

U.S.S. BLUE DD-744

The second ship to bear the name, the BLUE is named for the late Lieutenant Commander John S. Blue, son of Rear Admiral Victor Blue, for whom her predecessor was named. The first BLUE was scuttled after being torpedoed by the Japanese in the Battle of the Solomon Islands in August, 1942. The present BLUE was commissioned March 20, 1944. She joined Task Force 58 in the Pacific and participated in the assaults on Palau, the Philippines, Indo-China, Okinawa and Japan. Highlights of her World War II career were the capture of the Japanese Navy's largest submarine, the shooting down of four planes, a night torpedo attack in which three Japanese ships were sunk, and the rescue of 18 downed airmen. Inactive until 1950, the BLUE was one of the first to be reactivated when the Korean fighting began. She assumed blockade duties for Task Force 95, screening for carriers of Task Force 77, and provided counter-battery fire in Wonsan Harbor on her three tours of duty in Korean waters. The BLUE underwent complete overhaul from June, 1960 to January, 1961, and was fitted for the important role she plays in anti-submarine warfare.

