



## Dec. 7 commemoration marks 68th anniversary of Pearl Harbor attack

The National Park Service and the U. S. Navy will host a joint memorial ceremony commemorating the 68th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7 on board Naval Station Pearl Harbor's Kilo Pier from 7:40-9:30 a.m.

The Kilo Pier venue looks directly out to the USS Arizona Memorial situated in Pearl Harbor approximately half a mile away.

More than 2,000 distinguished guests and the general public will join military personnel, both active and Pearl Harbor survivors, for the annual observance of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.

The theme of this year's historic commemoration, "But Not in Shame: The Aftermath of Pearl Harbor," will reflect on remembering the brave efforts of those who continued the battle that expanded throughout the Pacific after the devastation at Pearl Harbor. The Pacific War itself was fought on a gigantic stage that covered nearly half of the earth and would last for 44 months. Battles were fought on sea and land and the loss of ships, aircraft and men was unparalleled in the history of the Pacific.

For military who serve today and the public, this ceremony provides a study of lessons learned and an opportunity to express gratitude toward the Pearl Harbor and Pacific War veterans for their sacrifices and perseverance towards victory.

Allan Millett, Ph.D., director of the Eisenhower Center at the University of New Orleans, will serve as the keynote speaker for the commemoration. A retired colonel of the Marine Corps Reserve, Millett is a specialist in the history of American military policy and 20th century wars and military institutions. He is one of the founders of the internationally renowned military history program at Ohio State University. Millett currently directs the Eisenhower Center for American Studies at the University of New Orleans and serves as the senior military advisor for the National World War II Museum.

Highlights of the ceremony will include music by the U.S. Pacific Fleet Band, morning colors, a Hawaiian blessing, a rifle salute by members of the U.S. Marine Corps, wreath presentations, echo Taps, and recognition of the men and women who survived on Dec. 7, 1941, and those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

At 7:55 a.m., the exact moment the Japanese attack began 68 years ago, a moment of silence will be observed. USS Lake Erie (CG 70) will render honors to the USS Arizona. Military aircraft will fly over the memorial in a "missing man" formation.

### Public access to the Pearl Harbor 68th Anniversary Commemoration

The commemoration is free of charge and the public is invited to attend. Active

duty personnel, civilians with valid military ID and invited guests with invitations are allowed access on base in their vehicles.

Due to strict security measures on Naval Station Pearl Harbor, general public wishing to attend the commemoration will be required to board U.S. Navy boats departing from the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, which will transport guests to the commemoration site at Kilo Pier. Seats for the general public on the U.S. Navy boats to the commemoration are limited, and available on a first-come-first-served basis. The first U.S. Navy boat for the general public will depart from the Visitor Center at 6:20 a.m., and the last boat will depart at 7 a.m.

### Information

For more information about the Pearl Harbor Day 68th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony and other Dec. 7 events, call the National Park Service at 422-2771 or visit their Web site at <http://www.nps.gov/valr>; or contact the Navy Region Hawai'i Public Affairs Office at 473-2920 or visit the Navy Region Hawai'i Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pearl-Harbor-HI/Navy-Region-Hawaii/167560113041>

### Security

Due to strict security measures, personal cameras may be used at the ceremony, but no camera bags, purses, handbags and/or other items that offer concealment are allowed.