



May 23, 2019

MEDIA ADVISORY

VETERANS TO GATHER AT NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL ON MEMORIAL DAY TO REMEMBER 400,000 AMERICANS LOST DURING WORLD WAR II

SUMMARY:

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) and the National Park Service (NPS) will pay tribute to the more than 400,000 Americans who lost their lives during WWII in a special Memorial Day Observance at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. on Monday, May 27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

WHO:

- A dozen World War II veterans
- Representative Marcy Kaptur of Ohio's 9th District
- Friends' Chairman Josiah Bunting III
- Jeff Reinbold, acting superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks

WHAT:

The ceremony will feature a keynote address by Representative Marcy Kaptur of Ohio. Rep. Kaptur was instrumental in the creation of the World War II Memorial and will be speaking on the 15th anniversary of its dedication. Rep. Kaptur first introduced legislation to authorize establishing a WWII Memorial on federal land in D.C. in 1987. She introduced similar legislation in 1989, 1991, and 1993, when finally it was passed and signed into law by then President Bill Clinton.

WHERE:

National World War II Memorial, 1750 Independence Ave SW, Washington, D.C. 20024

WHEN:

Monday, May 27, 9:00 a.m.

* Media can RSVP to Thalia Ertman at tertman@wwiimemorialfriends.org

Notes for Media:

- There will be a designated press area. Set-up positions will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Still photographers may roam the crowds, discreetly.
- There will be access to a mult box.
- Near the conclusion of the ceremony, a National Park Service representative will escort members of the press to the "Freedom Wall" area in order to be able to adequately film the wreath presentations.
- No press will be allowed in the plaza area during the ceremony, except when escorted by a National Park Service representative for the wreath laying.

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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