

Scraper

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Taffy 3 Total Displacement to Yamato's Displacement

A Couple of Definitions

For this document, I will be looking at "Standard Displacement," which is defined below.

Standard Displacement Standard displacement, also known as "Washington displacement", is a specific term defined by the Washington Naval Treaty of 1922.[11] It is the displacement of the ship complete, fully manned, engaged, and equipped ready for sea, including all armament and ammunition, equipment, outfit, provisions and fresh water for crew, miscellaneous stores, and implements of every description that are intended to be carried in war, but without fuel or reserve boiler feed water on board.

Full Load Displacement Full load displacement is defined as the displacement of a vessel when floating at its greatest allowable draft as established by a classification society (and designated by its "waterline").[9] Warships have arbitrary full load condition established.

Results

I was watching a Youtube video on the Battle off Samar by the great documentarion Drachinifel. In the video, Darchinifel mentions that Yamato outdisplaced all of its opponents together in Taffy 3. Yamato was a massive ship of 70,527 long tons. In this post, I will scrape the Wikipedia for the displacements of the ships in Taffy 3 to confirm this comment. The combined "standard" ship displacement of Taffy 3 was 60,678 long tons, so Drachinifel was correct.



Table 1: Taffy 3 Ship Classes and Displacements.

Name	Link
Heermann (DD-532)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Heermann_(DD-532)
Hoel (DD-533)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Hoel_(DD-533)
Johnston (DD-557)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Johnston_(DD-557)
Dennis (DE-405)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Dennis_(DE-405)
John C. Butler (DE-339)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_John_C._Butler_(DE-339)
Raymond (DE-341)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Raymond_(DE-341)
Samuel B. Roberts (DE-413)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Samuel_B._Roberts_(DE-413)
Fanshaw Bay (CVE-70)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Fanshaw_Bay_(CVE-70)
Gambier Bay (CVE-73)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Gambier_Bay_(CVE-73)
Kalinin Bay (CVE-68)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Kalinin_Bay_(CVE-68)
Kitkun Bay (CVE-71)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Kitkun_Bay_(CVE-71)
St. Lo (CVE-63)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_St._Lo_(CVE-63)
White Plains (CVE-66)	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_White_Plains_(CVE-66)

Taffy 3 at Surigao Straits

I have grabbed the list of the thirteen Taffy 3 warships from the Naval History and Heritage Command website, which gave the names but no displacement or class information. I decided to scrape that information from the Wikipedia. The thirteen ships are:

1. Heermann (DD-532)
2. Hoel (DD-533)
3. Johnston (DD-557)
4. Dennis (DE-405)
5. John C. Butler (DE-339)
6. Raymond (DE-341)
7. Samuel B. Roberts (DE-413)
8. Fanshaw Bay (CVE-70)
9. Gambier Bay (CVE-73)
10. Kalinin Bay (CVE-68)
11. Kitkun Bay (CVE-71)
12. St. Lo (CVE-63)
13. White Plains (CVE-66)

To scrape the Wikipedia for the displacement and classes of these ships, I need to get their hyperlinks. Fortunately, the Wikipedia hyperlinks for each ship is simple to construct. I show both the ship name and its hyperlink in Table 1.

Table 2: Taffy 3 Ship Classes and Displacements.

Name	Hull	Class	Displacement
John C. Butler	DE-339	John C. Butler-class destroyer escort	1350
Raymond	DE-341	John C. Butler-class destroyer escort	1350
Dennis	DE-405	John C. Butler-class destroyer escort	1350
Samuel B. Roberts	DE-413	John C. Butler-class destroyer escort	1350
Hoel	DD-533	Fletcher-class destroyer	2050
Heermann	DD-532	Fletcher-class destroyer	2050
Johnston	DD-557	Fletcher-class destroyer	2050
Kalinin Bay	CVE-68	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
Gambier Bay	CVE-73	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
St. Lo	CVE-63	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
Fanshaw Bay	CVE-70	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
Kitkun Bay	CVE-71	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
White Plains	CVE-66	Casablanca-class escort carrier	8188
Grand Total			60678

Extract the Class and Displacement Information

The following section extracts the the class and displacement information from the Wikipedia. I need to state that the Wikipedia information on the ship displacements is inconsistent:

- some entries state long tons, some just tons.
- ships of the same class have different displacements because the states of the ships are different, e.g. standard load versus full load.
- some entries erroneously state short tons when it should be long tons.

For the purpose of this exercise, the exact values are not important. I am just trying to illustrate how to scrape a website.

Presentation of Results

Table 2 shows the result of my web scraping exercise. As Drachinifil said, Yamato alone outdisplaced all of Taffy 3.