WORLD WAR II REMEMBERED

A selection of vintage collectors items recalling the years when America was the Arsenal of Democracy.



What is a cachet?

(pronounced ka-SHAY) A cachet is a design of words and/or pictures that refers specifically to the new stamp on the First Day Cover. Designs are usually found on the front, left side of the envelope. They can be printed, rubber stamped, individually hand created, or pasted-on. The purpose of a cachet is to enhance the meaning and appearance of the cover



What is a First Day Cover?

A first day cover is an envelope that has a new stamp on it which has been canceled and its date of issue. For each new postal stamp or stationery issue, the U.S. Postal Service selects one town or city that is related insome way to the subject of the stamp. First day cover ceremonies are conducted at this town or city to honor the subject of the stamp.

This expanded edition of World War II Remembered includes Jewish American participation in the armed forces and other items of interest. From the stamp collection of Col. Seymour Kaplan USA (RET). Dedicated to Rabbi David Siegel, Executive Director of Hillel, Hofstra University and CW4 Bernard M. Kaplan USA (RET)

Printing:

As presently configured this copy can be reprinted back to back correctly so that the front and backs (when given,) of the first day covers appear next to each other in a two page spread.

Viewing on a computer:

On a tablet you probably want to view one page at a time either using Adobe Acrobat or a book viewing program like Kindle or Ibooks.

On a larger display you may want to use the "Two Page" display mode so that the front and backs (when given,) of the first day covers appear next to each other on the screen. To do this, temporarily delete this page and view in two page mode. (An alternative is to add a blank page at the beginning of the document.)

The original version can be found online at: World War II remembered: www.lousiegel.net/WWIIR.pdf



The Expanded version, containing information about Jewish American participation in the war and other items of interest can be found online at: www.lousiegel.net/WWIIH.pdf



Please visit www.lousiegel.net/WWII.html for a voluntary
survey and a worksheet to guide discussion.

For further information please contact: Lou Siegel at lousea@aol.com

March, 2018



NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The National World War II Memorial was formally dedicated on May 29, 2004, when this stamp was issued. The memorial, established by the American Battle Monuments Commission, honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the United States during World War II and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Located between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, the bronze and granite memorial was designed by architect Friedrich St. Florian and features two 43-foot memorial arches and curving rows of 56 wreathed pillars, each representing one of the states, territories and the District of Columbia that comprised the U.S. during the war. Also featured are a ceremonial entrance, the central Rainbow Pool and the Freedom Wall, on which is mounted a field of 4,000 gold stars honoring the more than 400,000 lives lost during the war. The World War II Memorial's Announcement Stone proclaims: "Here in the Presence of Washington and Lincoln, One the Eighteenth Century Father and the Other the Nineteenth Century Preserver of our Nation, We Honor Those Twentieth Century Americans Who Took Up the Struggle During the Second World War and Made the Sacrifices to Perpetuate the Gift Our Forefathers Entrusted to Us: A Nation Conceived in Liberty and Justice."

CACHETS LIMITED EDITION P.O. Box 7156 - Louisville, Ky 40257 Phone (502) 897-1336



The 56 pillars represent the 48 continental states, Alaska, Hawaii, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Philippines. Collectors Club of WASHINGTON









While much of the world was entrenched in war in 1941, the postage stamps below testify to the United States' debate over joining the international fray, and its preparation for the possibility of battle. The still-neutral U. S. ratified the Lend-Lease Act in 1941, providing over \$50 billion in aid to 44 different countries during the war. The U.S. also adopted, with Great Britain, the Atlantic Charter, establishing war and peace principles shared by the two allies (The Charter was ratified by 26 Allied nations by January, 1942, laying the foundation for the United Nations). America's neutrality and indecision toward the world's war came to a dramatic end on December 7, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, compelling the U.S. Congress to declare war the next day.



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Burma Road helps supply China's ongoin Placentia B blitzkrieg almost I.S.S. Reuben Ja Funk while escortin supply convoys to Ideland reaches Moscow. CANADA OSCOW U.S.S.R. war with J OTTAWA UNITED ACIFIC Bismarck sunk May 27. WASHINGTON e lApril) STATES HINA British seize CHUNGKERE Victy Syria and program Iraq. ATLANTIC INDIA HONOLULU British fig GKONE WAKE I. Italians, Germans in Libyan desert. inush libera GUA Japanese carrier planes atthok U.S. Meet at anchor in Pearl Harbor; 2,343 Americans die BUUKTOB (December 7, 1941). Ethiopia, Erit. and Somalia ILIPPINES talian control. Guam and Wake Island AFRICA U.S. outposts, SOUTH OCEAN fall to Japanese (December). INDIAN Thailand, Burma Malaya, Shqnghai OCBAN AMERICA OCEAN (December). 1941: A World at War AUSTRALIA 29 U USA TIS

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The second U.S. Military Academy grad-uate to become president, Eisenhower won acclaim in World War II by directing the invasion of Europe that led to Germany's surrender. The five-star general served as first commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization before be-coming president of the U.S., in 1953.

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FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

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USS ARIZONA MEMORIAL

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE













Dec. 7, 1941 - While talks for peace between the U. S. and Japan were going on, the Japs in a double cross surprise air attack did widespread damage at Hawaii on Sunday, Dec. 7th. The United States Congress declared War on

DECEMBER 8, 1941



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BURMA ROAD

With war funds dwindling and in no position to take on another enemy, Great Britain quietly gave in to Japanese demands and closed the BurmaRoad — China's sole landtie to Alliedaid — on July 18, 1940. Reopened October 18, 1940, without bloodshed, this closure marked the beginning of one of the longest and bloodiest chapters in the war. Burma in the spring of 1942 was a prize coveted by two forces: the Japanese and the Allies. Within Burma's boundaries lay rich mineral and oil reserves; the country also produced major quantities of rice. If the Japanese captured the country, a vital link between China and India would be severed and the two countries would be succeptible to invasions. If the Allies held their positions, they could see that supplies continued to trickle into China via the Burma Road. Unfortunately, the Japanese were much better prepared for taking Burma and closing the Burma Road than the Allies were to defend it. In May 1942, U.S. Lt. General Joseph Stilwell was driven from Burma, but he returned as the head of a Chinese division in October 1943. An acerbic man who was often at odds with China's Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and his own subordinate, General Claire Lee Chennault, Stilwell nevertheless was a capable leader. Allied forces thus prevailed, partially opening the Burma Roadin January 1945. But the victory was bitter-sweet and carne at great cost to those involved. The starnp and design of this First Day Cover honor the fighting men of the Burma campaign fifty years ago.

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PEACETIME DRAFT

One of the most controversial bits of legislation to ever enter the hallowed halls of Congress was the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940. Only after weeks of intense and heated debate did it pass in September of that year to authorize the first peacetime draft in the history of the nation. The new law required men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-five to register at local draft boards across the country on October 16 — over sixteen million men registered. Two weeks later, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt watched as Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson — bindfolded with a swatch of cloth from a chair used by the signers of the Declaration of independence — plucked the first number in the draft from a bowl filled with capsules numbered 1 to 8,994. The number

was one hundred fifty-eight; 6,175 men across the nation held that honor. Those who were deemed qualified for service were then required to report for duty. Local draft boards classified individuals in more than a dozen different categones. Some were 1-A, meaning "available for military service;" others were classified as 4-F which were rejected as "physically, mentally or morally unfit for service." In all, some sixteen million Americans served their country during the war. Some were volunteers, but the vast majority were drafted under the terms of that controversial act of 1940. This First Day Cover honors those who signed up for the draft to serve their country in the gallant fight against oppression and tyrranny across the globe.

Heeturoot

LEND-LEASE ACT

It was after U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's horney analogy of lending a neighbor a garden hose to put out a fire that Americans came around to the concept of Lend-Lease. Though some agreed with Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana that the Lend-Lease agreement would "plow under every fourth American boy," Congress passed the Lend-Lease billin March 1941. Thus, the United States became the life-support system for democracy and freedom. In all, more than \$50 billion was distributed to the Allied countries during World War II. The bulk of this went to the British Empire, which included Australia, Canada, India and New Zealand. The Soviet Union, France and China were also given aid. Smaller countries received more than \$1 billion in LendLease goods. Among these forces were Mexico, Central America, Iceland, South America, Africa, the Near East, countries in the Caribbean and some of the smaller European countries. This was what British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill referred to as "the most unsordid act in the history of any nation." In all, thirty-eight countries and nineteen American republics benefitted from the Lend-Lease Act; fourteen cents out of every dollar the U.S. spent to fight the British Empire to repay \$650 million out of its \$31 billion debt. The stamp and design on this First Day Cover commemorate the Lend-Lease Act and its contribution to freedom's fight.



ATLANTIC CHARTER

During his second term in office, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt watched Adolf Hitler tighten his powerful grip on Germany with growing alarm. When Europe went to war in 1939, Roosevelt sought to show support for the Allied nations battling Axis aggression while conforming to America's policy of restrictive isolationism. By the summer of 1941, Great Britain had been at war with Germany for nearly two years. The tiny island nation successfully staved off Hitler's blitz during the Battle of Britain, but Prime Minister Winston Churchill knew his country needed the bolstering support of its western cousin, the United States. In August of 1941, President Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill met aboard the warships U.S.S. Augusta and H.M.S. Prince of Wales in Newfoundland's Placentia Bay. On August 14, the two leaders issued a statement subsequently called the Atlantic Charter which called for the destruction of Nazityranny, affirmed the rights of each nation to political self-determination and called for the disarmament of all potential aggressors. The document illustrated the two nations' firm friendship and commitment to world freedom. Naturally, the enemy forces greeted the document less than enthusiastically. In 1942 the Atlantic Charter was incorporated into the Declaration of the United Nations. The stamp and design on this First Day Cover memorialize two great leaders who were far-sighted enough to form acommon bond of liberty-loving nations in a fight against the powers of evil.

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ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY

The United States moved one step closer to war when it announced the transfer of approximately fifty older ships to Great Britain on September 3, 1940 in exchange for leases on British military installations. In one of the biggest political gambles of history, U.S. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt concluded the Destroyers for Bases Dealjusta few months before the general election and his bid for a third term as President. Roosevelt recognized that without such aid, democracy was likely doomed. With it, the struggle against the bloated Axis powers could continue. It was a gamble that FDR was willing to take, despite strong opposition from isolationist factions in the United States. Nevertheless, the first fleet of ships was on the way to Nova Scotia before the end of themonth. There, the ships were manned by British and Canadian crews and re-christened. The agreement would become justome of many ways that the nation aided its friends in the fight against tyranny. Despite intense criticism from many, Roosevelt continued in his pledge of aid to Great Britain and its allies. In one of his legendary fireside chats on December 29, 1940, the President first used the term which would become synonymous with America's entire focus throughout the war: the Great Arsenal of Democracy. Thus aidofalmostevery description flowed to the Allies — fueling the fight against the Aris powers. This First Day Cover design and stamp salute the men and women who helped massproduce the nation's fight against oppression.

Heelwood

U.S.S. REUBEN JAMES SUNK

The waters of the Atlantic in 1941 were becoming deadly waters, especially for convoys carrying Lend-Lease goods from the United States to Great Britain. To protect the convoys, American warships sailed as escort until their British counterparts could provide protection to the island nation. Germany vowed to stop the flow of matériel at any cost and their deadly U-boats threatened to do just that. On October 17, 1941, the destroyer U.S.S. Kearney was hit and damaged by a German torpedo. Eleven men died and the *Kearney* was temporarily knocked out of action. But this was just the beginning. On the moming of October 31, 1941, the twenty-one year old destroyer U.S.S. Reuben James was escorting a convoy off Iceland when it was hit by a torpedo fired from a German U-boat commanded by Erich Topp. The torpedo took the venerable destroyer just below the bridge, igniting the ship in a horrific explosion. The ship sank in only minutes, taking one hundred fifteen men along with her. Angered by the attack, a bill allowing armed American merchant ships to sail into combat zones was officially signed by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt. And although the United States was not officially at war with Germany, the German government did not apologize for the incident. Instead a statement was issued: "Anybody walking along the railroad track at night should not be surprised if he gets run over by an express train." The U.S. eased closer still to war, in only a few months, it would be official.

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CIVIL DEFENSE

Seven months before America officially entered the Second World War with the disaster at Pearl Harbor, the Office of Civilian Defense was formed. From the outset, the OCD was an organization which made good use of civilian patriots wanting to defend their country. One of these was the OCD's first director, Fjorello H. La Guardia, a five-foot-two-inch live wire who also doubled as the Mayor of New York City. Under his direction, the OCD began to grow, gaining momentum as the United States traveled farther and farther down the path to war. The agency prepared evacuation and disaster plans, recruited members to act as air-raid wardens, ambulance drivers and air-raid spotters. Air-raid wardens playeda particularly crucial role in civil defense. The wardens were given responsibility for different segments of a community and tasked with keeping all the lights snuffed during the intermittent nightime blackouts. The government authorized these civilian leaders to wear white helmets and arm bands for easy identification; they also carried whistles during their duties. The OCD also acted as a public information agency, publishing air-raid "how-to" paraphlets and encouraging its members to take first-aid training. And although disaster never came to America's shores during the Second World War, thanks to the OCD, millions of Americans were prepared to weather the worst. This First Day Cover honors those who volunteered to protect America at home during a time of world wide turnoil.

Heetwood

THE LIBERTY SHIPS

A host of logistical problems faced America in the early years of the Second World War. Not the least of these was crossing the thousands of miles of open ocean to supply a steady flow of matériel to the battlefields. The vast waters teemed with deadly traps: German U-boats prowled below offering the greatest danger and floating mines promised a tragedy all their own. Consequently, the United States needed able ships and needed them posthaste, for they were often destroyed as quickly as they were built. The well-known industrialist Henry J. Kaiser was contracted to supervise the mass production of hundreds of merchant-marine freighters aptly tagged "Liberty Ships." Kaiser had proven himself as one of the nation's leading industrial minds early on, having played key

roles in the construction of such monumental projects as Hoover, Borneville, Grand Coulee and Shasta dams. Under his direction, the time it took to build one ship was cut from one hundred fifty days to — in one remarkable case — four and a half days. During the war, Kaiser built and operated seven shipyards, where his men mass-produced a total of 1,490 ships, the majority of which were Liberty ships. But Kaiser was not the ordy manufacturer of the vital Liberty Ships; by war's end, nearly 6,000 Liberty and Victory ships had been constructed to serve the Allied cause. The stamp and design of this First Day Cover honor the Liberty Ship and the men who helped to build her — shipssuch as the very first, the Patrick Henry which was launched in September 1941.

Theetwood

JAPANESE BOMB PEARL HARBOR

The morning of December 7, 1941 was like so many in the tropics...quiet, almost lazy — a Sunday. But less than two hours after dawn, it became a Sunday like no other. Before many of the American servicemen stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, had risen, the harbor and surrounding fields were under enerny air attack. The surprise was universal. The Japanese launched over one hundred eighty airplanes in the first wave from a point two hundred thirty miles north of Oahu. Striking withdeadly efficiency, the planeshit Wheeler, Hickam and Bellows fields and pounded into American battleships anchored off Ford Island in Pearl Harbor. So shocking was this initial attack that only nine enemy planes were shot out of the once-scene tropical sky. The next wave came less than an hour later, pounding into crippled battleships and destroying grounded American aircraft. With one well-planned and flawlessly executed blow, the Japanese sent American naval power reeling. The camage was incredible: 2,403 American men and women were killed; the battleships U.S.S. Arizona, U.S.S. West Virginia, U.S.S. California, U.S.S. Utah and U.S.S. Oklahoma were knocked out of action; and only one quarter of the American aircraft were undamaged. It was a day which spurred the industrial might of anation into action and sent United States servicemen into the arena of World War II. This First Day Cover design and accompanying U.S. Postal Service stamp remember the men and women who lost their lives on that tragic day in 1941.









FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

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UNITED STATES DECLARES WAR UPON JAPAN

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941 — a date which will live in infamy — the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." With these immortal words, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt appeared before a joint session of Congress on December 8, 1941. In a pointed, moving speech, Roosevelt, drawn and haggard from a night with little sleep, continued: "Iaskthat the Congress declare that since the unprovoked and dastardly attack by Japan on Sunday, December 7, a state of war has existed between the United States and the Japanese Empire." Only thirty-three minutes later, Congress passed a declaration of war with Japan. That same day, a resolute FDR signed the declaration and America entered the Second World War. Surprisingly, Roosevelt's words were a little different in the first draft of the Congress message. After the initial draft, the words "... a date which will live in world history" were changed to the famous and more powerful "... a date which will live in infamy ... "Regardless, the effect of the attack and Roosevelt's speech was unforgettable: Recruiting stations were packed withmen wishing to enter the Armed Forces and angry cries for revenge swept across the country. From that day forward, Americans would not rest in their drive to free the world. The starnp and design of this First Day Cover remember the day which swept the nation into war.







First Day of Issue



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In 1942, America catapulted into the biggest war in history. Six of the world's seven continents were involved in the conflict and battles raged across the Soviet Union, North Africa and the southwest Pacific, Millions of American men and women signed up for military service and played active roles in the various maneuvers depicted in these stamps. While Allied troops raided Tokyo, battled successfully at Coral Sea. and Midway, and landed-on Guadalcanal and North Africa, Japan scored itstown victories in Manila Bay and on the Aleutian Islands. Stateside, millions of women joined the war effort, working at the airfields, firing ranges, shipyards, aircraft plants and munitions factories that had sprung upon towns and cities to prepare and outfit U.S. troops. Ration stamps were introduced in 1942 to further preserve food and commodities for the war effort.





Millions effort, 1942 Aug. 7, 1948

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Allies land in N







B-25s TAKE OFF ON ROAD TO TOKYO

One of the boldest, most spectacular aerial operations in military history commenced on April 18, 1942, when 16 B-25s rumbled off the pitching decks of the U.S.S. Hornet and proceeded toward their target — Tokyo. Once airborne, the aircraft skimmed the waves and trees to avoid enemy detec-tion and anothed Tokyo within four hour. Dodning further tion and reached Tokyo within four hours. Dodging furious and reaches 1 ok yo within four hours. Doughing the load anti-aircraft fire, they dropped their loads on several enemy military installations and sped away, hoping to reach the Chinese mainland. But while flying in darkness over strange territory, they ran into a storm. Bucking severe headwinds drained their fuel, and most of the men bailed out. Of the 82 volunteer crewman, 70 made it back to America. Three captives were executed at the hands of the Japanese. The brainchild of Lt. Col. James Doolittle, mission commander,

this bombing raid struck at the very heart of Japanese society. Shocked and staggered by this attack on their supposedly invincible empire, and without the benefit of air-raid shelters. the people of Tokyo ran mindlessly through the city's streets ina state of panie. In the aftermath, Japanese officials scurried to the Emperor's palace to apologize for the attack on their homeland. The officer charged with Tokyo's air-defense committed suicide. The war had found Japan. While of little military significance, Doolittle's raid was nevertheless an enormous boost to American morale and a presage of coming events. Specifically, the Japanese naval command, eager for redemption, may have rushed into confrontations with the U.S. Navy at the Battles of the Coral Sea and Midway, where they were subsequently defeated.

Heelwood

FOOD AND OTHER COMMODITIES RATIONED

For those Americans who worked, worried and waited while loved ones fought overseas, a different sort of battle was being waged daily on the home front. Their enemies were extravagance and waste; their weapons were tighter belts, thrift and ration coupons. The federal government began the rationing system to ensure fair division of essential items and to keep inflation from skyrocketing. Sugar was the first item to be rationed, and in May of 1942 Americans received their first supply of ration coupons based on their estimation recorded in sworn depositions - of how much sugar they had at home. Other items were speedily added to the list of rationed goods: coffee and meat; gasoline, because petro-

leum was needed for the war effort; canned goods, because tin was needed for soldiers' c-ration cans and armament. Precious ration books with coupons — red for butter, fats and meat, and blue for canned goods — bought Americans an average of 10 ounces of sugar per week, 28 ounces of meat per week, a pound of coffee every 35 days, and three to five gallons of gasoline per week. Some citizens stealthily patron-ized "Mr. Black's" under-the-counter market and paid dearly for extra butter or expensive cuts of meat. But most Ameri-cans found ways to "Use it up/Wear it out/Make it do/Or do without," and considered such sacrifices their patriotic duty as part of the war effort.



