

Navy and Coast Guard Ships Associated with Service in Vietnam and Exposure to Herbicide Agents

This ships list is intended to provide VA regional offices with a resource for determining whether a particular US Navy or Coast Guard Veteran of the Vietnam era is eligible for the presumption of Agent Orange herbicide exposure based on operations of the Veteran's ship.

According to 38 CFR § 3.307(a)(6)(iii), the presumption of herbicide exposure requires that the Veteran's service involved "duty or visitation in the Republic of Vietnam." For those Veterans who served aboard ships operating primarily or temporarily on the inland waterways of Vietnam, their service involved "duty" in Vietnam. In such cases, the evidence must show that the ship was on the inland waterways and the Veteran was aboard at that time. For those Veterans who served aboard ships that docked and the Veteran went ashore, or served aboard ships that did not dock but the Veteran went ashore, their service involved "visitation" in Vietnam. In cases involving docking, the evidence must show that the Veteran was aboard at the time of docking and the Veteran must provide a statement of personally going ashore. In cases where shore docking did not occur, the evidence must show that the ship operated in Vietnam's close coastal waters for extended periods, that members of the crew went ashore, or that smaller vessels from the ship went ashore regularly with supplies or personnel. In these cases, the Veteran must also provide a statement of personally going ashore.

This list includes three categories of ships:

- Ships operating primarily or exclusively on Vietnam's inland waterways
- Ships operating temporarily on Vietnam's inland waterways or docking to the shore
- Ships operating on Vietnam's close coastal waters for extended periods with evidence that crew members went ashore or that smaller vessels from the ship went ashore regularly with supplies or personnel

This list is not complete. Therefore, the presumption of herbicide exposure should not be denied solely because the Veteran's ship is not on this list. Additionally, when regional office personnel obtain evidence showing that a ship fits into any of these categories, the evidence should be forwarded to the Compensation and Pension Service Agent Orange Mailbox [VAVBWAS/CO/211/AGENTORANGE] so that the ship can be added to the listing.

Ships operating primarily or exclusively on Vietnam's inland waterways

All vessels referred to in military records as part of the “Mobile Riverine Force”

All vessels with the designation LCM [Landing Craft, Mechanized]

All vessels with the designation LCVP [Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel]

All vessels with the designation LST [Landing Ship, Tank]

All vessels with the designation PBR [Patrol Boat, River]

All vessels with the designation PCF [Patrol Craft, Fast or Swift Boat]

All U.S. Coast Guard Cutters with hull designation WPB [Patrol Boat], WHEC [High Endurance Cutter], WLB [Buoy Tender], and WAK [Cargo Vessel] during their Vietnam tours

All vessels of Inshore Fire Support [IFS] Division 93, including:

USS Carronade (IFS 1)

USS Clarion River (LSMR 409) [Landing Ship, Medium, Rocket]

USS Francis River (LSMR 525)

USS White River (LSMR 536)

All vessels with hull designation PG [Patrol Gunboat], including:

USS Asheville (PG-84)

USS Gallop (PG-85)

USS Antelope (PG-86)

USS Ready (PG-87)

USS Crockett (PG-88)

USS Marathon (PG-89)

USS Canon (PG-90)

USS Mark (AKL-12) [Light Cargo Ship]

USS Brule (AKL-28)

USS Cohoes (AN-78) [net laying ship]

USS Patapsco (AOG-1) [Gasoline Tanker]

USS Elkhorn (AOG-7)

USS Genesee (AOG-8)

USS Kishwaukee (AOG-9)
USS Tombigbee (AOG-11)
USS Noxubee (AOG-56)

USS Montrose (APA-212) [Attack Transport]
USS Okanogan (APA-220)
USS Bexar (APA-237)

USS Benewah (APB-35) [Self-Propelled Barracks Ship]
USS Colleton (APB-36)
USS Mercer (APB-39)
USS Nueces (APB-40)

Barracks Barge (APL-26) [Sleeping Quarters]
Barracks Barge (APL-30)

USS Tutuila (ARG-4) [Repair Ship]

USS Satyr (ARL-23) [Repair Ship]
USS Sphinx (ARL-24)
USS Askari (ARL-30)
USS Indra (ARL-37)
USS Krishna (ARL-38)

USS Belle Grove (LSD-2) [Landing Ship Dock]
USS Comstock (LSD-19)
USS Tortuga (LSD-26)

Floating Base Platform (YRBM-17) [Repair, Berthing, and Messing Barge]
Floating Base Platform (YRBM-18)
Floating Base Platform (YRBM-20)

USN Harbor Tug 84 (YTB-84)
USN Harbor Tug 85 (YTB-85)
USN Winnemucca (YTB-785)

