



Ships Named for Significant Military or Naval Events

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Main resources used included:

- *Dictionary of Naval Fighting Ship (DANFS)*,
- *Naval Vessels Register (NVR)*,
- *Catalog of United States Naval Postmarks*, published by the Universal Cancellation Society, Fifth Edition, 1997, with Addenda and Corrigenda, November 2001,
- *Six Frigates*, by Ian W. Toll, 2006, W.W. Norton, NY, NY,
- *Wikipedia*, the online encyclopedia,
- and other on-line resources.

Expression of Appreciation: Sincere thanks to **Larry Brennan** for a very thorough and insightful critique of the original copy of this list, and to **Bob Rawlins** for his suggestions on improvements to the list. This revision is significantly better for their suggestions.

Responsibility: Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Appreciation cited above notwithstanding, all errors or omissions in this list are the sole responsibility of the compiler.

Additions and Corrections: This is intended to be a dynamic document, and all future additions and/or corrections should be sent to the compiler at the above address.

Ship's names: In this list, ship's names and hull numbers are in bold print. They are listed in alphabetical order.

Ship's hull numbers: Ships normally have hull numbers that describe their function and sequential order of being built. In the list, for example, **USS Admiralty Island CVE-99** was the 99th escort aircraft carrier built. Some ships have had more than one hull number, having been converted from one function to another. In those cases, all known hull numbers are listed. Likewise, some ship's names are used more than once, and in those cases, all known hull numbers are noted.

Selection of Ships to be included: There are a number of United States naval vessels named for places. Some of those are simply and clearly named just for the place and not for a military or naval event. A classic example of that is **USS New York City SSN-696**, all available resources make it abundantly clear that this ship is named for the city of New York as distinct from the state or any battle, such as the Revolutionary War Battle for New York. Another good example is **USS**

Detroit. Four Navy ships bear that name and all are for the city and not the Battle of Fort Detroit in the War of 1812. On the other hand, there are vessels that carry the name of a place and a battle (or if one prefers, a military or naval event). Examples include *USS Saratoga* and *USS Vincennes*. The compiler has erred on the side of including a citation in this list if there is any indication that the vessel is named for a military or naval event as opposed to simply the geographic place.

Citations: The citations below the names of the ships are not intended to be a complete description of the military or naval event, but rather just enough information to clearly identify said event for clarity. Many of the citations are verbatim from DANFS. Others are adaptations using DANFS and other sources.

The Ships:

Admiralty Islands

CVE-99

(A group of islands located within the Bismarck Archipelago in the southwest Pacific Ocean, north of New Guinea. Its total land area is about 800 square miles. The islands were the scene of an amphibious landing from 29 February 1944 to 25 March 1944 and subsequently became a major fleet base during World War II.)

Alamo

LSD-33

(The Alamo was a Spanish mission built in the mid-18th century in what is now San Antonio, Tex. In 1836, the Alamo became a fort when Texas declared its independence from Mexico. It was garrisoned by a small force of volunteers under the command of Lt. Col. William B. Travis. The siege of the Alamo by a Mexican army of several thousand soldiers began on 23 February 1837, but failed to rout the determined Texans until 6 March. A massive assault by the Mexicans breached the walls, and the defenders stood their ground in furious hand-to-hand combat until they were killed to the last man.)

Antietam

Screw Sloop, CV-36, CVA-36, CVS-36 & CG-54

(American Civil War battle fought along Antietam Creek near Sharpsburg, Maryland on 17 September 1862. To this day, it remains the single bloodiest day in American military history. Essentially a stalemate, it nonetheless resulted in R. E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia withdrawing south of the Potomac, and thus gave President Lincoln the "victory" he needed to issue the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863.)

Anzio

CG-68

(Anzio, a port city in central Italy, was the site of an Allied amphibious assault begun on 22 January 1944. The landing met with initial success, but Allied forces were soon pinned down and were not freed until May.)

Argonne

AG-31, AS-10, AP-4

(The wooded region in northeastern France near the border of Belgium. It consists of the territory between the Aisne and the Meuse Rivers and was the scene of an Allied offensive in World War I during the autumn of 1918 which caused Germany to capitulate. American troops played a leading role in this drive.)

Attu

CVE-102

(The westernmost island in the Aleutians, located between the Bering Sea and the North Pacific Ocean. During World War II, Attu was invaded by Japanese forces in June 1942 and was recaptured by the Americans in May 1943.)

