

Dutch naval strength in 1782

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The British declaration of war against the Dutch Republic is dated 20 December 1780. Our naval strength at that date must be described as worse with totally 69 ships of which 51 were actually in service, although even some of those last ships were undermanned. The war ended by truce on 26 January 1783 with one by the public known battle at the Doggersbank which both sides claimed as a victory. The Dutch squadron involved in that battle was commanded by Zoutman.

In 1782 bookseller A. Stubbe from Utrecht published the fourth and approved naval list of our navy. The originally Dutch written text is by me translated into English and for the ships-of-the-line added by some details.

Admiralty of the Maze

built	name	commanding officer	guns	crew
1780	Prins Frederik ¹	captain J.J. van Hoey	68	450
	vice admiral Pichot			
1781	Kortenaar ²	captain Hoofd	64	450
1782	Wassenaar ³	captain G. Oorthuis	64	450
1782	Herkules ⁴		64	650
1745	Schiedam ⁵	captain Rauws	54	300
1780	Admiraal Tromp ⁶	captain Van Gennip	54	300
1782	Pollux	captain E. Bisdom	44	250
1782	Castor		44	250
1781	Centarus		40	250
1776	Den Briel	captain A.A. Bols	36	230
1766	Thetis	captain B. van Treslong	36	230
1770	Jason	captain S. Story	36	230
1769	Arend	captain Delphos	24	150
1763	Bellona	captain J.E. Reyd	24	150

¹ 3rd charter, Prins Frederik, on stocks at naval yard at Rotterdam June 1777, launched 15 June 1779, captured by British 1796, dimensions 167 (over deck) x 46 3/11 x 20 4/11, 60-64 guns, 1270e tons.

² 3rd charter Kortenaar or Cortenaar, on stocks at naval yard Rotterdam August 1780, launched 8 July 1781, sold/broken up 1794, dimensions 167 (over deck) x 46 3/11 x 20, 60-68 guns, 450 men.

³ 3rd charter Wassenaar, begin building by P. van Zwijndregt Pzn. at naval yard at Rotterdam March 1781, launched May 1782, captured by British 1797, dimensions 167 (over deck) x 46 3/11 x 20, 60-68 guns, 1270e builders measurement tons.

⁴ 3rd charter Hercules, launched at the yard of Jacob Spaan at the Wilgenbos at Dordrecht 12 April 1781, captured by British 1797, dimensions 167 (over deck) x 46 3/11 x 20, draught 21 8/11-22 8/11, 54-66 guns, 450 men.

⁵ 4th charter Schiedam, built by Paulus van Zwijndrecht at naval yard at Rotterdam 1744-1745, broken up 1790-1792, dimensions 145-146 x 40 x 18-18½, 46-56 guns, 250-300 men.

⁶ 4th charter, Tromp or Maarte Harpertsz Tromp, begin building at naval yard at Rotterdam June 1777, launched November 1779, captured by British 1796, dimensions 154 (over deck) x 43 9/11 x 19, 50-60 guns, 200 men, 1040e tons builders measurement.

1752	Oranjezael	lieutenant E. Lucas	24	150	
cutters					
1781	Sperwer	lieutenant F. Smeer	24	120	
1781	Windhond	lieutenant F. Goeverts	24	120	
	Zephier	guardship	16	100	
1781	Brak	captain Baak	18	90	
advicevessels					
1781	Kemphaan	lieutenant Eyé	12	60	
1780	Vaardigheid	captain Basart	8 swivels		
uitleggers (small guardvessels) and lootsschuiten (pilotboats)					
	Waakzaamheid	lieutenant C. Smeer	18	90	
	Snoek	captain De Gorter	12	60	
	Toezicht	captain Rynbende	10	60	
	Vlieger	captain Kloot		6	40
	Kykuit	captain Walrave	4	25	
	Schildpad	captain Hazenood	4	12	
privateers					
	Vliegende Vis	captain Schelvis	12		
	Havick	captain Jong			
Admiralty of Amsterdam					
1760	Admiraal Generaal ⁷	vice admiral Hartsinck			
		rear admiral Van Kinsbergen	74	550	
1779	Admiraal de Ruyter ⁸	vice admiral Zoutman			
		captain A.H.C. Staring	68	450	
1759	Nassau ⁹	rear admiral N. Rietveld	68	450	
1765	Amsterdam ¹⁰	vice admiral Byland	68	450	
		rear admiral Dedel			
1780	Unie ¹¹	captain Graaf van Welderen	68	450	
1781	Utrecht ¹²	captain A. Braak	68	450	
1781	Gelderland ¹³	rear admiral W. v. Braam	68	450	

