



The Story of SEATTLE

USS SEATTLE, whose keel was laid at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington, on 1 October 1965, is the largest ship ever built on the West Coast.

The third in a class of Fast Combat Support Ships, USS SEATTLE is designed to supply the attack carrier strike forces with fuel, ordnance, stores and provisions at rapid transfer rates. Because of the AOE's speed, it is the only type of replenishment ship that can operate continually as an integrated unit of a strike force. The capability provided by ships of this type represents a significant increase in the wartime effectiveness of the Navy's forces.

After commissioning, USS SEATTLE departed Bremerton on a voyage that took her through the Panama to Norfolk, Virginia where she is homeported. SEATTLE operates with the Second Fleet in the Atlantic Ocean, and with the Sixth Fleet while in the Mediterranean Sea.

SEATTLE'S nickname is "King of the MED". She won this title due to the many months she has spent providing "SEATTLE Super Service" while deployed to Mediterranean operating area. Since her commission in 1969, the SEATTLE has made four major (six months or longer) deployments to the Mediterranean Sea, one two month deployment, and numerous brief exercises in the Western Atlantic/Caribbean areas.

In July 1971 the SEATTLE was awarded the Battle Efficiency "E" for excellence in her class. For the fiscal year ending June, 1972, the ship's hard work earned her the red, white and blue "E"'s in the annual service force combat readiness, engineering and supply efficiency competition. On 22 February 1973, the Chief on Naval Operation announced that SEATTLE had