Badoeng Strait

CVE-116

(Strait of water between Bali and Nusa Besar (in Indonesia). Site of a WW2 night naval action on 19 February 1942.)

Bairoko**CVE-115**

(A small harbor on the north coast of New Georgia in the Solomon Islands. In 1942 and 1943, the Japanese used this harbor as the port of supply for Munda airfield--itself important for the battles in and around Guadalcanal. American forces captured Bairoko on 25 August 1943, and its seizure marked an important milestone in the southwestern Pacific counter-offensive.)

Bataan**CVL-29, AVT-4 and LHD-5**

(A peninsula of land on the west side of Manila Bay on Luzon, Philippines. Site of a WW2 battle that ended with the surrender of about 72,000 American and Filipino service men and women on 9 April 1942 and the subsequent infamous "Death March" of US and Filipino prisoners.)

Belleau Wood**CVL-24 or LHA-3**

(Wooded area near Chateau Thierry, France. Site of the June 1918 WW1 battle between the 4th Marine Brigade and elements of three German divisions.)

Bennington**Gunboat #4 or CV-20, CVA-20, CVS-20**

(Town in southwestern Vermont. Since it was the nearest town to a Revolutionary War battle fought on 16 August 1777 in what is now Walloomsac, New York, the battle took Bennington's name.)

Bismarck Sea**CVE-95**

(A body of water located northeast of New Guinea. It was the scene of an Allied naval victory during World War II. On 28 February 1943, in an attempt to augment their forces on Papua, a Japanese convoy consisting of eight transports and eight destroyers departed Rabaul. Foul weather could not hide the convoy for long; and, on 1 March, one of Lt. Gen George C. Kenney's planes sighted it and began tracking it. By noon of 2 March, the Allies had attacked, sinking one transport and damaging two others. On 3 March, Allied bombers and PT boats demolished most of the remaining ships. From the entire convoy, only four destroyers escaped.)

Brandywine**Frigate (44-guns)**

(A creek rising in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Site of the Revolutionary War battle in which Lafayette distinguished himself. When Lafayette wanted to return to France in 1825, President Adams had the name of the 44-gun frigate, *Susquehanna* renamed to *Brandywine* to honor and carry Lafayette home.)

Bull Run**T-AO-156**

(A small stream in prince William County, Virginia. Site of two major American Civil War Battles, also known in the south as 1st and 2nd Manassas, fought on 21 July 1861 and 28-30 August 1862.)

Bunker Hill**CV-17, CVA-17, CVS-17 or CG-52**

(A height in Charleston, Massachusetts. The Revolutionary War battle fought 17 June 1775 that bears its name was actually fought on Breed's Hill.)

Cape Esperance**CVE-88 and CVU-88**

(A point of land on Guadalcanal. Off Cape Esperance, at midnight on 11/12 October 1942, allied naval forces defeated a Japanese force attempting to reinforce Guadalcanal.)

Cape Gloucester**CVE-109, CVHE-109, or AKV-9**

(A point of land on New Guinea. On 26 November 1943, the 1st Marine Division landed on Cape Gloucester.)

Cape St. George**CG-71**

(A point of land on the island of New Ireland, near New Guinea, site of a naval battle in WW2 on 25 November 1943.)

Casablanca**CVE-55**

(Port in French Morocco. Major base for allied operations in the late 1942 and early 1943 North African campaign in WW2.)

Chancellorsville **CG-62**
(American Civil War battle in Virginia from 30 April to 6 May 1862, a Confederate victory, but the South lost General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson.)

Chateau Thierry **AP-21**
(A town in France, site of a major campaign of WW1 from 31 May to 10 July, 1918. It actually consisted of three separate but connected battles, the Defense of the Marne River Line, Belleau Wood, and the Capture of Varn.)

Chosin **CG-65**
(A large reservoir in northeast Korea, site of a large battle from October through December 1950 during the Korean War. Surrounded by an force of more than 70,000 Chinese troops, 30,000 United Nations troops, (mostly from the 1st Marine Division, 41 Commando of the Royal Marines and the 7th Army Division) fought their way from the Chosin Reservoir to safety at the port of Hungnam.)

Concord **Sloop-of-War, PG-3, AM-1, CL-10**
(A town in Massachusetts, scene of the first conflict between the American and British in the American Revolution, on 19 April 1775.)

