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**National Defense University Change of Presidency and
Retirement of Vice Admiral Ann E. Rondeau, USN**

(WASHINGTON, DC) On Wednesday, April 11, leadership of the National Defense University passed from Vice Admiral Ann E. Rondeau, USN, to Ambassador Nancy McEldowney in a Change of Presidency ceremony held on the university campus.

Admiral James A. Winnefeld, Jr., USN, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, officiated over the Change of Presidency ceremony, during which Ambassador Nancy McEldowney, the Senior Vice President of the National Defense University, assumed the duties of Interim NDU President pending the arrival of the Admiral Rondeau's replacement, Major General Gregg Martin, US Army. Major General Martin, currently the Commandant of the Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, is expected to assume his duties as NDU President this summer.

Vice Admiral Rondeau was awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious service as president of the National Defense University.

Vice Admiral Rondeau retired after 38 years of service to the Navy and the Nation. Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, presided over the retirement ceremony.

Vice Admiral Rondeau graduated with a degree in history in 1973 from Eisenhower College where she was selected by the Board of Trustees as "Most Distinguished Graduate" and received the Groben Award for Leadership. She earned her commission in 1974 through Officer Candidate School. Subsequent assignments include Navy Staff in the NATO/Europe Section of the Strategy, Plans and Policy Division; Office of the Secretary of Defense as assistant for policy analysis; the Office of African Affairs; Special Assistant to the Attorney General for National Security Affairs as a White House Fellow; Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Executive Panel as assistant for political-military analysis; military assistant to the Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; and, Deputy Chief of Staff for Shore Installations for Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet Staff.

Vice Admiral Rondeau's early leadership tours include serving as the Operations Officer for VP-50, the Executive Officer for the FSS-1, the Officer-In-Charge of Military Sealift Command (MSC) Unit (New Orleans), and as a Battalion Officer at the U.S. Naval Academy. She has also held many senior command positions to include Commanding Officer, Naval Support Activity, La Maddalena, Italy and at Naval Support Activity Mid-South in Millington, Tennessee; Commander of Naval Training Center Great Lakes; and, subsequently as the first commander of Naval Service Training Command, which was established June 30,

2003. Following these tours, Vice Admiral Rondeau assumed command of Naval Personnel Development Command in November 2004 and later became the Director of Navy Staff in August 2005. In December 2006, she assumed duties as Deputy Commander of U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

Vice Admiral Rondeau is Surface Warfare qualified, training on both MSC Merchant Marine vessels and U.S. Navy combatants. She holds subspecialty qualifications in political-military affairs, operations intelligence, operations analysis, strategy and planning, and military transportation. In addition, she was selected as a White House Fellow, a CNO Strategic Studies Group Fellow and as a permanent member of the Council of Foreign Relations. As President of NDU, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Institute for Peace, as well as Department of Defense liaison to The Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress.

Ambassador McEldowney became the Senior Vice President of the National Defense University on August 1, 2011. Prior to this, she served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, with oversight responsibility for 49 countries in Europe and Eurasia, as well as the NATO alliance, the European Union, and the Organization for Security Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Previously, she served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as Deputy Chief of Mission in Ankara, Turkey and Baku, Azerbaijan. She was Director of European Affairs on the National Security Council staff. Ambassador McEldowney has been granted the State Department's Superior Honor Award on five occasions, and is also a recipient of the Sinclair Linguistic Award. She is a member of the Senior Foreign Service.

National Defense University supports the joint warfighter by providing rigorous Joint Professional Military Education to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and select others in order to develop leaders who have the ability to operate and creatively think in an unpredictable and complex world. To achieve this mission, NDU is committed to excellence in joint, interagency, and international security education; in enhancing the capacity of our students for strategic leadership and decision making in national and international security; and to sustaining our nation's leadership position within the global community.

For more information about Vice Admiral Rondeau's retirement or the National Defense University, please contact: Dave Thomas, Public Affairs Officer, at 202-685-3140 or ThomasD2@ndu.edu; or visit www.ndu.edu.

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