



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

October 22, 2019

GREETINGS TO THE MEN OF TAFFY III

On behalf of the Department of the Navy, I am honored to send my personal greetings and heartfelt appreciation to the men of Taffy III, your families, and friends, as you reunite to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Battle off Samar.

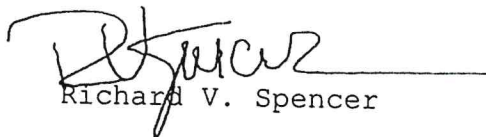
As you might know, the theme for the Navy's birthday this year was "No Higher Honor." Your courage, determination, and sacrifice, for which you were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, have inspired generations of American Sailors and will continue to do so. Truly, we stand on the shoulders of giants, none more so than the men of Taffy III.

As you gather for the last time to remember your courageous actions, and honor your shipmates and fellow Sailors and aviators, know that you have earned a place in the history and heritage of the U.S. Navy.

I thank each of you for your service to a very grateful Navy. Your courage, dedication, and sacrifice serve as testament to the strength of our Navy. You have set the example for those who stand the watch now and for those who will serve our nation in the future.

Please accept my very best wishes for a memorable reunion.

Sincerely,



Richard V. Spencer