MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

Senator Bob Dole

The memorial campaign has gained new visibility thanks to a series of public service announcements (PSAs) featuring actor Tom Hanks. Tom, whose performance in *Saving Private Ryan* earned an Oscar nomination, generously volunteered his services to us, and appears in TV, radio and print ads distributed nationally in April by the Ad Council.

When you see or hear the ads, you will have no doubt of his commitment to helping us build and dedicate the national memorial to the generation that, as Tom says, “did nothing less than help save the world.”

The pace of giving has shown encouraging growth in recent months. We recently exceeded the $47 million mark in cash and pledges from private sources; nearly $20 million was raised in the eight months since design concept approval last July. With the PSAs and a cause marketing initiative underway, we’re optimistic that the giving will increase even more in coming months — a must if we’re to break ground by Veterans Day 2000.

We continue to push hard at a national level, and thanks to people like you spreading the word, we see a groundswell of grassroots support growing in communities across the nation. Thank you for all you’ve done to get us nearly half way to our goal. Your support is not only needed, but deeply appreciated by all of us at this end working to complete this important memorial tribute in time to honor the greatest generation.

NY LEGISLATURE SAYS $1.7 MIL!

New York jumped to the forefront of the state campaigns when the legislature authorized $1.7 million for the National World War II Memorial.

The commitment represents one dollar for every state resident who served in uniform during World War II. New York sent more men and women into uniform than any other state. They also lost more: 27,659 New Yorkers gave their lives to defeat tyranny.

New York Senator Ray Meier and Representative Ron Tocci were the driving force behind the legislation’s passage. The American Legion — Department of New York provided crucial grassroots support for the legislative effort.

New York Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, who announced the legislative action with Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, called the memorial recognition “critically important.” The budget action was awaiting signature by Gov. George Pataki as we went to press.

Seven states now have passed legislation committing a total of $2.5 million to the campaign. Nebraska was first with $52,900, followed by Mississippi, $235,000; South Dakota, $68,000; Utah, $79,000; Wisconsin, $332,200; and West Virginia, $23,455.

Of the remaining 43 states, 26 have introduced legislation, 15 are probable, and only two have declined. (A state campaign status map is on page 4.)
Like many young men, Sam Kahn signed up for service in the army after the bombing of Pearl Harbor. After basic training and duty on the West Coast, Kahn was eventually assigned to the 335th Infantry Regiment in the 84th Infantry Division. In late November 1944, Kahn’s company was part of an attack on a German town. The enemy, however, was stronger than expected and succeeded in overrunning and capturing a number of American troops, including Kahn. He told us a little about his experiences as a prisoner.

“After a long march, we reached a staging point where the Germans were questioning us. When my turn came, they searched me and found my Parker Pen and wallet with my birth certificate in it. The birth certificate was issued by the Israel-Zion Hospital. When my captor asked ‘Du Juden?’ I pretended that I did not understand what he was saying, but I was as white as a sheet. He did not ask me any more questions.

“After another march, we arrived at a rail yard near Dusseldorf and were loaded onto boxcars, which I understood the French called ‘40 and eights’ (40 men and eight horses). We were packed like sardines, the doors were closed, and the train began its journey. Later, the train stopped and the officers and non-coms were separated out and sent to different stalags. The rest of us reboarded the 40 and 8’s and were sent to Stalag IIA in Neu Brandenburg.

“Upon arrival, we were sent to the showers, and then marched to the barracks. At several points around the camp, there were pictures posted to show guards what Jews were supposed to look like (if you were in a museum and saw Neanderthals you have a fair idea).

“After a couple of weeks, some of us were shipped by train to a work camp in Stettin. We were given different jobs to do, and several of us became lumberjacks. Cutting down trees and stacking wood was our routine for quite some time.

“One day, a bunch of us were rounded up and put in the caboose of a train with others from another camp. We compared notes and except for one Chinese fellow, we were all Jews. We arrived back at Stalag IIA in Neu Brandenburg, without incident, however.

“A few days later, we were told to pack up and we were marched out of camp. I do not know how many of us formed the group, but it was pretty large. The weather was miserable, and at night we were packed into barns and at daylight resumed our march. Eventually, we arrived at another work camp where the majority of us were Jewish.

