



Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic

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U.S. NAVY



USS Carr (FFG 52)

Guided Missile Frigate

Homeport: Norfolk, Virginia

www.carr.navy.mil



The FFG 7 class ship is a single screw, gas turbine powered, guided missile frigate (FFG). The main propulsion system includes two General Electric LM2500 gas turbines driving a single five blade controllable pitch propeller through a conventional main reduction gear, shaft and clutch. The ship's integrated combat system automates the interactions of sensors, tactical data process and display, and weapons so that reaction time is reduced to a minimum. The combat system includes an automatic digital data link which permits intership computer communication on a near real time basis. Digital computers also provide rapid evaluation of potential threats detected by the radars, digital sonar, and other sensors. USS CARR's surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles, rapid fire gun, anti-submarine torpedoes, and the embarked Light Airborne Multipurpose ASW System (LAMPS) MKIII helicopters can be employed to counter air, surface, and subsurface threats.

USS CARR is named for Gunners Mate Third Class Paul Henry Carr, USNR (1924-1944) came from Checotah, Oklahoma. He served as gun mount captain of the after 5 inch gun on the destroyer escort USS SAMUEL B. ROBERTS (DE 413). During the battle of Leyte Gulf on 25 October 1944, SAMUEL B. ROBERTS and a small number of destroyers found themselves as the sole line of defense against a large surface force of Japanese battleships, cruisers, and destroyers. The target of the Japanese force was a group of six American carriers providing aircraft support for the U.S. Army forces on the beaches of Leyte Gulf. The carriers operated aircraft suitable only for support of ground troops, and were helpless against the onrushing force of enemy ships.

SAMUEL B. ROBERTS fought her way into the thick of the Japanese force and began a head-to-head duel with a heavy cruiser. The two 5 inch guns on SAMUEL B. ROBERTS fired furiously against the cruiser while the destroyer escort managed for over two hours to avoid the 8 inch and 14 inch shells fired at her. At times the SAMUEL B. ROBERTS was so close to her target that the cruiser's guns could not be trained low enough to aim at her. SAMUEL B. ROBERTS, meanwhile, knocked out an 8 inch gun mount, destroyed the cruiser's bridge, and caused fires aft. Japanese shells from several ships finally found their mark, knocking out all power, compressed air, and communications on the destroyer escort. During the battle, Paul Carr kept his gun mount operating continuously, firing over 300 rounds until power and air were lost. Carr then began firing rounds by hand, accepting the risk that without air the gun would not cool down between firings. With seven rounds left in the magazine, the tremendous heat in the gun breech "cooked off" a round, exploding the projectile loaded in the gun and killing most of the gun crew. When a rescue team member made his way into the shattered mount, he found Paul Carr, literally torn open from neck to thigh, attempting vainly to load a shell into the demolished gun breech. The rescue team member took the round from Carr and laid him aside as he began to remove the bodies of the gun crew. When he returned to the mount, he again found Paul Carr, projectile in hand, trying to load his gun. Carr begged the sailor to help him get off one last round. The sailor pulled him from the mount and laid him on the deck. Paul Carr died a few moments later, beneath the gun he served so well. The crew of the SAMUEL B. ROBERTS finally had to abandon ship, but they did see the Japanese force turn away, believing by the ferocity of the attack that they faced a large and potent foe. Paul Henry Carr was posthumously awarded the Silver Star. He is survived by eight sisters, who keep an active interest in their

SHIP'S SPECIFICATIONS:

GENERAL

Length - 453 ft.
Beam (Maximum)- 45 ft.
Speed: 28 + knots
Draft (Navigational)- 26 ft., 11 in.
Displacement- 4,100 tons
Complement-19 officers/193 enlisted

SENSORS

AN/SQS-56 Digital Sonar
MK 92 MOD 2 Fire Control System
AN/SPS-49 Air Search Radar
AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar

WEAPONS

MK 75 76MM Otto Melara Cannon Harpoon
Anti-ship Missiles
Standard (SM-1) AAW Missiles
MK15 Close in Weapon System
MK 46 ASW Torpedoes
MK 50 ASW Torpedoes
2 MK 32 Torpedo Tube Mounts
AN/SQS-56 Digital Sonar
MK92 MOD 2 Fire Control System
AN/SPS-49 Air Search Radar
AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar

ENGINEERING

Propulsion: 2 LM 2500 Gas Turbines; 40,000
Shaft Horsepower, 1 Shaft with Controllable
Pitch Propeller, 2 retractable 325 horse
power engines for maneuvering or casualty
operations
Electrical: 4 Caterpillar Ship Service Diesel
Generator's

AIRCRAFT

2 SH-60B LAMPS MK III Helicopters

Keel Laid: March 26, 1982

Christened: February 26, 1983

Commissioned: July 27, 1985