



Independence
Seaport Museum

V-J DAY 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Independence Seaport Museum has compiled some WWII submarine facts featuring our very own WWII submarine *Becuna*, aka *Becky*, as a backdrop.

photo: Becuna at Pearl Harbor, circa 1944-45
navsource.org/archives/08/0831913.jpg

**Total number of American
submarines that made war patrols:**



263

*photo: Becuna (SS-319), after commissioning in May 1944
USN Archives photo # USN-189867*

- ● **Submarines were the first ships to carry out offensive missions against Imperial Japan following the attack on Pearl Harbor.**

photo: Bow on view of Becuna departing Mare Island on 25 August 1947.

*USN Archives photo
USN photo # 1607-47*



photo: Frames for the what will eventually be Becuna awaiting assembly. (ISM)



12 Submarines were present in Tokyo Bay for the Japanese surrender on September 2, 1945.

US submarine losses by the end of the war:



52 BOATS



**3,505 OFFICERS
& ENLISTED MEN**

*This casualty rate of 22% was the
highest of any American armed service
during the war.*

photo: Becuna drydocked at Pearl Harbor, 1949 (ISM)

We shall never forget that it was our submarines that held the line against the enemy while our fleets replaced losses and repaired wounds.

Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz

photo: bumboats at Tsingtoa, China, 1949 (ISM)

Submarines comprised 2% of the Navy's strength at the time, but were responsible for sinking 55% of Japanese shipping.

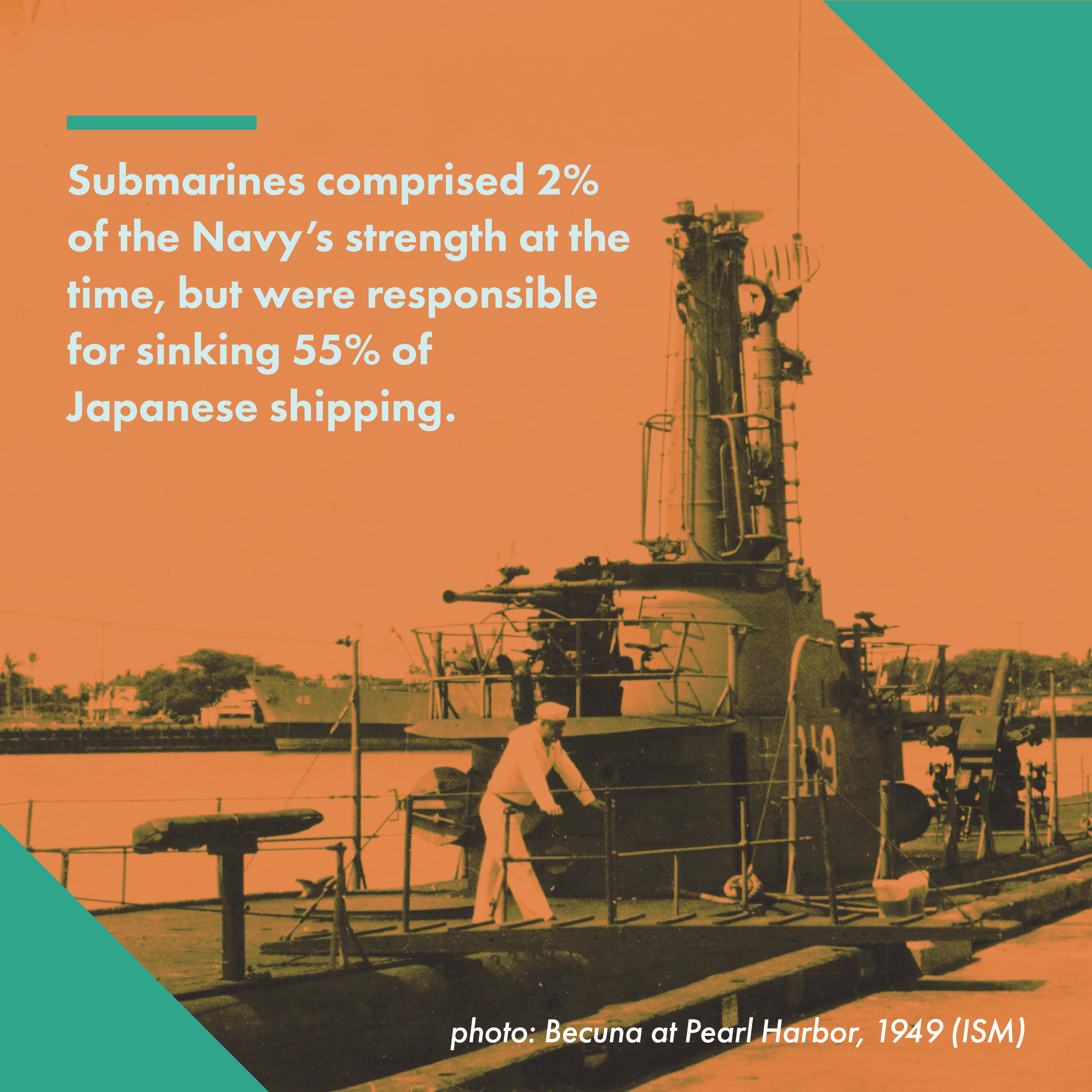


photo: Becuna at Pearl Harbor, 1949 (ISM)