⁷ 2nd charter Admiraal Generaal, on stocks at Amsterdam 1763, launched 1764, sold 1795, dimensions 179-812 (lower deck) x 48 9/11 x 22, 70-74 guns, 550 men.

⁸ 3rd charter Admiraal de Ruyter, on stocks at Amsterdam 22 July 1777, launched 13 November 1778, builder May, captured by British, dimensions 167½ x 46 9/11 x 20½, 60-68 guns, 350-450 men, 1264e tons builders measurement

⁹ Nassau, 3rd charter, built by John May at naval yard at Amsterdam 1759, broken up 1784, dimensions 166 6/11-167½ (prow) x 45 8/11-46 3/11 x 20-20½, 64-68 guns, 450 men.

¹⁰ 3rd charter Amsterdam, on stocks at Amsterdam 1763, launched 1764, sold 1795, dimensions 167½-170 (lower deck) x 45 5/11-45 8/11 x 19 6/11-20½, 60-68 guns, 450 men.

¹¹ 3rd charter, Unie, on stocks at Amsterdam 29 May 1781, wrecked 1782, dimensions 167½ (lower deck) x 46 8/11 x 20½, 64-68 guns, 450 men.

¹² 3rd charter Utrecht, on stocks at naval yard at Amsterdam 7 July 1780, launched 1781, captured by British 1799, dimensions 167 4/11-167½ (lower deck) x 45 4/11-46 9/11 x 18 4/11-20½, 64-68 guns, 450 men.

1779	Batavier ¹⁴	captain J.L. Bosch	54	300
1769	Nassau Wylburg ¹⁵	captain Cras	54	300
1880	Prinses Louisa ¹⁶	captain N. Riemersma	54	300
1770	Erfprins ¹⁷	captain Graaf van Rechteren	54	300
1768	Admiraal Piet Hein ¹⁸	captain G.V.H. Dekker	54	300
1768	Prinses Royaal Frederica Sophia Wilhelmina ¹⁹			
		captain Raders	54	300
1754	Glindhorst ²⁰	captain L. Abreson	54	300
1753	Rhynland ²¹	captain Mulder	54	300
1755	Schieland ²²	hospitalship	54	
1753	Zuileveld	captain Van Loo	44	250
1755	Landskroon	captain Mauregnault	44	250
1751	Ph[o]enix	captain Van Son	44	250
1759	Zwieten	captain J.L. Nauman	44	250
1781	Tyger	captain E.C. Staring	44	250
1749	Het Loo		44	250
1772	Argo	captain J.P. van Braam	40	270
1761	Hof Zouburg	captain P.H. van Pelt	36	230
1767	Beverwyk	captain Boot	36	230
1770	Amphitrite	captain Van Woensel	36	230
1772	Jason	captain Sels	36	230
1768	Bellona	captain G.A. van Overmeer	36	230
1767	Zephier	captain Wierts	36	230
1772	Dolphyn	captain J.O. Vaelland	24	156
1768	Thetis	captain Sprengler	24	156

