

August 31, 2020

MEDIA ADVISORY

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL TO COMMEMORATE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY OVER JAPAN (V-J)DAY WITH WREATH PRESENTATION, VIRTUAL COMMEMORATION, AND VIDEO TRIBUTES FROM WWII VETERANS

SUMMARY:

On Wednesday, September 2, at 10:30 a.m., the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) will begin its daylong online commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Allied Forces Victory in the Pacific and the end of World War II. The virtual commemoration will include reflections from World War II veterans and other prominent figures on this important anniversary. At 11:00 a.m., Friends will stream live online from the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., a brief, private, and socially distant wreath presentation. Beginning at 12:00pm, and every 20 minutes thereafter, Friends will posting videos of World War II veterans and others reflecting on V-J Day 75 years later. These tributes were recorded to honor and preserve the national memory of World War II and to create the next “Greatest Generation” of tomorrow.

This marks the end of Friends’ four-year World War II 75th Anniversary Commemoration, which began on December 7, 2016. Friends is the only organization that has hosted commemorations for every major battle in which American troops participated during World War II.

WHO:

- World War II veterans
- General Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
- Tom Brokaw, special correspondent for NBC News
- Marv Levy, World War II veteran and Pro Football Hall of Fame Coach
- Alex Kershaw, *New York Times* bestselling author and Friends Board Member
- Frederick W. Smith, chairman and CEO of the FedEx Corporation
- Jeffrey Reinbold, superintendent of the National Mall and Memorial Parks
- Representatives from the Embassies of Pacific Theater Allied Nations
- Josiah Bunting III, chairman of the Friends of the National World War II Memorial
- Jane Droppa, vice chair of the Friends of the National World War II Memorial
- Chaplain (Lieutenant Colonel) Todd Wolf
- Military District of Washington’s Armed Forces Color Guard and U.S. Marine Corps Band Bugler
- Representatives of professional sports teams, including LA Kings, Golden State Warriors, and Nashville Predators

WHAT:

To mark the 75th anniversary of V-J Day and the end of World War II, Friends will be sharing throughout the day on its social media channels, videos and remarks from World War II veterans and tributes from prominent public figures, as they remember the importance of this day and of remembering our Greatest Generation.

WHERE:

Online – via Friends’ [Facebook Page](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#)

WHEN:

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 10:30am EDT

*Media inquiries may be directed to Thalia Ertman at tertman@wwiimemorialfriends.org.

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial’s WWII 75th Anniversary Commemoration is generously sponsored by AT&T. Generous support has also been provided by the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation and Worthington Industries.

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