

## GLACIER HISTORY



Construction of the USS GLACIER (AGB-4) began in August of 1953 at Ingalls Shipbuilding Company in Pascagoula, Mississippi. She was completed and commissioned in May of 1955 and assigned to Boston, Massachusetts as her home port. Named for Glacier Bay in Alaska, she was constructed to penetrate polar regions formerly inaccessible to ships. GLACIER performs a wide range of tasks including channel cutting, escort of supply ships, logistics support to remote science stations and ocean scientific operations. She also performs search and rescue when needed.

In 1955 GLACIER participated in the first Operation DEEP FREEZE in connection with the International Geophysical Year. She continued her annual participation in DEEP FREEZE through 1966 with the Navy.

In June of 1966 she became the USCGC GLACIER because at that time all U.S. icebreakers were transferred to the Coast Guard's control. As a part of the Coast Guard's fleet, GLACIER's scientific mission was expanded. Consequently, her heavy armament was removed and a variety of oceanographic equipment was installed. GLACIER continued to participate in Operation DEEP FREEZE through 1970, when she broke her chain of 15 consecutive Antarctic deployments by assignment to Arctic Ocean operations.

Each year since she was constructed, GLACIER has undergone extended yard availability periods to insure that her engineering, electronic, and other equipment would be prepared to withstand the demands of her future missions.