

HELICOPTER ANTI - SUBMARINE SQUADRON 8



The mission of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron EIGHT is to search for, track and destroy enemy submarines. The Sikorsky HSS-1 helicopter is employed by HS-8. This helicopter is equipped with dipping sonar that is lowered from the aircraft into the water to search for submarines. The HSS-1 is also configured to carry and launch torpedoes, depth charges and mines. Due to its versatility, the helicopter is frequently called on to transfer personnel from the various ships in the force, deliver mail and equipment. The helicopter is used for close localization of a contact generated by the carrier's fixed wing search planes. When the contact is tracked long enough to classify it as a submarine, the attack follows both by the fixed wing aircraft and helicopters. Helicopter pilots receive primary training at Eglyson Field, Pensacola, Florida. Upon completion of flight training they are designated Naval Aviators and report to either coast for duty in an operational squadron.

