



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FAMED 442<sup>nd</sup> REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM HONORED ABOARD THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL TO COMMEMORATE END OF WORLD WAR II**  
*Special Ceremony in Pearl Harbor Marks the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the War's End on the Decks of the USS Missouri on September 2, 1945*

**Pearl Harbor, HI** – (September 2, 2018) – Seventy-three years ago, World War II came to an end when Japan signed the Instrument of Surrender aboard the USS *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945.

Veterans, active-duty servicemembers, military leaders and community members came together aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial today to commemorate the 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II. The ceremony featured a keynote address from Hawaii Governor David Ige, U.S. Army Colonel Thomas J. Barrett as the distinguished guest speaker, music by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, and a rifle salute by the Marine Corps Base Hawai'i's 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Regiment.

This year's ceremony paid a special tribute to the establishment of the famed 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team 75 years ago in Honolulu. Comprised entirely of Americans of Japanese ancestry, the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team fought in many of the war's bloodiest battles in Europe. Known for its motto, "Go for Broke," the soldiers in the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team became the most decorated unit in the history of American warfare due to its incredible battlefield exploits.

Governor David Ige, whose father, the late Tokio Ige, was a decorated veteran of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team, highlighted the power of reconciliation noting that the Japan-U.S. Alliance is the alliance of hope. "As we remember the end of World War II today, let's also remember the hope that General MacArthur and the hundreds of soldiers on board the Mighty Mo had that day – to create a better world, founded upon faith and understanding for generations to come," said Governor Ige.

Colonel Thomas J. Barrett, U.S. Army Garrison – Hawai'i Commander, spoke about the outstanding achievements of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team and the actions each individual soldier took to protect the freedoms that all Americans enjoy today.

"The soldiers of this regiment (442<sup>nd</sup>) understood and did their duty. This story of sacrifice and courage by the men and their families is the story of America and one which we must never forget," said Col. Barrett. "They are a part of the generation who helped end the most destructive war in history and preserve the greatest nation on earth."

The 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team earned over 9,000 purple hearts, eight presidential unit citations awarded, 21 medals of honor, 29 distinguished service crosses and hundreds of silver and bronze stars, setting the stage for the eventual surrender aboard the USS *Missouri*, and laying the foundations for lasting peace throughout the Pacific.

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

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### **About the Battleship Missouri Memorial**

Since opening in January 1999, the Battleship Missouri Memorial has attracted more than eight 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).

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### **Please credit images to the Battleship Missouri Memorial**



**Caption:** 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the End of World War II commemorative ceremony took place aboard the Battleship Missouri Memorial's fantail.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/XqP0eKo>, <https://imgur.com/jEGAVmq>



**Caption:** The American flag being raised prior to the start of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the End of World War II commemorative ceremony.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/CqRYRkg>



**Caption:** Governor David Ige, a keynote speaker at today's ceremony with Tim Guard, chairman of the USS Missouri Memorial Association.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/NRG5Pk8>



**Caption:** Art Albert, former USS *Missouri* crewmember and WWII veteran with Major Brian Koyn who performed the invocation and benediction at the 73<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the End of World War II commemorative ceremony.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/VqGnGm0>



**Caption:** Colonel Thomas J. Barrett, U.S. Army Garrison – Hawai'i Commander served as the Battleship Missouri Memorial's distinguished guest speaker at today's ceremony.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/UMZebqj>



**Caption:** Two members of the 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team attended the September 2 commemoration ceremony. Left to right: Robert Kishinami and Toshiaki Tanaka.

**Link:** <https://imgur.com/uSFJ3xt>



**Caption:** Veterans of the military order of the purple heart and sailors aboard the Mighty Mo.  
**Link:** <https://imgur.com/ZReceLV>



**Caption:** Rifle salute by the 3rd Marine Regiment, Marine Corps Base Hawai'i.  
**Link:** <https://imgur.com/GFuKIZp>

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