

THIRTEEN BILLION CARRIER AND THE TOILETS DON'T WORK

The toilets on America's two newest aircraft carriers, USS *Bush* and USS *Ford* are experiencing clogging problems, and the only way to keep the pipes draining is to use a special, extremely expensive acid solution. The two carriers toilet plumbing system, modeled on the plumbing system installed on airliners, clog frequently requiring the Navy to regularly service them with an acid that costs \$400,000 per use. The problem, [first reported by Bloomberg](#), is mentioned in a General Accountability Office (GAO) report on sustainment costs for Navy ships. The GAO report [states](#) that the Navy used a brand new toilet and sewage system for the USS *George H.W. Bush* and USS *Gerald R. Ford*, the last two aircraft carriers to roll off the production lines. The system is "similar to what is on commercial aircraft, but increased in scale for a crew of over 4,000 people." GAO: HOW DO I GET JOB AS AN ENGINEER BUILDING SHIT THAT DOES'T WORK AND I DON'T GET FIRED. I BET THEY DON'T HAVE PROBLEMS LIKE THIS IN THE GERMAN SHIPYARD To address unexpected and frequent clogging of the system, the Navy has determined that it needs to acid flush the CVN 77 and 78's sewage system on a regular basis, which is an unplanned maintenance action for the entire service life of the ship. Each acid flush costs \$400,000. The Navy, the GAO states, cannot predict how often this expensive procedure is necessary, making it difficult to predict how often it will need to repeat the procedure over the 50-year lifespans of each carrier. HOW ABOUT WE MAKE THE IDIOTS FIX THE SYSTEM OR NO MOME GOVERNMENT CONTRAC. .

The clogging problems with the new toilet system were well known even before USS *Ford* finished construction. In 2011, the Navy Times [reported](#) on toilet issues with the USS *Bush*, the first carrier to feature the toilet vacuum system, writing that during the ship's maiden deployment in 2009, the ship averaged 25 calls a week to fix the commodes and all 432 commodes on the ship went down twice. The problem was reportedly so widespread sailors were peeing in bottles and emptying them overboard and experiencing health problems. THEY KNEW ABOUT THIS IN 2011 AND DIDN'T FIX IT TELL ME WHY WE ARE USING THESE DUMB BASTARDS TO BUILD OUR SHIPS I BET EVERY CARRIER FROM NOW ON WILL HAVE THIS PROBLEM. UNFUCKING BELIEVABLE

In response, the Navy claimed *Bush* had a 94 percent toilet availability, and that most problems were fixed in a few minutes. The Navy blamed the sailors flushing "inappropriate" materials down the toilets, including feminine hygiene products, food, and clothing. But the Navy also acknowledged that the system differed from the old system in that outages in one toilet affected a wider grouping of toilets than before. MABEY THEY SHOULD IMPROVE THE FOOD.

The U.S. Navy plans to build up to 11 *Ford*-class carriers, gradually replacing existing *Nimitz*-class ships over the coming decades. The next ships in class are the USS *John F. Kennedy*, USS *Enterprise*, and USS *Doris Miller*. USS *Ford* cost a whopping \$13 billion, more than twice as much as the USS *Bush*. USS *Ford* has [experienced](#) a number of technical issues, including getting the electromagnetic aircraft launch system working, the advanced arresting gear, a new radar system, and electromagnetically powered weapon elevators. TWICE AS MUCH MONEY AND HALF THE SHIP. MABY WE SHOULD RENAME THE SHIPS SHITTER 1 AND SHITTER 2 WITH A BANNER PROCLAIMING BUILT BY NEWPORT NEWS SHIPPING

THIRTEEN BILLION CARRIER AND THE TOILETS DON'TWORK

The GAO report also mentions a bigger problem with USS Ford than faulty toilets: the ship, designed to be less expensive to sail than previous classes, was projected to cost \$77.3 billion over 50 years to operate, or \$1.54 billion annually. Instead, the GAO projects the ship will cost \$123 billion over the same period, or \$2.46 billion a year. If the Navy builds all eleven ships the service will see a combined cost increase of [\\$10 billion a year](#)—the equivalent of four new destroyers with toilets that flush.