

"Newseletter" Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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Commissioning Of USS Mississippi Moved To Pascagoula

By Michael Newman, Sun Herald, Feb 7, 2012



U.S. Rep. Steven Palazzo announced this afternoon the Navy has decided to move the commissioning of the \$2 billion USS Mississippi submarine to Pascagoula. The commissioning was moved after the Navy raised concerns about the channel depth in Gulfport, where it was previously announced the ceremony would be held. The commissioning will happen June 2, 2012.

Elderly Cutters Retire To The Tropics

StrategyWorld.com

January 30, 2012: The U.S. has agreed to transfer two more decommissioned Coast Guard ships to the Philippines. The United States had already "sold" one of these Hamilton class Coast Guard cutters to the Philippines. The Hamiltons are 3,200 ton ocean going patrol ships. The first one delivered to the Philippines will be the flagship of the Philippine Navy, replacing a World War II era destroyer escort. Built in the late 1960s, the Hamiltons have been well maintained but worked hard since they entered service over four decades ago. The Hamiltons are armed with a 76mm gun, two 25mm autocannon, and two Phalanx 20mm anti-missile gun systems. The ship has a top speed of 52 kilometers an hour, endurance of

45 days, and a crew of 167. The Philippines is paying an undisclosed sum for the ships but this will mostly cover the cost of some refurbishment and upgrades that will be done in the United States before the ships are delivered. For most of the last decade the Philippines military has been energetically seeking hand-outs and second-hand weapons. One of the poorest nations in the region (largely because of corruption), the armed forces have not had the money to replace aging equipment. While American training efforts have improved the combat effectiveness of army units, especially special operations and infantry units, there has been much less help for the air force and navy. To help out, the U.S. has provided dozens of cheap, or free, second-hand helicopters and aircraft. The navy has received second hand patrol ships from South Korea and the United States.

SDSU, Syracuse set for 'Battle on the Midway'

The Associated Press

Posted: Tuesday Apr 3, 2012

SAN DIEGO — Organizers say San Diego State and Syracuse will play in the inaugural Battle on the Midway basketball game on the flight deck of the USS Midway Museum on Nov. 9. The Midway has been berthed on San Diego Bay since 2004. The Battle on the Midway will be produced by Syndicus Entertainment, in partnership with the San Diego Sports Commission, and be part of a Veterans Day weekend celebration. On Nov. 11, Barry Zito of the San Francisco Giants will host a gala and concert on the ship for his foundation, Strikeouts for Troops. Last Nov. 11, North Carolina beat Michigan

State in the inaugural Carrier Classic on the flight deck of the USS Carl Vinson. Morale Entertainment Foundation, which produced the Carrier Classic, announced recently that it will move the Carrier Classic out of San Diego for 2012 because no active Navy ship was available.

Ed. Note: A pictorial will be requested for San Diego on 9 Nov. 2012.

USCGC Anacapa WPB-1335 sinks derelict Japanese tsunami ship

The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter USCGC Anacapa WPB-1335 has successfully sunk the derelict fishing vessel Ryou-Un Maru 180 miles west of the Southeast Alaskan coast. The USCGC Anacapa WPB-1335 crew completed two gunnery evolutions shooting highly explosive ammunition into the vessel until it sank in 6,072 feet of water. "For the safety of mariners, sinking the vessel was the quickest way to properly address the danger this unattended vessel posed," said Capt. Daniel Travers, Coast Guard District 17 Incident Manager. "The USCGC Anacapa WPB-1335 crew did an outstanding job safely completing their mission." The Coast Guard worked closely with federal, state and local agencies to assess the immediate dangers the vessel presented and determined that sinking the vessel at sea would be the best course of action to help minimize any navigation and environmental threats. Light sheening and minimal debris have been reported from the sinking of the vessel, and the sheening is expected to quickly dissipate at sea.