

U.S.N.
Guided Missile Frigate STARK (FFG-31)
Folder 1 of 2

Folder 6

The Officers and Directors
of
Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation
cordially invite you to attend the
launching ceremony of the
United States Navy Guided Missile Frigate
STARK (FFG-31)
at six-thirty, Friday evening
May thirtieth
Nineteen hundred and eighty
at the Seattle Division
1801 Sixteenth Avenue Southwest
Seattle, Washington
Mrs. Edwin W. Semans
Sponsor

Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation
P.O. Box 3806
Seattle, Washington 98124

Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation
(Seattle Division)
P.O. Box 3806
Seattle, Washington 98124

ATTENTION: Mrs. A. Mc Mullen

You are cordially invited to a reception honoring the sponsor of
the United States Navy Guided Missile Frigate
STARK (FFG-31)

Sixth floor, Washington Plaza Hotel
Seattle, Washington, Friday, 30 May 1980, 8:15 to 10:00 p.m.
Please indicate your intention by marking and returning this
upper part by Monday, 19 May 1980.

Name ☐ Number Attending
☐ Will not attend

Reception
STARK (FFG-31)
Sixth floor, Washington Plaza Hotel
Fifth and Westlake
Seattle, Washington
Friday, 30 May 1980, 8:15 to 10:00 p.m.
Please present this stub when attending
post launch reception

Name
Pass for bearer and guest

You are cordially invited to attend
the Keel Laying Ceremony of the
United States Navy Guided Missile Frigate
CROMMELIN (FFG-37)

at seven-forty five, Friday evening
May 30, nineteen hundred and eighty
immediately following the launching of

STARK (FFG-31)
TODD PACIFIC SHIPYARDS CORPORATION
Seattle Division

Nº 1070

SPECIAL RESERVED SEATING CARD

PLEASE RETAIN THIS HALF AND PRESENT
TO USHER ON ARRIVAL AT CEREMONY.

Nº 1070

PLEASE RETURN THIS HALF BY _____

INDICATE THE NUMBER IN YOUR PARTY _____

PLEASE RETURN IN ENVELOPE PROVIDED.



The Prospective Commanding Officer
and Ship's Company
request the honor of your presence
on the occasion of the commissioning of
United States Ship Stark (FFG-31)
on Saturday, the twenty-third of October
at half past ten o'clock
Todd Pacific Shipyard Corporation
Seattle, Washington

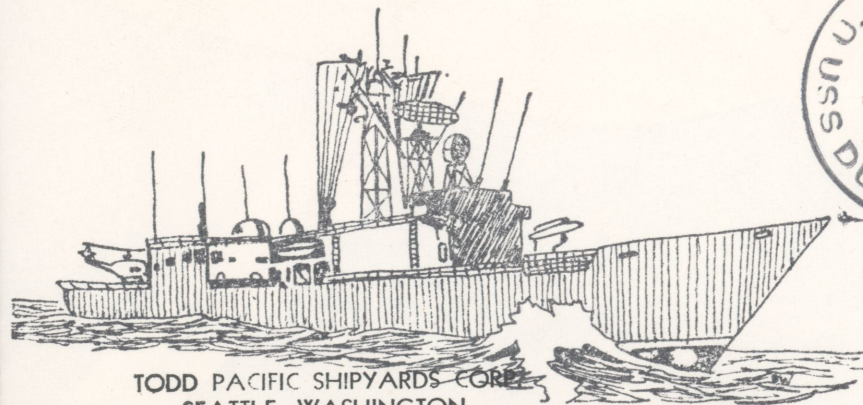
R.S.V.P.
Card Enclosed

Military: Service Dress Blue
Civilian: Informal

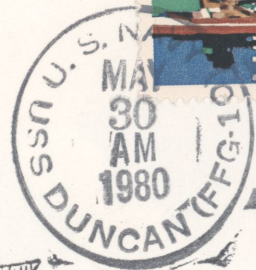
The Commanding Officer
and
The Wardroom Officers of
United States Ship Stark (FFG 31)
request the pleasure of your company
at the reception at the
Mirabeau Restaurant
Two to Four O'clock
46th Floor Seattle First National Bank Bldg.
1001 4th Avenue, Seattle, Washington

R.S.V.P.