Coral Sea **CVB-43 or CVA-43**
(The sea between Australia and New Guinea. Site of a major battle of WW2 on 7-8 May 1942 between naval carrier aircraft. The first naval engagement in which ships did not fire a shot at other ships, all action being conducted by aircraft attacking ships and each other. A tactical victory for Japan because the US lost the carrier *Lexington* and the Japanese lost the light carrier *Shoho*. It was, however, a strategic victory for the US in that it halted the Japanese advance in the south Pacific.)

Corregidor **CVE-58**
(Small island fortress guarding the entrance to Manila Bay that was the scene of the last gallant stand of the outnumbered American-Filipino force which surrendered to the overwhelming Japanese invaders 6 May 1942.)

Cowpens **CV-25 or CVL-25**
(The Revolutionary War battle fought 17 January 1781, 7 miles north of the town of Cowpens, S.C., was an American victory in the campaign which led to the British surrender at Yorktown.)

Fort Donelson **Screw Steamer**
(A fort on the Cumberland River in Tennessee, captured by Union forces on 16 February 1862.)

Fort Fisher **LSD-40**
(An American Civil War battle in North Carolina.)

Fort Henry **Screw Steamer**
(A fortification on the Tennessee River captured by Union forces in February 1862.)

Fort Hindman **Screw Steamer**
(A fortification on the Arkansas River near Saint Charles captured by Union forces in January 1863.)

Fort Jackson **Screw Steamer**
(A fort on the lower Mississippi captured by Union forces on 28 April 1862.)

Fort McHenry **LSD-43**
(The fort protecting the harbor of Baltimore, Maryland. Site of a famous battle on 13-14 September 1814 during the War of 1812 with Britain. Francis Scott Key wrote the Star Spangled Banner during the attack on the fort.)

Fort Morgan**Screw Steamer**

(A Confederate fort guarding the eastern side of the entrance to Mobile Bay, captured by Union forces under Admiral David G. Farragut's on 5 August 1864. After witnessing the monitor *Tecumseh* mortally stricken by a torpedo (naval mine), Farragut said to the captain of his flagship, *Hartford*: "Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!")

Germantown**Sloop-of-War, LSD-42**

(A town in Pennsylvania, now a residential section of Philadelphia, and the scene of the Revolutionary War battle 4 October 1777 between General Washington's troops and the British under Sir William Howe.)

Gettysburg**Screw Steamer, PCE-904, and CG-64**

(A city in southern Pennsylvania, site of one of the most important battles of the Civil War 1-3 July 1863. It was at the dedication of the National Cemetery on the battleground 19 November 1863 that President Lincoln delivered his immortal Gettysburg Address.)

Gilbert Islands**CVE-107 and AKV-39**

(An island group containing 16 atolls in the western Pacific Ocean on the equator, southeast of the Marshalls and northeast of the Solomons. On 20 November 1943 Marines made an amphibious assault on Makin and Tarawa Islands, seizing the former without difficulty, but winning Tarawa only after a 100-hour battle in which over 3,500 Americans were killed or wounded.)

Guadalcanal**CVE-60 and LPH-7****PPC (LPH-7)**

(A volcanic island 90 miles long and 25 miles wide in the Pacific Ocean, Solomon Islands group. Guadalcanal was captured by the Japanese in 1942. Before they could develop it as a bastion Admiral Keily Turner's amphibious force struck in August. The next 4 months saw some of the bitterest fighting of World War II. Six major naval battles and uncounted smaller engagements were fought in the waters adjacent to the island. The victory on Guadalcanal was the next great step to victory following Midway.)

Guam**CB-2 and LPH-9****PPC (LPH-9)**

(The largest island in the Marianas chain, site of a major battle in WW2 from 21 July to 10 August 1944.)

Guerriere**Screw Sloop**

(The name of a fast 49-gun British frigate captured and destroyed in a half-hour battle by U.S. frigate *Constitution* 19 August 1812. *Guerriere* I was the British frigate inducted into United States service. *Guerriere* II was a screw sloop built to commemorate *Constitution's* victory which fired the nation with fresh confidence and courage at the outset of the War of 1812.)

Harpers Ferry**LSD-49**

(City in West Virginia. Site of an American Civil War engagement involving LtGen Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson, CSA.)

Hue City**CG-66**

(Ancient capital of Vietnam, site of a prolonged battle during the Tet Offensive of the Vietnam War from 30 January to 3 March 1968.)

