

USS MISSOURI (BB-63)

1944-1992 Fact Sheet

- 1. She was the last and the largest battleship completed by the United States.
- 2. Construction began in 1941 and was completed in January of 1944.
- 3. She was commissioned and christened by Margaret Truman, daughter of then Congressman from Missouri, Harry Truman.
- 4. She was commissioned and launched June 1944, Capt. William M. Callaghan in command.
- 5. She took part in the South Pacific campaigns of Iwo Jima, Inland Sea of Japan, Okinawa, and Kyushu while providing support for aircraft carriers carrying out raids on the Japanese homeland.
- 6. The surrender of the imperial forces of the Japanese government was received on her deck September 2, 1945, Gen. Douglas MacArthur officiating. The ceremony was conducted in Tokyo Bay.
- 7. September 6, 1945, the Missouri departs Tokyo Bay for overhaul in the New York naval shipyard.
- 8. The Missouri was assigned to the Mediterranean to preverse Greek and Turkish liberty against Soviet subversion.
- 9. From 1950-1953 the Missouri's primary mission was to provide seagoing artillery support by bombarding enemy targets during the Korean War.
- 10. In 1955, after serving as a training ship, the Missouri entered Puget sound naval yard where she was decommisioned as part of the Pacific Reserve fleet.
- 11. Missouri received 3 battle stars for WWII and 5 for Korean War service.
- 12. The Missouri was re-commissioned in 1986 after a lengthy refit at Long Beach naval shipyard. This was a "high water mark" in the Reagan administration's attempt to create a 600 ship Navy.
- 13. The USS Missouri (BB-63) is the fourth U.S. naval vessel to be so named.
- 14. The Missouri is powered by four 53,000 hp engines.
- 15. Her anchors (2) weigh 15 tons each.
- 16. The Missouri weighs 45,000 tons.
- 17. The Missouri and the Titanic were almost the same length.
- 18. The Missouri is permanently berthed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and is open to visitors daily. She faces the sunken USS Arizona BB-39.

