



HEARTS VETERANS MUSEUM OF TEXAS

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June 2017 96th Edition

Liberation of Rome

(The following is an excerpt from a story printed June 5 1944)

The people of Rome have crowded onto the streets to welcome the victorious Allied troops.

The first American soldiers, members of the 5th Army, reached the centre of Rome late last night after encountering dogged resistance from German forces on the outskirts of the city.

Early this morning it was announced the German troops had been ordered to withdraw. Rome is the first of the three Axis powers' capitals to be taken and its recapture will be seen as a significant victory for the Allies and the American commanding officer who led the final offensive, Lieutenant General Mark Clark.

In a broadcast in the United States this evening, President Franklin D. Roosevelt welcomed the fall of Rome with the words, "One up, two to go." But he gave a warning that Germany had not yet suffered enough losses to cause her to collapse. In Rome itself, the people have been celebrating. Shops have closed and huge crowds have taken to the streets, cheering, waving and hurling bunches of flowers at the passing army vehicles.

First reports from the city say it has been left largely undamaged by the occupying German forces. The city's water supply is still intact and there is even electricity - recent blackouts are reported to have been caused by engineers reluctant to restore power for the occupiers.

Most Romans remained in the city during the occupation and many refugees also fled here. Food supplies are now extremely short with bread rationed to 100g per person per day. A report from Hitler's headquarters said he had ordered the withdrawal of the German troops to the northwest of Rome in order to prevent its destruction.

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The statement said: "The struggle in Italy will be continued with unshakable determination with the aim of breaking the enemy attacks and to forge final victory for Germany and her allies."

The Pope appeared on the balcony of St Peter's this evening and addressed the thousands of Italians who had gathered in the square. He said: "In recent days we trembled for the fate of the city. Today we rejoiced because, thanks to the joint goodwill of both sides, Rome has been saved from the horrors of war."

The American military authorities in London have broadcast a tribute to the British General Sir Harold Alexander, who has been in overall command of Allied forces in Italy.



Military Humor

Notable Quotables

I am only one person, how much difference can I make?

I am one person, I can make a difference.

Everyday you have a choice.

Unknown

“What ever you do, do it well.

Do is so well that when people see you do it they will want to bring others and show them how well you do what you do.”

Walt Disney

Director's Notes

When giving a tour to school children one of our volunteers often asks them if they can tell him the difference between a liberator and a conqueror.

I think the difference is summed up in the second sentence in our declaration of independence "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

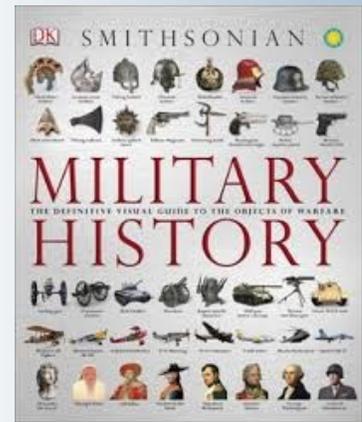
But a liberator knows that there are those who would deny their fellow man those basic rights and that if we as a people truly believe in those words then there are times when we must stand firm and say, "This we'll defend".



One of the ways we at HEARTS Museum keeps our doors open is through our annual membership drive. The last page of this month's newsletter contains our membership form. If you would like to support the museum through the purchase of a membership, please complete the form and mail it or bring by the museum.

Upcoming events....Mark your calendars

June 6	D-Day
June 9	Strawberry –Rhubarb Pie Day
June 14	Flag Day
June 18	Father's Day



This Month in Military History

June 1 1813 - During the war of 1812 the term "Don't give up the ship!" is coined by Captain James Lawrence, U.S. Chesapeake. It was his dying command.

June 15, 1775 - George Washington appointed Commander in Chief of the U.S. Army.

June 25, 1876 - Lt Colonel George Custer and the 7th Cavalry are wiped out by Sioux and Cheyenne Indians at the Battle of Little Big Horn.

June 25, 1950 - The Korean War began as North Korean troops, led by Russian-built tanks, launched a full scale invasion of South Korea.

June 28, 1919 Treaty of Versailles was signed, ending WW I.

