

HII Begins Fabrication of Destroyer Ted Stevens



An artist rendering of the future Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Ted Stevens. U.S. Navy PASCAGOULA, Miss. – Huntington Ingalls Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding division started fabrication of the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer Ted Stevens on April 6, the company said in a release. The start of fabrication signifies that the first 100 tons of steel have been cut.

"As we begin this important milestone in the construction of another great warship, we look forward to continuing production and carrying on the extraordinary legacy of the Navy destroyer fleet," said George Nungesser, Ingalls' DDG 51 program manager.

The ship honors former U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens, who served as a

pilot in World War II and later represented Alaska. At the time he left office in 2009, he was the longest-serving Republican senator in history.

Ingalls has delivered 31 Arleigh Burke-class destroyers to the Navy. Other destroyers under construction include Delbert D. Black, Frank E. Peterson Jr., Lenah H. Sutcliffe Higbee and Jack H. Lucas.

Arleigh Burke-class destroyers are highly capable, multimission ships and can conduct a variety of operations, from peacetime presence and crisis management to sea control and power projection, all in support of the U.S. military strategy. The guided missile destroyers are capable of simultaneously fighting air, surface and subsurface battles. The ship contains myriad offensive and defensive weapons designed to support maritime defense needs well into the 21st century.