U.S. WINS BATTLE OF CORAL SEA

In May of 1942, in an effort to broaden their control of the Solomon Islands and eventually conquer Australia, a massive Japanese invasion fleet sailed for New Guinea's Port Moresby. Commanded by Vice-Adm. Shigeyoshi Inouye, the Japanese task force was assisted by the carriers Shokaku and Zuikaku and 125 naval aircraft. Charged with halting this Japanese advance, Rear Adm. Frank Jack Fletcher aimed his contingent of American and Australian ships toward the Coral Sea and the Japanese. Two American flattops, the Lexington and the Yorktown, and 141 aircraft would play a decisive role in the first naval battle where neither opponent came within sight of one another. On May 3, Japanese forces captured the island of Tulagi. The following day, the Yorktown, then 100 miles from Tulagi,

responded by launching several air-strikes and succeeded in sinking a Japanese destroyer. Four days later, Japanese pilots sank an American destroyer and oil supply ship. U.S. flyers from the Yorktown retaliated by sinking the Japanese light carrier Shoho in 10 minutes -- one of the war's swiftest sinkings. After sparing for five days like heavyweights in the early going of a fight, the two evenly matched focs squared off for the final round. On May 8, the battle was decided and losses on both sides were significant. The Lexington, ravaged by Japanese bombs and torpedoes, was abandoned and scuttled. The Japanese carrier Shokaku took three direct hits and, unable to launch its planes, retreated. When the smoke cleared, the Japanese forces were retreating, their southward trek stopped dead in the water.



CORREGIDOR FALLS TO JAPANESE

In December of 1941, flush with victory after its demoralizing attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan invaded the Philippines and entrenched more than 60,000 battle-seasoned troops near Manila. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Far East (USAFFE), ardently advocated a vigorous defense of the islands, and in January of 1942, American and Filipino soldiers and civilians retreated to the Bataan peninsula to make a defensive stand. In the ensuing months, the Japanese subjected the occupants of Bataan to relentless offensives and sank every supply ship en route to Luzon. In late February, President Roosevelt ordered MacArthur to withdraw to Australia, and the general's reluctant departure in March was a crippling blow to his troops. On April 8, Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright and approximately 15,000 soldiers and civilians withdrew to the island of Corregidor, a natural fortress containing an intricate system of tunnels. The remaining garrison on Bataan surrendered the following day to "avoid mass slaughter." For the next several weeks, Wainwright struggled to keep Corregidor, vital gateway to Manila Bay, in Allied hands. Although Japanese ordnance mercilessly pounded the island fortress, the defenders — growing steadily weaker from hunger, disease and fatigue—held out. By May 5, Japanese troops were less than a mile from the entrance to Malinta Tunnel, the island's most protected underground passage. For the next 12 hours Corregidor's guardians engaged the enemy in fierce hand-tohand combat. But their plight was hopeless. On May 6, Wainwright surrendered his garrison.

Theetwood

JAPAN INVADES ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

In June of 1942, as a diversionary move for their Midway operation, the Japanese invaded the islands of Attu and Kiska in the Aleutian archipelago. The islands were of little strategic significance, however, as their bitterly cold climate and rocky landscape rendered air operations dubious at best. Nevertheless, Attu and Kiska were the only U.S. owned territories in North America the Japanese had captured, and an enemy presence there presented a possible threat, however vague, to Alaska and the West Coast. For nearly a year, with American naval, land and air strength committed to the Southwest Pacific, little more than intermittent bombing raids could be brought to bear against Japanese entrenchments at the Aleutians. Not until May of 1943 did American forces make amove to recapture the islands. The first assault

was aimed at the snow-covered mountains of Attu, where Japanese forces were firmly entrenched and protected by land mines and booby traps. The ensuing battles ignited the biggest *banzai* charge of the war. Hundreds of frustrated Japanese, hand grenades pressed to their chests, made a desperate suicide charge at American lines. Over 2,300 Japanese were killed and 550 Americans died. By June 3, most of the Japanese garrison on Attu was annihilated. With Attu captured, the Allies turned their military might 170 miles east toward Kiska and the main Japanese base. On Aug. 15, 1943, American and Canadian troops invaded the island, but a combination of daring and Aleutian fog allowed the Japanese to evacuate their personnel and escape unharmed. The Aleutians, however, were free.

Theetwood

ALLIES DECIPHER ENEMY SECRET CODES

In 1939, British Intelligence successfully reconstructed Germany's cipher machine and brought it to England, where experts labored to break the enemy's code. They achieved success, and this vital breakthrough proved invaluable to Britain in the Battle of the Atlantic and, later, to the Allies in Sicily and Normandy. *Enigma's* Japanese counterpart was *Purple*, a system which functioned on the fundamentals of a telephone switchboard. Elaborately complicated, *Purple* presented monumental challenges to the U.S. Intelligence Service. But on September 23, 1940, the War Department's chief cryptanalyst, Col. William Friedman, cracked the code. *Operation Magic*, code name for the American deciphering program, served its country most illustriously just before the Battle of Midway in 1942. After the Battle of Coral Sea, American Intelligence surmised that Japan's First Air Fleet would strike again in the Pacific. Intercepted Japanese communications alluded to a destination called "AF," but its exact identity remained a mystery. Convinced that "AF" was Midway, an American cryptanalyst sent a telegraphic message in clear which stated that the island was low on fresh water. Subsequent Japanese communiques duly noted that "AF" was experiencing water shortages. Later messages also revealed the date of the enemy offensive — June 4. When Japan's fleet moved against Midway, it encountered a prepared Americán naval force which devastated the attack force. This calamitous defeat ultimately set Japan on the defensive and turned the tide of war in the Pacific for the Allies.





YORKTOWN LOST; U.S. WINS AT MIDWAY

Commanding a colossal force of 160 warships, Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto was out to destroy the U.S. Pacific Fleet, capture Midway Island, and make amends for the embarrassment of Doolittle's raid. With the bulk of the Japanese fleet at his disposal and depending on complete tactical surprise, Yamamoto was confident of attaining his goals. The element of surprise, however, would lie with the Americans. U.S. Intelligence had broken the main Japanese code and knew of Japan's intended attack on Midway. Yamamoto would find that, unlike Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Navy was waiting for him, ready and able. Commanded by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, the American force was positioned some 350 miles northeast of Midway and included the carriers, *Hornet, Enterprise* and Yorktown. Less than a month earlier,

the Yorktown had sustained extensive damage at the Battle of the Coral Sea. Nevertheless, she was repaired in two days instead of an estimated 90, a remarkable feat that would prove to be a crucial factor in the upcoming American victory at Midway. The battle commenced on June 3, when U.S. torpedo planes left Midway and ineffectually engaged the approaching Japanese armada. The battle, however, had just begun. Wave after wave of U.S. carrier-launched planes discharged their deadly arsenal upon the Japanese ships, often catching enemy planes, fueled and armed, on the decks. With his carriers, the Kaga, Akagi, Soryu and Hiryu and scores of his planes at the bottom of the ocean, a defeated Yamamoto ran for home. Although the Yorktown was lost, the American victory was complete.

Heetwood

MILLIONS OF WOMEN JOIN THE WAR EFFORT

"If the guyscan take it, so can I," saidone of the first American women to volunteer for military service. With the nation's sudden entry into the war, the majority of American women were as determined as their men to 'contribute to the war effort. For many, that contribution included a startling transformation from "Susie Homemaker" to "G.I. Joan." In May of 1942, approximately 13,000 women answered a nationwide recruitment call, and more than 700 women comprised the first group of volunteers to train at Fort Des Moines, Jowa, for the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, later the Women's Army Corps (WAC). And like their male counterparts, the women in basic training hit the floors for reveille, drilled, ran obstacle courses, pulled KP and received an endless assortment of painful inoculations. These women went on to work as nurses, mechanics, cargo pilots and aerial surveyors, freeing able-bodied men for front-line service. But many American women served Uncle Sam just as gallantly and as fervently without donning a uniform. They too left homemaking temporarily behind to enter the work force en masse, laboring primarily in war plants to keep the military machines rolling. "Rosie the Riveter," Lockheed Aircraft's famous poster heroine, urged women across the country to join her ranks — with astounding results. By 1943, women made up more than 30 percent of the work force.

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MARINES LAND ON GUADALCANAL

Taking the offensive in the Pacific theater for the first time, Americans paid dearly during the bitterly contested campaigns of Guadalcanal. But after the last shot was fired, it had cost the Japanese more. After the setbacks suffered at the Battle of the Coral Sea and Midway, Japan revised its Pacific strategy. In July of 1942, with the eventual invasion of Australia in mind, the Japanese began constructing an airfield on Guadalcanal which would solidify their control of the Solomon Islands and provide a clear path to Australia. Mindful of these possibilities, American forces invaded the island on Aug. 7 and within a few hours captured the air base and renamed it Henderson Field. Controlling it and the surrounding islands would be another matter, as the Battle of Savo Island, two days later, proved. Patrolling the area off Savo Island on the morning of Aug. 9, two U.S. cruiser groups came under attack from what was deemed an inferior Japanese force. In one hour, the Japanese sunk four heavy cruisers, one destroyer and killed 1,270 men. This one-sided battle hears the dubious distinction of being one of the worst defeats ever inflicted on the U.S. Navy. Back on Guadalcanal the marines began to fan out, fighting through the hot, malariainfested jungle. Six months later, with 1,600 men killed, several thousand dead from malaria and other tropical diseases, and a plethora of land and sea battles fought, the Americans could claim victory. Japan was utterly defeated; with over 25,000 troops dead and more than 600 planes and their crews destroyed, Japan's quest for control of the Solomon Islands and Australia was ended.



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ALLIES LAND IN NORTH AFRICA

Devised by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and commanded by then virtually unknown Lt. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Operation Torch, the code name for the Allied invasion of North Africa, initiated the bitter struggle for control of the African continent. The Torch invasion commenced on Nov. 8, when three separate forces of American and British troops landed on the beaches of Algiers, Oran and Morocco. The Allies captured Algiers with minimal effort and by evening were mopping up. Oran and Morocco, however, did not surrender until Nov. 10 and 11. If all went according to plan, the invasion was intended to accomplish several Allied objectives, including: trap Gennan Gen. Erwin Rommel and his desert troops between invading forces of British and American troops; help solidify the Soviet Alliance; ensure Spanish neutrality by preventing Gen. Francisco Franco fromentering the war, allow the Allies to tighten the blockade of Mediterranean and South Atlantic sea routes; and provide a base of operation for the push into southern Europe. Of immediate consequence was the surrender of Vichy French forces fighting in Africa. Their capitulation gave Hitler an excuse to totally occupy France. German troops marched through southern France, hoping to capture the formidable French fleet at Toulon. But the French, refusing British pleas to join forces with the Allies, southed 73 ships in Toulon Harbor on Nov. 27, shortly after the Germans arrived. Germany would have to fight the war without the use of French war ships.



First Day of Issue





FIRST DAY OF ISSUE










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OVERCOMING THE U-BOAT MENACE

"The only thing that ever frightened me during the war was the U-Boatperil. It was our worst evil." Churchill's fears were well-founded. Germany's underwater stranglehold on the North Atlantic had repeatedly proven deadly. It began in 1939, when Adolf Hitler gave his famous directive, "The Navy may attack passenger ships in convoy or proceeding withlights." When the U.S. entered the war in 1941, Germany considered the entire Atlantic the private domain of its U-boat fleet. Between June and December of 1942, the Allies suffered a crushing blow — more than 600 of its ships were lost to Germany's "wolf packs" of predatory U-boats. However, 1943 heralded the end of the Axis' naval dominance. Admiral Ernest J. King. commander in chief of the United States Navy. formed the 10th Fleet solely to coordinate all aspects of the antisubmarine effort. By employing sophisticated technology such as "hunter-seeker" aircraft, and introducing more powerful escort ships, the Allied campaign to thwart the Uboat proved fruitful. Over 100 German submarines were sunk in just three months. Shipborne radar also played an important part in the North Atlantic battle. This tracking device discouraged U-boats from attacking at night or in fog from the water's surface, greatly reducing their effectiveness. As the German submarines were destroyed, so was the overall morale. In May, German Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz called all U-boats hort, and by December he admitted, "the enemy has rendered the U-boat ineffective."

Heetwood.

U.S. MEDICAL SERVICES

Dodging bullets, scurrying around land mines and crawling on their bellies to avoid detection. That was how some of World War U's brave but unsung heroes made their vital contributions to the Allied victory. The courageous efforts of U.S. medical service personnel saved countless lives throughout the war. Often this entailed risking their own safety to aid their comrades on the front line. Yet, without the advanced medical technology and supplies developed on the homefront, many of their heroic efforts would have gone unrewarded. Although much wartime research was concentrated on the destruction of the enemy, a large share was also directed to the preservation of life. Two key lifesaving discoveries had lain dormant formany years. One was an insecticide derived from a synthetic compound originally formulated by a German

chemistry student in 1874. Named DDT by American researchers, this insecticide eliminated the lice and mosquitoes that had been causing epidemics of typhus and malaria among Allied troops stationed in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. The second long-forgotten discovery proved to be the single most significant medical advance of the war — penicillin. In 1928, British researcher Dr. Alexander Fleming had found that *Penicillium*, a type of mold similar to that which forms on bread and cheese, had the capability to destroy bacteria. The U.S. Department of Agriculture further developed and improved the specific substance of the mold responsible for eliminating bacteria. This new antibiotic joined the improved sulfa drugs and dried blood plasma administered by medics on the battlefield.

Theetwood

ALLIES INVADE SICILY

The first Allied invasion of an Axis homeland came on July 10, 1943, when the U.S. and Britain raided Sicily. The evening before, Allied parachutists had descended on the island to disrupt communications and occupy airfields. The next morning, just before dawn, they were joined by approximately 2,500 ships carrying 181,000 soldiers. The invading troops disembarked on five beaches along Sicily's southerm coast. Initially, they saw little to hinder their progress — the southern beaches were undefended and the pillboxes deserted. The Allied forces had come from the south and east, not from the west as the Germans had anticipated. Attacks by German Panzer divisions were repelled and the Italian forces retreated. Germany responded by dispatching planes and tanks to the area, but they were swiftly bombarded by the

offshore armada. By the evening of July 11 th, the Allies had brought 80,000 troops and 8,000 vehicles ashore, only to be faced with another enemy. Rugged terrain covered by deep stream beds and steep, narrow roads made tank travel sluggish and painstaking. General Montgomery's 8th Army forged over Sicily's east coast to capture the city of Syracuse. Meanwhile, General Patton's 7th Army had landed at the southern coastal towns of Gela and Licata. Patton's troops proceeded to "go like Hell," reaching the northern town of Palermo within two weeks. By July 30, America and Britain had linked forces. Together, they took Messina, completing their capture of Sicily on August 17. The success of the offensive was considered a key factor in Mussolini's fall from power just a few weeks earlier on July 25th.



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B-24s BOMB PLOESTI OILFIELDS

Although wars are waged using strategy, technology and manpower, an often underestimated requirement is the availability of fuel. During World War II, both sides were heavily dependent on oil. On land, Germany's formidable Panzer tanks required huge amounts of fuel to maintain their fighting operations. And on sea, oil powered the turbines of German surface vessels and the diesels of its mighty U-boats. Much of that precious fluid came from the Romanian oil-producing center of Ploesti. On August 1, 1943, this town became the target of a massi veairstrike carried out by Commander Lewis Breneton's 9th Air Force and Colonel Leon Johnson's 8th Air Force. The offensive, dubbed Operation Tidal Wave, kicked off at dawn from the northern African seaport of Benghazi. A wave of 178 B-24 Liberator aircraft faced a grueling 1,500mile journey across the Mediterranean and over the Germanoccupied Balkans. The Liberators repeatedly met with strong resistance from Germany's Luftwaffe, but managed to break through the attacks to reach their designated target. Once over Ploesti's refineries and oil tanks, scores of B-24s dropped their bombs, hitting their marks and filling the skies with brilliant orange flames and thick clouds of black smoke. An official U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey later stated: "It was the Nazis 'lack of gasoline, not the loss of plane production, that gave us air superiority."

Heetwood

V-MAIL - LETTERS FROM ABROAD

"Frequent and rapid communication with parents, associates, and other loved ones strengthens fortitude, enlivens patriotism, makes loneliness endurable, and inspires to eveng reater devotion the men and women who are carrying on our fight far fromhome and friends." This statement from the U.S. Post Office Department was especially true during World War II when thousands of U.S. troops were shipped to every corner of the world. As the war escalated, the task of delivering mail between the U.S. and these often remote and "classified" locations grew increasingly difficult and more cumbersome. Thus, V-mail was born. This new technology for sending mail, which carried the popular "V" for victory as part of its name, greatly trimmed the number of bulky mail bags thathad formerly occupied precious cargo space. To send a V-mail letter, the message was penned on a special form and directed to a postal facility. There the letter was opened, censored, reduced by a photographic process and recorded on film. It was the film, not the written letter, that was transported to its destination post office. One sack of V-mail weighing 45 pounds could replace 37 sacks of conventional mail weighing an astounding 2,575 pounds. At the post office, the filmed letter was enlarged on photographic paper. In the space of about 10 days, even a letter sent to a little-known location, would arrive at its intended destination. This boon to wartime mail delivery was also a great aid in boosting morale on both fronts, overseas and at home.

Theetwood

ALLIED FORCES LAND AT SALERNO

ALLEEP FORCES On September 8, 1943, Italy surrendered to the Allies. The news came over the radio to General Mark Clark's 5th Army, packed tightly into troop ships on their way to Salemo. The men celebrated gleefully, assuming, despite contrary warings from their officers, the next day's invasion would now go unoposed. But although Italy was in fact out of the war, the occupying Germans, under Field Marshall Albert Kesselring, were not. When the first Allied wave hit the Salemo beachhead early the next morning, the Germans opened fire with everything they had, determined to push the invaders into the sea. The Allies continued to come ashore at five different points, while the Germans fought back viciously with tarks

and artillery. The British were able to establish a toehold in the town of Salemo, but they were unable to join up, with the Americans on their right. The battle raged for days. On September 13, a German counterattack overnan the 2nd Battalion of the U.S. 143rd Infantry Regiment. At times the fighting was hand-to-hand. Cooks, clerks and drivers everyone who could walk — were given weapons and pressed into action. On September 18, after nine days of savage, seesaw combat, the Germans finally relented and fell back to the Apennines. Although the first large-scale opposed landing on the European continent had not gone as planned, it was nevertheless a success. The Allies were in Europe to stay.





BONDS AND STAMPS AID WAR EFFORT

To help finance the escalating costs of World War II, the U.S. government enlisted the aid of those on the homefront. One of the steps taken was the sale of War Bonds and Stamps. With the aid of New York's finest advertising agencies, familiar comic strip characters and a myriad of entertainers, the War Bond campaign was a financial success. Bond rallies were held throughout the country, often led by entertainment personalities. The most lucrative by far was a 16-hour mara-thon radio broadcast featuring songstress Kate Smith. Already famous forher moving rendition of *GodBless America*, this popular singer also proved to be an effective fund raiser — by the end of her show nearly \$40 million worth of Series

"E" Bonds had been sold. During World War II, Americans purchased approximately \$156 billion in War Bonds. When PresidentRooseveltlaunched the non-compulsary Bond sales program in 1941, his advisors feared there would be a recurrence of the unfair pressures thathad been put upon those who did not participate in the voluntary World War I Bond program. Many who did not buy War Bonds at that time had their houses and barns painted yellow by citizens who wished to humiliate them. However, the secretary of the treasury insisted that the World War II Bond program operate on a voluntary basis to "make the country war-minded and give people an opportunity to do something."