Inchon**LPH-12**

(A city on the west coast of Korea south of Seoul, site a a major amphibious landing in the Korean War.)

Iwo Jima**LPH-2 and LHD-7**

(A small volcanic island in the Bonin Group. Iwo Jima was the site of one of the most important and most bitterly fought amphibious operations of the Pacific War. The strategic island, needed as an air base for the assault on Japan itself, was invaded 19 February 1945 and declared secure almost a month later. Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz spoke eloquently of the sailors and marines who fought there: "Among the Americans who served on Iwo Island uncommon valor was a common virtue." The

famous photograph of the flag-raising on Mount Suribachi has become a symbol of valor and strength in the years since 1945.)

Java

Frigate

(Early in the War of 1812, *Constitution* captured British frigate *Java* in a bitter fight off the coast of Brazil 29 December 1812. However, *Java's* shattered condition and the long distance from home prompted Commodore Bainbridge to burn his prize. American frigate *Java* was named for this American victory, and, later in the Civil War, the screw sloop-of-war under construction at the New York Navy Yard.)

Kula Gulf

CVE-108 and AKV-8

(The night naval battle of 6 July 1943 between an American cruiser-destroyer -task group under Rear Admiral W. L. Ainsworth and a powerful Japanese destroyer force in a 5-mile-wide gulf between Kolombangara and New Georgia, Solomon Islands. The task group sank one enemy destroyer and drove a second ashore, while Japanese torpedoes sank cruiser *Helena*.)

Kwajalein

CVE-98 and AKV-34

(An atoll in the Marshall Islands, site of a WW2 battle from 31 January to 3 February 1944.)

Lake Champlain

Screw Steamer, CV-39 and CVS-39, CG-57

(A lake in the State of New York which was the scene of Commodore Thomas McDonough's victory 11 September 1814 over a larger and more heavily armed British squadron in the War of 1812.)

Lake Erie

CG-70

(The fourth lake in the chain of Great Lakes, site of a War of 1812 battle on 10 September 1813. Nine ships under the command of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry defeated a British squadron of six ships. Perry's report to his superior, General (and future president) William Henry Harrison was to the point: "We have met the enemy and they are ours: two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and one sloop.")

Lexington

Brigantine, Screw Steamer, CV-2, CV-16, CVA-16, CVS-16, and CVT-16

(A town in Massachusetts, site of a Revolutionary War battle on 19 April 1776, opening the American Revolution "with the shot heard around the world.")

Leyte

ARG-8, CV-32, CVA-32, CVS-32, and AVT-10

(A large island in the Philippines, site of the land and sea battles called the Battle of Leyte Gulf. Fought from 23 to 26 October 1944, they consisted of the Battle of Surigao Strait, the Battle off Samar, the Battle of Cape Engano, and the Battle of the Sibuyan Sea.)

Leyte Gulf

CG-55

(Large sea adjacent to the Philippine island of Leyte, site of the land and sea battles called the Battle of Leyte Gulf. Fought from 23 to 26 October 1944, they consisted of the Battle of Surigao Strait, the Battle off Samar, the Battle of Cape Engano, and the Battle of the Sibuyan Sea.)

Lunga Point

CVE-94

(A promontory on the northern coast of Guadalcanal, US Marines landed at Lunga Point on 7 August 1942 with the goal of capturing the nearby airfield. The airfield was captured and later named Henderson Field after Marine aviator Major Lofton Henderson, who was killed in action in the Battle of Midway.)

Makassar Strait

CVE-91

(The passage in the Malay Archipelago between Borneo and Celebes which connects the Celebes Sea with the Java Sea. Site of a series of WW2 naval engagements in January 1942.)

Makin Island

CVE-93, LHD-8

(A coral atoll in the northern Gilbert Islands. Scene of two landings during WW2, one a diversionary attack in August 1942 by Marine Raiders, and the second full fledged attack from 20 to 24 November 1943.)

Malvern**Steamer, SP-3055, IX-138, and PC-580**

(Malvern Hill is a plateau on the northern bank of the James River, where McClellan, aided greatly by Union gunboats, repulsed Lee's attack 1 July 1862, saving his army of the Potomac in the final battle of the Seven Days Battle of the peninsular campaign.)

