



MINISTÈRE DES ARMÉES ET DES ANCIENS COMBATTANTS

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PRESS RELEASE

MINISTRY FOR THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS

Paris, December 17, 2024

Successful firing of an F21 heavyweight torpedo at a realistic target

- On December 14, 2024, a French Navy nuclear attack submarine (SSN) fired an F21 heavyweight torpedo at a realistic target: the hull of a warship that had been previously depolluted.
- As a result of the successful firing, the hull sank to a depth of several thousand meters and poses no danger to the environment or maritime activities.

This experiment was carried out by the French Navy to test the capabilities of the F21, a new-generation torpedo from the Artemis programme, capable of destroying surface and underwater threats. The F21 is designed to equip the Rubis and Suffren class SSNs as well as nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. It offers significantly greater stealth, range, strike speed and detection capability than previous weapons.

Given the tougher international context and the introduction of the latest generation of complex munitions, it now seems appropriate and possible to return to this type of weapon testing at sea on an ad hoc basis. This is in line with France's international commitments, thanks to the progress made in the treatment of old hulls.

Images are available on the French Navy's media library, in the "A la une" folder: www.mediatheque.marine.defense.gouv.fr

To access the "A la une" folder:

- Login: Marine_Nationale
- Mot de passe: Baudroie-2024



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