

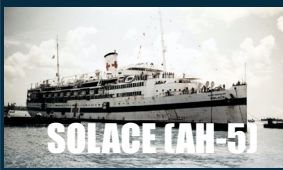


+ FLOATING FORTRESSES OF HEALTH + HOSPITAL SHIPS AT WAR, 1941-1975

- Navy hospital ships have long served as important **mobile medical facilities** that could be positioned near combat zones to provide care to wounded personnel.
- In World War II, the Navy had **15** active hospital ships in operation.
- During the Korean War and Vietnam War, helicopters played a significant role in casualty evacuation. The hospital ships **Consolation**, **Repose** and **Haven** were the first ships to be equipped with helo-decks.
- Collectively, Navy hospital ships have earned a total **80** battle stars for their service in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.



- **Active:** 1920-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Tarawa, Kwajalein, Saipan, Peleliu, and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** **5** battle stars
- **Notes:** Served as a base hospital in the Atlantic Theater before service in the Pacific



- **Active:** 1941-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Kwajalein, Tarawa, Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** Navy Unit Commendation (NUC) and **7** battle stars
- **Notes:** First responder at the attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 1941



- **Active:** 1943-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Leyte Gulf and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** **2** battle stars
- **Notes:** Received a direct hit from a Kamikaze plane at Okinawa (April 1945)



- **Active:** 1944-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Leyte Gulf and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** **2** battle stars
- **Notes:** Between 1944 and 1945, Hope sailed **51,000+** miles and treated **8,400+** patients



- **Active:** 1944-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Leyte Gulf and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** **2** battle stars
- **Notes:** Served as a station hospital in Jinsen, Korea after the war



- **Active:** 1944-1946 (as Navy hospital ship)
- **Conflict:** World War II (Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** NUC and **4** battle stars
- **Notes:** Prior to conversion into hospital ship was the troop transport USS Henderson



- **Active:** 1944-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Saipan, Guam, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa)
- **Honors and Awards:** NUC and **4** battle stars
- **Notes:** Prior to conversion into hospital ship was the troop transport USS Chaumont



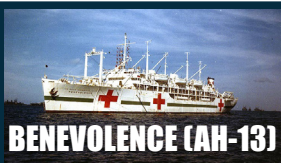
NAVY MEDICINE *FAST FACTS*



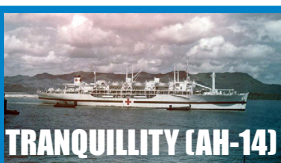
- **Active:** 1944-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Invasion of Southern France)
- **Honors and Awards:** 1 battle star
- **Notes:** Served in both Atlantic and Pacific theaters of war during World War II



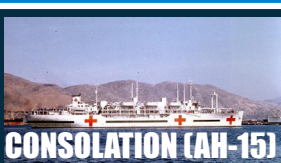
- **Active:** 1945-1947; 1950-1957
- **Conflicts:** World War II / Korean War
- **Honors and Awards:** 9 battle stars (Korean War) and Korean Presidential Unit Citation
- **Notes:** Served as Joint Task Force One hospital ship for Operation Crossroads



- **Active:** 1945-1947; 1950
- **Conflict:** World War II
- **Honors and Awards:** 1 battle star
- **Notes:** Sank in San Francisco Bay on Aug. 25, 1950 after collision with freighter



- **Active:** 1945-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Third Fleet operations against Japan)
- **Honors and Awards:** 1 battle star
- **Notes:** Ordered to the Palau Islands in August 1945 to receive survivors of USS Indianapolis



- **Active:** 1945-1955
- **Conflict:** World War II / Korean War
- **Honors and Awards:** NUC and 10 battle stars (Korean War)
- **Notes:** First Navy hospital ship fitted with a helo-deck (1950)



- **Active:** 1945-1950; 1950-1954; 1965-1970
- **Conflict:** World War II / Korean War / Vietnam War
- **Honors and Awards:** 2 NUCs and 18 battle stars (9 Korean War / 9 Vietnam War)
- **Notes:** During the Vietnam War, she treated 9,000+ battle casualties and 24,000+ inpatients



- **Active:** 1945-1946; 1966-1971; 1972-1975
- **Conflict:** World War II / Vietnam War
- **Honors and Awards:** 12 battle stars (Vietnam War)
- **Notes:** Served as a base hospital in the Atlantic Theater before service in the Pacific



- **Active:** 1945-1946
- **Conflict:** World War II (Okinawa and Third Fleet operations against Japan)
- **Honors and Awards:** 2 battle stars
- **Notes:** Used in the care and medical screening of repatriated POWs after the war

Did you know?

Battle stars were awarded to Navy ships for meritorious participation in battles or for sustaining damage during combat conditions. The **Consolation**, **Haven**, **Repose**, **Sanctuary**, and **Solace** are the most decorated hospital ships in history having collectively earned **56 battle stars** or **70 percent** of all battle stars awarded to Navy hospital ships.



USS **Solace** was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation (NUC) in 1945 for efforts as a first responder at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Solace is one of **three Navy hospitals ships** awarded the NUC for services in World War II.