

**Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation**  
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

<b>Name</b>	<b>Hull Number</b>
TAYLOR	FFG 50
<b>Vessel Class</b>	<b>Previous Vessel Designation (if any)</b>
OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7)-class guided missile frigate	None
<b>Vessel Location</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Homeport: Mayport, FL	Active

<b>Initial Evaluation Date</b>	<b>Initial Finding</b>
13 January 2015	Ineligible
<b>Final Evaluation Date</b>	<b>Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places</b>
19 March 2015	Ineligible

**Vessel Snapshot**

<b>Lineage</b>	Named after Commander Jesse J. Taylor, U.S. Navy, awarded the Navy Cross (posthumously) for heroic determination to save a fellow pilot in Vietnam on 17 November 1965.
<b>Displacement</b>	3,900 tons
<b>Length</b>	453 feet
<b>Beam</b>	47 feet
<b>Draft</b>	24.5 feet
<b>Speed</b>	30+ knots

<b>Propulsion</b>	- Two General Electric LM2500 gas turbine (40,000 SHP) - Two 360 HP electric auxiliary propulsion units - One controllable reversible pitch propeller
<b>Armament</b>	-Mk 13 Guided Missile launcher with <i>Harpoon</i> anti-surface and <i>Standard</i> anti-aircraft missile -76mm Mk 75 rapid-fire gun -Mk 32 ASW torpedo tubes Mk 15 Mod 1 Phalanx Close-in Weapon System (CIWS)
<b>Laid Down</b>	5 May 1983
<b>Launched</b>	5 November 1983
<b>Built By</b>	Bath Iron Works Corporation, Bath, Maine
<b>Sponsor</b>	Mrs. Jesse J. [Barbara A.] Taylor, widow of the late Cmdr. Taylor, for whom the ship was named
<b>Delivered</b>	16 November 1984
<b>Commissioned</b>	1 December 1984
<b>Inactivated</b>	TBD
<b>Decommissioned</b>	TBD
<b>Stricken</b>	TBD

### Vessel History

<b>Deployment Summary</b>	TAYLOR has operated in the western Atlantic, the Caribbean Sea, the Mediterranean Sea, and Southwest Asia Ocean areas. She has made six extended deployments: with NATO's standing Naval Force Atlantic in 1987, to the Arabian Gulf in 1988, in 1990 as part of Operations <i>Desert Shield</i> and <i>Desert Storm</i> , in 1992 as part of Operation <i>Southern Watch</i> , in 1994 to the Mediterranean and Red Seas and in 1997 with NATO's Standing Naval Force
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Mediterranean.

In 1993, the vessel changed her homeport to the Naval Shipyard in Mayport, Florida with the closing of Charleston (S.C.) Naval Shipyard.

In the spring of 2002, TAYLOR was deployed with the JOHN F. KENNEDY Battle Group, in support of Operation *Enduring Freedom* in the Arabian Gulf, in addition to operations in the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. On 29 July 2002, TAYLOR, with embarked Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) (HSL) 46 Det. 9, completed a humanitarian aid exercise while participating in Operation *Cooperative Partner* in the Black Sea.

On 20 May 2005, TAYLOR returned to Souda Bay, Crete, with other NATO vessels, after the conclusion of the North Atlantic Council (NAC) and the Military Committee (MC) Sea Day Exercise. On 6 June 2005, the vessel returned to Mayport Naval Station after a seven-month deployment in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

On 17 May 2006, TAYLOR, along with two other U.S. Navy ships, joined France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, and Venezuela in the Caribbean Sea, from mid-May to early June, for the Dutch-led *Joint-Caribe Lion 2006* (J-CL06) exercise. On 20 June 2006, TAYLOR returned to homeport after participating in support of the Dutch-led exercise *Joint Caribbean Lion 2006*.

On 15 February 2007, TAYLOR participated in a bilateral Exercise *Eagle Salute '07* Feb. 3-8, between U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and Egyptian maritime forces, held in the Red Sea. On 9 March 2007, the vessel returned to Mayport after a five-month deployment.

On 6 August 2008, TAYLOR departed homeport for a scheduled Mediterranean deployment as part of Standing NATO Maritime Group (SNMG) 1. TAYLOR entered the Black Sea conducting a pre-planned routine visit to the region. While there the vessel exercised with NATO partners Romania and Bulgaria and joined ships from Poland, Germany, and Spain.

On 6 February 2009, TAYLOR returned to Naval Station Mayport after a six-month underway period. While deployed, she participated in Operation *Active Endeavour*, a three-week operation which assured the safety and security of the Mediterranean for all shipping, denied the use of the sea for terrorists, drug and human smugglers, and promoted the role of NATO forces in the area.

On 23 April 2010, TAYLOR departed Mayport for a scheduled Mediterranean deployment. On 16 June 2010, the vessel arrived in Durres,

Albania, to participate in the Partnership of Adriatic Mariners (PAMCO). On 12 July 2010, TAYLOR pulled into Odessa, Ukraine, to participate in annual, multinational Exercise Sea Breeze 2010. On 23 October 2010, the vessel returned to Naval Station Mayport after a six-month deployment in the U.S. 6th Fleet Area of Responsibility.

On 27 May 2011, TAYLOR departed for a one-day sea trial after an extensive yard period which began back on Valentine's Day. The most noticeable upgrade for TAYLOR was the new 25 mm machine gun mounted on her forecastle. On 25 August 2011, TAYLOR departed Naval Station Norfolk to avoid the approaching Category 2 Hurricane *Irene*.

On 9 February 2012, TAYLOR, with embarked Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron (Light) (HSL) 48 Det. 9, departed Naval Station Mayport for a scheduled Middle East deployment in support of counter-piracy and maritime security operations. On 10 March 2012, the guided missile frigate is currently supporting Operation *Ocean Shield* in the Central Command AoO, while assigned to Commander, NATO Task Force 508. On 10 September 2012, TAYLOR returned to homeport after a seven-month deployment.

On 19 April 2013, TAYLOR departed Naval Station Mayport for sea trials after a three-month Selected Restricted Availability (SRA) at the BAE Systems Mayport in Jacksonville, FL.

On 8 January 2014, TAYLOR, with an embarked Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 46 Det. 1, departed Mayport for a scheduled Mediterranean deployment. On 5 February 2014, TAYLOR entered the Black Sea along with the MOUNT WHITNEY in support of the Sochi Olympics. On 12 February 2014, TAYLOR moored at Industry Terminal in Port of Samsun, Turkey, for a brief stop to refuel and extended her visit for damage assessment after running aground as she was preparing to pull into Samsun. On 7 March 2014, the vessel departed Samsun under tow by tug from Donjon Towing Company en route to Crete, Greece. The ship arrived in Naval Support Activity Souda Bay for emergent repairs to its propeller hub and blades on 12 March 2014; she completed sea trials on 21 April 2014 and transited the Bosphorus northbound on 22 April 2014. On 23 April 2014, TAYLOR participated in a bilateral underway engagement with DONALD COOK (DDG 75), ROS REGINA MARIA (F 222) and ROS MARASESTI (F 111). On 6 May 2014, the vessel participated in a bilateral underway engagement with four Romanian Navy ships on May 6. On 12 May 2014, TAYLOR departed the Black Sea and joined the Standing NATO Maritime Group (SNMG) 1 in support of Operation *Active Endeavour*. In mid-June 2014, the guided-missile frigate made a port call to Souda Bay, Greece, and joined the SNMG-2. On 12 July 2014, the vessel moored at Berth B in Port of Oranjestad, Netherlands Antilles, for a scheduled visit to Aruba Island before conducting counter-narcotics operations in the Caribbean Sea. On 9

	<p>August 2014, TAYLOR returned to Naval Station Mayport after an extended seven-month deployment in the U.S. 4th and 6th Fleet AOR.</p> <p>TAYLOR is due to decommission in the spring of 2015.</p>
<p><b>Awards</b></p>	<p>Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation w 1 star; three Navy Battle "E" Ribbons; National Defense Service Ribbon w/ 1 star; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal w/ 1 star; one Southwest Asia Service Medal; one GWOT Service Medal; one Humanitarian Service Medal; Sea Service Deployment Ribbon w/ 6 stars; one CG Special Operations Service Ribbon; one Arctic Service Medal; one United Nations Medal; one Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia); one Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwaiti)</p>
<p><b>Noteworthy Events</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On 6 October 2004, five sailors from TAYLOR went into the water approximately 50 miles off the coast of northern Florida, while lowering TAYLOR's rigid hull inflatable boat; the crew rescued all five sailors.</li> <li>- On 29 November 2006, while operating in the Arabian Sea, TAYLOR and an unflagged dhow collided; TAYLOR suffered no damage.</li> <li>- On 6 December 2006, Cmdr. Kurush F. Morris assumed the command of TAYLOR, as the first Zoroastrian commanding officer in the U.S. Navy.</li> <li>- On 13 September 2007, TAYLOR suffers an engineering casualty in auxiliary machinery room 2 resulting in a fire that injured two sailors. At the time of the accident the TAYLOR was conducting combat systems and ship survivability certification tests and had to be towed back to Mayport as a result of the accident.</li> <li>- On 7 June 2010, TAYLOR departed Port Mahon, Minorca, Spain, after a four-day port visit, the first by U.S. Navy warship since 1998.</li> <li>- On 2 August 2010, TAYLOR rendered assistance to three stranded Spanish boaters southeast of Gibraltar after they experienced a mechanical failure while at sea testing their new rigid hull inflatable boat and had been adrift for approximately 24 hours.</li> <li>- On 10 August 2010, TAYLOR arrived in Copenhagen, Denmark, to participate in the 500 year anniversary of the Danish navy.</li> <li>- On 6 September 2010, TAYLOR arrived in Murmansk, Russia, for a three-day port visit as part of the celebrations of the 65th anniversary for the end of World War II.</li> <li>- On 10 September 2010, during the transit in Barents Sea TAYLOR was</li> </ul>

	<p>buzzed twice by Russian maritime patrol aircraft Il-38 with open bomb bay doors, in a Cold War-style show of force.</p> <p>- On 12 February 2014, TAYLOR runs aground while entering the harbor of Samsun. The port visit had to be extended due to damage caused by the grounding. On 25 February 2014, TAYLOR's CO Cdr. Dennis Volpe was relieved of duty. On 7 March 2014, TAYLOR left Samsun under tow for Souda Bay, Crete, Greece, where she arrived on 12 March 2014, to commence emergent repairs to her propeller hub and blades.</p>
<b>DANFS* Entry</b>	There are two existing entries for TAYLOR, neither of which are for FFG 50. Placeholder history in planning stage.

\**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

### Criteria Evaluation<sup>1</sup>

<b>i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation?</b>	No.
<b>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?</b>	No.
<b>iii. Was a President of the United States assigned to the vessel during his or her naval service?</b>	No.
<b>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?</b>	No.
<b>v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?</b>	No.
<b>Historic Evaluation Conclusion</b>	Ineligible

<b>Sources</b>	- USS TAYLOR "Welcome Aboard" pamphlet
	- USS TAYLOR Commissioning Booklet
	- Various "Navy News" articles
	- Naval Vessel Register

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<sup>1</sup> 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 no written comments.

<b>Comments Received</b>	<b>Comment Disposition</b>