

# The revolution in warship design between 1797 and 1945, as told by America's historic ships



Or: What I did on my holidays

I am not a historian.

~~Valentine's Day~~

# Battle of Cape St Vincent (1797)



*"Nelson's patent bridge for boarding enemy vessels."*

# How did this happen?



*San Salvador* (replica), 1500-40 ish

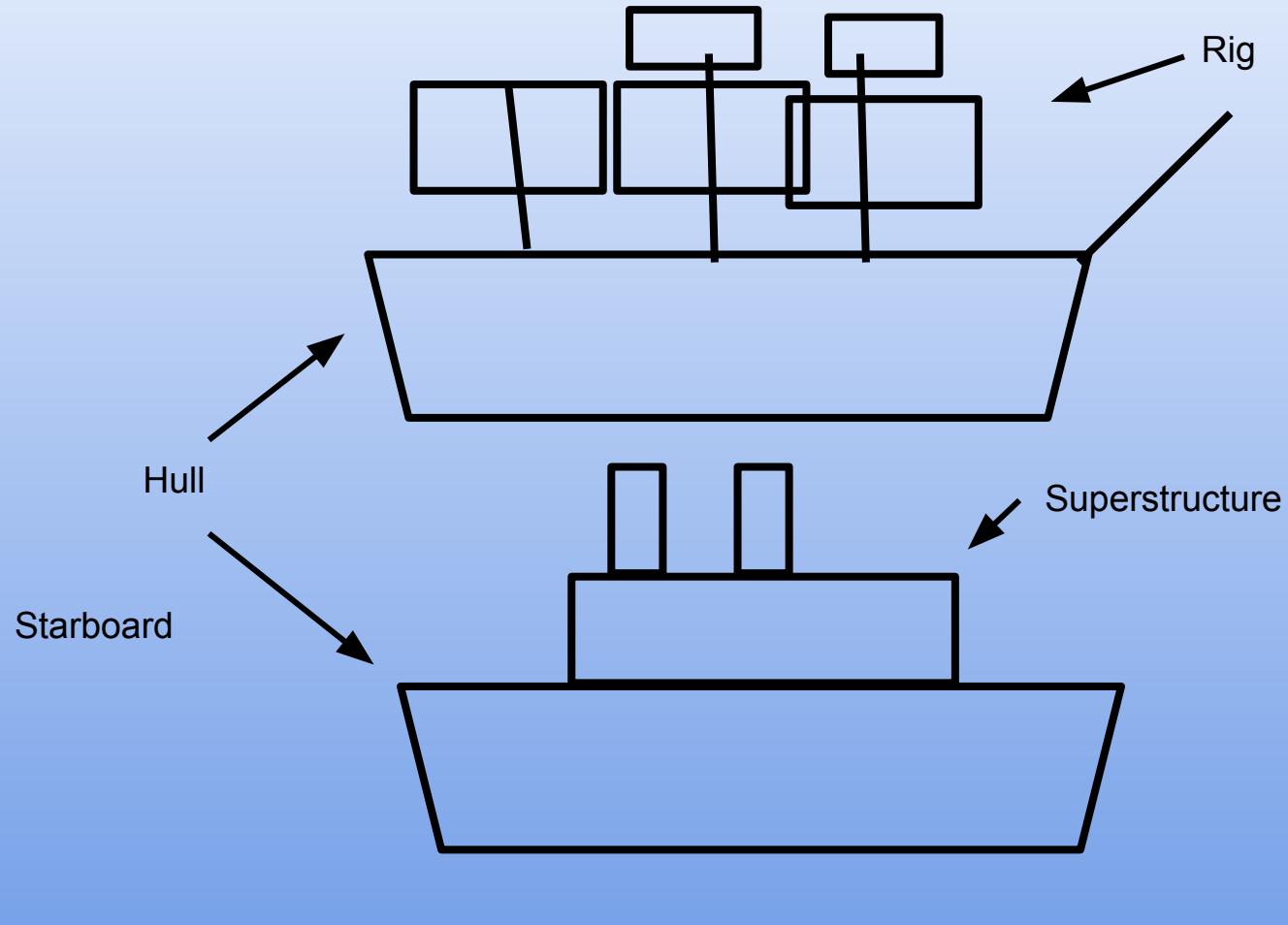
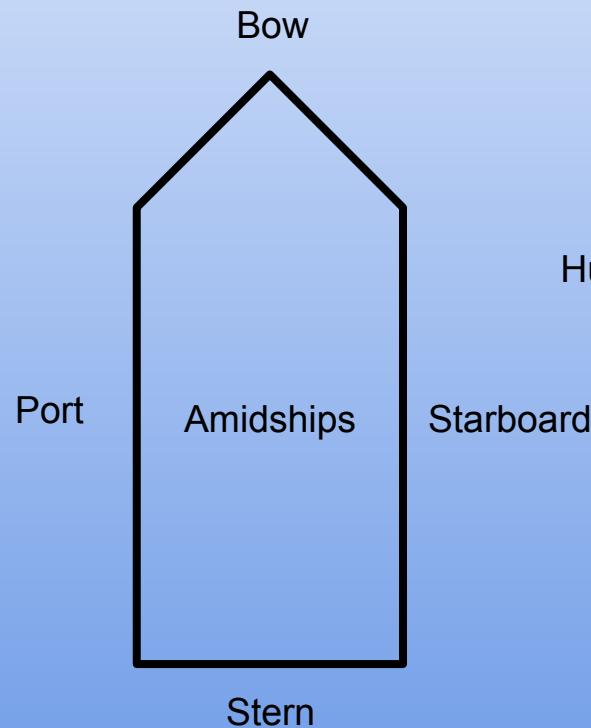


