

**US Fleet Organization  
1939**

Battle Force US Fleet:

USS California (BB-44) (Force Flagship)

Battleships, Battle Force (San Pedro)

USS West Virginia (BB-48) (flagship)

Battleship Division 1:

USS Arizona (BB-39) (flag)

USS Nevada (BB-36)

USS Pennsylvania (BB-38) (Fl. Flag)

Air Unit - Observation Sqn 1-9 VOS

Battleship Division 2:

USS Tennessee (BB-43) (flag)

USS Oklahoma (BB-37)

USS California (BB-44) (Force flagship)

Air Unit - Observation Sqn 2-9 VOS

Battleship Division 3:

USS Idaho (BB-42) (flag)

USS Mississippi (BB-41)

USS New Mexico (BB-40)

Air Unit - Observation Sqn 3-9 VOS

Battleship Division 4:

USS West Virginia (BB-48) (flag)

USS Colorado (BB-45)

USS Maryland (BB-46)

Air Unit - Observation Sqn 4-9 VOS

Cruisers, Battle Force: (San Diego)

USS Honolulu (CL-48) (flagship)

Cruiser Division 2:

USS Trenton (CL-11) (flag)

USS Memphis (CL-13)

Air Unit - Cruiser Squadron 2-4 VSO

Cruiser Division 3:

USS Detroit (CL-8) (flag)

USS Cincinnati (CL-6)

USS Milwaukee (CL-5)

Air Unit - Cruiser Squadron 3-6 VSO

Cruise Division 8:

USS Philadelphia (CL-41) (flag)

USS Brooklyn (CL-40)

USS Savannah (CL-42)

USS Nashville (CL-43)

Air Unit - Cruiser Squadron 8-16 VSO

Cruiser Division 9:

USS Honolulu (CL-48) (flag)

USS Phoenix (CL-46)

USS Boise (CL-47)

USS St. Louis (CL-49) (when commissioned)

Air Unit - Cruiser Squadron 8-16 VSO

Destroyers, Battle Force (San Diego)

USS Concord (CL-10)  
Ship Air Unit 2 VSO

Destroyer Flotilla 1:

USS Raleigh (CL-7) (flag)  
Ship Air Unit 2 VSO  
USS Dobbin (AD-3) (destroyer tender) (served 1st & 3rd Squadrons)  
USS Whitney (AD-4) (destroyer tender) (served 2nd & 9th Squadrons)

Destroyer Squadron 1:

USS Phelps (DD360) (flag)

Destroyer Division 1:

USS Dewey (DD349) (flag)  
USS Hull (DD350)  
USS Macdonough (DD351)  
USS Worden (DD352)

Destroyer Division 2:

USS Aylwin (DD355)  
USS Dale (DD353)  
USS Farragut (DD348)  
USS Monaghan (DD354)

Destroyer Squadron 2:

USS Porter (DD356) (flag)

Destroyer Division 3:

USS Drayton (DD366) (flag)  
USS Flusser (DD368)  
USS Lamson (DD367)  
USS Mahan (DD364)

Destroyer Division 4:

USS Cushing (DD376)  
USS Perkins (DD377)  
USS Smith (DD378)  
USS Preston (DD379)

Destroyer Squadron 3:

USS Clark (DD361) (flag)

Destroyer Division 5:

USS Cassin (DD372) (flag)  
USS Conyngham (DD371)  
USS Downes (DD375)  
USS Reid (DD369)

Destroyer Division 6:

USS Case (DD370) (flag)  
USS Shaw (DD373)  
USS Cummings (DD365)  
USS Tucker (DD374)

Destroyer Squadron 9:

USS Sampson (DD394) (flag)

Destroyer Division 17:

USS McDougal (DD358) (flag)  
USS Winslow (DD359)  
USS Warrington (DD383)

Destroyer Division 18:

USS Sampson (DD394) (flag)  
USS Davis (DD395)  
USS Jouett (DD395)

Destroyer Flotilla 2:

USS Concorde (CL-10) (flag)  
Ship Air Unit - 2 VSO  
USS Altair (AD-11) (destroyer tender) (served 4th & 6th  
Squadrons)  
USS Melville (AD-2) (destroyer tender) (served 11th & 12th  
Squadrons)

Destroyer Squadron 4:

USS Selfridge (DD357) (flag)

Destroyer Division 7:

USS Mugford (DD389) (flag)  
USS Gridley (DD380)  
USS Blue (DD387)  
USS Bagley (DD386)

