



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

**USS LAKE ERIE (CG 70)
FPO AP 96671-1190**

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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From: Commanding Officer, USS LAKE ERIE (CG 70)
To: Director of Naval History (N09BH), Washington Navy
Yard, 901 M Street SE, Washington, DC 20374-5060

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2003

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12H

Encl: (1) Command Composition and Organization
(2) 2003 Chronology
(3) Narrative 2003
(4) Commanding Officer's Photograph and Biography

1. Per reference (a), enclosures (1) through (4) are forwarded.


SCOTT T. ANHALT

COMMAND COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

USS LAKE ERIE (CG 70) is homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and is commanded by Captain Scott T. Anhalt. The Immediate Superior in Command for LAKE ERIE is RADM Barry McCullough, Commander Naval Surface Group, Middle Pacific.

Total Billets Assigned:

Paygrade	Billets Assigned
<u>Officers:</u>	37
<u>Enlisted:</u>	380
 Total:	 417

2003 CHRONOLOGY

JANUARY

1-5 JANUARY HOLIDAY LEAVE AND UPKEEP PERIOD
23 JANUARY DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR CART II
25 JANUARY ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI

FEBRUARY

4 FEBRUARY DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR TSTA
7 FEBRUARY ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
10 FEBRUARY DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR IDTC
14 FEBRUARY ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI

MARCH

6 MARCH DEPART PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR LEAR
SERVICES AT PMRF
7 MARCH ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
10 MARCH COMMANDER, USNORTHCOM VISIT
10 MARCH DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR AMMO
ONLOAD
14 MARCH ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
20 MARCH DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI
21 MARCH ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
24 MARCH DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR NSFS
28 MARCH ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI

APRIL

2 APRIL DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI
4 APRIL ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
7 APRIL-18 APRIL C5RA
21 APRIL-24 APRIL INSURV
28 APRIL DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI

MAY

8 MAY UNDERWAY DEMONSTRATION
8 MAY ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
9-10 MAY AT/FP PHASE II
19 MAY SECNAV VISIT
12-31 MAY WATERFRONT INTEGRATION TESTING FOR FM-5
23 MAY COMCRUDESGRU ONE VISIT
27-30 MAY HOST SHIP JDS SETOGIRI

JUNE

1-9 JUNE WATERFRONT INTEGRATION TESTING FOR FM-5
9 JUNE DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR UNDERWAY
WATERFRONT INTEGRATION TESTING FOR FM-5
12 JUNE ARRIVED LUALUALEI, HI FOR AMMO ONLOAD
13 JUNE ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
16 JUNE DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR FM-5
18 JUNE FM-5
19 JUNE ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
20 JUNE PACOM VISIT AND CLASS OF '70 AWARDS
PRESENTATION
23-26 JUNE FEP

26 JUNE	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
30 JUNE	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI, WESTPAC 03
JULY	
2 JULY	CROSSED THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE
10-12 JULY	PASSEX WITH JMSDF SHIPS JDS HATAKAZE AND JDS IKAZUCHI
12 JULY	ARRIVED YOKOSUKA, JAPAN
14 JULY	JAPANESE DEFENSE AGENCY DELEGATION VISIT
15 JULY	CINCSDFLT VISIT
16 JULY	DEPARTED YOKOSUKA, JAPAN
19 JULY	ARRIVED PUSAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
22 JULY	ROKN THIRD FLEET COMMANDER VISIT
22 JULY	DEPARTED PUSAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
23-24 JULY	CSOFEX WITH ROKN
24 JULY	OBSERVED 10 TH ANNIVERSARY OF USS LAKE ERIE'S COMMISSIONING
25-31 JULY	PACIFIC EXPLORER
AUGUST	
1 AUG	PACIFIC EXPLORER
2 AUG	ARRIVED SASEBO, JAPAN
5 AUG	DEPARTED SASEBO, JAPAN
12 AUG	CROSSED THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE
15 AUG	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
15 AUG	FMAV/RAV BEGINS
20 AUG	PRC MINISTER OF DEFENSE VISIT
28 AUG	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI
29 AUG	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
SEPTEMBER	
1 SEP	SISTER SHIP USS PORT ROYAL'S DEPARTURE FOR DEPLOYMENT
9 SEP	ROKN, HAWAII CONSULATE, MILITARY ATTACHE VISIT
11 SEP	CAPT DECONTO MEMORIAL SERVICE
15-17 SEP	HOST SHIP FOR HMAS WARAMUNGA
19 SEP	MIDPAC VISIT
19 SEP	FMAV/RAV CONCLUDES
22 SEP	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI
24 SEP	FIREX I
28 SEP	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
29 SEP	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI, EN ROUTE TO SAN DIEGO FOR TRAINING
OCTOBER	
1 OCT	NSFS FIREX 1
11 OCT	ARRIVED PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO
13 OCT	DEPARTED PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO
21 OCT	5" AND CIWS TDU SHOOT
21 OCT	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI

22 OCT	SAFETY SURVEY
22 OCT	UNDERSECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE VISIT
24 OCT	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI
24 OCT	ARRIVED LAHAINA, MAUI
27 OCT	DEPARTED LAHAINA, MAUI
27 OCT	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
28 OCT	FMAV/RAV BEGINS
NOVEMBER	
1-30 NOV	WATERFRONT INTEGRATION TESTING FOR FM-6
26 NOV	FMAV/RAV CONCLUDES
DECEMBER	
1 DEC	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR UNDERWAY WATERFRONT INTEGRATION TESTING FOR FM-6
4 DEC	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
8 DEC	DEPARTED PEARL HARBOR, HI FOR FM-6
11 DEC	FM-6 BALLISTIC MISSILE INTERCEPT
12 DEC	ARRIVED PEARL HARBOR, HI
15-31 DEC	HOLIDAY LEAVE & UPKEEP PERIOD

NARRATIVE 2003

For the officers and crew of USS LAKE ERIE, the year 2003 was marked by a series of monumental achievements ranging from a deployment to the SEVENTH Fleet Area of Operations to another successful sea-based intercept of a ballistic missile. As the Chief of Naval Operations' Theater Ballistic Missile Defense test platform, LAKE ERIE solidified the critical role of the Surface Navy in the defense of our nation with her success in AEGIS Ballistic Missile Defense Flight Mission 6. In addition to her work in the field of missile defense, LAKE ERIE exercised combat capabilities and strengthened diplomatic relations during numerous training exercises with the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force and the Republic of Korea Navy while underway in the Far East.

LAKE ERIE began the year moored in Pearl Harbor, HI for a Holiday Leave and Upkeep Period that lasted through 5 January and gave the crew a well-earned rest with family and friends. On 23 January, the ship began its work in the Interdeployment Training Cycle (IDTC) in earnest. On the 23rd, LAKE ERIE departed Pearl Harbor for tests and drills related to the CART II inspection. After successfully completing CART II, LAKE ERIE returned to Pearl Harbor on 25 January. More underways to support the IDTC followed. LAKE ERIE was underway every week in March, spending the first week at PMRF for LEAR services and the second and third weeks underway running a series of drills and combat simulations. On 10 March, the ship played host to Commander, USNORTHCOM. The last week of March, the ship conducted a successful Naval Surface Fire Support exercise at the Pacific Missile Range Facility.

April saw the ship working through a pair of the Navy's most rigorous inspections: C5RA and the Board of Inspection and Survey Inspection (INSURV). Conducted once every five years, INSURV is the most grueling inspection in the Navy. LAKE ERIE's meticulous preparation paid off, though, as the ship and crew passed both inspections with flying colors.

Upon completion of INSURV, the ship rolled directly into the Waterfront Integration Testing for FM-5 from 12 May to 9 June, another in a series of tests of the Sea-Based Midcourse Defense System. From 9-13 June, LAKE ERIE conducted the at-sea portion of the FM-5 Waterfront Integration Testing. Once all the final preparations were made, the ship departed Pearl Harbor on 16 June for FM-5. On 18 June, LAKE ERIE engaged an Aries missile target launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the island of Kauai, HI. After tracking the target with the SPY-1

radar and developing a fire control solution, LAKE ERIE launched its experimental SM-3 missile. The missile acquired the target, but failed to achieve a "hit-to-kill" intercept.