*USS Constitution*, 1797



*USS New Jersey*, 1943

# Bits of a ship



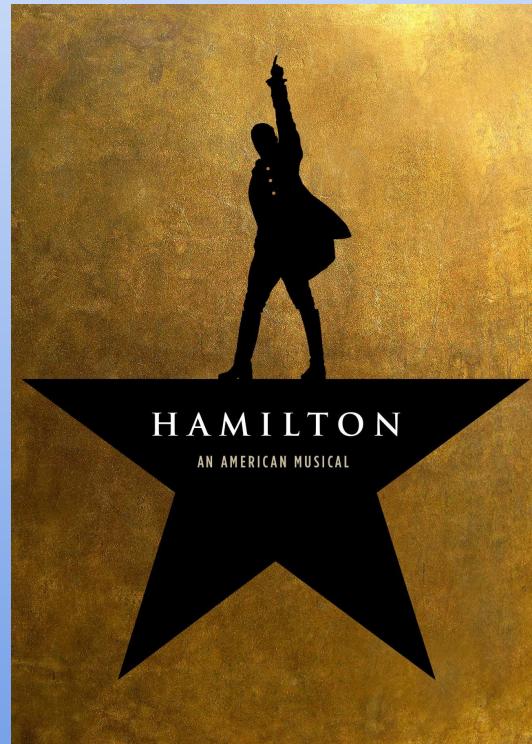
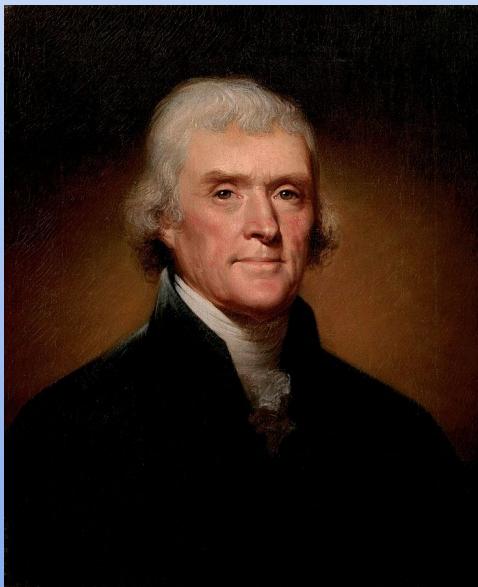
# Battle of the Chesapeake (1781)



# *USS Constitution (1797), Boston*



# Who needs a navy?



# Warships are really expensive



*USS Constitution* (1897) =  
\$300000 ≈ \$ 10 million in 2020



*USS Gerald R. Ford* (2017) = \$ 13+ billion

# What kind of navy?



HMS Surprise (replica), frigate  
San Diego



HMS Victory, first-rate ship of the line  
Portsmouth

# What kind of navy?



HMS Surprise (replica)