Destroyer Division 8:

USS Dunlap (DD384) (flag)  
USS Ralph Talbot (DD390)  
USS Fanning (DD385)  
USS Patterson (DD392)

Destroyer Squadron 6:

USS Somers (DD381) (flag)

Destroyer Division 11:

USS Henley (DD391) (flag)  
USS Helm (DD388)  
USS Jarvis (DD393)  
USS Craven (DD382)

Destroyer Division 12:

USS Benham (DD397) (flag)  
USS McCall (DD400)  
USS Maury (DD401)  
USS Ellet (DD398)

Destroyer Squadron 11:

USS Mofett (DD362)

Destroyer Division 21:

USS Hopkings (DD249) (flag)  
USS Reuben James (DD245)  
USS Barry (DD248)  
USS Goff (DD247)

Destroyer Division 22:

USS Perry (DD340) (flag)  
USS Wasmuth (DD338)  
USS Zane (DD337)  
USS Trever (DD339)

Destroyer Squadron 12:

USS Blach (DD363) (flag)

Destroyer Division 27:

USS Borie (DD215) (flag)  
USS Broome (DD210)  
USS Simpson (DD221)  
USS Truston (DD229)

Destroyer Division 28:

USS Southard (DD207) (flag)  
USS Chandler (DD206)  
USS Hovey (DD208)  
USS Long (DD209)

Aircraft, Battle Force (San Pedro):

USS Saratoga (flagship)

Carrier Division 1:

USS Saratoga (CV-3) (Flag)  
Bomber Squadron 3-18 VSB  
Fighter Squadrons 3-18 VF, 1 VSB, 2 VM  
Scout Squadron 3-18 VSB  
Torpedo Squadron 3-18 VTB  
Utility Unit 3 VSO, 2 VJ  
Total 83 aircraft

USS Lexington (CV-2)  
Bomber Squadron 2-18 VSB  
Fighter Squadrons 2-18 VF, 1 VSB, 2 VM  
Scout Squadron 2-18 VSB  
Torpedo Squadron 2-18 VTB  
Utility Unit 3VSO, 2 VJ  
Total 80 aircraft

USS Ranger (CV-4)  
Bomber Squadron 4-18 VSB  
Fighter Squadrons 4-18 VF, 1 VSB, 2 VM  
Scout Squadron 41-18 VSB  
Scout Squadron 42-18 VSB  
Utility Unit 3 VSO, 2 VJ  
Total 80 aircraft

Carrier Division 2:

USS Enterprise (CV-6)  
Bomber Squadron 6-18 VSB  
Fighter Squadrons 6-18 VF, 1 VSB, 2 VM  
Scout Squadron 6-18 VSB  
Torpedo Squadron 6-18 VTB  
Utility Unit 3 VSO, 2 VJ  
Total 83 aircraft

USS Yorktown (CV-5) (flag)  
Bomber Squadron 5-18 VSB  
Fighter Squadrons 5-18 VF, 1 VSB, 2 VM  
Scout Squadron 5-18 VSB  
Torpedo Squadron 5-18 VTB  
Utility Unit 3 VSO, 2 VJ  
Total 83 aircraft

Minecraft, Battle Force (Pearl Harbor)

Mine Division 1: Light Minelayers

USS Pruitt (DM-22) (flag)  
USS Prebel (DM-20)  
USS Sicard (DM-21)  
USS Tracey (DM-19)

Mine Division 2: Minesweepers

USS Tanger (MSO 5) (flag)  
USS Quail (MSO 15)  
USS Lark (MSO 21)  
USS Whipporwill (MSO 35)

Note: The Ranger, Lmagley, Wichita, Gridley, Somers, Warrington, Dunlap, Bagley, Davis, Jouett, Benham, Ellett, and Lang are operating in the Atlantic.

