

Naval Vessel Historical Evaluation
INITIAL DETERMINATION



This evaluation is unclassified

Name	Hull Number
Leyte Gulf	CG 55
Vessel Class	Previous Vessel Designation (if any)
CG – Ticonderoga-class cruiser	N/A
Vessel Location	Current Status
NAVSEA Inactive Ships On-Site Maintenance Office, Philadelphia, PA	Stricken, Final Disposition Pending

Initial Evaluation Date	Initial Finding
1 August 2024	Ineligible
Final Evaluation Date	Eligibility for Listing to the National Register of Historic Places
	Ineligible

Vessel Snapshot

Lineage	N/A
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Displacement	9992 tons
Length	529 ft
Beam	55 ft
Draft	23 ft
Speed	32.5 knots (60 km/h; 37.4 mph)
Propulsion	4 × General Electric LM2500 Gas Turbine Engines; 2 × Controllable-Reversible Pitch Propellers; 2 × Rudders
Armament	<p>2 × 61 cell Mk 41 vertical launch systems containing 122 × mix of: RIM-66M-5 Standard SM-2MR Block IIIB; RIM-156A SM-2ER Block IV; RIM-161 SM-3; RIM-162A ESSM; RIM-174A Standard ERAM; BGM-109 Tomahawk; RUM-139A VL-ASROC</p> <p>8 × RGM-84 Harpoon missiles</p> <p>2 × 5 in (127 mm)/62 caliber Mark 45 Mod 4 lightweight gun</p> <p>2 × Mk 38 25 mm Machine Gun Systems</p> <p>2–4 × .50 in (12.7 mm) cal. machine gun</p> <p>2 × Phalanx CIWS Block 1B</p> <p>2 × Mk 32 12.75 in (324 mm) triple torpedo tubes</p>
Laid Down	18 March 1985
Launched	20 June 1986
Built By	Ingalls Shipbuilding
Sponsor	Mrs. Janet Hayes, wife of Adm. Ronald J. Hayes, Commander, U.S. Pacific Command

Delivered	3 August 1987
Commissioned	26 September 1987
Inactivated	28 May 2024
Decommissioned	20 September 2024
Stricken	20 September 2024

Vessel History

Deployment Summary	<p>Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in December for her maiden deployment as part of the Theodore Roosevelt battle group.</p> <p>1990: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in December for deployment to the Arabian Gulf with the Theodore Roosevelt battle group in support of operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. There Leyte Gulf fired Tomahawk missiles at Iraqi targets.</p> <p>1992: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in October for deployment to the Mediterranean sea with the John F. Kennedy battle group in support of operation provide comfort.</p> <p>1993: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in August for a counter-narcotics deployment in the Caribbean Sea.</p> <p>1994: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in June for deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of operations southern watch and vigilant warrior.</p> <p>1996: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Mayport in November for deployment to the Mediterranean sea with the Theodore Roosevelt battle group.</p> <p>1997: Leyte Gulf homeport shifted to Norfolk, VA in July.</p> <p>1998: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in March with the Theodore Roosevelt battle group in support of Operation Noble Anvil.</p> <p>2001: In September, Leyte Gulf was underway with the George Washington battle group and provided national defense and humanitarian</p>
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	<p>support off the coast of New York in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11th. Later in September, Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk with the Theodore Roosevelt battle group in support of operation enduring freedom.</p> <p>2004: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in February with the wasp expeditionary strike group in support of the global war on terrorism.</p> <p>2006: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in May for deployment to the Arabian Gulf in support of the global war on terrorism.</p> <p>2008: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in October for deployment in support of Africa partnership station.</p> <p>The cruiser returned to Norfolk on 15 July 2011. During her deployment, she had participated in operations which had captured 75 Somali pirates and had missile strikes by her carrier strike group against the Libyan government.</p> <p>In 2014, Leyte Gulf deployed twice to the EUCOM area of responsibility. In January 2015, Leyte Gulf returned from a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea. The ship served as flagship of Standing NATO Maritime Group 2 for much of the deployment.</p> <p>2017: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in March for an independent deployment to the Mediterranean Sea.</p> <p>2019: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in March for deployment to the Middle East.</p> <p>2022: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in August for deployment to the Mediterranean Sea with the George H.W. Bush carrier strike group.</p> <p>2024: Leyte Gulf departed Naval Station Norfolk in January for a surge deployment to the Caribbean Sea in support of counter-narcotics operations. She returned to naval station Norfolk in May and began a decommissioning maintenance availability.</p>
<p>Noteworthy Events</p>	<p>On 14 October 1996, Leyte Gulf collided with the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier, USS Theodore Roosevelt while conducting operations off the coast of North Carolina. The incident occurred as the carrier, without prior warning, reversed her engines while Leyte Gulf was behind her and slammed into the cruiser's bow. There were no personnel casualties or injuries reported, and damage to the Leyte was only \$2 million.</p>

	<p>In 2002, she won the Marjorie Sterrett Battleship Fund Award for the Atlantic Fleet.</p> <p>In late 1992 Leyte Gulf was assigned to Carrier Group 2.</p> <p>In March 2003 Leyte Gulf was assigned to Carrier Group Eight.</p> <p>On 15 September 2007, there was a fire aboard Leyte Gulf as she underwent an extensive modernization program in BAE Systems Shipyard in Norfolk, Virginia. Initially the fire received national attention due to the possibility that it was a terrorist incident, however, it was quickly revealed to be an industrial accident. Five shipyard workers were injured in the incident, one seriously, but no naval personnel were involved.</p> <p>In February 2011, Leyte Gulf was involved in an incident with Somali pirates after they captured the United States flagged yacht Quest.</p> <p>USS Leyte Gulf returned to Norfolk on 09 June 2023.</p>
Awards	<p>Leyte Gulf Received the following awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy E Ribbon • Southwest Asia Service Medal • Navy Unit Commendation • Joint Meritorious Unit Award • Meritorious Unit Commendation • Armed Forces Service Medal • Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon • Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal • Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal • Global War on Terrorism Medal • Sea Service Deployment Ribbon • National Defense Service Medal
DANFS* Entry	

**Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships*

Criteria Evaluation¹

i. Was the vessel awarded an individual Presidential Unit Citation? (A Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to military units that have performed an	No
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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.

extremely meritorious or heroic act, usually in the face of an armed enemy.)	
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.)	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

Soes	https://web.archive.org/web/20080214143307/http://www.dcfp.navy.mil/mc/museum/LEYTE_GULF/LEYTEGULF.htm
	https://www.nvr.navy.mil/SHIPDETAILS/SHIPSDETAIL_CG_55.HTML
	https://www.hullnumber.com/CG-55
	https://www.nbcnews.com/id/wbna41715530
	https://news.usni.org/2022/08/25/carrier-uss-george-h-w-bush-joins-truman-strike-group-in-mediterranean
	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Leyte_Gulf

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.

Comments Received	Comment Disposition