

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
FORD	FFG 54
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7)-class guided missile frigate	
Vessel Location	Current Status
Bremerton, WA	Decommissioned

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
17 December 2013	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
24 Mar 2014	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	First ship named for Gunner's Mate 2 nd Class Patrick Osborne Ford USN (1942-1968) awarded the Navy Cross (posthumously) for "extraordinary heroism" in battle on 21 June 1968 on board PBR 750 during the Vietnam War.
Displacement	4,100 tons
Length	453 feet
Beam	47 feet
Draft	17 feet

Speed	30+ knots
Propulsion	Two (2) General Electric LM 2500 Gas Turbines One Controllable/Reversible Pitch Propeller Two 350 HP Electric Auxiliary Propulsion Units
Armament	<i>Harpoon</i> surface to surface missiles, <i>Standard</i> SM-1 surface to air missiles, a 76mm rapid fire gun, 20mm Close-In Weapon System (CIWS), Mark 46 and Mark 50 anti-submarine torpedoes, and the LAMPS MK III helicopter/weapons system
Laid Down	16 July 83
Launched	23 June 84
Built By	Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation, Los Angeles (CA) Division
Sponsor	Mrs. Robert C. McFarlane (Jonda McFarlane)
Delivered	31 May 85
Commissioned	29 June 85
Inactivated	19 August 13
Decommissioned	31 October 13
Stricken	TBD

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	WESTPAC – 1987-1988 (Indian Ocean-Persian Gulf, Earnest Will Transit, Iranian and Iraqi Surveillance); 1989 (Persian Gulf); 1990 (Persian Gulf in response to Iraqi invasion of Kuwait); 1991 (Operation Desert Storm); 1993 (Arabian/Persian Gulf Deployment: Enforced “no fly” zone); 1995-1996 (96-W1, Persian Gulf); 1997-1998 (WESTPAC 97-2, ASWEX MIDPAC, Persian Gulf); 1999- 2000 (PACMEF 99-3, MIO OPS, Persian Gulf); 2001-
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	<p>2002 (Operation Enduring Freedom, Indian Ocean); 2004 (GWOT, Sea of Japan , South China Sea); 2007 (Southeast Asia: CARAT Deployment); 2008 (Southeast Asia: CARAT Deployment)2011(Indian Ocean)</p> <p>EASTPAC - 2006 (Caribbean Sea: Counter Narcotics Terrorism Deployment); 2009</p> <p>MIDPAC - 1995-1996 (96-W1)</p> <p>Central America/Caribbean – 1992 (Law Enforcement Operations)</p>
<p>Awards</p>	<p>One Combat Action Ribbon (Operation DESERT STORM), three Navy Unit Commendations (one for participation in DESERT STORM and one as part of the Fifth Fleet Battle Force), two Meritorious Unit Commendations (one as part of the NIMITZ Battle Group and one as part of Commander Carrier Strike Group 7), four Navy “E” Ribbons, five Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, one Southwest Asia Service Medal, and two Chief of Naval Operations Letters of Commendation.</p>
<p>Noteworthy Events</p>	<p>FORD intercepted 1.2 metric tons of cocaine worth approximately 212 million dollars. (2006 Deployment to EASTPAC and Caribbean Sea)</p> <p>While on patrol off the west coast of Mexico in 2006, the FORD’s helicopter squadron rescued two civilian sailors stranded at sea. The helicopter crew deployed the rescue swimmer, and rescued one male and one female on the sailing vessel ECLIPSE which was sinking in the 20 foot high rolling seas.</p> <p>Maritime Interception Operations in PACMEF 99-3 deployment.</p> <p>During WESTPAC 97-2, The FORD was part of the U.S. presence to enforce UN Sanctions through Maritime Intercept Operations against Saddam Hussein.</p> <p>During the MIDPAC Deployment from 1995-1996, The FORD was tasked as the primary Maritime Intercept Operations (MIO) platform in the battlegroup and operated mostly in the North Arabian Gulf. In February 1996, a dhow (small Arabian cargo vessel) collided with the FORD while preparing to be boarded and forced FORD into Bahrain for repairs. FORD performed it's MIO duties in an exemplary manner, intercepting 31 ships, boarding 16 and diverting 8 vessels which in sum total were laden with over five million pounds of illegal cargo. This accounted for over two-thirds of the total MIO output for the entire NIMITZ Battle Group. In March 1996, FORD and her NIMITZ Battle Group counterparts were tasked to respond to the growing tensions in the Straits of Taiwan between China and Taiwan. China was conducting missile tests dangerously close to Taiwanese airspace in response</p>

	<p>to pro-Democracy elections in Taiwan. FORD helped to provide a strong US presence in that region and help quell the political tempers before any serious confrontations erupted.</p> <p>During her time in the Arabian Gulf (1993), FORD’s primary mission was the enforcement of the United Nations “No Fly” Zone and Military Interdiction Force. After its law enforcement interdictions were complete, the FORD also participated in Project Handclasp during this time period.</p> <p>FORD’s Central American Deployment in 1992 resulted in the seizure of nearly 3,000 kilos of cocaine and 11 arrests.</p> <p>In 1991, FORD was assigned as a carrier battle force screen ship on the northern flank of a four aircraft carrier operating area. In this location, FORD was the only allied coalition ship between Iran, a neutral country that had offered safe haven to over 100 fully combat ready Iraqi aircraft, and the entire carrier battle force. This station was also was in the center of the merchant and tanker traffic lanes of the gulf where FORD conducted over 90 ship interdictions. FORD expertly performed around the clock plane guard and shotgun duties, alternating between the carriers THEODORE ROOSEVELT, MIDWAY, and RANGER for 34 consecutive days of continuous flight operations during the peak of the Allied air campaign in Operation Desert Storm. The ship was the only Non-Aegis or Non-New Threat Upgrade ship to perform shotgun duties for the carriers during the entire Gulf War.</p>
DANFS* Entry	Placeholder entry posted on 18 November 13

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation?	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?	No
iii. Was a President of the United States assigned to the vessel during his or her	No

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.

naval service?	
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
Historic Evaluation Conclusion	Ineligible

Sources	www.history.navy.mil/shiphist/f/ffg54.htm
	www.navy.mil/nvrships/details/FFG 54.htm
	USS FORD Naval Decommissioning Message - NICE2:P 311900Z OCT 13 USS FORD DECOMMISSIONING OF USS FORD (FFG 54)//

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 no written comments.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition