

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
RAINIER	T-AOE 7
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
SUPPLY (AOE 6) – class fast combat support ship	AOE 7
Vessel Location	Current Status
Bremerton, WA	Out of Service In Reserve (OSIR)

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
21 June 2017	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
18 September 2017	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	Third U.S. ship to be named for the volcanic mountain in Washington state
Displacement	50,736 (full)
Length	753 ft, 8.5 inches
Beam	107 ft

Draft	37 ft, 10 inches (Full load)
Speed	Greater than 25 kts
Propulsion	100,000 total shaft horsepower; 4 LM-2500 gas turbine engines; 2 reversing reduction gears; 4 reversible converter couplings; 2 23-ft fixed-pitch propellers; 5 2500 kW ship's service diesel generators; machinery centralized control system
Armament	NATO <i>Sea Sparrow</i> Missile Launching System; Close-in weapons system (CIWS), two 25-mm guns; four .50 caliber machine guns; countermeasures set AN/SLQ-32(V)3; 4 decoy launchers; torpedo countermeasures transmitting set (NIXIE)
Laid Down	31 May 1990
Launched	28 September 1991
Built By	National Steel & Shipbuilding, San Diego, CA
Sponsor	Mrs. Suzanne Callison Dicks, wife of Representative Norm Dicks
Delivered	25 August 1994
Commissioned	21 January 1995
Inactivated	n/a
Decommissioned	29 August 2003; placed in service by MSC on 29 August 2003; out of service 30 September 2016
Stricken	n/a

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	Mission (as fast combat support ship): receive ammunition, provisions, stores and petroleum products from shuttle ships and distribute them to carrier battle group ships while underway. Following commissioning, RAINIER began work-ups for an overseas deployment. The ship departed
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	<p>her homeport of Bremerton, Washington in November 1996 for her first deployment.</p> <p>RAINIER deployed to the Arabian Gulf and Indian Ocean to provide fuel and ammunition to United States and Allied forces and successfully completed all three mission assignments there. Port visits were made to Singapore, Hong Kong, and Australia. RAINIER returned to Bremerton, and after a month of reduced operations to let the crew recover, started the training cycle to prepare for the November 1998 deployment. This training cycle included the RIMPAC 98 exercise conducted with over thirteen countries. RAINIER deployed to the Arabian Gulf and Indian Ocean for her second deployment in 1998 to provide fuel and ammunition to US and Allied forces. Port visits were made to Singapore, Thailand, Bali, and Darwin, Australia. In 2003, RAINIER participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom by supplying aid to participating combat vessels. After completion of repairs in Pearl Harbor, she returned to Bremerton in July 2003 where she was decommissioned. Shortly thereafter, she became a military-owned, civilian operated ship under the Military Sealift Command (MSC) providing combat logistics services to the Navy fleets worldwide.</p> <p>As USNS RAINIER, she was assigned to support CARL VINSON (CVN 70). In March 2010, she took part in Operation <i>Southern Seas</i> 2010. In September 2011, she was assigned to the JOHN C. STENNIS Carrier Strike Group. In 2012 she was transferred to the San Diego homeport of the Pacific Fleet with the mission to resupply any USN vessel along the coast of California or the western Pacific area.</p>
Awards	<p>As AOE 7: 3 Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals (1997, 1999, 2001); 1 Secretary of the Navy Letter of Commendation (1998), 4 Navy “E” Ribbons (1995, 1996, 1998, 2001).</p> <p>As T-AOE 7 (2005) 1 Humanitarian Services Award following participation in Operation <i>Unified Assistance</i>.</p>
Noteworthy Events	<p>Participated in Operation Unified Assistance, a multi-national relief effort following a magnitude 9.0 earthquake that occurred off the west coast of Sumatra, Indonesia, triggering a tsunami across the Indian Ocean littoral, on 26 December 2004.</p>
DANFS* Entry	<p>Yes, place-saver posted 2015</p>

*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 naval service?	No
iv. Was the vessel 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	Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships
	Naval Vessel Register
	L. Crutchfield, "Rainier Comes Aboard at Ceremony," www.msc.navy.mil

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

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.