New Jersey World War II Memorial
Dedication Ceremony

New Jersey World War II Commission
Jack McGreevey, Chairman
Albert Martis, Vice Chairman
Ben Roth, Vice Chairman

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Anna Hoffman
Jerome M. Holzman, PE
Albert Hujdich

Senator Frank R. Lautenberg
James W. Manning
Martin T. Runyan
Eric Spevak
Louis Spinelli
E. Larry St. Laurent

Ex-Officio Representatives
Nina Wells, Secretary of State
Major General Glenn K. Rieth
COL (Ret) Stephen G. Abel

* Deceased

Special Thanks
- Rutgers, The State University—Sandra Stewart, Director of Rutgers Oral History Department and Dr. G. Kurt Piehler.
- T6 Flyover—American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of New Jersey
- County of Mercer—TRADE buses
- Mercer County Park Commission—Golf Carts
- Coin Design—Hannah Olsen
- Boy Scout Troop 33, West Trenton, New Jersey
- Girl Scout Troop 30934, Voorhees, New Jersey
- Lady Victory - 50th IBCT Panels—June Pennock

And everyone whose efforts contributed to today’s dedication ceremony and tribute to “America’s Greatest Generation.”
November 11, 2008

Dear Veterans:

Today we dedicate this magnificent Memorial to the thousands of brave men and women who fought for our nation during World War II, sacrificing so much to preserve our liberty both on the fields of battle and on the home front. In so doing, we fulfill our solemn promise to those veterans and their families to create a lasting tribute to their service. That service, long honored by the freedom this nation cherishes so dearly, is now recognized by an appropriate monument in our state.

It is especially fitting that we hold this ceremony on Veterans Day, recognizing service members living and dead who safeguarded this nation so our children and grandchildren can live in freedom. With this dedication, we bequeath to those future generations the legacy of “the Greatest Generation”—that love of country and community that sustains and enhances us through the years.

This is a proud day for New Jersey, made all the more significant by the presence of so many who lived through that extraordinary time. Thank you for your valor and your example.

Semper Fi and God Bless.

Sincerely,

Jon S. Corzine
Governor
New Jersey’s Contributions to World War II

The State of New Jersey served as a vital link between the home front and victory during World War II. Over a half million men and women from the Garden State served in the US Military.

They distinguished themselves in North Africa, Europe and the Pacific. Over thirty thousand gave the ultimate sacrifice protecting our liberty. The heroism of seventeen residents including, John Basilone, Francis Burke, Stephen Gregg and Thomas McGuire was recognized with the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Throughout New Jersey, military installations supported the war effort. Fort Dix processed over one million recruits. Camp Kilmer was the embarkation point for two million soldiers to Europe. Navy Depots in Bayonne and Earle loaded cargo and ammunition for our ships. Picatinny Arsenal was the sole large munitions manufacturer in the country and Fort Monmouth was the home of the Signal Corps.

Essex Troop, part of the New Jersey Army National Guard, has the distinction of being the first Calvary Unit to reach Europe. From there they distinguished themselves on D-Day at Omaha Beach, throughout Europe and in the Pacific.

On the home front, industry supporting the war effort flourished in the Garden State. Navy “Wildcats” and “Avengers” were produced at plants in Linden and Trenton making New Jersey a leading aircraft producer. The state was also noted for its shipyards in Camden, Newark and Kearny producing many different classes, including the battleship USS South Dakota and the cruiser USS Atlanta both of renown in the Pacific theater.

Other contributions from private industry included c-rations from Campbell’s Soup, Military overcoats and jackets produced in Newark and the scientific achievements at DuPont, just to name a few of multitude of New Jersey companies supporting the effort.

From Highpoint to Cape May, from Trenton to Jersey City, the citizens of New Jersey, both abroad and on the home front, epitomized what it means to be an American.

November 11, 2008

Dear Veterans:

I am humbled and honored to be part of this day. To stand in the midst of so many American heroes is nothing short of breathtaking. We live in a land of freedom because of the brave men and women who have and continue to serve. Every one of you who served our nation during WWII epitomizes those ideals. All of you have earned the right to be known collectively as “The Greatest Generation.”

President Roosevelt’s words rang true in 1941 and remain an indelible part of our nation’s history: “Yesterday December 7, 1941 – a date which will live in infamy – the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked.” Once again we are a country that has been attacked. Today’s young men and women have drawn on the same inner fiber that enabled the WWII American Soldier, Sailor, Airman, and Marine to stand up and honor our nation with their service.

You have taught all of us who continue to wear the uniform about humility, perseverance, and the love of our nation. I stand beside you today in admiration of all that you have accomplished throughout your lives. Each of you is an American Hero.

With Regards,

GLENN K. RIETH
Major General, NJARNG
The Adjutant General
### New Jersey World War II Memorial Dedication Ceremony

#### 1940’s Era Patriotic Musical Renditions

The Capital Singers of Trenton  
63rd Army Band

#### American Legion—VFW Tribute to “The Greatest Generation”

World War II Vintage Flyover

…......................... T-6 “Texan”

#### Opening Remarks

.............................. Jack McGreevey  
Chair, NJ WWII Commission  
US Marine Corps, WWII

#### Invocation

............................ Arthur Seltzer  
4th Signal Battalion, US Army, WWII

#### Raising of the Service Colors

Colors are being raised
by WWII Veterans and Current Members from each Service

#### Raising of the National and State Standards

Pledge of Allegiance

.............................. Anna M. Hoffman  
Women’s Army Corps, WWII  
George Watson Sr.  
366th Air Service Group, US Army Air Corps, WWII

National Anthem

.............................. Donald Mulry  
94th Infantry Division, US Army, WWII

Welcoming Remarks

.............................. Major General Glenn K. Rieth  
The Adjutant General

Keynote Speakers

Jon S. Corzine  
Governor, State of New Jersey

Senator Frank R. Lautenberg  
US Army Signal Corps, WWII

#### Official Dedication of the World War II Memorial

The Unveiling of Lady Victory

Presentation of Time Capsule Envelope

.............................. Frank Cuccia  
13th Airborne Division, US Army, WWII

Governor’s Presentation

.............................. Governor Jon S. Corzine

Rendering of Military Honors

“To the Fallen”

.............................. The Capital Singers of Trenton  
Two Bell Ceremony

.............................. Vito Tango  
US Navy, WWII

Rifle Salute

.............................. New Jersey Army National Guard

Echo Taps

.............................. 63rd Army Band

Benediction

.............................. Jim Hall  
10th Armored Division, US Army, WWII

“God Bless America”

.............................. William Mead  
3rd Marine Division, US Marine Corps, Vietnam Veteran

Air National Guard Flyover

.............................. F-16 Fighting Falcon, 177th Fighter Wing