

DEPARTMENT ORDER # 7
January 24, 2012

- 1. This weekend, January 28, 2012 through January 30, 2012, marks the observation of the Sesquicentennial anniversary of the launching of the U.S.S. Monitor at Greenpoint, Brooklyn, New York along with the remembrance of the crew that manned her. This innovative iron ship with its revolving gun turret would revolutionize naval warship construction and its battle with the ironclad C.S.S. Virginia on March 9, 1862 at Hampton Roads, the first battle between ironclads, would mark the end of the wooden warship and forever change naval warfare. New York played a pivotal role in its construction. Designed by New York City resident John Ericsson the contract for its construction was signed on October 4, 1861 in New York City. The keel was laid on October 25, 1861 at the Continental Iron Works in Greenpoint Brooklyn, New York. Other than the iron plate, which came from a company in Maryland, almost all significant construction of the ship and its components was done in the State of New York. The Rensselaer Ironworks in Troy and the Albany Ironworks in Albany manufactured most of the iron. The Clute Brothers Foundry in Schenectady contributed the turret steam engine and other small mechanical systems. The keel was built at Bigler's Steel Mill in Binghamton and the Dahlgren Guns at the West Point Forge in Cold Spring. The gun turret was constructed at the Novelty Iron Works on the East River in New York City, the engine and the main mechanical systems at Delamater's Iron Works also in New York City and the hull and overall construction at Continental Iron Works, in Greenpoint Brooklyn, New York. This modern marvel would be launched from the Continental Ironworks site on January 30, 1862 only 118 days after the contract was signed for its construction. This vessel left New York under the command of native New Yorker Lieutenant John L. Worden. This "cheese box on a raft" almost foundered on its way south and if not for the actions of its brave crew and the quick thinking of its executive officer, Samuel Dana Greene, it could have sunk well before reaching Hampton Roads. Its fight with the C.S.S. Virginia is well documented and the U.S.S. Monitor was lost in a severe storm off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina with the loss of 16 of its brave crew on December 31, 1862. Its legacy however, in world naval history lives on.**
- 2. On January 28-30, 2012 the Department of New York, SUVCW the Oliver Tilden Camp #26, SUVCW, Co. I, 83rd NYV SVR, the John Ericsson Society and the Greenpoint Monitor Museum will sponsor a three-day observance of the launching of the U.S.S. Monitor where it happened at**

Greenpoint Brooklyn, New York. This event has been designated a national sesquicentennial signature event by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and has national significance.

- 3. The importance to the Union War effort of the Union Navy and its thousands of sailors both on the high seas and on the rivers of the United States is often ignored. It is respectfully requested that all Camps of the Department of New York, SUVCW devote some time during their camp meetings during this second year of the Civil War sesquicentennial in reflection and discussion concerning the contribution that the Union Navy and its sailors made to the success of the Union during the American Civil War.**

**So Ordered this 24th day of January, 2012
Jeffrey Albanese
Department Commander, Department of New York
SUVCW**

**Attest;
Michael Bennett
Department Secretary
Department of New York, SUVCW**