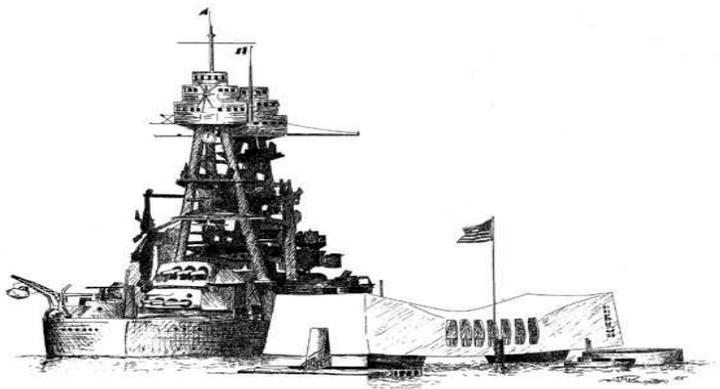


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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**POC: Chief David Rush**

**March 31, 2008**  
**RELEASE #007-08**

## **USS Lake Erie, USS Chosin to hold change of command ceremonies**

**(PEARL HARBOR)** – The Pearl Harbor-based guided missile cruisers USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and USS Chosin (CG 65) are conducting change of command ceremonies on April 1, and April 2 respectively.

USS Lake Erie's commanding officer, Capt. Randall M. Hendrickson, will be relieved by Capt. Ronald A. Boxall on board the ship at 2:00 p.m. April 1 in Pearl Harbor.

The commanding officer of USS Chosin, Capt. Steven A. Lott, will be relieved by Capt. Timothy T. Smith in a ceremony on board the ship while underway in the Hawaiian operating area.

USS Lake Erie and her crew successfully intercepted a nonfunctioning satellite on Feb. 20 as the AEGIS warship fired a single modified tactical Standard Missile (SM) 3 to destroy the earthbound toxic satellite.

USS Lake Erie and USS Chosin are part of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, and are committed to ensuring security and stability in the Pacific and contributing to homeland defense.

These ships are multi-mission [Air Warfare (AW), Undersea Warfare (USW), Naval Surface Fire Support (NSFS) and Surface Warfare (SUW)] surface combatants capable of supporting carrier battle groups, amphibious forces, or of operating independently and as flagships of surface action groups. Cruisers are equipped with *Tomahawk* cruise missiles giving them additional long range Strike Warfare (STRW) capability. Some Aegis Cruisers have been outfitted with a Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) capability.

***Media interested in attending the change of command ceremony on board USS Lake Erie must contact Chief David Rush of the Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office (590-8363) by 4 p.m. Monday, March 31. Media will be met at the Pass & I.D. parking lot adjacent to Nimitz Gate at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1. .***