

USS Lake Erie Returns Home to San Diego



The Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Lake Erie (CG 70) returned to its homeport of Naval Base San Diego, Jan. 30, after completing a seven-month deployment to the U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleet areas of operations. (U.S. Navy photo by MC1 Brandon Roberson)

From Lt. j.g. Selena Esteban, Jan. 31, 2025

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Lake Erie departed San Diego July 1, 2024, to conduct independent operations in the Indo-Pacific region.

While deployed to U.S. 7th Fleet, Lake Erie conducted operations across multiple warfare areas, deterring

aggression, promoting regional stability and security, and protecting free flow of commerce. Lake Erie participated in various multi-national exercises, operating with the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force, the Royal Canadian Navy, the Philippine Navy, and the Royal Australian Air Force. Throughout deployment, Lake Erie reinforced the U.S. commitment to allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region, demonstrating the growing strength of regional and international cooperation.

Lake Erie was led by Commanding Officer Capt. Drew A. Borovies, Executive Officer Cmdr. Raymond T. Ball before turning over duties to Cmdr. Clinton R. Cabe last December, and Command Master Chief Raina Hockenberry.

“Lake Erie was the can-do cruiser in 7th Fleet. This deployment showed how capable Lake Erie and our Sailors are by responding whenever we were needed. No matter what challenges were thrown Lake Erie’s way, the crew rose to the occasion and achieved success every single time,” said Capt. Drew A. Borovies, commanding officer, Lake Erie. “I am incredibly proud of all the hard work from the team. We came to show how powerful the United States Navy is and that is exactly what we did.”

In the last seven months, Lake Erie sailed over 40,000 nautical miles with embarked Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 35 Detachment 1 flying a total of 774 hours, together defending and supporting a free and open Indo-Pacific.

“I am glad that I was able to join this inspiring team,” said Cmdr. Clinton R. Cabe, executive officer, Lake Erie. “Lake Erie truly built up their reputation in the last seven months, completing a wide variety of exercises and always maintaining a high state of readiness. None of this could have been done without the resilience of our Sailors. I am very excited to continue working with this wonderful crew and be a part of

future accomplishments.”

As an integral part of U.S. Pacific Fleet, Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet operates naval forces in the Indo-Pacific and provides the realistic and relevant training necessary to execute the U.S. Navy’s timeless role across the full spectrum of military operations—from combat missions to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. U.S. 3rd Fleet works together with our allies and partners to advance freedom of navigation, the rule of law, and other principles that underpin security for the Indo-Pacific region.