

Great Ships of The U. S. Navy

U.S.S. Damato

USS Damato (DD-871) was a Gearing-class destroyer. She was named for Corporal Anthony P. Damato USMC (1922–1944) who was killed in action during the battle of Eniwetok in the Marshall Islands and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. *Damato* was laid down by the Bethlehem Steel Corporation at Staten Island in New York on 10 May 1945, launched on 21 November 1945, and commissioned on 27 April 1946.

From her home port at Newport, Rhode Island, and after December 1947, from Norfolk, Virginia, *Damato* cruised the Atlantic Ocean from Cuba to Newfoundland in training and exercises. In the summer of 1949, she carried midshipmen on a training cruise to France and England, and that fall joined in experimental cold-weather operations in Arctic waters.

From September to November 1950, *Damato* had her first tour of duty with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea, and during the next year joined in hunter-killer operations in the South Atlantic. She was reclassified DDE-871 on 4 March 1951. She returned to the Mediterranean in the fall of 1951, the summers of 1952, 1953, and 1954. In both 1952 and 1953, she joined in autumn NATO exercises in the North Atlantic and during the summer of 1955 joined a Midshipman Training Cruise to Norway and Sweden.

Between October and December 1956, she served with the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean, and on 12 June 1957 was in Hampton Roads for the International Naval Review. That summer, she cruised to Brazil with midshipmen on board for training, then sailed for the Mediterranean in March 1958. She patrolled off the Levant, then passed through the Suez Canal to join the Middle East Force in the Persian Gulf, returning to Norfolk for local operations in September. During 1959, she served with Task Force "Alfa," concentrating on the development of improved antisubmarine warfare techniques. She visited Quebec, Canada, in July, called at Montréal, at Rochester, New York, and arrived at Toronto for the Canadian National Exposition, joining in the review of NATO naval forces. Returning home, *Damato* resumed east coast and Caribbean operations through 1962.

She was decommissioned on 30 September 1980 and stricken from the Naval Vessel Register. *Damato* was transferred to Pakistan as Tippu Sultan, on 1 October 1980 and scrapped in 1994. [[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Damato_\(DD-871\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Damato_(DD-871))]

