

USS Delbert D. Black Completes Builder's Trials



Ingalls Shipbuilding launches the USS Delbert D. Black in September 2017. Andrew Young/Huntington Ingalls Industries PASCAGOULA, Miss. – The future guided-missile destroyer USS Delbert D. Black successfully completed builder's trials on Feb. 22 after spending three days underway in the Gulf of Mexico, according to the Navy's Program Executive Office (PEO)-Ships. The trials were conducted by the shipbuilder, Huntington Ingalls Industries, Ingalls Shipbuilding Division.

The ship was previously underway for Alpha trials in December and will be underway again in March for acceptance trials, which will be conducted by the U.S. Navy's Board of Inspection and Survey.

"The Navy and our dedicated shipbuilders have continued to make strides towards delivering this exceptional capability to the fleet and performed well during builder's trials," said Capt. Seth Miller, DDG 51 class program manager, PEO-Ships. "This ship continues the proud Aegis shipbuilding legacy and will provide the Navy with a 21st-century fighting edge."

Delbert D. Black is configured as a Flight IIA destroyer, which enables power projection, forward presence and escort operations at sea in support of low intensity conflict/coastal and littoral offshore warfare as well as open ocean conflict. DDG 119 will be equipped with the Navy's Aegis Combat System.

HII's Pascagoula shipyard also is producing the future destroyers Frank E. Petersen Jr (DDG 121), Lenah H. Sutcliffe Higbee (DDG 123) and Jack H. Lucas (DDG 125), the first ship to be built in the Flight III configuration.



Ima Black, wife of the first MCPON Delbert "Del" Black and sponsor of the USS Delbert D. Black, signs her name on a memorial plaque during a 2016 keel-laying ceremony. U.S. Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class (EXW) Timothy Wilson