Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941

by

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Wednesday, October 2, 2002	3:30 PM	POST 723
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Abstract

The type A Japanese midget submarine sunk by the USS Ward one hour and fifteen minutes before the aerial attack on Pearl Harbor was discovered by the Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory on August 28, 2002. The 48 ton, 78 foot long, six foot diameter midget sub was a highly advanced experimental boat capable of 20 knots. It was one of five such submarines constituting the Japanese advanced force. The sunken Japanese submarine was first detected by side scan sonar towed from a surface vessel. Selected sonar targets were investigated during a series of dives training pilots of the UH submersibles PISCES IV and PISCES V in two submersible tandem operations. Discussions of ownership and the possible raising of the midget sub are underway.