

# USS COPAHEE CVE-12





**USS COPAHEE**

## U.S.S. COPAHEE CVE - 12

Named from a "Sound" on the South Carolina Coast

Commissioned June 15, 1942 by Admiral C.S. Freeman  
Captain John G. Farrell, Commanding Officer  
Commander H.S. Duckworth, Executive Officer

First CVE Commissioned on the West Coast  
Inspected by Admiral Chester Nimitz, Sept. 16, 1942

### Statistics

Overall Length	495' 8"
Displacement	9800 Tons
Full Load	15,700 Tons
Beam	69' 6"
At Flight Deck	111' 6"
Propulsion: Geared Turbine,	1 shaft, 8500 H.P.
Top Speed	18 Knots
Draft	26'
Crew	890 Average
Armament :	

Two 5" 38 Guns, 10 Twin Mount 40mm Guns,  
27 20mm Guns.

Flight Deck Operations in 1942, 1943, & 1944;

Take Offs = 3,225

Catapult Take Offs = 457

Operational Take Offs = 437

Qualification Take Offs = 3,245

The COPAHEE's Role as a Transport Carrier:

Accommodations for 80 Aircraft  
Tremendous Cruising Radius  
Fuel Capacity = 864,736 Gallons

Underway 67 % of the time, with Superb Engineering

War Time Steaming Mileage = 273,406.0 Miles

Overall Steaming Mileage = 279,551 Miles

Medals Won (earned) :

American Campaign Medal  
Asiatic - Pacific Campaign Medal  
Philippine Liberation Medal  
World War II Victory Medal  
Bronze Stars :

Solomon's Campaign  
Marina's Engagement

### Some Historical Facts of the COPAHEE

The U.S.S. COPAHEE was the only operational Aircraft Carrier in the Pacific Theater of War during the later portion of 1942.

Cont.

The U.S.S COPAHEE steamed the Greatest number of Nautical Miles of any Carrier in "Car Trans. Ron Pac 12" during 1943, 1944, and 1945 = 273, 406 Miles overall.

The U.S.S. COPAHEE survived a devastating Typhoon off the Coast of Australia in 1944, the wind velocity broke the Anemometers at 95 Knots.

On June 3, 1944 the U.S.S. COPAHEE departed Pearl Harbor with 61 planes, as one ship in the largest invasion fleet History - - Task Force 58

The COPAHEE crossed the Equator nine 9 times Southbound, she crossed the 180th Meridian Westbound eighteen times.

On July 8, 1944, loaded with 14 captured Japanese Aircraft, brought them from Saipan to San Diego, Calif. "ZERO # 131" was one of these and is Reportedly on display at the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC.

#### PORTS of CALL

Calif. : Alameda = 18, Oakland = 2, Vallejo = 2, San Diego = 26,  
San Francisco = 3.

Wash. Bremerton = 4, Tacoma = 2, Port Orchard = 1, Port Townsend = 5,  
Seattle = 4

Apra, Guam = 10, Brisbane, Australia = 3, Eniwetok, Marshal Islands = 3,  
Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides = 1, Havana Harbor, New Hebrides = 1,  
Gladstone, Australia = 1, Johnston Island = 1, Majuro, Marshall Island = 5  
Manus, Admiralty Island = 3, Midway Island = 1, Mindoro, Philippines = 1,  
Zamboanga, Philippines = 1, Samar, Philippines = 2, Noumea, New -  
Caledonia = 7, Pago Pago, - Samoa = 1, Palmyra Island = 1, Pearl Harbor, -  
T.H. = 30, Saipan, Marians = 5, Suva, Fiji Islands = 1, Tomba Ko, -  
Nandi, Fiji Islands = 2, Townsville, Australia = 1, Ulithi, Caroline Islands  
= 2.

Submitted by : Herbert F. Bowerman  
Walnut Creek, Calif.

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