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- ¹³ 3rd charter Gelderland, on stocks at Amsterdam 2 December 1780, 1782 still not completed, captured by British 1799, dimensions 167 4/11-167½ (lower deck) x 45 4/11-46 9/11 x 18 411-20½, 60-68 guns, 350-450 men.
- ¹⁴ 4th charter Batavier, on stocks at Amsterdam 8 September 1777, launched 18 February 1779, captured by British 1799, dimensions 154½ x 43 x 20, 50-56 guns, 300 men.
- ¹⁵ 4th charter, Nassau Weilburg, built by John May at naval yard at Amsterdam 1760, wrecked 1783, dimensions 153 (lower deck)-154 x 43-43 9/11 x 17 2/11-20, 52-54 guns, 300 men.
- ¹⁶ 4th charter Prinses Louisa, built at Amsterdam 1769, 1795 renamed Broederschap, hospitalship, captured by British but left behind 1799, sold to be broken up 1800, dimensions 154½ x 43-43 9/11 x 20, 50-56 guns, 200-300 men.
- ¹⁷ 4th charter Erfprins, built by John May at naval yard at Amsterdam 1770, completed 1772, wrecked 1783, dimensions 154-154½ (lower deck) x 43-43 9/11 x 18 5/11-20 guns, 52-56, 200-300 men.
- ¹⁸ 4th charter, Piet Hein or Admiraal Piet Hein, on stocks at naval yard at Amsterdam 4 March 1773, launched 6 October 1774, completed 1776, sold to be broken up 1799, dimensions 154½ x 43-43 9/11 x 18 5/11-20, 54-56 guns.
- ¹⁹ 3rd charter Prinses Royaal Frederika Sophia Wilhelmina, built at Amsterdam 1769, broken up >1785-1787<, dimensions 154½ x 43 x 20, 54-64 guns.
- ²⁰ 4th charter Glindhorst, built by Charles Bentam at naval yard at Amsterdam 1754, still on stocks 1755, sold 1788, dimensions 153 (lower deck) x 43 x 18½-20, 50-54 guns, 300 men.
- ²¹ 4th charter Rijnland, built at Amsterdam 1753, exploded/burnt 1783, dimensions 153 (lower deck) x 43 x 18½-20, 52-54 guns, 300 men.
- ²² 4th charter, Schieland, built by Charles Bentham at naval yard at Amsterdam 1755, stricken 1782, dimensions 153 (lower deck) x 43 x 20, 54 guns.

1770	Valk	captain Silvester	24	156
1768	Venus	captain A.W. Willink	24	156
1769	Waakzaamheid	captain P. Smalen	24	156
1774	Alarm	hospitalship	24	
1768	Boreas	hospitalship	24	
smaller vessels				
1780	advicelyacht Ajax	lieutenant Petersen	24	150
1782	Mercur	lieutenant Jan Ort	24	150
uitleggers and pilotvessels				
	Spion	captain Stuyzer	12	70
	Zeebaars	captain Van Meus	12	70
	Zwaluw	captain Jansen	10	50
	Vos	captain Van der Mey	8	50
	Jonge Pieter	captain Duinker		
	Margarita	captain Breed		
	De Drie Gezusters	captain Davids		
privateers				
	Dolphyn	captain V.d. Linden	24	
	Triton	captain V.d. Biest	22	
	Spion	captain Coers	18	
Admiralty of Zeeland				
1756	Zuidbeveland ²³	captain Baron van Kinkel	64	420
1733	Zierikzee ²⁴	rear admiral Van Kruyne	64	420
1781	Goes ²⁵	captain Stavorinus	54	300
1761	Bruyswyk	captain Van Pruyst	36	230
1767	Walcheren	captain Haringsman	24	180
1756	Sint Maartensdyk	captain Dryber	24	150
uitleggers and pilotvessels				
	Hoop	captain Magnus	16	60
	Verwagting	captain Noels	16	60
	Dolphyn, advicelyacht	captain Liersen	16	60
privateers				
	Zeeuw	captain Turcq	16	
	Doggersbank		20	
	Vriendschap	captain Toulon	16	
	Vlissingen	captain Jarry	14	
	Hoop		12	

²³ 3rd charter Zuid Beveland, on stocks at Flushing 1746, launched 1747, sold to be broken up 1795, dimensions 156 (prow) x 44-44 1/11 x 18 3/11-19 1/2, 60-64 guns, 420 men.

