

**Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation**  
FINAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

| Name             | Hull Number                          |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| SGT. MATEJ KOCAK | T-AK 3005                            |
| Vessel Class     | Previous Vessel Designation (if any) |
| N/A              | ex -JOHN B. WATERMAN                 |
| Vessel Location  | Current Status                       |
| Norfolk, VA      | Inactivated                          |

| Initial Evaluation Date | Initial Finding   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 21 Oct 2022             | Not Eligible  |
| Final Evaluation Date   | Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places |
| 4 Jan 2023              |   |

**Vessel Snapshot**

| Lineage | N/A |
|---------|-----|
|---------|-----|

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Displacement</b>   | 51,612 (full)             |
| <b>Length</b>         | 821 ft                    |
| <b>Beam</b>           | 106 ft (extreme)          |
| <b>Draft</b>          | 34 ft                     |
| <b>Speed</b>          | 20 knots                  |
| <b>Propulsion</b>     | Steam Turbine             |
| <b>Armament</b>       | None                      |
| <b>Laid Down</b>      | N/A                       |
| <b>Launched</b>       | 1983                      |
| <b>Built By</b>       | Sun Ship Building Company |
| <b>Sponsor</b>        | N/A                       |
| <b>Delivered</b>      | N/A                       |
| <b>Commissioned</b>   | N/A                       |
| <b>Inactivated</b>    |                           |
| <b>Decommissioned</b> | N/A                       |
| <b>Stricken</b>       |                           |

## Vessel History

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Deployment Summary</b> | N/A   |
| <b>Awards</b>             | N/A   |
| <b>Noteworthy Events</b>  | USNS Sgt. Matej Kocak was delivered as the John B. Waterman in 1983 to the U.S. Maritime Administration. The U.S. Navy acquired the John B. Waterman under a long term charter in 1984 and she was converted to a roll on - roll off container ship at National Steel and Shipbuilding. Renamed and placed into service that same year, the SS Sgt. Matej Kocak was assigned to the Military Sealift Command Pacific Area as a chartered, contractor operated maritime preposition ship. The vessel was acquired by Military Sealift Command and placed into service as the USNS Sgt. Matej Kocak. The Sgt. Matej Kocak was assigned to the Atlantic Fleet. The vessel's name sake is USMC Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Matej Kocak. |
| <b>DANFS* Entry</b>       | N/A   |

*\*Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

**Criteria Evaluation<sup>1</sup>**

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>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.)</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? (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.)</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 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> | Naval Vessel Register:<br><a href="https://www.nvr.navy.mil/SHIPDETAILS/SHIPSDETAIL_AK_3005.HTML">https://www.nvr.navy.mil/SHIPDETAILS/SHIPSDETAIL_AK_3005.HTML</a> |
|                | <a href="https://www.navsource.org/archives/09/13/133005.htm">https://www.navsource.org/archives/09/13/133005.htm</a>   |
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**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 \_\_ written comments.

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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.

| <b>Comments Received</b> | <b>Comment Disposition</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| NONE                     |                            |
|                          |                            |
|                          |                            |
|                          |                            |