

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
NICHOLAS	FFG 47
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
OLIVER HAZARD PERRY (FFG 7) - Class Guided Missile Frigate	
Vessel Location	Current Status
Philadelphia, PA	Stricken, Final Disposition Pending

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
28 Jun 2018	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
22 Mar 2019	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	Third ship in the U.S. Navy to be named for Samuel Nicholas, the first officer commissioned in the Continental Marines (now
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	the U.S. Marine Corps) and by tradition is considered to be the Corps' first "Commandant" although that office did not exist at the time.
Displacement	4,100 tons
Length	453 ft
Beam	47 ft
Draft	26 ft
Speed	28+ knots
Propulsion	Two General Electric LM 2500 gas turbines, two 350 Horsepower Electric Drive Auxiliary Propulsion Units
Armament	One Mk 75 76 mm/62 caliber rapid firing gun, Mk 32 ASW torpedo tubes (two triple mounts), one <i>Phalanx</i> CIWS
Laid Down	27 Sep 1982
Launched	23 Apr 1983
Built By	Bath Iron Works Corp, Bath ME
Sponsor	Mrs. Florence E. Tryon (Mitchell), great-great-great granddaughter of Maj. Samuel Nicholas
Delivered	24 Feb 1984
Commissioned	10 Mar 1984
Inactivated	17 Mar 2014

Decommissioned	17 Mar 2014
Stricken	17 Mar 2014

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	Deployments: Mediterranean (5), Persian Gulf 88, 91 and 01 (3), NATO Forces Atlantic 95, Great Lakes 91, Red, Mediterranean, and Ionian Seas 93, Global War on Terrorism 05, ENTERPRISE Strike Group 99 and 06 (2), and Standing NATO Maritime Group Two 13. Operations: SHAREM 85, PRAYING MANTIS 88, EARNEST WILL 88, CANDID HAMMER 90, DESERT STORM 91, COUNTER DRUG 92 and 12 (2), SHARP GUARD 93 and 95 (2), INFINITE SHADOW 93, RED REEF 01, UNIFIED WARRIOR 01, ENDURING FREEDOM 01, COUNTER PIRACY 10 and 13, MARTILLO 13, ACTIVE ENDEAVOR 13, and OCEAN SHIELD 13. Exercises: JOINT WARRIOR 08, LOYAL MARINER 88, FRUKUS 13, and PASSAGE (PASSEX) 13.
Awards	Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (5) - Bosnia (4) and Persian Gulf (1), Combat Action Ribbon (2), Armed Forces Service Medal (11) - Bosnia, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation (2), Navy "E" Ribbon (5), Navy Unit Commendation, Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Award, Southwest Asia Service Medal, NATO Medal, Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, and Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation
Noteworthy Events	<p>In 1991, NICHOLAS was serving in the north Persian Gulf as an advance combat search and rescue platform. During the first few weeks of the war, she distinguished herself in action by attacking Iraqi positions off the coast of Kuwait, capturing the first Iraqi prisoners of war, sinking or damaging seven Iraqi patrol boats, destroying eight drifting mines and successfully rescuing downed pilots from the waters off the Kuwaiti coast. She also escorted the battle ships MISSOURI (BB 63) and WISCONSIN (BB 64) during Naval Gunfire Support operations.</p> <p>In 1993, NICHOLAS was supporting U.N security sanctions against the governments of Iraq and the former Republic of Yugoslavia, carrying out more than 170 boarding operations in search of illegal cargo shipments.</p> <p>In 1995, NICHOLAS enforced a naval blockade in the Adriatic, conducting more than 120 boardings and rescued 16 souls from a capsized vessel.</p> <p>In 2002, NICHOLAS received a visit from <i>The Today Show</i>. The purpose for the visit was the promotion of the free book issue, of the book <u>Medal of Honor</u>, to the service members of the United States Navy.</p>

	<p>During both of NICHOLAS' counter drug operations, in 1992 and 2012, NICHOLAS confiscated over 16,000 lbs of cocaine, 500 lbs of marijuana and detained 14 suspected narcotic smugglers.</p> <p>In 2003, NICHOLAS visited St. Petersburg, Russia for a Fourth of July celebration, a wreath laying for the 1.5 million people who died in defense of the city during World War II and a commemoration of the mutual interest in John Paul Jones, considered by some to be the "Father of the American Navy." NICHOLAS also, visited Neum, Bosnia, as goodwill ambassadors to a country recovering from a lengthy and violent war. She was the first warship to visit since 1917 and the first ever from the United States.</p> <p>Pirates fired on NICHOLAS west of the Seychelles on 1 April 2010. The frigate and her embarked SH-60B <i>Seahawk</i> defeated the pirates, sank their skiff, and captured their mother ship and five Somali pirates from the two vessels. A Federal Jury in Virginia convicted the five to Life+80 years in prison (November 2010). Working for an Aviation Task Force was challenging but resulted in the first successful pirate prosecution in over 100 years.</p>
DANFS* Entry	Nicholas III (FFG-47)

**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	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 design or warfighting capabilities?	
v. Did some other historic or socially significant event occur on board the vessel?	No
Historic Evaluation Conclusion	Ineligible

Sources	U.S. Navy Awards - <a href="https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webapp01.nsf/(frmQUnitAwards)?OpenForm&Search=<UName>NICHOLAS FFG 47</UName><sort>1</sort>">https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webapp01.nsf/(frmQUnitAwards)?OpenForm&Search=<UName>NICHOLAS FFG 47</UName><sort>1</sort> and <a href="https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webapp01.nsf/(frmQUnitAwards)?OpenForm&Search=<UName>NICHOLAS FFG-47</UName><sort>1</sort>">https://awards.navy.mil/awards/webapp01.nsf/(frmQUnitAwards)?OpenForm&Search=<UName>NICHOLAS FFG-47</UName><sort>1</sort>
	Naval Vessel Register - http://www.nvr.navy.mil/SHIPDETAILS/SHIPSDETAIL_FFG_47_2368.HTML
	Naval History and Heritage Command - https://www.history.navy.mil/research/histories/ship-histories/danfs/n/nicholas-iii.html
	Naval History and Historical Command, CORs - Command Operations Reports
	NICE2:R 131504z Mar 14 USS NICHOLAS DECOMMISSIONING OF USS NICHOLAS message

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