

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
May 9, 2018

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

Wreaths will be laid at the Pacific Arch of the Memorial in remembrance of the more than 3,500 Americans killed, wounded, or injured due to the Arctic conditions during the Battle of Attu.

Washington, D.C. – On Friday, May 11th 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 Pacific Arch to mark the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Attu, the only land battle of World War II fought on incorporated territory of the United States.

The Battle of Attu was fought between the forces of the United States, aided by Canadian reconnaissance and fighter-bomber support, and the Empire of Japan on Attu Island off the coast of the Territory of Alaska as part of the Aleutian Islands Campaign.

The Battle of Attu was the last action of the Aleutian campaign. The Japanese Northern Army secretly evacuated their remaining garrison from nearby Kiska, ending the Japanese occupation of the Aleutian Islands on July 28, 1943.

During the May 11th ceremony at the World War II Memorial, WWII veterans will present wreaths at the Pacific Arch of the Memorial in honor of all who served and in remembrance of the more than 3,500 Americans killed, wounded, or injured due to the Arctic conditions during the Battle of Attu.

- Who:** World War II Veterans
Commander Ian Wood, Assistant Naval Attaché, Royal Canadian Navy, Canadian Embassy
Katherine Spomer, Division Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System, Fish and Wildlife Service
Military District of Washington
- Where:** National World War II Memorial
17th Street between Constitution and Independence Avenues
Washington, DC
- When:** Friday, May 11, 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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