



Mr. Robert Kent, Operations Director  
Pacific Battleship Center  
Los Angeles, CA

Dear Mr. Kent and members of the Board of Directors of Pacific Battleship Center:

For much of the past year I have been closely following the efforts of your group to bring Battleship Iowa to the city and Port of Los Angeles, California. I can think of no place where Battleship Iowa could more proudly serve as a museum and community center than the Port of Los Angeles/San Pedro. I am excited about the prospect of seeing her moored at the site depicted in the concept documents that you have provided.

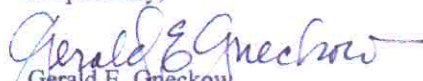
For obvious reasons, this information has not yet been shared with the members of the Veterans Association of the USS Iowa, but I promise that when they learn of your efforts, they will be as thrilled with this possibility as I am. I certainly hope that we will be able to make this information known to our members in the near future. Many of them are very elderly and are clinging to the hope that they might one day soon set foot on their beloved ship once again.

On behalf of the members of the Veterans Association of the USS Iowa, and all those men who served aboard this famous ship during World War II, the Korean Conflict, and most recently during the 1980's, I thank you for all the work and effort you have made and are making to make this dream a reality.

It goes without saying that you will have the complete support of our Association and our eternal gratitude should Pacific Battleship Center become the final homeport of Battleship Iowa. We look forward to working with you and passing on the many USS Iowa artifacts that will become centerpieces in the museum.

I have requested that one of our members, Bryan Moss, present to each member of your Board of Directors an official USS Iowa ball cap in recognition of your efforts. We sincerely appreciate all that you are doing. Thank you very, very much!

Respectfully,

  
Gerald E. Gneckow  
Rear Admiral, USN (ret.)  
Commanding Officer, USS Iowa 1984-1986  
President, Veterans Association of the USS Iowa

