



Sun Ship Historical Society's Ships History Page

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Name: SS Fort Necessity
Hull No: 314

Hope you enjoy this 'Ship's History Page'. As always, if you have any additional information, suggestions or corrections, please let me know.

While due diligence has been applied in the research of information herein, responsibility for any errors is the ultimate responsibility of the end-user.

Thank You,
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1. Ship's Information:

Sun Ship Data ^[1]

Hull No:	314
Name Orig:	Fort Necessity
Sailing Port:	Philadelphia, PA
Contract:	1941.05.27
Contract Price:	\$2,700,000 ^[9]
Contract Del. Date:	1943.03.15
Shipway:	CY-5 ^[9]
Keel Laying:	1942.10.24
Launching:	1943.02.28
Date Delivery:	1943.03.17
Time on Way:	4m-4d
Time in Wetdock:	19 Days
Time total Building:	4m-23d
L-B-D:	503', 68', 39'3"
DWT:	16,700
Gross Tons:	10,010
Net Tons:	Pending
Type:	Tanker
Propulsion:	Turbo-Electric (West)
Propeller(s):	1 at 19'6" diameter ^[7]
SHP:	6000
Boilers(s):	2-Babcock & Wilcox?
Speed-Knots:	14-1/2
Complement:	Typical: 42-45 Mariners/17 Navy ^[11] ?
Capacity:	141,158 bbls
Sponsor:	Mrs. W. Taylor

Shipway Designations:

SY: South Yard 9 thru 12
CY: Central Yard 1 thru 8
NY: North Yard 13 thru 20
4Y: No.4 Yard 21 thru 28

Maritime Commission Data ^[3]

Contract Design: T2-SE-A1
Classification Auth: A.B.S.
Hull No: 307
Official Number: 6114985 ^[6]
Owner: War Shipping Admin.
First Ship Operator: U.S. Navy AO-77

2. Ship's Ownership Transition: ^[5]

-1943.05.17: Name- **A0-77 Cossatot** -
Acquired by the Navy
-1946.10.26: Transferred to Maritime Commission as
A0-77 Cossatot
-1949.10.01: Absorbed by the MSTs as U.S.N.S
T-A0-77 Cossatot
-1974.09.18: **T-A0-77 Cossatot** Struck from Naval
Register
-1975.09.18: Arrived to be broken up by Luria Bros.
& Co, Inc

3. Ship's Naming History ^[10]

"The battle of Fort Necessity, fought on July 3, 1754, in Fayette County, PA, was not a revolutionary War battle, but rather the opening engagement of the French and Indian War. George Washington's only surrender, it saw his outnumbered Virginia militia overwhelmed by French forces and their Native American allies, setting the stage for the American Revolution"
Source: National Park Service

4. Artifacts: ^[1]

4.1: S.S. Fort Necessity's Launch Plaque:

This launch plaque was donated to SSHS by Leo and Steve Fine and the Fine Family and was a welcome addition to our archives.

Sun Ship's Launch Plaque History:

It is customary to give the sponsor of the ship launched a ceremonial plaque commemorating the launching of the vessel. The sponsor would typically be the wife or daughter of an executive of the company that had purchased the ship. In the case of WWII however, there were so many ships being launched and purchased by the Maritime Commission that sponsors were chosen by lottery among the shipyard workers. A bottle of champagne would be broken across the bow of the vessel, when the ship would first start to slide towards the river, then be named by the sponsor

S.S. Fort Necessity Launch Plaque
SSHS: 500 314 03



Plaque Text:

S.S. FORT NECESSITY
BUILT BY THE
SUNSHIPBUILDING & DRY DOCK CO.
CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA
FOR THE
UNITED STATES MARITIME COMMISSION

LAUNCHED 1943 FEBRUARY 28
MRS. ANNA L. TAYLOR
SPONSOR

5. Photos, etc:

5.1- Steven Fine, son of Leo Fine, donating the **S.S. Fort Necessity** launch plaque to SSHS on 2022.05.15.
SSHS: 500 314 03



5.2- AO-77 **Cossatot'** [05]
SSHS: 500 314 av 02



5.3- '**Fort Necessity**' Christening Ceremony

Photo of ship's Christening Ceremony on 1943.02.28 with sponsor and husband'

Anna L. Taylor and William Taylor. From Our Yard Magazine 1943.03

SSHS: 705_4303_18b



Mrs. Anna L. Taylor, wife of William Taylor of 83 Dept., had the honor of christening the "Fort Necessity".

6. Sources:

- 1-SSHs Archives
- 2-Delaware County Historical Society
- 3-Independence Seaport Museum
- 4-Hagley Museum and Library
- 5- Auke Visser's Famous T-Tankers Pages
- 6- Miramarshipindex
- 7-Marine Eng. And Shipping Review.
- 8- www.coltoncompany
- 9- Maritime Commission
- 10- National Park Service
- 11-U.S. Merchant Marine usmm.org