

# USNS *Charles Drew* (T-AKE 10) Christening Ceremony Program

Music
Grand Pacific Band

**Presentation of Colors University of San Diego NROTC Color Guard** 

Soloist

Dr. Juliette Singler, Associate Music Professor, Point Loma Nazarene University

**Invocation** 

Captain Emilio Marrero, CHC, USN, Force Chaplain, Commander Naval Surface Forces Pacific

Remarks

Mr. Frederick J. Harris, President, General Dynamics NASSCO Rear Admiral Mark H. Buzby, USN, Commander, Military Sealift Command

**Principal Speaker** 

Vice Admiral Regina M. Benjamin, USPHS, M.D., Surgeon General of the United States

Sponsor's Party

Mrs. Bebe Drew Price, Sponsor Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, Ph.D., Matron of Honor Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie, J.D., Matron of Honor

Flower Girl

Miss Dynielle Duenas, daughter of Joey Duenas, General Supervisor II, General Dynamics NASSCO

**Master of Ceremonies** 

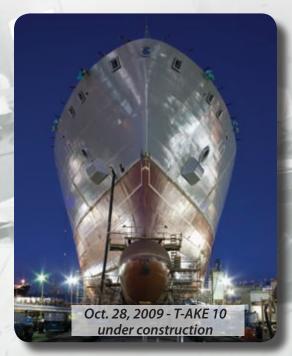
Mr. Karl D. Johnson, Director of Communications, General Dynamics NASSCO

### **USNS** *Charles Drew* (T-AKE 10)

**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:**

Speed:

Length: 210 Meters (689 ft.) 32.2 Meters (105.6 ft.) Beam: Draft: 9.1 Meters (29.8 ft.)

Displacement: 40,950 Metric tons 20 Knots

Max dry cargo weight: 6,700 Metric tons Cargo potable water: 52,800 Gallons Cargo fuel: 23.450 Barrels Propulsion: Single screw, diesel-electric

Dr. Charles Richard Drew

### **Charles Richard Drew**

Dr. Charles Richard Drew was born on June 3, 1904, in Washington, D.C. While Dr. Drew was in high school, one of his sisters died of pandemic influenza. Elsie's death in 1920 was a factor that influenced Dr. Drew to pursue medical studies.

Dr. Drew attended Amherst College in Massachusetts, graduating with honors in 1926. He then joined the faculty of Morgan State College in Maryland to earn money for medical training. In 1928, after being rejected by several U.S. medical schools because of his race, he was accepted into McGill University's medical school in Montreal, Canada. While at McGill, Dr. Drew first became interested in experiments with blood transfusions. He graduated in the top five percent of his class as a doctor of medicine and a surgeon in 1933. After completing two years of medical residency in Montreal, he took a teaching job at Howard University in Washington, D.C. He also practiced medicine at the university-run Freedman's Hospital,

which served the city's minority populace.

In 1938, Dr. Drew received a fellowship to attend Columbia University's medical school in New York, where he worked on a blood chemistry and transfusion research team. The team sought methods to preserve blood over long periods of time. Red cells, one of the four elements of blood, begin to break down after 24 hours and cause stored blood to be unsafe for use after one week. Dr. Drew achieved success using the plasma element of blood, since it does not contain red cells. He realized that it could be safely stored for months and given to anyone regardless of their blood type. When the university opened its first blood bank in 1939, Dr. Drew was named the director.

In April 1939, Dr. Drew met Minnie Lenore Robbins, a home economics teacher at Spellman College. They married six months later and eventually had four children: Bebe, Charlene, Sylvia and Charles, Jr.



The Drew Family



Charles Drew and other Howard University faculty

In 1940, Dr. Drew earned a doctorate in medicine from Columbia University, becoming the first African American to earn the academic credential. Later that year, he was chosen to oversee a prototype program in New York that collected, tested and distributed blood plasma to war-ravaged Britain. Under Dr. Drew's direction, the *Blood for Britain* project operated successfully for five months until the British could establish their own program using Dr. Drew's protocols. Almost 15,000 Americans donated blood, generating more than 5,500 vials of plasma, which saved countless lives overseas.

In 1941, Dr. Drew set up the first blood bank for the American Red Cross in New York City. The program became a model for blood banks nationwide, which became increasingly necessary after the United States entered World War II several months later. Also in 1941, Dr. Drew became one of the first African American surgeons to serve as an examiner on the American Board of Surgery, the group that certifies doctors to perform surgery.

As chief surgeon and surgical department head, Dr. Drew represented Freedman's Hospital and Howard University at numerous medical conferences during the 1940s. He regularly attended an annual conference for African American doctors at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. While traveling to the Tuskegee conference on April 1, 1950, Dr. Drew was involved in an automobile accident near Haw River, North Carolina, and died of the injuries he sustained in the crash.

Dr. Charles R. Drew left behind an extraordinary legacy. Along with his work in blood preservation and storage, Dr. Drew taught or mentored the majority of African American surgeons trained in the United States between 1941 and 1950. USNS *Charles Drew* (T-AKE 10) is the first U.S. Navy ship named in honor of the noted surgeon and hematologist.



Dr. Drew and medical staff

# Mrs. Bebe Drew Price Sponsor



Mrs. Bebe Drew Price is the eldest daughter of Dr. Charles R. Drew. She was born at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where her father was conducting blood storage research. She was known as "Little Blood Bank Drew" or "BB."

