



USS *Ogden*, PF-39

A city in Utah, seat of Weber County, named for Peter Skene Ogden, Canadian explorer and fur trader.

Builder: Consolidated Steel Corp., Los Angeles, Calif.

Length: 303' 11"

Beam: 37' 6"

Draft: 12' 8" fl

Displacement: 2,230 tons

Propulsion: 2-shaft VTE, 3 boilers

Range: 9,500 nm at 12 knots

Top speed: 20 knots

Complement: 190

Armament: 3 x 3"/50; 4 x 40mm (2x2); 9 x 20mm; 1 x Hedgehog, 8 x depth charge projectors; 2 x depth charge racks. For those frigates fitted out for weather patrol duty, the after 3-inch gun was removed and a weather balloon hanger was added aft.

History:

The first *Ogden* (PF-39) was laid down by Consolidated Steel Corp., Los Angeles, CA, on 21 May 1943 and was launched 23 June 1943. She was sponsored by Miss Margaret S. Shelton. *Ogden* was commissioned at San Diego 20 December 1943 and LT K. C. Tharp, USCG, was placed in command.

After shakedown out of San Diego, *Ogden* sailed 9 March 1944 escorting a convoy via Samoa to Milne Bay, New Guinea, which she reached 2 April 1944. Through July she took part in the operations leap-frogging westward in New

Guinea, escorting landing ships and merchant vessels, conducting antisubmarine patrols, and serving as harbor entrance control ship at Humboldt Bay.

Following repairs and training at Brisbane, Australia, in August and September, the patrol escort supported the buildup of men and shipping for the forthcoming return to the Philippines, twice escorting convoys from Manus in the Admiralties to New Guinea staging bases. She herself arrived at Leyte 2 November, bringing up a convoy which included a Navy tanker, an Australian merchantman, and ten tugs pulling a variety of tows. When enemy planes attacked her convoy that night, one bomb missed her by only 50 yards. She returned to New Guinea twice to bring reinforcement convoys to Leyte and, on 12 November, splashed three Japanese suicide planes attacking merchant shipping off Leyte. Her gunners scored again off New Guinea 29 November, assisting in the destruction of two of the torpedo planes which attacked her Leyte-bound convoy.

Ogden left Humboldt Bay 14 December, bound for Manus, Bora Bora, the Panama Canal, Charleston, and Boston, where she arrived 24 January 1945. After repairs and training in Casco Bay, ME, *Ogden* was westward bound once more, via the Panama Canal to Seattle, where she completed repairs. On 27 June *Ogden* arrived in Cold Bay, Alaska, where she trained Russian sailors. She was decommissioned 12 July 1945 and was transferred to the Soviet Navy under lend-lease. The Soviets commissioned her as *EK-10* and the Coast Guard crew delivered her to Petropavlousk, Siberia on 21 July 1945.

The Soviets returned her to the custody of the United States at Yokosuka, Japan, on 15 October 1949. She was transferred to Japan 14 January 1958, and served as *Kusu* (PF-251)

Ogden received three battle stars for World War II service.

Sources:

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