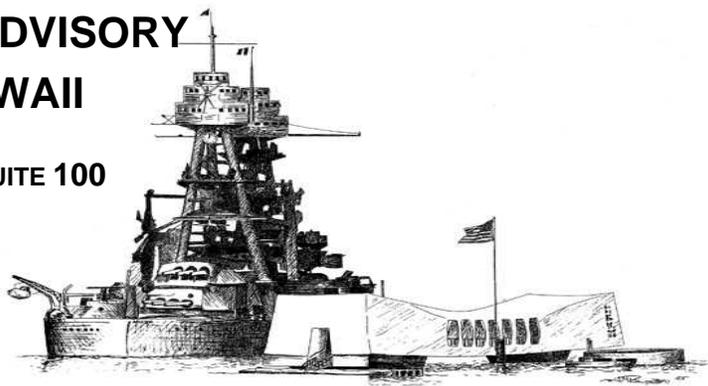


# REVISED MEDIA ADVISORY

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**POC: Chief David Rush, 590-8363**

**January 20, 2009**  
**Release #003A-09**

### **Pearl Harbor Ships USS Chung-Hoon, USS Hopper, and USS Paul Hamilton to deploy to Western Pacific**

(PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII) -- The Pearl Harbor-based guided missile destroyers USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), USS Hopper (DDG 70) and USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60) departed as part of a scheduled deployment on Tuesday, Jan. 20 to the Western Pacific.

Hopper and Paul Hamilton departed as part of the Mid-Pacific Surface Combatant Operational Employment program while Chung-Hoon departed as part of the USS Boxer (LHD 4) Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG).

The Mid-Pacific Surface Combatant Operational Employment program calls for nine of the 11 Hawaii-based surface combatants to focus on the Western Pacific by conducting intermediate/advanced training and regular deployments in the Western Pacific. The program also furthers America's Maritime Strategy by posturing credible power in the Western Pacific to protect our vital interests, assure our friends and allies and deter potential adversaries.

The USS Boxer ESG left their San Diego homeport on Jan. 9 and is comprised of Amphibious Squadron 5, the 13<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), USS New Orleans (LPD 18), USS Comstock (LSD 45), USS Chung-Hoon (DDG 93), USCGC Boutwell (WHEC 719), USS Lake Champlain (CG 57), Boxer Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 21, Naval Beach Group 1, Assault Craft Unit 5, Assault Craft Unit 1, Beach Master Unit 1 and Fleet Surgical Team 5.

USS Chung-Hoon is commanded by Cmdr. Michael A. McCartney; USS Hopper is commanded by Cmdr. Timothy J. Kott; and USS Paul Hamilton is commanded by Cmdr. Brent Smith.

The ships each have a crew of approximately 350 officers and enlisted personnel. Guided missile destroyers operate in support of carrier strike groups, surface action groups, amphibious groups and replenishment groups and are multi-mission [Anti-Air Warfare (AAW), Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), and Anti-Surface Warfare (ASUW)] surface combatants.