



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL WELCOMES THE USS MISSOURI (SSN-780) TO PEARL HARBOR**

**Pearl Harbor, HI – (January 27, 2018)** – A seventh Virginia-class submarine, USS Missouri (SSN-780) arrived Friday at its new home port – Pearl Harbor next to the retired battleship – USS *Missouri*.

“The Battleship Missouri is not abstract history. Here you can walk the decks, touch the ship, and feel what it must have been like,” said Michael Carr, president and CEO of the USS Missouri Memorial Association, caretaker of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. “You can stand on the Surrender Deck and look 500 yards out to the Arizona Memorial where World War II began for America. There are a few places in this country where you can get that emotional attachment to our history.”

The Battleship Missouri Memorial welcomed the USS Missouri (SSN-780) with a special reception aboard the fantail of the Mighty Mo. Lt. Gov. of Missouri Mike Parson and Missouri’s Chief Operating Officer Drew Erdmann attended the gathering for 80 crew members and their families.

During the reception, Lt. Gov. Parson presented a proclamation on behalf of the Governor of Missouri recognizing January 27 as USS Missouri Day – honoring two naval warships that have served under the State of Missouri’s name. The proclamation also celebrates the arrival of the USS Missouri (SSN-780) to Pearl Harbor and its successful transfer to the Pacific Fleet.

“George Orwell wrote – ‘we sleep peacefully in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to do violence on our behalf.’ I submit to you that the submariners among you today are some of these rough men. They have been and are putting their tails on the line, time and time again for our great country,” said George Howell, Commander for the USS Missouri (SSN-780).

The submarine joined the Atlantic Fleet on July 30, 2010 and has operated in the Atlantic/Mediterranean area.



**Link to image:** <https://i.imgur.com/V4ddotB.jpg>

**Caption:** USS Missouri (SSN-780) next to the retired USS *Missouri* during its arrival into Pearl Harbor on Friday.

**Photo Courtesy:** U.S. Navy - Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Lee, Commander Submarine Forces Pacific

*Pier Foxtrot-5, Ford Island, Pearl Harbor*

63 Cowpens St. • Honolulu, HI 96818 • Ph: (808) 423-2263 • Fax: (808) 423-0700 • [www.ussmissouri.org](http://www.ussmissouri.org)



**Link to image:** <https://i.imgur.com/oKoshu0.jpg>

**Caption:** Lt. Gov. Michael Parson speaking before the USS Missouri (SSN-780) crew members and their families.

**Photo Courtesy:** Battleship Missouri Memorial



**Link to image:** <https://i.imgur.com/vel7YbW.jpg>

**Caption:** Michael Carr, president and CEO of the USS Missouri Memorial Association, caretaker of the Battleship Missouri Memorial, receives a painting to be displayed on the Battleship.

**Photo Courtesy:** Battleship Missouri Memorial



**Link to image:** <https://i.imgur.com/lqC4sR7.jpg>

**Caption:** Lt. Gov. Parson receives the U.S. flag flown during the arrival of the USS Missouri (SSN-780) from Michael Carr.

**Photo Courtesy:** Battleship Missouri Memorial



**Link to image:** <https://i.imgur.com/E9phwVg.jpg>

**Caption:** Commander Howell receives a plaque made of original teak from the Battleship Missouri for display on the USS Missouri submarine.

**Photo Courtesy:** Battleship Missouri Memorial

**Battleship Missouri Memorial**

Since opening in January 1999, the Battleship Missouri Memorial has attracted more than 7-million visitors from around the world with a fascinating tour experience showcasing the USS *Missouri*'s unique place in history. Located a mere ship's length from the USS Arizona Memorial, the Mighty Mo completes a historical visitor experience that begins with the "day of infamy" and sinking of the USS *Arizona* in Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and ends with Japan's formal surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945.

The USS *Missouri* had an astounding career over five decades and three wars – World War II, the Korean War, and Desert Storm – after which it was decommissioned and donated to the USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The Association operates the Battleship Missouri Memorial as a historic attraction and oversees her care and preservation with the support of visitors, memberships, grants, and donations.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. General admission, which includes choice of an optional tour, is \$29 per adult and \$13 per child (4-12). Military, kama'aina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For information or reservations, call (toll-free) 1-877-644-4896 or visit [USSMissouri.org](http://USSMissouri.org)

# # #

**Media Contact:**

Shere'e Quitevis

(808) 539-3434

(808) 741-1668

[Sheree.Quitevis@AnthologyGroup.com](mailto:Sheree.Quitevis@AnthologyGroup.com)

Jaclyn Hawse

(808) 455-1600 ext. 246

[JaclynH@ussmissouri.org](mailto:JaclynH@ussmissouri.org)