

# 'A Day of Infamy' remembered...



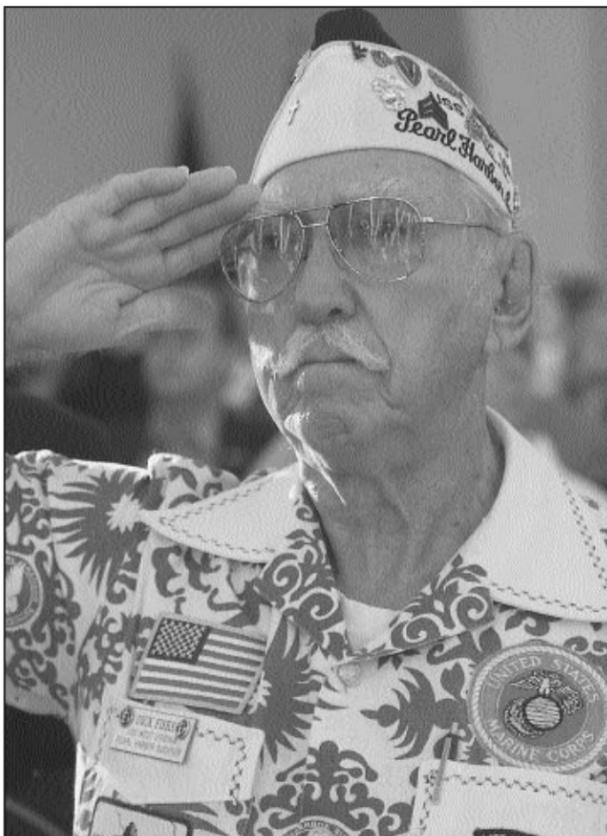
PH3 Dawn Morrison photo

Three generations of the Borucki family participated in the Dec. 7th ceremonies aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. Edward Borucki (right) carried on the memory of the Pearl Harbor attack for nearly six decades and three generations. Steven (left), Edward's son, Aaron (13) (center) and Ethan (9), Edward's grandsons, salute after placing flowers into the well of the Arizona Memorial. Edward, a Pearl Harbor survivor, served aboard USS Helena, which was attacked on Dec. 7, 1941.



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

Adm. Thomas B. Fargo (above), Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, was the principal speaker during Dec. 7th ceremonies aboard the USS Arizona Memorial. Richard Fiske (right), a Pearl Harbor survivor salutes to his fallen shipmates after he placed a memorial flower into the well of the Arizona Memorial. BM1 (SW) James Anthony (below), from Joint Intelligence Command, Pacific Honor Guard salutes VIP's.



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo



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## Navy: Commemorates Pearl Harbor attack aboard Arizona Memorial

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432 planes, 30 submarines - five carrying midget submarines - sailed for Hawaii.

Just before morning colors on a clear, quiet tropical December morning in Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Navy received its worst defeat in history. The attack began with the roar of aircraft engines, machine gun fire, explosions and screams of agony that shattered the silence of that Sunday morning and ended after it took the lives of thousands of Americans.

"I was five decks down below in a five-inch broadside magazine when a torpedo exploded just one compartment next to me," recalled Woodrow Derby, Pearl Harbor attack survivor stationed aboard USS Nevada. "I had water up to my waist in about 20 minutes. We lost 50 Sailors and nine Marines," he said slowly and paused.

"I lost several friends that day. It was a desperate time."

Two waves of Japanese aircraft struck at 7:55 and 8:45 a.m. When the attack ended five battleships and three other ships lay sunk or beached; three battleships and ten support ships were damaged.

The battleship Arizona suffered most in that attack losing 1,177 Sailors in terrible explosions that echoed through the harbor and fires that raged afterward.

This year marks the 58th commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the last commemoration this century.

Rear Adm. John Townes, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii, hosted 200 dignitaries and Pearl Harbor attack survivors at a solemn commemoration ceremony held aboard the Arizona Memorial Tuesday.

"Events like this remind me of the importance of who we are, and what we in uniform do for a living," Townes said thoughtfully. "Standing in front of our true American heroes - our Pearl Harbor survivors who could be with us here today - is a humbling experience and one I cherish dearly."

Admiral Thomas Fargo, Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet was the principal speaker at the ceremony.

"America is strong, peaceful, and prosperous because of the sacrifice of a generation of men and women who were willing to fight for their country," Fargo said proudly. "On the waters of the Pacific, in the air, under the sea, and on untold islands, that generation signed up and moved out - they surrendered their lives and committed their futures to a cause greater than any individual."

"Next year, when we gather here to remember the events of December 7th, we will be looking back at an event even more firmly rooted in the past - part of a past century," he said.

"Yet it will continue to have the same lasting impact on our lives. For we gather here, and will continue to gather here, in memory and respect for those brave men and women who were lost in little more than an instant."

"And in paying our respects, we find hope for our future and a renewed sense of purpose."

In the words of Joseph Drake (to the Defenders of New Orleans in 1814), "And they who for their country die shall fill an honored grave, for glory lights the soldier's tomb, and beauty weeps the brave."