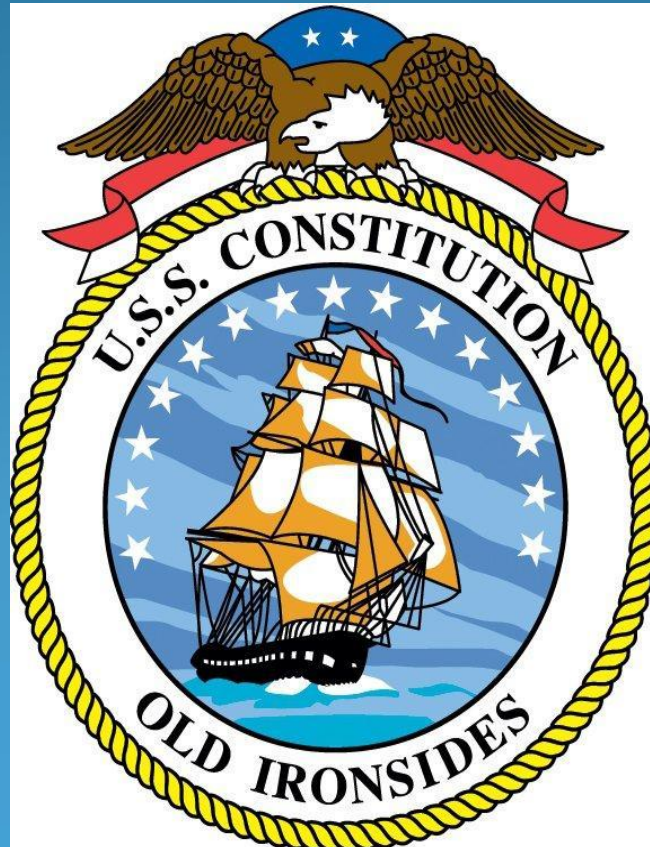


USS CONSTITUTION

”OLD IRONSIDES”



USS CONSTITUTION

- The 44-gun USS **CONSTITUTION** was built in Boston and launched on October 21 in 1797
- It was developed in response to the threat of Barbary pirates, which threatened American merchant shipping off northern coast of Africa.



1812-1815



- The British imposed embargoes and trade restrictions on American's merchant fleet and impressed more than 5,000 American sailors and forced them to serve aboard her ships.
- President James Madison declared war on England on June 18 in 1812.

USS CONSTITUTION

- During the War of 1812 she defeated four English warships, earning each of her three captains a congressional gold medal.
- The victories of Constitution had no direct effect on the course of the war.
- Constitution uplifted American morale and ended forever the myth that the Royal Navy was invincible.



Main Battles



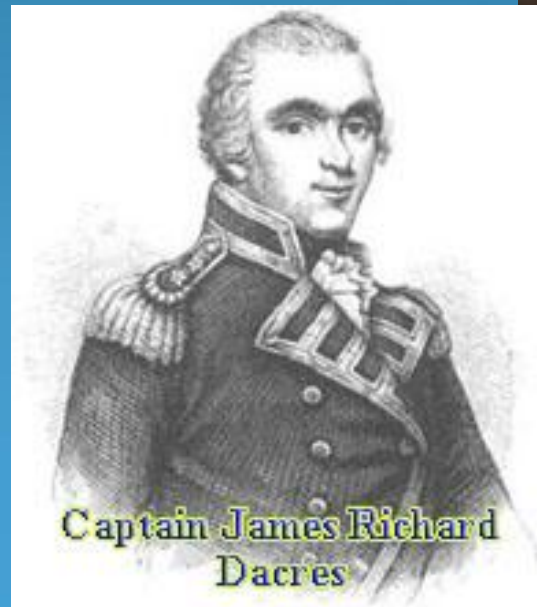
- The Great Chase (July 16-19, 1812)
- USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS GUERRIERE (August 19, 1812) (Her (His) Majesty's Ship)
- USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS JAVA (December 29, 1812)
- USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS CYANE and HMS LEVANT (February 20, 1812)

USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS GUERRIERE

- USS CONSTITUTION was outfitted with 55 guns when she encountered the 49-gun frigate HMS GUERRIERE off the coast of Nova Scotia at about 2 p.m.
- USS CONSTITUTION – Capt. Isaac Hull
- HMS GUERRIERE – Capt. James Dacres



