

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**MORE THAN TWO DOZEN WORLD WAR II VETERANS TO GATHER AT
WWII MEMORIAL TO COMMEMORATE V-E DAY ANNIVERSARY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) and the National Park Service hope you'll join us as we pay tribute to the Greatest Generation at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 8th at 11:00 a.m. marking the 72nd anniversary of the Allied Forces Victory in the Atlantic and the end of World War II in Europe.

As part of the commemoration, more than two dozen World War II veterans will place wreaths at the WWII Memorial's Freedom Wall in remembrance of the more than 400,000 Americans and 60 million people killed worldwide during the deadliest military conflict in human history.

WUSA9 Morning Anchor Mr. Mike Hydeck will serve as the event's Master of Ceremonies.

Friends chairman Josiah Bunting III and Gay Vietzke, superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks, will offer welcome remarks. The Military District of Washington will provide military support for the event.

About Friends of the National World War II Memorial (www.wiimemorialfriends.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. 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 and staging five or more major national commemorative events annually and each summer sponsors a dozen free public performances of military bands at the Memorial. 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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