Manila Bay**CVE-61**

(A large bay on the west coast of Luzon, site of an important American naval victory on 1 May 1898 over the Spanish during the Spanish-American War. Commodore (later Admiral) George Dewey led the American Asiatic Squadron into Manila Bay against an inferior Spanish squadron under Admiral Patricio Montejó y Paseron. Dewey's victory was overwhelmingly complete.)

Marcus Island**CVE-77**

(A small triangular island in the western Pacific about midway between Wake Island and the Bonins; named Minami Tori Shima by the Japanese; the site of an enemy naval base during World War II; subjected to U.S. naval bombardment beginning in March 1942; bypassed by the Allies during the westward advance across the Pacific; and surrendered by the Japanese 31 August 1945.)

Matanikau**CVE-101**

(A river on the northwest coast of Guadalcanal, Solomons, between Point Cruz and Lunga Point. During the protracted ground war for control of Guadalcanal, U.S. Marines battled Japanese troops along its banks in September and October 1942 while tenaciously defending their defense perimeter around Henderson Field.)

Midway**CVE-63, and CVB-41, CVA-41, CV-41**

(Between 3 and 6 June 1942, the U.S. Pacific Fleet turned back a Japanese attempt to capture Midway, the westernmost atoll in the Hawaiian chain, in a decisive action which cost the enemy four large aircraft carriers and forced Japan to assume a defensive posture. In Adm. Samuel E. Morison's words, "Midway was a victory not only of courage, determination and excellent bombing technique, but of intelligence, bravely and wisely applied." The American Navy's triumph in the Battle of Midway foreshadowed Japan's final surrender. The first *Midway* was named for the atoll, the second and third for the battle.)

Mobile Bay**CG-53**

(A bay opening into the Gulf of Mexico guarded at its entrance by Forts Morgan and Gaines. Site of Civil War naval battle on 5 August 1864. Union naval forces under Admiral David Glasgow Farragut successfully passed through the entrance to Mobile Bay protected by Forts Morgan and Gaines and a small Confederate flotilla commanded by Admiral Franklin Buchanan. After the monitor *Tecumseh* was mortally stricken by a torpedo (in modern terminology, a naval mine), Farragut ordered the captain of his flagship *Hartford* to "damn the torpedoes, full steam ahead.")

Monocacy**Side-wheel Gunboat, and Gunboat #20**

(A river in northern Maryland, which rises as a creek in southern Pennsylvania; the Indian name means stream containing many large bends. The Civil War Battle of Monocacy, in which General Lew Wallace's Union forces prevented General Early's Confederates from reaching Washington, D.C., was fought on the banks of the river near Frederick, Md., 4 and 5 July 1864.)

Monterey**BM-6, CV-26 and CVL-26, CG-61**

(A city in California, south of San Francisco, founded by the Spanish and named for the Count of Monterey in 1598. During the Mexican War, it was captured by a landing force of 250 Marines and bluejackets under Capt. William Mervine, USMC, 7 July 1846.)

Nassau**LHA-4**

(*NASSAU* is named for the first-ever landing by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps on New Providence Island during the American Revolution. Late in 1775, Captain Esek Hopkins set out to intercept British store ships. Heavy ice, foul weather and smallpox kept the American squadron from getting to sea until February 1776. Finding no worthwhile prizes at sea, Hopkins decided to sail for the Bahamas to capture "a large quantity of powder" reported to be on the Island of New Providence. Hopkin's squadron arrived off

the Bahamas on 1 March 1776. On 3 March, Hopkins ordered a landing designed to outflank the English defenses. Two hundred-thirty Marines and fifty seamen landed on the beach and captured nearby Fort Montague. The Force advanced on Fort Nassau, which surrendered the following morning. Although most of the powder supply was no longer there, some powder, along with 103 cannon and mortars, still remained, enough to make the operation entirely worthwhile. Thus, for the first time, American Sailors and Marines responded to the equivalent modern command to "Land the Landing Force." (Note: *USS Nassau CVE-16* was named for a sound off the coast of Florida.)

New Orleans

Protected Cruiser, CL-22, CA-32, LPH-11, and LPD-18

(The city in Louisiana, site of two important battles, the first was a battle in War of 1812 on 8 January 1815 (also known as the Battle of Chalmette Plantation), which was fought after peace had been settled by the Treaty of Ghent two weeks earlier, but the news had not reached New Orleans. Americans under General (and future president) Andrew Jackson met and defeated a large British force commanded by General Sir Edward Michael Pakenham. The second was the naval battle in the American Civil War in which Admiral David Glasgow Farragut led Union forces past Forts Jackson and St. Philip in the lower Mississippi on 24 April 1862 and then on to capture New Orleans on 28 April 1862.)