Mrs. Price earned a bachelor's degree in French language from Trinity College in Washington, D.C. After college, she became an officer's wife at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where her husband, Kline Price Jr., worked as an aerospace medical research engineer. While her husband attended medical school, Mrs. Price taught French in Washington, D.C., and Bethesda, Maryland.

Mrs. Price has since served on the committees of numerous social support groups, worked at the Community College of Baltimore and managed her husband's obstetrics and gynecology practice. From 2000 to 2005, she served as the first director of Howard University Hospital's "Literacy for Children" project, an early literacy development program for young children.

The Prices have four children and eight grandchildren, and currently live in Columbia, Maryland.

# Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, Ph.D. *Matron of Honor*

Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis is the second daughter of Dr. Charles R. Drew. She was born in Washington, D.C., where she lives today.

Dr. Jarvis is an educator, scientist and politician whose public service includes work on the District of Columbia City Council, chairing the Committee on Economic Development, and chairing the board of directors for the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Council on Governments.

Dr. Jarvis earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Oberlin College in 1962, a master's degree in psychology from Howard University in 1964, and a doctorate degree in neuropsychology from the University of Maryland in 1971. She spent nearly 10 years in basic research on the brain at the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, Maryland. She later served as the president of Southeastern University in Washington, D.C., until March 2009.

Dr. Jarvis has two sons, Ernest and the late Peter Jarvis.

### Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie, J.D. Matron Of Honor

Ms. Sylvia Drew Ivie is the youngest daughter of Dr. Charles R. Drew. She was born in Washington, D.C., and is now a resident of Los Angeles, California.

A healthcare consultant and attorney, Ms. Ivie worked for The California Endowment (TCE) foundation, where she helped to identify problems involving the King-Drew Medical Center and disparities in health in south Los Angeles.

Ms. Ivie also served as the executive director of T.H.E. (To Help Everyone) Clinic, Inc., executive director of the National Health Law Program and director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Civil Rights. In 1994, she received the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation's Nelson Mandela award for health and human rights.

Ms. Ivie has two children, Leslie and Drew.







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

Mr. Frederick J. 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, where he was responsible for the execution of all submarine design, construction and repair programs.

Mr. Harris began his shipbuilding career in 1973 as a senior engineer for Electric Boat's Trident ballistic missile submarine program. For his accomplishments later as program manager of the Virginia-class submarine design phase, Mr. Harris 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 Mark H. Buzby, USN Commander, Military Sealift Command

Rear Admiral Mark Buzby is a 1979 graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, where he received a bachelor's degree in nautical science and a U.S. Coast Guard Third Mate's license. He was commissioned as a naval officer in June 1979, is a graduate of the Joint Forces Staff College and holds master's degrees from the U.S. Naval War College and Salve Regina University in strategic studies and international relations.

As a surface warfare officer, Rear Admiral Buzby has deployed aboard USS Connole (FF 1056), USS Aries (PHM 5), USS Yorktown (CG 48) and USS Shiloh (CG 67). He served on the staff of U.S. Sixth Fleet. His at-sea commands include USS Carney (DDG 64), during the ship's first Mediterranean/Persian Gulf deployment, and Destroyer Squadron 31, which made two deployments in support of operations Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom. Ashore, he served on the Navy staff and on the staff of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He also commanded the Navy's Surface Warfare Officers School.

As a flag officer, Rear Admiral Buzby again served on the Navy staff, first as the deputy for Surface Ships, then as the deputy for Surface Warfare, and later as the deputy for Expeditionary Warfare. He also commanded Joint Task Force Guantanamo, and most recently was the deputy chief of staff for Global Force Management and Joint Operations for U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

Rear Admiral Buzby assumed command of Military Sealift Command in October 2009.





## Vice Admiral Regina M. Benjamin, USPHS, M.D. Surgeon General of the United States Principal Speaker

Vice Admiral Regina Benjamin, M.D., is the 18th Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service. As "America's Doctor," she provides the public with the best scientific information available on how to improve their health. She also oversees the operational command of 6,500 uniformed health officers who serve around the world to promote, protect and advance the health of the American people.

Prior to becoming the surgeon general, Vice Admiral Benjamin was the founder and chief executive officer of the Bayou La Batre Rural Health Clinic in Alabama; former associate dean for rural health at the University of South Alabama's College of Medicine; and immediate past chair of the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States. Earlier in her career, she was a trustee of the American Medical Association and served in several of its leadership posts. She also served as president of the Medical Association of the State of Alabama, was a member of the National Academy of Science's Institute of Medicine and a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. She is the 1998 U.S. recipient of the Nelson Mandela award for health and human rights.

Vice Admiral Benjamin has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Xavier University; a medical degree from the University of Alabama (Birmingham); and a master's degree in business administration from Tulane University. She attended Morehouse School of Medicine and completed her family medicine residency in Macon, Georgia.

# **T-AKE 10 During Construction**

### Sept. 11, 2009 - T-AKE 10 under construction

June 12, 2009 - T-AKE 10 Grand Block # 519

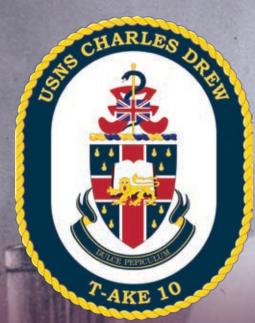
## **Acknowledgements:**

Start of Construction Honoree: Mrs. Deb Serpa Keel Honoree: Mrs. Peggy Harris 1st Shore Honoree: Mrs. Corina DuBois Trigger Honoree: Mrs. Janet Lambert



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