

U. S. S. KING (DLG-10)

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Serial: 430

From: Commanding Officer, USS KING (DLG-10)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OP-291SH)

25 MAY 1961

Subj: Ships History Report for period ending 31 December 1960

Encl: (1) Photographs of USS KING (DLG-10)

1. This first Ship's History Report for the USS KING (DLG-10) for the period ending 31 December 1960 is submitted herewith.

a. The USS KING was authorized by Congress in the 1956 Shipbuilding Program. Her keel was laid in March 1957 at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Bremerton, Washington. She was launched 6 December 1958, and commissioned on 17 November 1960. The USS KING (DLG-10) is the first ship to be named after Fleet Admiral Ernest J. KING. CDR Melvin E. BUSTARD was the first Commanding Officer.

b. The KING is approximately 512 feet long and has a beam of 52 feet. Fully loaded she displaces 5600 tons and is capable of speeds in excess of 30 knots.

c. For armament, the KING is equipped with a Terrier Missile Launcher which fires the Terrier, a surface-to-air, solid propellant, beam riding missile. Missiles aboard ship are selected automatically from the storage magazine below deck and loaded onto the launcher, which is then automatically aimed at the target and fired. Next is the anti-submarine battery consisting of the potent ASROC (anti-submarine rocket) system and two triple tube, torpedo launchers. Combined with the ship's high speed capability and maneuverability and the latest sonar equipment these weapons give KING a terrific sub killing potential. The KING is also equipped with one (1) 5"/54 mount forward and two (2) twin 3"/50 mounts amidships.

d. The KING was designed to outfit Fast Task Force as anti-aircraft defense ships with radar picket and anti-submarine capabilities. In order to accomplish this mission, she is provided with the latest in air search and fire control radar and sonar to detect the enemy and the most advanced anti-aircraft and anti-submarine missiles with which to destroy him.

e. After commissioning the KING was assigned to the Commandant, Thirteenth Naval District for fitting out. While under the control of COMTHIRTEEN KING underwent builder's trials at the Puget Sound Naval

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Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington prior to departing Bremerton for Shakedown Cruise and Underway Training. Scheduled departure date from Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and detachment from COMTHIRTEEN set for 14 January 1960.



M. E. BUSTARD

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