Niagara

Brig, Steam Frigate, Steamer, SP-136, PG-52, and APA-87

(Fort Niagara, which was captured from the British by American forces on 28 November 1812.)

Normandy

CG-60

(Region in France, site of D-Day landings on 6 June 1944 during WW2.)

Okinawa

LPH-3

(The largest of the Ryukyu Islands. Okinawa was the site of one of the last major island landings of World War II and scene of some of its heaviest fighting. The operation, under the strategic command of Admiral Raymond A. Spruance, began with 5th Fleet air strikes against Kyushu on 18 March 1945, and initial landings on Okinawa itself on Easter Sunday, 1 April. An enormous assemblage of ships participated in the operation, during which 36 of them of destroyer size or smaller were lost, most to the heaviest concentration of kamikaze attacks of the war. Almost 8,000 enemy aircraft were destroyed in the air or on the ground. As part of the action, on 7 April last remnants of the Imperial Japanese Navy ventured forth, only to be met by the overwhelming Navy airpower. Japanese super-battleship *Yamato*, a cruiser, and four destroyers were sunk in the one-day battle. As a result of securing Okinawa, the supply lanes of the East China Sea were blocked, isolating all southern possessions still in Japanese hands; and the last obstacle in the path to the Japanese Home Islands was cleared.)

Oriskany

CVA-34

(A village in central New York state and the scene of one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolutionary War. On 6 August 1777, some 700 Tryon County militiamen and Oneida warriors under Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer and Chief Skenandoah were ambushed by an equal force of Tories and Mohawks under Sir John Johnson, Col. John Butler and Joseph Brant. In the six hour battle the American force was prevented from relieving Fort Stanwix; but, in turn, prevented the British force from reaching General John Burgoyne, thus contributing to that gentleman's losses at Bemis Heights and his defeat at Saratoga. Losses at Oriskany were severe on both sides. American losses amounted to half the original force, including General Herkimer. The latter, severely wounded, died a week later.)

Pearl Harbor

LSD-52

(Harbor on the island of Oahu in the Hawaiian chain. Site of Japanese attack on the US Fleet on 7 December 1941 that brought the USA into WW2.)

Peleliu

LHA-5

(An island in the Palau group. Site of a Marine landing in WW2 and subsequent battle that lasted from 15 September to 25 November 1944.)

Philippine Sea**CV-47, CVS-47 and CG-58**

(Large sea bordered by Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, Marianas, and Palau. Site of a large naval and air battles in WW2 on 18-20 June 1944, and because of the resulting huge air losses by Japanese forces the air phase became known as “The Great Marianas Turkey Shoot.”)

Plattsburg**SP-1645**

(A city and bay on the New York shore of Lake Champlain, the scene of the Battle of Plattsburg 11 September 1814, in which Commodore Macdonough’s victory forced the British to abandon their offensive thrust down the Lake Champlain-Hudson Valley corridor and return to Canada.)

Point Cruz**CVE-119**

(A decisive land battle fought on Guadalcanal from 7 to 10 November 1942.)

Port Royal**Screw Gunboat and CG-73**

(A town and sound in South Carolina. Site of battles in both the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War. The ship’s crest description includes this commentary: “The demi-palmetto tree, adapted from the State flag of South Carolina, alludes to the Port Royal Sound and the Carolina Sea Islands where the battles occurred for which the ship is named. The sword and musket, crossed to express combined arms and joint service teamwork, signify the two *PORT ROYALS*. The musket recalls the Revolutionary War battles and when combined with the Civil War Naval sword symbolize a continuing heritage of devotion to country, duty and the defense of freedom.”)

Princeton**Screw Steamers (2), Gunboat, CV-23, CVL-23, CV-37, CVS-37 and CG-59**

(A borough in west central New Jersey, scene of a famous Revolutionary War battle 2–3 January 1777 and birthplace of Capt. R. F. Stockton.)

Rendova**CVE-114**

(An island in the central Solomons, off the southwest central coast of New Georgia. During World War II it was taken by U.S. forces 30 June-2 July 1943 and used as a base against Munda.)

Resaca**Steam Sloop**

(Resaca, a word of Spanish derivation, meaning an elongated inlet of water. Gen. Zachary Taylor defeated a Mexican Army column at the Resaca de la Palma near Brownsville, Tex., 9 May 1846.)

