

Subject: Re: Akula follow-on

Newsgroups: sci.military.naval

From: amraam@netcom.com (Robin J. Lee)
Subject: Re: Akula follow-on
Message-ID: <amraamDGzptG.Gyr@netcom.com>
Organization: NETCOM On-line Communication Services (408 261-4700 guest)

Date: Wed, 25 Oct 1995 05:56:04 GMT
Lines: 37
Sender: amraam@netcom4.netcom.com

In article <46j0iv\$m1r@smooth.asgo.net>, JR <galvatron@asgo.net> wrote:

>

>*These are very quiet. The Trafalger has pump jet propulsion.*

>*How can the Severodvinsk be quieter than these two ?? unless they,ve gone*

>*to pump as well ??*

For what it's worth, all projections on Severodvinsk are based on computer-modeling (don't even think of asking where the data comes from) and other spooky forms of speculation. The lead unit herself is incomplete at the Sevmash yards outside the submarine's namesake, and recent economic problems (shipyard strikes, lights going out regularly, heat shutting off in surrounding areas) make it unlikely that she's going to hit the fleet anytime soon. Planned commissioning was for 2000-2002; might as well move it down five years if things don't improve. Unless you're privy to a gold-plated source (in which case you shouldn't even *think* of typing a word to post here), take all projections with a shakerful of salt.

That said, Severodvinsk reportedly features some interesting tricks, such as active noise cancellation technology, higher levels of hydrodynamic flow control (leading to reduced flow noise around the hull), three separate anechoic layers, general vibration dampening, reduced plant signature, etc., etc., etc. There's even talk that they might have evaluated the "slime" method that was discussed in this group not so long ago, whereby a certain polymer was injected into the water around the hull, creating a low-drag boundary layer for reduced flow noise and possible higher quiet speed. Russian blade noise has reportedly gone down drastically ever since (a) the Toshiba milling machine mess, and (b) the actions of one John Walker. Probably a mistake to credit this all to espionage, however; the Russians have always been fairly innovative with their designs

(and historically have paid the price for creativity in a *very* demanding field of engineering.)

--

Robin J. Lee
Vulture's Row Worldwide Web Page

amraam@netcom.com
URL: <http://webcom.com/~amraam/>