



# Trippe

(CG-20)

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Builder: Bath Iron Works, Bath, ME

Commissioned (USN): 23 Mar 1911

Acquired (CG): 7 Jun 1924

Commissioned (CG): 24 Jun 1924

Decommissioned: 15 Apr 1931

Displacement: 742 tons

Dimensions: 293'10" overall x 27' x 9'5"

Machinery: Direct-drive turbines, 3 screws, 12,000 hp, 29.5 knots.

Complement: 6 officers, 82 men

Armament: 3 3"/50, 1 1-pdr.

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## Design & Service

A total of thirty-one Navy destroyers were lent to the Coast Guard for enforcing Prohibition. Adapting these vessels to service was thought to be less costly than building new ships. In the end the rehabilitation of the vessels became a saga in itself because of the exceedingly poor condition of many of these war-weary ships. In many instances it took nearly a year to bring the vessels up to seaworthiness. Additionally, these were by far the largest and most sophisticated

vessels ever operated by the service and trained personnel were nearly nonexistent. As a result, Congress authorized hundreds of new enlistees. It was these inexperienced men that generally made up the destroyer crews.

USCGD *Trippe* was one of the pre-World War I 742-ton "flivvers". All were capable of over 25 knots, an advantage in the rum-chasing business. They were, however, easily outmaneuvered by smaller vessels. The destroyers' mission, therefore, was to picket the larger supply ships ("mother ships") and prevent them from off-loading their cargo onto the smaller, speedier contact boats that ran the liquor into shore. *Trippe* was among the first group of destroyers loaned to the Coast Guard. The vessel was stationed at New London until transferred in 1929.

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### **Operational Highlights**

7 Jun 1924 Transferred from US Navy to Coast Guard at Philadelphia Navy Yard.

24 Jun 1924 Commissioned at the Delaware Breakwater.

26 Jun 1924 Reported for duty in New London.

31 Mar 1928 Ordered to New London.

5 Jan 1929 Placed in reduced commission at Academy Wharf, New London.

25 Oct 1929 Transferred to Division II, Destroyer Force, Stapleton, NY.

31 Oct 1929 Arrived in New York.

18 Dec 1930 Ordered to Philadelphia Navy Yard.

15 Jan 1931 Detached from Destroyer Force.

15 Apr 1931 Decommissioned at Philadelphia Navy Yard.