USS STARK FFG-31
LAUNCH



TODD PACIFIC SHIPYARDS CORP.
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
PROSPECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER
STARK (FFG-31)
1102 S.W. MASSACHUSETTS ST.
SEATTLE, WA 98134
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty For Private Use, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
DOD-316

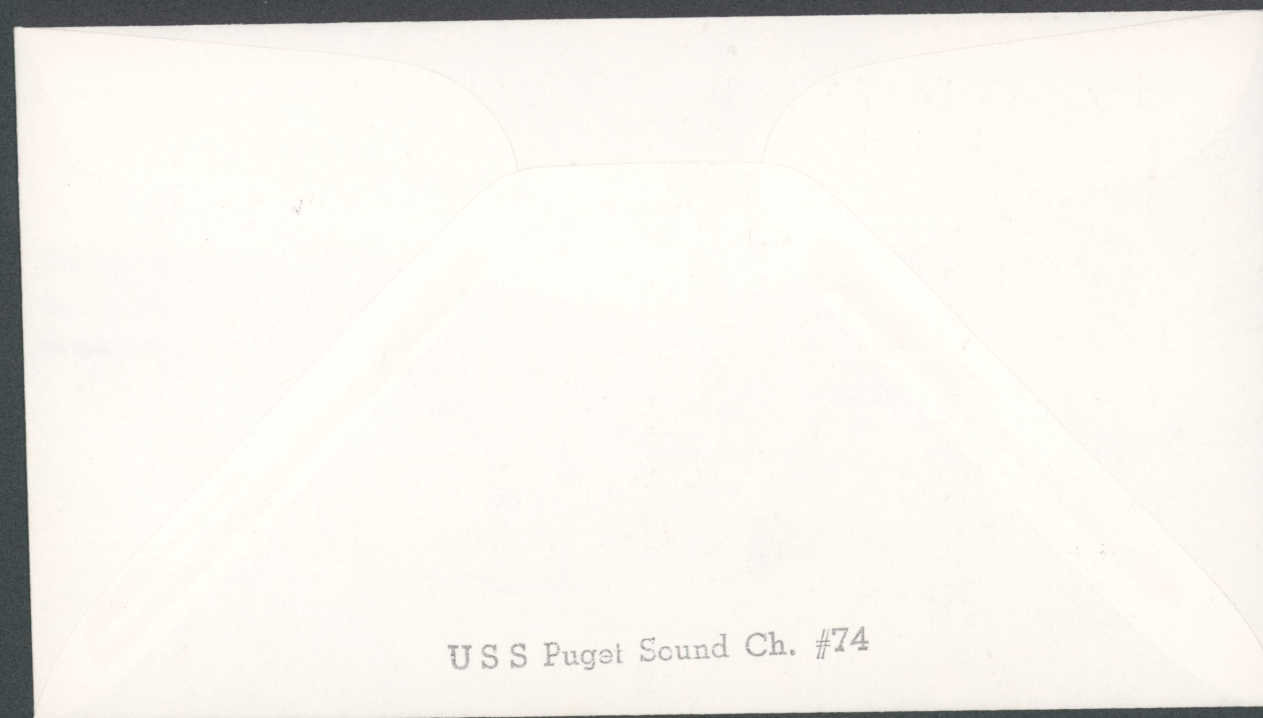


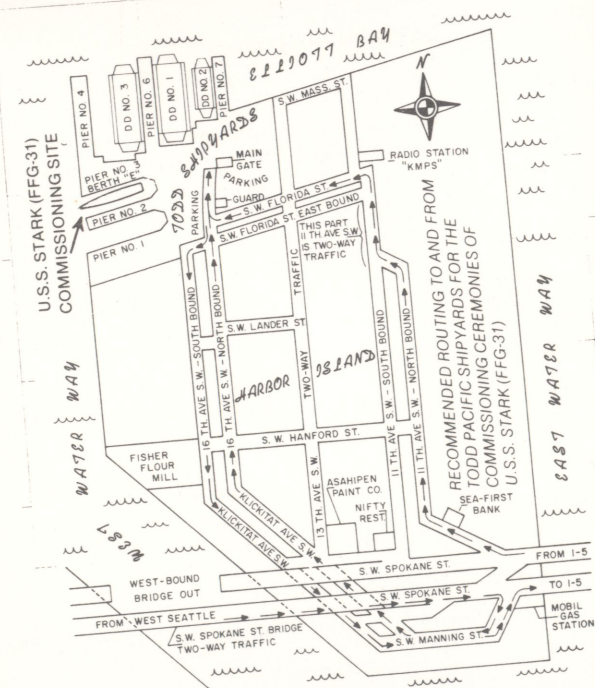
*Commissioning
Put in
Glass top table
'82
with program*

*Give back to Loe
Invitation*

*"Welcome Aboard"
pamphlet*

*For Table
Milkies*





INFORMATION FOR GUESTS

UNIFORM

The uniform for military personnel participating in the ceremony will be Full Dress Blue. Navy guests are requested to wear Service Dress Blue. Military guests of other services are requested to wear the equivalent winter uniform.

ADMISSION TO THE SHIPYARD

Please show your "Invitation" card at the Main Gate for admission to the shipyard.

SEATING FOR THE CEREMONY

The ceremony will begin at 10:30 A.M. Guests are kindly requested to be seated by 10:15 A.M.

CAMERAS

The use of cameras in the shipyard is permitted in the audience seating area adjacent to the ship.

RECEPTION AND TOUR OF SHIP

Guests are invited aboard immediately following the ceremony.

