

The rescue of a damaged submarine, a national case with a global involvement

C.F. Gennaro Vitagliano

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Room 5 - Palazzo Corradini

Via Angelo Mariani, 5, Ravenna

Virtual Room: <https://tinyurl.com/5ftm2xwu>



ABSTRACT: Accidents to submarines first and then to submarines have always characterized the history of the Navy. The briefing through a punctual and synthetic historical reconstruction of the main events that occurred to the submarines will highlight the development of the rescue as well as the organizational approach aimed at supporting it. We will explain why a global involvement is necessary, that is, of all the Navies in possession of suitable and efficient rescue systems, and it will also be highlighted how all the nations are involved, focusing attention on the International Escape and Rescue Liaison Office of NATO as the main hub of submarine rescue through its dedicated site that can also be used as a command and control tool.

SHORT BIO: Commander Gennaro VITAGLIANO was born in Avellino. He attended the Italian Navy High School "Francesco Morosini" in Venice from 1985 to 1988, earning classical diploma. In 1992 he was commissioned as Ensign and joined the Submarine SSK Carlo Fecia di Cossato. From 1993 to 1995, in the rank of Lieutenant Junior grade, completed the basic submarine course at the Submarine School before completing the submarine warfare course at the Marina Training Centre in Taranto, after which he obtained the qualification as Submarine Officer. At the same time, he was awarded as "Submarine Controller" qualification at the end of a long certification period at the NATO Southern Europe Submarine Operational Authorities. 1995-1997 assigned to the SSK Pelosi (SAURO 3rd series) serving as the Operations Officer (IOC). 1997 to 1998, appointed Executive Officer of the patrol ship "MOGANO" operating in the Red Sea under the peace mission between Egypt and Israel, after the Camp David Accords. In 1998 returned home and was appointed Head of operations Branch and Training of the Submarine Group in Taranto; 2000 transferred to Rome to the Navy Fleet Headquarters responsible for the formation of the Submarine Division and the Operational Control Cell. In 2002 embarked on the LPD SAN GIORGIO as Marine Department Head and Amphibious Operations Head. In October 2004 took over the Command of patrol ship ASTICE based at LA SPEZIA, participating in the training of the Midshipmen of the Italian Naval Academy, as the navigation and ship handling instructor. In 2005 appointed 2nd in Command of Comandante CIGALA FULGOSI and was subsequently transferred to Comandante FOSCARI, participating in the Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf. In 2008 promoted Lieutenant Commander, transferred to the Joint Operational Command in Rome, serving as Chief of operational support section of J9 Division, carrying out numerous missions in the major Operations Theatres such as Afghanistan, Lebanon, Kosovo and the Horn of Africa. 2010 appointed as the assistant to Admiral acting as DCOS Operational Support. 2012 promoted Commander and selected as the Flag Assistant to the Commander NATO Maritime Command NAPLES. 2013 appointed Assistant and Flag aide to the President of the Centre for Higher Defence Studies in Rome. At the end this appointment, reported to the Submarine Department of the Italian Naval Staff serving as Chief Personal Office. August 1, 2017, he was appointed Head of the International Submarine Escape and Rescue Liaison Office at the NATO Maritime Command in London. During his assignment Cdr. VITAGLIANO took active part in rescue operations to ARA SAN JUAN and to KRI NANGALA. From October 2021 CDR VITAGLIANO is Italian Navy Submarine Escape and Rescue Officer. Commander VITAGLIANO is married to Ms. Maria Anna PENNUCCI and has a son. Commander VITAGLIANO personal award include: Medal of the Order of Saint Maurizio and Lazzaro; Silver medal for "Long Command" (15 years); NATO Meritorious Service Medal; Golden Cross for "seniority of military service" (25 years); Bronze medal for long navigation (10 years); Medals for AFGHANISTAN, Lebanon, Kosovo operations; Medal of Merit for operations in SINAI; Medal of Merit for EU operations in the Adriatic; Merit Medal for Peace Operators; Merit Medal for Civil Protection Operations; Commander VITAGLIANO has also been awarded the Knight of Sacred Military Order of San Giorgio's Costantinian Order, Honorary badge for Submariners; Badge for Officers former students of the Naval High School "F. MOROSINI"; Commander VITAGLIANO is also graduated in Political Sciences, is a Legal Adviser, expert in Humanitarian Law of Armed Conflicts, and an expert in Military and Civil Cooperation.

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