Scouting Force, US Fleet

USS Indiannapolis (CA-35) (flag)  
Air Unit - 1 VSO

Cruisers, Scouting Force (San Pedro)

USS Chicago (CA-29) (flag)  
Air Unit 1 VSO

Cruiser Division 4:

USS Northampton (CA-26) (flag)  
USS Houston (CA-30)  
USS Pensacola (CA-24)  
USS Salt Lake City (CA-25)  
Air Unit Squadron 4-16 VSO

Cruiser Division 5:

USS Chicago (CA-29) (flag)  
USS Chester (CA-27)  
USS Louisville (CA-28)  
USS Portland (CA-33)  
Air Unit Squadron 5-16 VSO

Cruiser Division 6:

USS Minneapolis (CA-36) (flag)  
USS Astoria (CA-34)  
USS New Orleans (CA-32)  
USS Indianapolis (CA-35)  
Air Unit Squadron 6-16 VSO

Cruiser Division 7:

USS San Francisco (CA-38) (flag)  
USS Quincy (CA-39)  
USS Tuscaloosa (CA-37)  
USS Vincennes (CA-44)  
Air Unit Squadron 7-16 VSO

Aircraft Scouting Force:

USS Memphis (CL-13) (temporary flag)  
Ship Air Unit 1 VSO, 1 VJ

Patrol Wing One: (San Diego)

Patrol Squadron 7-12 VPB (Tender USS Wright)  
Patrol Squadron 9-12 VPB (Tender USS Wright)  
Patrol Squadron 18-12 VPB (Based at San Diego)  
Patrol Squadron 11-12 VPB (Tender USS Langley)  
Patrol Squadron 12-12 VPB (Tender USS Langley)  
Langley Ship Unit 2 VSO, 1 VJ  
Wright Ship Unit 2 VSO  
USS Sandpiper (Seaplane Tender)  
USS Lapwing (Seaplane Tender)

Patrol Wing Two: (Pearl Harbor)

Patrol Squadron 1-12 VPB (Fleet Air Base, Pearl Harbor)  
Patrol Squadron 4-12 VPB (same)  
Patrol Squadron 6-12 VPB (same)  
Patrol Squadron 8-12 VPB (same)  
Patrol Squadron 10-12 VPB (same)  
Utility Unit 4 VF, 2 VSO, 2 VJR, 3 VJ, FAB  
USS Swan (flag)  
USS Childs  
USS Pelican

USS Avocet

Patrol Wing Three: (Based at Coco Solo, Canal Zone)

Patrol Squadron 2-12 VPB (Fleet Air Base, Coco Solo)

Patrol Squadron 3-12 VPB (Same)

Patrol Squadron 5-12 VPB (Same)

Utility Unit - 4 VF, 2 VSO, 2 VJR, 3VJ, FAB

Patrol Wing Four: (Based at Seattle)

Patrol Squadron 16-6 VPB (Tender USS Teal)

Patrol Squadron 17-6 VPB (Tender USS Teal)

Patrol Squadron 19-6 VPB (Tender USS Teal)

Patrol Squadron 20-6 VPB (Tender USS Teal)

Patrol Squadron 21-6 VPB (Tender USS Teal)

Fleet Air Base: Sitka Alaska - 1 VJ

USS Teal (AVP-5) (flag)

USS Williamson (AVP-15) (tender)

Patrol Wing Five: (Based at Norfolk)

Patrol Squadron 14-9 VPB (Tender USS Owl) (flag)

Patrol Squadron 15-9 VPB (Tender USS Owl)

Submarine Force, US Fleet:

USS Richmond (flag) (CL-9)

Air Unit - 2 VSO (San Diego)

USS Litchfield (DD336) (tactical flag) (Pearl Harbor)

Submarine Squadron 2: (New London, CT)

R-13 (flag)

Submarine Division 4:

R-14 (flag)

R-2

R-4

R-10

R-11

R-12

USS Falcon (attached Rescue Vessel)

Submarine Division 8:

S-24 (flag)

S-21

S-26

S-30

Experimental Division 1:

S-20

S-22

USS Semmes (ex DD189 attached)

Submarine Squadron 3: (Coco Solo, Canal Zone)

S-44 (flag)

Submarine Division 11:

S-42 (flag)

S-43

S-44

S-45

S-46

S-47

USS Mallard (attached rescue vessel)

Submarine Squadron 4: (Pearl Harbor)

USS Beaver (tender)

USS Seagull (tender)  
USS Keosanqua (tender)  
USS Widgeon (rescue vessel)

Submarine Division 7:

S-18  
S-25  
S-29  
S-34  
S-35

Submarine Division 12:

SS Nautilus (N-2, flag)  
SS Dolphin (D-1)  
SS Narwhal (N-1)  
SS Argonaut (A-1)

Submarine Division 13:

SS Shark (P-3, flag)  
SS Cachalot (C-1)  
SS Cuttlefish (C-2)  
SS Pike (P-2)  
SS Porpoise (P-1)  
SS Tarpon (P-4)

Experimental Division 2:

S-27  
S-28

Destroyer Division 19:

