

Interwar Naval Arms Control

The Myth of Democratic Compliance

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Lexington and Saratoga



Washington Naval Treaty (WNT), Article IX

“... any of the Contracting Powers may ... build not more than two aircraft-carriers, each of a tonnage of **not more than 33,000 tons** ... standard displacement, and ... may use for this purpose any two of their ships ... in course of construction, which would otherwise be scrapped ...”

WNT, Part 3, Section I paragraph (d)

“No retained capital ships or aircraft-carriers shall be reconstructed except for the purpose of providing means of defence against air and submarine attack, and subject to the following rules: the Contracting Powers may, for that purpose, equip existing tonnage with bulge or blister or anti-air attack deck protection, providing **the increase of displacement thus effected does not exceed 3,000 tons ...** displacement for each ship.”

Lex and Sara – Protection “Added” for Defence against Air and Submarine Attack

Item	Tonnage
Inclined protection over the steering gear	266 tons
Protective deck	1,267 tons
Waterline blister	272 tons
Structure of the lower bulge outboard of the outer longitudinal bulkhead	270 tons
Torpedo protection of the original battle cruiser hull	1,100 tons
Total :	3,175 tons

Lex and Sara – Protection “Added” for Defence against Air and Submarine Attack

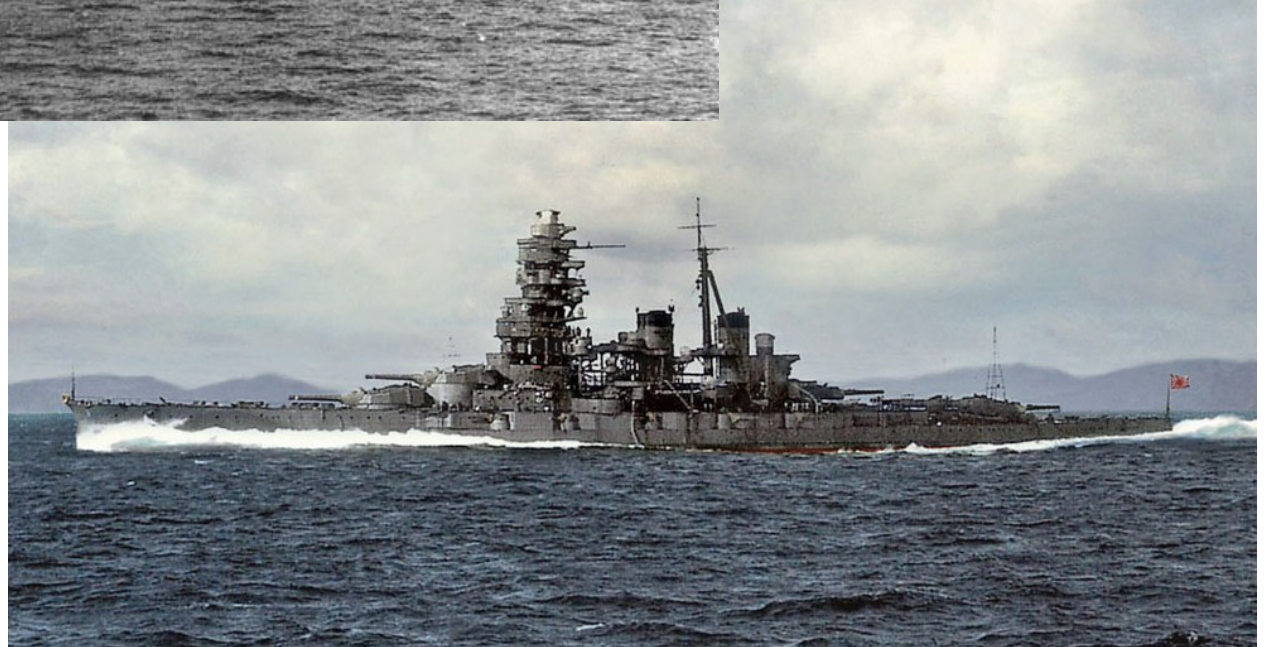
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	Lexington	Saratoga
Displacement as Completed	35,689 tons	35,544 tons
- Protection Added	2,075 tons	2,075 tons
=	33,614 tons	33,468 tons

Name	Tonnage (Declared)	Laid Down	Cumulative Tonnage (Declared)
Lexington	33,000	-	33,000
Saratoga	33,000	-	66,000
Ranger	14,500	26.9.31	80,500
Yorktown	19,900	21.5.34	100,400
Enterprise	19,900	16.7.34	120,300
Wasp	14,700	1.4.36	135,000

Name	Tonnage (Actual)	Laid Down	Cumulative Tonnage (Actual)
Lexington	35,689	-	35,689
Saratoga	35,544	-	71,233
Ranger	14,500	26.9.31	85,733
Yorktown	19,900	21.5.34	105,633
Enterprise	19,900	16.7.34	125,533
Wasp	14,700	1.4.36	140,233

Disposal of Warships



Disposal of Warships

- USS Semmes



Disposal of Warships

- The Banana Boats



Disposal of Warships

- Hawkins and Frobisher



Disposal of Warships

- 'C' Class Cruisers



Notification of Data

LNT36 – Articles 11-12

Each of the High Contracting Parties shall communicate every year to ... the other High Contracting Parties information ... regarding his annual programme for the construction and acquisition of all vessels ...

The information to be furnished ... shall be given as follows ...

