



WASHINGTON'S NAVAL HISTORY



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SHIPS



USS Washington (SSN 787)

Named in honor of the state of Washington, USS Washington (SSN 787) was commissioned Oct. 7, 2017. The fourth ship with this namesake, the Virginia-class attack submarine is better capable to operate in littoral waters. Additionally, they can be configured to support special operations forces (SOF) by converting a torpedo room into an area for SOF personnel and equipment.

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At least 42 ships have been named after the state of Washington, its cities, places and people. A few of those include:

- USS Bellingham (ID 3552), 1918
- USS Benton County (LST 263), 1955
- USS Camano (AG 130), 1947
- USS Cape Johnson (AP 172), 1944
- USS Chehalis (AOG 48), 1944
- USS Chehalis (PGM 94), 1969
- USS Chelan County (LST 542), 1955
- USS Chiwawa (AO 68), 1942
- USS Commencement Bay (CVE 105), 1944
- USS Copeland (FFG 25), 1982
- USS Douglas County (LST 731), 1955
- USS Everett (PF 8), 1944
- USS Garfield County (LST 784), 1955
- USS Grant County (LST 1174), 1957
- USS Henry M. Jackson (SSBN 730), 1984
- USS Hoquiam (PF 5), 1944
- USS James E. Kyes (DD 787), 1946
- USS Jefferson County (LST 845), 1955
- USS Kepler (DD 765), 1947
- USS Lincoln County (LST 898), 1955
- USS Monaghan I (Destroyer No. 32), 1911
- USS Monaghan II (DD 354), 1935
- Olympia I (Cruiser No. 6), 1895
- USS Olympia (SSN 717), 1984
- USS Ozette (YTB 541), 1945
- USS Point Defiance (LSD 31), 1955
- USS Puget Sound (AD 38), 1968
- USS Puget Sound (CVE 113), 1945
- USS Quileute (YTB 540), 1945
- USS Rainier (Schooner), 1917
- USS Richard B. Anderson (DD 786), 1945
- USS Richland (YFD 64), 1944
- USS Spokane (CL 120), 1946
- Tacoma II (Cruiser No. 18), 1904
- USS Thurston (AP 77), 1942
- USS Van Voorhis (DE 1028), 1957
- USS Vancouver (LPD 2), 1963
- USS Wahkiakum County (LST 1162), 1955
- Washington VII (Armored Cruiser No. 11), 1906
- USS Washington (BB 56), 1941
- USS Whidbey (AG 141), 1947
- USS Whidbey Island (LSD 41), 1985

PEOPLE



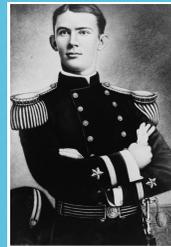
Bruce Avery Van Voorhis, Commander, U.S. Navy

Born in Aberdeen, WA., Bruce Avery Van Voorhis was killed in action July 6, 1943 when his PB5Y-5 patrol bomber was caught in the blast of its own bombs during a reconnaissance mission against the Japanese in the Pacific. Van Voorhis was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and promoted to commander. In 1957, the destroyer escort USS Van Voorhis (DE 1028) was named in his honor.



Richard F. Gordon Jr. Captain, U.S. Navy

Richard F. Gordon was born in Seattle, WA. Gordon earned his naval aviation wings in 1953. Throughout his naval career, Gordon logged more than 4,500 hours of flying time and flew at least five different aircraft. He became an astronaut in 1963. Before his retirement in 1972, Gordon completed two space flights, one as the command module pilot on Gemini XI, and logged more than 315 hours in space.



John Robert Monaghan Ensign, U.S. Navy

John Robert Monaghan was born in Chawelah, WA, and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1895, the first from the state of Washington. In April 1899, during the Second Samoan Civil War near Apia, Samoa, he was killed on a reconnaissance mission while defending his wounded commander and comrade, Lt. Philip Lansdale, when their detachment was attacked by rebel Samoans. Two ships were named in his honor: USS Monaghan I (Destroyer No. 32) and USS Monaghan II (DD 354).

PLACES



Did You Know...?

Washington is the only state to be named after a president. President George Washington, a proponent of early American sea power, is quoted as saying, "It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it, everything honorable and glorious."



Naval Air Station Whidbey Island

NAS Whidbey Island is the premier naval aviation installation in the Pacific Northwest and home to all Navy tactical electronic attack squadrons flying the EA-18G Growler.



Naval Base Kitsap Bremerton

As the host command for the U.S. Navy's fleet throughout the Pacific Northwest, it provides installation services, programs, and facilities to meet the needs of its hosted warfighting commands, tenant activities and personnel.



Naval Magazine Indian Island

NAVMAG Indian Island provides operational ordnance logistics in support of U.S. Navy, joint, and allied forces, emphasizing safety, accuracy and efficiency.



Naval Station Everett

Everett is the U.S. Navy's most modern shore installation, dedicated in 1994. It was efficiently designed to homeport a carrier strike group, including one nuclear-powered aircraft carrier and six surface ships.