

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE BATTLESHIP MISSOURI MEMORIAL ROUNDS OUT 2019 WITH ITS 9-MILLIONTH VISITOR

Pearl Harbor, **HI** – (**January 2, 2019**) – Ringing in a particularly momentous year, the Battleship Missouri Memorial welcomes aboard its 9-millionth visitor. Today marks an exciting day for visitors Diane, Daniel, and daughter Bridget Greene, a current marine officer stationed out in Kaneohe Bay. As they entered the pier, they were greeted with a warm *aloha* from the battleship's executive team.

"What an amazing day for the USS Missouri as we celebrate our 9-milionth visitors," said Mike Carr, President and CEO of the USS Missouri Memorial Association. "Our efforts to share the battleship's story and place in history is made possible with the endless support of our visitors, staff, volunteers and donors. We look forward to welcoming visitors to the Battleship Missouri Memorial from near and far in the coming year."

"It feels very special to pay this visit and it was something I've been looking forward to," said Daniel Greene, who is visiting his daughter in Hawaii for the first time with wife Diane.

After commemorating the moment with a coordinated photo op, the Greene family received a private VIP tour of the "Mighty Mo" and a special opportunity to raise the American flag aboard the famous historical landmark. A gift bag inclusive of USS *Missouri* memorabilia, a family membership, and small piece of engraved teak were also shared as parting gifts.

"It's incredibly exciting to see the Battleship Missouri Memorial reach yet another milestone," said Tim Guard, chairman of the Board of Directors for the USS Missouri Memorial Association. "We are so humbled for the millions of visitors who want to learn and share the battleship's legacy, and the dedication it takes to allow this significant historic attraction to live on."

The USS *Missouri*, affectionately known as America's last battleship, secured her spot in history as the site of Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allied Forces on Sept. 2, 1945, ending World War II. This year, 2020, the Battleship Missouri Memorial commemorates the 75th anniversary of the End of WWII on the decks of USS *Missouri*.

Battleship Missouri Memorial

Since opening in January 1999, the Battleship Missouri Memorial has attracted 9-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

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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 <u>USSMissouri.org.</u>



Link to image: https://imgur.com/a/3Pyocon

Caption: The 9-millionth visitors are welcomed aboard the "Might Mo" with a lei and a gift.



Link to image: https://imgur.com/a/v0viFVB

Caption: Bridget and Daniel Greene take part in folding the American flag as a part of their special tour.



Link to image: https://imgur.com/a/mvlhrAJ

Caption: The Greene family commemorate the day with a picture aboard the USS Missouri.

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