

USS MISSOURI'S SERVICE

TOKYO

The USS Missouri was part of the force that carried out bombing raids over Tokyo and provided firepower in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

END OF THE WAR

The Missouri secured its place in history as the site of Japan's formal surrender to the Allied Forces on Sept. 2, 1945, ending World War II. The ceremony for the signing of the Instrument of Surrender was conducted by Supreme Allied Commander, General Douglas A. MacArthur.

KOREA

The Mighty Mo's main battery firepower became a legend in Korea, with her nine 16 inch-barrel guns hurling 1,800-pound shells as heavy as Volkswagens over 23 miles in defense of U.S. land forces.

DECOMMISSIONING

In 1955, the Missouri was decommissioned and mothballed at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

RECOMMISSIONING

The USS Missouri was recommissioned in 1986 after undergoing an extensive modernization and refurbishment.

PERSIAN GULF

Mighty Mo was deployed to the Persian Gulf where it fired its 16-inch guns and launched Tomahawk missiles against Iraqi positions during Operation Desert Storm.

LAST MISSION

The Missouri's final operational mission occurred on Dec. 7, 1991, when the battleship led a contingent of ships into Pearl Harbor as part of the commemoration to mark the 50th anniversary of the attack that thrust America into World War II.

SECOND DECOMMISSIONING

In 1992, the Missouri was decommissioned for the second time. In 1995, it was removed from the Navy's ship registry, clearing the way for the battleship to be donated by the Navy for preservation as a memorial museum.

HER LEGACY

In August 1996, the Navy selected the non-profit USS Missouri Memorial Association as caretaker for the battleship and Pearl Harbor as its permanent home. On May 4, 1998, the Navy made it official, transferring the Mighty Mo's care to the association.