

WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE HEARING
RECORDS

1999-00

(session year)

Assembly

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Veterans and
Military Affairs
(AC-VMA)

Sample:

Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01a
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt01b
- 05hr_AC-Ed_RCP_pt02

➤ Appointments ... Appt

➤ **

➤ Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule

➤ **

➤ Committee Hearings ... CH

➤ **

➤ Committee Reports ... CR

➤ **

➤ Executive Sessions ... ES

➤ **

➤ Hearing Records ... HR

➤ **99hr_ab0065_AC-VMA_pt01**

➤ Miscellaneous ... Misc

➤ **

➤ Record of Comm. Proceedings ... RCP

➤ **



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

**Governor
State of Wisconsin**

February 17, 1999

The Honorable Fred Risser
President of the Senate
220 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

The Honorable Scott Jensen
Speaker of the Assembly
211 West, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Re: 1999 Assembly Bill 65

Dear President Risser and Speaker Jensen:

1999 Assembly Bill 65, introduced by Representatives Musser and Schneider, and co-sponsored by Senator Moen, relates to contributions for a World War II memorial in Washington, D.C. and making appropriations.

1999 Assembly Bill 65 contains a fiscal note in excess of \$100,000. Pursuant to sec. 16.47 (2), Stats., I consider this bill an emergency bill, I recommend the bill and I ask that passage of 1999 Assembly Bill 65 be permitted prior to passage of the budget bill.

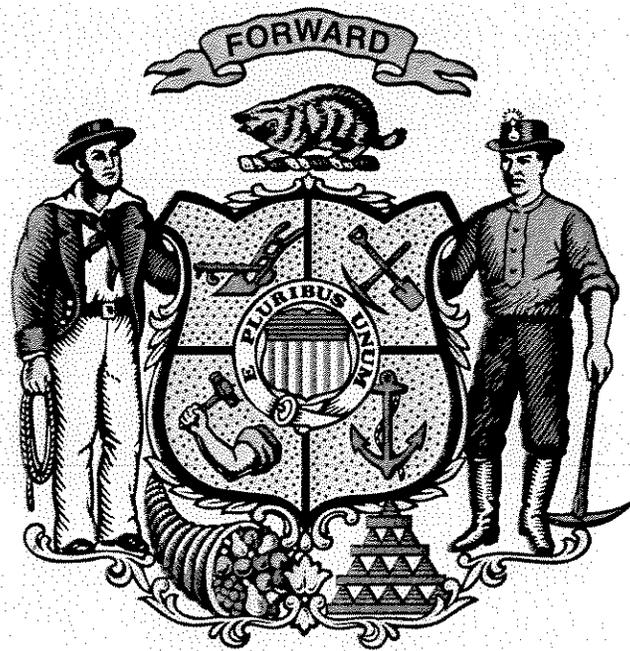
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tommy G. Thompson".

TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

TGT/mrf





Date: March 3, 1999

BACKGROUND

Federal law has authorized the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II. The memorial will honor the 16 million who served in the Armed Forces, the 406,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. The site selected is between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, prime area of the national capitol. The \$100 million memorial will be funded entirely by private contributions and each state has been contacted for contributions for the memorial. The American Battle Monuments Commission plans to schedule the ground breaking on Veterans Day, in the year 2000.

SUMMARY OF AB 65 (AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE)

Assembly Bill 65 gives the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) authority to accept contributions on behalf of Wisconsin veterans for the construction of the World War II memorial. Contributions received by the department will be matched by the state up to a maximum of \$166,100. This amount represents one half of the Wisconsin Veterans who served in World War II. The DVA must submit all of the contributions and the state matching moneys to the American Battle Monuments Commission by May 15, 2000. The bill was amended by the Assembly Veterans & Military Affairs Committee to change the effective date to the day after publication. This will allow it to be effective prior to passage of the state budget.

AMENDMENTS

Assembly Amendment 1, introduced and adopted 9-0 by the committee, changed the effective date of the bill to the day after publication. Wisconsin Statute states that no bill containing an appropriation of increasing the cost of state government or decreasing state revenue in an amount exceeding \$10,000 shall be passed by either house until the budget bill has passed both houses.