Theelwood

WILLIE AND JOE

No one person was more responsible for immortalizing the American infantryman in World War II than cartoonist Bill Mauldin. Although only 18 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, the boyish looking recruit from New Mexico, who worked for the Stars and Stripes, was able to capture the grim wit of the foxhole in a way that was loved by men in the ranks and hated by many of their officers. His mostmemorable creations were Willie and Joe, two sardonically humorous combat soldiers who did a lot of griping but still got the job done. The folks at home also loved Willie and Joe, for these two unromantic characters gave them an accurate picture of what it was like to be an American GI. Because Americans the beginning, but they quickly earned the enemy's respect as a formidable opponent. In fact, German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel said it best, "What was really amazing was the speed with which the Americans adapted themselves to modern warfare. Starting from scratch an army has been crafted in the very minimum of time, which, in equipment, armament and organization of all arms, surpasses anything the world has yet seen." After the war, Bill Mauldin went on to draw cartoons about the soldier's difficult transition back to civilian life. He received a Pulitzer Prize for one of his cartoons in 1945, and another in 1959. Mauldin continued his life's work as a political cartoonist until his retirement in 1992.

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GOLD STAR

Some 2,400 Americans died on December 7,1941, during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. One of them was William Ball, a sailor from Fredericksburg, Iowa. Among Ball's boyhood friends were the five Sullivan brothers who lived in the nearby town of Waterloo. Vowing to averge their friend's death, George, Francis, Joseph, Madison and Albert Sullivan joined the U.S. Navy and requested permission to serve on the same ship together. All five were assigned to the USS *Juneau*. On November 12, 1942, the Japanese Navy sent a bombardment force to Guadalcanal to shell American positions in preparation for landing reinforcements on the hotly contested island. A furious gun and torpedo action ensued in Iron Bottom Sound. Utimately Japanese Vice Admiral Horoaki Abe ordered his ships to turn back. Despite this victory

American losses were heavy, and the Juneau was among them. It was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine on November 13, and the four youngest Sullivans went down with the ship. The eldest brother George survived the sinking but was soon attacked and killed by sharks. During World War II, a Gold Star was hung in the window of every American home where a family member had died serving his or her country. Tragically, five such stars hung in Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sullivan's window. The Navy awarded posthumous purple hearts to the Sullivans and even christened a new destroyer USS *The Sullivans* in their honor. The family became a national symbol of heroic sacrifice, an inspiration to all Americans that was in no way diminished when their only remaining child Genevieve enlisted in the Navy as a WAVE.



Commanding the largest fleet in Naval history, he led America to victory in the Pacific.







FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

First Day of Issue



U.S. MARINES LAND ON TARAWA

Tarawa, a central Pacific atoll of about two dozen islets in the Gilbert Island chain, was held by the Japanese in late 1943. The principal strongpoint was Betio, a heavily fortified islet less than half the size of New York's Central Park. In late November, Betio was subjected to heavy American shelling and bombing in preparation for a landing by U.S. Marines. But when landing craft began making their way across the coral reef surrounding the islet, they came under heavy artillery and machine gun fire. Many exploded or capsized. As Marines waded ashore neck-deep in water, hundreds drowned or were shot to death before making it to the beach. Colonel David Shoup, commander of the 2nd Marine Regiment, radioed back to the flagship, "Our casualties heavy, Enemy casualties unknown. Situation: we are winning." Shoup would later receive the Medal of Honor for his heroism during the battle for Tarawa. The fierce fighting raged for four days as, foot by foot, the Marines took control, silencing Japanese shore batteries and blasting pillboxes with grenades. On November 24, the islet was finally secured. Only 17 Japanese were left to surrender, while over 4,500 had perished. Also killed were 1,027 U.S. Marines and 29 U.S. Navy officers and men. Tragically, the battle for one of the Pacific's smallest islands was one of the bloodiest of the entire Pacific campaign.











First Day of Issue



U.S. MEDICAL SERVICES First Day of Issue: May 31, 1993 First Issue Location: Washington, D.C.

Some of World War II's brave but unsung heroes constantly risked their lives, not by fighting the enemy, but by bringing lifesaving medical treatment to wounded soldiers on the battlefield. Yet, without the advanced medical technology and supplies developed on the homefront, many of their heroic efforts would have gone unrewarded. Two key lifesaving discoveries had lain dormant for many years. One was an insecticide originally formulated by a German chemistry student in 1874. Named DDT by American researchers, this formulation eliminated the lice and mosquitoes that had been causing epidemics of typhus and malaria among Allied troops in the Mediterranean and the Pacific. The second longforgotten discovery proved to be the single most significant medical advance of the war - penicillin. In 1928, British researcher Dr. Alexander Fleming had found that a certain substance present in the mold Penicillium, had the capability to destroy bacteria. This new antibiotic was a great boon to saving lives during World War II.

No. 93-2

First Day of Issue Postcard Collection** ©1993 Reetwood* Cheyenne, WY 92008-0001 Original painting for the First Day of Issue Postcard by Chris Cafe



GOLD STAR First Day of Issue: May 31, 1993 First Issue Location: Washington, D.C.

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No. 93-9

First Day of Issue Postcard Collection¹⁹ ©1093 Realwood® Cheyenne, WY 92009-0001 Original painting for the First Day of Issue Postcard by Citviz Caller



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- 58th Anniversary of the Four Chaplains

February 3, 2001, is the 58th anniversary of the sinking of the U.S.S. Dorchester when it was hit by a German U-boat torpedo off the coast of Greenland. The four chaptains went to their death when they gave up their life jackets to four terrified GIs without life jackets







FIRST DAY OF ISSUE-



Faith of Our Fathers

When the S.S. Dorchester sank during World War II on February 23, 1943, Chaplains George Fox (Methodist), Rabbi Alexander Goode, John Washington (Catholic), and Clark Poling (Reformed Church), sacrificed their own lives to save others aboard the doomed ship. As they offered prayer and solace, they willingly offered their own life jackets, hoping to save as many as possible. In 1948 the United States issued a special stamp to honor them.





65TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY JUNE 6, 1944

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Supreme Allied Commander, issued the following Order Of The Day to all the Allied military personnel involved in the invasion of Normandy, France:

"Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force:

You are about to embark upon the great crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave allies and brothers-in-arms on other fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle hardened. He will fight savagely. But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our home fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men. The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to victory!

I have full confidence in your courage and devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full victory!

Good luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking."

D-Day: The largest air, land, sea invasion ever undertaken: Over 5,000 Allied ships -- the largest naval armada in history; 10,000 airplanes; over 150,000 troops of U.S., U.K., Canada, Free French, Poland and Norway landing to invade the European Continent at Normandy, France (23,000 of these going in by parachute or glider) plus 195,700 Allied naval and merchant-navy personnel involved. All versus 380,000 heavily armed, highly fortified German troops.

Estimated total Allied casualties for the day (killed, wounded or captured): approx.10,000, including approx. 6,600 Americans. Between 4,000-9,000 German military dead, wounded or captured.



INVASION IS ON! MASSIVE ALLIED ARMADA LANDS ON BEACHES AT NORMANDY



STORM BEACHES

Chille ...





Red Ball Express speeds vital supplies, 1944

Airborne units spearhead attacks, 1944





The D-Day Eyewitness to History® Presentation First Day Cover

"People of Western Europe: A landing was made this morning on the coast of France by troops of the Allied Expeditionary Force. I call upon all who love freedom to stand with us now. Together we shall achieve victory." On June 6, 1944, Allied Supreme Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower broadcast this stirring message in the aftermath of the launch of the world's greatest air and sea invasion ever — the D-Day invasion of Normandy. In 1994, worldwide celebrations marked the 50th Anniversary of the fateful day on which Allied forces successfully fought to lift the yoke of tyranny from occupied France.

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1041 of 9,500

By June of 1944, German defenses along France's Channel coast were formidable. From Cherbourg to Calais, over half-a-million anti-invasion obstacles barricaded that stretch of French shoreline. To break through this seemingly insurmountable barrier, the Allies embarked upon the most powerful amphibious landing and largest airborne assault in history. Some 5,000 ships, 1,500 tanks and 12,000 planes converged on Normandy's beaches, bringing 150,000 troops who ultimately drove the Germans from France and firmly established the Allied presence in Europe.

Britain's stamps feature actual D-Day photographs, showing Royal Air Force bombers being reloaded, infantry regrouping on Sword Beach, naval bombardment by HMS *Warspite*, commandos on Gold Beach and the inevitable breakout and advance inland.

The June 6, 1994, First Day of Issue postmark of Portsmouth, England, Britain's premier naval base. Though ravaged by World War II bombing, it was from here and other ports in the south of England that history's greatest seaborne invasion set sail.

© The four stamps from America's World War II Anniversaries series capture Allied troops storming ashore on D-Day, airborne and paratroop units spearheading the assault, P-51s and B-17s on raids against German targets, and the famous "Red Ball Express" which rushed vital supplies from such ports as Cherbourg to the front lines.

• The historic June 6, 1994, First Day of Issue postmark of the Aegis guided-missile cruiser USS Normandy. America's stamps were issued aboard this flagship of the modern-day 14-ship flotilla sent by the United States to England and France to celebrate D-Day. The USS Normandy was commissioned in 1989 and named in honor of the Normandy invasion. Only twice before had America's stamps been issued aboard U.S. warships.

• France's stamps salute the *Debarquement en Normandie* with its ferocious assault of Allied troops across inhospitable beaches into the fortified teeth of the enemy, and give *Hommage aux Liberateurs* by portraying the gratitude and euphoria of the French people, liberated from four years of German occupation.

These stamps bear the First Day of Issue and D-Day 50th Anniversary postmarks of Bayeux. Just a few miles from Omaha beach, where American troops had to fight their way ashore yard by yard, this historic French town was the very first liberated by the Allies and miraculously escaped damage.

G Allied Supreme Commander Dwight D. Eisenhower, whose decisive leadership averted disaster when he first postponed the D-Day landings and then assured ultimate victory when he seized the predicted window in the weather to launch the D-Day invasion June 6, 1944.







50th ANNIVERSARY WWII Allied Forces Battle German U-Boats



JLP CACHETS

50th ANNIVERSARY WWII Military Medics



JLP CACHETS



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Sicily attacked by Allied for

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



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50th ANNIVERSARY WWII Sicily Attacked by Allied Forces



JLP CACHETS



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FLEETWOOD FIRST EDITIONS



Overrun Countries

During the dark days of World War II, Axis forces had conquered most of Europe and large sections of Asia. To rally the flagging forces of freedom, the United States issued stamps showing the proud national banners of overrun countries. Printed by the American Bank Note Company, these stamps have an unusual combination of intricate engraving and offset lithography that authentically match the colors of the nation flags. These vintage issues are showcased on early Fleetwood First Day Covers bearing the Official First Day of Issue postmark. We've uncovered a very limited supply of these captivating Covers, so act now!



O'ER DANISH SPIES



Don't Let That Shadow Touch Them Buy WAR BONDS ATTACK ATTACK



Hollywood stars and radio singers by the scores participated in bond drives. Kate Smith raised \$40 million in war bond revenues during a single sixteen-hour radio program. Many stars donated personal belongings for auction. Jack Benny's violin, Betty Grable's stockings, and Man o' War's horseshoes all went on the auction block.

Throughout the war, the government sponsored seven bond drives, and each of them was oversubscribed.



The Gilbert Islands, Including Tarawa, formed the Japanese outer defence perimeter in the central pacific. Operation Galvanic ended Nov. 23, 1943 with the Americans taking control of the Islands after sustaining heavy casualties. Americans subsequently launched successful campaigns against the Marshall Islands from their position on the Gilbert's.





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The troops morale was always bolstered by letters from home and the humorous exploits of "Willie & Joe".



The Germans operated forty-two U-boats in "wolfpacks" between Greenland and the Azores to prevent U.S. merchant ships from reaching Europe. Beginning in July 1942, the merchant ships began to travel in convoys protected by warships which made the Germans work much more difficult and enabled the U.S. to provide the much needed supplies and equipment to Europe. In mid-1943 escort destroyers entered service and were assigned to the convoys further increasing the likelihood that the convoys would arrive safely.

Thanks to the convoys, the use of B-24 long range bombers and the British success in deciphering the German Enigma code Admiral Karl Donitz recalled the U-boats from the region in late May 1943.





Nearly half a million men took part in operation Husky - the invasion of Sicily. Allied bombers increased their raids on the islands on July 9, 1943 as the invasion force left Tunisia across the Mediterranean Sea under strong winds. It was the largest amphibious assault of the war and included General Patton's 7th Army and Field Marshall Montgomery's 8th Army.

The simultaneous operation Avalanche, the Allied Invasion of Italy, and Operation Slapstick the airborne landing of troops at Taranto in Southern Italy began Sept. 9, 1943.



A soldier's first medical attention came from medics, those soldiers trained to go into battlefields to treat and retrieve the wounded. Medics would assist the wounded man to a battalion aid station, operated be two doctors and about thirty enlisted men. The soldier was given further medical treatment and if required transferred to a divisional clearing station and then to an evacuation hospital.



HOSPITALS

WOMEN CAN HELP-LEARN HOW TOU CAN LU



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Cold Stars mark World War II losses, 1943

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Youth is the first victim of war, the first fruit of peace. It takes twenty years or more of peace to make a man; it takes only twenty seconds of war to destroy him. From speech before joint session of Congress by Belgium's Head of State. . .




1944: Road to Victory

Stunning Allied successes in crucial battles signaled a likely victory over the Axis powers of Germany, Italy and Japan, Still uncertain was how long it would take America and its allies to win the war. As recreated on the following ten postage stamps, Allied forces were victorious in the retaking of Guinea, in the infamous storming of Normandy, known as D-Day, and in the liberation of Rome and Paris. Allied submarines were responsible for abbreviating the war in the Pacific and the Allies impeded Japanese forces during The Battle of Leyte Gulfrendering them with neither air support nor protection for their supply lines from the Philippines to Japan. The end of 1944 saw the Battle of the Bulge, the last German offensive of the war and the largest battle fought on the Western Front and by the U.S. Anny. Although both sides suffered severe casualties, by the fighting's end in late January 1945, the fall of the Third Reich was imminent.









World War II





World War II



Colorano "Silk" Cachet First Day of Issue





Colorano "Silk" Cachet First Day of Issue

World War II



Colorano "Silk" Cachet First Day of Issue

World War II



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Colorano "Silk" Cachet First Day of Issue





AIRBORNE UNITS LEAD THE INVASION

On the morning of June 6, 1944, Allied transport planes, bombers and gliders began filling the skies over Normandy. It was an ugly night, with heavy rain and gusting wind. Involved in the largest airborne assault in history were nearly 20,000 men of the British 6th Airborne Division and the U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions. Each man was loaded down with 85 to 100 pounds of gear, then packed into one of 1,200 transport aircraft (mainly C-47 Skytrains) or 700 gliders. In the darkness and bad weather, several of the drops became chaotic and were off target. Casualties were high, as paratroopers suffocated in marshy swamps, drowned in deep water or simply fell into enemy hands. Large numbers would remain scattered over France for months, some fighting alongside the French resistance until they could return to

their own units. But those who survived managed to fulfill their objectives — blowing up bridges, destroying concrete bunkers and generally creating havoc for the German defenders. By mid-September, Allied airborne troops were assaulting Germany's "back door" through the Netherlands. The ultimate goal was to clear a route to Berlin by taking key bridges at Eindhoven, Nijmegen and Arnhem. Success in this risky endeavor would shorten the war. Major General Maxwell Taylor's 101st Airborne Division (the Screaming Eagles) liberated Eindhoven, allowing British and Canadian troops to eventually link up with General James M. Gavin's 82nd Airborne Division. Aithough Nijmegen was also taken, Arnhem proved to be a "bridge too far" and the war would continue into 1945.

Tleetwood

U.S. SUBMARINES SLASH JAPAN'S LIFELINE

Throughout the war, Japan depended desperately on imports to keep its war machine moving. Without rice from southeast Asia, coal and iron ore from Manchuria, rubber from Malaya and oil from the East Indies, Japan's armies, ships and planes could not function. Thus, soon after the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Navy launched an all-out submarine blitz on Japanese merchant shipping. Attacks during the early months of the war were frequently less than successful, however, because the American subs were not equipped with radar and too often their torpedoes failed to explode. But by 1943, with added radar and improved torpedoes, U.S. submarine warfare began taking its toll on Japanese shipping. American codebreakers helped by advissing sub commanders where to look and, with radar, they could home in on the target. Thus, American "wolfpacks" composed of three to five subs were able to attack Japanese convoys at will, especially in the East China and Yellow Seas. In the first half of 1944, Japan's oil imports were cut by about 75 percent. The submarine sinking the most Japanese tonnage was the USS *Tang*. Other star performers were the USS *Barb*, Spadefish and Cutlass. By the end of 1944, so many Japanese ships had been sunk that fresh targets were difficult to find and surviving ships clung to the coast where the water would hopefully be too shallow for U.S. submarines. But the Japanese lifeline had virtually been severed. It was only a matter of time before the Rising Sun's ultimate demise.

Tleetwood

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PARIS AND ROME LIBERATED BY THE ALLIES

The Allies wanted to capture Rome as a psychological blow to the Germans before invading France. But what had begun optimistically on September 9, 1943, with the invasion of Salerno, turned into an agonizing nine-month long nightmare as German troops under Field Marshal Albert Kesselring fought a brilliant delaying action. Finally, on the evening of June 4, 1944, General Mark Clark's 5th Army marched triumphantly into the Eternal City. Cheering Italians poured joyfully into the streets to greet the weary Americans. After four long years of stifling German occupation, they were free at last. The liberation of Paris and prevention of its destruction was the result of a combination of luck, astute diplomacy and a sensitive German com-

mander — Major General Dictrich von Choltitz — who ignored Hitler's orders to destroy the city. The joyous celebration on August 25, 1944, was heart-stirring. To the cheers and tears of thousands of ecstatic Parisians, Free French forces entered the national capital, marking the end of four years of humiliating German occupation. Towering over it all during the march down the Champs Elysées to Notre Dame Cathedral was General Charles de Gaulle, a symbol of uncompromising resistance. Still, for all the joy that accompanied the freeing of the French capital, the war in Europe was far from over. The Allied troops who delighted the Parisians with their victorious march through the city, did so on their way to still another violent battle front.







2,000 U. S. PLANES ATTACK BERLIN AND 2 AIRCRAFT PLANTS NEAR CITY; ALLIES STEP UP RECORD BOMBING, DROPPING 8,000 TONS IN 36 HOURS;













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ALLIED FORCES RECAPTURE NEW GUINEA

During the latter part of 1943, the Australian 7th Division slowly pushed the Japanese through the rugged mountains of eastern New Guinea. On January 2, 1944, the Australian Diggers were joined by the U.S. 126th Regimental Combat Team in an attempt to trap the enemy. The Japanese evaded the trap, however, and crossed to the western side of the Sepik River. Here, at Wewak, Lieutenant General Hatazo Adachi, with nearly 50,000 men and 600 aircraft, prepared to make a stand. But on March 11, 1944, he was attacked by hundreds of U.S. fighters and bombers from Lieutenant General George C. Kenney's 5th Air Force. So effective was the mauling from the air that, by March 30, the skies over northern New Guinea had been all but cleared of Japanese aircraft. On April 21, 80,000 of General Douglas MacArthur's troops landed at Humboldt Bay near Hollandia, in Dutch New Guinea, as part of Operation RECKLESS. Taken by surprise, the Japanese fled in panic. Within days, U.S. Seabees transformed Hollandia from a small town into America's largest base in the southwest Pacific. From here, the Allies would launch their conquest of the rest of New Guinea. The fighting was savage and took place for the most part in nearly impenetrable mountainous jungle, as Japanese positions had to be eliminated one by one — often at heavy cost. By September 13, MacArthur's men reached their objective of Morotai Island, halfway between New Guinea and the Philippines. Standing on the beach and gazing toward the Philippines, MacArthur was heard to say, "They are waiting for me there. It has been a long time."

