GENERAL DYNAMICS

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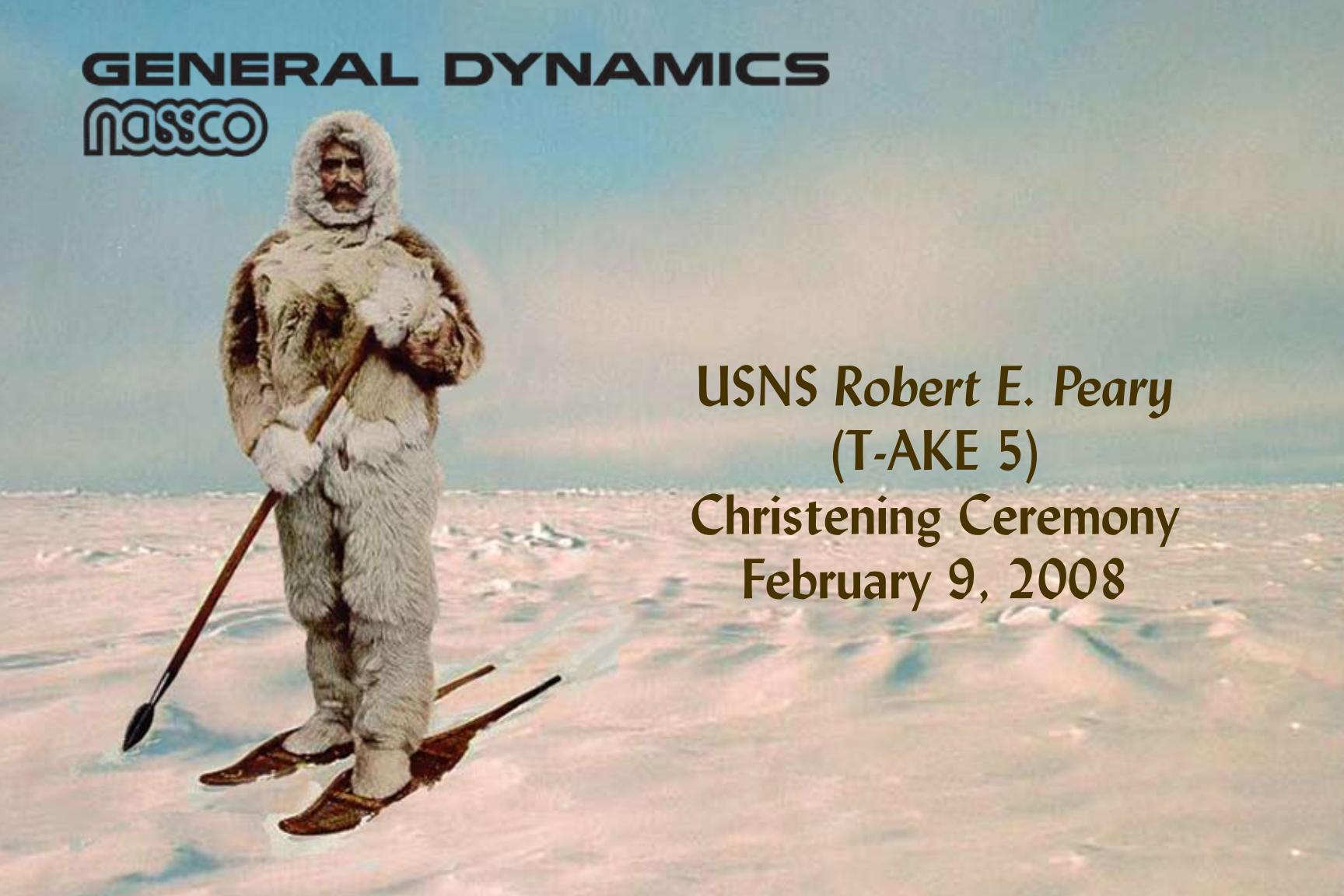

# USNS *Robert E. Peary*
# (T-AKE 5)
# Christening Ceremony
# February 9, 2008

## USNS *Robert E. Peary* (T-AKE 5)

**Designed and built by General Dynamics NASSCO**

**Mission: To deliver ammunition, provisions, stores, spare parts, potable water and petroleum products to strike groups and other naval forces, by serving as a shuttle ship or station ship.**

