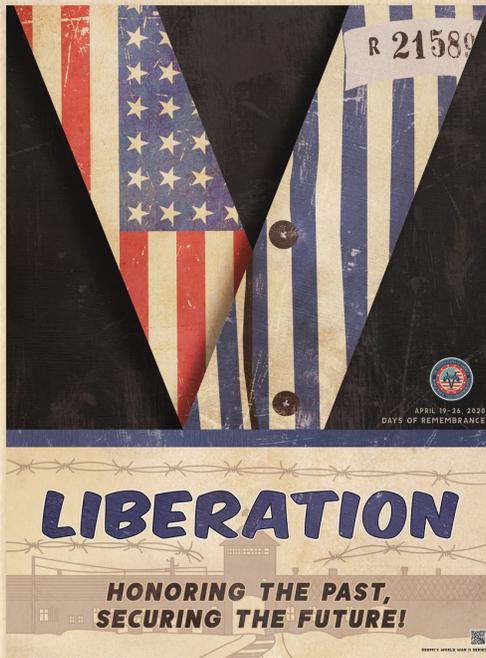


CULTURAL  
AWARENESS

# OBSERVANCE



## DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE



### FACTS

Each year, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum leads the nation in commemorating Days of Remembrance.

Days of Remembrance was established by the U.S. Congress to memorialize the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust—as well as the millions of non-Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.

The week of remembrance is set aside to honor and remember the victims of the Holocaust and their liberators. We must never forget the great atrocity of which mankind is capable.

In 1945, as the Nazi regime crumbled, American soldiers—members of the 4th, 5th, 11th, and 20th Armored Divisions, the 29th, 34th, 42nd, 45th, 71st, 80th, 89th and 90th Infantry Divisions, and the 82nd Airborne Division—along with their Allied counterparts, became not only liberators, but witnesses to one of the greatest massacres in history.

In the days after Allied forces liberated the first concentration camps, Generals Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton, and Omar Bradley inspected the camps, and saw firsthand the horrors that had occurred.

They were, in Eisenhower's words, atrocities "beyond the American mind to comprehend."

Eisenhower ordered every American soldier in the area who was not on the front line to tour the camps, so that could see themselves what they were fighting against and why they were fighting.

Later on Eisenhower wrote to his wife, Mamie, "I never dreamed that such cruelty, bestiality, and savagery could really exist in this world."

The United States remains forever indebted to WWII veterans, who demonstrated selfless service and sacrifice in defense of global peace and security.

Today, we carry forward the proud legacy of the men and women of the American Armed Forces who played an essential role in liberating the camps at Buchenwald, Dora-Mittelbau, Flossenburg, Dachau, and Mauthausen.

We remember the legacy of the "Greatest Generation" by Honoring the Past, Securing the Future.