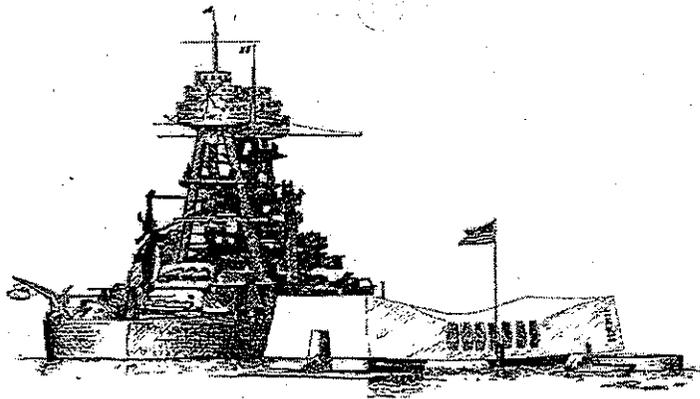


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USS Russell to return from deployment

PEARL HARBOR - The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Russell (DDG 59) and her crew of more than 330 Sailors will return from deployment on Thursday, Sept. 2 at 12:30 p.m.

The ship left Pearl Harbor on May 11 for the Western Pacific to participate in the Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, or CARAT, series of exercises in Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines.

Commanded by Cmdr. James Kilby, USS Russell is 505 feet long, 66 feet wide and displaces nearly 9,000 tons when fully loaded. The ship is equipped to carry Tomahawk Land-Attack cruise missiles and standard surface-to-air missiles; two, fully automated radar controlled Phalanx close-in weapons systems, Harpoon anti-ship cruise missiles, two five-inch guns as well as powerful command-in-control and electronic warfare systems.

Media representatives interested in covering the Russell's departure should contact the Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs Office at 473-2888 by 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 1 to arrange an escort. Media will be met at the Nimitz Gate Visitors Pass Office parking lot at 12 noon for transportation to the pier.

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