Ships operating temporarily on Vietnam's inland waterways or docking to shore

USS Card (ACV-11) [Escort Aircraft Carrier] mined, sunk, and salvaged in Saigon River Harbor during May 1964

USS Kula Gulf (CVE-108) [Small Aircraft Carrier: used as helicopter and troop transport] docked at Cam Ranh Bay November 13-16, 1965

USS Pictor (AF-54) [Stores Ship] delivered supplies to Dong Ha on Cua Viet River during September 1967 and docked to the pier at Da Nang during 1969

USS Niagara Falls (AFS-3) [Combat Stores Ship] unloaded supplies on Saigon River and Cam Ranh Bay, April 22-25, 1968

USS Maury (AGS-16) [Mapping Survey Ship] conducted surveys of Mekong River Delta and other coastal areas and rivers from November 1965 through 1969

USS Tanner (AGS-15) conducted surveys of Mekong River Delta and other coastal areas and rivers from October 1966 through 1968

USS Serrano (AGS-24) conducted mapping surveys of Mekong River Delta and other coastal and river areas from 1966 through 1969

USS Merrick (AKA-97) [Attack Cargo Ship] operated on Mekong River Delta and Saigon River during 1966 and docked at Da Nang during September 1968

USS Ponchatoula (AO-148) [Oiler] operated on Mekong River Delta during July 1971

USS Kansas City (AOR-3) [Replenishment Oiler] docked at Da Nang on August 6 and 19, 1971

USS Henrico (APA-45) [Amphibious Attack Transport] operated on Hue River during March 1965 and conducted numerous troop landing through March 1967

USS Montrose (APA-212) operated on Song Hue River during December 1965, operated on Long Tau River during March 1967, and operated on Cua Viet River and at Dong Ha during May 1967

USS Talladega (APA-208) operated on Saigon River during October 1967

USS Grasp (ARS-24) [Salvage Ship] conducted salvaging operations on Song Cua Dia River and other inland waters from February through April 1969

USS Bolster (ARS-38) crew operated on land to extract USS Clark County (LST-601) from beach after grounding at Duc Pho from November 18 to December 1, 1967

USS Reclaimer (ARS-42) operated in Saigon Harbor to salvage USS Card (ACV-11) from sinking in Saigon River during May 1964 and in Rung Sat Special Zone of Mekong River Delta salvaging ships during early 1966

USS Tillamook (ATA-192) [Auxiliary Ocean Tug] operated on Long Tau branch of Saigon River during January 1966

USS Mahopac (ATA-196) operated on Mekong River from October 30-November 3, 1966

USS Tawakoni (ATF-114) [Fleet Ocean Tug] operated in Saigon Harbor to salvage USS Card (ACV-11) from sinking in Saigon River during May 1964

USS Canberra (CAG-2) [Guided Missile Cruiser] operated on Saigon River from March 31 through April 1, 1966, on Cua Viet River during December 15, 1966, and on Mekong Delta Ham Luong River during January 15, 1967

USS Providence (CLG-6) [Light Guided Missile Cruiser] operated on Saigon River 3 days during January 1964 and on Cua Viet River during August 1972

USS Conway (DD-507) [Destroyer] operated on Saigon River during early August 1966

USS Sproston (DD-577) operated on Mekong River Delta and Ganh Rai Bay during January 1966

USS Braine (DD-630) docked to pier at Da Nang on November 27, 1966

USS Ingersoll (DD-652) operated on Saigon River October 24-25, 1965

USS Black (DD-666) operated on Saigon River July 13-19, 1966

USS Picking (DD-685) operated on Saigon River during November 16, 1965

USS Ault (DD-689) operated on Mekong River Delta and Soirap River during May 26, 1967

USS Ingraham (DD-694) operated 10 miles up Saigon River on November 12, 1965

USS Hamner (DD-718) operated on Song Lon Tao and Long Song Tao Rivers, August 15-September 1, 1966

USS Epperson (DD-719) docked to Da Nang Pier on October 4, 1970

USS Walke (DD-723) operated on Mekong River Delta at Vung Ganh Rei September 2, 1969

USS Mansfield (DD-728) operated on Saigon River August 8-19, 1967 and December 21-24, 1968

USS Lyman K. Swenson (DD-729) traveled up Saigon River for a four-day visit to Saigon during May 1964

USS Southerland (DD-743) operated on Song Nga Bay and Saigon River during July 1966

USS Taussig (DD-746) operated on Soirap River in Mekong River Delta during June 15-26, 1966

