



USCGD Beale

(CG-9)



Builder: William Cramp and Sons, Philadelphia, PA
Commissioned (USN): 30 Aug 1912
Acquired (CG): 28 Apr 1924
Commissioned (CG): 26 Oct 1924
Decommissioned: 1 Jun 1930
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.

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 *Beale* 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, however, were 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