LAUNCHING PROGRAM

30 MAY 1980



STARK (FFG-31)

TODD PACIFIC SHIPYARDS CORPORATION
SEATTLE DIVISION

The Builder

Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation, Seattle Division, is one of three shipyards involved in the on-going FFG Program. Currently, contracts have been signed for the construction of 12 vessels at Todd-Seattle, 13 at Todd-Los Angeles and 17 at Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Todd Shipyards Corporation, the Seattle Division of Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation traces its roots back to the beginning of Seattle's history when, in 1888, Robert Moran founded the Seattle Drydock and Shipbuilding Company near the sawmill of the famed Seattle entrepreneur, Henry Yesler.

Todd Shipyards Corporation, which has seven divisions nationwide, has built vessels for the Navy since Civil War days. During both World Wars, particularly World War II, Todd-Seattle built cruisers, destroyers and escort aircraft carriers. Since World War II, Todd-Seattle has constructed Guided Missile Destroyers, Fast Frigates, an Oceanographic Research Vessel, a Surface Effects Ship, and now Guided Missile Frigates. Commercial work for a wide range of customers has included construction of barges, ferries, and tug supply vessels, and the jumboizing and conversion of existing vessels. Ship repair and conversion complement new construction at Todd. In these three facets of the industry, Todd continues to demonstrate its versatility.

Todd-Seattle looks forward to continuing its service to the United States Navy in helping build a modern fleet for the free world of the 1980's, the 1990's and beyond.

The Ship

"STARK" (FFG-31) is the seventh of twelve Guided Missile Frigates (FFG-7) Class vessel being built by Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation's Seattle Division. The 445 foot frigates of 3600 ton displacement are versatile combatants designed for defense against submarines, surface ships and aircraft. They are powered by twin gas turbines with the 40,000 horsepower transmitted through a single shaft and variable pitch propeller system.

The FFG-7 Class vessel design features a fully integrated combat system, equipage for two helicopters, a propulsion central control station, a bridge control console from which one crew member can direct both the ship's direction and speed, and a modular design that allows major systems and components to be repaired and replaced with minimum disruption to surrounding equipment.

Weapons include surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles, a new model 76mm gun, antisubmarine torpedoes and helicopters. Vessel speed will be in excess of 28 knots. Crew size, including helicopter detachment, will be 185 officers and men.

"STARK'S" keel was laid on 24 August 1979. In nine months, hull sections have been fabricated and joined together to form a structurally complete steel hull. Post-launch construction will include completion of the aluminum superstructure and outfitting. Final delivery is scheduled for late July 1982.

The vessel's mission will be open ocean escort of convoys, amphibious task groups and underway replenishment ships.

The Ship's Name

"STARK" (FFG-31) is named for Admiral Harold R. Stark who served his country with distinction for four decades. Born 12 November 1880 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, he attended the public schools and Harry Hillman Academy there before receiving his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. Following graduation in 1903, he served on many ships including the battleship USS MINNESOTA when she was part of the Battle Fleet which made the famous December 1907 to February 1909 cruise around the world.

In June of 1917 he reported for shore duty at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island. Shortly after the entry of the United States into WW I, Stark assumed command of Torpedo Flotilla, Asiatic Fleet but was transferred in November to the Staff of the Commander, US Naval Forces operating in European waters for the remainder of the war. Stark earned a Distinguished Service Medal for boldly leading a squadron of small and old destroyers through monsoons from the Philippines to Gibraltar. The ships arrived ahead of schedule and carried out an active role in the anti-submarine campaign in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

During the peace time years, his service included assignments as Aide to two Navy Secretaries, command of battleship WEST VIRGINIA, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance (1934-37) and Commander of Cruiser Division 3, Battle Force. Stark attained the rank of Rear Admiral on 2 November 1934 and was advanced to Admiral on 1 August 1939 following his appointment as Chief of Naval Operations on 1 April 1939.

Admiral Stark's second award of the Distinguished Service Medal was for acting with resolute decision to hasten the capital ship construction for the "Two Ocean Navy" which proved to be a key to victory in WW II. He instituted in cooperation with Great Britain effective trans-Atlantic convoy protection as well as the anti-submarine warfare measures which bridged the Atlantic from both North and South America. In March 1942, he took command of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, thereafter providing the primary liaison between the British and American navies for logistics for the British Isles, including the massive staging, training, and logistics for the 2,904 U.S. Naval ships and craft manned by 124,000 officers and men participating in the Normandy invasion. Although he did not participate in the actual amphibious assaults on the coast of Normandy in June 1944, his personal contributions by far exceeded his responsibilities, resulting in the award of a third Navy Distinguished Service Medal. General Eisenhower additionally presented Admiral Stark with the Army's Distinguished Service Medal for rendering brilliant and distinguished service, not only as a naval administrator, but as a skillful diplomatic emissary in relations with Allied authorities which so greatly contributed to the liberation of Europe. In the fall of 1945 Stark was assigned to the Office of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. and served until retired 1 April 1946. Stark's many U.S. awards and decorations were supplemented by a long list of honors from foreign governments including Britain, France, Brazil, Norway, Poland, the Netherlands and Belgium.