**Design Particulars:**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Length: | 210 | Meters (689 ft.) | Max dry cargo weight: | 6,700 | Metric tons |
| Beam: | 32.2 | Meters (105.6 ft.) | Cargo potable water: | 52,800 | Gallons |
| Draft: | 9.1 | Meters (29.8 ft.) | Cargo fuel: | 23,450 | Barrels |
| Displacement: | 40,950 | Metric tons | Propulsion: | Single screw, diesel-electric | |
| Speed: | 20 | Knots | | | |

# USNS *Robert E. Peary* (T-AKE 5)
# Christening Ceremony Program

***Music***
Grand Pacific Band

***Presentation of Colors***
Junipero Serra High School NJROTC Color Guard

***Soloist***
Ms. Tiffany Tanguay, daughter of Cynthia and Ron Tanguay, General Dynamics NASSCO

***Invocation***
Captain Doug Waite, CHC, USN, Force Chaplain, Naval Surface Force, Pacific

***Remarks***
Frederick J. Harris, President, General Dynamics NASSCO
Rear Admiral Charles H. Goddard, USN, Program Executive Officer for Ships
Rear Admiral Robert D. Reilly, Jr., USN, Commander, Military Sealift Command

***Principal Speaker***
Vice Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, USN, Commander, U.S. Third Fleet

***Sponsor's Party***
The Honorable Peary S. Fowler, Sponsor
Ms. Josephine P. Stafford, Maid of Honor
Ms. Sinclair P. Stafford, Maid of Honor

***Flower Girl***
Miss Caitlyn Wood, granddaughter of David Hetherington, General Dynamics NASSCO

***Master of Ceremonies***
Karl D. Johnson, Director of Communications, General Dynamics NASSCO

## *Robert Edwin Peary*

Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary was born in Cresson, Pennsylvania, on May 6, 1856. He graduated second in his class from Bowdoin College in June 1877, with a civil engineering degree. His first job was serving as the town surveyor in Fryeburg, Maine.

In the spring of 1879, Rear Admiral Peary was selected to work for the Coast and Geodetic Survey in Washington, D.C. He was later accepted into the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps and commissioned as a lieutenant in October 1881. Three years later, he was assigned to the Inter-Oceanic Ship Canal Project and explored the interior of Nicaragua. Although a canal was never built across Nicaragua, Peary's assignment there increased his determination to achieve his dream of Arctic exploration. While involved in the canal project, he met and hired seaman-traveler Matthew Henson as an assistant. Henson would prove to be indispensable in Peary's Arctic expeditions.

From 1886 to 1902, Rear Admiral Peary made six trips to then-largely unexplored Greenland. These expeditions into the Arctic region helped the admiral to establish the northern limit of Greenland. More important, he determined that the more viable route to the North Pole was via Ellesmere Island rather than Greenland.

With the steam-powered vessel *Roosevelt* built to his specifications, Rear Admiral Peary was able to sail farther than ever before into Arctic waters in the fall of 1905. His team then pushed northward on sledges over the icebound Arctic Ocean. On April 21, 1906, at latitude 87 degrees, six minutes, Peary set a new "farthest north" record. Although he was just 175 miles from the Pole, the admiral's team was forced to turn back because of a dangerous shortage of supplies.

In the fall of 1908, Rear Admiral Peary returned to the Arctic for his eighth and final expedition. On February 28, after spending the winter on the northern coast of Ellesmere Island, Peary, Henson, fellow Bowdoin alumnus Donald MacMillan and 21 others began leaving Cape Columbia for the North Pole in six sledge teams. Spaced miles apart, five of the teams served to create a trail over the icebound Arctic Ocean and stockpile supplies for the return journey. In turn, one of the trailblazing teams would return to Cape Columbia every five days. This "Peary system" of Arctic exploration would allow the final team of Peary, Henson and four Inuit men to minimize physical exertion until the final five-day leg to their destination. On April 6, 1909, Peary realized his goal – standing at the North Pole.

On March 3, 1911, Congress officially recognized Peary's achievement in Arctic exploration and approved his promotion to rear admiral in advance of his retirement later that year. After leaving the Navy, the admiral learned to fly and advocated its wider use by the military.

Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary died on February 20, 1920, in Washington, D.C., and is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

USNS *Robert E. Peary* is the fifth ship to be named in honor of the admiral. The four previous ships in naval service that bore his name are the Clemson-class destroyer USS *Peary* (DD-226), which served from 1920 to 1942; the Liberty ship SS *Robert E. Peary*, from 1942 to 1946; the Edsall-class destroyer escort USS *Robert E. Peary* (DE 132), from 1943 to 1947; and the Knox-class frigate USS *Robert E. Peary* (FF 1073), from 1972 to 1992. The Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum, established at Bowdoin College in June 1967, is named after Peary and his co-explorer MacMillan.

Biographical information about Rear Admiral Peary is primarily drawn from the Peary-MacMillian Arctic Museum website and *Peary: The Explorer and the Man* by John Edward Weems, 1967. The images used in the program are from the following sources: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/Department of Commerce, Gutenberg EBook edition of *The North Pole - Its Discovery in 1909 under the auspices of the Peary Arctic Club* by Robert E. Peary and the January 1910 cover of *Hampton's* magazine. Ship construction pictures by Ken Wright, General Dynamics NASSCO.

## The Honorable Peary S. Fowler

*Sponsor*

The Honorable Peary S. Fowler is a great-granddaughter of Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary. She was born in Pensacola, Florida, while her father, Edward P. Stafford, was training in Navy flight school. She now resides in Key West, Florida, with her husband, Richard, and son, Robert.

After a brief career as a flight attendant for Pan Am, Judge Fowler received her law degree from the University of Miami's School of Law in 1988. She also holds an associate's degree from the American College in Paris and a bachelor's degree from Stratford College in Danville, Virginia.

A former prosecutor and private practice attorney, she was elected to the 16th Judicial Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida (the Florida Keys), and has been presiding as a county judge since January 2005. She is a former local chapter president of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and a member of the Florida and Monroe County bar associations.

Judge Fowler and her husband, who is a former circuit court judge, are very active in the Key West community and serve on the boards of numerous social support programs.

## Ms. Josephine P. Stafford
*Maid of Honor*

Josephine P. Stafford was born in Atlanta, Georgia, and is a great-great granddaughter of Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary. Named for Rear Admiral Peary's wife, Josephine resides in Atlanta, where she has spent most of her life. She is a niece of Peary Fowler, sponsor of T-AKE 5.

While in high school, Josephine was a midfielder for the Tophat Gold 2000 Soccer Club, which garnered three consecutive state championships. She received her bachelor's degree in business administration at Kennesaw State University, with a concentration in marketing. She is currently employed as a senior sales representative for Corporate Classics, an Atlanta-area men's clothier.

## Ms. Sinclair P. Stafford
*Maid of Honor*

Sinclair P. Stafford was born in Washington, D.C., and raised in Bethesda, Maryland. She is the daughter of Harte Stafford and a great-great granddaughter of Rear Admiral Robert E. Peary.

Sinclair is a senior at the Maret School in Washington, D.C., and has won the Summa Cum Laude award on the National Latin Examination for the last two years. She has studied economics and Chinese literature in Beijing; performed community service in Mysore, India; and was an exchange student in Paris. She is a co-president of her high school's STAND chapter to end genocide in Darfur, Sudan. She hopes to pursue a career working on foreign policy issues.

## Vice Admiral Samuel J. Locklear III, USN
## Commander, U.S. Third Fleet
## *Principal Speaker*

Vice Admiral Samuel Locklear is a 1977 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, with a bachelor's degree in operations analysis.

Following commissioning, he served aboard USS *William V. Pratt* (DDG 44) as Main Propulsion Assistant and Missile Fire Control Officer. He was then selected for Navy Nuclear Propulsion program training and later served as Electrical Principal Assistant on USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70). His other shipboard tours include USS *Callaghan* (DDG 994) as Operations Officer and Engineering Officer; USS *Truxtun* (CGN 35) as Executive Officer; and USS *Leftwich* (DD 984) as Commanding Officer. He also served as Commander, Destroyer Squadron Two, deploying with the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* Carrier Battle Group.