Captain Isaac Hull



Captain James Richard
Dacres

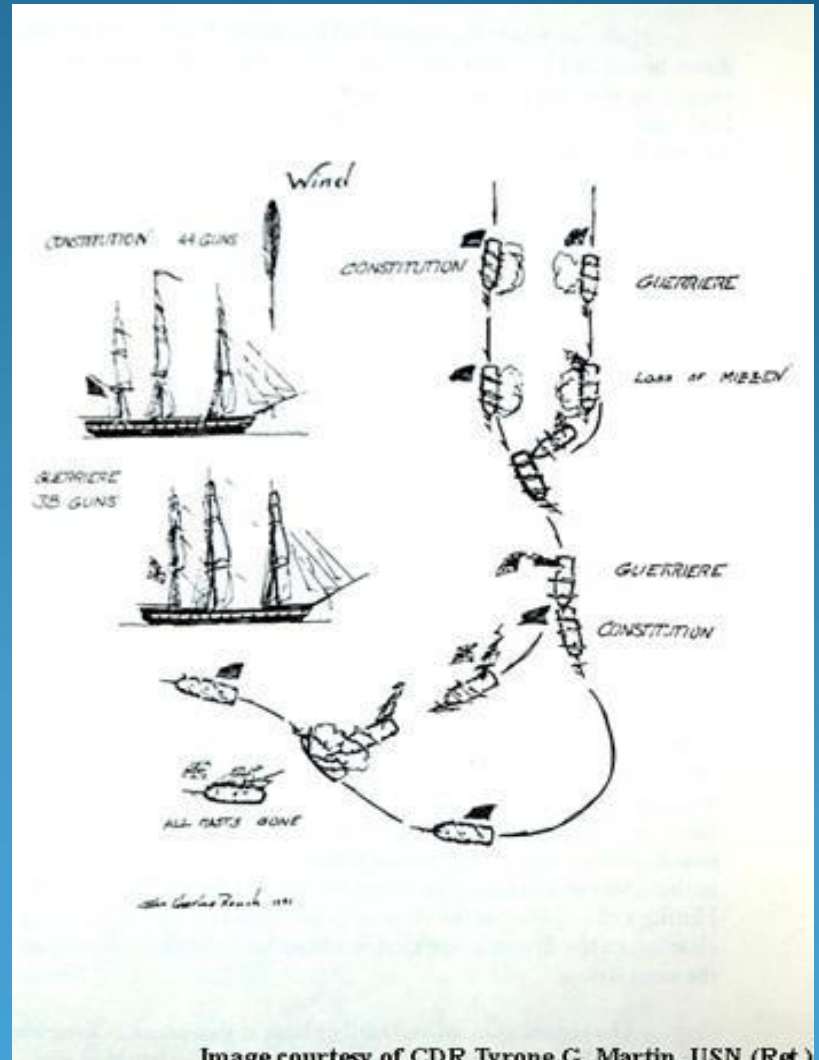
USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS GUERRIERE



- **USS CONSTITUTION'S commanding officer chose to hold fire until just after 6 p.m.**
- **In the course of 35-minute battle an astonished sailor observed British 18-pound iron cannonballs(пушечные ядра), bouncing harmlessly off USS CONSTITUTION'S 25-inch oak hull, and cried out "Huzza! Her sides are made of iron!"**

USS CONSTITUTION vs. HMS GUERRIERE

- USS CONSTITUTION'S 24-pound shots were devastating, bringing down the English warship's masts(мачты), and entangling the two ships when they collided.
- By 7 p.m., a wounded Dacres ordered a gun fired to leeward(подветренная сторона), signaling HMS GUERRIERE's surrender to the American frigate.



USS CONSTITUTION



- Last time USS CONSTITUTION was repaired in 1995.
- In 1997 on the occasion of celebration of it's bicentennial(200 years) anniversary she sailed into the sea. Before that she didn't sailed for 116 years.
- Nowadays you can find USS CONSTITUTION in the harbor of Boston (Massachusetts).

THE CONSTITUTION EXPERIENCE

- Every Tuesday morning during USS CONSTITUTION's Summer Hours, the crew of "Old Ironsides" will be offering the CONSTITUTION EXPERIENCE.
- Visitors are invited to observe the Morning Colors ceremony and then embark ship for a special extended tour before escorted to the USS CONSTITUTION Museum.