Admiral Stark continued to live in Washington, D.C., where he remained active in a variety of Navy organizations and clubs. He died 20 August 1972 at the age of 91. His wife the former Katherine Rhodes also of Wilkes-Barre predeceased him.



Sponsor - Mrs. Edwin W. Semans

Mary Stark Semans, daughter of the late Admiral and Mrs. Harold R. Stark, was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Caught in the Orient before outbreak of WW I the family was hastily evacuated on the last transport ship to get out of the Philippines. Mrs. Semans' early education was acquired in various cities as her father's assignments moved the family every couple of years. She completed her schooling at National Cathedral, a boarding school in Washington, D.C.

In 1932 she married Edwin W. Semans, a lawyer. They established their home in Philadelphia where, in addition to raising a son, she enjoyed playing golf and doing volunteer work including serving on the United Fund Campaign every year. During WW II, Mrs. Semans served as a nurse's aide.

After being widowed in 1971, she returned to Washington, D.C. to be with her father, and she continues to make her home there where her son and family and sister and family reside near by. In addition to enjoying two grandchildren she is an active member of the Women's Board of Columbia Hospital and does volunteer work at National Cathedral School and for her church.



Matron of Honor - Mrs. Harold P.

Katharine Stark Gillespie, also a daughter of the late Admiral and Mrs. Harold R. Stark, was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Married in Washington, D.C. to Harold P. Gillespie, she shared his life in the financial war years. They lived in Washington, D.C., Coronado, California, and for twelve years in London. Mrs. Gillespie enjoyed visits to Europe where her husband opened offices in London, Paris, and Athens.

Upon her husband's death in 1970, she returned to the Washington, D.C. area where she has a granddaughter and one grandson and pursues her hobbies of golf, bowling, traveling and

Flower Girl - Kathleen Marie Nemier

"Cassie", daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine J. (Skip) Nemier, is a 4th grader at Maplewood Elementary School in Washington where she is an excellent student and enjoys participating in gymnastics, swimming, and dancing. She shares her home with her 12 year old sister Angela and has a real live doll to play with named Skip. The family dog and a two-year old wild wren who responds to the name Clutz.

Her father who served four-and-one-half years in the Navy aboard the USS "EVERETT" (DD-688) is a specialist in Electronics and Weapons Installation in Todd's Electrical Department.

o's Name

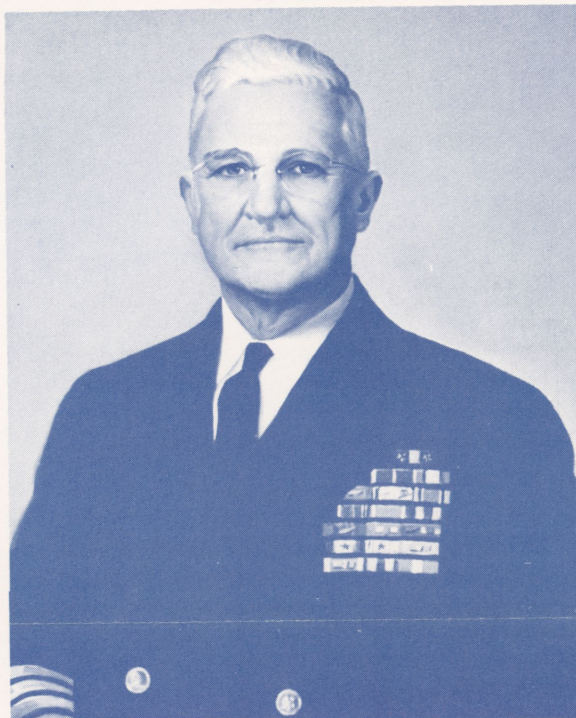
is named for Admiral Harold R. Stark who served for four decades. Born 12 November 1880 in Pennsylvania, he attended the public schools and Harry before receiving his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. After graduation in 1903, he served on many ships of the U.S. Navy. He was assigned to the USS MINNESOTA when she was part of the Battle of the Philippine Sea from 1904 to 1905. He served on the USS MINNESOTA from 1907 to 1909.

ported for shore duty at the Naval Torpedo Station. Shortly after the entry of the United States led command of Torpedo Flotilla, Asiatic Fleet but member to the Staff of the Commander, US Naval European waters for the remainder of the war. Stark Service Medal for boldly leading a squadron of ers through monsoons from the Philippines to arrived ahead of schedule and carried out an active urine campaign in the Mediterranean and the

Over the years, his service included assignments as Aide to the Commander, Navy, command of battleship WEST VIRGINIA, Chief of Staff (1934-37) and Commander of Cruiser Division 1. He attained the rank of Rear Admiral on 2 November 1937 and was promoted to Admiral on 1 August 1939 following his appointment as Commander, Naval Operations on 1 April 1939.