Ashore, Vice Admiral Locklear served as the 78th Commandant of Midshipmen at the Naval Academy. He also served on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; as executive assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations; and in four leadership positions on the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) staff.

In October 2002, he assumed command of Cruiser-Destroyer Group Five and the *Nimitz* Strike Group, deploying to the Arabian Gulf in 2003, in direct support of Operation *Iraqi Freedom* and Operation *Enduring Freedom*. In May 2007, he became Commander, U.S. Third Fleet.

Vice Admiral Locklear is a 1992 graduate of the National Defense Industrial College of the Armed Forces, holds a master's degree in public administration from George Washington University, and attended the Senior Officials in National Security course at the Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

## Frederick J. Harris
*President, General Dynamics NASSCO*

Fred Harris became president of General Dynamics NASSCO and a vice president of General Dynamics Corporation on January 1, 2006.

Prior to that, Mr. Harris was the senior vice president of programs at General Dynamics Electric Boat and was responsible for the execution of all submarine design and construction programs. Mr. Harris began his shipbuilding career in 1973 as a senior engineer for Electric Boat's Trident ballistic missile submarine program. For his successful construction effort as program manager of the Virginia-class submarine design program, he received the Maine Maritime Academy Outstanding Alumni Award for the Year 2000 and, in 2002, received the annual William M. Kennedy Award from the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers. In 2003, he was included on the Maine Maritime Academy's Wall of Honor for his accomplishments in the Marine field.

Mr. Harris was born in Framingham, Massachusetts. A 1963 graduate of Hopkinton High School, he graduated from the Maine Maritime Academy in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in marine engineering. He sailed for several years as a U.S. Merchant Marine, notably aboard the U.S. registered SS *Transglobe*, the most decorated American merchant ship of the Vietnam War. He holds a Coast Guard Chief Engineer's License of Unlimited Horsepower. In 1972, he received a master's degree in business administration from Babson College, graduating with distinction.

## Rear Admiral Robert D. Reilly, Jr., USN
### *Commander, Military Sealift Command*

Rear Admiral Robert Reilly, Jr., a native of Winnetka, Illinois, comes from a family with more than a century of service in the U.S. armed forces. Commissioned in 1975 through the Navy's Reserve Officer Training Corps program, Rear Admiral Reilly first served aboard USS *Edson* (DD 946) as Combat Information Center Officer and Damage Control Assistant.

His other shipboard tours include commissioning USS *Fletcher* (DD 992), USS *Sterett* (CG 31) and USS *John Young* (DD 973). He also commanded USS *Halyburton* (FFG 40), Destroyer Squadron Fifty, Cruiser Destroyer Group Two and the USS *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) Carrier Strike Group.

Ashore, Rear Admiral Reilly's assignments include the Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet staff, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and the Bureau of Naval Personnel. In March 2006, Rear Admiral Reilly assumed command of Military Sealift Command.

Rear Admiral Reilly earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Washington, and a master's degree in public administration (National Resources) from George Washington University. He is also a 1993 graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Rear Admiral Charles H. Goddard, USN
*Program Executive Officer, Ships*

Rear Admiral Charles Goddard graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1978, with a bachelor's degree in naval architecture. He also holds a master's degree in naval architecture and an ocean engineer's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Rear Admiral Goddard achieved Surface Warfare Qualification aboard USS Robert E. Peary (FF-1073), where he served as Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer and Auxiliaries and Electrical Officer.

He became a Navy Engineering Duty Officer (EDO) in 1981. His EDO tours include Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Long Beach Naval Shipyard, David Taylor Research Center, Naval Sea Systems Command and Supervisor of Shipbuilding San Diego.

Rear Admiral Goddard later served as a CNO Fellow on the Strategic Studies Group; Executive Assistant to Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; DD(X) Program Manager; and Vice Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command. He assumed his present duties in February 2007.

Rear Admiral Goddard is a member of the Acquisition Professional Community and a graduate of the Program Manager's Course at the Defense Systems Management College. He is the author of several articles on the topics of ship design and construction.

# GENERAL DYNAMICS

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**USNS *Robert E. Peary* ( T-AKE 5 )**
**Dry Cargo / Ammunition Ship**