USS Loftberg (DD-752) operated on Song Nha Be River during February 18-21 and April 14-15, 1969 and on Song Cua Dai River during April 10-12, 1969

USS Strong (DD-758) operated in Mekong River Delta and Rung Sat Special Zone during April 1968

USS John W. Thomason (DD-760) operated on Nga Be River during 1969

USS Buck (DD-761) operated on Mekong River Delta and Saigon River during October 1966

USS Rowan (DD-782) operated on Song Tra Khuc River during June 1965

USS Preston (DD-795) operated on Mekong River Delta, Ganh Rai Bay, and Saigon River during September 28 – 29 and December 27 – 29, 1965

USS Chevalier (DD-805) operated on Saigon River during June 15-21, 1966, and on Vung Ganh Rai area of Mekong River Delta during January 25, 1968

USS Higbee (DD-806) operated on Vung Ganh Rai area of Mekong River Delta during March 1-12, 1969

USS Dennis J Buckley (DD-808) operated on Mekong River Delta, Saigon River, and Ganh Rai Bay from December 19, 1966 to January 16, 1967

USS Holder (DD-819) operated on Vung Ganh Rai and Saigon River during August 5, 1966

USS Basilone (DD-824) operated on Saigon River, May 24-25, 1966

USS Fiske (DD-842) operated on Mekong River, June 16-21, 1966

USS Warrington (DD-843) operated on Mekong River Delta Rung Sat Special Zone, North of Vung Ganh Rai Bay during March 1967

USS Richard E. Kraus (DD-849) operated on coastal inlet north of Da Nang during June 2-5, 1966, protecting Marines holding a bridge

USS Leonard F. Mason (DD-852) operated on Vung Ganh Rai Bay and channels during August 1969

USS Brownson (DD-868) operated on Song Nha Be and Ganh Rai Bay areas of Mekong River Delta during February 1967

USS Damato (DD-871) operated on Saigon River during December 12-13, 1967

USS Perkins (DD-877) operated on Saigon River during June 1969

USS Leary (DD-879) operated on Baie de Ganh Rai of the Mekong River Delta on October 9, 1967

USS Dyess (DD-880) operated on Saigon River and Rung Sat Special Zone from June 19–July 1, 1966

USS Newman K. Kelly (DD-883) operated on Mekong River Delta and Saigon River November 23-28, 1966

USS Orleck (DD-886) operated on Mekong River Delta during July 1969

USS Mullinnix (DD-944) operated on Vung Ganh Rai and Saigon River during August 5-6, 1966

USS Henry B. Wilson (DDG-7) [Guided Missile Destroyer] docked at Da Nang pier on April 2, 1967

USS Joseph Strauss (DDG-16) operated on Mekong River Delta March 4, 1966 and Ganh Rai Bay during November 7 and December 7, 1968

USS Waddell (DDG-24) operated on Cua Viet River during March 1967

USS Davidson (DE-1040) [Destroyer Escort] operated on Vung Ganh Rai and Rung Sat Special Zone of Mekong River Delta from September 16 to October 5, 1967

USS Lang (DE-1060) docked to pier #4 in Da Nang Harbor for 38 minutes on January 5, 1972

USS Newell (DER-322) [Destroyer Escort Radar] docked at port of Nha Trang during December 22-24, 1965

USS Mahan (DLG-11) [Guided Missile Frigate] operated on Saigon River October 24-28, 1964

USS Duluth (LPD-6) [Amphibious Transport Dock] docked to pier at Da Nang during March and October 1971

USS Dubuque (LPD-8) docked at Da Nang on March 15, 1970

USS Boxer (LPH-4) [Amphibious Assault Ship] docked to pier at Cam Ranh Bay on September 9, 1965

USS Catamount (LSD-17) [Landing Ship Dock] operated on Song Nah Be River during April 1969

USS Conflict (MSO-426) [Minesweeper] operated on Saigon River April 1, 1966 and Song Huong River (Perfume River) May 14, 1966

USS Fortify (MSO-446) travelled up the Saigon River to Saigon September 19-22, 1964

USS Inflict (MSO-456) travelled up the Saigon River to Saigon September 19-22, 1964

USS Loyalty (MSO-457) travelled up the Saigon River to Saigon September 19-22, 1964

USS Geiger (T-AP-197) [Military Transport] docked at Qui Nhon November 23-26, 1965

Ships operating on Vietnam's close coastal waters for extended periods with evidence that crew members went ashore or that smaller vessels went ashore regularly with supplies or personnel

USS Mars (AFS-1) [Combat Stores Ship] conducted numerous on shore supply replenishments at Da Nang, Cam Ranh Bay, Vung Tau, and An Thoi from July 1965 to November 1972 with evidence of crewmembers going ashore

