

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Notice to Mariners is published by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), under the authority of Department of Defense Directive 5105.60, 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, USCG Light Lists, NGA List of Lights 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:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>DSN</u>	<u>FAX</u>
Maritime Safety Office	571-557-8384	N/A	571-558-3213
World Wide Navigational Warning Service	571-557-5455	547-5455	571-558-3426
Maritime Safety Web site	571-557-7103	547-7103	N/A
Notice to Mariners: Regions 1 and 2	571-557-8282	547-8282	571-558-3213
Notice to Mariners: Regions 3 thru 9	571-557-8383	547-8383	571-558-3213
Sailing Directions, Fleet Guides	571-557-5943	547-5943	571-558-3261
Navigation Publications	571-557-8080	547-8080	571-558-3261
NGA/DLIS Catalog of Maps Charts and Related Products	269-961-7766	661-7766	269-961-7791

The Maritime Safety Web site can be accessed directly at <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. For your convenience NGA provides four e-mail addresses. For information affecting Notice to Mariners use MCDNtM@nga.mil, for information affecting Sailing Directions and all other navigational publications use MCDPubs@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
Brian Smith	USNS WILLIAM MCLEAN

Cover Photo: U.S. Army logistic support vessel **SSGT Robert T. Kuroda, (LSV-7)**, the first of two new-generation logistic support vessels built for the Army's Tank-automotive and Armament Command (TACOM), was built by V.T. Halter Marine and christened in 2003. She is named for Staff Sergeant Robert T. Kuroda, a Medal of Honor recipient who distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action, on 20 October 1944, near Bruyeres, France. LSVs are roll-on roll-off vessels used to transport heavy equipment and other bulky items, and are capable of discharging a payload of 2,000 short tons, including 15 main battle tanks or up to 82 double-stacked 20-foot long ISO containers, directly onto unimproved beaches and ports using large, retractable bow ramps. Logistic support vessel **SSGT Robert T. Kuroda** is 314 feet in length, has a beam of 60 feet, a draft of 13 feet, displaces 6,000 tons, has a range of more than 5,500 nautical miles and can deploy fully provisioned worldwide at a speed of 12 knots carrying a standard port-opening package weighing 1,000 short tons. She is operated by a crew of 31 and is homeported in Honolulu, HI.