



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**PEARL HARBOR HISTORIC SITES FREE TO MILITARY PERSONNEL,
FAMILIES THIS MEMORIAL DAY
May 13, 2008**

PEARL HARBOR, O`AHU, HI – The Pearl Harbor Historic Sites partners are proud to offer complimentary general admission to all active-duty, reserve, and retired U.S. military personnel and their dependants on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, 2008. Qualified visitors must present a valid military I.D. upon entering the historic site or sites of their choice.

Applicable Pearl Harbor historic sites include the USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, Battleship Missouri Memorial, and Pacific Aviation Museum – Pearl Harbor. The USS Arizona Memorial and recently dedicated USS Oklahoma Memorial, both operated and maintained by the National Parks Service, already offer free daily admission.

The Pearl Harbor Historic Sites provide a powerful historical journey unlike any other. These memorials and museums carry forth the legacies of several of our nation’s most treasured icons. They are enduring tributes to the valor and sacrifices of our veterans, and provide windows into a past era when the future of our nation and the world truly hung in the balance.

Memorial Day, traditionally observed on the last Monday of May, commemorates all fallen U.S. men and women who have given their lives in military service to their country. The holiday origin began as a tribute to Union soldiers during the American Civil War. Following the First World War, the observance was expanded to include those who died in any war or military action.

USS Arizona Memorial

The USS Arizona, dedicated on Memorial Day 1962, is the final resting place for 1,177 crewmembers who lost their lives on December 7, 1941. The memorial honors and commemorates all members of the U.S. Armed Forces and civilians who gave their lives in the service of our country. In 1980, Congress mandated that the USS Arizona Memorial become a unit of the National Parks Service. The USS Arizona Memorial Visitors Center is open daily from 7:30 am to 5 pm. General admission is free. Tickets are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. For information, call (808) 422-0561 or visit www.nps.gov/usar/d.

USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park

The USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park, operated as a private, non-profit organization, is dedicated to the sacrifice of more than 3,500 submarine personnel lost in World War II. This gallant band of brothers, comprising less than 2 percent of U.S. Navy, sank more than 5.5 million tons of enemy ships, while sustaining losses of 52 submarines that remain on Eternal Patrol. The USS Bowfin Submarine Museum and Park is open daily from 8 am to 5 pm. General admission is \$10 per adult and \$4 per child 4-12. Military, Kama`aina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information, call (808) 423-1341 or visit www.bowfin.org.

Battleship Missouri Memorial

America’s last battleship, the USS Missouri (BB-63), completed an astounding career spanning five decades and three wars – World War II, Korea and Operation Desert Storm – and is best known as the site of Japan’s WWII surrender, which brought history’s most devastating war to a close. Today, the 887-foot, 45,000-ton “Mighty Mo” is open for visitors as the Battleship Missouri Memorial, a private, non-profit organization, on historic Ford Island in Pearl Harbor. The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. General Admission is \$16 per adult and \$8 per child 4-12. Military,

Kama`aina (local residents) and school group pricing is available. For more information or to preserve a tour, call (toll-free) 1- 877-MIGHTYMO (1-877-644-4896) or visit www.ussmissouri.org.

Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor

The Pacific Aviation Museum – Pearl Harbor, also operated as a private, non-profit organization, occupies the WWII hangars and control tower on Ford Island that still bear the scars as our nation’s first aviation battlefield. Giving visitors a front-row seat to the Pacific Theater and presenting aircraft and their stories, the museum illustrates how aviation turned the tide of the war. The Pacific Aviation Museum – Pearl Harbor is open daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. General admission is \$14 per adult and \$7 per child 4-12. Military, Kama`aina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information, call (808) 441-1000 or visit www.pacificaviationmyuseum.org.

USS Oklahoma Memorial

A lasting and fitting memorial created in honor of the 429 sailors and marines lost aboard the USS Oklahoma on December 7, 1941, the USS Oklahoma Memorial was dedicated exactly 66 years later on Ford Island last year and is maintained under the stewardship of the National Parks Service. The memorial lists the names of the fallen on granite slabs remembering the heroism and tragedy of that day of infamy. The USS Oklahoma Memorial is open daily from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free. Transportation for those without naval base access is available via the Battleship Missouri Memorial/Pacific Aviation Museum shuttle for \$3 per person (redeemable at site retail stores). For more information, call (808) 422-0561

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