²⁴ 3rd charter, Zierikzee, built by Hendrik Raas at Flushing 1733, wrecked 1782, dimensions 156 (prow) x 44-44 1/4 x 18 1/2-18 3/4, draught 17 1/4, 58-64 guns, 350-380 men.

²⁵ 4th charter Goes or Ter Goes, built 1781 at Vlissingen, broken up 1797, dimensions 154 x 43 x 19, 50-58 guns, 300 men.

Goede Verwachting	captain Cassin	12	
Zeeuwse Waterleeuw		10	
Vaardigheid			
Verenaar	captain Koelberg		
Admiralty of the Noorderkwartier			
1782	Noord-Holland ²⁶	64	450
1782	Alkmaar ²⁷	captain Ryneveld	50 300
1782	Munnikendam	captain Kuiper	44 270
1757	Dieren	captain Coerman	36 230
1779	Medenblik	captain Hekkers	36 230
1779	Hoorn		24 150
1779	Enkhuizen	captain Frykenius	24 150
uitleggers and pilotvessels			
Maria Johanna	captain De Groot	20	70
Expeditie	captain Medendorp	20	70
Jager adviceyacht	captain Bloys	16	70
Zeemeeuw	captain Slok	10	40
Zeepost	captain De Leeuw	6	20
Oranje	captain Spruyt	6	20
Admiralty of Friesland			
1782	Harlingen	captain Graaf van Rechteren	44 270
1781	Pallas	captain A. de Rook	44 270
1779	Eensgezindheid	captain Bouritius	36 230
1782	Juno	captain D. Wicht	36 230
1782	Snelheid	captain Hengst	12 60
uitleggers and pilotvessels			
Faam	captain De Bok	16	80
Meeuw	captain Cornelis	14	70
Windhond	captain Roukes	6	20
Brak	captain Vlieland	6	20
Spion(s)	captain Stoeff	6	20

Totally available 1 à 70 guns, 7 à 68 guns, 6 à 64 guns, 12 à 54 guns, 11 à 44 guns, 2 à 40 guns, 14 à 36 guns and 18 à 24 guns, 27 Sols and 45 frigates and another 29 smaller vessels.

Building: admiralty of the Maze 1 à 70 guns, 1 à 60 guns, 1 à 40 guns, admiralty of Amsterdam on stocks on naval and private yards 2 à 70 guns, 5 à 60 guns, admiralty of the Noorderkwartier naval yard 1 à 60 guns, to be launched within days and at private yards 3 à 60 guns, for the admiralties of Zealand and Friesland unknown.

²⁶ 3rd charter Noord Holland, built 1782-1783, broken up/sold 1795-1796, dimensions 167½ x 46 5/11 x 20½, 60-69 guns.

²⁷ 4th charter, Alkmaar, built at Enkhuizen 1781-1782, captured by British 1799, dimensions 154½-160 (establishment)x 43-45 (establishment) x 20-20½, (establishment), height between decks 6'5", 50-56 guns, 350-400 men, 1041e tons builders measurement.

Sources: Vierde Nieuwe Vermeerderde en Verbeeterde Lijst der Zeemagt van de Republiek der Vereenigde Nederlanden Zoo der Scheepen van Linie, fregatten, kotters, uytleggers en kapers welke reeds in commissie leggen, met het getal der ophebbende stukken geschut en manschappen, als ook van de geene welke nog niet in commissie gesteld zyn beneevens de opgave van de jaaren in welke de scheepen gebouwd zijn. Published in 1782 in Utrecht by A. Stubbe, bookseller.
For the details for the individually ships my own research results.