USS Constitution, heavy frigate

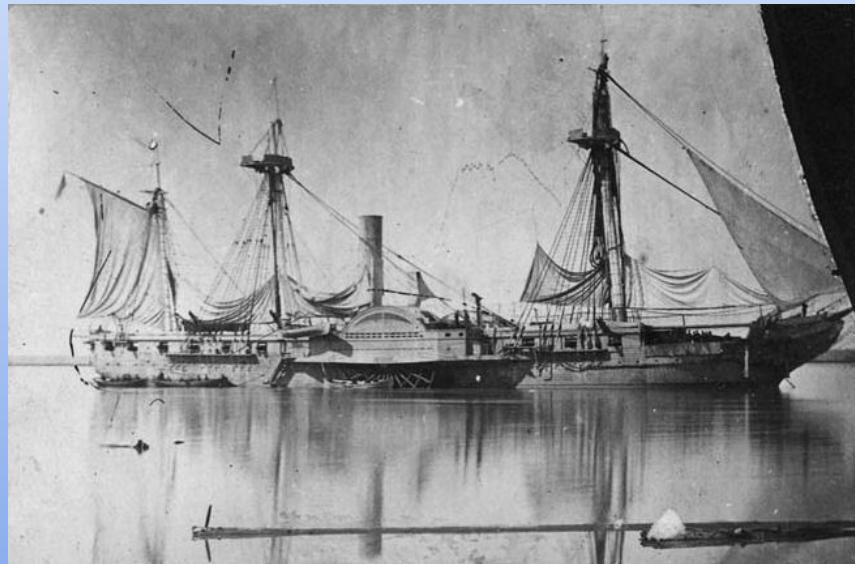


HMS Victory, first rate ship of the line

# Heavy frigates



# From sail to steam



*USS Mississippi (1841)*

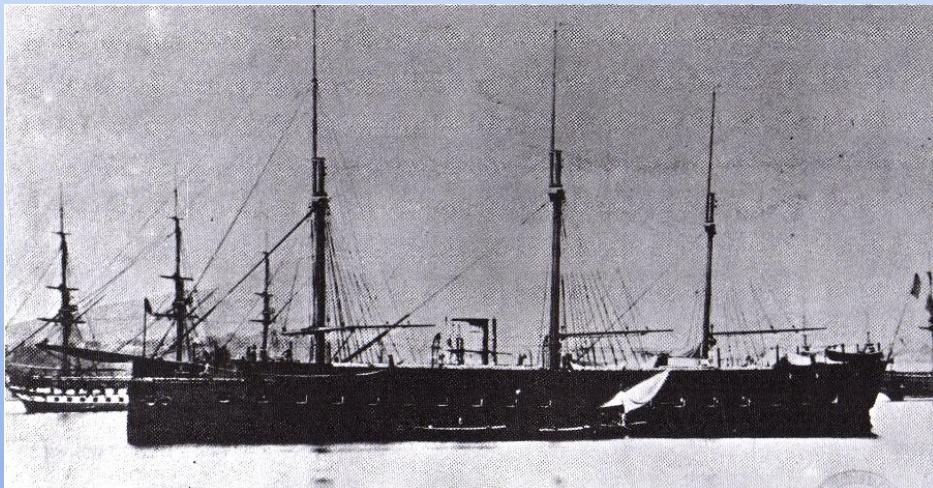


*Napoléon (1850)*

# *USS Constellation* (1854), Baltimore



# Ironclads



*Glorie* (1859)

