

particularly rewarding in the views department. While not as tall, the top of the Ko'olaus presents better views.

While it's tempting to assume the top of the mountain must have been the summit of the volcano that created the mountain, it's not. The actual summit was to the west. The peak of Mt. Ka'ala is simply the only remaining remnant of the original gently-sloping shield volcano that was once here. The rest has worn away from erosion, leaving this unusually hardened lava relic of the volcano's youth.

PEARL HARBOR

Pearl Harbor is named after the many pipi (Hawaiian oysters) that used to live here. Visiting ships from the late 1700s described abundant pearls from this harbor. A visitor in 1810 wrote that the king had discovered their value to the outside world and employed numerous divers to pluck the oysters from their shallow bed. By the end of the 1800s overharvesting and runoff from nearby cattle operations had virtually eliminated the pearl oysters, but the name Pearl Harbor lives on, and its Hawaiian name, Pu'u-loa (long hill), is scarcely known, even among Hawaiians.

The large island inside the harbor is called **Ford Island**. It is owned by the U.S. military and houses some of the officers and crewmen stationed at Pearl Harbor.

In ancient times, Ford Island had an entirely different purpose. It was called Moku-'ume'ume, meaning *island of the sexual game*. In those days, if a commoner couple had trouble conceiving a child, they came here. Large groups gathered around a fire, couples sitting apart. A master of ceremonies would go up to a man, tap him with a maile wand, then tap a randomly selected woman, and together they went off into the darkness to share

the night. If a child was conceived, it was regarded as the offspring of the husband, not the biological father. If no child was conceived, they'd head back to this island to give it a whirl again.

You can't do a driving tour of Pearl Harbor—it's still an active Navy base, and access is restricted. But the most popular visitor attractions on the island—the **USS Arizona Memorial** and the **Battleship Missouri**—are available for touring. See **ATTRACTIONS** on page 116.

'EWA

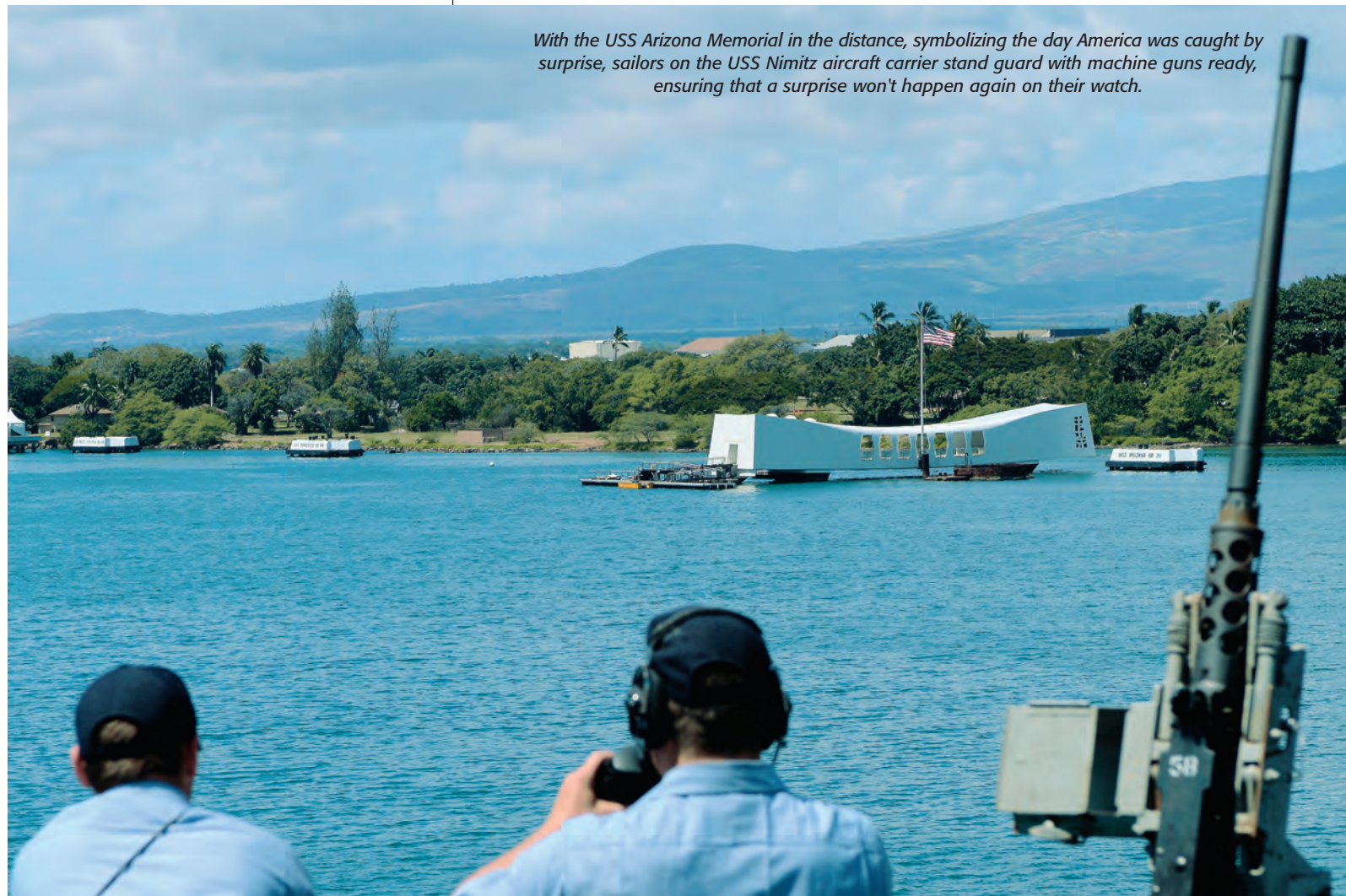
'Ewa is the area below H-1 on your way out to Wai'anae. This is where the county wants to direct future growth. It's hot, dry and not particularly pretty, so there's really not much for the visitor out here other than **Hawai'i's Plantation Village**, **Hawaiian Railway Society** and **Wet 'n' Wild Hawaii**. See **ATTRACTIONS** for more on these.

Two miles offshore of 'Ewa Beach is a giant open ocean fish farm. A compa-

ny called Cates International has anchored several 80-foot cages 40 feet below the surface to raise moi (a tasty fish often served whole at some island restaurants). Currents sweep through the cages, which are said to attract sharks and other predators.

KALAELOA/BARBERS POINT

The Navy purchased the land at Barbers Point a century ago for their aircraft. Not planes, however. It was for *blimps*.



With the USS Arizona Memorial in the distance, symbolizing the day America was caught by surprise, sailors on the USS Nimitz aircraft carrier stand guard with machine guns ready, ensuring that a surprise won't happen again on their watch.