

June 3, 2020

MEDIA ADVISORY

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR ALEX KERSHAW TO HOST FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL VIRTUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE 76TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

SUMMARY:

On Saturday, June 6th, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) will host a virtual D-Day observance to remember and honor the 160,000 Allied troops that landed on the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Media and the public are encouraged to join us online via the Friends [Facebook page](#), where the virtual D-Day observance will begin at 10:00 a.m. and a live, private wreath-laying ceremony from the World War II Memorial will follow at 10:15 a.m.

WHO:

Recorded video remarks from Alex Kershaw, Friends of the National World War II Memorial board member and *New York Times* bestselling author (*The Bedford Boys*, *The Liberator*, *The Longest Winter*, *The First Wave*)

WHAT:

On Saturday, June 6th at 10:00 a.m., Friends will release a pre-recorded video of our virtual D-Day observance featuring remarks from Friends of the National World War II Memorial board member and *New York Times* bestselling author Alex Kershaw.

At 10:15 a.m., Friends will then host a brief, private wreath-laying ceremony at the National World War II Memorial to remember and honor the more than two million Allied service members who took part in Operation Overlord and to remember the more than 225,000 Allies who were killed, wounded, or missing. The ceremony will be streamed live online following the completion of the pre-recorded remarks on the Facebook page.

Members of the public should not plan to attend the ceremony at the Memorial. The commemorations will be brief and the public can leave comments online.

WHERE:

<https://www.facebook.com/WWIIMemorialFriends>

WHEN:

Saturday, June 6, 10:00 a.m.

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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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