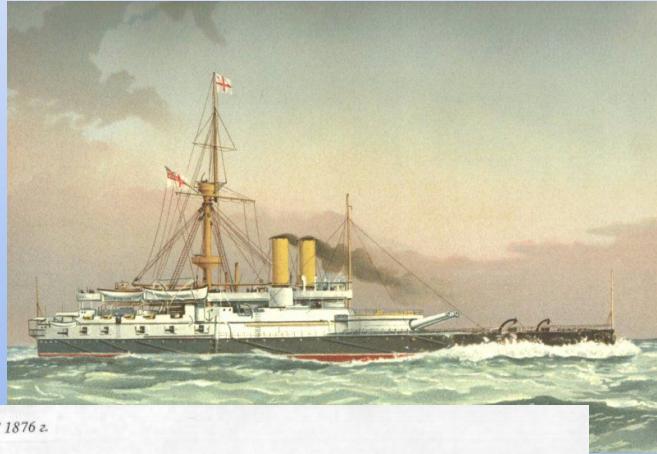
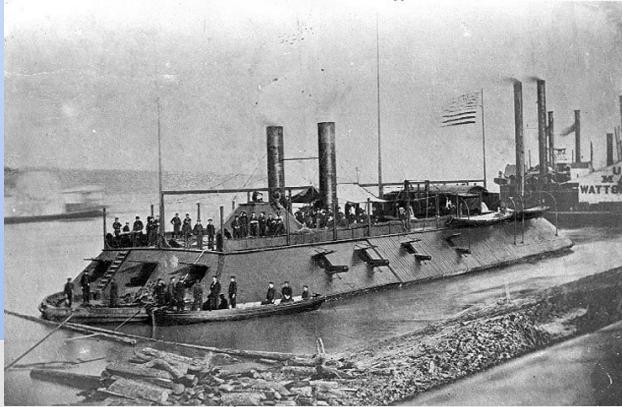


*HMS Warrior* (1860)

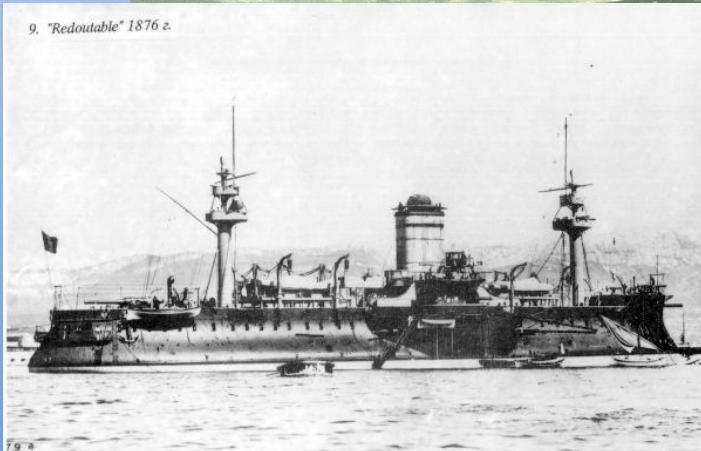
# Battle of Hampton Roads (1862)



# Turrets + Steam + Iron = ???



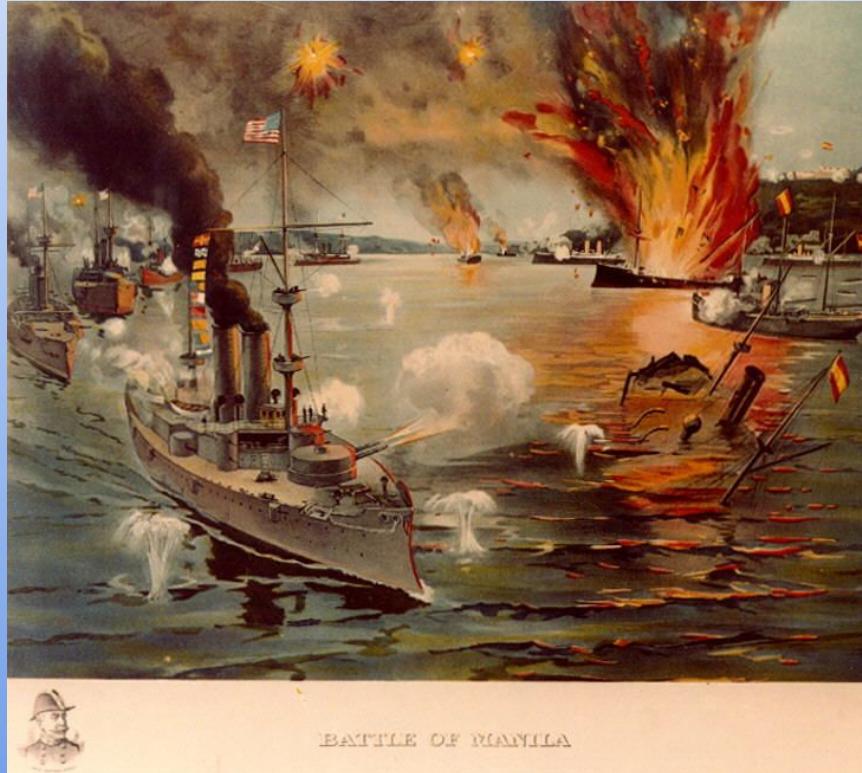
9. "Redoutable" 1876 z.