However, if such a bill is considered an emergency bill and recommended for passage by the Governor or the Joint Committee on Finance, passage is permitted. Assembly Speaker Jensen and Senate President Risser have received a written statement from Governor Thompson stating that he considers AB 65 an emergency bill and that passage should be permitted.

FISCAL EFFECT

The fiscal estimate prepared by DVA indicates a one-time increase in spending authority of \$166,100 in GPR and administrative costs of \$27,000 of existing SEG funds for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

PROS

1. There is no memorial in Washington D.C. honoring WW II Veterans.
2. Time is running out to honor a generation of veterans who won the largest military conflict ever.
3. The bill creates a partnership between the citizens and the state to help build the memorial with the dollar for dollar matching funds.
4. The goal for Wisconsin, \$332,200, honors the number of Wisconsin Veterans who served in World War II.
5. Wisconsin will be honoring the 8,390 Wisconsin lives lost serving in WW II.
6. The fund raising effort will be partially geared to our schools to help educate our students about World War II and the effects it had on Wisconsin families.
7. Limited length of time for Wisconsin to raise the funding from citizens.

CONS

None have been expressed.

SUPPORTERS

Rep. Terry Musser, author, American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Vietnam Veterans. The bill has bi-partisan support from Assembly, Senate and leadership in both houses.

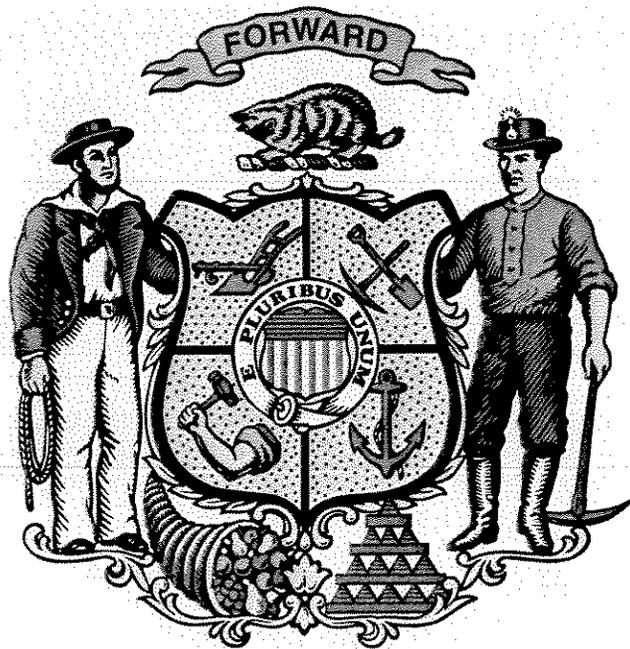
OPPOSITION

No opposition to the proposal at the public hearing.

HISTORY

Assembly Bill 65 was introduced on January 28, 1999 and referred to the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs. A public hearing was held on February 24, 1999. On February 24, 1999, the Committee voted 9-0 to recommend passage as amended.

Contact: Marlene Reineking, Office of Rep. Terry Musser



complished athlete, a class leader who dreamed of going to UCLA. He, along with so many others — Josh Voss from Mazomanie, Tobi Miller from Sun Prairie and now Rebecca Lutzke, Sam Schmidt from New Berlin — represented our brightest hopes for tomorrow. How many lives will it take? Don't let the next young life be someone you know or love.

Greening lives in Ripon.

WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

Phil Blake, publisher

Frank Denton, editor

Thomas W. Still, associate editor

Sunny Schubert, editorial writer

Chuck Martin, editorial writer

needs to take a second look at how we are using our resources. Are we also trying to justify why we should not have to feel responsible to help victims of injustice, thinking they do not "qualify" for our mercy and assistance either because they have a faith that is different than ours, they are not really our neighbors or some other equally self-serving criteria for denying assistance?

Do we do nothing because we can't do everything that needs to be done? . . . Perhaps if the world were to see a united church working together, operating the way it was intended to operate — putting people first and politics aside — the church's next dilemma would be how to handle all the spiritually hungry and needy people that would be coming to her for answers in their own lives.

perhaps be to have the same issues. arms dealing, campaign finance violations, fund-raising questions, drug smuggling and nuclear weapons thefts or to push Monica onto back pages?