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STRATEGIC BOMBING OF GERMANY

Under the command of Lieutenant General Carl Spaatz, the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe systematically bombed German cities, industrial centers and oil plants throughout 1944 in an effort to destroy Germany's ability to fight. The heavily-armed U.S. B-17 Flying Fortress with its Norden bombsight was supposedly capable of "dropping a bomb into a pickle barrel at 20,000 feet." As Luftwaffe fighters came up to do battle with American bombers, the attackers were shot down by fast, highly-maneuverable American fighter planes, such as the P-51 Mustang. Engineered to minimize wind resistance, the P-51 was extremely fuel efficient, requiring about half as much gasoline as most other fighters. It was equipped with a liquid-cooled British Rolls Royce Merlin engine, ultimately produced by America's Packard Motor Car Company. With an 85-gallon fuselage tank and two 60-gallon droptanks under its wings, the Mustang could cover a distance of 1,474 miles. It also flew higher and faster than anything else in the sky, reaching a top speed of 440 miles per hour at 30,000 feet. It was therefore the first Allied fighter capable of accompanying bombers on attacks against *any point* in the shrinking Greater German Reich. Although Allied strategic bombing did extensive damage to German cities and industrial sites, the major result was the elimination of many experienced German fighter pilots in encounters with U.S. planes — especially the P-51 Mustang. This meant far fewer German pilots left to defend France when Operation OVERLORD took place on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

Theelwood

SUPREME COMMANDER DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

For most of World War II, an attack on German-occupied France had been a dream envisioned by the Allies. It wasn't until the end of 1943, however, that the Allies had a supreme commander for what would be called Operation OVER-LORD. The cause of this delay was Anglo-American differences over who would hold the position. Once it became obvious that the United States would be providing most of the manpower and material for the invasion, Britain accepted the appointment of an American supreme commander. The man chosen for the post was General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of the North African and Italian invasions. Eisenhower's greatest gift was his diplomatic tact that bridged the mutual suspicions of the British and Americans. On assuming supreme command in January 1944, Eisenhower made several important strategic decisions. The first was to agree with British General Bernard Law Montgomery that the proposed invasion front had to be doubled in area and stretched westward. Second, the number of invading divisions had to be increased. Third, since increased forces required more landing craft, and these could not be had until early June, Eisenhower ordered the invasion postponed a month. Postponement also gave the American and Royal Air Forces additional time to inflict more damage on both the Luftwaffe and Germany's lines of supply and communication. On June 6, 1944, the Allies' dream came true, when five seaborne and three airborne divisions landed in Normandy. A difficult and complicated assault, these landings were the product of careful planning, successful deception and good fortune.



"GREAT MARIANAS TURKEY SHOOT"

By June 1944, Admiral Raymond Spruance, commander of the U.S. 5th Fleet, had assembled the largest naval force ever seen in the Pacific Ocean. Under the command of Vice Admiral Marc Mitscher from the new carrier *Lexington*, this powerful armada was known as Task Force 58. Its job was to support amphibious assaults on Saipan, Tinian and Guam. By June 15, Japanese Combined Fleet Commander Admiral Soemu Toyoda knew a decisive battle would take place near Saipan. This great battle was expected to redeem Japanese honor for the humiliating defeat at Midway two years earlier. Success, it was also assumed, would allow Japan to regain the offensive and the balance of strategic naval power in the Pacific. What Toyoda did not know was that the Americans had broken Japanese naval codes. Thus, on June

19, when four air strikes were launched, the U.S. was ready. Out of 373 attacking Japanese aircraft, only 130 returned. For U.S. Hellcat pilots, it was "as easy as shooting turkeys." That same day, the Japanese carriers *Taiho* and *Shokaku* were sunk by U.S. submarines. On the afternoon of June 20, the Americans attacked the Japanese fleet in force. In the space of 20 minutes, U.S. planes sank the Japanese carrier *Hiyo*, hit two tankers (later scuttled), inflicted some damage to two other carriers and downed 65 of the 75 Japanese planes that rose to battle the Americans. Although only 20 U.S. aircraft were destroyed during the action, the return flight after dark resulted in 80 planes lost in crash landings or by ditching in the sea. This overwhelming victory paved the way for the U.S. advance into the western Pacific.

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THE RED BALL EXPRESS

Following the June 6, 1944, invasion of Normandy, the Allied advance across France moved swiftly. By September the Allies had crossed the Seine and were poised to enter Germany through the Ardennes. But momentum was slowed by the difficulty in transporting enough supplies to keep a two-million man army moving. The French rail system had been wrecked and transport aircraft were able to deliver only a trickle of supplies. The only way to provide the Allied army with the material it needed to pursue the retreating Germans was by road. Trucks driven mostly by black privates from the U.S. Transport Corps picked up freight at St. Lô, near the Normandy beaches, and drove as fast as they could to Chartres to supply the U.S. 1st Army, or to Dreux for the U.S. 3rd

Army. Called the "Red Ball Express," a railroad term used for fast freight, the drivers raced each other to see who could complete the 700-mile long circuit in the shortest time. Driving mostly at night with blackout lights — called cat eyes — they recklessly careened around curves and sped all-out in straightaways in a desperate effort to deliver fuel, food, ammunition and spare parts to the forward lines. The trucks used about 250,000 gallons of gasoline a day and the wear and tear on men and machinery was severe. Mechanics worked around the clock to keep vehicles running. But the effort was worthwhile. There was, in the words of Winston Churchill, "a feeling of elation, of expectancy and almost bewilderment." The war would soon be over.

Hecheand

LEYTE GULF --- HISTORY'S GREATEST SEA BATTLE

The most decisive naval action of the Pacific War came as a result of the amphibious landing on Leyte Island of American troops under General Douglas MacArthur. Supporting the U.S. invasion were the 3rd Fleet under the command of Admiral William F. Halsey and the 7th Fleet commanded by Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid — the largest naval force ever assembled. Since Japan had to hold the Philippines to protect itself from invasion, a mighty Japanese fleet commanded by Vice Admiral Takeo Kurita was sent steaming toward Leyte. The fleet included the world's largest battleships, the Yamato and the Musashi, and was bent on stopping the invasion and smashing the American fleet. The drama began on the evening of October 23, 1944, with a U.S. submarine attack on Japanese war-

ships. The ensuing battle was played out like a giant chess match, replete with costly errors, extraordinary gallantry and unbelievable heroism on both sides. It lasted three days and swept across an area the size of France, involving swarming planes, massive bombs and torpedoes, special exploding shells with time-delay fuses, one of the first *kamikaze* attacks, and ghastly carnage. When it was over, the Americans had lost one light carrier — the *Princeton* and five other vessels, along with some 3,000 men. The Japanese lost four carriers and 22 ships — including the *Musashi* — as well as about 10,000 men, and had been effectively eliminated as a naval power. Most important, they had lost the Philippines, as MacArthur and his men were well on their way to taking control of Levte Island.



Wm. S. Wheeler, 301 Sheridan Ave, New Castle, Pa.

Second Front France June 6, 1944

"Under the command of General Eisenhower, Allied naval forces supported by strong air forces began landing Allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France." —Communique. NG TO H S JUN 6 5 S H 3 - PM 6 7944



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Win. S. Wheeler, 301 Sheridan Ave., New Castle, Pa.



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BATTLE OF THE BULGE

At 5:30 on the moming of December 16, 1944, secretlymassed German artillery opened fire on the thinly spread American defenders in the Ardennes. Operation WATCH ON THE RHINE — the Third Reich's last desperate gamble to save itself by forcing the Western Allies to make peace had begun. When the four-hour bombardment ended, German infantry and tanks, led by SS General Josef Dietrich, began advancing through the woods and hills of the Ardennes to seize bridges across the Meuse river between Liège and Namur. The German advance against the badly outnumbered Americans, fighting in mud, snow and bitter cold, was rapid at first. By late December, a 50-mile "bulge" had been created in the Allied lines. With St. Vith taken and Bastogne surrounded, it looked like Hitler's final gamble might pay off.

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Capturing Bastogne would give the Germans access to many roads leading in all directions, allowing them to move almost at will. But the men of the 101st Airborne Division, under Brigadier General Anthony C. McAuliffe, fought back doggedly. McAnliffe's famous response to the German commander demanding his surrender was "Nuts!" Helped out by General George S. Patton's tanks and infantry, Bastogne held and McAuliffe was later awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. By early January the fight had turned against the Germans. By the end of that month German forces had been all but destroyed and the "bulge" squeezed out. The battle cost the Americans over 75,000 casualties. But the Germans in turn suffered at least 120,000 casualties, which, at this stage of the war, were irreplaceable.



BATTLE OF THE BULGE First Day of Issue: June 6, 1994 First Issue Location: USS Normandy

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No.94-10

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THE RED BALL EXPRESS First Day of Issue: June 6, 1994 First Issue Location: USS Normandy

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No. 94-4

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ALLIES STEP UP RECORD BOMBING, DROPPING 8,000 TONS IN 36 HOURS;



PARIS AND ROME LIBERATED BY ALLIES ROME CAPTURED AND ANY BY THE 5TH ARMY

AFTER FIERCE BAR THE THROUGH SUBURBS; DE GAULLE REPORTED LIZADI & SMASH INTO PARIS; DEEP ALLIED DR. TOSTITUTES N POCKET AT SEINE;



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NO. 94-U2 First Day of Issue Postcard Collection" ©1994 Fleetwood® Cheyenne, WY 82008-0001 Original painting for the First Day of Issue Postcard by Chris Celle



PARIS AND ROME LIBERATED BY ALLIES First Day of Issue: June 6, 1994 First Issue Location: USS Normandy

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No. 94-06

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HELPING TO CRACK THE WORLD'S BIGGEST NUT







FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Trucks were the backbone of the supply system that kept the troops supplied with munitions, food and other necessities.



AMERICANS will always fight for liberty



The Fifth Army thrust out from its separated Cassino and Anzio positions, entered Rome on June 4, 1944 and marched through the Piazza Venezia.

The U.S. Fourth Infantry Division entered Paris and formally accepted General von Choltitz's surrender on August 25, 1944. Choltitz was ordered by Hitler to destroy Paris. Choltitz disobeyed him and negotiated a surrender that permitted him to withdraw occupying troops while leaving the city untouched.





Allied forces retake New Guinea, 1944

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

General MacArthur's long, tough leap-frogging campaign along the coast of New Guinea had only one purpose: to bring him closer to the Philippines. His final bound was to Biak Island, where the 41st U.S. Division had a fierce struggle against an enemy garrison of nearly 10,000 men. The island was effectively in American possession before the end of June 1944. This marked the end of the two-year struggle in New Guinea, where the stubborn resistance of the enemy, the physical difficulties of the country, and the ravages of disease made the campaign one of misery.

















BATTLE OF IWO JIMA

When U.S. Marines of the 3rd, 4th and 5th Divisions landed on the beaches of Iwo Jima, they were prepared for fanatical Japanese resistance. The island held hundreds of caves that were heavily fortified and camouflaged. In addition, the Japanese had constructed massive underground installations and thousands of steel-reinforced concrete pillboxes and blockhouses. The entire island was covered with artillery and machine gun nests, while heavy land mines protected the beaches. Nearly 22,000 experienced Japanese troops were determined to fight to the bitter end. To prepare for invasion, U.S. forces bombarded Iwo Jima for 74 consecutive days from the air and sea. Nearly 7,000 tons of bombs and more than 20,000 shells had exploded on the island by January 15, 1945. Two days before the Marines hit the beach, American battleships, cruisers and destroyers circled Iwo Jima and rained more shells on the heavily-protected island. On February 19, 1945, U.S. Marines landed on Iwo Jima. The 5th Marines marched inland and seized one of the island's major airfields. Heading west toward Mt. Suribachi, they pushed to the coast. The 4th Marines fought their way up the east coast, while the 3rd Marines advanced through the center of the island. On February 23, 1945, U.S. Marines raised the American flag on Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima was finally secured by March 27. Over 19,000 Japanese were killed, while American casualties numbered more than 6,500. U.S. Marine commander in the Pacific, Major General Holland M. Smith — prominently featured on this First Day Cover — stated that the fighting on Iwo Jima "was the toughest the Marines ran across in 168 years. .."

Heelwood

MANILA LIBERATED

Manila, capital of the Philippines, had been under Japanese occupation since December 26, 1941, when General Douglas MacArthur and his troops declared the city open and withdrew to the Bataan Peninsula. With a population of 800,000, Manila was one of the largest cities in Southeast Asia. Its buildings were designed to resist earthquakes, while its ancient Spanish-style fortifications were ideal for defense. When Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita ordered his troops to evacuate the city, Rear Admiral Shinji Iwabuchi refused to leave. He was determined to keep the port out of American hands and ordered his men to fight to the death. U.S. forces reached the outskirts of Manila on February 3, 1945, where they freed some 5,000 Allied prisoners. In preparation for the American advance, Iwabuchi had turned central Manila into a fortress, defended by barbed-wire and machine gun nests. He ordered all bridges destroyed, along with the water and power supplies. The Allies began heavy shelling on February 17, and six days later they stormed the city. Although hundreds of Japanese died in the attack, the survivors fought on from tunnels and other strongholds. U.S. troops advanced building by building and block by block, using flamethrowers and grenades to flush out the enemy. Desperate fighting on both sides resulted in heavy casualties, as well as the death of more than 100,000 Filipino civilians. Finally, on March 3, 1945, the city of Manila was recaptured by Allied forces.

Theelwood

BATTLE OF OKINAWA

On April 1, 1945, a U.S. invasion force of some 180,000 soldiers and Marines landed on the shores of Okinawa. They were commanded by Army Lieutenant General Simon Bolivar Buckner, who, on June 18, would become the highest-ranking American field officer to be killed in combat. William Manchester, a Marine sergeant who would later become an author and historian, wrote: "None of us could have known that the battle would last nearly three months, becoming the bloodiest island fight of the Pacific war..." Although the campaign began in beautiful weather, torrential rains blowing in from the East China Sea soon turned the rugged terrain into a sea of mud. Fighting was savage, with Marines of the 6th Division at one point making a *banzai* charge up Sugar Loaf Hill. Offshore, the scene was just as violent, with the U.S. Navy confronting waves of swarming *kamikazes*. The Japanese sacrificed a force of over 1,800 planes at Okinawa, sinking 32 American ships and damaging another 368. The nearly 10,000 U.S. Navy casualties were the highest of any single campaign of the war. For the Japanese Combined Fleet, the battle itself amounted to a suicide mission, as American planes scored hit after hit, sinking even the giant *Yamamoto*, the largest battleship ever built. Okinawa would be the final major battle of the Pacific War.



LINK-UP AT ELBE RIVER

General Dwight Eisenhower planned to join forces with the Red Army in south-central Germany, thus dividing the country across the center and preventing the Germans from regrouping. On April 23, 1945, the U.S. 6th Armored Division had made radio contact with the Russians, and the next day a patrol from the 69th Infantry Division, led by 1st Lieutenant Albert Kotzebue, moved across the Mulde River. By April 25, 1945, the patrol had entered the village of Strehla — a German town near the Elbe River. Unable to make radio contact with the Soviets, Kotzebue fired flares — a prearranged signal — but received no answer. After acquiring four boats and using rifle butts and boards as

paddles, he met the Russian 175th Rifle Regiment on the Elbe. Later in the day, the U.S. 1st Army's 69th Infantry Division, 273rd Regiment, was encamped at the town of Würzen. Receiving orders to survey nearby roads, 2nd Lieutenant Bill Robertson's four-man patrol moved toward the German town of Torgau, on the Elbe River. Knowing that the Russians were close, he attempted to make contact. Signalling the Soviets with a rudimentary homemade American flag, he shouted and waved to them atop Torgau's Hartenfels Castle. Robertson, with two of his men, proceeded toward the Elbe to greet Russian Sergeant Nikolai Andreyev halfway across the river.

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HOLOCAUST

In 1939, after Adolf Hitler conquered Poland, the Nazis began using any means necessary to eliminate the Jewish population and achieve their goal of racial purification. Trade-unionists, gypsies, homosexuals, prisoners of war and other "undesirables" also became victims of Nazi hatred. Forced out of their homes and herded like cattle into ghettos or trains bound for concentration camps, these people were unaware of the atrocities they would face. In 1941, Chelmo — the first death camp — was completed, but by the end of the war, numerous other concentration camps and extermination centers would be utilized by the Nazi regime to carry out Hitler's "Final Solution." According to Reichsführer Heinrich Himmler, this plan stated that "The

occupied Eastern territories are to become free of Jews." Upon arrival at the extermination camps, prisoners were at the mercy of Nazi officers who selected healthy men to serve as slave laborers, while women, children and the elderly were sent directly to the gas chambers. Those chosen as workers met a slower death. Weak from hunger, these prisoners often died from starvation, exhaustion and beatings. A prisoner's life expectancy in confinement was nine months. Tragically, as the war drew to an end and Hitler realized that Germany would be defeated, he sped up the extermination process. By early 1945, when the Allies began liberating the death camps, millions had already died at the hands of Nazis.

Hertwood

SURRENDER AT REIMS

Adolf Hitler's successor. Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, felt it was imperative that German forces surrender to the Western Allies rather than the Russians. Stalin's armies had been vicious in their assaults on Germany's civilian population. Knowing that the deliverance of his forces into the hands of the Soviets would mean almost certain death. Dönitz hoped to delay the formal capitulation to ensure that his troops could surrender instead to the Anglo-Americans. Dönitz sent General Alfred Jodl to Supreme Headquarters. Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) in Reims, France, with instructions to surrender only to the Western Allies. On May 6, 1945, Jodl and Admiral Hans Georg von Friedeburg met with U.S. Lieutenant General Walter Bedell-Smith and British Major

General Kenneth Strong. Bedell-Smith, acting for General Dwight Eisenhower, proposed an unconditional and simultaneous surrender of all German land, sea and air forces on all fronts at 11:01 p.m. on May 8, 1945. Joll argued for a postponement and declared that the German High Command needed more time to cease operations and to transmit orders. But Bedell-Smith, as directed by Eisenhower, insisted that the surrender must be signed that day and that hostilities must cease by midnight on May 8, 1945. Unable to stall any longer, Jodl radioed Dönitz with the message: "I see no alternative ehaos or signature." Reluctantly Dönitz agreed, and early on the morning of May 7, 1945, the document of unconditional surrender was signed in the SHAEF war room.


MILLIONS IN EUROPE UPROOTED

After six years of war, some 50 million Europeans who had been uprooted from their homes were left wandering across the ravaged countryside. Citizens of nearly every European nation were struggling to return home or reach some other refuge. Fortunately, many had fled to other regions within their own countries during the war, making for an easier resettlement. Others, however, found themselves in alien lands with nowhere to go. These scattered refugees included freed slave laborers, former concentration camp inmates and prisoners of war, as well as civilians who had fled their homes because of artillery attack and bombardment. Many Jews who had survived the Holocaust were hoping to emigrate to

Palestine, while some Eastern Europeans were reluctant in return home to life under a Communist government. Included among the wandering refugees were millions of displaced Germans, many of whom had been sent by Adolf Hitlet during the war to colonize conquered lands. Also, millions of other German citizens had lost their homes when post-war agreements allowed the Polish border to extend farther into Eastern Germany. The homeless, wandering masses of displaced Europeans flooded the roads. Trains and trucks that had once carried troops to war and Jews to slaughter now hauled an army of bewildered refugees seeking a haven. The wounds of war would scar their lives for generations to come.