# USS *Olympia* (1892), Philadelphia



# Battle of Manila Bay (1898)



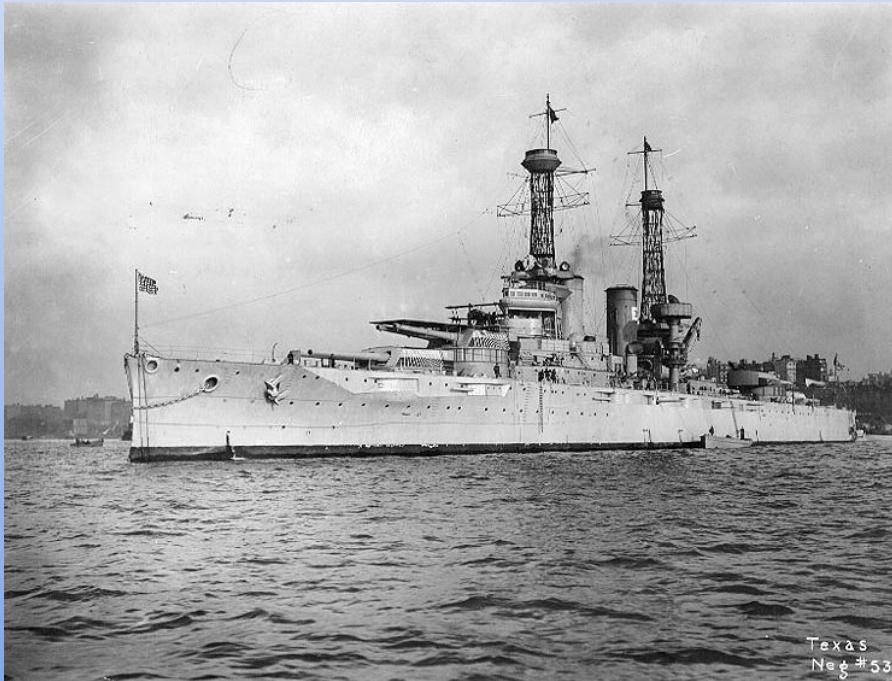
# *Wright Flyer* (1903)



# HMS *Dreadnought* (1906)



# Battleships and Battlecruisers



*USS Texas (1912)*



*HMS Queen Mary (1913-1916, abruptly.)*

# USS *Texas* (1912), Houston



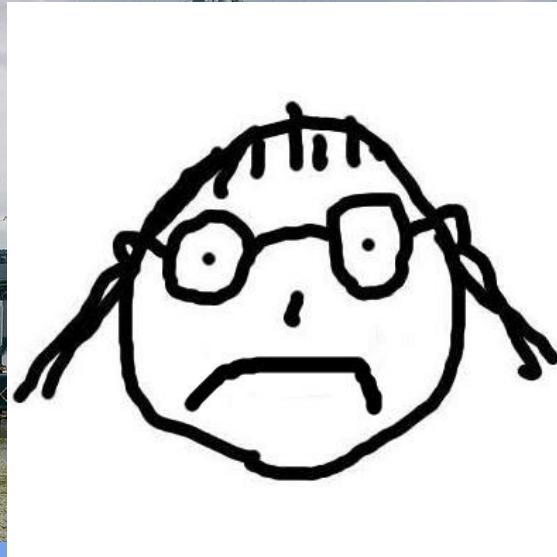
# USS Texas (1912), Houston

Aug. 31, 2019 - The Battleship Texas is closed for a lengthy repair project. No reopening date has been set. Check [here](#) for updates.