It seems that whenever Clinton is backed into a corner he comes out in another corner of the world.

— Norman Arendt, Middleton

Clinton fiddles while foreign policy deteriorates

I believe Bill Clinton and his foreign policy are a disaster to our country!

One day we are bombing Iraq with no results. Suddenly we hear nothing about Iraq, and our planes are now bombing Kosovo. Cover one mistake by starting another! It sure gets Monica out of the way!

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Wage gains owe much to government

The State Journal's recent editorial "Wage Turnaround Worth Noting" celebrates the good news, recently released by the Center on Wisconsin Strategy, that wages are finally rising for low-wage Wisconsin workers. I wouldn't pop the champagne corks just yet, however, much less conclude, as the editorial seemed to, that this proves the irrelevance of "government intervention" to such workers' welfare.

While certainly welcome, the recent gains have been modest, well below historic norms, and, adjusting for inflation, leave them (as well as those in the middle of the earnings distribution) making less than they did 20 years ago. What improvement has been seen, moreover, owes much to recent increases in the national minimum wage and the Federal Reserve's low interest rate policies driving economic expansion. Far from showing the irrelevance of government, recent gains among the working poor show the importance of government to making our economy perform for all.

— Joel Rogers, UW-Madison director, Center on Wisconsin Strategy

State skimps on tribute to war veterans

A few weeks ago I gave a modest donation to the World War II Veterans Memorial Fund. In re-

Please get in touch



We welcome letters of 200 or fewer words on matters of public interest. Letters may be edited; not all can be published. Mail to: Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 8058, Madison, WI 53708



E-mail to: wsjopine@madison.com



Caller ID line: 283-3123 in Madison; 1-888-696-8675 elsewhere

All letters, E-mails and Caller ID lines must include your name, address and phone number. Only names and hometowns will be published.

turn I have received a nice certificate, a neat lapel pin and notice that my name will be permanently inscribed as a veteran of that war. I'm truly impressed by the quality of these acknowledgements and by the professional attitude of those persons conducting this essential fund drive.

On the other hand, as noted in the State Journal, the state of Wisconsin is contributing \$160,000 to the Memorial Fund. With a matching contribution from the private sector, this joint contribution will amount to \$1 per Wisconsin veteran. More than 50 years after the battles ended, our state is contributing 50 cents per veteran to help build a memorial. Doesn't this seem a little miserly and a rather insignificant gesture at this time?

— Walt Hannan, Livingston

DNR strives to preserve outdoor areas for all uses

By Keith Warnke

GUEST COLUMN

Wisconsin citizens place a high value on conservation and natural resources, and Department of Natural Resources programs provide a wide variety of outdoor opportunities for everyone.

Fifty percent of Wisconsin adults participate in fish- and wildlife-associated recreation, more than participate in any of the ball sports. Trends point to increasing number of outdoor recreational users and increasing demands on Wisconsin's natural resources as we enter the 21st century. More than 1.6 million residents participated in wildlife watching activities, according to the latest survey.

Obviously, one of the greatest challenges facing the DNR is how to effectively manage and preserve the state's tremendous natural resources while accommodating a growing population and growing public interest in wildlife.

The DNR wildlife management program manages hundreds of thousands of acres of public and private land to provide opportunity for all users. Thousands of acres of native and restored prairies and restored wetlands provide excellent habitat for many

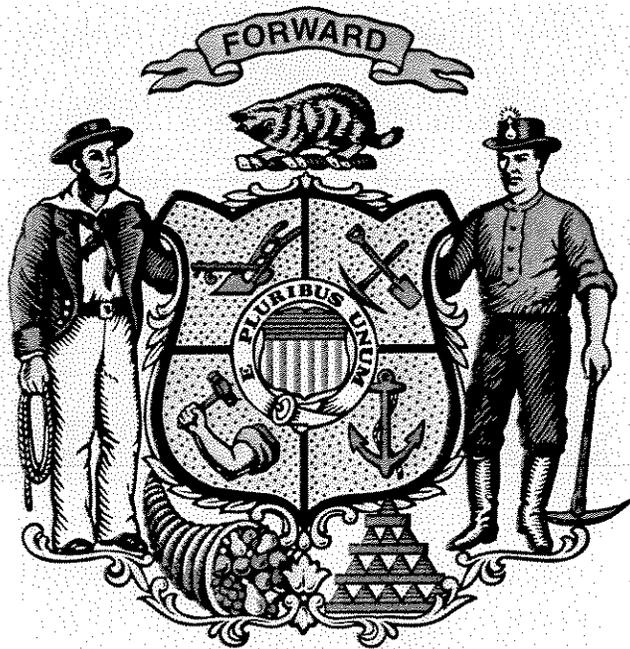
species of wildlife, especially game amphibians, songbird mammals in addition to common or endangered plant species.