Heetwood

FIRST ATOMIC BOMB DROPPED

On July 17, 1945, in Potsdam, Germany, U.S. President Harry Truman, Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill met to discuss the rebuilding of a devastated Europe, Though the European war had ended, the conflict with Japan continued to rage on. After a luncheon on July 24, Truman turned to Stalin's interpreter and said, "tell the Generalissimo that we have perfected a very powerful explosive which we are going to use against the Japanese and we think will end the war." Truman was referring to the first atomic bomb. Made from uranium, "Little Boy" was 10 feet long, 28 inches thick and weighed 9,000 pounds when assembled. At 8:15 a.m., on August 6, 1945, "Little Boy" dropped from the B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay* toward its target — Hiroshima. The heat in the fireball that rose above the city was later calculated at 540,000 degrees Fahrenheit, and some 80,000 to 130,000 Japanese were killed instantly. Truman issued a statement to the Japanese that warned, "The force from which the sun draws its power has been loosed upon those that brought war to the Far East. If they do not now accept our terms they may expect a rain of ruin from the air, the like of which has never been seen on this earth." Japan did not reply. True to his threat, on August 9, Truman ordered "Fat Man" — the second A-bomb — to be dropped on Nagasaki. That evening, Emperor Hirohito told his country that surrender was inevitable. By the morning of August 10, all of Hirohito's cabinet members had signed statements accepting the surrender, although the formal papers would not be signed until September 2.

Thertwood

WAR OVER: JAPAN SURRENDERS UNCONDITIONALLY

On the evening of August 9, after the U.S. had destroyed Nagasaki with the second atomic bomb, Japan's Emperor Hirohito told his people that, "The time has come when we must bear the unbearable." By the morning of August 10, all of his cabinet members had signed a statement accepting the surrender to the Allied forces. The one condition requested by the Japanese was that the "supreme power of the Emperor not be compromised." On August 28, Colonel Charles Tench of the U.S Army arrived at Atsugi air base near Tokyo. The C-47 that carried Tench was the lead plane of 45 aircraft that brought in supplies, as well as troops. Over the next two days America's magnificent air power would be displayed. as 200 B-29s and several transports arrived. The

American battleships Missouri and South Dakota and the British battleship Duke of York anchored in Tokyo Bay on August 29. A total of 258 vessels of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and several ships from other Allied countries were also in attendance. General Douglas MacArthur, the occupation's supreme commander, arrived on August 30 in his personal C-47, the Bataan. More Allied troops continued to arrive until the formal surrender ceremony. At 8:55 in the morning on September 2, 1945, a nine-member Japanese delegation boarded the USS Missouri. Thousands of sailors, soldiers and newsmen watched as Japan's Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu and MacArthur signed the document of surrender. Appropriately, after the signing, the Sun came out for the first time that day, marking the dawn of a new era.





U.S. TROOPS RETURN HOME

U.S. TROOPS As servicemen returning from the war stepped off planes and ships, they were hailed by bands and welcomed home by military personnel. Exuberant at their return, many bent down to kiss the American ground they had not seen in years. Most were awe-struck by the changes they saw. Technology and growth had continued to blossom while they were at war. One soldier exclaimed, "Here you see new construction. There all you saw was new destruction." Each soldier made a telephone call to a loved one, some hearing for the first time the voices of children who had been born after they had left for the war. The simple luxuries of a good barber and a glass of fresh, ice-cold milk pleased veterans as they waited to board trains for the final leg of their journey — home to their families. Unfortunately, for some veterans

the joy of their homecoming was short-lived. Many returning soldiers suffered post-war trauma. In one instance, a bus transporting wounded soldiers from a ship to a nearby hospital was in an accident while traveling in rush-hour traffic. All were taken off the bus and placed on the side of the road to wait for another vehicle. Soon, a few Navy aircraft flew overhead, and instinctively every patient flung himself into a nearby ditch fearing an air attack. Incidents such as this revealed that for many returning veterans, coming home to a changed society was difficult. To aid them in the transition, the U.S. government passed the Serviceman's Readjustment Act of 1944 — commonly known as the GI Bill of Rights. Today, this law continues to benefit military personnel.







On April 1, 1945, the largest fleet over assembled landed 60,000 troops on Okinawa. Its capture was essential to provide a port and airfields for the anticipated invasion of Japan, only 850 miles away. 12,000 soldiers, sailors, and marines died before the island was secured on June 21. Robert C. Graebner Chapter #17 AFDC8



Grashnar Chapter members who served at Okinews: Blair Law served aboard Medium Lending Ship (LSM) 100. Ed Rowan (USNA '44) served aboard USS FENNSYLVANIA (BB-38), which was torpedoed two days before the Japanese surrender.



VETERANS RETURN TO DIFFERENT USA

THE DEMOBILIZATION OF 12.7 AULLION SERVICE MEM AND WOMEN AFTER WORD WAR II LEFT MANY REOPLE WONDERING ABOUT THE FUTURE. WAR INDUSTRY JOSS, WHICH HAD EMPLOYED MILLIONS, BEGAN TO DRY LIF SOME ECONOMISTS FEARED A MAJOR DEPRESSION. BUT THE GI BILL AND THE POST-WAR, NEED FOR NOLISING, NEW CARS, CLOTHING AND APPLICANCES QUICKLY RESOLVED THESE CONCERNS.









CHERBOURG SURRENDERS

Fierce Soviet Offensive; Vitebsk Falls







was born in Stockholm of August 4, 1912. His family was involved in Sweden's early capitalist expansion from the founding of Stockholms Enskilds Bank to tobacco, shipping, railroads, and electronics. After graduating in 1935 from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in city planning, and erchitecture, he worked for a business firm in South Africa and then a Dutch bank in Haifa, Palesting.

On June 30, 1944 he was appointed attaché to the Swedish mission in Budapest. Upon his arrival he wasted no time in issuing fabricated passports and identification papers to Hungarian Jaws. He managed through courage, guile, and determination to rescue 20,000 (perhaps as many as 100,000) Jews from Nazi death camps. On January 15, 1945 he and his chauffeur left Budapest in the accompany of two Russian officials. Neither Wallenberg nor his chauffeur ware ever seen or heard from again.

On October 5, 1981, efter a special act of Congress had been passed, President Reagan bestowed upon Wallenberg honorary U.S. citizenship, an action having been awarded only one other person: Winston Churchill.





Hertunnt

The Greatest Military Heroes of America

AUDIE MURPHY

In America, the name Audie Murphy has become synonymous with the word "bravery." And rightfully so, for this man spent the trying years of World War II fighting gallantly for his country and comrades. Son of a Texas sharecropper, Murphy grew up in the poverty and tragedy of the Great Depression. And, at the tender age of eighteen, he enlisted in the Army. It was 1942, Assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division, Murphy saw action in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, France and Germany. In thirty months of combat, he rose from private to lieutenant, proving again and again his amazing bravery and soldiering ability, On January 26, 1945, Murphy and his unit were trapped by German forces in the Colmar Pocket of eastern France. Never accepting the possibility of defeat, he leaged into action, taking control of a burning The second secon

















FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

Iwo Jima, an island only 660 miles south of Tokyo, would provide an airstrip for B-29s, for fighter planes and for rescue aircraft. The Japanese had a year to prepare and when the Marines hit the beaches the battle was won yard by yard. Twenty seven Medals of Honor were awarded to Marine and Navy heroes, the most in any single operation of the war. The battle was the costliest in Marine history accounting for most of the 7,000 dead and nearly 22,000 wounded.

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MacArthur had promised to return and his promise was to finally be kept. The Philippines were free but the Japanese naval troops in Manila decided to fight to the death. The city had to be taken block by block resulting in the destruction of the capital. US artillery blasted walls up to 40 feet thick so troops could advance. By March 3, 1945 Manila was free. Over 100,000 civilians, or one of every eight of the prewar population, had died.





Okinawa was essential to the US final assault against Japan. The Japanese saw the island as a last chance to keep the war away from the home islands. The Army and Marine Divisions met little resistance when they hit the beaches but when they reached the Japanese defensive positions on the southern third of the island they found an army 100,000 strong. The US Navy lost 30 ships and another 400 were hit from kamikaze pilots. Casualties were heavy for both sides and for the civilians but the US forces prevailed and inn of the Tomme ano mainland





The armies of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. had been crushing the retreating Nazis in a giant nutcracker. About 70 miles south of Berlin, near the Elbe River, two patrols of the U.S. 69th Division ran into Red Army units. The meeting signified inevitable victory over Hitler.





Upon assuming power in Germany, Hitler set out to form a "Master Race" to rule the world. Anyone not of "pure" decent, particularly Jews, were stripped of their jobs and property and finally confined to concentration camps. During the Holocaust or "Final Solution" to the "Jewish Problem" 5-6 million Jews were killed, primarily at concentration camps such as Auschwitz and Dachau. There were approximately 9-10 million Jews in Europe prior to the start of WWII, of which 3-4 million survived.

Allies

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



to Valle air Daich air Librar



Hitler had committed suicide on April 30, 1945. This event enabled the German military to unconditionally surrender to Eisenhower on May 7, 1945. VE-Day was declared to be May 8, 1945 by President Truman and Prime Minister Churchill. The war in Europe lasted almost six years from when Nazi tanks rolled into Poland and three and a half years after the US



"This is everybody's war. The enemy has made it so. May you never know what it means to be a refugee... to be hungry... to be homeless. Be sure this never happens to you!" DRANNICE FOR VICTORY



In all countries touched by the war millions fied their homes to seek refuge from enslavement or execution by conquering troops. Germany's surrender brought a monumental reshuffling of humanity in Nazi Europe. Hundreds of thousands of prisoners were liberated from Nazi camps. Ethnic Germans living in Eastern Europe returned home. Millions of Europeans had been forced to work as slave labor in Germany. These Displaced Persons (DP) needed to be repatriated. Many Russian and East Europeans did not wish to be returned to their Communist ruled homelands. "Temporary" DP camps were set up to house civilians who wished to make a home for themselves in a new country. Many Jews ultimately went to British-ruled Palestine to help build a Jewish state. The U.S. became home to about 400,000 DP by 1950.

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PAYBACK IS HELL!

Pearl Harbor, 12/7/41 - 2,400 dead and 1,200 wounded Hiroshima, 8/6/45 - 75,000 dead and 70,000 wounded Nagasaki, 8/9/45 - 24,000 dead and 40,000 wounded





The War was over -- whistles blew, church bells rang, crowds filled the streets, bars overflowed, workers left their jobs, strangers embraced, and in San Francisco two young ladies were so transported by patriolic emotion that they bathed naked in a public fountain. August 14, 1945 the Japanese surrendered and on September 2, 1945, VJ Day, they signed the formal documents aboard the USS Missouri. The final toll for the war was estimated to be 12,000,000 servicemen on both sides dead and an





12.7 million soldiers had been discharged from the armed services by June 1946. Within a year of VJ-Day only a little over 3 million Americans remained in uniform and the next year the number dropped to 1.5 million. No vet would ever forget the feeling of coming home alive from this terrifying and destructive war and feeling the warm embrace of loved ones. It was also a difficult experience as the economy tried to change from war time to peace time. Within ten days of VJ-Day 1.8 million workers received pink slips and six months later 2.7 million were looking for work. Price controls lifted and costs soared. However, rationing had also ended and a tremendous demand for housing, new cars, clothing and appliances eased the change to a peace time economy. The GI Bill of Rights let more than one half the WW II veterans attend college or technical school.



"This is everybody's war. The enemy has made it so. May you never know what it means to be a refugee ... to be hungry... to be homeless. Be sure this never happens to you?"



In all countries touched by the war millions fled their homes to seek refuge from enslavement or execution by conquering troops. Germany's surrender brought a monumental reshuffling of humanity in Nazi Europe. Hundreds of thousands of prisoners were liberated from Nazi camps. Ethnic Germans living in Eastern Europe returned home. Millions of Europeans had been forced to work as slave labor in Germany. These Displaced Persons (DP) needed to be repatriated. Many Russian and East Europeans did not wish to be returned to their Communist ruled homelands. "Temporary" DP camps were set up to house civilians who wished to make a home for themselves in a new country. Many Jews ultimately went to British-ruled Palestine to help build a Jewish state. The U.S. became home to about 400,000 DP by 1950.



Victory at Last







SALVAGE ALL WASTE FATS It will help SAVE SOME MOTHERS' G. I. Joe's Life

C. R. 8





Franz Lind, 6134 Van Buren Place, West New York, New Jersey.



MacArthur's Headquarters, Central Luzon: "On to Tokyo!"

"The fall of Manila was the end of one great phase of the Pacific struggle and set the stage for another.

"We shall not rest until our enemy is completely overthrown.

"We do not count anything done as long as anything remains to be done.

"We are well on the way but Japan itself is our final goal.

"With Australia saved, the Philippines liberated and the ultimate redemption of the East Indies and Malaya thereby made a certainty, our motto becomes 'On to Tokyo!"

"We are ready in this veteran and proven command when called upon. "May God speed the day!"





Anson D. King, #22 First Ave., Gloversville, N. Y.









FIRST DAY COVER











WORLD WAR II 50TH ANNIVERSARY VICTORY AT LAST 1945

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1995

The Allied assault on Japan continues in 1945 as Marines land on Iwo Jima on February 19, planting the flag after three days of stiff resistance. The small strategic island and its two airfields are not secured until March 16. Meanwhile, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's ongoing campaign to retake the Philippines is successful, and the city of Manila is freed on March 3. The largest amphibious American operation in the Pacific war, the successful invasion of Okinawa begins on April 1. Fighting continues until June 21. On the European front, the Allies advance rapidly across Germany; by April 25 the Soviet army encircles Berlin and links up with the Allies at Elbe River. Hitler commits suicide on April 30. Holocaust survivors rejoice and grieve: after the war, the Jewish dead number nearly 6 million, including at least 3 million murdered en masse in death camps. German forces in Italy surrender on May 4; those in north Germany, Holland and Denmark on May 6. Gen. Alfred Jodl of Germany surrenders formally and unconditionally on May 8 at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters in Reims. Millions uprooted by the war that devastated Europe are homeless, including 7 million Jews; the United States and others create recovery and refugee resettlement plans. After the atomic bomb is dropped on Hiroshima on August 6 and Nagasaki on August 9, President Harry S Truman announces the end of the war. Japan's surrender is officially accepted by MacArthur aboard the flagship *Missouri* in Tokyo Bay on September 2, 1945. Returning veterans are cheered in ticker-tape parades, but face new economic challenges; those who died in battle are mourned and remembered.

This First Day Cover was produced by Artmaster, Inc., P.O. Box 7156, Louisville, KY 40257-0156.









JLP CACHETS



JLP CACHETS






















MISSOURI before hundreds of onlookers. Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemitsu signed the surrender



	ALCENTS AL
V-J DAY	





IWO JIMA

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The power of this historic event springs to life in this inspiring stamp ingot. The stamp was issued in 1945. The U.S. Post Office initially rejected the idea of a stamp commemorating the Flag Raising at Iwo Jima because of its mandate that no living person(s) can appear on a U.S. stamp. Public outery was so great that Congress pushed for the stamp. On the day of issue, in sweltering temperatures, people stood patiently in lines that stretched for blocks.



Major General Holland Smith called the securing of Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, "the toughest fighting the Marines ran across in 158 years." On February 19th, 1945, after 74 days of intensive bombing from U.S. air and sea forces, Marines landed on the beaches of the heavily-protected island. More than 20,000 experienced Japanese troops were determined to fight to the bitter end. American troops prevailed; almost 19,000 Japanese died. American fatalities exceeded 6,500 and over 26,000 were wounded. This stunning ingot depicts the five Marines and the Navy medical corpsman who raised the American flag on Mount Suribachi. The Pulitzer Prize-winning photo of the flag raising, taken by Associated Press combat cameraman Joe Rosenthal, became the most famous photograph of World War II. In turn, it inspired what was for years the biggest-selling stamp in the history of the U.S. Post Office. Over 137 million sold.





Dedication ERNIE PYLE U.S. ARMY RESERVE CENTER



At Fort Totten, Borough of Queens, New York, the new home of the 77th U.S. Army Reserve Command was dedicated April 23, 1983 - the day of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Army Reserve. In tribute to famed World War II news correspondent Ernest Taylor Pyle, who was killed while reporting the war with the old 77th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater. M - Ministiak Cover

1 212 **Remembering Ernie Pyle**

World War II war correspondent Ernie Pyle died from a sniper's bullet on April 18, 1945, after a brilliant career reporting the war simply, truthfully, as it happened in the heads and hearts of his

Pulitzer prize-winning di documentary and feature films on World War II, a research room containing a collection of Pyle's public and private writings, and exhibit rooms. Because state funding is not adequate for construction and maintenance

Ernie Pyle Ernie Pyle

N DEFENS



Ernie Pyle at the front shares cigarettes with the soldiers during World War II. 1.11

fighting countrymen. In recognition of Pyle's contribution to the war, the Friends of Ernie Pyle Inc. are raising funds for an interpretive history center at the Ernie Pyle State Historical Site in Pyle's hometown of Dana, Indiana. The center, to be dedicated on the anniversary of Ernie's death, will contain a small theater showing

of the new center, the Friends of Emie Pyle are asking for private, tax-deductible contributions. People interested in contributing should write: Friends of Ernie Pyle Inc. Development Fund, c/o The Ernie Pyle State Historical . Site, G.D. 1995, Dana, IN 47847-0345; or call Evelyn Hobson, curator, (317) 665-3633 for information.



Ernie Pyle (wearing goggles,) with members of the Army Signal Corps in France.





HEADQUARTERS, 77TH U.S. ARMY RESERVE COMMAND FORT TOTTEN, FLUSHING, NEW YORK 11359

April 23, 1983

WELCOME

On behalf of the officers and enlisted members of the 77th U.S. Army Reserve Command, I am pleased to welcome you to the dedication and memorialization of the Ernie Pyle U.S. Army Reserve Center.

It is appropriate that we honor Ernie Pyle, for he was one of us. And he died as one of us, killed by an enemy sniper while covering the toughest fight in the history of the 77th Infantry Division.

It is also significant that today is the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Army Reserve. As proud guardians of the heritage of the "Liberty Patch," we are the same dedicated, freedom-loving, citizen-soldiers today who Ernie honored with his words nearly 40 years ago.

Today we honor Ernie Pyle; not with words, but by dedicating our new headquarters in his name. It is fitting tribute to one who will live forever in the hearts of American soldiers.

William F. Ward Major General, USAR Commanding

Ernie's final words

The following is a rough draft of a column Pyle had been preparing for release upon the end of the war in Europe. It was found on his body the day he was killed on leShima, 20 days before the Germans surrendered.



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run its course. The day that it had so long seemed would never come has come at last. I suppose our emotions here in the Pacific are the same as they were among Allies all over the world. First a shouting of the good news with such joyous surprise that you would think the shouter himself had brought it about.

And then an unspoken sense of gigantic relief-and then a hope that the collapse in Europe would hasten the end in the Pacific.

It has been seven months since I heard my last shot in the European War. Now I am as far away from it as it is possible to get on this globe.

This is written on a little ship lying off the coast of the island of Okinawa, just south of Japan, on the other side of the world from Ardennes.

But my heart is still in Europe, and that's why I am writing this column.

It is to the boys who were my friends for so long. My one regret of the war is that I was not with them when it ended. For the companionship of two and a half years of death and miserv is a spouse that tolerates no divorce. Such companionship finally becomes a part of one's soul, and it cannot be obliterated.

True, I am with American boys in the other war not yet ended, but I am old-fashioned and my sentiment runs to old things. To me the European War is old, and the Pacific War is new.

