



THE WEEKLY MO'OLELO

Wednesday, August 27, 2025



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Upcoming Events

- **80th End of World War II Commemoration:** Aug. 30 - Sept. 2, Ford Island, free to the public. Pre-registration is required for all events, and separate tickets are needed for each. Visit the [Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum](#) and [Battleship Missouri Memorial](#) for details.



USS Arizona Preservation Work to Begin

In the coming weeks, the U.S. Navy, working with the Pearl Harbor National Memorial and Naval History and Heritage Command, will begin preservation work on the USS Arizona. The Navy will remove two concrete platforms, each weighing more than 100 tons, that were installed more than 80 years ago when the U.S. Navy salvaged and repurposed the ship's weapons systems to continue fighting during World War II. The removal will take about a month to complete.



Hawaii MACRO, Governor's Staff Visit PMRF

Staff members from Hawaii Gov. Josh Green's office and executives from the Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO) toured Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on Kauai last week. PMRF is the world's largest instrumented multi-domain training and testing range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air and space operations simultaneously. PMRF employs about 900 local residents and 80 Sailors and is third largest employer on the island, contributing more than \$173 million annually to the local economy.



Capt. Chris Coggins Takes Command of OICC Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard

Capt. Chris Coggins relieved Capt. Stephen Padhi as the commanding officer of Officer in Charge of Construction Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard (OICC PHNSY) during a change of command ceremony last week on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam. Padhi, who served as OICC PHNSY commanding officer since March 2023, will become NAVFAC Pacific Deputy Commander of Operations, the position previously held by Coggins. A native of New Freedom, Pennsylvania, Coggins received his commission in 1996.



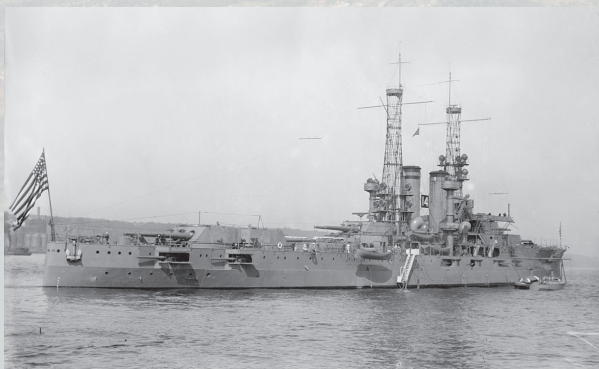
DPAAs Signs Educational Partnership Agreement with UH

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency and the University of Hawaii last week signed an Education Partnership Agreement that advances DPAA's mission of identifying missing U.S. personnel while expanding educational and research opportunities for students and faculty. The agreement grants UH students and faculty unprecedented access to DPAA's forensic laboratories and equipment. Students will gain hands-on experience through internships and research projects, while faculty will collaborate on fieldwork and advanced scientific studies.



USS William P. Lawrence Returns to Pearl Harbor Following 7-Month Deployment

The Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS William P. Lawrence (DDG 110), assigned to the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group (VINCSCG), returned to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam last month marking the end of a successful seven-month deployment to the U.S. Seventh Fleet area of operations. William P. Lawrence departed Pearl Harbor Nov. 27, 2024, along with other units within the VINCSCG before transitioning to independent operations in April focused on strengthening alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.



This Week in History: August 31, 1911

The USS Utah (BB-31) was commissioned on Aug. 31, 1911, and spent nearly 20 years in active service before being converted into a target vessel in 1931. On Dec. 7, 1941, the ship was attacked and capsized at her berth on the north side of Ford Island. The wreck of the USS Utah, with as many as 49 crewmembers still entombed on the ship, remains as a reminder of the Day of Infamy.



Laulima Navy underscores our responsibility to the community and the ways we work alongside partners to help and support our neighbors. Service to others and a commitment to the greater good are values we hold in high regard. It is a privilege for all of us to call Hawaii home and we seek every opportunity we can to show how much we treasure this place. Scan the QR code to learn more about Laulima Navy.



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