

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION

This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
CANON	PG-90
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
ASHEVILLE (PG-84) - class patrol combatant	PGM-90 (redesignated 1 April 1967 to PG-90)
Vessel Location	Current Status
INACTSHIPMAINTO Philadelphia	Stricken, plan DLA scrap sale

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
15 February 2011	Eligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
5 July 2011	Eligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First U.S. naval vessel to be named CANON
Displacement	235 tons (full load)
Length	165 feet
Beam	24 feet
Draft	5 feet (maximum navigational)
Speed	35+ knots
Propulsion	Diesel engines/gas turbines, twin screws
Armament	One 3-inch gun, one 40-millimeter gun, two twin .50 caliber machine guns
Laid Down	28 June 1966

Launched	22 July 1967
Built By	Tacoma (WA) Boatbuilding Co.
Sponsor	Mrs. Harold M. Tollefson, wife of the Mayor of Tacoma, WA
Delivered	26 July 1968
Commissioned	26 July 1968
Decommissioned	31 January 1977
Stricken	9 October 1984

Vessel History

Deployments Summary	Western Pacific (WestPac) 1970-1974, homeported at Guam (1 February 1970-30 June 1974). Deployed to Vietnam (25 June-27 August 1970, 22 April-25 August 1971, 4 March-31 August 1972). Homeported at San Diego, 1 July 1974-31 January 1977.
Awards	1 Meritorious Unit Commendation, 1 Navy E Ribbon, Vietnam Service Medal (four engagement stars); Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation – Gallantry.
Noteworthy Events	Ambushed while transiting the Song [River] Bo De, Republic of Vietnam, on 11 August 1970, CANON received eight B-40 rocket hits as well as heavy automatic weapons and small arms fire that wounded 10 men, including the commanding officer, and caused heavy damage. LCDR David B. Robinson, the CO, and LT(jg) Robert S. Herbert, USNR, the weapons officer, each received the Navy Cross for heroism.
DANFS* Entry	In early stages of preparation. Deck log research will need to be conducted for 1968 since the file does not contain a command history report for that calendar year.

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation? (A Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to military units that have performed an extremely meritorious or heroic act, usually in the face of an armed enemy.)	No
ii. Did an individual act of heroism take place aboard the vessel such that an individual was subsequently awarded the Medal of Honor or the Navy Cross? (The Medal of Honor is awarded for valor in action against an enemy force. The Navy Cross is awarded for extraordinary heroism in action not justifying an award of the Medal of Honor.)	Yes. LCDR David B. Robinson, the commanding officer, and LT (j.g.) Robert S. Herbert, USNR, the weapons officer, each received the Navy Cross for heroism during the battle of 11 August 1970
iii. Was a President of the United States was assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service?	No
iv. Was the vessel was the first to incorporate engineering, weapons systems, or other upgrades that represent a revolutionary change in naval design or warfighting capabilities?	No
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	No
Assessment of integrity of (as appropriate) design, materials, workmanship, feeling and/or association	From photographic evidence, CANON appears to look much the same as she did when in active USN service
Historical Evaluation Conclusion	Eligible

Sources	CANON (PG-90) Command History Reports, 1969-1977 (ship did not submit for 1968); Naval Ordnance Systems Command, Armament of Naval Vessels (31 December 1968); USS CANON [PG-90] Message Traffic, Commander, Naval Forces Vietnam [COMNAVFORV], Naval Forces Vietnam [NAVFORV] Operations Files; Miscellaneous Messages, etc., in CANON (PG-90) Source File and Ship Name and Sponsor File, History and Archives Division, Naval History and Heritage Command.
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¹ Evaluation conducted using triggers established for naval vessels in *Program Comment for the Department of Navy for the Disposition of Historic Vessels*, issued by the Advisory Council for Historic Preservation on 15 March 2010.

Historic Preservation Stakeholder Comment

Historic preservation stakeholder comments received are considered when preparing final determinations. The initial determination for this vessel was made available for comment by historic preservation stakeholders for 60 days. During that time, the Navy received 0 written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition
None.	