USS Estes (AGC-12) [Amphibious Assault Command Ship] Conducted troop and supply beach landings during March and July-August 1965, at Chu Lai, Da Nang, and Qui Nhon

USS Vega (AF-59) [Stores Ship] conducted resupply operations in the Mekong River Delta area on September 13, 1966; on-loaded supplies at An Thoi, Vung Tau, Cam Ranh Bay, and Da Nang during June 1969; and delivered supplies to Da Nang, Cam Ranh Bay, Con Son, An Thoi, and Hon Choi during November-December 1970

USS Repose (AH-16) [Hospital Ship] operated continuously on close coastal waters from 1966-1970, with the likelihood that crewmembers went ashore on liberty leave

USS Sanctuary (AH-17) operated continuously on close coastal waters from 1967-1970, with the likelihood that crewmembers went ashore on liberty leave

USS Mathews (AKA-96) [Attack Cargo Ship] on-loaded supplies at Da Nang and delivered them up the Cua Viet River to Dong Ha with "mike boats" from August through December 1967

USS Skagit (AKA-105) conducted troop and cargo beach “mike boat” landings at Da Nang, Chu Lai, and Quang Ngai from November 1965 to November 1967

USS Union (AKA/LKA-106) [Attack/Amphibious Cargo Ship] anchored in mouth of the Hue River while conducting operations during April 1965 and conducted troop and cargo “mike boat” beach landings at Da Nang and Cam Ranh Bay from 1965 to 1969

USS Tulare (AKA/LKA-112) conducted troop and cargo “mike boat” beach landings at Da Nang, Chu Lai, Cam Ranh Bay, and Vung Tau from 1966 to 1972

USS George Clymer (APA-27) [Amphibious Attack Transport] conducted troop and supply “mike boat” beach landings during July 1965, and March-July 1966, at Da Nang and Chu Lai

USS Bayfield (APA-33) conducted troop on loading and “mike boat” landings at Da Nang, Chu Lai, Baie de My Han, and Cua Viet River from July through October 1965 and February through May 1967

USS Hector (AR-7) [Repair Ship] anchored in Vung Tau Harbor repairing other vessels from July 20 to August 16, 1970, with deck logs stating that crew members went ashore on liberty leave

USS Currituck (AV-7) [Sea Plane Tender] travelled up Saigon River to Saigon during early 1964; operated in Mekong River Delta during June 1965; anchored at Cam Ranh Bay for month long periods during 1966 and 1967 to repair and tend to Navy sea planes, with the likelihood that crewmembers went ashore on liberty leave

USS Pine Island (AV-12) anchored at Da Nang during August 1964, and Cam Ranh Bay for month long periods during 1965 and 1966, to repair and tend to Navy sea planes, with the likelihood that crewmembers went ashore on liberty leave

USS Salisbury Sound (AV-13) travelled up Saigon River to Saigon during June 1964, and anchored at Cam Ranh Bay for month long periods during 1966, to repair and tend to Navy sea planes, with the likelihood that crewmembers went ashore on liberty leave

USS Chicago (CG-11) [Guided Missile Cruiser] while anchored in Da Nang Harbor on May 22, 1969, deck logs show a utility boat went ashore for one hour with 8 crewmembers aboard

USS Wiltsie (DD-716) [Destroyer] while anchored off the coast, two officers and five sailors went ashore by helicopter for one night during September 1970

USS Blue (DD-744) anchored in Da Nang Harbor on April 21, 1968, with crewmembers going ashore for picnic

USS Myles C. Fox (DD-829) anchored off Qui Nhon and Nha Trang with crewmembers going ashore during February 5-20, 1967

USS Cleveland (LPD-7) [Amphibious Transport Dock] operated on Cua Viet River and at Dong Ha, as well as Hue River, with “mike boats” from November 1967 through 1968 and on the Saigon River during September 1969

USS Carter Hall (LSD-3) [Landing Ship Dock] conducted troop-landing operations with “mike boats” at Da Nang, Dong Ha on Cua Viet River, and Nha Be on Saigon River, as well as three-month duty as “boat repair ship” at Da Nang, from July 1965 to August 1968

USS Whetstone (LSD-27) on-loaded and delivered troops to Da Nang, Hue, Phu Bai, Dong Ha with beach landings and “mike boats” and served as long term “boat havens” for repairs of smaller vessels at Da Nang and Qui Nhon during 1965, 1966, 1968, and 1969

USS Epping Forest (MCS-7) [Mine Countermeasure Support Ship] conducted mine sweep of Cua Viet River using smaller vessels from main ship during May 1968

