



## News Release

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### NAVY SEAMAN MISSING FROM PEARL HARBOR ATTACK IS IDENTIFIED

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a U.S. Navy seaman, missing in action from the attack on Pearl Harbor, have been identified and will soon be returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

He is Seaman Second Class Warren P. Hickok of Kalamazoo, Mich. The family has not set a date for his burial.

Hickok was assigned to the Light Mine Layer *USS Sicard* when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Many crewmembers from the *Sicard*, including Hickok, were dispatched to assist the crew of the *USS Cummings*, a Navy destroyer docked nearby. The *Cummings* succeeded in getting underway and clearing Pearl Harbor, but no casualties were reported aboard that ship. During an investigation to determine who was still unaccounted-for after the attack, it was surmised that Hickok may have been a casualty aboard the battleship *USS Pennsylvania*. Some crewmen from the *Sicard* had been dispatched to the *Pennsylvania* during the attack, but there was no record to indicate that Hickok was lost aboard that ship.

In the days following the attack, burial details interred many of the unknown dead in Nuuanu Cemetery on Oahu. Among those buried were an unknown sailor identified only as X-2. Following the war, the Army Graves Registration Service oversaw the disinterment of unknown remains, including the X-2 remains. They could not be identified, and were reburied in Section E, Grave 731, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, known as the Punchbowl, on June 9, 1949.

In 2004, an avocational historian contacted the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) in Hawaii and suggested that the remains in Grave 731 may be those of Hickok. Based on available records, JPAC exhumed the grave in June 2005. Forensic anthropologists at JPAC were able to match those remains, including dental remains, with detailed information found in Hickok's World War II medical and dental records.

Of the 88,000 Americans unaccounted-for from all conflicts, 78,000 are from World War II. For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, visit the DPMO web site at <http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo> or call (703) 699-1169.

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