“One morning we were marched through town on our way to a work area, but there was a great deal of commotion among the townspeople. The local women were saying that the Russians were coming. I don’t remember clearly what happened next, but some of us were able to escape in the confusion. We saw a German motorcycle lying in the street with a flat tire. Another prisoner and I hacked the tire off (leaving only the rim), broke the steel bead, and drove off toward what we hoped were American lines. I sat behind my companion with my arms around his middle while he drove the cycle down a cobblestone road. (You haven’t lived until you ride down a cobblestone road on a motorcycle without a rear tire!)

“After riding for what seemed to be a long time, an American soldier guarding the highway challenged us. We stopped, but had no way of knowing the password. After being questioned awhile by the Corporal of the Guard and an officer, we were able to convince them of who we were. After giving us a hot meal, we were able to get them to send us back with trucks to get the rest of the group.

“On the way back both my companion and I were given Thompson submachine guns. We arrived at the camp and everything was in disarray, and the townspeople were asking us to save them from the Russians. After all the POWs were loaded, there was no room for us. So we each sat on the fenders, with one arm extended over the hood and locked to the other’s arm. I had the Thompson in my free hand. After a harrowing trip, we arrived at our lines, got a hot shower, clean uniforms, hot meals and were assigned to barracks. About two hours later, all the ex-prisoners were put onto trucks and shipped out. Eventually, I arrived at the 40th General Hospital outside of Paris. The ordeal hadn’t left me in the best of heath, but I was happy to be free again.”

When asked about the National World War II Memorial, Kahn said he supported it because it was important “that our children and future generations know we rose to the challenge and conquered it.”
RYAN STAR HELPS MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN

"It’s time to say thank you."

Two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks has volunteered his time and talent to the effort to build the National World War II Memorial. Hanks began appearing in his first public service advertising (PSA) campaign this spring to help generate public awareness and support for the memorial. Sponsored by The Advertising Council, which had its origins in World War II, the two-year campaign includes television, radio and print ads.

"After the experience of making the film Saving Private Ryan, I was surprised to realize there is no national memorial to honor the men and women who served in World War II," Hanks said. "When I learned that the memorial could become a reality, I immediately wanted to be part of the effort."

Campaign National Chairmen Senator Bob Dole and Frederick W. Smith, Chairman and CEO of FDX Corporation, said, "We are grateful to Tom for generously donating his time and enthusiasm in support of this generation and cause. We have no doubts that the national awareness he brings to the project will help us meet our objective of completing this memorial as soon as possible, and honoring those who sacrificed so much for freedom."

Full-page print ads premiered in several major market newspapers in mid-March, including USA Today, the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times, and TV and radio spots were distributed to major market outlets in late March. National distribution of all ads followed in April.

The television PSA was directed by award-winning director Joe Pytka, created by Marsteller Advertising, and produced by sister ad agencies Young & Rubicam and Marsteller Advertising.

Ruth A. Wooden, Ad Council president, said, "The Ad Council is proud to get behind the public service campaign to raise funds for the World War II Memorial. Our involvement is a natural one given the Ad Council’s origins in 1942 with its effort to raise funds to support the War Bonds Campaign and the ‘Rosie the Riveter’ Campaign to help recruit women into the work force."

A private, non-profit organization, the Ad Council was founded to rally support for the war effort. The Ad Council created PSA campaigns that raised $35 billion in War Bonds, encouraged the planting of 50 million Victory Gardens, and recruited two million women into the work force.

The War Advertising Council (as it was then known) proved so valuable to the country that President Truman asked it to continue as a peacetime non-government public-service organization to help solve the most pressing social issues of the day.
**ROSE MONROE SOCIETY UPDATE**

On Mother’s Day 1999, the Rose Monroe Society wishes to recognize the mothers and the grandmothers who contributed to the Allied victory in World War II from the home front. The society takes it name from Rose Will Monroe, who like millions of other mothers, left her home to work in a factory to supply the troops with armaments of war. Rose was doing her part as a riveter in an aircraft factory in Ypsilanti, Michigan when she was included in a Hollywood-produced documentary on women working to support the war effort. Rose passed away a few years ago, but her daughters have graciously allowed us to use her name to honor her fellow workers, and to raise money for the National World War II Memorial.

These women not only helped assure America’s victory over tyranny, but also broadened the roles for mothers to play in post-war society.

Cokie Roberts, ABC’s chief congressional analyst and a Rose Monroe Society Honorary Board member, recalls their contributions in her recent book, *We are Our Mothers’ Daughters* (William Morrow and Co. Inc). At the war’s end says Roberts, most of the “Rosie the Riveters” were sent home, but because of their efforts during the war “the world for women would never be the same again.”

