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## **Governor Musgrove Attends Christening of New Aegis Destroyer in Pascagoula**

(Pascagoula, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove spoke at the christening of the U.S. Navy’s newest Aegis guided missile destroyer at the Northrop Grumman shipyard today in Pascagoula. Musgrove joined acting Secretary of the Navy Hansford T. Johnson and Mrs. Elaine Weaver Williams, who officially christened the ship in memory of her husband, Boatswain’s Mate First Class James Elliott Williams.

“America is strong because of men like James Williams,” Musgrove said. “The strength and leadership he exhibited in life is now found in the steel and power of this incredible guided missile destroyer. This combination of qualities will protect our principles, our freedoms, for another generation of Americans.”

Williams received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1966 for his service as a patrol commander in Vietnam. Williams led the crew of River Patrol Boat 105 in a battle against enemy forces in October 1966, and eventually accounted for the loss of over 1,000 enemy troops and 65 enemy boats.

“As Americans, we stand on the shoulders of those who fought before us, who sacrificed so much so we could climb higher,” said Musgrove. “Today, we christen a new set of shoulders for a new generation.”

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