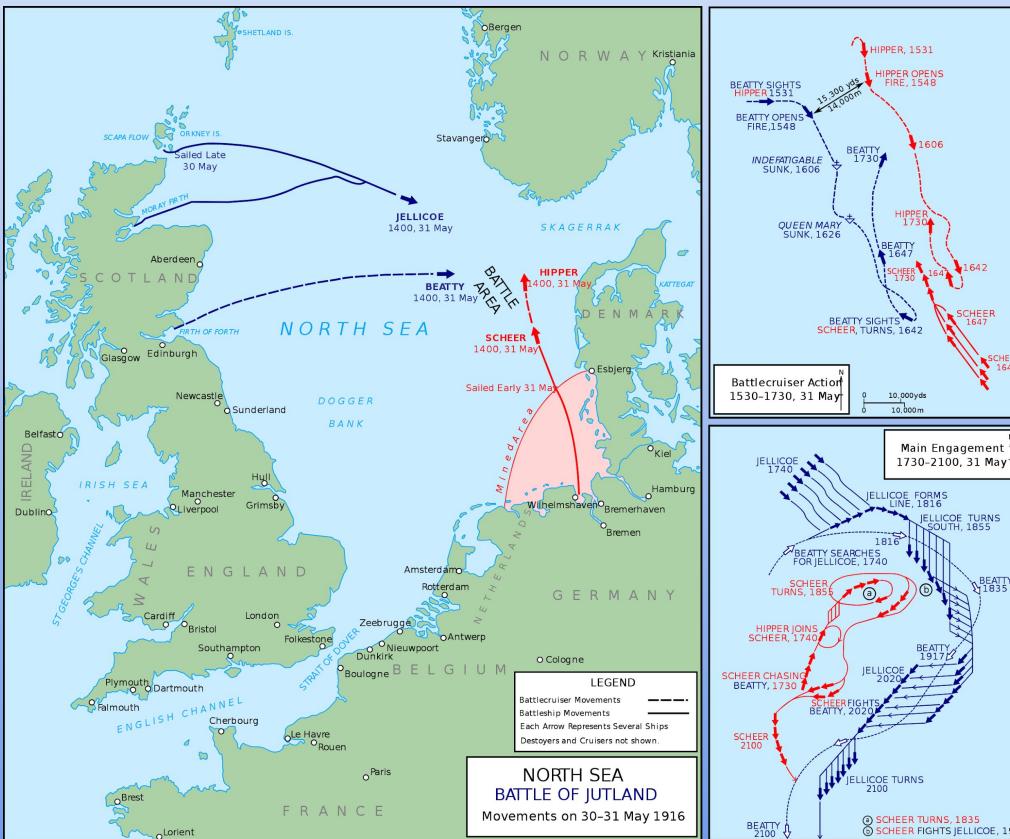


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# Battle of Jutland (1916)



# Second World War - the end of the battleship?



Battle of Taranto (1940)



Attack on Pearl Harbour (1941)

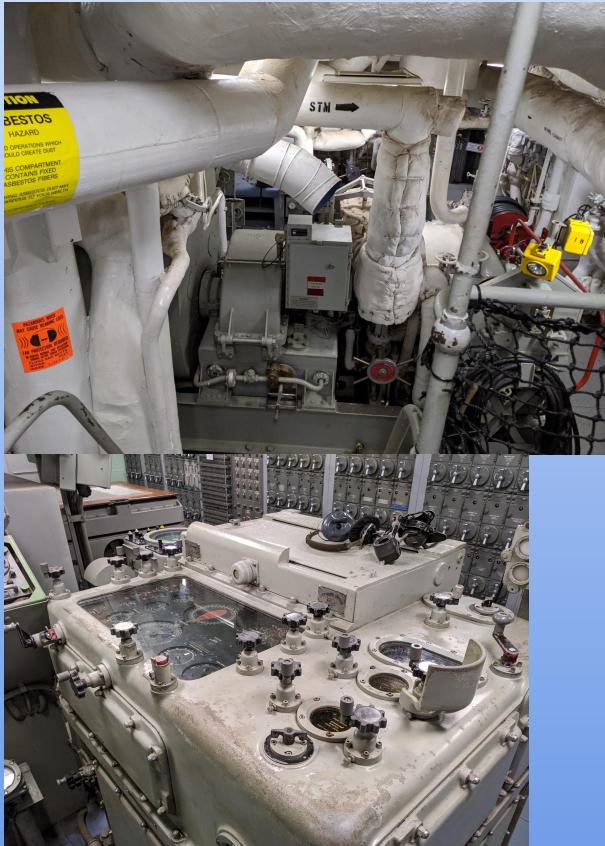


Sinking of *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse* (1941)

