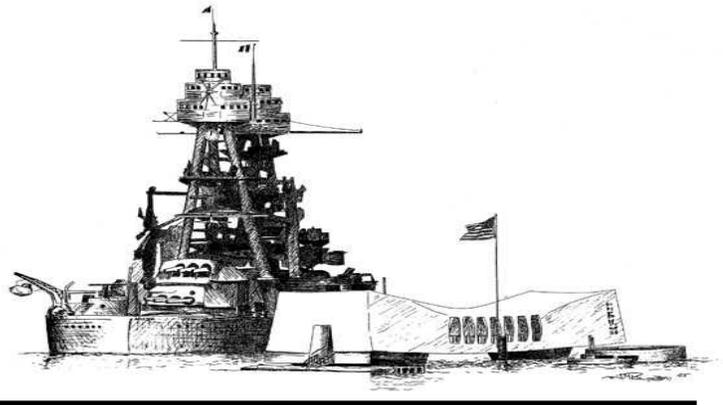


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 4, 2006

POC: Chief David Rush

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USS Russell returns to Pearl Harbor

(PEARL HARBOR) -- Family and friends will welcome home the more than 330 Sailors of the guided missile destroyer, USS Russell (DDG 59), Tuesday morning, Sept. 5, when the ship returns to Pearl Harbor after completing a six-month deployment.

The destroyer departed its homeport of Pearl Harbor in March to join the USS Abraham Lincoln Carrier Strike Group in support of the global war on terrorism. USS Russell later joined USS Kitty Hawk Strike Group when another escort was required for their mission.

During the deployment, the crew of USS Russell took part in several Southeast Asian port visits and community service projects including Hong Kong, China; Pattaya, Thailand; Singapore; and Sukumo, Japan, and Perth, Australia.

During that leg of the deployment, Cmdr. Charles B. Cooper II embarked USS Russell and a week later, in the northern Australian port of Darwin, relieved Cmdr. James W. Kilby as the ship's 8th commanding officer.

The Lincoln Carrier Strike Group includes Carrier Air Wing TWO, Destroyer Squadron NINE, the guided missile cruiser USS Mobile Bay (CG 53) and the guided missile destroyer USS Shoup (DDG 86). The Kitty Hawk Strike Group is composed Carrier Air Wing FIVE, the guided-missile cruisers USS Chancellorsville (CG 62), USS Cowpens (CG 63), and Destroyer Squadron 15.

For more information on USS Russell, visit www.russell.navy.mil

Media representatives who would like to cover the ship's return to Pearl Harbor, should contact Chief David Rush, Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office, at 590-8363 by 5 p.m. today, to arrange an escort. Media will be met at the Nimitz Gate Pass & ID parking area at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

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