



Another example of a mission ready ship because of a U.S. Navy Port Engineer

USS James E. Williams Assists Vessel in Distress off Florida Coast



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From Carrier Strike Group 10 Public Affairs

NORFOLK, Va. (NNS) -- The crew of the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS James E. Williams (DDG 95) aided in the rescue of 26 people from a vessel in distress off the Florida coast, March 8th. James E. Williams was conducting routine operations when the officer of the deck (OOD) heard over the ship's bridge-to-bridge radio about a vessel in distress approximately 30 nautical miles away.



Once they were in the immediate area, crew members deployed in a rigid-hulled inflatable boat and checked on the welfare of the people aboard the vessel. Several of the people reported not feeling well, the crew provided bottled water and the Sailors remained with the vessel until the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Charles Sexton (WPC 1108) arrive to pick up the passengers.

Once the cutter was in the area, the Sailors assisted in getting the passengers over to the cutter before sinking the vessel to prevent it from being a hazard to navigation.

The Norfolk-based James E. Williams is assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 26, part of Carrier Strike Group (CSG) 10.

For more news from USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69), visit www.navy.mil/local/cvn69/.



Webmaster's Note: USS James E.

Williams (DDG-95) is an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer in the United States Navy. The ship was named for Chief Petty Officer James Elliott Williams (1930–1999), a River Patrol Boat commander and Medal of Honor recipient from the Vietnam War who is considered to be the most decorated enlisted man in Navy history.





Enlisted Small Craft Insignia			
Medal of Honor			
<u>Navy Cross</u>	<u>Silver Star Medal w/ 5/16" Gold Star</u>	<u>Legion of Merit w/ Combat "V"</u>	<u>Navy and Marine Corps Medal w/ 5/16" Gold Star</u>
<u>Bronze Star Medal w/ Combat "V" and two 5/16" Gold Stars</u>	<u>Purple Heart Medal w/ two 5/16" Gold Stars</u>	<u>Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal w/ Combat "V" and 5/16" Gold Star</u>	<u>Navy Combat Action Ribbon w/ 5/16" Gold Star</u>
<u>Navy Presidential Unit Citation w/ 3/16" bronze star</u>	<u>Navy Unit Commendation</u>	<u>Navy Good Conduct Medal w/ 3/16" silver star</u>	<u>Navy Expeditionary Medal</u>
<u>China Service Medal</u>	<u>National Defense Service Medal w/ 3/16" bronze star</u>	<u>Korean Service Medal w/ two 3/16" bronze stars</u>	<u>Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal</u>
<u>Vietnam Service Medal w/ two 3/16" bronze stars</u>	<u>Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross w/ Gold Star and Palm</u>	<u>Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation</u>	<u>Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Gallantry Cross) w/ Palm</u>
<u>Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions) w/ Palm</u>	<u>United Nations Korea Medal</u>	<u>Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal w/ 1960- device</u>	<u>Korean War Service Medal</u>
Craftmaster badge			

- 4 gold service stripes.



USS *James E. Williams* was laid down on 15 July 2002 by the Northrop Grumman Ship Systems at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Mississippi and launched on 25 June 2003, sponsored by Elaine Weaver Williams, Chief Petty Officer Williams' widow. On 11 December 2004, *James E. Williams* was commissioned in Charleston, South Carolina, Commander Philip Warren Vance in command.