

## NEW AMERICAN CAPITAL SHIPS FOR CLASH OF ARMS' *COMMAND AT SEA* SERIES

by Gary Greenhalgh

### US Navy *Alaska* Class (Historical Battlecruisers)



The *Alaska* class of large cruisers was intended to counter the similarly conceived Japanese B-65 class (9 x 12.2-inch main battery) that were in actuality never constructed. As a result the two completed ships, *Alaska* and *Guam*, eventually became fast carrier escorts and were regarded by many as expensive white elephants (development of the new Mark 8 12"/50 was not cost effective) and were scrapped in the early 60's.

### US Navy *Montana* Class (Cancelled Battleships)



The *Montana* class of superbattleships were intended to counter the *Yamato* class then known to be under construction. They were the only US battleships designed with a beam too wide to pass through the Panama canal and were to introduce the new 5"/54 DP guns in ten twin mountings. They were, however, cancelled in July 1943 and replaced by three

*Midway* class carriers once the value of carrier-borne airpower had become apparent.

<b>Ship Reference Sheet</b>						1. Ship name <b>Alaska</b>																													
2. Ship class <b>Alaska</b>		3. Ship Type <b>CB</b>		4. Size class <b>A</b>		5. Speed <b>33</b>		6. Propulsion <b>Steam Turbine</b>		7. Crew <b>2,200</b>		8. Total Mounts <b>14</b>		9. Armor Class <b>25/10</b>																					
Radars (Annex G)						Damage Point Effects																													
Name		Function		Range		Percentage Damage		0%		25%		50%		75%																					
				Large		Small		Vsmall																											
						Damage Points		<b>0</b>		<b>153</b>		<b>306</b>		<b>459</b>		<b>551</b>		<b>612</b>																	
						Surface Speed		<b>33</b>		<b>25</b>		<b>17</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>Sinks</b>																	
						Submerged Speed																													
						Embarked Aircraft <b>Kingfisher (4)</b> <b>(1) Aft Catapult</b>																													
Sonar (Annex H)						Passive Range																													
Name		Type		Active Range		Surf Ship		Submarine		Torpedo																									
Guns (Annex C)						Short Range (7)						Med Range (5)						Long Range (2)						Extreme Range (1)						FC Radar, Strength, Rng					
Arc(bbl)Mts		Name		Shell Type		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt							
<b>F/A (3)3</b>		<b>Mk 8 12-in/50</b>		<b>AP</b>		<b>0-5.8</b>		<b>60</b>		<b>63</b>		<b>5.9-17.3</b>		<b>46</b>		<b>42</b>		<b>17.4-28.9</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>30.0-38.5</b>		<b>19</b>		<b>25</b>							
				<b>HC</b>				<b>9</b>		<b>71</b>				<b>7</b>		<b>57</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>48</b>				<b>3</b>		<b>46</b>							
<b>F/P/S (2)6</b>		<b>Mk 32 5-in/38</b>		<b>SpCOM</b>		<b>0-2.7</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>20</b>		<b>2.8-8.2</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>8.3-13.7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>13.8-18.2</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>5</b>							
				<b>COM</b>				<b>7</b>		<b>24</b>				<b>5</b>		<b>18</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>7</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>7</b>							
vs. Belt Armor																								vs. Deck Armor											
Area AA Guns: <b>5-in/38</b>						Area AA Range: <b>3.0</b>						Area AA Strength: <b>3.4</b>																							
Light AA Guns: <b>(4)14 Mk 2 40mm/60, (1)34 Mk 4 20mm</b>						Light AA Strength: <b>22.5</b>																													
Anti-Submarine Warfare Systems (Annex D)																																			
Arc(bbl)Mts		Name		Range		PH		Dam Pts		Remarks																									

Depth Change Armament:			Max Pattern Size:						Max Pattern Depth:								
DC Type:			Total DC's Carried:														
Torpedoes (Annex E)																	
Arc(bbl)Mts		Torpedo Type		# Torps per mt		Speed kts		Dist/Tn yds		Range yds		Damage Points		Remarks			

**Notes and Remarks:**

- (1) Two ships completed (Alaska and Guam) plus four more cancelled units (Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Samoa, Philippines).
- (2) Radar data not included, but assume a mix of air search, surface search, main battery FC, 5-inch battery FC and 40mm FC units.
- (3) Data obtained from 'U.S. Warships of WWII' (Silverstone).
- (4) Standard displacement as 29,779 tons.
- (5) Classed as large cruisers (CAs on steroids); underwater protection negligible.