In a recent address to the American Legion Auxiliary, Millie “the Riveter” Sargent (a Rose Monroe Society founding member) urged attendees to support the memorial effort. “I feel that I am a lucky 77-year old American and like all the other World War II home front workers, I am proud to have helped our valiant soldiers win the war and keep us free... I am now working hard to raise the funds to help build, finally, a World War II memorial in memory of all who worked, fought and died for us. Please join me this Mothers Day by sending in a contribution to the Rose Monroe Society and at the same time honor a mother, grandmother, wife, sister or friend.”

For more information about the society, please write to:

The Rose Monroe Society
National World War II Memorial
2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501
Arlington, Va. 22201

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**STATE “DOLLAR” DRIVE ROLLS ON....**

Thirty-three states have honored their World War II veterans by participating in the National World War II Memorial “dollar per veteran” campaign. For more information about the plan, contact Carol Lindamood by email at lindamoodc@exchange-hq-abmc.hq.usace.army.mil or by phone at (800) 639-4WW2.

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MEMPHIS BELLE INTERVIEW

By Lois Imbriano Barber

With the opening of films like Saving Private Ryan, the heroes of World War II are once again in the spotlight on the silver screen.

The men and events portrayed in Ryan were fictitious, but sometimes the films are based on actual men and events. In 1991, the movie Memphis Belle starring Matthew Modine, depicted the final mission of one of the first B-17s to complete 25 bombing missions over Europe. Last year, I was fortunate to meet her actual pilot, Col. Robert Morgan, and copilot, Capt. James Verinis, and ask them about their twenty-fifth mission and their thoughts on the movie.

I was watching World at War on the History Channel. It was about the daylight bombings over Germany. I almost couldn’t watch the footage of American planes being shot down. Can you watch these films without getting upset?

Morgan: It bothered me a lot more then than it does now. I don’t have any problems with it.

Verinis: It does bring bad memories. Last week I was in Luxembourg in the American Cemetery. Five thousand American men are buried there. Some were shot down, others were shot in the Battle of the Bulge, etc. My wife started crying.

Morgan: Last year I was in Cambridge American Cemetery and that was hard to take. A lot of names are on the wall and you see the names of guys you knew.

What percentage of men who parachuted out of their damaged bombers survived?

Morgan: It’s hard to put a percentage on it. Apparently, the Germans shot a lot of them. Verinis: They shot them on the way down.

What is the longest period of time you went without thinking about your wartime experience? Is it something you think about everyday?

Morgan: I get thrown into it a lot more than Jim does. I travel around giving talks, so it does come back to me a lot more than him. But there was a period of time after the war, when I wasn’t doing that, and it went into a dormant situation in my mind. It’s not something you thought about everyday and it doesn’t bother me.

Was the film a compilation of things that happened to you?

Morgan: It was a composite of not only what happened to us, but also a composite of what happened to other crews. I thought it was a good film. They did a good job of showing the public what WWII aviation combat was like.

Have you felt any sour grapes from other crews about all the fame and publicity the Memphis Belle received?

Morgan: No, not really. The 8th Air Force has a society and reunions. I never felt any. There might be a few, but they’d be rare.

Was your last mission the one that sticks out in your mind? Or was it uneventful?

Morgan: No mission was uneventful, but I didn’t have a bad twenty-five missions. My twenty-fifth sticks out in my mind because I knew I was going home.

The film implies the copilot wanted to be a fighter, not a bomber. How did you feel about piloting a bomber?

Verinis: I was a fighter pilot, but after two crack-ups I wanted to be on a bomber.

Morgan: He wanted something with more engines, more fans. I wanted to be a pilot. A lot of men went into training for pilot, but what they called “washed out” and became bombardiers or mechanics.

The Memphis Belle was named after your girlfriend who came from Tennessee. Did you marry her after the war?

Morgan: No, but we kept in touch. She passed away around eight years ago.

Did the film capture what life was like on the base? Was that what a USO dance was like?

Morgan: We never had a dance the night before a mission.

I was wondering about that. They showed everybody drinking

Morgan: That was pure Hollywood!

Editor’s Note: You can learn more about Memphis Belle on the Web at www.memphisbelle.com or visit the actual aircraft on Mud Island in Memphis, Tenn.

Lois Barber is a charter member of the National World War II Memorial.
MAIL CALL

We welcome your letters, and will print a selection in each issue of the newsletter. Letters are subject to editing and should be sent to Editor: National World War II Memorial Newsletter, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201. Please include a daytime phone number and, if available, an e-mail address.