Last summer I wrote that I hoped the end of the war could be a gigantic relief, but not an elation. In the joyousness of high spirits it is so easy for us to forget the dead. Those who are

And so it is over. The catastrophe on one side of the world has gone would not wish themselves to be a millstone of gloom around our necks.

But there are so many of the living who have had burned into their brains forever the unnatural sight of cold dead men scattered over the hillsides and in the ditches along the high rows of hedge throughout the world.

Dead men by mass production-in one country after anothermonth after month and year after year. Dead men in winter and dead men in summer.

Dead men in such familiar promiscuity that they become monotonous.

Dead men in such monstrous infinity that you come almost to hate them.

Those are the things that you at home need not even try to understand. To you at home they are columns of figures, or he is a near one who went way and just didn't come back. You didn't see him lying so grotesque and pasty beside the gravel road in France.

We saw him, saw him by the multiple thousands. That's the difference.

We hope above all things that Japan won't make the same stubborn mistake that Germany did. You must credit Germany for her courage in adversity, but you can doubt her good common sense in fighting blindly on long after there was any doubt whatever about the outcome.

Permission to re-publish Ernie Pyle's column was given by the Scripps Howard Foundation and distributed by the Ernie Pyle World War II Museum in Dana. Indiana.

Albert "Al" Sackin, 93, of Tamarac, Fla., died June 7, 2015.

During World War II, he served over three years as a medic with the 307th Infantry Medical Detachment of the prestigious 77th Infantry (Statue of Liberty Division), gaining the rank of Technician Fifth Grade (Sergeant). In that period he was awarded many medals and awards, including a Combat Medic Badge, Purple Heart, both U.S. Army and Philippine Army Presidential Unit Citations, Philippine Liberation Medal, Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal (3 Stars), Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, American Victory Service Award, and Good Conduct Medal. The Army also awarded him a Bronze Star "V" (for valor or heroic achievement) with Oak Leaf Cluster for saving the lives of several of his comrades during the war.

The following paragraph is the Army's citation of his heroism: "Technician Fifth Grade, ALBERT SACKIN, (then Private First Class), Medical Department, Army of the United States. For heroic achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy near legusugu

Yama, le Shima, R. I., 18 April 1945. When an enemy mortar concen tration fell on his company's position, Technician SACKIN, company aid man, advanced beyond the front lines despite the danger. He crossed an open field under heavy small arms and mortar fire to give aid to and evacuate a severely wounded soldier. During the ensuing hours of battle, Technician SACKIN administered first aid to all the wounded men of his company. Learning that litter bearers were not available, he placed ten of the seriously wounded under cover until he was able to secure three tanks to take them to the aid station all while being wounded himself. By his courage, initiative and devotion to duty Technician SACKIN saved the lives of several of his comrades and was an inspiration to the men of the company."

He was a member of Temple Beth Shalom in Livingston, where for many years he served as a member of the Religious Committee.

http://njjewishnews.com/community/lifecycle/obituaries/obituary-albertsackin

Note AI Sackin received decorations for his heroic efforts to save soldiers in the same battle that Ernie Pyle died.

BRNEST TAYLOR PYLE B AUGUST 1900 - 18 APRIL 1945

THIS ARMY RESERVE TRAINING CENTER IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF ERNIE PYLE

JOURNALIST-WAR CORRESPONDENT KILLED BY AN ENEMY SNIPER WHILE COVERING THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION AT IE SHIMA DEDICATED: 23 APRIL 1983



P111



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P111

WILLIE AND JOE First Day of Issue: May 31, 1993 First Issue Location: Washington, D.C.

No one person was more responsible for immortalizing the American infantryman in World WarlI than cartoonist Bill Mauldin. Although only 18 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, the boyish looking retruit from New Mexico, who worked for the *Stars and Stripes*, was able to capture the grim wit of the foxhole in a way that was loved by men in the ranks and hated by many of their officers. His most memorable creations were Willie and loe, two sardonically humorous combat soldiers who did a lot of griping butstill got the job clone. The folks at home also loved Willie and Joe, for these two unromantic characters gave them an accurate picture of what it was like to be an American Gl. After the war, Bill Mauldin went on to draw cartoons about the soldier's difficult transition back to civilian life. He received a Pulitzer Prize for one of his cartoons in 1945, and another in 1959. He continued to work as a political cartoonist until his retirement in 1992. "It is my earnest hope — indeed the hope of all mankind — that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past, a world founded upon faith and understanding, a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfillment of his most cherished wish for freedom, tolerance and justice."

> General Douglas MacArthur during the formal Japanese surrender aboard the USS Missouri September 2, 1945



1945 V-J DAY POSTCARD

V-J Day Commemorative Postcard Classic World War II-era commemorative postcard is certified with the postmark of September 2, 1945 — V-J Day — marking the final surrender of Japan and the end of the second "war to end all wars." Features two vintage U.S. postage stamps ... 1944's 3c Philippines issue, showing the island of Corregidor, and the famous 3c Iwo Jima issue of 1945.

V. J. DAY-FROM WASH. D. C.



DEC. 7TH 1941-SEPT, 2ND 1945



CHAPTERS IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

Presented by the American Jewish Historical Society

Chapter 48

Moe Berg's Incredible Life

oe Berg's life proves the adage that "truth is often stranger than fiction." One of the best educated, L intellectually accomplished and patriotic Jewish athletes in the history of American sports, Berg got his start in baseball in 1906, at the age of four, playing catch with the beat policeman in front of his father's Newark, NJ, pharmacy,

Berg became a world-class linguist at Princeton University, where he studied Latin, Greek, French, Spanish, Italian, German and Sanskrit. He began his career as a spy on the roof of a hospital in Japan (more about that later).

After graduating from high school at-the top of his class. Moe went to Princeton, an unusual accomplishment for a poor Jewish boy in the 1920s. He became the star shortstop of the baseball team, graduated magna cum laude and was offered a teaching post in Princeton's Department of Romance Languages. Wanting to study experimental phonetics at the Sorbonne but unable to afford graduate study overseas, Berg accepted a contract to play shortstop for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Moe's hitting was below par, and he was sent to the minors after the 1924 season. It was Moe who inspired a professional scout to coin the immortal baseball phrase: "Good field, no hit." One teammate said, "Moe, I don't care how many of them college degrees you got, they ain't learned you to hit that curve ball no better than the rest of us."

Berg returned to the majors in 1926 with the Chicago White Sox. At the same time, he attended Columbia Law School. Despite his hectic schedule, the brilliant Berg managed to finish second in his class at Columbia. That year, the White Sox asked him to play catcher, a position which took advantage of his strong arm and intelligence. Casey Stengel compared Berg's defensive skills to the immortal Bill Dickey. Moe hit .287 in 1929 and received votes for Most Valuable Player but in 1930 he seriously injured his ankle, ending his career as a full-time player. He played as a reserve for three more teams until he retired in 1939.

In 1934, Berg toured Japan with a group of major league all-start, including Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. Still respected as a linguist, Moe was invited to lecture at Meiji University, where he delivered an eloquent speech in Japanese. Apparently, prior to the trip, the U.S. government had recruited Berg as a spy, and while at a Tokyo hospital ostensibly visiting an American mother who had just given birth, he sneaked onto the roof and took photos of the city. The photos reportedly were used by pilots during bombing raids in World War II.

As a Jew wanting to fight Nazism, Berg wanted to serve his country when America entered the war in 1941. He was asked to become a Goodwill Ambassador to Latin America. Before he left on his ambassadorial mission, Berg made a radio broadcast to the Japanese people over the radio in which, to quote his biographers Harold and Meir Ribalow, "In fluent Japanese, he pleaded at length, 'as a friend of the Japanese people,' for the Japanese to avoid a war 'you

cannot win." The Ribalows report that "Berg's address was so effective that several Japanese confirmed afterwards they had wept while listening.

After his stint in Latin America, Moe returned to the U.S. to work for the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner to the Central Intelligence Agency. He parachuted into Yugoslavia. and, after meeting Tito, suggested that the U.S. back



Courtesy of Princeton University Archives

Moe Berg

determine how close Germany was to developing an atomic bomb. In a few weeks, Berg taught himself a great deal about nuclear physics by studying textbooks. Traveling through Europe, Berg discovered that a factory in Norway was producing an atomic bomb component for the Nazis, and Allied planes bombed it. Berg then learned that the Nazis had an atomic research center at Duisberg, Germany, and it too was bombed. Incognito, Berg managed to

him rather than his Serbian

rival. Despite the fact that he was not a scientist, Berg was next assigned to help

lure the leading German atomic physicist, Werner Heisenberg, to Switzerland to give a lecture on quantum theory. At a dinner afterwards, Berg heard Heisenberg imply that Germany was behind the U.S. in bomb development. His report was greeted warmly by

President Roosevelt. At great risk as a Jew, Berg spent parts of 1944 and 1945 in

Germany, helping arrange for the capture by U.S. troops of several prominent German atomic scientists before the Soviets got them. At war's end, Berg was offered the Medal of Merit, the highest award given to civilians in the war effort, but he modestly declined it. Moe lived out a quiet life in Newark, where he died at age 70.

ome of Berg's friends felt he squandered what could have been a brilliant career in law or academics to play 10 baseball. His brother observed that "all [baseball] ever did was make him happy." His teammate Ted Lyons said, "A lot of people tried to tell him what to do with his life and brain and he retreated from this He was different because he was different. He made up for all the bores of the world. And he did it softly, stepping on no one."

To learn more about your American Jewish heritage, become a member of the American Jewish Historical Society.

American Jewish Historical Society

Justin L. Wyner, President * Michael Feldberg, Ph.D., Director & Series Editor 2 Thornton Road, Waltham, MA 02154

617-891-8110 (phone) * 617-899-9208 (fax) * ajhs@ajhs.org (e-mail) * http://www.ajhs.org(www)



March 2,1902----May 29, 1972

First Day Cover ERS 1 1 JUN 12 9-AM 1939 8 9 3 3 9 9 Commemorating A CENTURY OF BASEBALL Founded by Abner Doubleday in 1839 the game has become the mberg 273 w90 National Sport of the United States

Overdue Recognition

Army Cpl. Tibor Rubin, a Holocaust survivor and a Korean War POW, has received the Medal of Honor for his bravery in combat and his selfless efforts giving aid to his fellow soldiers.

n a White House ceremony Sept. 23, former Cpl. Tibor Rubin, 76, was awarded the Medal of Honor, receiving long-overdue recognition for his bravery during the Korean War.

While serving with Company I, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Rubin single-handedly defended a hill for 24 hours against an overwhelming number of North Korean troops so his unit could withdraw to safety. Later, when Chinese forces attacked his unit, he manned a .30-caliber machine gun at the end of the unit's line until his ammunition was exhausted, slowing the enemy's advance and helping his fellow soldiers retreat. During the battle Rubin was severely wounded and captured by the Chinese.

In a POW camp, Rubin, a Hungarian immigrant not yet a U.S. citizen, used what he had learned about survival while held in a Nazi concentration camp to help his fellow prisoners. During his 30 months there, he risked his life nightly by sneaking out of the camp to steal food and provided medical care and moral support, helping some 40 soldiers survive.

Rubin had been recommended previously for the Medal of Honor, but it is believed a superior officer failed to submit the paperwork because Rubin was Jewish. It was Rubin's fellow POWs who, in the early 1980s, began a campaign to have his actions honored.



Cpl. Tibor Rubin came to the United States and enlisted in the U.S. Army after being liberated from a concentration camp in Austria.

Jewish Heroes of America: Tibor Rubin

by Seymour "Sy" Brody, National Editor

Tibor Rubin's bravery during the Korean War is probably unparalled in the history of America's fighting heroes. That is why many organizations and individuals are involved in a major campaign to have Congress award him the Congressional Mcdal of Honor.

Rubin, a Hungarian Holocaust survivor, lost his parents in a Nazi concentration camp in the latter part of World War II. He managed to stay alive and he was liberated. He came to the United States a year and a half late and enlisted in the Army to fight in Korea.

While in Korea, he had a broken his leg and was shipped to an Army hospital in Japan. Although his leg was not completely healed, he was assigned to Company I, 8th Calvary Regiment, which was engaged in fighting the enemy. Former Sergeant Randall J.J. Briere wrote in a letter to the President of the United States, "Although his leg was not completely healed, Tibor went about his everychores, day always helping others who needed a boost, never concerned for his own health or safety. I wanted him to be more cautious since the enemy was out in front of us, but when a cry for help was heard,



Rubin managed to be the first one on the scene..."

On November 1, 1950, Rubin was wounded with shrapnel from a grenade in the left hand and chest. He and the others of his company were captured by the Chinese, who were fighting with the Korean Communist government. The Chinese forced the captured American soldiers, including the wounded and the illustration by Art Seiden

sick, to march a hard and tedious distance to their prisoner of war camp. Rubin and Father Emil Kapaun, who later died in the prison camp, were both wounded but were carrying stretchers and assisting others who could not walk.

Rubin and Chaplain Kapaun were risking continued on page 20

continued from page 8

lives when during rest breaks, they went up and down the line to console the tired soldiers, urging them to continue their march, Those who lagged behind were shot by the enemy. The death rate in the prison camp was running between 30 and 40 men a day. There were shortages of food, medical attention and medicine. The soldiers were still wearing their summer clothes with temperatures between 30 and 40 degrees.

their

Rubin, who had learned to survive in a Nazi concentration camp, applied his experience to sneak out during the night to steal food from the Chinese. He would give this food to the other prisoners, especially the sick and the dying. Every time he went out for food, Rubin was risking his life. He felt that this was his way of getting back at the enemy as they were short on food themselves.

Rubin was a prisoner for two and one-half years. His fellow prisoners credit him with saving 35-40 ;lives with his daring, almost nightly ventures of stealing food for his comrades. He had turned down a number of offers from the Chinese to send him back to his native Hungry.

Tibor Rubin and the others were finally released and sent back to the American hospital in Freedom Village, Korea. He was a stretcher case, suffering from his wounds without complaints. He has been recommended for the Congressional Medal of Honor by the Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Korean Prisoner of War Association, many of his comrades in the prisoner of war camp, individuals and others.

Many heroes receive awards and recognition through an action that could take minutes, hours and even days. Rubin's heroism and bravery was to be over a two and a half year period, never knowing when he would be caught and executed.

Tibor Rubin is a life member of JWV, Post 760, and resides in California. The campaign to have him receive the Congressional Medal of Honor for his bravery and heroism continues. We must give full recognition to heroes like Tibor Rubin.

This is from "Jewish Heroes and Heroines of America," written by Seymour "Sy" Brody, illustrated by Art Seiden and published by Lifetime Books, Inc., Hollywood, FL. CHAPTERS IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

Chapter 49

Baseball's First Jewish Superstar

Presented by the American Jewish Historical Society

efore television made professional football so popular, baseball was America's only national pastime and a symbol of such American values as competition and fair play. Jews, African-Americans and other "outsiders" were not easily welcomed into the sport. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's breaking the major league color barrier. A decade earlier, Hank Greenberg crossed a different line: He became baseball's first Jewish superstar.

Born in an Orthodox household in 1911, by the time Greenberg reached high school in the Bronx he stood 6'3" and was an All-City athlete in soccer and basketball, but his favorite sport was baseball. Somewhat awkward in the field, Greenberg chose first base as his position. In 1929, Greenberg was offered a contract by the New York Yankees but turned it down because the immortal iron man Lou Gehrig was the incumbent Yankee first baseman. Instead, after spending a year at New York University, Greenberg signed a contract with the Detroit Tigers.

Greenberg spent three years in the minor leagues, working hard each day to improve his fielding and hitting. After being named Most Valuable Player in the Texas League, he was promoted to the Tigers in 1933, batting .301 and driving in 87 runs. In 1934, led by Greenberg's .339 batting average, the

Tigers jumped from fifth place in the American League player filled such a significant role for a major league

team, and for the first time, Greenberg - and Jewish baseball fans all over the country - faced a dilemma. September 10 was Rosh Hashanah, and the Tigers,

who led the league by four games in the standings, were playing the Boston Red Sox. Fans and rabbis debated whether Greenberg, who by his accomplishments on the field was winning acceptance for Jews among non-Jewish Americans, should play on the High Holy Days. Greenberg came up with his own compromise: He played on Rosh Hashanah and hit two home runs that won the game, 2-1; ten days later, he spent Yom Kippur in a synagogue, and the Tigers lost. Greenberg's observance inspired Edgar Guest to write a poem, which read in part:

Come Yom Kippur - holy fast day wide-world over to the Jew -And Hank Greenberg to his teaching and the old tradition true Spent the day among his people and he didn't come to play. Said Murphy to Mulrooney, "We shall lose the game today! We shall miss him in the infield and shall miss him at the bat, But he's true to his religion - and I honor him for that!"

The Tigers won the pennant but lost the World Series to the Cardinals in seven games. A year later, the Tigers won the World Series and Greenberg was the first Jew voted Most Valuable Player in either major league.

The 1938 season brought more drama for Greenberg when he challenged Babe Ruth's record of 60 home runs in a season. With five games left, Greenberg had hit 58. With the eyes of the world on Greenberg in those last five games, several pitchers

chose to walk him rather than give him a chance to break Ruth's record. While Greenberg never complained, many observers believed that major league baseball did not want a Jew breaking Ruth's record.

In May of 1940, Greenberg's baseball career was interrupted when he was drafted into the Army. One of baseball's highest paid stars, his salary dropped from \$11,000 to \$21 per month. In

August, Congress decided that men over 28 years old need not serve, and Greenberg was honorably discharged. He planned to return to the Tigers the next season, but on December 7, 1941, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the U.S. declared war. Greenberg was the first major leaguer to enlist in the Army, even though he had been excused from serving. While he could have had a stateside job as an athletic instructor, Greenberg chose to serve in the Army Air Corps in the China-Burma-India Theater, where he had distinguished record.

Hank Greenberg

When the war ended in 1945, Greenberg, age 34,

returned to the Tiger lineup in mid-summer and hit a home run in his first game back. Greenberg led the Tigers to another World Series victory that year, personally clinching the American League pennant with a grand slam home run on the final day of the season. Greenberg played two more seasons and then retired.

After retirement, Greenberg compiled another series of "firsts": He became the first Jewish owner/general manager in baseball, assembling the 1954 Cleveland Indians team that won a record 111 games, Greenberg and Bill Veeck then purchased the Chicago White Sox in 1959. That year, the White Sox won the pennant for the first time in 40 years. In 1961, Greenberg sold his baseball interests and went on to a successful career in Wall Street

n 1954, Hank Greenberg became the first Jewish player to be elected to baseball's Hall of Fame in Cooperstown. His pioneering efforts as a player and owner paved the way for Jews in the top ranks of major league baseball, whether as a Hall of Famer like Sandy Koufax, a general manager like Al Rosen, or an owner and commissioner of major league baseball like Bud Selig of the Milwaukee Brewers.

To learn more about your American Jewish heritage, become a member of the American Jewish Historical Society.



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THEODORE HERZL (May 2, 1860 – July 3, 1904) AUSTRIA-HUNGARY JOURNALIST – FATHER OF MODERN POLITICAL ZIONISM

Born to assimilated Ashkenazi Jews in Pest, Hungary, Herzl had minimal interest in religion as a child. In 1878 he studied law in Vienna and after a brief legal career he devoted himself to journalism and literature. It was the rise to power of the anti-Semitic Karl Lueger in Vienna in 1895 that led Herzl to believe that anti-Semitism could not be defeated, but only avoided, and that the way to avoid it would be to establish a Jewish state. In his book Der Judenstaat (The Jewish State), published in 1896 to acclaim and controversy, he states, "The Jews who will it shall achieve their State. We shall live at last as free men on our own soil, and in our own homes peacefully die. The world will be liberated by our freedom, enriched by our wealth, magnified by our greatness. And whatever we attempt there for our own benefit will redound mightily and beneficially to the good of all mankind."

