IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Notice to Mariners is published by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.40, to advise mariners of important matters affecting navigational safety, including new hydrographic discoveries, changes in channels and navigational aids, etc. (U.S. Code Title 10, Sec. 442 and Title 44, Sec. 1336 refer). Nothing in the arrangement of information implies endorsement or acceptance by NGA in matters affecting the status and boundaries of States and territories. The Notice to Mariners presents corrective information affecting charts, NGA/DLIS Catalog of Maps Charts and Related Products, Coast Pilots, Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides, USCG Light Lists, NGA List of Lights, Radio Navigational Aids and other products produced by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, National Ocean Service and U.S. Coast Guard.

Information for the Notice to Mariners is contributed by the following Agencies: National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) (Department of Defense) for waters outside the territorial limits of the United States; National Ocean Service (NOS) (Department of Commerce), which is charged with the surveys and charting of the coasts and harbors of the United States and its territories; the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) (Department of Homeland Security), which is responsible for the safety of life at sea and the establishment and operation of aids to navigation; and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Department of Defense), which is charged with the improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States. In addition, important contributions are made by foreign hydrographic offices and cooperating observers of all nationalities.

For further information concerning NGA hydrographic products and services, including the Maritime Safety Web site, users may contact:

Name	Telephone	DSN	FAX
Maritime Division	301-227-3370	287-3370	301-227-4211
World Wide Navigational Warning Service	301-227-3147	287-3147	301-227-3731
Maritime Safety Web site	301-227-3296	287-3296	301-227-4211
Notice to Mariners: Regions 1 and 2	301-227-3122	287-3122	301-227-3175
Notice to Mariners: Regions 3 thru 9	301-227-3146	287-3146	301-227-3175
Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides	301-227-3183	287-3183	301-227-3174
Navigation Publications	301-227-3120	287-3120	301-227-3731
DLA Catalog of Maps Charts and Related Products	269-961-5741	661-5741	269-961-4983

The Maritime Safety Web site can be accessed directly at **http://www.nga.mil/maritime**. For your convenience NGA provides four e-mail addresses. For information affecting Notice to Mariners use NavNotices@nga.mil, for information affecting Sailing Directions and all other navigational publications use NAVPubs@nga.mil, for information concerning the Maritime Safety Web site, use webmaster_nss@nga.mil and for information concerning the World Wide Navigational Warning Service, use NavSafety@nga mil.

Mariners are requested to notify NGA of discrepancies in charts and publications, using the Marine Information Report and Suggestion Sheet at the back of this Notice to Mariners. This form should also be used to report permanent changes, additions, or deletions from charted or published information. Reports which constitute an immediate hazard to navigation should be sent to the nearest NAVAREA Coordinator via coast radio stations. All reports are greatly appreciated. Marine Information Report and Suggestion sheets received during the past week were submitted by the following observers:

Observer	**Ship/Organization**
LTJG Green	USS TAYLOR
ETCS Ramones	CSG-7

Cover Photo: The **USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN (CG-57)** is the eleventh ship in the *Ticonderoga* class of Aegis guided missile cruisers and the tenth built by Ingalls Shipbuilding of Pascagoula, Mississippi. She commemorates Lake Champlain, NY where two significant naval battles were fought. The first was the Revolutionary War Battle of Valcour Island and the second was the War of 1812 Battle of Lake Champlain. **LAKE CHAMPLAIN** provides multi-mission offensive and defensive capabilities in support of the Nation's maritime security and can operate independently or as part of an aircraft carrier strike group, surface action groups, or as an expeditionary strike group. The ship's armament incudes the MK 41 vertical launching system for Standard surface-to-air missiles, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, Tomahawk cruise missiles, anti-submarine rockets (ASROC), six MK 46 torpedoes, two Phalanx Close-in Weapons Systems (CIWS) for self-defense against enemy aircraft and missiles, and two MK 45 five-inch/54 caliber lightweight guns. In addition, she carries two SH-60 Seahawk helicopters for anti-submarine warfare. She is powered by four General Electric LM 2500 gas turbine engines that provide a top speed in excess of 30 knots. Commissioned 12 August 1988, the **LAKE CHAMPLAIN** has a displacement of 9600 tons fully loaded, is 567 feet long, has a beam of 55 feet and a draft of 34 feet. She carries a crew of 324 Sailors, 27 Chief Petty Officers and 33 Officers. The homeport of the **USS LAKE CHAMPLAIN** is San Diego, CA.