

EUROPEAN EMBLEM

Description: A circular device depicting a night sky swept by searchlight beams issuing from behind a landscape of shattered buildings with a single star appearing to the left of the beams with, at top, the inscriptions “Sixtieth Anniversary” and “World War II” and at base the numeral “60” between the dates 1945 and 2005.

Symbolism: The searchlights of World War II were a universal feature of defense used by all participants in the conflict and in use specifically in Normandy by the “Skylighters” of the 225th AAA Searchlight Battalion. (This unit was attached to the 9th Air Force’s 422nd and 425th Night Fighter Squadrons and was trained for deployment to the Pacific and served later as part of the Army of Occupation.) The beams also denote rays of hope and future peace after the war’s destruction, echoed again by the single visible star.

PACIFIC EMBLEM

Description: A depiction of a beach landing by troops from landing vessels deployed from off-shore warships. The vantage point from the beach out to sea is dominated by a fully armed central figure running towards the viewer against a background of ships and landing craft supported by fighter planes coming in

from the sea to attack enemy positions behind the beach.

Symbolism: The single soldier represents all landing troops who participated in coastal assault operations on many fronts during World War II. The United States commitment to overcoming Axis forces is symbolized by the many ships and planes assigned to achieve this goal. The lone soldier is a symbol of the individual determination and sacrifice of United States personnel in the conflict.

“RUPTURED DUCK”



The World War II Honorable Service Lapel Pin.

It was originally designed by Anthony de Francisci for the War Department and issued to all veterans who were honorably discharged between September 8, 1939 and Dec. 31, 1946.

TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
WORLD WAR II
60TH ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATION
COMMITTEE



HISTORY OF THE COMMITTEE

On January 26, 2004, Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz designated the Department of the Army as the executive agent for the Department of Defense World War II anniversary observances.

The Department of Defense is committed to ensuring appropriate commemorative activities are planned and executed. To accomplish this, Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee established a committee dedicated to this mission. It includes representatives from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Army.

MISSION STATEMENT

TO HONOR THOSE WHO SERVED

To commemorate World War II events, ideas, alliances, and programs; to honor those who served; and to acquaint or reacquaint all Americans with the significance of World War II as the seminal event of the 20th century.

As the pivotal event of the 20th Century, the enduring legacy of World War II is reflected in the faces of those who served, the alliances that were formed, the many technological advances, and the continued rise of democratic reform throughout the world.

At the World War II 60th Anniversary Commemoration Committee we strive to honor that legacy.

GOALS OF THE COMMITTEE

- ◆ Honor those who served
- ◆ Acquaint or reacquaint all Americans with the significance of World War II to our nation and the world.
- ◆ Provide the public with a clearer understanding of the lessons of the war.
- ◆ Commemorate the ideas, alliances and programs of World War II, in addition to its battles.
- ◆ Involve the American public in commemorative activities.
- ◆ Engage former adversaries in positive recognition.

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

COMMITTEE WEBSITE

The Committee maintains a website that includes information on upcoming commemorative events, educational information and links to other websites of interest. The address is www.60wwii.mil.

This website is a tool in this effort. Visitors can find out about events and activities commemorating the Second World War and those who served in it. As the site grows it will be a resource for the public to reacquaint themselves with the significance of the war. It will also remind us of why it is so important to honor those who served, as well as those serving throughout the world today.

The **Events** tab provides information on upcoming events that are planned by the committee as well as events that are planned by various outside organizations. If your organization would like information on an event listed, send the committee a letter or an email to the addresses below.

The **Education** page provides sections for children with educational information and games, as well as information for educators that includes lesson plans, fact Sheets, pictures, etc. for use in classroom settings.

ADDRESS

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