'nJ 10"(1)11 1 1 3

אם אסכם את הקונגרס הבזילאי בדבור אחד – מה שאזהר מלהביעו בפומבי – הריהו זה: בבזל יסדתי את מדינת היהודים. אילו הייתי מביע זה היום בקול רם. ודאי שהיו עונים לי בצחוק נכללי. אולי בעוד חמש שנים, על כל פנים בעור חמשים שנה – יודה בזה כל אדם.

תיאודור הרצל, תרניז/1897

מעטפת היום הראשון

FIRST DAY COVER

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As a young man Israel Bernbaum witnessed the Nazi invasion of his native Warsaw, escaping just prior to the erecting of the Ghetto walls. In a series of striking and dramatic paintings, he told the story of the Holocaust, and in particular that of the Warsaw Ghetto and its destruction by the Germans. These paintings serve as the illustrations to his award winning book, My Brother's Keeper. The Story of the Holocaust Through the Eyes of an Artist.



A book for you, your children, and children's children

"For your words, for your paintings, for your willingness to share your memories -- Thank you."

Elie Wiesel

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER The Holocaust Through the Eyes of an Artist



By ISRAEL BERNBAUM

Through a series of vivid color paintings combined with powerful language, this book explains the Holocaust to young people in an unforgettable way.

... This book is intended to educate children aged about 8 to 13 about the Holocaust. The author does so masterly a job that adults will be equally fascinated. ... It is difficult to imagine a better way to tell children a story which must be told.

> Eleonore Lester The Jewish Week

... Today more than ever before , children need to know that they are their brother's keeper. And Mr. Bernbaum's moving book--his words, coupled with his vivid lines, shapes, and colors--is an important channel for helping children understand this crucial lesson of life

> Arlene M. Pillar Ph. D. The United States Board on Books for Young Poeple

Israel Bernbaum lost family, friends, and a way of life at the age of eighteen when he escaped from Warsaw justbefore the ghetto walls were erected. Years later, living in America but still haunted by the Holocaust, he created five striking paintings of the Warsaw Ghetto. Now, text and paintings come together to create an extraordinarily powerful and moving book that will leave an unforgettable impression on young readers.

In colors that are impossible to ignore, each painting is a composite of many detailed scenes, some based on actual photographs and accounts, others symbolic of truths that could not be literally depicted. Skeletons of menorahs symbolize the destruction of the Great Synagogue, while faceless Nazi soldiers hurl children into fires or herd them into death camps. Outside the ghetto,

In museum gift shops and in your bookstore people laugh and play on merry-go-rounds, some even watching through binoculars, while inside, the Jewish resistance fighters struggle unaided against impossible odds. The significance of each detail in the paintings is clearly explained in the accompanying text and related to actual photographs, taken by the Germans, which are shown alongside them. "I want my paintings to scream," says Bernbaum—but the purpose of this book is not to shock but to make the Holocaust understandable to today's young people so that it will never be forgotten and can never be repeated.

Israel Bernbaum lives in New York City.

9" × 9" 64 pages 0-399-21242-6 \$16.95

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

*"A remarkable book" —Starred, School Library Journal



MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

The Holocaust Through the Eyes of an Artist By ISRAEL BERNBAUM

* "Five large canvasses—a series of bold paintings collectively entitled 'Warsaw Ghetto 1943—and a personal narrative display and relate a vivid history of the Holocaust.... A remarkable book that illuminates the artistic process as it recalls a vile part of recent history, this makes a strong case for belief in the statement, I am My Brother's Keeper." —Starred, School Library Journal

"Each chapter is devoted to one of the five paintings. In each case a photograph of the full painting is followed by Bernbaum's commentary...The paintings are immensely detailed, vividly colored, and dramatically composed...His concern is to relate the symbols he has used to the historical events as well as to his fearful message of what racism and indifference can bring." —Focus review, Booklist

0-399-21242-5 \$16.95

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS

... The artist's choice of subject matter and his illuminating text point to his major concern to reach the "children of today" with the message from the Jewish children of the Holocaust. He hopes that their suffering will inspire the children of the world with compassion and love for fellow men.

> Dr. Luba K. Gurdus Martyrdom and Resistance

...Literal, colorful, striking without being gory, these murals constitute a genuine folk art. In addition to providing a simple narrative on the Holocaust, the artist draws the attention of children to the symbolism that tells the story through his art.

> Professor Lisa Kuhmerker Dimensions, a Journal of Holocaust Studies

...Both your art and writing (one can almost say "iyrics") are fascinating and constitute an insightful statement on the Holocaust.

> Dr. Rabbi Lamm, President Yeshiva University

... Even though--40 years later--it defies comprehension, it's a story that must be told to our children and then, to their children. .. President Reagan would have done well to read this book before going to Europe.

> Zel Levin Federation Voice

...Written for children yet of interest to adults as well. the work reads like a story book of the Holocaust interspersed with reproductions of the artist/author's five oil paintings.

> Linda Ostrow The B'nai B'rith International Jewish Monthly

...Accompanying the artwork is the artist's own commentary. The total effect is an unforgettable picture of the magnitude and horror of the Holocaust.

> National Conference of Christians and Jews Children's and Young Adults' List

Michael Feldberg

Lincoln's fight for Jewish chaplains

http://www.jewishworldreview.com | For Jews who wish to observe the rituals of their faith, wartime may pose seemingly insurmountable challenges. The exigencies of war can make the observance of the Sabbath, holy days and the kosher laws very difficult. Jewish soldiers must, on occasion, subordinate religious observance to combat. Despite the frequent priority of war over religion, there are times, such as the funeral of a fallen Jewish soldier or at the bedside of a wounded Jew, when religion can shape war policy.



At the outbreak of the Civil War, Jews could not serve

as chaplains in the U.S. armed forces. When the war commenced in 1861, Jews enlisted in both the Union and Confederate armies. The Northern Congress adopted a bill in July of 1861 that permitted each regiment's commander, on a vote of his field officers, to appoint a regimental chaplain so long as he was "a regularly ordained minister of some Christian denomination."

Only Representative Clement L. Vallandigham of Ohio, a non-Jew, protested that this clause discriminated against soldiers of the Jewish faith. Vallandigham argued that the Jewish population of the United States, "whose adherents are . . . good citizens and as true patriots as any in this country," deserved to have rabbis minister to Jewish soldiers. Vallandigham thought the law, which endorsed Christianity as the official religion of the United States, was blatantly unconstitutional. However, there was no organized national Jewish protest to support Vallandigham and the bill sailed through Congress.

Three months later, a YMCA worker visiting the field camp of a Pennsylvania regiment known as "Cameron's Dragoons" discovered to his horror that the officers had elected a Jew, Michael Allen, as regimental chaplain. While not an ordained rabbi, Allen was fluent in the Portuguese *minhagim* (ritual) and taught at the Philadelphia Hebrew Education Society. As Allen was neither a Christian nor an ordained minister, the YMCA representative filed a formal complaint with the Army. Obeying the recently enacted law, the Army forced Allen to resign his post.

Hoping to create a test case based strictly on a chaplain's religion and not his lack of ordination, Colonel Max Friedman and the officers of the Cameron's Dragoons then elected an ordained rabbi, the Reverend Arnold Fischel of New York's Congregation Shearith Israel, to serve as regimental chaplain-designate. When Fischel, a Dutch
immigrant, applied for certification as chaplain, the Secretary of War, none other than Simon Cameron, for whom the Dragoons were named, complied with the law and rejected Fischel's application.

Fischel's rejection stimulated American Jewry to action. The American Jewish press let its readership know that Congress had limited the chaplaincy to those who were Christians and argued for equal treatment for Judaism before the law. This initiative by the Jewish press irritated a handful of Christian organizations, including the YMCA, which resolved to lobby Congress against the appointment of Jewish chaplains. To counter their efforts, the Board of Delegates of American Israelites, one of the earliest Jewish communal defense agencies, recruited Reverend Fischel to live in Washington, minister to wounded Jewish soldiers in that city's military hospitals and lobby President Abraham Lincoln to reverse the chaplaincy law. Although today several national Jewish organizations employ representatives to make their voices heard in Washington; Fischel's mission was the first such undertaking of this type.

Armed with letters of introduction from Jewish and non-Jewish political leaders, Fischel met on December 11, 1861 with President Lincoln to press the case for Jewish chaplains. Fischel explained to Lincoln that, unlike many others who were waiting to see the president that day, he came not to seek political office, but to "contend for the principle of religious liberty, for the constitutional rights of the Jewish community, and for the welfare of the Jewish volunteers."

According to Fischel, Lincoln asked questions about the chaplaincy issues, "fully admitted the justice of my remarks . . . and agreed that something ought to be done to meet this case." Lincoln promised Fischel that he would submit a new law to Congress "broad enough to cover what is desired by you in behalf of the Israelites."

Lincoln kept his word, and seven months later, on July 17, 1862, Congress finally adopted Lincoln's proposed amendments to the chaplaincy law to allow "the appointment of brigade chaplains of the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish religions." In historian Bertram Korn's opinion, Fischel's "patience and persistence, his unselfishness and consecration ... won for American Jewry the first major victory of a specifically Jewish nature ... on a matter touching the Federal government."

Korn concluded, "Because there were Jews in the land who cherished the equality granted them in the Constitution, the practice of that equality was assured, not only for Jews, but for all minority religious groups."

Three Jewish Movements, One Prayer Book

This Memorial Day weekend, three Upper East Side synagogues remembered the Jewish men and women who have died defending the United States by using the JWB Jewish military siddur during Shabbat services.

The three synagogues — one each from the Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform movements – used the newly released siddur during services beginning the Friday evening of Memorial Day weekend at three separate services in New York City. On Friday, May 23, services to honor our troops began with Kabbalat Shabbat at Central Synagogue where David Frommer, the first cantor to serve in the U.S. military was featured in the service using the siddur.

On Saturday, May 24, the siddur was used at Park Avenue Synagogue, a Conservative congregation. Steven Rein, the congregation's assistant rabbi and a chaplain in the Air Force reserve, spoke at the service. To conclude the day of rest, Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun, an Orthodox congregation, used the prayer book for evening services beginning at the Ramaz Gottesman Center. David Posner, JCC Association vicepresident and director of strategic performance, who coordinates JWB with JCC Association, spoke at the end of the evening service.

"This will be a rare opportunity for congregations to use this siddur, which is really meant for our military chaplains and the men and women they serve," said retired Rear Adm. Rabbi Harold Robinson, director of the JWB Jewish Chaplains Council, a program of JCC Association. "But it is a fitting Memorial Day tribute to use in a congregational setting, reminding us of those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom."

The prayer book was introduced at JCC Association Biennial in San Diego in late March and used during Shabbat and daily services during the conference. The JWB Jewish Chaplains Council is a program of JCC Association. Because of a special "copyright of exception" granted by the three Jewish movements that participated in creating the siddur, the book will be restrict-



ed to use in branches of the military and by the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is not meant for congregational use, said Rabbi Robinson. The goal was to create something that borrowed from source material from all streams of Judaism, and is exceptional in that rabbis across denomination have been authorized to use it, even with inclusion of liturgy from other denominations.

The siddur is the first major revision of the prayer book used by military chaplains since World War II. This version represents a unique collaboration between all three movements, which saw enormous value in coming together to create something of enduring worth for the men and women who serve their country. It incorporates Hebrew and English text from their existing prayer books expressly for use by the JWB.

The JWB Jewish Chaplains Council advisory board felt there was a need for the siddur because its chaplains were using a variety of prayer books depending on what the rabbi or trained lay person leading services chose to use. This was often the prayer book with which he or she was most comfortable, or simply what was available at the base. This worked adequately for the rabbis, but wasn't as successful for Jewish service men and women, who had to get used to a new siddur as they moved around from base to base.

The first prayer books published by the JWB date back to World War II and many still exist. That edition was an abbreviated one. The Orthodox movement, at that time, then issued a companion edition to meet the needs of Orthodox military personnel. In the early 1980s, the prayer book was updated and reintroduced.

But since then, each major Jewish movement has published a new edition of its own prayer book and it was about time that JWB followed suit, Robinson said. The changes include genderneutral language, Hebrew and English text, as well as transliterations of the Hebrew.

For more information about JWB Jewish Chaplains Council and the new JWB Jewish military siddur visit www.jcca.org/jwb. Three chaplains with almost a combined 100 years of service were honored as they head into retirement this year. They each spoke of what the chaplaincy means to them, but there was a common thread. Specifically, how vital the chaplain is to the family that is the military, and to the Jewish military family as well. Being a Chaplain allows them to touch so many lives, which is both a humbling experience and an experience that deepens their spirituality.

These are ideals that drove the Civil War vets to found the Hebrew Union Veterans Association, the antecedent to JWV, and they remain just as true today. We are honored to strengthen this partnership and to provide the much needed bibles to our Jewish active duty.

Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America Since 1.896-The Latriotic Voice of American Jewry



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First Lieutenant Charles Cohen fought in the Battle of the Bulge in WWII. As the war was drawing to a close, he was one of the officers in charge of a German Prisoner of War camp. He was promoted to Captain before being honorably discharged. His leadership and feats of bravery are well documented in the citations for his Bronze Star awarded on May 19, 1945 and his Silver Star, awarded on July 27, 1945.



Frank Reingold was born in Newark, New Jersey, on January 5, 1926, attended Weequahic High School in Newark and, with aspirations to become an engineer, enrolled at Newark College of Engineering. After less than one semester he enlisted in the Army Specialized Training Program (ASTP) and was assigned to Cornell University in Ithaca, New York to continue his engineering studies. The ATSP was suddenly disbanded and 'Frankie' was sent for basic Army training to Fort Jackson, South Carolina, following which he was assigned to Company K, 347th Infantry, 87th Division which joined the WWII effort in France.

While serving as an Infantry Rifleman in combat against the Germans on December 14, 1944, Frank was killed near the town of Petit-Rederching, on the French-German border. He was not yet 19 when his life came to an abrupt end. Sergeant Frank Reingold was posthumously awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA



(clockwise from lower left) U.S. Army 1st Lieutenant Jack Jacobs with the Battalion Commander in Vietnam, 1968; in the war zone in Vietnam; Capt. Jack Jacobs with his Medal of Honor; Colonel (retired) Jack Jacobs in Cao Lanh, Vietnam, with his former adversary, Pham Phi Huang, 2011.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Medal of Honor recipient, *Jack Jacobs*, is a retired Colonel in the United States Army and an Honorary National Commander of JWV. He served in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1987 including two tours of duty in Vietnam, both times as an advisor to infantry units in the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN). He was awarded the Medal of Honor 'For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty...' for his valorous actions on March 9, 1968, when he was severely injured while saving the lives of 14 American and ARVN soldiers.

On his recent return to Vietnam in early 2011, Col. Jacobs re-visited the battlefield in the Mekong Delta where his ARVN unit was ambushed by a Viet Cong force under the command of Pham Phi Huang. The two former adversaries met in Cao Lahn. Jacobs found Huang to be "an amiable, chatty man." They discussed strategic details of the battle – Huang told Jacobs that the Viet Cong provincial headquarters had information about the ARVN's whereabouts that day and had ordered a large force of 250 soldiers to the area.

Dressed in uniform, Huang was quite friendly, holding Jacob's hand in the Vietnamese way. They hugged on parting. Remembering the lost friends and comrades from that fateful battle, Jacob's recalled "...it changed me forever." Of Pham Phi Huang, he said, "I am not his friend, but I am no longer his enemy."

Col. Jacobs is a military analyst for NBC/MSNBC. His memoir, "If Not Now, When? – Duty and Sacrifice in America's Time of Need" was published in 2008. He and his wife Sue have a daughter and two sons and reside in New Jersey.

On May 2nd, 2002, JWV National Commander Bernard Becker attended the posthumous presentation of the Medal of Honor award to Captain Ben L. Salomon: The Medal of Honor is our country's highest military award. Captain Salomon was a dentist acting as a medic with the 107th Infantry Division during World War II. He sacrificed himself to save wounded US troops during the Battle of Saipan on July 7, 1944. Captain Salomon bravely faced Japanese troops by himself by ordering enlisted medics to evacuate the medic station. He was found dead the following day with his finger still on the machine gun trigger and surrounded by 98 dead Japanese soldiers. Captain Salomon portrayed estraordinary heroism and devotion in the defense of his country and fellow men.



During WWII, Tech Sergeant Harold Leavitt, served as one of eleven crew members on the B-29 Super Fortress bomber nicknamed 'In the Mood'. Parked next to his aircraft behind a security fence was another B-29 named 'Enola Gay.' On May 26, on a mission over Tokyo, his plane was struck with anti-aircraft fire and only five of the crew were able to bail out. He was captured by the Japanese and survived on two cups of rice and two cups of water a day during his 16-month ordeal in two prisons. Upon his release in September, 1945, he learned that the mission over Tokyo was to have been his last. Unbeknownst to him, after his 30th mission he was scheduled to return to the U.S. to sell war bonds.

Among Harold's many decorations are the Distinguished Flying Cross, three air medals, the Purple Heart, the POW Medal and two unit citations. He received the Caterpillar award for parachuting to save his life, and citations for laying mines at a low althrude and for the first low level daylight mission over Tokyo.

"To this day, I consider it an honor to have flown with my crew members. They were the finest men I have ever met. Six lost their lives, four of the five captured got to go home, and one died in the prison camp. We were all honored to serve our country."



Jewish War Veterans of the USA



OCTOBER SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC DATES

- October 13, 1775, U.S. Navy established
- October 16-28, 1962, Cuban Missile Crisis
- October 19, 1781, British surrender at Yorktown
- October 28, 1886, Statue of Liberty dedicated



CAPTAIN FOSTER DAVIDOFF

Highly decorated Captain Foster Davidoff (center, in front row) was born in Boston, MA, on September 28, 1917. During WWII he served with distinction in the U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) as a lead bombardier of a B24 Liberator in the 308th Bombardment Group of General Chennault's legendary 'Flying Tigers'. Captain Davidoff was credited for the success of one of the most precise missions of the war against the Japanese, as "90 per cent of the 308's bombs hit the narrow target (1000 by 3500 feet). Many direct hits were observed on the nearby buildings, wharves and facilities. Fifteen cargo vessels were sunk or damaged...the largest Japanese ship repair facility in the area sustained major damage."*

Following the war, Captain Foster Davidoff went on to civilian life to preside over two universities in Southern California.

*From 'Chennault's Forgotten Warriors – the Saga of the 308th Bomb Group in China', written by Carroll V. Glines.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

JANUARY SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC DATES January 6, 1945, Gen. Douglas MacArthur leads his forces at Lingayen Gulf and marches on to Manila and Bataan

· January 14, 1943, Casablanca Conference

- January 15, 1929, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday
- · January 16, 1991 April 6, 1991, The Persian Gulf War
- · January 27, 1973, The Vietnam War ends



Tech Sergeant Ernest Goldberg



Sergeant Samuel Silverman



First Lieutenant Julius Horowitz

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Tech Sergeant Ernest (Sonny) Goldberg was a radar specialist during WWII and was stationed in Italy where he was involved in testing various radar devices. After leaving his mess hall to return to his barracks, enemy aircraft attacked and strafed the base including the mess hall where many of his friends were trapped. He attempted to save his comrades but all were killed and the base was badly damaged. Sergeant Goldberg received many commendations for his bravery and his service is commemorated in the WWII Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Deployed in Germany towards the end of WWII, *U.S. Army Sergeant Samuel Silverman* was stationed in Berlin following VE Day in May, 1945. He was responsible for the re-opening of a synagogue in Berlin, restoring it to a place of worship after the Nazis had used it as a horse stable during the war. Samuel Silverman passed away in 2002.