Second award of the Distinguished Service Medal was for acting with resolute decision to hasten the end of the "Two Ocean Navy" which proved to be a key to victory in WW II. He instituted in cooperation with the British a highly effective trans-Atlantic convoy protection as well as the anti-submarine warfare measures which were in effect from both North and South America. In March 1942, he took command of U.S. Naval Forces in the Atlantic, riding the primary liaison between the British and American navies for logistics for the British Isles, the Mediterranean, tagging, training, and logistics for the 2,904 U.S. Naval ships and craft manned by 124,000 officers and crew in the Normandy invasion. Although he did not participate in the actual amphibious assaults on the beaches of Normandy in June 1944, his personal contributions by far exceeded his responsibilities, resulting in the award of the Distinguished Service Medal. General Eisenhower additionally presented Admiral Stark with the Army's Distinguished Service Medal for rendering brilliant and distinguished service, not only as a naval administrator, but as a liaison officer in relations with Allied authorities which so greatly contributed to the liberation of Europe. In 1945, he was assigned to the Office of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C. and served until 1946. Admiral Stark's many U.S. awards and decorations were supplemented by a long list of honors from foreign countries including Great Britain, Britain, France, Brazil, Norway, Poland, the Netherlands and Belgium.

continued to live in Washington, D.C., where he remained active in a variety of Navy organizations and died in 1972 at the age of 91. His wife the former Katherine Rhodes also of Wilkes-Barre predeceased him.



Sponsor -
Mrs. Edwin W. Semans

Mary Stark Semans, daughter of the late Admiral and Mrs. Harold R. Stark, was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Caught in the Orient before outbreak of WW I the family was hastily evacuated on the last transport ship to get out of the Philippines. Mrs. Semans' early education was acquired in various cities as her father's assignments moved the family every couple of years. She completed her schooling at National Cathedral, a boarding school in Washington, D.C.

In 1932 she married Edwin W. Semans, a lawyer. They established their home in Philadelphia where, in addition to raising a son, she enjoyed playing golf and doing volunteer work including serving on the United Fund Campaign every year. During WW II, Mrs. Semans served as a nurse's aide.

After being widowed in 1971, she returned to Washington, D.C. to be with her father, and she continues to make her home there where her son and family and sister and family reside near by. In addition to enjoying two grandchildren she is an active member of the Women's Board of Columbia Hospital and does volunteer work at National Cathedral School and for her church.



Matron of Honor - Mrs. Harold P. Gillespie

Katharine Stark Gillespie, also a daughter of the late Admiral and Mrs. Harold R. Stark, was born at Virginia Beach, Virginia. Married in Washington, D.C. to Harold P. Gillespie, she shared his life in the finance business and the Navy during war years. They lived in Washington, D.C., Coronado, California, and for twelve years made their home in Honolulu including during those dark days of the attack on Pearl Harbor. After the war, Allentown, Pennsylvania became home and Mrs. Gillespie enjoyed visits to Europe where her husband opened offices in London, Paris, Rome, Madrid, Frankfurt and Athens.

Upon her husband's death in 1970, she returned to the Washington, D.C. area where she is near her two daughters, one granddaughter and one grandson and pursues her hobbies of golf, bowling, traveling and volunteer work.

Flower Girl - Kathleen Marie Nemier

“Cassie”, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Blaine J. (Skip) Nemier, is a 4th grader at Maple Lawn Grade School in Sumner, Washington where she is an excellent student and enjoys participating in gymnastics, swimming, roller skating and weaving. She shares her home with her 12 year old sister Angela and has a real live doll to play with - 5 months old Blaine J. Nemier, Jr. The family dog and a two-year old wild whn who responds to the name Clutz receive Cassie's attention too.

Her father who served four-and-one-half years in the Navy aboard the USS "EVERSOL" (DD 789), is a quartermaster specialist in Electronics and Weapons Installation in Todd's Electrical Department.

Launching Ceremony

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Mr. Ward E. Squires, Vice President and
Assistant General Manager, Todd Pacific
Shipyards Corporation, Seattle Division

BAND

Navy Band Northwest
Directed by MUCS S. D. Jayne, USN

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Naval Supply Activity, Sandpoint
Seattle, Washington

INVOCATION

CDR Ralph H. Moe, CHC, USN
Chaplain U.S. Naval Reserve

INTRODUCTION

John T. Gilbride, Jr., Vice President and
General Manager, Todd Pacific
Shipyards Corporation, Seattle Division

REMARKS

Mr. Carl R. Meurk, Executive Vice President
Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation
West Coast Divisions

Mr. John Lappin, International Representative
International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers

Captain S. P. Passantino, USN
Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and
Repair, USN, Seattle

Rear Admiral John D. Beecher,
Deputy Commander
Surface Combatant Ships (SEA-93),
Naval Sea Systems Command
Washington, D.C.