USS Rathburne (DD113, flag)  
USS Talbot (DD114)  
USS Waters (DD115)  
USS Dent (DD116)

Submarine Squadron 6: (San Diego)

SS Perch (P-5, flag)

Submarine Division 14:

SS Peach (P-5, flag)  
SS Pickerel (P-6)  
SS Permit (P-7)  
SS Plunger (P-8)  
SS Pollock (P-9)  
SS Pompano (P-10)  
USS Holland (tender)

Submarine Division 15:

SS Snapper (S-4, flag)  
SS Salmon (S-1)  
SS Seal (S-2)  
SS Skipjack (S-3)  
SS Stingray (S-5)  
SS Sturgeon (S-6)  
USS Ortolan (rescue vessel)

Atlantic Squadron, US Fleet:

USS New York (Flagship)

Battleship Division 5:

USS New York (flag)  
USS Arkansas  
USS Texas  
USS Wyoming

no attached aircraft  
Destroyers, Atlantic Squadron, US Fleet:

Destroyer Squadron 10:

USS Decatur (DD341) (flag)

Destroyer Division 29:

USS Herbert (DD160)

USS Tillman (DD135) (ordered out of commission)

Destroyer Division 30:

USS Roper (DD147)

USS Fairfax (DD93) (ordered out of commission)

Destroyer Division 31:

USS Dickerson (DD157)

USS Hamilton (DD141)

USS Leary (DD158)

USS Schneck (DD159) (ordered out of commission)

Destroyer Division 32:

USS Babbitt (DD128)

USS Claxton (DD140)

USS Manley (Ex DD74) (serving as an auxiliary transport)

Note: Cruiser Divisions 7 & 8, plus the Honolulu and destroyer Divisions 21 are operating in the Atlantic Fleet.

Asiatic Fleet:

USS August (flag)

Air Unit 4 VSO

USS Marblehead

Air Unit 2 VSO

USS Asheville (gunboat)

USS Tulsa (gunboat)

USS Isabel (yacht)

Yangtze Patrol:

USS Luzon (flag) (river gunboat)

USS Guam (gunboat)

USS Oahu (gunboat)

USS Tutuila (gunboat)

South China Patrol:

USS Mindanao (flag) (river gunboat)

Destroyers, Asiatic Fleet:

Destroyer Squadron 5:

USS Paul Jones (DD230) (squadron leader)

USS Black Hawk (tender)

Destroyer Division 13:

USS Whipple (DD217) (flag)

USS Alden (DD211)

USS Barker (DD213)

USS John D. Edwards (DD216)

Destroyer Division 14:

USS Stewart (DD224) (flag)

USS Parrott (DD218)

USS Edsall (DD219)

USS Blumer (DD222)

Destroyer Division 15:

USS Peary (DD226)



USS Pope (DD225)  
 USS Pillsbury (DD227)  
 USS John D. Ford (DD228)

Submarines, Asiatic Fleet:  
Submarine Squadron 5:  
 USS Canopus (tender)  
 USS Pigeon (rescue vessel)

Sbumarine Division 10:  
 S-37 (flag)  
 S-36  
 S-38  
 S-39  
 S-40  
 S-41

Train, Asiatic Fleet:  
Mine Division 3:  
 USS Finch  
 USS Bittern

Auxiliary:  
 USS Pecos (oiler)

Aircraft Detachment:  
 USS Heron (tender)  
 Utility Unit 2 VJ

Special Squadron: (Central America)  
 USS Charleston (gunboat) (flag)  
 USS Erie (gunboat)  
 USS Fred J. Talbot (DD156)  
 USS Tattnell (DD125)

Squadron 40-T (Temporary duty, Spanish Waters)  
 USS Omaha (flag)  
 Air Unit 2 VSO  
 USS Badger (DD126)  
 USS Jacob Jones (DD139)

Base Force, US Fleet (San Pedro, San Diego)  
 USS Aragonne (flag)  
 USS Rigel (receiving ship at San Diego and  
 Tender with Destroyers in Reserve)

Utility Wing:  
 Utility Squadron 1-8 VJ, 9 VJR  
 Utility Squadron 2-8 VJ, 9 VJR  
 USS Rigel (tender)