Roi**CVE-103**

(A small island in the Kwajalein atoll of the Marshall Islands which was captured by a US naval task force 1 February 1944.)

Saipan**CVL-48, CC-3, AGMR-2, and LHA-2**

(An island in the Marianas; the site of the initial Allied landings in that group on 15 June 1944. After bitter fighting ashore and at sea, the island was secured in mid-July and developed into an Allied air base.)

Salerno Bay**CVE-110**

(A variant term for the Gulf of Salerno, an inlet of the Tyrrhenian Sea, south of Naples, Italy, where Allied forces made their initial assault on the Italian peninsula on 9 September 1943.)

San Jacinto**Screw Frigate, CVL-30, CG-56**

(On 21 April 1836, General Sam Houston and his outnumbered troops won independence for Texas by decisively defeating a Mexican army at the San Jacinto River.)

Saratoga**Sloop, Corvette, Sloop-of-War, CV-3, CV-60, CVA-60**

(On 17 October 1777, American troops commanded by General Horatio Gates compelled a British Army led by General John Burgoyne to surrender at Saratoga, N.Y. This victory ended a prolonged British effort to cut the colonies in two and induced France to enter the war as America’s ally.)

Savo Island**CVE-78**

(A naval battle fought off Savo Island in the Solomons on 9 August 1942.)

Shiloh**CG-67**

(A church near Pittsburgh Landing, Tennessee. A major Civil War battle was fought around the church on 6 April 1862.)

Siboney**ID-2999, CVE-112**

(A town near Santiago, Cuba where American troops landed in the Spanish-American War.)

Sicily**CVE-118**

(An island in the Mediterranean Sea separated from the Italian mainland by the narrow Strait of Messina. Sicily was invaded by United States troops on 9 and 10 July 1943 and by British troops on 10 July. The Allies completed the conquest of the island on 16 August.)

Solomons**CVE-67**

(A group of islands in the southwestern Pacific, east of New Guinea, containing 15 major islands and numerous smaller ones. United States forces invaded the group at Guadalcanal on 7 August 1942. This was the first amphibious operation directed against Japanese-held territory in World War II. By February 1943, Guadalcanal had been secured, and landings were made on two other islands of the group, Bougainville and New Georgia. The development of the campaign in New Guinea, however, enabled the Americans to bypass the approximately 120,000 remaining Japanese who were scattered among the other islands of the Solomons group.)

St Lo**CVE-63**

(The decisive breakout of the Normandy beachhead occurred at St. Lo, France, on 18 July 1944.)

St Mihiel**AP-32**

(An original Army name commemorating the Allied offensive in September 1918. During the campaign, troops of the United States First Army commanded by General Pershing cut off and destroyed the German-held St. Mihiel salient.)

Suribachi**AE-21**

(An extinct volcano on the southern tip of Iwo Jima in the Bonin-Volcano Islands. The beaches at the foot of the mountain were the sites of the marine assault on 19 February 1945. The crest of Mt. Suribachi was the scene of the 23 February 1945 flag raising immortalized in the picture taken by the Associated Press photographer, Joe Rosenthal.)

Tarawa**CV-40, CVS-40, LHA-1****PPC (LHA-1)**

(An atoll in the north central Gilbert Islands located some 90 miles north of the equator and two-thirds of the way along a diagonal drawn from Hawaii to Australia. It was the scene of a bitter and bloody battle from 20 to 24 November 1943. The marines' assault upon the atoll was one phase of Operation "Galvanic," the first jump in the Navy's leap-frog sweep to victory through the Central Pacific.)

Ticonderoga**Schooner, Screw Sloop, Steamer, CV-14, CVA-14, CVS-14, CG-47**

(A village in Essex County, N.Y., on La Chute River, 100 miles north of Albany. The name is an Iroquois Indian term which means "between two lakes" and refers to Lake George and Lake Champlain. Here, the French built a fort called Carillon in 1755, but it was captured four years later by British troops under General Amherst. Early in the American Revolution, on 10 May 1775, Ethan Allen and his "Green Mountain Boys" captured the fort from the British. General Sir John Burgoyne recaptured the fort in May 1777, holding it until his surrender at Saratoga, N.Y., on 17 October 1777.)

