



# USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51)

Guided Missile Destroyer

Homeport: Norfolk, Virginia

www.arleighburke.navy.mil



Destroyers have traditionally been the workhorses of the Navy. Their multi-mission capabilities give them the versatility to carry out a wide range of missions. These include operating in high threat environments with carrier battle groups, escorting amphibious and logistics ships or operating independently.

USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51) is the first of the most powerful and survivable class of destroyers ever put to sea. Using the Aegis weapons system with the AN/SPY 1-D multi-function radar, capable of detecting and tracking more than one hundred targets simultaneously while conducting multiple engagements; the Vertical Launch System, capable of storing and rapidly firing 90 missiles; the SQQ-89 Antisubmarine Warfare System, with its SQR-19 towed array sonar and the new SQS-53C digital hull-mounted sonar; the Harpoon anti-ship cruise missile system; and the Tomahawk land attack cruise missile system capable of hitting targets hundreds of miles away. The ship also carries improved versions of the 5-inch gun and the Phalanx close-in weapons system.

USS Arleigh Burke represents a return to all steel construction and incorporates electromagnetic pulse hardening, enhanced fire fighting features, and a collective protection system to provide protection against nuclear, chemical or biological contamination. The ship features improved blast and fragmentation protection to enable Arleigh Burke to survive a hit and continue to fight.

USS Arleigh Burke is named for the Navy's most famous Destroyer sailor, who was born in Boulder, Colorado, in 1901, and graduated from the Naval Academy in 1923. In October 1943, then-Captain Burke took command of Destroyer Squadron 23 -- nicknamed the "Little Beavers," after the character from the popular Red Ryder comic strip. Just one month later he led several torpedo attacks against Japanese combatants, sinking a number of enemy warships. During the Battle of Cape St. George, in what has been termed a "near perfect tactical action" by military historians, the Little Beavers destroyed three ships of a larger Japanese force while sustaining no damage. Captain Burke's ability to lead his squadron in spectacular dashes at high speed earned him the nickname "Thirty-One Knot Burke".

Following World War II, Captain Burke served in a number of senior staff positions. Promoted to Rear Admiral in 1950, he served in Korea as Commander, Cruiser Division Five. In 1951, he was appointed as United Nations delegate to the truce talks with North Korea.

In May 1955, President Eisenhower nominated the 53 year-old Burke to the post of Chief of Naval Operations, bypassing 87 active duty officers senior to him. He retired in August 1961 after serving an unprecedented three terms as Chief of Naval Operations.

Admiral Burke died on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996 at the age of 94. His wife of 72 years and the ship's sponsor, the former Roberta (Bobbie) G. Gorsuch, died on the ship's 6<sup>th</sup> birthday, July 4th, 1997.

### SHIP'S SPECIFICATIONS:

#### GENERAL

Length - 505 feet  
Beam (Maximum)- 59 feet  
Speed: 30+ knots  
Draft (Navigational)- 34 feet  
Displacement- 8,315 tons full load  
Complement 23 Officer/300 Enlisted

#### ENGINEERING

Propulsion: 4 General Electric LM2500-30 gas turbines, 2 Shafts, 100,000 Shaft Horsepower  
Electrical:  
Services: 4 Air Conditioning Plants, 2 Reverse Osmosis Water Desalination Units (12,000 gallons per day capacity)

#### SENSORS

AN/SPY-1B (V) Multi-function Radar  
AN/SPS-49(V) 7 Air Search Radar  
AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar  
AN/SPS-64(V) 9 Surface Search Radar  
AN/SPQ-9 Gunfire Control Radar  
4 AN/SPQ-62 Illuminators  
AN/SQS-53C Hull Mounted Sonar  
AN/SQ-19B Towed Array Sonar  
AN/SLQ-32A(V) 3 Electronic Warfare Suite  
AN/SQQ-89(V) 6 ASW Combat System

#### WEAPONS

Standard missile; Harpoon  
Vertical Launch ASROC (VLA) missiles  
Tomahawk ASM/LAM  
6 Mk-46 Torpedo Launchers  
1 5"/54 caliber Mk-45 gun  
2 20mm Phalanx CIWS Guns

#### AIRCRAFT