... the following particulars in respect of each such vessel:

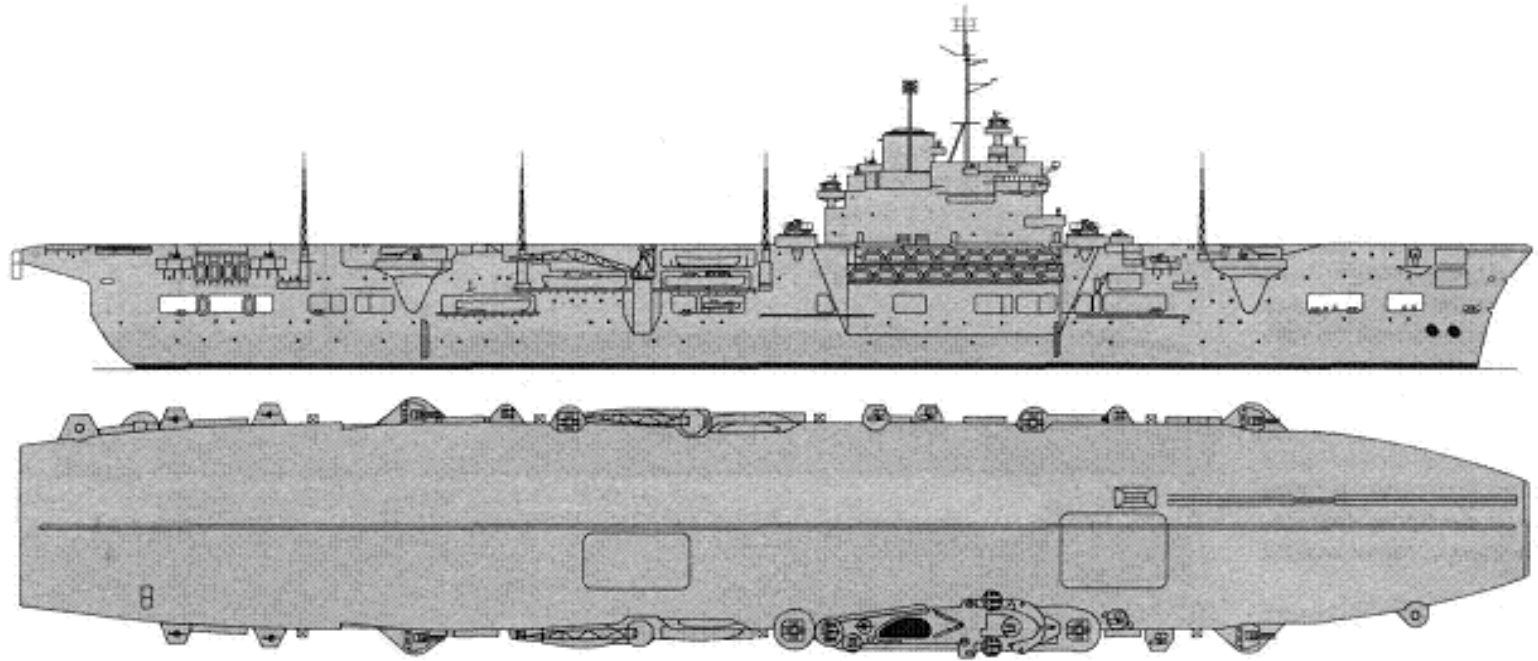
...

Approximate number of aircraft for which provision is to be made.

Notification of Data



Unicorn



Standard Displacement

The standard displacement of a surface vessel is the displacement of the vessel, complete, fully manned, engined, 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 feed water on board.

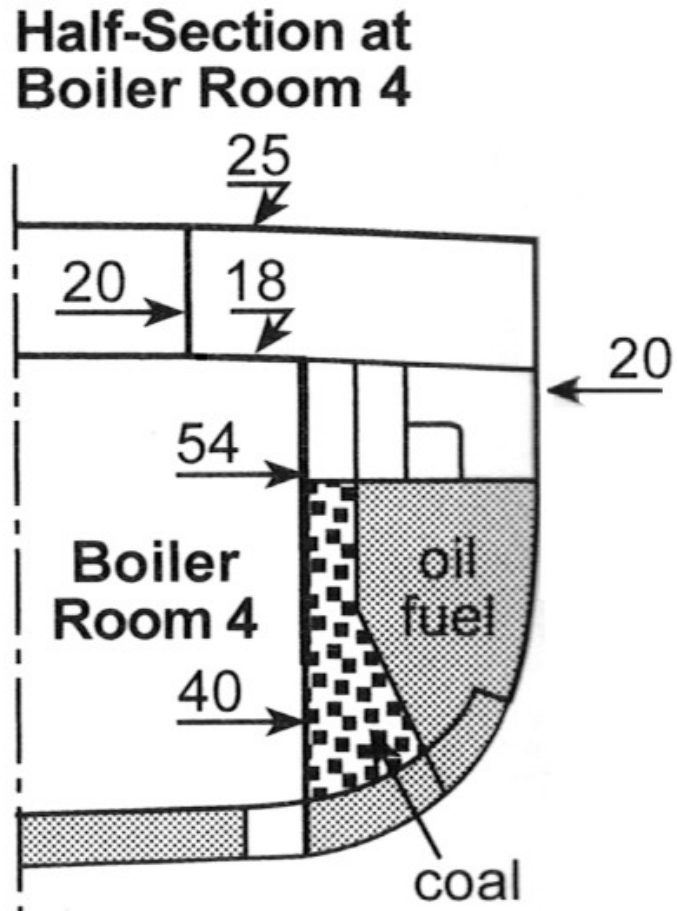
WNT, Part 4; LNT30, Article 6; LNT36, Article 1

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WNT, Part 4; LNT30, Article 6; LNT36, Article 1

Standard Displacement



Conclusion