WHY SO LONG FOR MEMORIAL?

I have one question. Why in the world was the building of this memorial put off for such a long time? Most of the people who were veterans of WWII, and those in factories, on the farms, etc. are in their 70s or 80s, or are deceased. We will never get to see this beautiful monument.

Mrs. Bette B. Davis
Monte Vista, Colo.

There are many answers to your question. The WWII generation never asked for a national tribute to their sacrifice and achievement; people were not aware that one had never been built; and many mistakenly assumed that the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington, Va., was the WWII Memorial. The WWII 50th Anniversary period from 1991 to 1995 focused attention on the importance of WWII, and Congress authorized a National WWII Memorial in 1993. As we approach a new century, that awareness continues to grow. Our objective and commitment now is to complete this long overdue memorial as quickly as possible, and we are working hard to that end.

FAMILY WAR EFFORT

In 1942, my father joined the Marine Corps along with one of my two brothers. My other brother had previously joined the Coast Guard, and upon my 17th birthday in October 1942, I received my parents’ permission to join the Navy. With the rest of our family in the service, my mother took a job at Mare Island Navy Yard in San Francisco to do her part in the war effort.

We saw each other occasionally across the next three-and-a-half years, but were not back together as a family until 1946. I was very proud of our family and our effort to get things done during the war.

I have contributed to the memorial, and if all veterans would do likewise, I’m sure we would reach the financial goal needed.

E.F. Vander Blom
Mishicot, Wis.

REQUESTS FOR HELP!

I am attempting to locate the relatives or friends of the following people who served with me in the 820th MAES — 5th USAAF in the Southwest Pacific from 1944 to 1946: Orta Billiter (MIA), Delbert V. Berry (KIA), Louis G. Eilenberger (drowned), Raymond Cunningham, and Leonard J. Donnelly. Our squadron was activated at Bowman Field, Louisville, Ky., in 1943.

If anyone can help, please contact me at 1064 Admiral Pl., Elmar, N.Y. 14901.

John V. Cantando
Elmira, N.Y.

I am searching for any of the 28 comrades who attended the funeral of my uncle, Jim Lambert, 3566 ORD MAM CO, in St. Andre, France in May 1945:


If any of the above, or their friends or relatives, read this, please contact me at 804-282-3971, or write 7513 Westfield Road, Richmond, Va. 23229

Wallace Lambert
Richmond, Va.

WARTIME MEMORY

I was a senior at Berkeley High School in Berkeley, Calif., when Pearl Harbor was attacked. I tried for years to convince my parents that it would be appropriate for a teenaged girl to assist in the war effort in ways other than flattening tin cans, but suggestions that I work in shipyards or one of the new women’s military organizations were flatly rejected. It wasn’t that they were unpatriotic — my father had been wounded in service in WWII — they just felt that sheltered young girls “didn’t do” those things.

When a group called the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps was formed to train replacements for nurses enlisting in the military, my parents relented a little. Mother still had misgivings based upon her opinion that student nurses had a reputation for being “fast,” and also because my father’s work had taken us to Canada.

Finally, I was allowed to enroll in the nursing program in Oakland, Calif., in the fall of 1944. We students all had starry-eyed, teenaged visions of setting sail for far-away battlefields. Once there, we would soothe the fevered brows of handsome young servicemen as we made our silent midnight rounds, clad in crisp, white, lieutenant’s uniforms. Our daydreams didn’t include any blood, mud, or screams!

The war had ended by the time we graduated in 1947, but looking back, I feel that we did help the war effort, even though we were spared the anguish of actual service to the heroes who fought, bled and died doing the job that had to be done. I thank them all for what they did. I’m proud to have served, even behind-the-scenes, and proud to honor them by supporting the construction of the memorial.

Barbara Kirby Prier
Meadow Valley, Calif.
CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING

FOUNDERS GIFTS
$2 MILLION
Federal Express Corporation
SBC Foundation

LEADERSHIP GIFTS
$1 MILLION TO $2 MILLION
Ameritech
Anheuser-Busch Foundation
The Boeing Company
Chrysler Corporation Fund
Eastman Kodak Company
Starr Foundation
Tyco International, Ltd.

