

Navy to Decommission Littoral Combat Ship Fort Worth



151016-N-ZF573-020

INDIAN OCEAN (Oct. 16, 2015) The littoral combat ship USS Fort Worth (LCS 3) transits into formation during a photo exercise as a part of Exercise Malabar 2015. Malabar is a continuing series of complex, high-end war fighting exercises conducted to advance multi-national maritime relationships and mutual security. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Chris Brown/Released)

The U.S. Navy will decommission Freedom-variant littoral combat ship, USS Fort Worth (LCS 3) during a ceremony held July 29 at 10 a.m. PDT at Naval Base San Diego.

As an operational unit and test platform, Fort Worth and its crew played an important role in the defense of our nation and maritime freedom. Fort Worth and its Sailors were key to

determining the operational configuration and deployment capabilities of today's LCS platform.

The honorable Gordon England, former Secretary of the Navy, will deliver the decommissioning ceremony's principal address. Remarks will also be provided by U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Matthew Kawas, the ship's sponsor's proxy, Ms. Jill J.R. Labbe, and U.S. Navy Capt. (ret.) Warren Cupps.

The ceremony will honor the service and legacy of Fort Worth, as well as the professionalism and dedication of its Sailors and their families.

LCS' are fast, optimally manned, mission-tailored surface combatants that operate in near-shore and open-ocean environments, winning against 21st-century coastal threats. LCS integrates with joint, combined, manned, and unmanned teams to support forward presence, maritime security, sea control, and deterrence missions around the globe.

The LCS class consists of two variants, Freedom and Independence, designed and built by two industry teams. USS Fort Worth is a Freedom-class LCS, built in Marinette, Wisconsin. Austal USA leads the Independence-variant team in Mobile, Alabama, for LCS 6 and the subsequent even-numbered hulls.

By retiring early-hull test platforms like Fort Worth, the Navy redirects investments toward upgrading the remaining LCS inventory with enhanced capabilities. This strategy sustains the LCS program and underscores the Navy's commitment to building America's Fleet of the Future, ensuring the active ships remain relevant, combat-credible, and reliable throughout their service lives.

For 250 years, American naval power has projected strength globally, operating forward 24/7, 365 days a year. This operational tempo demands continuous capability, and the Fleet of the Future is our answer.

Join the ceremony live stream.

<https://youtube.com/live/-a-bWfo-Re8?feature=share>