



#242NAVYBDAY

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TO PROTECT

1700s



1779 SEPTEMBER 23

Under command of Capt. John Paul Jones, the crew of Bonhomme Richard defeats the much more heavily armed HMS Serapis in a brutal fight, taking their opponent's ship as a prize.

1797 OCTOBER 21

With Capt. Samuel Nicholson in command, USS Constitution is launched in Boston, Mass. Undeclared in battle and still in service today, she is the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat.

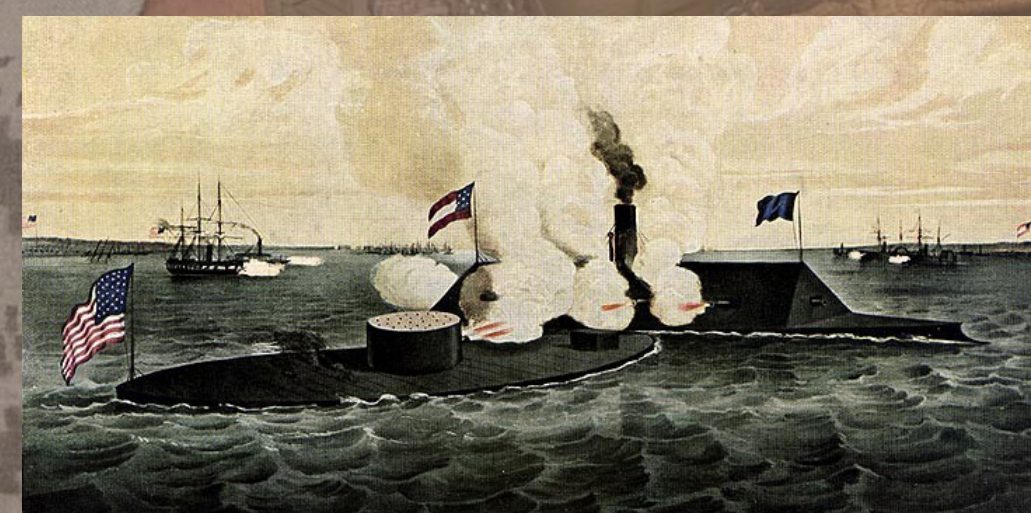


1800s



1804 FEBRUARY 16

Lt. Stephen Decatur leads a small band of American Sailors into Tripoli Harbor and burns the captured frigate Philadelphia without the loss of life.



1862 MARCH 9

During the Civil War, Lt. John L. Worden leads the crew of USS Monitor against CSS Virginia in the first battle of ironclads as the two ships batter each other at close range at Hampton Roads, Va.

1900s



1942 JUNE 4-7

With superior communications intelligence, Pacific Fleet Sailors and Marines ambush the Japanese fleet at Midway. The decisive victory costs Japan four aircraft carriers and its strategic advantage in WWII.



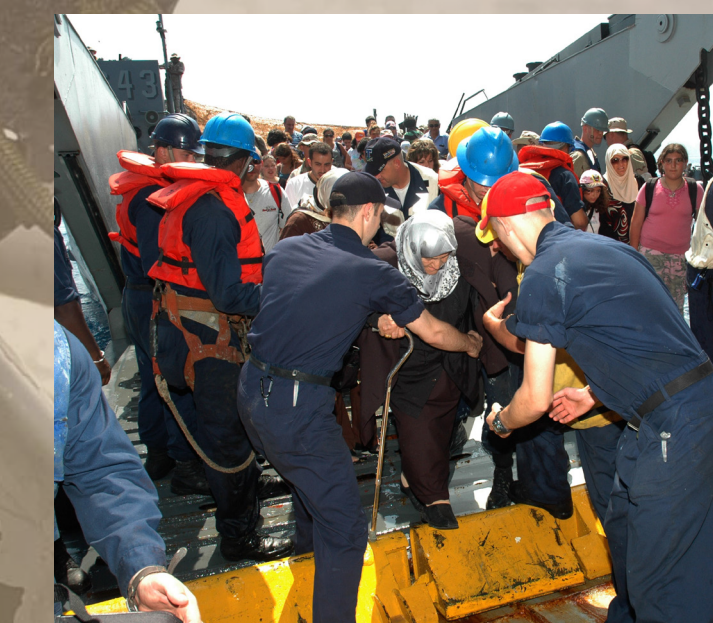
1944 OCTOBER 23-26

Fought with extreme gallantry, courage, and valor by men like Cmdr. Ernest Evans, the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle of the modern age, ends Japan's capacity to fight as an organized force.

1965 MARCH 11

During the Vietnam War, the brown-water Sailors of Task Force 115 commence Operation Market Time patrols to interdict enemy efforts moving supplies to South Vietnam by sea.

2000s

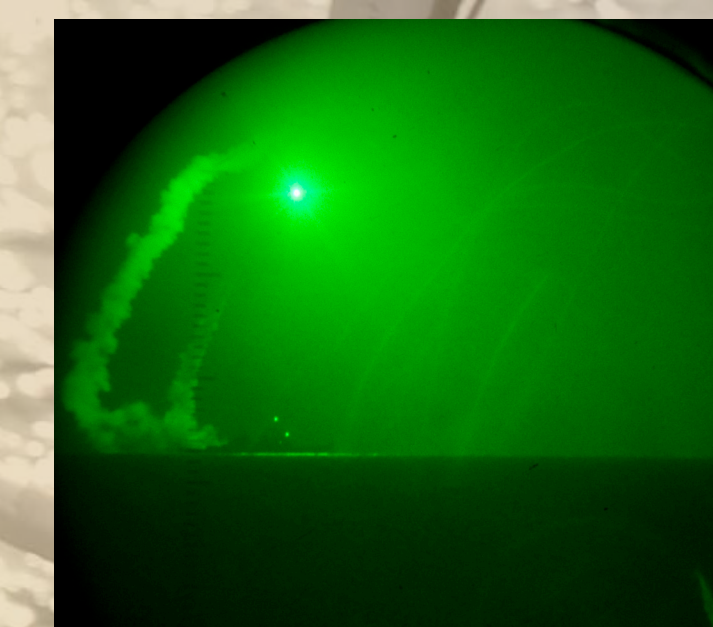


2006 JULY 16

Sailors and Marines of the Iwo Jima Strike Group and 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit are ordered to Lebanon to evacuate Americans from the war-torn country.

2011 MARCH 19

Operation Odyssey Dawn begins with strikes on Libya, marking the first time submariners fire Tomahawks from a guided missile submarine, the first time Navy fighter pilots take the EA-18G into combat, and the first time maritime patrol aircrews use Maverick missiles fired by a P-3C in combat.



2014 SEPTEMBER 23

Sailors of USS Arleigh Burke (DDG 51), USS Philippine Sea (CG 58), and USS George H. W. Bush (CVN 77) launch 47 Tomahawk strikes and carrier-based air attacks on ISIL targets. This is later known as Operation Inherent Resolve.