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

Congressman Norman D. Dicks
U.S. Representative Sixth District,
State of Washington

CHRISTENING

Mrs. Edwin W. Semans

RETIRE COLORS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF KEEL LAYING

FFG-37 KEEL LAYING



USS Stark Launched

The Guided Missile Frigate "Stark" (FFG-31) entered the water for the first time recently at her launching at Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation, Seattle Division, Washington.

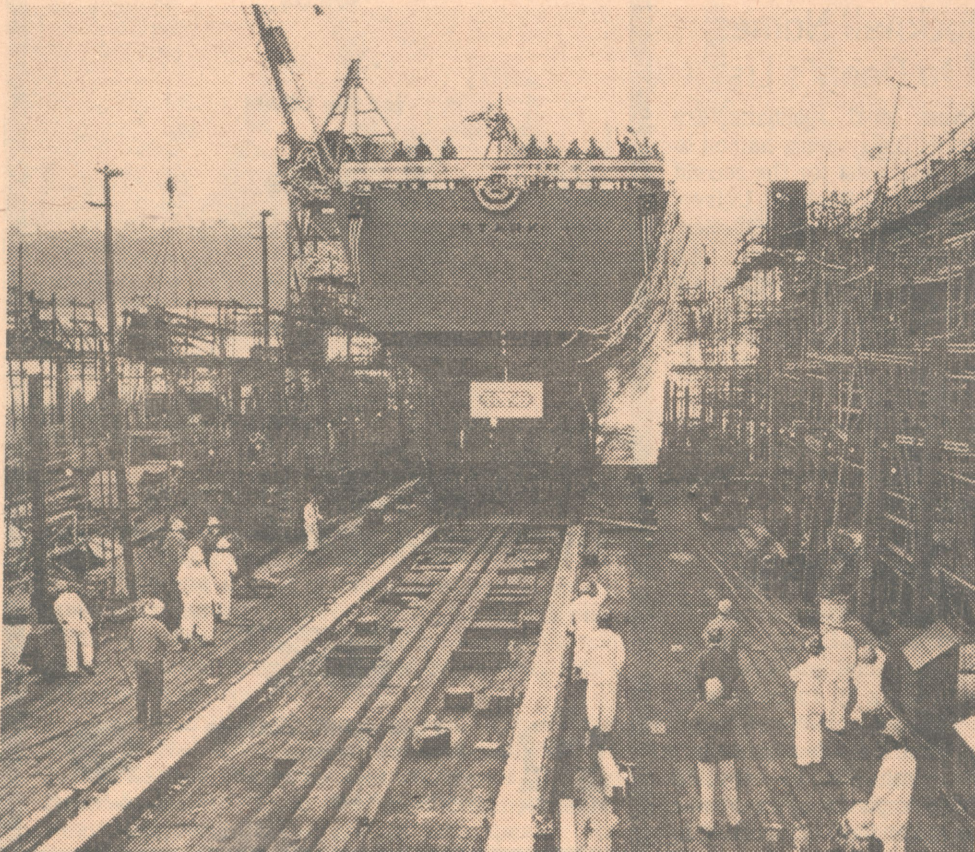
The late Admiral Harold R. Stark, native of Wilkes-Barre, for whom the ship is named was the recipient not only of many United States awards and decorations, including four Distinguished Service Medals, but received a long list of honors from foreign governments including, Britain, France, Brazil, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands and Belgium.

Shown in top photo above at the launching of the ship, left to right, are: Mrs. Harold P. Gillespie (Katharine), of Chevy Chase, Md., matron of honor; Kathleen Nemier, flower girl, daughter of Todd Electrical Quarterman and Mrs. Blaine J. Nemier; John T. Gilbride Jr., vice president and general manager, Seattle Division, Todd Pacific Shipyards; Mrs. Edwin W. Semans (Mary) of Washington, D.C., as sponsor; Captain S. P. Passantino, supervisor of shipbuilding, conversion and repair, USN, Seattle. Mrs. Gillespie and Mrs. Semans are the two daughters of Admiral and Mrs. Stark.

Bottom photo shows the "Stark" sliding down the skids to the water's edge.

Principal speaker was Congressman Norman D. Dicks of Washington. He lauded the 43 years of service Admiral Stark gave to his country and cited his leadership in 1939 when as Chief of Naval Operations his resolute decision resulted in construction of the "Two Ocean Navy" which proved to be a key to victory in World War II. Dicks noted the present day need to undertake a similar effort as the present Chief of Naval Operations has characterized the American situation today as a one and one-half ocean navy trying to perform a three ocean mission. The goal of a 550 ship force by 1990 is seen as being needed to provide the United States with the ability to control the critical sea lanes.

