# Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic

*U.S. NAVY*

www.cnsl.surfor.navy.mil

# USS UNDERWOOD (FFG 36)

## Guided Missile Frigate

**Homeport: Mayport, Florida**

www.underwood.navy.mil

**Homeported in Mayport, Florida, Underwood is the twenty-ninth OLIVER HAZARD PERRY CLASS Guided Missile Frigate and the first in the third generation (Flight III) of the class. Underwood's primary mission is to provide protection for military and merchant shipping, amphibious task forces and underway replenishment groups.**

**Underwood can swiftly employ surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles, 76mm gunfire, a Close-In Weapons System (CIWS), and torpedoes. Also, embarked Light Airborne Multipurpose (LAMPS) Mark III SH-60B helicopters are an extension of Underwood's fighting capability. These helicopters enable Underwood to strike over the horizon hostile surface and submarine threats.**

**Commissioned January 1983, Underwood conducted her maiden deployment to the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea in 1985. Underwood also played a key role in the search and recovery effort following the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster in January 1986, and earned the Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation.**

**In 1986 again, Underwood was awarded the Battenburg Cup along with the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation as "BEST SHIP IN THE ATLANTIC FLEET." Additionally, for the ship's sustained superior performance and consistent readiness to "go in harm's way", Underwood was presented the Battle Efficiency Award for 1986, 1993, and 1995 competitive cycles.**

**Underwood's advanced systems and technology combined with a highly skilled crew and professional leaders set her apart as one of the most capable ships in the fleet. Underwood will remain a vital component of the United States Navy in support of operations worldwide to protect Democracy and Freedom. The concept of the Oliver Hazard Perry Class began in 1971 when the Navy initiated a program to build 50 ships known as Patrol Frigates.**

**The need for this program grew from the continued requirement for the United States to control sea lanes and keep them open for the transport of needed military or commercial material.**

**Underwood has participated in numerous Counter Narcotics Operations in the Caribbean Sea and several major six month deployments, including assignment to the Arabian Gulf as part of Operation Desert Storm. Underwood will complete her eight major overseas deployment in March 2000.**

**All of Underwood's systems are designed with this in mind. The propulsion system is a computer-controlled gas turbine power plant, a marine version of those found in the Air Force C-5A and the DC-10 aircrafts. It can be brought "on the line" in one-eighth the time required for a steam or nuclear-powered ship.**

**The Combat System is a new and innovative design, providing a computerized command and decision system interfaced with the ship's weapons and sensors. Should the need arise, Underwood can defend itself or the convoy it is escorting with surface-to-surface or surface-to-air missiles, a rapid firing gun, ASW torpedoes, or using the embarked LAMPS helicopters to counter any threat it may face.**

**Underwood Sailors will continue to use their Honor, Courage, and Commitment to meet the needs of their country.**

## SHIP'S SPECIFICATIONS:

**GENERAL**
Length - 453 feet
Beam (Maximum)- 45 feet
Speed: 30+ knots
Draft (Navigational)- feet
Displacement– 4,100 tons full load
Complement– 13 officers/ 287 enlisted

**ENGINEERING**
Propulsion: 2 Gas Turbine Engines
1 shaft, 41,000 Shaft Horsepower
Electrical:
Services:

**SENSORS**

**WEAPONS**
Standard Missile Harpoon
Six MK-46 Torpedoes
76mm/ 62 Caliber MK75
Phalanx CIWS

**AIRCRAFT**
2 SH-60 Seahawk LAMPS III Helicopters

**Keel Laid:** July 30, 1981 **Christened:** February 6, 1982 **Commissioned:** January 29, 1983