



**PRESS RELEASE**  
White House Historical Association  
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For Immediate Release

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***THE WHITE HOUSE AT WAR: 1941-1945***  
**EXHIBIT HONORS THE HEROISM, CULTURE AND HERITAGE  
OF THE WORLD WAR II GENERATION**

**“AMERICA CELEBRATES THE GREATEST GENERATION”**

The White House Historical Association announces the official opening on May 11, 2004, of a new exhibit, *The White House At War: 1941-1945*, at the White House Visitor Center, 1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. The exhibit will be on display through September 19, 2004.

The air attack on Pearl Harbor on the Hawaiian Island of Oahu, December 7, 1941, was followed on December 8 by a declaration of war by Congress against the Japanese Empire. Three days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States and Congress responded by recognizing a state of war with those nations, the Axis Powers. The war was long and arduous – lasting just under three-and one-half years – ending in triumph for the United States and its Allies.

*“The White House at War: 1941-1945* tells the story of the White House as a symbol of freedom in the darkest hours of World War II and a stage for strategic and diplomatic decision-making that helped shape the modern world,” said Henry A. Dudley Jr., chairman of the White House Historical Association.

The 10-panel exhibit features more than 65 historic images. Panels include: A Date which will Live in Infamy; The Map Room; International Diplomacy; Two Households; The End of an Era; Harry S. Truman and Victory; The Home Front; In Honor of Their Valor; and Presidents and World War II. Accompanying the exhibit is a model of the original Map Room (precursor of the Situation Room), and a video composed of vintage news clips and reproductions of primary documents. For information about images please contact [haskins@whha.org](mailto:haskins@whha.org).

The opening reception (by invitation) on May 11 will feature a conversation with George M. Eley, former Aide to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, and Hugh S. Sidey, TIME Magazine contributing editor. Transcripts will be available at a future date.

*The White House at War: 1941-1945* was organized by the White House Historical Association and the White House Office of the Curator in cooperation with the National Park Service. Special thanks and appreciation to the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and the Harry S. Truman Library for their assistance.

The White House Historical Association was established in 1961 as a non-profit organization to enhance the understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the Executive Mansion. Proceeds from the association's trusts, publications and other items are used to fund acquisitions of historic furnishings and artwork for the permanent White House collection, assist in the preservation of the public rooms, and further its educational mission.

The White House Visitor Center located at 1450 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., is open daily from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For information please call 202.208.1631.

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