Photograph, *Captured Japanese photograph taken during the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. In the distance, smoke rises from Hickam Field, December 7, 1941*

National Archives and Records Administration (520600)
Photograph, *USS SHAW exploding during the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941*

National Archives and Records Administration (520590)
Photograph, *USS ARIZONA burning after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941*
National Archives and Records Administration (520601)
TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan.

The United States was at peace with that nation and, at the solicitation of Japan, was still in conversation with its Government and its Emperor looking toward the maintenance of peace in the Pacific. Indeed, one hour after Japanese air squadrons had commenced bombing in Oahu, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States and his colleague delivered to the Secretary of State a formal reply to a recent American message. While this reply stated that it seemed useless to continue the existing diplomatic negotiations, it contained no threat or hint of war or armed attack.

It will be recorded that the distance of Hawaii from Japan makes it obvious that the attack was deliberately planned many days or even weeks ago. During the intervening time the Japanese Government has deliberately sought to deceive the United States by false statements and expressions of hope for continued peace.

The attack yesterday on the Hawaiian Islands has caused severe damage to American naval and military forces. Very many American lives have been lost. In addition American ships have been torpedoed on the high seas between San Francisco and Honolulu.
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With confidence in our armed forces -- with the unbounding determination of our people -- we will gain the inevitable triumph -- so help us God.

I ask that the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December seventh, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
December 8, 1941.
Executive Order 9066, February 19, 1942

National Archives and Records Administration

EXECUTIVE ORDER

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO PRESCRIBE MILITARY AREAS

WHEREAS the successful prosecution of the war requires every possible protection against espionage and against sabotage to national-defense material, national-defense premises, and national-defense utilities as defined in Section 4, Act of April 20, 1918, 40 Stat. 533, as amended by the Act of November 30, 1940, 54 Stat. 1226, and the Act of August 21, 1941, 55 Stat. 675 (U. S. C., Title 50, Sec. 104):

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of War, and the Military Commanders whom he may from time to time designate, wherever he or any designated Commander deems such action necessary or desirable, to prescribe military areas in such places and of such extent as he or the appropriate Military Commander may determine, from which any or all persons may be excluded, and with respect to which, the right of any person to enter, remain in, or leave shall be subject to whatever restrictions the Secretary of War or the appropriate Military
Photograph, *Japanese near trains during Relocation*, c. 1942
National Archives and Records Administration (195538)
Poster, David Stone Martin, *Above and Beyond the Call of Duty*
National Archives and Records Administration (NWDNS-208-PMP-68)
Poster, Amos Sewell, *Miles of Hell to Tokyo!, 1945*

National Archives and Records Administration (208-PMP-45)
Poem, Bruce James Bradley, “Uncle Bruce”
By Bruce James Bradley

Note: “Uncle Bruce” refers to Seaman Second Class Bruce Dean Bradley who perished about the USS Arizona while in service to his country on December 7, 1941. He was 19 years old. Bruce James Bradley is his great nephew and namesake.

Were you at your station? Asleep in your bed?
When the enemy airplanes appeared overhead.
Did you see the planes come? Could you hear a loud roar?
Were the seconds like minutes or possibly more?

Your ship was ablaze and sunk by 8:10.
Were you awake and aware? Surely by then.
How did you react? What did you feel?
It must have been chaos - too strange to be real.

Did you see a flash? Did you hear the boom?
Did you know your ship would become your tomb?
As the bombs and the bullets were dropping like rain.

Did you cry out for help? Were you in great pain?
When the planes in the sky continued to drone.
Were you with others or were you alone?
Did you have a chance, to gather and pray?
Or did death come too fast on your final day?

To frame our thoughts of this horrendous act.
Over 2000 lives lost is more than a fact.
They had feelings and thoughts on that fateful day,
The sailors that died in that gruesome way.

Their loss is still felt after all of these years.
Even today as we dab at our tears,
For Bruce and his mates in their barnacled grave.
The lives that were lost, that no one could save.

May they rest on their ship in eternal slumber,
Remembered by name and not just a number.
Fallen Hero Profile: Seaman Second Class Bruce Bradley

Name: Bruce Dean Bradley
Born: January 29, 1922
Died: December 7, 1941
Hometown: Elgin, Illinois
Entered the Military: October 8, 1940
Branch of Service: U.S. Navy, USS Arizona
Rank: Seaman, Second Class
Award(s): Purple Heart
Cemetery: Honolulu Memorial

Before the War
Bruce Bradley was the youngest of five children born to Daniel and Luella Beemer Bradley in Paw Paw, Illinois. Daniel Bradley was a farmer, and his wife was a homemaker.