Train Base Force:  
 USS Aragonne (flag)  
 USS Andares (target repair)  
 USS Ard I (floating dry dock)  
 USS Artic (store ship)  
 USS Algorma (ocean tug)  
 USS Bobolink (mine sweeper)  
 USS Brant (mine sweeper)  
 USS Brazos (oiler)  
 USS Bridge (store ship)  
 USS Cuyama (oiler)  
 USS Grebe (mine sweeper)  
 USS Kalmia (ocean tug)  
 USS Kanawha (oiler)

USS Kingfisher (mine sweeper)  
USS Medusa (repair ship)  
USS Neches (oiler)  
USS Partridge (mine sweeper)  
USS Pinola (ocean tug)  
USS Rail (mine sweeper)  
USS Relief (hospital ship)  
USS Robin (minesweeper)  
USS Sonoma (ocean tug)  
USS Tern (minesweeper)  
USS Turkey (minesweeper)  
USS Utah (target ship)  
USS Vestal (repair ship)  
USS Vireo (minesweeper)

Mobile Target Division 1 (San Diego):

USS Dorsey (DD117) (flag)  
USS Elliot (DD146)  
USS Lambert (ex-DD119) (target)  
USS Boggs (ex-DD136) (target)

Naval Transportation Service:

USS Capella (cargo ship)  
USS Chaumont (transport)  
USS Henderson (transport)  
USS Nitro (ammunition ship)  
USS Vega (cargo ship)  
USS Sirius (cargo ship)  
USS Salinas (oiler)  
USS Ramapo (oiler)  
USS Trinity (oiler)  
USS Cimmaron (oiler)

Special Duty:

USS Acushnet (tug, Norfolk)  
USS Allegheney (tug, Philadelphia)  
USS Bagaduce (tug, San Diego)  
USS Boston (receiving ship, San Francisco)  
USS Bushnell (surveying duty)  
USS Cormorant (minesweeper, Washington, DC)  
USS Cuyahoga (yacht, Washington, DC)  
USS Dahlgren (DD187, experimental duty)  
USS Dubuque (training, Detroit)  
USS Eagle 19 (training, Boston)  
USS Eagle 27 (training, New Haven)  
USS Eagle 32 (training, San Francisco)  
USS Eagle 38 (training, Portland)  
USS Eagle 48 (training, New York)  
USS Eagle 55 (training, New York)  
USS Eagle 56 (training, Baltimore)  
USS Eagle 57 (training, Seattle)  
USS Gold Star (station ship, Guam)  
USS Hannibal (surveying duty)  
USS Hawk (Training, Michigan City, Indiana)  
USS Illinois (Training, New York City)  
USS Kewaydin (tug, Norfolk)  
USS Montcalm (tug, Guantanamo)  
USS Newton (training, Jersey City)

USS Ontario (tug, station ship, Samoa)  
USS Oriole (minesweeper, Seattle)  
USS Paducha (training, Duluth)  
USS Penguin (minesweeper, Guam)  
USS Genessee (tug, Cavite, Philippeans)  
USS Mahopac (tug, Puget Sound Yard)  
USS Potomac (presidential yacht)  
USS Reina Mercedes (station ship, Annapolis)  
USS Robert L. Barnes (oil depot, Guam)  
USS Sacramento (experimental duty)  
USS Sagamore (tug, New York City)  
USS Seattle (receiving ship, New York City)  
USS Sequoia (special duty, Washington,DC)  
USS Sunadin (tug, Pearl Harbor)  
USS Umpqua (tug, Charleston)  
USS Wandank (tug, Boston)  
USS Wheeling (training, New York City)  
USS Wilmette (training, Chicago)  
USS Woodcock (tug, Canal Zone)  
USS Tatnuck (tug, Puget Sound Yard)

Reserve Fleet Vessels not in commission

Minelayer (CM) - 1  
Destroyers (DD) - 104  
Light Minelayers (DM) - 4  
Submarines (SS) - 36  
Eagle Boat (PE) - 1  
Sugmarine Chasers (PC) - 3  
River Gunboat (PR) - 1  
Destroyer Tenders (AD) - 2  
Submarine Tender (AS) - 1  
Repair Ship (AR) - 1  
Ammunition Shp (AE) - 1  
Oilers (AO) - 9  
Coliers (AC) - 2  
Storeships (AF) - 2  
Cargo Ships (AK) -2  
Minesweepers (AM) - 4  
Sgumarine Rescue Vessel (ASSR) - 1  
Ocean Going Tugs (AT) - 4  
unclassified - 10

Fahey, J.C, editor, The Ships and Aircraft of the United States Fleet,  
1939 Edition, Naval Institute Press, 1977