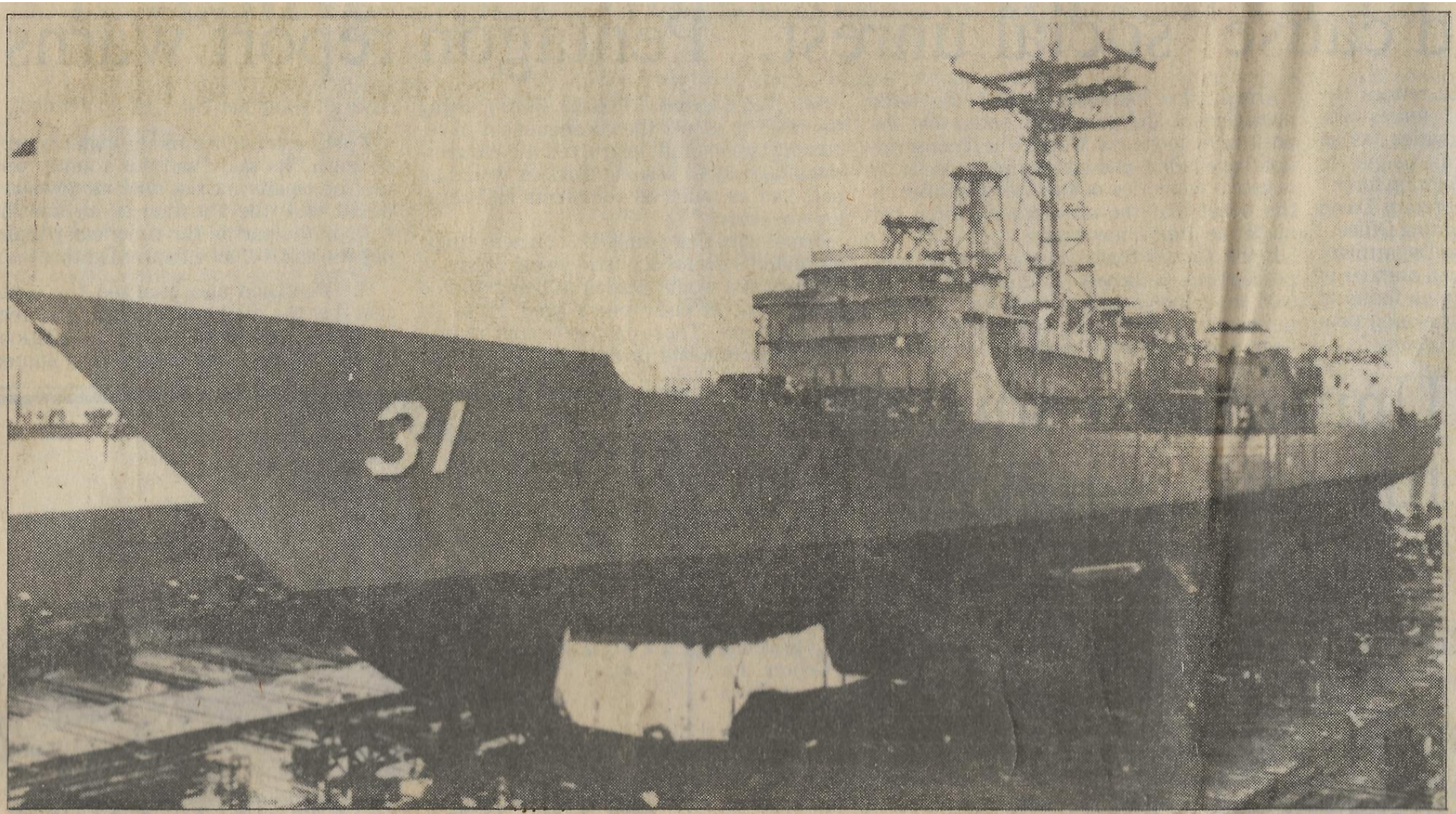


— Associated Press

Repairs progressing on USS Stark

The Mayport-based USS Stark continues to undergo repairs at Litton Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss. During the ship's four-month stay, workers have removed the deckhouse and replaced it with a new 65-ton section preoutfitted with new electronics, piping, ventilation and other components. The guided-missile frigate, which was damaged in an Iraqi missile attack that killed 37 sailors May 17 in the Persian Gulf, is expected to return to the fleet by the end of August. The Navy estimated that repairing the Stark, which was extensively damaged in the attack, would cost $40.9 million.