Trenton**Screw Steamer, CL-11, LPD-14**

(The capital city of New Jersey, during the American Revolution, Trenton was the site of a decisive American victory. On Christmas night 1776, Washington led the remnants of the Continental Army across the Delaware River in a blinding snow storm. At dawn on 26 December, he caught the Hessian

garrison at Trenton by surprise. This total victory netted the Americans 1,000 prisoners and huge quantities of small arms, cannon, and munitions. More importantly, it revived the cause of independence which had suffered greatly during the retreat from New York after the Battle of Long Island the previous August.)

Tripoli **CVE-64 or CVU-64, LPH-10**

(Largest city of modern Libya, site of a joint land-sea operation against Derna during the war between the United States and the Barbary state of Tripoli which resulted in the capture of that fortress city on 27 April 1805. After a long and grueling march across the desert from Alexandria, William H. Eaton—the American naval agent in the Barbary states—led a polyglot force of Arabs, Greek mercenaries, and a small detachment of marines in storming the Tripolitan defensive positions. Gunfire from United States warships *Hornet*, *Nautilus*, and *Argus*, and the valor of the marines—commanded by Lt. Presley Neville O'Bannon, USMC—were instrumental in achieving the American victory which has been immortalized by the phrase from the Marine Corps hymn, ". . . to the shores of Tripoli. . .")

Valley Forge **CV-45**

(A locality in Chester County, Pa., where the Continental Army suffered bitter cold and privation during the winter of 1777 and 1778 while British troops basked in warmth and plenty in nearby Philadelphia. Yet, because of the inspiring example of leaders like Washington and skillful training by drill instructors like von Steuben, the American Army emerged from its winter encampment with renewed self confidence, courage, and fighting ability. The name Valley Forge has since become a symbol of the triumph of American patriotism and self-sacrifice.)

Vella Gulf **CVE-111, CG-72**

(A naval engagement in the Solomons campaign of World War II, fought in Vella Gulf between the islands Vella Lavella and Kolombangara on the night of 6 and 7 August 1943. In the battle of Vella Gulf, six American destroyers—*Dunlap* (DD-384), *Craven* (DD-382), *Maury* (DD-401), *Lang* (DD-399), *Sterett* (DD-407), and *Stack* (DD-406)—engaged a group of four enemy destroyers attempting to reinforce Japanese troops on Kolombangara. The American warships closed, undetected, and fired torpedoes which sank *Hagikaze*, *Arashi*, and *Kawakaze*.)

Vicksburg **Screw Gunboat, Gunboat #11, CL-86, CG-69**

(A city in Mississippi located on a bluff at the mouth of the Yazoo River; founded in 1812; and named for Newitt Vick (1766-1819), the owner of a plantation on the present site of the city. During the American Civil War (1861-1865), General Ulysses S. Grant besieged the city from 19 May to 4 July 1863, when it surrendered, giving the North control of the Mississippi River and its tributaries and contributing greatly to the eventual overall Union victory.)

Vincennes **Sloop-of-War, CA-44, CL-64, CG-49**

(A city in Knox County, Ind., on the Wabash River, 55 miles south of Terre Haute. Vincennes was founded in 1731 or 1732 by soldier-explorer Francois Marie Bissot, Sieur de Vincennes, and was the site of old Fort Vincennes, captured twice during the American Revolution—in December 1778 and February 1779—by the Virginian, George Rogers Clark.)

Wake Island **CVE-65**

(An atoll in the northern Pacific consisting of three islands; Wake, Peale, and Wilkes. Location of an American military base at the outset of WW2. Captured by the Japanese in December 1941.)

Western Front **Freighter #1787**

(Named for the Western Front of WW1.)

White Plains **CVE-66, AFS-4**

(A city in, and the seat of government for, Westchester County, N.Y. After the Battle of Long Island on 27 August 1776, during the Revolutionary War, George Washington was forced to evacuate Long Island and, later, the entire state of New York. During the retreat through New York and New Jersey, contingents of American soldiers fought a series of sharp rearguard actions which held up the British forces and allowed

the Continental Army to escape intact to Pennsylvania. On 28 October 1776, the second of those engagements was fought near White Plains, N.Y. Though the American troops were ultimately driven from the field, they held the British back long enough to allow General Washington's main force to make good its retreat.)

Yorktown

Sloop, Gunboat #1, CV-5, CV-10, CVA-10, CVS-10, CG-48

(A town in Virginia where the climatic battle of the Revolutionary War was fought in the fall of 1781.)

