

Bismarck

USNS City of Bismarck EPF 9



BLAZON

SHIELD: Or, a fess wavy per fess wavy Sable and Celeste, surmounted by a barrelet Gris, in base a mullet Vert; on a chief wavy of the last issuant from a barrelet wavy a demi-wheel all Or.

CREST: On a wreath Or and Sable, a sinister winged gauntlet Argent (Silver Gray) grasping a lightning flash bendwise of the first between by nine mullets, four and five, Celeste.

MOTTO: On a scroll Vert, doubled Or, and between two mullets of the last the inscription: "POSSUMUS EFFICIEMUS" of the second.

SUPPORTERS: Behind the shield, a United States Army Officer's sword and a Marine Corps Officer's Mameluke sword in saltire, points downward Proper.

SYMBOLISM

SHIELD: The shield shape is taken from the North Dakota coat of arms and alludes to the rich Native American heritage of the capital city, Bismarck. Arrowheads also signify military preparedness for any naval wartime operation. The colors green and gold are indicative of the great agricultural State of North Dakota and have particular reference to ripening grain and the abundant grazing areas. A single star denotes Bismarck as the capital city. The three wavy barrulets represent the stack colors of the Military Sealift Command. The demi-wheel represents the steamboat, FAR WEST, which traveled downriver to Bismarck in its historic 710-mile run in a record time of 54 hours with surviving cavalymen and news of Custer's defeat at the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876.

CREST: The winged gauntlet represents the crew's determination and the high speed potential of the *USNS City of Bismarck*. The lightning flash depicts communications capabilities and advanced technologies. The nine stars are colored Military Sealift Command blue and signify *USNS City of Bismarck* as the ninth vessel in the Spearhead class.

SUPPORTERS: The saber and Mameluke sword symbolize cooperation and teamwork and the T-EPF's capability to transport both U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps personnel and their military vehicles.

MOTTO: The motto, "POSSUMUS EFFICIEMUS," translates to "WE ARE ABLE, WE SHALL MAKE IT HAPPEN."

SEAL: The coat of arms as blazoned in full color on an oval field within a dark blue designation band, edged with a gold rope and bearing the name "*USNS CITY OF BISMARCK*" at the top and "T-EPF 9" at the base.



USNS CITY OF BISMARCK EPF 9

Christening Program

ORDER OF EVENTS

NATIONAL ANTHEM
NAVY BAND SOUTHEAST

WELCOME
MR. CRAIG PERCIAVALLE
President, Austal USA

REMARKS
MR. WILLIAM PATTERSON
Vice President, Surface Ship Systems
General Dynamics Mission Systems

REAR ADMIRAL DEE L. MEWBORNE, USN
Commander, Military Sealift Command

MR. THOMAS P. DEE
Performing the Duties of
The Under Secretary of the Navy

THE HONORABLE MIKE SEMINARY
Mayor of Bismarck, North Dakota

VICE ADMIRAL TERRY J. BENEDICT, USN
Director, Strategic Systems Programs

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS
GENERAL DARREN W. McDEW, USAF
Commander, U.S. Transportation Command

SPONSOR'S ADDRESS
THE HONORABLE JANE HARMAN

INVOCATION
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER AARON MILLER, CHC, USN
Chaplain, Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport

CHRISTENING
THE HONORABLE JANE HARMAN



Christening of USNS CITY OF BISMARCK EPF 9

MAY 13, 2017
MOBILE, ALABAMA





Christening

CITY OF BISMARCK

[EPF 9]

May 13, 2017









Ceremonial Mast Stepping – Commissioner Nancy Guy



When a mast is about to be stepped – the process of raising a boat’s mast and setting it into a notch or step in the keel – all those on board the ship have the opportunity to contribute good luck coins or other memorabilia to be placed under it.

Mast Box filled with mementos





City of Bismarck Ship Stern



Ceremonial Cake Cutting

Captain James M. Regan and The Honorable Jane Harman, Sponsor



The Honorable Donald Winter – 74th Secretary of the Navy and
The Honorable Robert O. Wefald – Chairman USNS *City of Bismarck* Committee



USNS City of Bismarck EPF 9

The EPF is a shallow draft, all aluminum, commercial-based catamaran capable of intra-theater personnel and cargo lift providing combatant commanders high-speed sealift mobility with inherent cargo handling capability and agility to achieve positional advantage over operational distances.

EPF is designed to transport 600 short tons of military cargo 1,200 nautical miles at an average speed of 35 knots. The ship is capable of operating in shallow-draft ports and waterways, interfacing with roll-on/roll-off discharge facilities, and on/off-loading a combat-loaded Abrams Main Battle Tank (M1A2).

The EPF will include a flight deck for helicopter operations and an off-load ramp that will allow vehicles to quickly drive off the ship. EPF's shallow draft (under 15 feet) will further enhance littoral operations and port access. This makes the EPF an extremely flexible asset for support of a wide range of operations including maneuver and sustainment, relief operations in small or damaged ports, flexible logistics support, or as the key enabler for rapid transport.

(Source: U.S. Department of Defense Release No: NR-174-17, May 11, 2017)