Additionally, the wildlife management program is responsible for more than 500,000 acres of Wildlife Management Areas provide a variety of opportunities. Let's look at two examples: Crex Meadows Wildlife Management Area in Burnett County, 55,000-acre complex of prairie, brush prairie and forest that is open to public use; has groomed cross-country trails, picnicking and other areas; and is in the top 10 destinations for bird watching in the west. More than 120,000 visit Crex Meadows each year, 90 percent for wildlife observation, 80 percent for sightseeing and 70 percent for hunting. But 90 percent of the staffing and management costs at Crex Meadows are paid for with money collected through hunter and license fees and excise taxes.

Second, the Sandhill County Wildlife Management Area in Wood County is a 30,000-acre complex of marsh and forests. Surveys indicate that more than 90 percent of the 65,000 annual visitors come to participate in observation and educational activities and only 8 percent to hunt. Again, the vast majority

Warnke is the upland wildlife ecologist and outdoor heritage specialist in the state Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Wildlife Management.

WSJ 4-17-99



WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

*An invitation to record in the annals of history
the names of those who helped win World War II.*

WHAT IS THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL?

The National World War II Memorial is a long overdue tribute to the individual Americans who helped win World War II, the largest war of all time and the defining event of the twentieth century. The Memorial honors the veterans who bravely fought to defend freedom, those on the home front who contributed to the war effort, and the high moral purpose that motivated the nation's call to arms. Never before or since has our country shared such a common bond of purpose and determination.

This will be the first national memorial acknowledging the commitment and achievement of the entire nation.



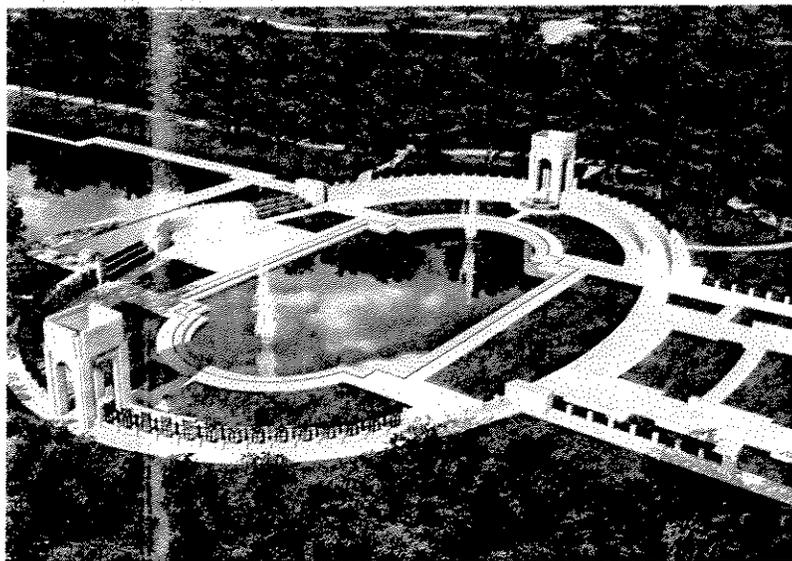
The approved Memorial design concept features two arches that mark the North and South entrances to the Memorial Plaza. Bronze laurel wreaths representing victory are suspended within the arches.

WHO IS BUILDING THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL?

President Clinton signed Public Law 103-32 on May 25, 1993, authorizing the American Battle Monuments Commission to establish the World War II Memorial in our Nation's Capital. Primary funding for the \$100 million Memorial must be raised from private contributions.

WHERE WILL IT BE LOCATED?