Since Bruce’s mother was confined to the Dixon State Hospital from the time Bruce was a child, his father cared for his young children with the help of the older siblings. Bruce was extremely close to his older sister, Laura, who all but “raised him from the time he was 2 ½ years old.” When he was seven years old, Bruce moved to Elgin, Illinois, to live with his sister and her husband, Jacob Nesler.

Bruce attended Elgin High School for two and a half years before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in October 1940 with his father’s consent. He reported for duty at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Bruce was later transferred to San Diego, California, before being assigned to the USS Arizona on December 9, 1940.

Military Experience
The USS Arizona was commissioned on October 17, 1916, and was named for the recently added state. The ship was part of the honor escort that delivered President Woodrow Wilson to the Paris Peace Conference following World War I and returned home from France carrying 238 American veterans from the Great War.

The USS Arizona participated in training, fleet exercises, gunnery practice, and maintenance during the period of peace between the world wars. The ship received a comprehensive overhaul in 1931. It was sent to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, when tensions increased between the United States and Japan. In October 1941, the Arizona was damaged during a training exercise when it was struck by the USS Oklahoma.

Entering the U.S. Navy as an Apprentice Seaman, Bradley earned the rating of Seaman Second Class on February 8, 1941. In this role, Bradley engaged in naval drill duties, mastered naval knots, and excelled at signaling and steering. In addition, it was his responsibility to stand watch and perform gunnery duties. Bradley was on board the Arizona when it was called to action in Pearl Harbor in the months preceding American entry into World War II.

"Thought it was a Joke"
The Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor shortly before 8:00 a.m. local time on December 7, 1941. Ensign G.S. Flannigan described the first moments of the attack aboard the Arizona:

> About 8 o'clock I hear the air raid sirens. I was in the bunk room and everyone in the bunk room thought it was a joke to have an air raid on Sunday. Then I heard an explosion. I was undressed. I climbed into some khaki clothes and shoes. Then the general alarm bell went.
The Arizona received a devastating hit at approximately 8:10 a.m. that ignited fires in the forward part of the ship. Explosions and fires, combined with the rapid sinking of the ship, led to the death of 1,177 crew members. Ensign W.J. Bush described his final moments aboard the USS Arizona:

...there were three violent blasts with flame and powder fumes entering the compartment. I then told all personnel in the vicinity to get out and go topside to avoid the gas. About twenty enlisted personnel and myself went topside. I saw the entire ship forward of #3 turret to be a raging fire...Shortly thereafter Ensign Davison and myself got three boats clear of the oil fire on the water and picked up the men in the water who had jumped to get clear of the fire. We took several boatloads of badly burned and injured men to Ford Island landing and continued picking up men in the water between the ship and the shore...Ensign Lenning, Ensign Miller, and Lt. Comdr. Fuqua made sure no one could be rescued from the after end of the ship before they left.

Bradley was among the crew who perished aboard the Arizona. Bradley’s father received a telegram from the Chief of Bureau of Navigation on December 20, 1941, declaring Bradley Missing In Action. On January 20, 1942, a second telegram stated that his son was “officially declared to have lost his life in the service of his country.”

Commemoration
The attack on Pearl Harbor marked the entry of the United States into World War II. For the Bradley family, it marked the beginning of years of searching for answers and closure regarding the fate of their son and brother.

Bradley’s remains were listed as unrecoverable aboard the USS Arizona. In 1944, his sister, Laura, wrote to the Bureau of Naval Personnel to inquire about her brother’s remains. In the aftermath of this tragic loss, the family was desperate to find proof of Bradley’s fate. In her letter, Laura requested “proof of my brother’s death at Pearl Harbor.” She further sought “his identification tag or any proof that he lost his life on that boat.” As the family tried to cope with the loss of their youngest member, they requested a large American flag to honor their fallen loved one.

The Purple Heart was awarded to Bruce Bradley posthumously on January 21, 1943, and he received the World War II Victory Medal and American Defense Service Medal on December 14, 1946. These medals were subsequently misplaced over the years. Bradley’s great-niece petitioned the U.S. Navy to issue a replacement Purple Heart to the family 75 years after his ship went down. Since all immediate family members are deceased, the task was cumbersome, but successful. Bradley’s great-nephew and namesake now possesses the Purple Heart in honor of his great-uncle’s ultimate sacrifice.

Bradley’s name was inscribed on the Honolulu Memorial at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific and also appears on the USS Arizona Memorial. The family further honored Bradley by erecting a memorial for him alongside the resting place of his parents in his birthplace of Paw Paw, Illinois.
“Statement of Ensign George B. Lennig,” December 20, 1941

National Archives and Records Administration (Record Group 38, Box 814)