

"Newseyletter"

Decatur Chapter No. 4, USCS

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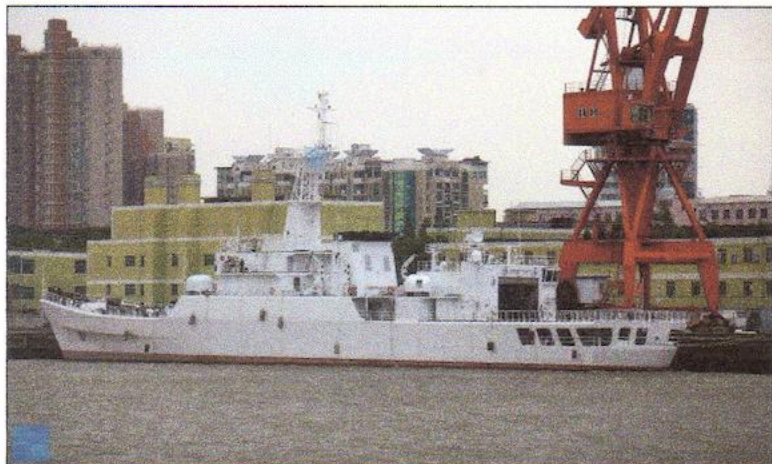
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China Coast Guard gets Surplus PLAN Frigates

From Chuck Hill's CG Blog 8-20-15



Navy recognition is reporting that all four type 053H2G frigates (NATO designation Jiangwei I) have been transferred to the Chinese Coast Guard, contributing to the already feverish build up of this service. These 115 meter (376 foot), 2,200 ton, 27 knot, helo deck and hangar equipped, diesel powered ships entered service with the Chinese Navy (PLAN) between 1991 and 1994, so while far from new, by USCC standards, they should have considerable life remaining. The design seems quite appropriate for a cutter.

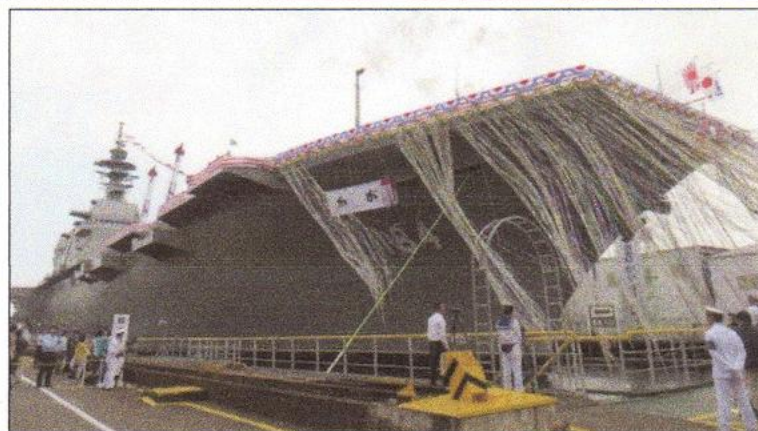
The fact that the PLAN is willing to give up these ships suggest both the pace of modernization of the PLAN and the priority given to bulking up their Coast Guard.

The conversion apparently results in the removal of all the primary weapons including a twin 100mm gun, anti-air and anti-surface missiles, and anti-submarine weapons.

But the ships will not be unarmed, and how they are armed may suggest how Chinese Coast Guard vessels, which were essentially unarmed in the past, may be armed in the future.

Japan lunches newest helicopter carrier KAGA

On August 27th, Japan launched it's second destroyer helicopter carrier. She will join the *IZUMO DDH-183*, both the largest ships to enter the Japanese Navy since WW II. *KAGA DDH-184* displaces 24,000 tons, and could handle the US *MV-22's* and *F-35* but according to Japan, they will limit their use to seven Mitsubishi-built *SH-60k* ASW helicopters and seven AgustaWestland *MCM-101* mine countermeasure (MCM) helicopters. *Kaga* is named for the WW II Japanese aircraft carrier that attacked Pearl Harbor, and was sunk at Midway.



Japan Marine United Photo

The Japanese have said the primary roles of the two ships are anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and humanitarian aid and disaster relief (HADR) operations. The ships "heightens our ability to deal with Chinese submarines that have become more difficult to detect," according to a JMSDF officer.

New sail training Barque for Vietnam Navy



From the German Navy blog "Marine Forum," 28 August, "VIETNAM, Full-rigged sail training vessel *LE QUY DON*, built by Polish shipyard Marine Projects for the Vietnamese Navy, is on its transfer voyage from Poland around the Cape of Good Hope to Vietnam ... mixed Polish-Vietnamese crew for final trials and crew training enroute."

Statement by U.S. Coast Guard Commandant, Adm. Paul Zukunft on Proposed Acceleration for Acquisition of U.S. Coast Guard Icebreakers

"The President's announcement demonstrates that the United States is an Arctic nation and affirms the Coast Guard's role in providing assured access to the Polar Regions. We look forward to working with the Administration, Congress and the many other Arctic stakeholders to ensure these platforms meet our national security objectives well into the 21st century."