The World War II Memorial will be located on 7.4 acres of the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Situated directly between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, the Memorial has been given a place of honor on one of the last great public spaces available in our Nation's Capital. It will be a place to reflect on the sacrifices made by a special generation of Americans.



NATIONAL CHAIRMAN
Senator Bob Dole

NATIONAL CO-CHAIRMAN
Frederick W. Smith, FDX Corporation

HONORARY CAMPAIGN CHAIRMEN
President George Bush President Jimmy Carter
President Gerald Ford President Ronald Reagan

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP
Herman Harrington
Jess Hay
Rep. Amo Houghton
G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery
Walter Shorenstein
Stanley Star
John Teets
Jack Valenti

*Among the many patriotic organizations
supporting the World War II Memorial are:*

AMVETS

American Ex-Prisoners of War
American Military Retirees Association
Association of the United States Army
Disabled American Veterans
Freemasons of the Scottish Rite, 33°,
Northern Jurisdiction
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.
Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW
Military Order of the World Wars
National Society,
Daughters of the American Revolution
Paralyzed Veterans of America
The American Legion
The Retired Enlisted Association
The Retired Officers Association
Tuskegee Airmen
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
Veterans of Foreign Wars



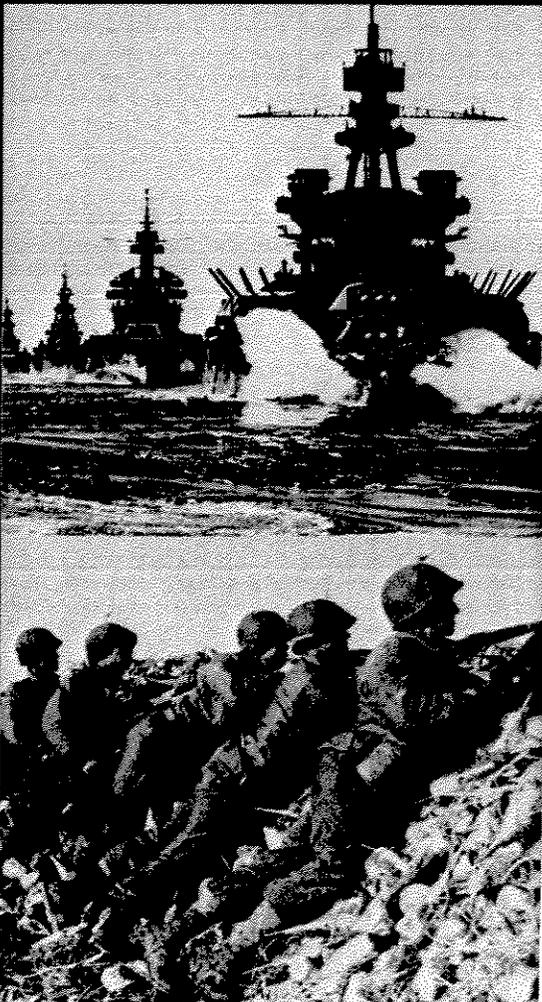
AMERICAN BATTLE
MONUMENTS COMMISSION

P.O. Box 96766
Washington, D.C. 20090-6766
1-800-639-4WW2
<http://www.wwiimemorial.com>

THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL



AMERICA'S NATIONAL
MEMORIAL TO THOSE
WHO HELPED WIN
WORLD WAR II
WASHINGTON, D.C.



"In World War II, the spirit of America, in home front factories and on distant battlefields, saved the world. It is a spirit our soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines carried to victory, and sometimes carried into eternity. We owe them a debt. We repay it with a pledge: to preserve their memory against the tide of time."

*— Senator Bob Dole
National Chairman,
World War II Memorial
Campaign*



YOUR BENEFITS OF CHARTER MEMBERSHIP

For a contribution of \$20 or more, you will become a Charter Member of the World War II Memorial Society, and you will receive:

Certificate of Appreciation

The handsome, full-size Certificate acknowledges your financial support of the Memorial and includes any names you enter in the Registry of Remembrances.

World War II Memorial Newsletter

With stories about World War II and its participants, both in battle and on the home front. Keeps you up to date on the Memorial's progress.

