

The second NEW ORLEANS ship (CA-32) was a 10,000 ton cruiser, commissioned on February 15, 1934. The cruiser operated with the Atlantic Fleet until 1936 when it was assigned as a fleet unit of the Pacific Fleet. Surviving the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the NEW ORLEANS went on to participate in a total of seventeen engagements in the Pacific Campaign during World War II and was decommissioned in 1946.

USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11), an amphibious assault ship, is the third in line to bear the name NEW ORLEANS and carry on the heritage of its valiant predecessors.

The mission of the USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11) is to support and defend the interests of our nation, both in peace and in war. Her primary duty, as an amphibious assault ship of the IWO JIMA (LPH) class, is to transport troops and equipment for amphibious operations and to land them by means of helicopters during the vertical envelopment phase of the assault. The ship exercises limited control of helicopters and their supporting aircraft, and provides command facilities for an amphibious squadron commander and helicopter force commander. In addition, the ship is staffed and equipped to control anti-submarine helicopters as part of a coordinated antisubmarine warfare system and to act as a temporary hospital-evacuation ship off shoreline combat zones. The ship will shortly reach an operational state of combat readiness that will enable her to employ her military capabilities in carrying out her mission of defending the interests of the United States and enforcing our national policy through the world.

Statistics on NEW ORLEANS

1. Authorized 1965 Ship Building Program
2. Assigned to Philadelphia Naval Shipyard December 17, 1964
3. Keel Laid March 1, 1966
4. Launched February 3, 1968
5. Completion Date February 24, 1969
6. Type of Vessel Amphibious Assault Ship
7. Class IWO JIMA
8. Displacement, Full Load 18,000 tons
9. Length 592 feet
10. Beam 84 feet
11. Draft, Full Load 26 feet, 6 inches
12. Crew 550 Officers and Men
13. Number of Helicopters 20
14. Number of Marines 2,000
15. Speed Over 20 knots
16. Armament 4 Twin Mounted 3"/50 Caliber
17. Width of Flight Deck 105 feet