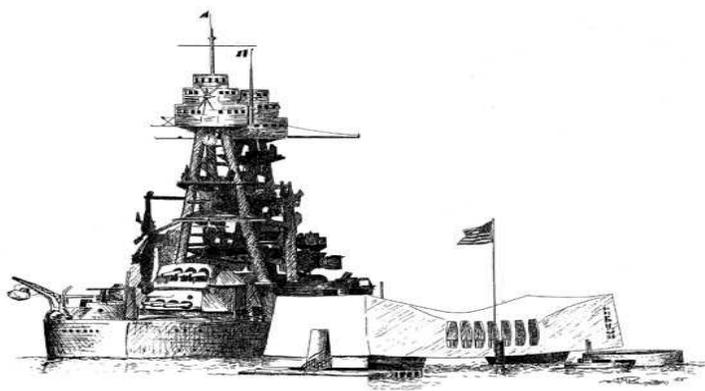


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2007

POC: MC1 James Foehl

RELEASE #011-07

Pfirmsmann turns helm over to Stewart as Commander Destroyer Squadron 31

(PEARL HARBOR) – Capt. R. Bruce Stewart will relieve Capt Frederick.W. Pfirmsmann as Commander, Destroyer Squadron 31 at a change of command ceremony on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor on Thursday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Pfirmsmann will be reporting to Commander Seventh Fleet as the Chief Staff Officer. Stewart's previous assignment was as Deputy Director for Operations, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Stewart is a 1982 graduate of the University of North Texas, in Denton, Texas where he earned his Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. Additionally, he received postgraduate degrees in Business Administration from Boston University and Military Studies from USMC Command and Staff College. Stewart received his commission through the Officer Candidate School in 1983.

Destroyer Squadron 31 is based in Pearl Harbor and includes USS Chafee (DDG 90), USS Chung Hoon (DDG 93), USS Crommelin (FFG 37), USS Hopper (DDG 70), USS Paul Hamilton (DDG 60), USS Russell (DDG 59), USS Reuben James (FFG 57) and USS O'Kane (DDG 77).

Media interested in attending the change of command ceremony must contact Petty Officer Foehl from the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office, at 473-2888 by 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 4. Media will be met at the Pass & I.D. parking lot adjacent to Nimitz Gate at 1:30 pm on Thursday, April 5.