LAKE ERIE returned to Pearl Harbor on 19 June and began preparations for the ship's deployment to the 7th Fleet Area of operations. From 23-26 June, the ship successfully completed the Final Evaluation Problem. LAKE ERIE departed Pearl Harbor bound for Yokosuka, Japan on 30 June.

En route to Yokosuka, LAKE ERIE observed the 4th of July at sea, treating the crew to an impressive gunnery display set to patriotic music. LAKE ERIE successfully rendezvoused with the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force ships JDS HATAKAZE and JDS IKAZUCHI on 10 July. The ships completed a series of exercises including divisional tactics, communications drills and Anti-Submarine Warfare tests before parting ways on 12 July. LAKE ERIE arrived in Yokosuka, Japan on 12 July.

While the crew headed off the ship for some much-anticipated liberty, visitors swarmed onboard, anxious to hear about the ship's revolutionary missile defense technology. While in port from 12-16 July, LAKE ERIE hosted both the Japan Defense Agency and the Commander-in-Chief of the Self Defense Fleet. The ship departed for Yokosuka on 16 July.

Just three days later, the ship was moored again, this time in Pusan, Republic of Korea. Again, the crew headed out for liberty while visitors plied those still onboard with questions. The commander of the ROK Navy's Third Fleet and a host of other distinguished visitors were guests at a reception held on LAKE ERIE on 20 July.

The ship left Pusan on 22 July to participate in a series of exercises. From 23-24 July, LAKE ERIE joined other allied nations in the Combined Special Operations Forces Exercise. American and Korean units worked together to prevent the infiltration of the Republic of Korea by simulated North Korean units. The ship then turned north to work with the Japanese for Operation Pacific Explorer from 25 July to 1 August.

LAKE ERIE arrived in Sasebo, Japan on 2 August. The ship's crew enjoyed three liberty days before pulling out on 5 August to avoid a typhoon. This concluded LAKE ERIE's stay in 7th Fleet and the ship headed for home after leaving Sasebo.

The ship arrived in Pearl Harbor on 15 August and immediately began an FMAV/RAV period. Just five days later, the

ship entertained a delegation from China's People's Liberation Army/Navy. The string of distinguished visitors continued as the Military Attaché to the Republic of Korea consulate and the ship's ISIC, Rear Admiral McCullough, COMNAVSURFGRUMIDPAC, came to the ship on 9 September and 19 September, respectively.

LAKE ERIE got underway again on 29SEP to complete her Naval Surface Fire Support qualification and visit Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. The ship arrived in Puerto Vallarta on 11 October and remained anchored until 13 October. While headed back to Pearl Harbor, the ship successfully engaged a target drone on 21 October. The ship reached Pearl Harbor the same day.

Upon arrival, LAKE ERIE began a short, intense period of maintenance and VIP visits that included painting out both sides of the ship in just four days, hosting the Undersecretary of the Air Force, the Chinese Minister of Defense and serving as the backdrop for President Bush's visit to Pearl Harbor. After the final visit, LAKE ERIE collected the crew's family members for a brief dependents' cruise to Maui before the ship began preparations for FM-6.

LAKE ERIE returned to Pearl Harbor on 27 October and started the FM-6 Waterfront Integrated Testing. Waterfront Integrated Testing continued in Pearl Harbor until 30 November. On 1 December, the ship sailed from Pearl Harbor for the underway portion of the Waterfront Integrated Testing Readiness Assessment.

On 8 December, LAKE ERIE left Pearl Harbor for FM-6. On 11 December, LAKE ERIE engaged an Aries missile target launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility on the island of Kauai, HI. After tracking the target with SPY-1 radar and developing a fire control solution, LAKE ERIE launched another experimental SM-3 missile. The missile acquired, tracked and diverted toward the target, achieving an historic hit-to-kill intercept.

LAKE ERIE returned to Pearl Harbor on 12 December and began its holiday leave-and-upkeep period.