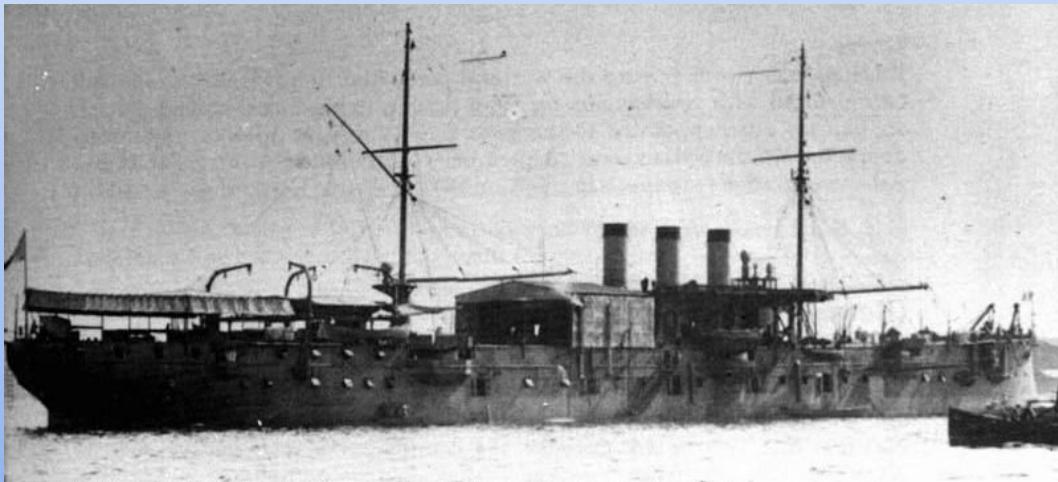
# USS *Iowa* (1942), Los Angeles USS *Missouri* (1944), Honolulu



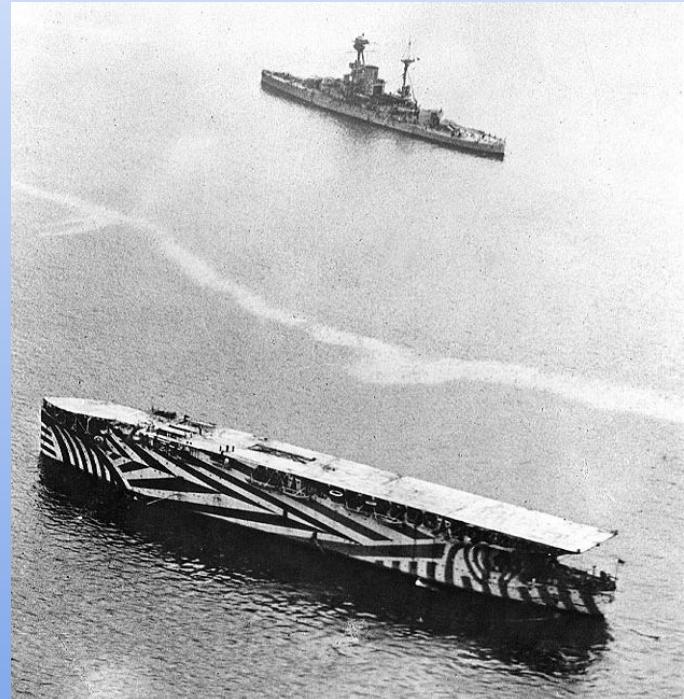
# Inside Missouri



# Aircraft Carriers



*Foudre* (1912)



*HMS Argus* (1917)

# USS *Midway* (1945), San Diego



# Conclusions

- Historic ships are fun, and there are a lot of them to look around.
- I skipped submarines.
- Nobody knows what the next effective warships are like.
- Maybe let's not find out?