

# STAMP SCOOP



## USS ARIZONA MEMORIAL

On December 7, 1941, America was abruptly brought into World War II when two waves of Japanese fighter planes attacked a US naval base at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu, Hawaii. In the span of the two-hour assault, 18 ships, nearly 300 planes, and almost 2,500 lives were destroyed. Close to half of the casualties – 1,177 to be exact – occurred on the *USS Arizona*. Four bombs struck the ship, one of which hit its ammunitions store and caused it to detonate. Today, the *USS Arizona* lies at the bottom of Pearl Harbor, its ghostly image visible from a bird's eye view.

Spanning the hull of the ship is the *USS Arizona* Memorial, a white, sloped bridge designed by architect Alfred Preis. Preis noted that the form of the memorial is meant to convey "initial defeat and ultimate victory," and a feeling of tranquility so visitors may reflect on the wreckage in their own personal ways. Dedicated in 1962, the Memorial is now a unit of the National Park Service and is a major tourist attraction in Honolulu.

*This \$19.99 Priority Mail Express® stamp was illustrated by Dan Cosgrove with art direction by Phil Jordan.*

© 2014 Powers Communications © 2014 USPS

[www.USPSConnection.com](http://www.USPSConnection.com)