Ship Reference Sheet						1.Ship name <b>Montana</b>																									
2.Ship class <b>Montana</b>		3. Ship Type <b>BB</b>		4. Size class <b>A</b>		5. Speed <b>28</b>		6. Propulsion <b>Steam Turbine</b>		7. Crew <b>3,000</b>		8. Total Mounts <b>20</b>		9. Armor Class <b>48/23/205</b>																	
Radars (Annex G)						Damage Point Effects																									
Name		Range Large		Range Small		Range Vsmall		Percentage Damage		0%		25%		50%		75%		90%		100%											
						Damage Points		<b>0</b>		<b>281</b>		<b>562</b>		<b>843</b>		<b>1012</b>		<b>1124</b>													
						Surface Speed		<b>28</b>		<b>21</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>Sinks</b>													
						Submerged Speed																									
						Embarked Aircraft <b>Kingfisher (4)</b> <b>(2) Aft Catapults</b>																									
Sonar (Annex H)						Passive Range																									
Name		Type		Active Range		Surf Ship		Submarine		Torpedo																					
Guns (Annex C)						Short Range (7)						Med Range (5)						Long Range (2)						Extreme Range (1)						FC Radar, Strength, Rng	
Arc(bbl)Mts		Name		Shell Type		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt		Range		Pen		Dam/Mt			
<b>F/A (3)4</b>		<b>Mk 7 16-in/50</b>		<b>AP</b>		<b>0-6.3</b>		<b>80</b>		<b>79</b>		<b>6.4-18.9</b>		<b>61</b>		<b>58</b>		<b>19.0-31.5</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>43</b>		<b>31.6-42.0</b>		<b>25</b>		<b>38</b>			
				<b>HC</b>				<b>12</b>		<b>113</b>				<b>9</b>		<b>96</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>83</b>				<b>4</b>		<b>79</b>			
<b>P/S (2)10</b>		<b>Mk 41 5-in/54</b>		<b>SpCOM</b>		<b>0-2.7</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>20</b>		<b>2.8-8.2</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>8.3-13.7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>13.8-18.2</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>5</b>			
				<b>COM</b>				<b>7</b>		<b>24</b>				<b>6</b>		<b>17</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>7</b>				<b>2</b>		<b>7</b>			
				<b>HC</b>				<b>4</b>		<b>30</b>				<b>3</b>		<b>23</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>10</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>10</b>			
vs. Belt Armor																		vs. Deck Armor													
Area AA Guns: <b>5-in/54</b>						Area AA Range: <b>5.0</b>						Area AA Strength: <b>6.7</b>																			
Light AA Guns: <b>(4)24 Mk 2 40mm/60, (1)60 Mk 4 20mm</b>						Light AA Strength: <b>40.0</b>																									
Anti-Submarine Warfare Systems (Annex D)																															
Arc(bbl) Mts		Name		Range		PH		Dam Pts		Remarks																					

Depth Change Armament:			Max Pattern Size:			Max Pattern Depth:														
DC Type:			Total DC's Carried:																	
Torpedoes (Annex E)			# Torps per mt			Speed kts			Dist/Tn yds			Range yds			Damage Points			Remarks		
Arc(bbl)Mts			Torpedo Type																	

**Notes and Remarks:**

- (1) Five projected ships in class (cancelled 1943): Montana , Ohio, Maine, New Hampshire, Louisiana
- (2) Radar data not included, but assume a mix of air search, surface search, main battery FC, 5-inch battery FC and 40mm FC units.
- (3) Data obtained from 'U.S. Warships of WWII' (Silverstone ) and 'Battleships of the U.S. Navy in World War II' (Terzibaschtsch).
- (4) Standard displacement estimated as 60,500 tons.