Personal Charter Membership Card

Carry the card as a symbol of your personal commitment to honoring those who served in World War II, both in uniform and on the home front.

For a contribution of \$35 or more you also receive:
Lapel Pin

Proudly wear the beautiful World War II Memorial Lapel Pin to show your friends and family that you are participating.

For a contribution of \$100 or more you also receive:

Limited Edition Print of the Memorial

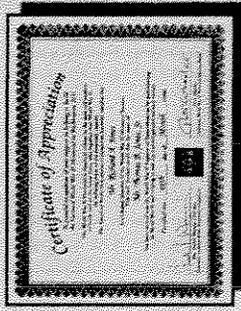
Suitable for framing, this large scale artist's rendering will make a handsome addition at home or work.

For a contribution of \$500 or more you also receive:

A print of Norman Rockwell's famous World War II painting, "*The Homecoming*."

For a contribution of \$1000 or more you also receive:

A personal listing in the *Donor Book of Remembrances* that will be widely circulated following the Memorial's dedication.



WHAT IS THE WORLD WAR II REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES?

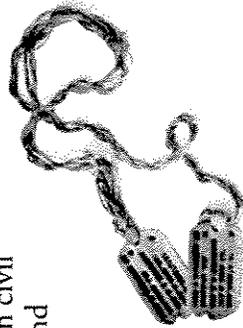
The World War II Registry of Remembrances will list the names of individual Americans who participated in the war effort, to be recorded for all time in the annals of history. The Registry will be kept on permanent public display in Washington, D.C.



so future generations will always remember the sacrifices of those who served their country in the greatest war of all time.

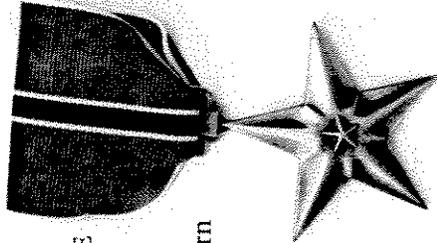
WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES?

Anyone who served in the armed forces during World War II, and any civilian who helped on the home front, is eligible for the Registry. Home front activities include working in defense-related industries, recycling materials needed for the war effort, participating in civil defense maneuvers and more. You may register your own name, or that of a family member or friend.



HOW DO I ENTER A NAME ON THE REGISTRY?

Fill out the enclosed Registration Form and return it to the World War II Memorial Fund. You may include a brief description of the honoree's wartime activity, however it is not necessary to complete all sections of the Form. If you wish to register more than one name, please copy the Form and include your name and address on it.



We Can Do It!



HOW CAN I HELP BUILD THE MEMORIAL?

All Americans can help build the World War II Memorial by becoming Charter Members of the World War II Memorial Society and generously contributing \$20, \$35, \$100 or more. Your tax-deductible contribution will help us meet our goal of \$100 million needed to construct the Memorial.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CHARTER MEMBER ENROLLMENT FORM
 Detach. Moisten and seal this flap.

YES! I am contributing in the amount checked below to help you build the National World War II Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C. Please list me as a Charter Member of the World War II Memorial Society.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Please make check payable to: World War II Memorial Fund

\$20 \$35 \$100 \$500 \$1000 \$ _____ Other

For credit card donations please check one: VISA MasterCard American Express

Card Number: _____

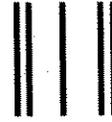
Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

A contribution to the World War II Memorial Fund of the American Battle Monuments Commission, a tax exempt entity, is a charitable contribution within the scope of Section 170(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

VE



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FIRST CLASS
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V MAIL



World War II Memorial Fund
American Battle Monuments Commission
P.O. Box 96766
Washington, D.C. 20090-6766



THE WORLD WAR II REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES

Anyone who helped win World War II, whether in battle or on the home front, is eligible for the Registry. Please complete or check all that apply, if information is available. You may enter your own name, or the name of someone you wish to honor for their service to our country during the war.

Title or Rank: _____

First Name: _____ MI _____ Last Name: _____ State: _____

Hometown: _____

Honoree Status: World War II Veteran Killed in World War II Civilian on the Home Front

Service Branch, if applicable: _____

Brief description of wartime activity: _____

Your relationship to Honoree: _____