

Bunker Hill (CG-52)

As New Year's bells ring out tonight
We celebrate our warship's might.
In poetic form we must recall
Bunker Hill's life before her 2023 mothball.
In '86 she first set sail.
Her hurricane bow impervious to the beau fort scale.
Within her clean lines a new surprise
The MK-41 VLS—the first of its kind.
In '91 she was still young
Tomahawks into Saddam's Iraq she flung.
Then in '06 with years of salt coating her steel
Bunker Hill received new aegis upon her keel.
For the next ten years she was at-sea.
The place a sailor ought to be
From San Diego to around the Horn
Her spy-1 radars tracked everything airborne.
Then in '20 she faced new enemies big and small
The Covid virus and NCT one port call.
Through '21 in Pacific water she remained
Keeping Chinese warships contained.
But in 2023 she will become and absentee upon the sea.
For Bunker Hill will be no more.
Decommissioning is the fate of this great man-of-war.
And Team 52 will finally rest.
This wondrous crew has bested every test.
Fair winds and following seas to you
On this last day of 2022.