



The day after the ceremony we went to sea again for a period of ten days for our annual ORE (Operational Readiness Evaluation). The inspection consisted of simulated battle condition exercises to test our readiness for deployment. It proved that every man on the ship has an important job to do, and that he can do that job well.

We arrived back at Pearl on Saturday, 10 April and since then have enjoyed a week in port here in the "Paradise of the Pacific".

In an effort to give everyone a chance to see as much of Oahu, Hawaii as possible at a reasonable cost several sightseeing tours were arranged through the Chaplain's Office.

A daily around the island "Aloha" tour included a visit to the Mormon Temple and its grounds on the windward side of the Island and to the National Cemetery "Punch Bowl" where famed World War II news correspondent Ernie Pyle's grave is located. A stop at the Polynesian Cultural Center offered a two hour simulated trip to various island communities in the South Pacific. The center featured a park with each of the cultures having its own village with examples of native arts and crafts. The guides were authentic natives who were most anxious to answer questions about their country. A special luau and Polynesian show gave all who attended either of the two evening performances the chance to eat native food and to see native dances featuring many Hawaiian Hula dancers.

Highlights of the tour also included the famous surfing spots of Sunset Beach and Pipeline, a drive through pineapple and sugar cane fields and