# Future USS Tripoli Completes Builder's Trials

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The future USS Tripoli during her builder's trials. Huntington Ingalls Industries

PASCAGOULA,

Miss. — The Navy's newest America-class amphibious assault ship, the future USS

Tripoli (LHA 7), successfully completed builder's trials on July 19. The ship

returned to the Huntington Ingalls Industries shipbuilding division's shippard

following four days underway in the Gulf of Mexico.

#### Builder's trials

are the Navy's first opportunity to assess the operational readiness of a ship.

During the trials, the multipurpose amphibious assault ship underwent dock

trials followed by more than 200 at-sea test events.

#### "The

Navy and industry team did a commendable job this week," said Tom Rivers.

amphibious warfare program manager for Naval Sea System Command's Program

Executive Office-Ships.

USS Tripoli's christening ceremony.

#### "America-class

ships bring tremendous capability to our Sailors and Marines, and Tripoli will

be the first large deck amphib to reach the fleet fully ready to integrate the

Marine Corps air combat element to include Joint Strike Fighters."

## Tripoli is

the second ship of the America (LHA 6) class, built to facilitate forward

presence and power projection. LHA 7 is the last Flight 0 ship planned for

construction and features an enlarged hangar deck, realignment and expansion of

the aviation maintenance facilities, an increase in available stowage for parts

and support equipment and increased aviation fuel capacity.

#### LHA 8 will

be the first Flight I ship, reincorporating a well deck to enhance

expeditionary warfighting capabilities while maintaining the principal aviation

characteristics of the Flight 0 ships.

#### LHA 7

incorporates gas turbine propulsion plant, zonal electrical distribution and

fuel-efficient electric auxiliary propulsion systems first installed on USS

Makin Island (LHD 8). LHA 7 will be 844 feet in length, will have a

displacement of about 45,000 long tons and will be capable of operating at

speeds of more than 20 knots.

# HII's Pascagoula shipyard

is also in production on Bougainville (LHA 8), the guided missile destroyers  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right$ 

Delbert D. Black (DDG 119), Lenah H. Sutcliffe Higbee (DDG 123), Jack H. Lucas

(DDG 125), and amphibious transport dock ships, Fort Lauderdale (LPD 28) and

Richard M. McCool Jr. (LPD 29).