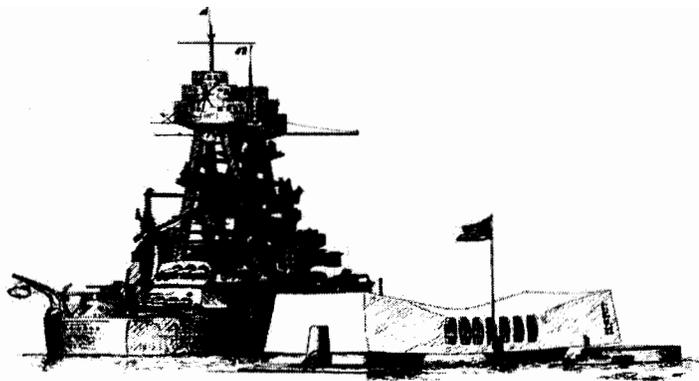


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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**POC: Lt. Barbara Mertz**

**RELEASE #030-06**

## **Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group makes port visits to Pearl Harbor**

PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII- More than 6,000 Sailors from USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), along with the staff and personnel assigned to Commander, Carrier Strike Group Seven (CCSG-7), Carrier Air Wing Fourteen (CVW-14) and Destroyer Squadron Seven (DESRON 7), will arrive today at Naval Station Pearl Harbor for a one-day port visit on the return leg of its 2006 Western Pacific deployment.

The other ships that make up the Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group, USS Lake Champlain (CG 57), USS McCampbell (DDG 85), USS Decatur (DDG 73) and USNS Rainier (T-AOE 7), will also be in port.

Among the various activities available in Pearl Harbor, many Ronald Reagan Sailors are making plans to visit the USS Arizona Memorial and the Battleship Missouri Memorial.

Many Sailors from Ronald Reagan are planning on taking advantage of the ship's and Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) discounted ticket program for tours and attractions all over the island, including golfing, surfing and tours.

Ronald Reagan and Carrier Air Wing Fourteen (CVW-14) launched more than 6,100 sorties totaling more than 19,600 flight hours while operating in the Arabian Gulf. Of those, more than 2,940 sorties and 14,200 flight hours were conducted in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group most recently participated in "Valiant Shield 2006," a major military exercise that utilized three carrier strike groups, along with land based Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard assets, from June 17-23 off the coast of Guam.

Before departing Pearl Harbor, more than 1,300 friends and family members of the Ronald Reagan crew are expected to board the ship as part of a scheduled "Tiger Cruise."

Commissioned in 2003, Ronald Reagan is the Navy's newest Nimitz-class aircraft carrier and departed San Diego on Jan. 4 on its maiden deployment in support of the global war on terrorism and maritime security operations.

***Media representatives who would like to cover the ship's arrival should contact the Navy Region Public Affairs Office at 473-2888 by noon today to arrange an escort. Media will be met at the Nimitz Gate Pass & ID parking area at 5 p.m.***

***- END -***