PATRON GIFTS
$500,000 TO $1 MILLION
American Home Products Corp.
Caterpillar Inc.
The Coca-Cola Company
DuPont
GTE Foundation
Raytheon Company
Sears, Roebuck and Co.
State Farm Companies Foundation
Viad Corp

VICTOR GIFTS
$250,000 TO $500,000
Andersen Consulting
Baxter International
George W. & Amy Newman Foundation
General Electric Fund
Guardian Life, Inc.
Houston Endowment Inc.
Shell Oil Company Foundation
Steelcase
Warner-Lambert

CENTURION GIFTS
$100,000 TO $250,000
A.G. Edwards, Inc.
Allstate Insurance Company
Arthur Anderson
Annenberg Foundation
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.
Champion International Corporation
Chevron Corporation
Chicago Mercantile Exchange
The Chubb Corporation
Corning
CSX Corporation
DreamWorks
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
First USA

FORT JAMES FOUNDATION
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LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD
NATIONWIDE INSURANCE ENTERPRISE FND.
PZIER INC.
RAPORF FOUNDATION
SARA LEE
TENNECO
TRW FOUNDATION
U.S. OFFICE PRODUCTS
WACHOVIA CORPORATION
WHIRLPOOL
W.W. GRAINGER, INC.

To learn more about how your organization can participate in the campaign, please contact:

DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIVING

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN
2300 CLARENDON BLVD., SUITE 501
ARLINGTON, VA 22201
PHONE: (800) 639-4WW2
FAX: (703) 696-8439
E-MAIL: sprattR@exchange-hq-abmc.hq.usace.army.mil

VETERANS AND STATE GIVING

LEADERSHIP GIFTS
$1 MILLION TO $2 MILLION
The American Legion
State of New York

PATRON GIFTS
$500,000 TO $1 MILLION
Disabled American Veterans

VICTOR GIFTS
$250,000 TO $500,000
Veterans of Foreign Wars

CENTURION GIFTS
$100,000 TO $250,000
Assoc. of the United States Army
Military Order of the World Wars

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
Paralyzed Veterans of America
State of Wisconsin

GUARDIAN GIFTS
$50,000 TO $100,000
American Legion Auxiliary
Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW
State of Nebraska
State of South Dakota
State of Utah

DEFENDER GIFTS
$10,000 TO $25,000
American Ex-Prisoners of War
Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge
State of West Virginia

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW YOUR ORGANIZATION CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMPAIGN, PLEASE CONTACT:

DIRECTOR OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN
2300 CLARENDON BLVD., SUITE 501
ARLINGTON, VA 22201
PHONE: (800) 639-4WW2
FAX: (703) 696-8439
E-MAIL: shannonj@exchange-hq-abmc.hq.usace.army.mil
**DRILL TEAM SETS SIGHTS ON AIDING MEMORIAL**

The Eagle Elite Drill Team, 1998 Illinois State Junior Color Guard Champions, collected $500 over five days for the National World War II Memorial during Branson, Missouri’s “Veterans Homecoming Week.”

The young women will return to Branson for another performance over Memorial Day weekend, and they hope to raise yet another sizable contribution!

The eight-member team, based in Edwardsville, Ill., urges all ROTC and private drill teams and color guards to help support the building of the National World War II Memorial!

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**WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL CAMPAIGN**

$100 million

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<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>James W. Aylward</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**YES! YOU CAN BE A MAJOR DONOR, TOO!**

How? Show your support for the memorial through planned (future) giving. A planned gift is a win-win option that provides a generous contribution to help build and maintain the memorial, while also yielding financial advantages to you. Your investment will help ensure that the achievements of a special generation of Americans are forever preserved.

Choose a plan that suits your circumstances. Our assistant director of individual giving will be glad to consult further with you and your advisors on the following options:

- Charitable Bequests
- Life Insurance
- Annuity Trusts
- Unitrusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Retirement Accounts

For more information, please call (800) 639-4WW2 or mail the enclosed reply coupon indicating your interest in planned giving to the National World War II Memorial Campaign, 2300 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 501, Arlington, VA 22201.

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**VIETNAM VETS SHOW SUPPORT FOR MEMORIAL**

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) has asked its membership to voluntarily donate $1 for every name on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. VVA expects, however, that its members will far exceed this goal of $58,214.

Skip Shannon, National World War II Memorial director of veterans affairs, praised the VVA and their recognition of the memorial.

“We’re gratified that the Vietnam veterans, who so richly deserve their own existing memorial on the National Mall, have stepped forward to support their partners in the brotherhood of war,” Shannon said.

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**Contact us!**

For information about the memorial, the design concept, how to make a donation, who’s who, and what’s new:

- Visit our web site: [wwiimemorial.com](http://wwiimemorial.com)
- Or call 1 (800) 639-4WW2