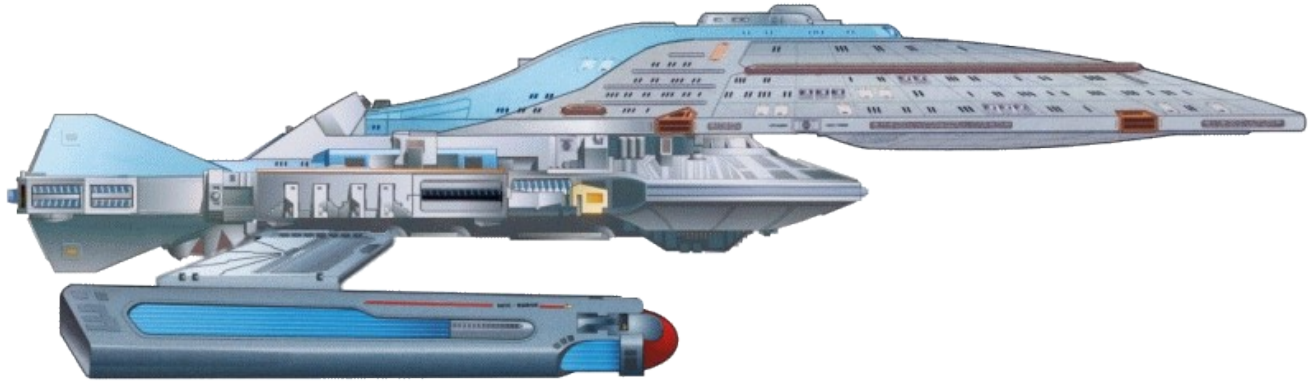


CULPER CLASS SPY-SHIP

Survey & Observation Frigate— Commissioned, 2384

FEDERATION



HULL DATA

Structure	30 (5 ablative)
Size / Decks	6 / 17
Length / Height / Beam	347 / 71 / 145
Compliment	178

PROPULSION DATA

Impulse System	FIG-5 (.92c / D)
Warp System	LF-35 (6 / 9.2 / 9.8) (D)

OPERATIONAL DATA

Atmosphere Capable	NO
Transporters	6 standard, 4 emergency
Cargo Units	61
Shuttlebay	1a
Shuttlecraft	6 size worth
Tractor Beams	1fv, 1av
Separation System	NO
Cloaking Device	Class-4 (22)
Sensor System	Class-5 (+5 / F)
Operations System	Class-3 (D)
Life Support	Class-3 (D)

TACTICAL DATA

Phaser Arrays	Type-X (x4 / D) Type-X pulse (x2 / D)
Penetration	5 / 5 / 4 / 0 / 0 6 / 5 / 4 / 0 / 0
Torpedoes	Mk 80 quantum (x4 / D)
Penetration	8 / 8 / 8 / 8 / 8
Deflector Shield	FSQ-7 (CC)
Protection / Threshold	17 / 4

MISCELLANEOUS DATA

Maneuver Modifiers	+3 C, +2 H, +3 T
Traits	Ablative Armor, Nimble, Unique System (Cloaking Device), Enhanced System (Sensors), Pulse Weapon Upgrade

MISSIONS

The Culper Class is officially documented as a Surveyor, and Explorer, and sometimes listed as a “long range explorer”. But Culper class ships' true missions are of surveillance and covert operations. Culper class ships are “spy ships”, commissioned for and commanded by officers of Starfleet Intelligence. Some of the crew of a Culper may be regular fleet reassigned for the purposes of filling out a needed crew compliment. But most officers aboard a Culper will be officers assigned to Starfleet Intelligence.

FEATURES

The Culper Class starship has several features of an Intrepid as well as an Akira class vessel. The basic external spaceframe is an update of the Intrepid and much of the internal circuitry and operational systems of the Culper are “borrowed” from Intrepid schematics.

To facilitate the Culper class' role as an Espionage vessel, or “Spy Ship”, the Culper has been retrofitted with an upgraded sensor array and life support and general operations systems have been downgraded to make up for the additional systems needed to run the enhanced weaponry, and sensor systems of the Culper class.

The Culper class has also been fitted with an experimental Cloaking Device designed by Starfleet R&D at Utopia Planetia under strict security and secrecy, reporting only to the Starfleet Admiralty, as well as higher ranking officers of Starfleet Intelligence. Several treaties honored by the Federation prohibit the development of a Cloaking Device by Federation scientists and starship designers, as well the use of such a device onboard Federation vessels without informing the other parties involved in said treaties.

The Culper design seeks to work around these restrictions, and using a cloaking device, develop a vessel capable of the same type of stealth that a cloaked Romulan ship is capable of. And the Federation cloaking device seems to work quite well (TN 22 to detect), yet the Culper is unable to fire while cloaked as per cloaked Klingon and Romulan ships.

The Culper also features ablative armor, as well as enhanced shielding and weaponry not normally found on a ship of this size. The Culper is equipped with Quantum Torpedoes, and half of its Phaser compliment has been upgraded from the standard of an Akira class vessel to the Pulse Phaser Cannons featured in the Defiant class.

Due to the layout of the spaceframe the Culper is extremely maneuverable. The low-slung nacelles make it easy for the Culper to execute difficult maneuvers in space but the ship is not capable of flight or successful maneuverability in a planetary atmosphere.

BACKGROUND

Named for the famous ring of spies in active duty during the American Revolution on Earth, c.1780. The Culper Class spy-ship, or advanced surveillance vessel, was the brainchild of Starfleet Intelligence. Certainly high ranking operatives including the agency's director felt that a ship capable of operating undetected could have had a profound effect on the outcome of the Federation / Dominion war and even served to shorten the War's duration.

The first drafts of plans for the Culper class were submitted to Utopia Planetia R&D in the early months of 2376, and used a spaceframe very similar to a Galaxy class. When this was determined to be too large a design for what the SI Directors had in mind, the design was scaled down closer to an Akira, or an Intrepid class design. The cloaking device, in development since the 2360s, was first installed on the prototype USS Culper in 2378. The Culper was officially commissioned with the registry NCC-01007 in 2383, five years after the Cloaking Device was first installed into the prototype. This registry was changed to SI-007 when the vessel was officially commissioned under the command of an Intel Officer.

At that point, all Culper class ships commissioned were authorized to carry the “SI” prefix, however to offer a more covert method of identification, Culper class ships were given an alternate identification with the standard NCC prefix, followed by 01, followed by the vessels normal registry number (007 in the case of the USS Culper – which would then become NCC-01007).

Of the few Culper class ships commissioned only one has been lost in the line of duty, the USS Tallmadge, named for one of the leaders of the original Culper Spy Ring. The Tallmadge was lost with all hands on February 12, 2385, in battle with an unknown vessel presumed to be of Romulan or Reman design due to sensor scans taken by the Tallmadge and transmitted to the USS Stetko during the battle.

SHIPS IN SERVICE

Name	Registry	Notes
<i>USS Culper</i>	<i>SI-007</i>	<i>Currently on active duty, assigned to patrol duty within Romulan Space</i>
<i>USS Tallmadge</i>	<i>SI-2120</i>	<i>Lost, with all hands, Stardate 62117.63</i>
<i>USS Hale</i>	<i>SI-416</i>	<i>Assigned to patrol, and observation duties near Cardassia Prime</i>
<i>USS Stetko</i>	<i>SI-355</i>	<i>Commanded by Captain Juliet Baxter</i>