

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
March 15, 2018

Contact
Thalia Ertman
202.543.0878 or 301.802.7320

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF EL GUETTAR TO BE COMMEMORATED AT WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Wreaths will be laid at the Atlantic Arch of the Memorial in remembrance of the approximately 5,000 Americans killed and wounded during the battle.

Washington, D.C. – On Friday, March 23rd at 11:30 a.m., the Friends of the National World War II Memorial will host a brief ceremony and wreath presentation at the World War II Memorial’s Atlantic Arch to mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of El Guettar, the first battle in which American forces were able to defeat the more experienced German tank units in Tunisia, Africa.

The Battle of El Guettar, which began on March 23, 1943, was fought between the United States and the Axis Powers of Germany and Italy. The reorganized U.S. II Corps forces, led by Army Lieutenant General George Patton, repulsed multiple attacks by the Germans and Italians, inflicting heavy losses and forcing their retreat.

During the March 23rd ceremony at the World War II Memorial, WWII veterans will present wreaths at the Atlantic Arch of the Memorial in remembrance of the approximately 5,000 Americans killed and wounded and in honor of all who served during the Battle of El Guettar.

Who: Josiah Bunting III, Chairman, Friends of the National World War II Memorial
World War II Veterans
Chaplain (CPT) Joe Mason, USA, Battalion Chaplain, 4th Battalion, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment
Military District of Washington’s Armed Forces Color Guard
U.S. Army Band “Pershing’s Own” Bugler
Commander Charles Maynard, Royal Navy, British Embassy

Where: National World War II Memorial
17th Street between Constitution and Independence Avenues
Washington, DC

When: Friday, March 23, 2018 at 11:30 AM

About Friends of the National World War II Memorial (www.wwiimemorialfriends.org):

Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II and to creating the next “Greatest Generation” of tomorrow. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; hosts an annual teachers conference in Washington, DC; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning, staging, and funding five or more major national commemorative events annually and is currently sponsoring a national four-year World War II 75th anniversary commemoration. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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