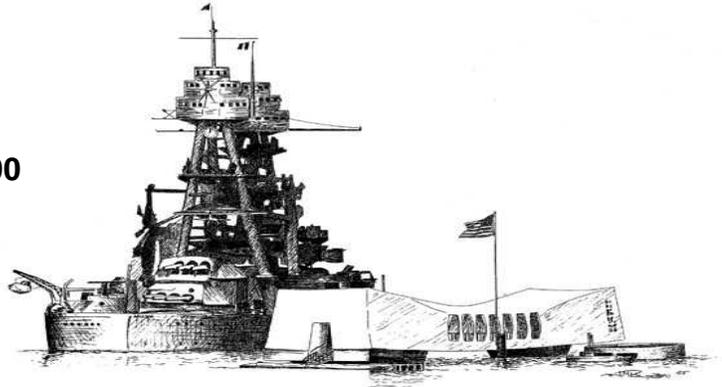


MEDIA ADVISORY

NAVY REGION HAWAII

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
850 TICONDEROGA STREET SUITE 100
PEARL HARBOR, HI 96860

Tel: (808) 473-2888
Fax: (808) 473-2876



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
POCs: Grace Hew Len, 473-2926 or 781-4617
Eileen Martinez, 422-2771, ext. 124

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Navy, National Park Service to dedicate new USS Arizona Memorial biodiesel ferry boat April 7

Sen. Inouye to speak at ceremony

PEARL HARBOR – Naval Station Pearl Harbor and the National Park Service will officially activate the new USS Arizona Memorial Ferry Boat #39-1 *John W. Finn* during a ceremony Tuesday, Apr. 7th at 2 p.m. at the USS Arizona Memorial and Visitors Center. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, who sponsored the new boats, is scheduled to speak at the ceremony.

Ferry Boat #39-1 is the first of five new boats that will eventually replace the existing 20-year-old U.S. Navy-operated tour boats that shuttle visitors to and from the USS Arizona Memorial. The boats were acquired through a Federal Transit Administration grant and State of Hawaii matching funds, which required procurement of boats that demonstrate clean fuel technology. The environmentally friendly, state-of-the-art boats incorporate Tier 2 diesel engines and a blend of off-the-shelf clean-fuel propulsion technologies (biodiesel fuel, diesel oxidation and fuel borne catalysts) to reduce emissions.

The five boats are named in honor of five Medal of Honor recipients from the Pearl Harbor attack, with the first boat named John W. Finn. Finn was a Chief Aviation Ordnanceman stationed at Naval Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, and is the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient from the Pearl Harbor attack.

In addition to Sen. Inouye, the speakers will include Capt. Richard Kitchens, Commanding Officer, Naval Station Pearl Harbor; Mr. Paul DePrey, Superintendent, WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument; and Mr. Frank McCarthy, Program Executive Office for Ships. A Hawaiian blessing will be conducted by Kahu Kauila Clark, followed by the untying of the maile lei, and will close with a short ceremonial ride on the harbor aboard Ferry Boat #39-1 *John W. Finn*.

NOTE TO MEDIA: Media are invited to a press availability event on board the new boat on **Monday, April 6, 3:30 p.m.** at the Arizona Memorial & Visitors Center boat dock. Media will have an opportunity to talk to Navy and National Park Service personnel as well as technical experts on the boat's clean fuel technology system and locally-produced, sustainable biodiesel. Media interested in covering the press availability on Apr. 6th and ceremony on Apr. 7th, please call Grace Hew Len at 473-2926 or Eileen Martinez at 422-2771, ext. 124.