The Stark is equipped to meet submarine threats as well as those by air or from other surface ships is called by Chief of Naval Operations Hayward the "least cost, combat capable, open ocean escort, required for the protection of military and essential economic shipping." Congressman Dicks congratulated Todd-Seattle for continuing their record of on-time and with-in cost construction on this seventh vessel of the FFG-7 Class.



Navy Names Ship After Admiral Stark

By RITA McCALL

Citizens' Voice Staff

A ship named in honor of the late Admiral Harold R. Stark of Wilkes-Barre will be launched May 30 in Seattle, Wash. The STARK (FFG 31), a guided missile frigate, will be christened by the Admiral's daughter, Mrs. Edwin W. Semans of Washington, D.C., the ship's sponsor. Also participating will be her sister, Mrs. Harold P. Gillespie, also of Washington. The ceremony will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Todd Pacific Shipyards Corp., in Seattle.

Other members of the admiral's family who will attend include Mrs. Semans's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin W. Semans Jr., of Washington, and daughter, Linda; Mrs. Gillespie's family, daughter, Mrs. Sally G. Weaver, Washington, D.C., and son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse B. Behringer, Annapolis, Md.

Also attending will be Mrs. Susan W. Davis of Seattle, Wash., granddaughter of Mrs. Harley C. Wheaton of Heritage House, Wilkes-Barre, a cousin of Admiral Stark.

The admiral's notable career which spanned two World Wars included service as Chief of Naval Operations from 1939 to 1942.

The recipient of four Distinguished Service Medals, his first was earned during World War I. As commander of a division of five destroyers, he was assigned to bring the ships from Manila and Gibraltar at the height of the southwest monsoon.

His second Distinguished Service Medal was bestowed during his command as Chief of Naval Operations "... as an administrator of exceptional competence."

Designated as Commander of Naval Forces in Europe in 1942 by President Roosevelt, he played a vital role in the events which led to the final victory in Europe as commander of the Azores Island, the Mediterranean and Northwest Africa. He remained in this assignment until 1945 and for this service was awarded a third Distinguished Service Medal by the Navy. He was also honored by General Eisenhower who conferred a Distinguished Service Medal on behalf of the Army.

In addition to the four medals and numerous campaign medals, he received 20 decorations from many of the governments allied with the U.S. in World War II.

The admiral's memorabilia are on display in the Admiral Stark Room in the Library of Wilkes College where he demonstrated his interest by his gift of Chase Hall in 1937. Following his retirement from service in 1946 after 47 years' service, he joined the board of trustees of Wilkes College in 1947 and served as chairman of the board from 1959 to 1964.

In his "Essays Of An Educator," the late Dr. Eugene Farley who served as president of Wilkes for more than 30 years, wrote of Admiral Stark "... At all times he involved himself in the affairs of the college. He gave generously of his time and energies, and always led our campaign for funds by a generous gift.

"Concerned lest I be discouraged by opposition to a proposal to the Board that I deemed essential to the welfare of the College, the Admiral left me with this counsel, '... I have dealt with presidents, kings, and common seamen, and I have learned that there are times when you must take a stand and stick to it.'"

On the occasion of the dedication of the Harold R. Stark Science Hall at Wilkes College on Sept. 27, 1957, keynote speaker Admiral Ben Moreel who served with Admiral Stark said, "His leadership stood out as a beacon for me and for many others who looked to him for guidance. Never have I known another man who matched his ability to instill in his associates and subordinates those attributes which the country expects of its military leaders. His record is one of endeavor and achievement far above and beyond the normal requirements of duty."

Born in Wilkes-Barre, he graduated from Wilkes-Barre High School and Harry Hillman Academy. He entered the United States Naval Academy in 1899 where he graduated in 1903.

The Admiral and his wife, the former Katherine Adele Rhodes of Wilkes-Barre, enjoyed many summers at their cottage at Lake Carey, where members of the family still vacation.



ADMIRAL HAROLD R. STARK
1880-1972



THE COMMISSIONING TRADITIONS

The commissioning ceremony marks the acceptance of a ship as a unit of the operating forces of the United States Navy. At the moment of breaking the commissioning pennant, **USS STARK** becomes the responsibility of the Commanding Officer who, together with the ship's officers and men, has the duty of making and keeping her ready for any service required by our nation in peace or war.

The commissioning pennant is believed to date from the 17th Century, when the Dutch were at war with the English. The Dutch Admiral Maarten Harpertszoon Tromp hoisted a broom at his masthead to indicate his intention to sweep the English from the sea. This gesture was answered by the English admiral who hoisted a horsewhip, indicating his intention to subdue the Dutch. The English were victorious and ever since the narrow "coachwhip" pennant has been adopted by all nations as the distinctive mark of a ship of war.

The modern U.S. Navy Commissioning pennant is blue at the hoist with a union of seven white stars, and a horizontal red and white stripe at the fly. In lieu of a commissioning pennant, flagships fly Commodore's or Admiral's personal flags, hence the name flagship.



