



USS/USNS Kawishiwi AO/T-AO-146 “The Special K”



History

Laid down October 5, 1953 at New York Shipbuilding Corp, Camden, N.J.

Launched December 11, 1954

Commissioned USS Kawishiwi (AO-146) July 6, 1955

Named for The Kawishiwi River which is located in the Northeast corner of Minnesota

Decommissioned October 10, 1979

Assigned to the Military Sealift Command (MSC) and placed in service as USNS Kawishiwi (TAO-146) October 10, 1979

Struck from the Naval Register November 7, 1994

Title transfer to MARAD May 1, 1999 for lay up in Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet

Proposed Sink Site:

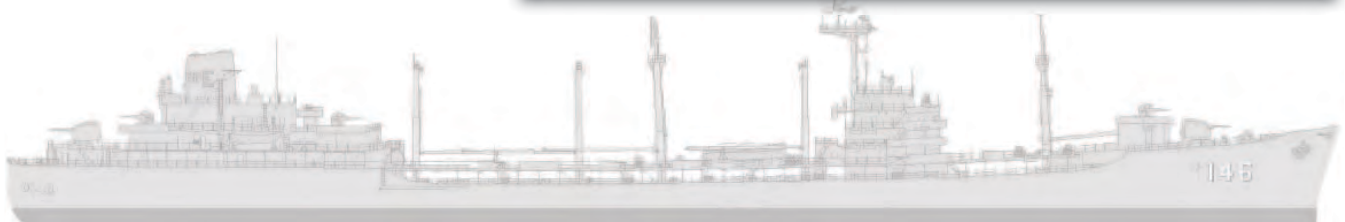
Dana Point ½ miles southwest of

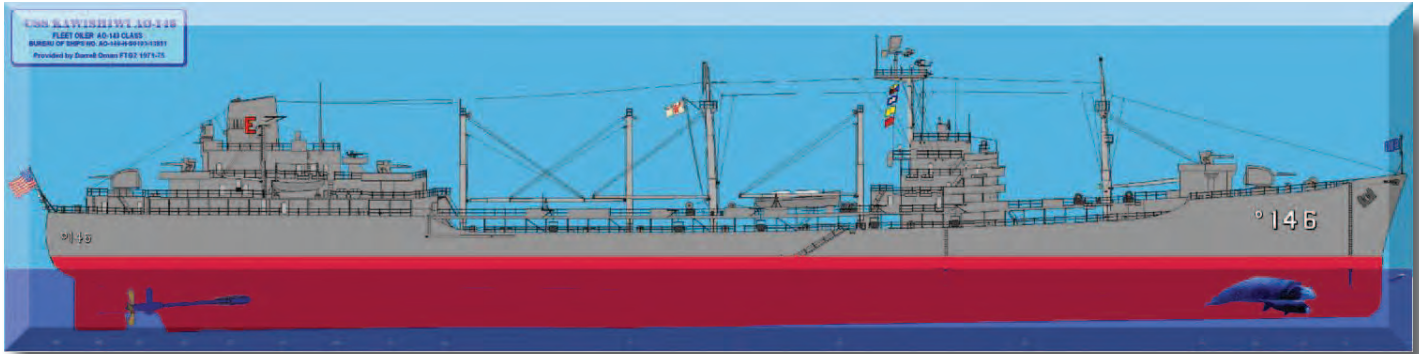
the Dana Point Harbor and 2 miles

offshore of Capistrano Beach

Estimated Sink Date: 2013

Estimated Cost: \$2.3-5 Million





Specifications

Displacement: 11,600 LT

Length: 655'

Beam: 86'

Draft: 35'

Propulsion: 2 boilers driving two geared turbines with 2 propeller shafts, rated at 28,000 shaft horsepower

Speed: 20 knots

Capacity: 180,000 barrels or over 7 million gallons of various fuel products

Awards, Citations and Campaign Ribbons

Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation

Navy Battle "E" Ribbon (3)

National Defense Service Medal

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Vietnam (1); Korea (3); Op Frequent Wind (Evacuation of Saigon) (1)

Vietnam Service Medal (8)

Humanitarian Service Medal (1 Frequent Wind)

Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

Additional Information

Kawishiwi was part of the fleet which recovered or was on duty and capable of recovering the following:

Gemini 10; Gemini 11; Gemini 12; Apollo 15. She was also primary logistics support and secondary recovery for Apollo 13 splash down in the Pacific.

Kawishiwi provided the fuel for the helicopters to evacuate Saigon.

Kawishiwi had a 100-bed hospital.

Kawishiwi was the only known oiler to have a rear refueling rig.

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