Fleet boats like *Becuna* were designed to hunt down enemy capital ships, but proved they excelled at commerce raiding. By the end of 1944, Japan's merchant marine was essentially destroyed, and the country's vital supply lines severed.

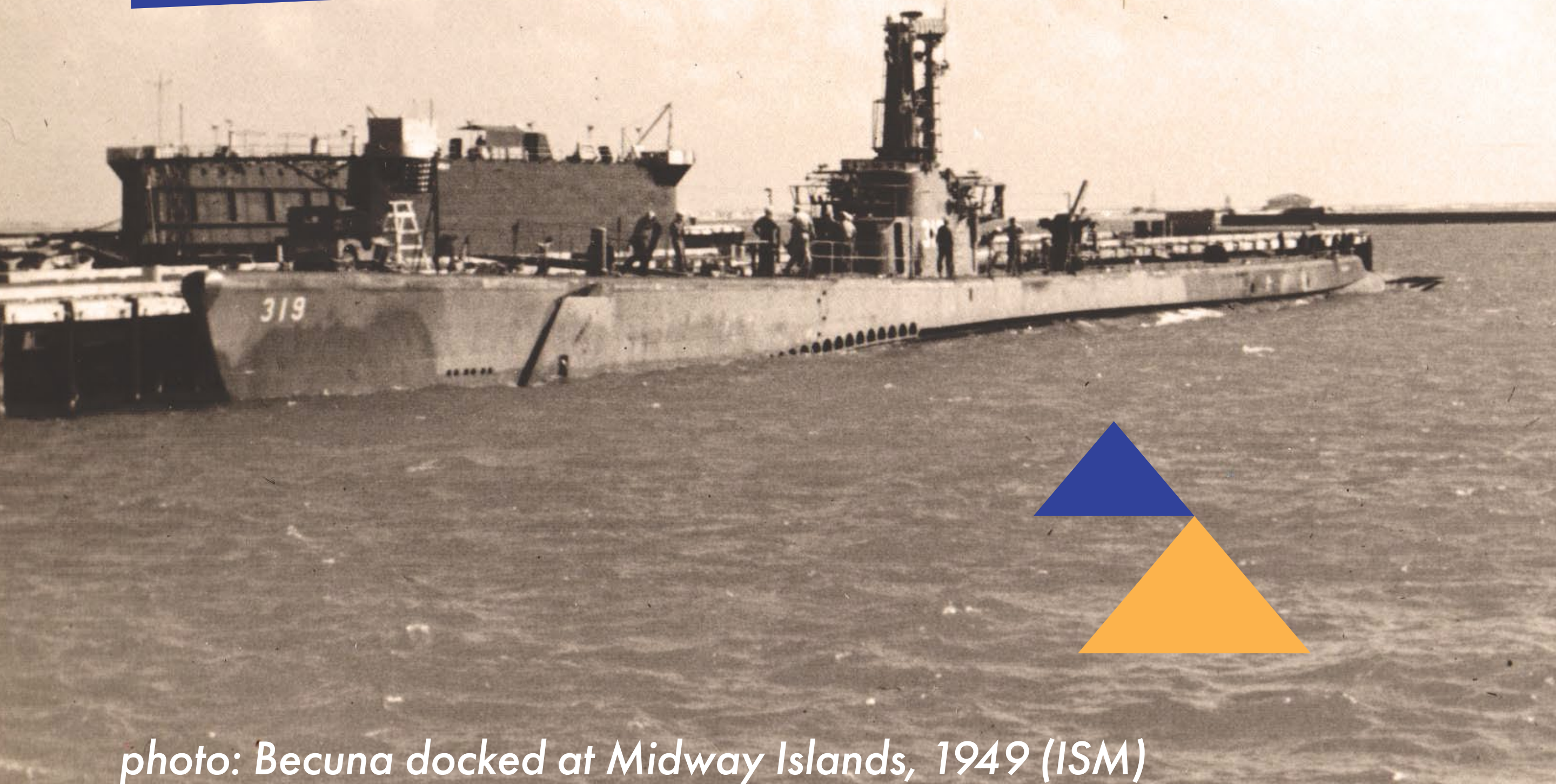


photo: *Becuna* docked at Midway Islands, 1949 (ISM)