COMMAND COURIER/DESTROYER LEADER

Classification:	COMMAND	LEADER
Class:	VII	VIII
Model:	I	II
Class Comission Date:	2248	2250
Number Proposed:		
Constructed:	9	9
Lost:		
Destroyed:		
Scrapped:		
Training:		
Captured:		
Sold:		
Superstructure:	18	24
Damage Chart:	C	C
Dimensions:		
Length:	263m	263m
Width:	127m	127m
Height:	61m	61m
Discplacement:	94830 mt	106510 mt
Cargo Specs		
Total SCU:	97 SCU	101 SCU
Cargo Capacity:	4870 mt	5070 mt
Computer Type:	M1	M1
Landing Capacity:	N	N
Cloaking Device:		
Power to Engage:		
Transporters-		
6-person:	3	3
20-person Combat:		
22-person Emergency:	2	2
cargo:	1	1
Laboratories:	4	4
Brigs:	8	7
Replicators:		
Shuttlecraft-		
Light Shuttle:	1	1
Standard Shuttle:		
Heavy Shuttle:		
Cargo Shuttle:		
Medical Shuttle:		
Combat Shuttle:		
Ships Complement:	169	176
Officers:	34	35
Enlisted:	135	141
Troops:		
Passengers:	10	10
ENGINEERING		
Total Power Available:	20	20
Movement Point Ratio:	3/1	3/1
Warp Engine Type:	FWC-1	FWC-1
Number:	1	1
Power Units:	14	14
Stress Chart:	N/L	N/L
Optimum Speed:	5.20	5.2
Max Safe Cruising:	8.00	8.00
Emergency Speed:	9.77	10.44
Maximum Speed:	10.44	11.16
Impulse Engine Type:	FIC-3	FIC-3
Power Units:	6	6
WEAPONS/DEFENSE		
Beam Weapon:	FL-4	FL-4
Firing Arcs:	2F,2FS,2FP	2F,2FS,2FP
Firing Chart:	G	G
Maximum Power:	3	3
Damage Modifiers		
+3		
+2		
+1	1-4	1-4
Beam Weapon:		FL-3
Firing Arcs:		2A
Firing Chart:		G
Maximum Power:		2
Damage Modifiers		
+3		
+2		
+1		(1-4)
Torpedo Type:		FAC-2
Firing Arcs:		2F
Firing Chart:		G
Power To Arm:		4
Damage:		10
Stock:		80

Shields-

Shield Type:	FSF	FSF
Shield Point Ratio:	1/2	1/2
Maximum Shield:	10	10
Combat Efficiency	3.6	8.9
D-	59.7	68.3
WDF-	6.0	13.0
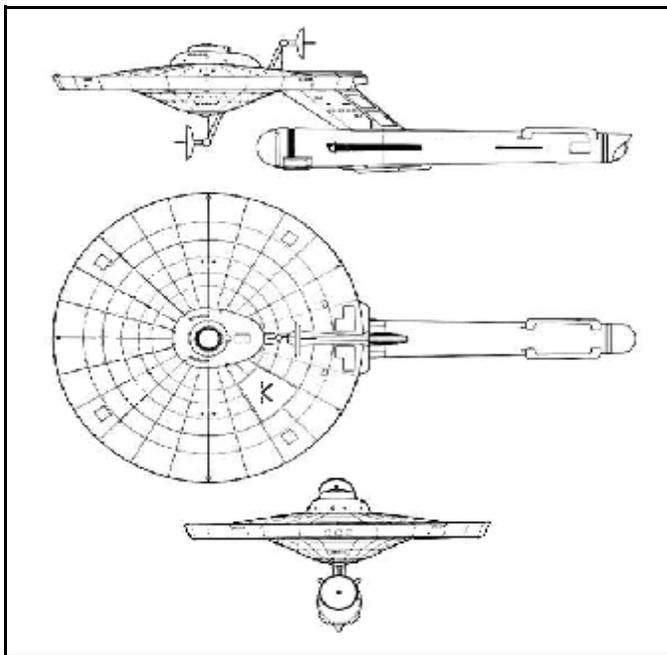
The Cygnus Class entered service in 2248 as a Command Courier version of the highly successful Saladin/Hermes class. The Intention was that an Admiral could use the ship as a sector command post. To this end the design was given the FWC-1 warp drive, giving it more power than its half sisters, the weapons were entirely laser based to make more room for the Admiral's facilities and command centre.

In 2250, the USS Columbia was converted to a more heavily armed configuration as an experiment to evaluate the benefits of an FWC-1 powered heavy destroyer type. These trials amounted to nothing, but the Columbia was left in this configuration, and was assigned as a Destroyer Leader to a flotilla of Saladins in the Klingon Border Area.

Compared to the Mk1, the Mk2 mounted a pair of rear firing Lasers and also added a pair of FAC-2 accelerator cannons at the expense of the Flag Cabins. The extensive Combat Information Centre initially fitted for the use of an Admirial was retained for suadron level operation command.

The outbreak of the Four Years War saw a major change in Starfleer Operational Procedure, a number of the Cygnus class ships were involved in near disasters in 2252, as operating independently without escorts as they had been designed to do made them tempting targets. In a fleet role the additional speed of the Cygnus was wasted, so it was ordered to convert the other 8 mk1 vessels to mk2 standards.

The nine Cygnus class ships performed valiantly throughout the war, and in many ways paved the way for the later Strike Cruisers which adopted the role of command ship for a Destroyer squadron. Post war the future of these ships was uncertain, as the fleet backed away from a purely military posture, it was eventually decided to convert all of the ships to Hermes specifications to make good the losses suffered by that class.

USS CYGNUS	NCC-617
USS APUS	NCC-618
USS TUCANA	NCC-619
USS CORVUS	NCC-620
USS COLUMBIA	NCC-621
USS PAVO	NCC-622
USS AQUILA	NCC-623
USS GRUS	NCC-624
USS PHOENIX	NCC-625

** denotes lost or missing ships.