

May 30, 2023

Aloha Friends.

We are pleased to share two wonderful events which celebrated Senator's legacy.



On Thursday, May 4th, the Daniel K. Inouye Institute joined the USS Missouri Memorial Association on the Battleship Missouri to dedicate and unveil its newest exhibit, "Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Hawaii's Mighty Supporter." This exhibition marks the 25th anniversary of U.S. Navy Secretary John H. Dalton officially signing over the care of the historic battleship to the USS Missouri Memorial Association. Over the past 25 years, the Missouri staff and volunteers have meticulously cared for the vessel and shared her legacy with the millions of visitors who have walked aboard and toured the decks. The exhibit will be open to the public until May 2024. For more information on how to visit the ship, please see their website -- https://ussmissouri.org/









DKII loaned several items to the Missouri for the display, including three of Senator's military IDs, his Bronze Star medal, items representing his Congressional Medal of Honor, DAV garrison cap, a gavel used during his years in the Senate, his certificate of election from 1954, and a pocket-sized copy of the U.S. Constitution, given to him by former U.S. Senator Robert Byrd. The display also has a host of photos and documents, thanks to the University of Hawaii's Congressional Archives.



A very cool part of the exhibit includes a voice mail message Senator left for Mr. Roy Yee, the founding association president, letting Roy know that the USS Missouri was coming home.

(Hit the play arrow above to hear the message).



We were joined by Kenny, Jessica and Maggie, as well as former DKI staff, and many USS Missouri volunteers. Following the blessing, guests enjoyed some of the Senator's favorites – chili, rice and mac salad from Zippy's, peanut M&M's and diet coke! A good time was had by all.



On Friday, May 5th, the USS DANIEL INOUYE held a Change of Command. Outgoing Ship Commanding Officer David Haile turned over the ship to incoming Commander Kevin Dore. CDR Dore is the 3rd Commanding Officer of the ship. Since she was commissioned at Pearl Habor in December of 2022, CDR Haile led the ship and crew through training, exercises, and testing. The crew passed all of their tests with flying colors, and recently successfully intercepted a medium-range ballistic missile during a test with the U.S. Missile Defense Agency & Pacific Missile Range Facility, located on Kauai.

Congresswoman Jill Tokuda delivered remarks and shared happy memories over the years DKII worked on many aspects of the ship's christening, commissioning and visits to Kona and Lahaina last fall.





CDR Dore was our main ship contact, following the christening as she left Maine en-route to Hawaii. We worked together on her homecoming, including a huge ti-leaf lei for the ship, and lei for each crew member as she sailed into Pearl Harbor. We worked together on all of the ship displays which told not only the story of Dan Inouye, but also the story of Hawaii - the brave native warriors who came before, the legacy of the 442nd Regimental

Combat Team and ships that honor Hawaii and her people. We worked together on a memorable commissioning ceremony, navigating the end of COVID, and a wild storm. We are grateful for his friendship and leadership.

In his departing words, Commander Haile said "Giving up command is really tough, but I can think of no one better suited to make our enemies think twice about challenging our navy. This ship and her crew are in the best hands. To the crew, I asked you to drive the ship, fight the ship, save the ship, and you never let me down. I am justifiably proud to have been your Commanding Officer. And never forget, we Go for Broke!"





In his comments, CDR Dore said "Thank you Ken, Jessica and Maggie for your friendship, and for the many personal stories of your dad, and grandfather. We

are honored to continue to represent his legacy. To Congresswoman Jill Tokuda, Jennifer, Sara and the DKII team, thank you for sharing his vision and impact on the Hawaii islands, and for sharing all his favorite food spots! Thank you for allowing us to continue his legacy."



In honor of Military Appreciation Month, a big mahalo to the crew of the USS DANIEL INOUYE for honoring Senator Inouye for his tireless service, and love of Hawaii and this nation.

Go For Broke!

Aloha Jennifer and Sara

Visit our Website







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