First Lieutenant Julius Horowitz,

Army Air Forces/Corps, a bomber pilot during WWII, is photographed with his B-17 Flying Fortress bomber in southern Europe in the summer of 1943. He served in the 348th Bomb Squadron, 99th Bomb Group and participated in action in North Africa and Italy. He flew numerous missions between 1941 and 1944 and attained the rank of Major before leaving the service. Chapter II: Of Civil Seders in the Civil War

Posted on April 11, 2014 by Webmaster- AJHS New England

Interested in learning more about American Jewish history and AJHS-New England Archives? Join our mailing list today to receive our quarterly newsletter and event invitations!

To mark the Passover holiday, the American Jewish Historical Society-New England Archives recalls the challenges Jewish soldiers faced during the American Civil War.

For American Jewry during the Civil War, the Passover story was especially powerful. Northern soldiers saw clear parallels between the Union freeing the South's slaves and Moses leading the ancient Hebrews out of Egypt. For Jewish Yankees, it was important to conduct their Seders, and despite obstacles they managed to do so.

In 1862, the Jewish Messenger published an account by J. A. Joel of the 23rd Ohio Volunteer Regiment of an improvised Seder celebrated by Union soldiers in Fayette, West Virginia (a Southern state that remained in the Union). Joel and twenty other Jewish soldiers were granted leave to observe Passover. A soldier from the 23rd Ohio home on leave in Cincinnati shipped matzot and Haggadot to his colleagues. Joel wrote:

We . . . sen[t] parties to forage in the country [for Passover food] while a party stayed to build a log hut for the services. . . We obtained two kegs of cider, a lamb, several chickens and some eggs. Horseradish or parsley we could not obtain, but in lieu we found a weed whose bitterness, I apprehend, exceeded anything our forefathers 'enjoyed.' ...

We had the lamb, but did not know what part was to represent it at the table; but Yankee ingenuity prevailed, and it was decided to cook the whole and put it on the table, then we could dine off it, and be sure we got the right part.

The necessaries for the choroutzes we could not obtain, so we got a brick which, rather hard to digest, reminded us, by looking at it, for what purpose it was intended.

Yankee ingenuity indeed! Historian Bertram Korn observes, "It must have been quite a sight: these twenty men gathered together in a crude and hastily-built log hut, their weapons at their side, prepared as in Egypt-land for all manner of danger, singing the words of praise and faith in the ancient language of Israel." The Seder proceeded smoothly until the eating of the bitter herbs. Joel recounted:

We all had a large portion of the herb ready to eat at the moment I said the blessing; each [ate] his portion, when horrors! What a scene ensued . . . The herb was very bitter and very fiery like Cayenne pepper, and excited our thirst to such a degree that we forgot the law authorizing us to drink only four cups, and . . . we drank up all the cider. Those that drank more freely became excited and one thought he was Moses, another Aaron, and one had the audacity to call himself a Pharaoh. The consequence was a skirmish, with nobody hurt, only Moses, Aaron and Pharaoh had to be carried to the camp, and there left in the arms of Morpheus.

More problematic was the situation of Union soldiers who, unable to hold their own Seders, were forced to "fraternize" with local Southern Jews. Myer Levy of Philadelphia, for example, was in a Virginia town one Passover late in the war when he saw a young boy sitting on his front steps eating a piece of matzo. According to Korn, when Levy "asked the boy for a piece, the child fled indoors, shouting at the top of his lungs, 'Mother, there's a damn Yankee Jew outside!' The boy's mother invited Levy to Seder that night. One wonders how the Virginian family and the Yankee soldier each interpreted the Haggadah portions describing the evils of bondage.

On the eve of the fifth day of Passover (April 14), 1865, Abraham Lincoln was shot and died of his wounds in the early morning of April 15, which had already been scheduled as a national day of prayer to mark the end of the Civil War. Jews across the land were gathering in synagogues to give thanks. When news of Lincoln's death arrived, Korn notes, the synagogue altars were quickly draped in black and, instead of Passover melodies, the congregations chanted Yom Kippur hymns. Rabbis set aside their sermons and wept openly at their pulpits, as did their congregants. Lincoln had been protective of American Jewry, overturning General Grant's infamous General Order #11 expelling Jews from the Department of the Tennessee and supporting legislation allowing Jewish chaplains to serve in the military. The Jewish Record drew the analogy between Lincoln not having lived to see the reconciliation of North and South and Moses dying on Mount Pisgah before he saw the Israelites enter the Promised Land.

Today, the U.S. military does a superb job of assuring that its Jewish members are able to observe the requirements of their faith even in the most remote or hostile locales. During the Civil War, it was far more difficult for Jewish soldiers to serve their country while maintaining the traditions that beautify Judaism. For Jewish Union soldiers fighting between 1861 and 1865 to free others from slavery, the Passover parallels must have made each Seder they attended particularly sweet and meaningful.







An orphan of the Holocaust, *Michael Blain*, arrived in New York in 1949 and was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1950 at the outbreak of the Korean War. He is pictured here (top left, center) with Army buddies, with a Korean child and at a Seder during the war in 1953. He became a U.S. citizen only after he returned from Korea and went on to graduate from Rochester Institute of Technology. Blain's career included working for the World Publishing Company and Israel Bonds, where he served as Israel Director. He and his wife, Sylvia, have three sons, twelve grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. They reside in Cleveland, Ohio.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

APRIL Significant Historic Dates

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- April 1, 1945, Battle of Okinawa
- April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King assassinated
- April 7, 1991, Cease fire with Iraq

- April 9, 1942, POW Bataan Death March begins
- April 12, 1861 April 9, 1865, Civil War
- April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln assassinated

- April 19, 1775 Oct. 19, 1781, The American Revolution
- April 19, 1943, Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
- April 25, 1898 Dec. 10, 1898, The Spanish-American War



Jewish War Veterans of the USA

APRIL SIGNIFICANT

HISTORIC DATES

JOYCE ABRAHAM SHERMAN

Joyce Abraham was born August 17, 1921, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she graduated from the Jewish Hospital School of Nursing. She joined the Army Nurse Corps as a 2nd Lt. and was deployed in September 1943 to Accra in British West Africa where she was assigned to the 67th Station Hospital. Subsequently, she served in hospitals in Dakar, Senegal, in French West Africa, and in Cairo, Egypt. She was awarded the WWII Medal, American Campaign Medal and the EAME (European-African-Middle-Eastern) Campaign Medal. This photo taken in April, 1944, in Accra, British West Africa, (now Ghana), is of a Seder held at the 67th Station Hospital at which both U.S. and British personnel were present. Lt. Joyce Abraham is in the darker

> olive drab uniform smiling across the table...and, in the inset, now in her 95th year, Joyce Abraham Sherman relaxes with her cat, Daisy.

> After returning home, Joyce married Herbert Sherman, a U.S. Army veteran, in September, 1946. Following his death in 1986, she continued an active lifestyle, attending functions of the 'Leisure Club' of Bucks County, PA, and engaging in the activities of JWV Post 697 (Levittown PA), as a long time member, along with her son, Jonathan Sherman, who currently serves as Post Commander.

- - · April 1, 1945, Battle of Okinawa
 - April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated
 - April 7, 1991, Cease fire with Iraq
 - April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrenders his Army of Northern Virginia to General Ulysses S. Grant, ending the Civil War
- · April 9, 1942, POW Bataan Death March begins
- · April 12, 1861 April 9, 1865, Civil War
- · April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln assassinated
- · April 19, 1775 Oct. 19, 1781, The American Revolution
- April 19, 1943, Warsaw Ghetto Uprising
- April 25, 1898 Dec. 10, 1898, The Spanish-American War

CW4 Bernard Kaplan LTC Ellie Cohen

The Gulf War

Left: Lt. Condr. Bruce Coben during the Gulf War with his troops.

Right: Torab reading, Saudi Arabia, 1990.



Bernie Kaplan, who has many Desert Storm photos exhibited in the JWV Washington, D.C., National Memorial. Bernie is on the left in the photo below with a group observing Shabbos services in Iraq during Operation Desert Storm.

Washington D.C.'s Jewish War Veterans, USA National Memorial Is A Pleasant Find

By Bob Harris

On a recent visit to Washington D.C., my wife Edna and 1 visited the pleasant Museum, Archives, Library and Memorial of the Jewish War Veterans on 1811 R. Street, NW, Washington D.C. 20009, (202) 265-6280. Modern exhibition halls had memorabilia from Jewish veterans going back to the Revolutionary War. There are several talking displays.

An interesting exhibition is comprised of pictures taken by Jewish men and women in the service from World War I through Operation Desert Storm. <u>Of particular interest</u> were a number of photos taken by Bernard Kaplan, a neighbor from Fresh Meadows, Queens and a member of Hillcrest Jewish Center.

Museum Historian Al Lerner greeted us with a friendly handshake and then spent an hour giving us a tour. He even took us to the special exhibition hall about Major General Julius Klein of World War II fame. We learned that there is available a traveling exhibition of the work of Jewish Military Chaplains which requires a fee of \$250.

The museum is working on an exhibit of "Women In The Military — The Jewish Perspective" scheduled for 1995. Museum Director Leslie M. Freudenheim is looking for Jewish women who served in the American military to learn of their experiences and to find out if their experiences were different from other American women who served in the military. The museum is located near Dupont Circle, Washington, D.C.

Jewish Congressional Medal of Honor Winners Charles Gardner, Indian Wars Abraham Cohn, Civil War

Abraham Gurenwalt. Civil War

Leopold Karpeles, Civil War David Orbansky, Civil War Benjamin Levy, Civil War Henry Heller, Civil War Issac Gause, Civil War Samuel Gross, WWI Sydney G. Gympertz, WWI Benjamin Kaufman, WWI William Sawelson, WWI Phillip Katz, WWI Charles Hoffman, WWI Sam Sampler, WWI Isadore Jackman, WWII Raymond Sussman, WWII Matt Urban, WWII Jack Jacobs, Vietnam

The exact number of American Jewish recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor is not known. Indeed, religion is not a factor in the selection process for military awards. No one knows exactly how many individuals of any faith were given this awards. Above are the known names to the present date.

> -Compiled By Al Lerner, Historian Jewish War Veterans, USA National Memorial, Inc.







Jewish War Veterans of the USA

U.S. Army *Major Aaron Schilleci* served as a Captain in the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division, in his deployments to Iraq in 2007 and Afghanistan in 2010. He is pictured here with his Apache Longbow attack helicopter, holding a kippah with a special meaning to him. It was a gift from an Israeli helicopter commander he once met.

"I wore the kippah under my flight helmet on every single combat flight I have ever flown to date - over 1,000 flight hours. The symbolism of this whole ritual was meaningful to me in so many ways. I used to think of the kippah as some type of spiritual helmet to wear into battle so I would remain untouched by al Qaeda and the Taliban. And sure enough, by grace and luck, I was never wounded by enemy fire. Ironically, the Jew wearing the kippah was very successful in engaging the enemy with his Apache helicopter in two theaters of war for over 25 months deployed."

Major Schilleci is the father of two young girls with a baby boy on the way.

- JUNE Significant Historic Dates
- June 1, 1862, Robert E. Lee becomes Cmdr. of Confederate Army
- · June 4, 1942, Battle of Midway begins
- June 5, 1940, Dunkirk falls to Germans
- · June 6, 1944, D-Day Invasion of Normandy
- June 14, 1940, Paris falls to Germany

- June 15, 1775, George Washington appointed Major, General and Commander-in-Chief
- June 18, 1812 Dec. 24, 1814, War of 1812
- June 21, 1788, Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
- June 25, 1876, Battle of Little Big Horn
- June 25, 1950, North Korea invades South Korea

- June 26, 1917, U.S. troops arrive in France, WWI
- June 26, 1945, United Nations formed
- June 26, 1950 July 27, 1953, The Korean War
- June 28, 1914 Nov. 11, 1918, World War I
- June 28, 1919, Treaty of Versailles signed



Uncertain about her career direction following a semester in graduate school, *Amy Berger* enlisted in the Air Force on May 18, 2004 and was qualified to be a cryptologic linguist. She recalls, "I joined the military to do exciting things...I'd been a student for most of my life; I was ready to stop studying and start doing."

Following three years of intensive training, Amy volunteered for deployment to Iraq where her newly acquired skills in airborne intelligence were needed. Amy credits her time in Iraq as "...an opportunity to participate in something I would have never imagined myself capable of doing. It helped me shed my doubts and fears and led me to believing that rather than just learning, just training, and just waiting, I did, in the truest sense, 'serve'."







Adam is pictured here; (clockwise from upper left) having his Christmas dinner in the guardhouse to the gate of his Combat Outpost; on watch with an Afghan National Army (ANA) soldier; carrying his Squad Automatic Weapon (light machine gun) on his 'combat vehicle'.

New Hampshire native, *Adam Grau*, enlisted in the U.S. Army on August, 2009 and was deployed to Afghanistan in June, 2010. These photos were taken in what he describes as "the Taliban's backyard," west of Kandahar City, a volatile area where confrontations with the enemy and casualties are common.

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

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- May 1, 1862, New Orleans taken by Union
- May 4, 1942, Battle of the Coral Sea
- May 8, 1945, VE Day

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- May 10, 1775, Ticonderoga captured by Ethan Allen
- May 13, 1846 Feb. 2, 1848, Mexican-American War
- May 15, 1942, Women's Auxiliary Army Corps established
- May 26, 1945, Tokyo bombed
- May 29, 1932, Bonus Army arrives in Washington, D.C.

Martha Sue Lyon joined the U.S. Navy in 1965, serving as an ensign in the Medical Service Corps. She made the navy her career, retiring in 1995. Her life in the Navy was marked by many firsts. In 1977 she was one of five Naval Reserve officers recalled to active duty to instruct at the U.S. Naval Academy (the other five officers were all men). In 1979 she was the first female officer to become associate chair of a major academic department (Physics). She was also the first nonstaff corps female officer above the rank of lieutenant to be offered a regular Navy appointment.

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In 1981 she was appointed commanding officer of the Naval Reserve Center in Stockton, CA. In 1986 she became the commanding officer of Personnel Support Activity in Memphis, TN. She was one of the first female officers to officially wear the sword. This was authorized in early July of 1988—two weeks later she wore the sword at her change of command.

> Jewish War Veterans of the USA

FALLEN HEROES

Remembering and honoring our American Jewish Casualties of **Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom**





PFC. DANIEL J. AGAMI Hometown: Coconut Creek, FL Age: 25 years old Died: June 21, 2007 Operation Iraqi Freedom



SGT. HOWARD P. ALLEN Hometown: Mesa, AZ Age: 31 years old Died: September 26, 2005 Operation Iraqi Freedom





1ST LT. DAVID R. BERNSTEIN Hometown: Phoenixville, PA Age: 24 years old Died: October 18, 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom

Died: February 20, 2008

Operation Iraqi Freedom





SGT. ARON C. BLUM Hometown: Tucson, AZ Age: 22 years old Died: December 28, 2006 Operation Iraqi Freedom



CPL. RYAN J. CLARK Hometown: Lancaster, CA Age: 19 years old Died: June 29, 2006 Operation Iraqi Freedom



2ND LT. SETH J. DVORIN Hometown: East Brunswick, NI Age: 24 years old Died: February 3, 2004 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**

LANCE CPL. MARK E. ENGEL Hometown: Centennial, CO Age: 21 years old Died: July 21, 2004 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**





1ST LT. DANIEL FARKAS Hometown: Brooklyn, NY Age: 42 years old Died: July 4, 2008 **Operation Enduring Freedom**









CPL, MARK A. EVNIN Hometown: Burlington, VT Age: 21 years old Died: April 3, 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom



Age: 24 years old



SPC. JACOB S. FLETCHER Hometown: Bay Shore, NY Age: 28 years old Died: November 14, 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom





PFC. AARON E. FAIRBAIRN Hometown: Aberdeen, WA Age: 20 years old Died: July 4, 2009 **Operation Enduring Freedom**



SGT. ZACHARY M. FISHER Hometown: Ballwin, MO Died: July 14, 2010 **Operation Enduring Freedom**





Hometown: Ft. Worth, TX Age: 31 years old Died: September 20, 2004 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS **ELIZABETH N. JACOBSON** Hometown: Riviera Beach, FL Age: 21 years old Died: September 28, 2005 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**

LANCE CPL. JEREMY M. KANE Hometown: Towson, MD Age: 22 years old Died: January 23, 2010 Operation Enduring Freedom



STAFF SGT. JAMES M. MALACHOWSKI Hometown: Westminster, MD Age: 25 years old Died: March 20, 2011 **Operation Enduring Freedom**







CPL. DUSTIN H. SCHRAGE Hometown: Indian Harbor Beach, FL Age: 20 years old Died: May 6, 2004 Operation Iraqi Freedom



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1ST LT. ROSLYN L. SCHULTE Hometown: St. Louis, MO Age: 25 years old Died: May 20, 2009 **Operation Enduring Freedom**



CAPT. ROBERT M. SECHER Hometown: Germantown, TN Age: 33 years old Died: October 8, 2006 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**



SPEC. MARC S. SEIDEN Hometown: Brigantine, NI Age: 26 years old Died: January 2, 2004 **Operation Iraqi Freedom**



STAFF SGT. MICHAEL B. SHACKELFORD Hometown: Grand Junction, CO Age: 25 years old Died: November 28, 2004 Operation Iraqi Freedom



SGT. ALAN D. SHERMAN Hometown: Brick, NJ Age: 36 years old Died: June 29, 2004 **Operation Iragi Freedom**



CAPT. BENJAMIN A. SKLAVER Hometown: Medford, MA Age: 32 years old Died: October 2, 2009 **Operation Enduring Freedom**

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER ERIC A, SMITH Hometown: Rochester, NY Age: 41 years old Died: April 2, 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom

















SPEC. IEFFREY M. WERSHOW Hometown: Gainesville, FL Age: 22 years old Died: July 6, 2003 Operation Iraqi Freedom



PFC. ERIC D. SOUFRINE

Age: 20 years old

Died: June 14, 2011

Hometown: Woodbridge, CT

Operation Enduring Freedom

CAPT. MICHAEL Y. TARLAVSKY

Hometown: Passaic, NI

Died: August 12, 2004

Operation Iraqi Freedom

PFC. MORRIS L. WALKER

Age: 30 years old







Hometown: Chapel Hill, NC Age: 23 years old Died: August 18, 2009 Operation Enduring Freedom





TECH. SGT. TIMOTHY R. WEINER Hometown: Tamarac, FL Age: 35 years old Died: January 7, 2007 Operation Iraqi Freedom

SGT. ROBERT M. WEINGER Hometown: Round Lake Beach, IL Age: 24 years old Died: March 15, 2009 **Operation Enduring Freedom**



FALLEN HEROES

Remembering and honoring our American Jewish Casualties of **Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom**



PFC. COLIN J. WOLFE Hometown: Manassas, VA Age: 19 years old Died: August 30, 2006 Operation Iraqi Freedom



MAJ. STUART A. WOLFER Hometown: Coral Springs, FL Age: 36 years old Died: April 6, 2008 Operation Iraqi Freedom







SENIOR AIRMAN JONATHAN A.V. YELNER Hometown: Lafayette, CA Age: 29 years old Died: April 29, 2008 Operation Enduring Freedom

SPEC. BENYAHMIN BEN YAHUDAH Hometown: Bogart, GA Age: 24 years old Died: July 13, 2005 Operation Iraqi Freedom

LT. MIROSLAV (STEVEN) ZILBERMAN Hometown: Columbus, OH Age: 31 years old Died: March 31, 2010 Operation Enduring Freedom



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"It is my earnest hope — indeed the hope of all mankind — that from this solemn occasion a better world shall emerge out of the blood and carnage of the past, a world founded upon faith and understanding, a world dedicated to the dignity of man and the fulfillment of his most cherished wish for freedom, tolerance and justice."

> General Douglas MacArthur during the formal Japanese surrender aboard the USS Missouri September 2, 1945



Never Forget