THE FRIGATE/SHIP

Built by	Todd Pacific Shipyards Corporation, Seattle, Washington
Keel Laid	24 August 1979
Launched	30 May 1980
Commissioned	23 October 1982
Length	445 Feet
Beam	45 feet
Displacement	3600 Tons
Complement	14 Officers, 168 Enlisted
Armament	MK-15 Close-In Weapons System MK-13 Guided Missile Launcher • Harpoon anti-surface missile • Standard anti-aircraft missile 76mm MK-75 Rapid Fire Gun MK-32 ASW Torpedo Tubes (two triple mountings)
Combat Systems	AN/SPS-49 Air Search Radar AN/SPS-55 Surface Search Radar MK-92 Fire Control System AN/SLQ-32 Electronic Warfare System AN/SQS-56 Digital Sonar SRBOC Decoy System Naval Combat Data System
Propulsion	Two General Electric LM 2500 Gas Turbines (40,000SHP) Two 360 HP Electric Auxillary Propulsion Units One Controllable Reversible Pitch Propellor
Maximum Speed	More Than 28 Knots
Aircraft	Capability to carry two medium size helicopters

THE CREST

Gold and blue are the colors associated with the Navy. The globe refers to Admiral Stark's global outlook of the U. S. Navy which began early in his Naval career when, after graduation from the Naval Academy, he sailed around the world with the U.S. "Great White Fleet". The globe further alludes to Admiral Stark's World War I experience as commander of a torpedo flotilla which he led from the Philippines to the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean which took an active part in the anti-Submarine campaign.

The chain encircling the globe symbolizes the U.S. two ocean concept foreseen by Admiral Stark while Chief of Naval Operations. The chain also alludes to the Admiral's service as commander of U.S. Naval forces in Europe where his diplomatic and tactical abilities proved the Navy to be the vital link between the allied forces by insuring supplies from the U.S. and the transport of allied landing forces.

The anchor and the four blue stripes on the pentagon reflect Admiral Stark's forty-year Naval career culminating as Chief of Naval Operations and commander of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe during World War II. The four stars reflect his rank and the three Navy and one Army Distinguished Service Medals.

ADMIRAL HAROLD R. STARK, USN

"STARK" (FFG-31) is named for Admiral Harold R. Stark who served his country with distinction for four decades. Born 12 November 1880 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, he attended the public schools and Harry Hillman Academy there before receiving his appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. Following graduation in 1903, he served on many ships including the battleship **USS MINNESOTA** when she was part of the Battle Fleet which made the famous December 1907 to February 1909 cruise around the world.

In June of 1917 he reported for shore duty at the Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, Rhode Island. Shortly after the entry of the United States into WW I, Stark assumed command of Torpedo Flotilla, Asiatic Fleet but was transferred in November to the Staff of the Commander, U.S. Naval Forces operating in European waters for the remainder of the war. Stark earned a Distinguished Service Medal for boldly leading a squadron of small and old destroyers through monsoons from the Philippines to Gibraltar. The ships arrived ahead of schedule and carried out an active role in the anti-submarine campaign in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic.

During the peace time years, his service included assignments as Aide to two Navy Secretaries, command of battleship **WEST VIRGINIA**, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance (1934-37) and Commander of Cruiser Division 3, Battle Force. Stark attained the rank of Rear Admiral on 2 November 1934 and was advanced to Admiral on 1 August 1939 following his appointment as Chief of Naval Operations on 1 April 1939.

Admiral Stark's second award of the Distinguished Service Medal was for acting with resolute decision to hasten the capital ship construction for the "Two Ocean Navy" which proved to be a key to victory in WW II. He instituted in cooperation with Great Britain effective trans-Atlantic convoy protection as well as the anti-submarine warfare measures which bridged the Atlantic from both North and South America. In March 1942, he took command of U.S. Naval Forces in Europe, thereafter providing the primary liaison between the British and American navies for logistics for the British Isles, including the massive staging, training, and logistics for the 2,904 U.S. Naval ships and craft manned by 124,000 officers and men participating in the Normandy invasion. Although he did not participate in the actual amphibious assaults on the coast of Normandy in June 1944, his personal contributions by far exceeded his responsibilities, resulting in the award of a third Navy Distinguished Service Medal. General Eisenhower additionally presented Admiral Stark with the Army's Distinguished Service Medal for rendering brilliant and distinguished service, not only as a naval administrator, but as a skillful diplomatic emissary in relations with Allied authorities which so greatly contributed to the liberation of Europe. In the fall of 1945 Stark was assigned to the Office of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C., and served until he retired 1 April 1946. Stark's many U.S. awards and decorations were supplemented by a long list of honors from foreign governments including Britain, France, Brazil, Norway, Poland, the Netherlands and Belgium.

Admiral Stark continued to live in Washington, D.C., where he remained active in a variety of Navy organizations and clubs. He died 20 August 1972 at the age of 91. His wife, the former Katherine Rhodes also of Wilkes-Barre, predeceased him.

