



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

For Immediate Release
Nov. 16, 2004

Contact: Billy Sparks
(Santa Fe) 505-476-2299

Governor Bill Richardson Applauds Naming of U.S.S. New Mexico

SANTA FE- The Office of the Secretary of Navy today confirmed in a call to Governor Richardson that the U.S. Navy would name the next Virginia-class submarine the U.S.S. New Mexico. Governor Richardson issued the following statement:

“I was notified today by the Office of the Secretary of the Navy that there will be a U.S.S. New Mexico. This is a proud day for all New Mexicans and culminates a two-year effort led by Dick Brown and other Veterans. I am proud to have made various phone calls to Secretary England indicating my strong support for this idea. Now, for the first time since the 1940s, the “U.S.S. New Mexico,” once the flagship of the Pacific Fleet will one day sail again. This tribute is further recognition of New Mexico’s proud tradition of military service. When I welcome the Secretary of the Navy to officially announce the U.S.S. New Mexico, I will ask that the new submarine be dedicated to all New Mexico veterans past and present who are currently serving our country around the world.”

#30#