June 30, 1943— Operation Cartwheel began as U.S. Forces landed in New Guinea

Museum Visitors

Last month we had 715 total visitors from 18 states, and 7 foreign countries, South Africa, Switzerland, Guatemala, Canada, Australia, England, and The Philippines

349 students visited the museum

VOLUNTEER PAGE

"Shifty" By Chuck Yeager

Shifty volunteered for the airborne in WWII and served with Easy Company of the 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, part of the 101st Airborne Infantry.

If you've seen Band of Brothers on HBO or the History Channel, you know Shifty. His character appears in all 10 episodes, and Shifty himself is interviewed in several of them.

I met Shifty in the Philadelphia airport several years ago. I didn't know who he was at the time. I just saw an elderly gentleman having trouble reading his ticket. I offered to help, assured him that he was at the right gate, and noticed the "Screaming Eagle," the symbol of the 101st Airborne, on his hat.

Making conversation, I asked him if he'd been in the 101st Airborne or if his son was serving. He said quietly that he had been in the 101st. I thanked him for his service, then asked him when he served, and how many jumps he made. Quietly and humbly, he said "Well, I guess I signed up in 1941 or so, and was in until sometime in 1945 ..." at which point my heart skipped.

At that point, again, very humbly, he said "I made the 5 training jumps at Toccoa, and then jumped into Normandy . . . do you know where Normandy is?" At this point my heart stopped. I told him "yes, I know exactly where Normandy is, and I know what D-Day was." At that point he said "I also made a second jump into Holland , into Arnhem .." I was standing with a genuine war hero ... and then I realized that it was June, just after the anniversary of D-Day.

I asked Shifty if he was on his way back from France , and he said "Yes... And it 's real sad because, these days, so few of the guys are left, and those that are, lots of them can't make the trip." My heart was in my throat and I didn't know what to say.

I helped Shifty get onto the plane and then realized he was back in coach while I was in First Class. I sent the flight attendant back to get him and said that I wanted to switch seats. When Shifty came forward, I got up out of the seat and told him I wanted him to have it, that I'd take his in coach.

He said "No, son, you enjoy that seat. Just knowing that there are still some who remember what we did and who still care is enough to make an old man very happy." His eyes were filling up as he said it. And mine are brimming up now as I write this.

Shifty died on Jan. 17 after fighting cancer.

There was no parade. No big event in Staples Center

No wall-to-wall, back-to-back 24x7 news coverage.

No weeping fans on television.

And that's not right!

Veteran Resource Fair

JUNE 24, 2017

10:00AM - 3:00PM

**HEARTS VETERANS MUSEUM
463 STATE HWY 75
HUNTSVILLE, TX 77320**

You may not have been told what is available for you when getting out of the service. Let us help find what you need.

Register here:

<https://huntsvilleveteransresourcefair.eventbrite.com>

Bring the Family! Come Hungry!

QUESTIONS?

ASHLEY HUBBARD

AshleyHu@tcbhc.org





HONOR FLIGHT VISITS H.E.A.R.T.S. MUSEUM.

Every Year honor flight takes veterans to Washington D.C. to visit the nations military memorials.

This past memorial day HEARTS hosted a group of honor flight veterans.

VETERANS CORNER

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICERS:

WALKER COUNTY **GERALD NORWOOD** **936-435-2474**

TUES, WED, THURS **8:00AM – 4:00PM**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY **KAY LEE** **936-539-7842**

MON thru FRI **8:00AM – 4:00PM**

TRINITY COUNTY **EUGENE PRATER** **936-594-8067**

MON & TUES **8:00 AM—12:00 PM**

V.A. Medical Center – Houston **1-800-553-2278**

2020 Holcombe Houston, TX 77030 **1-713-791-1414**

V.A. Appointment Center **1-800-639-5137** **1-713-794-8985**

Conroe V.A. Outpatient Clinic **1-800-553-2278 ext 1949**

690 South Loop 336 (FLOORS 3&4) **Conroe, TX 77304** **1-936-522-4000**

VETERANS CRISIS LINE **1-800-273-TALK** **1-800-273-8255**

PHARMACY **Refills 1-713-794-7648** **1-800-454-1062**

FREE LEGAL ADVICE **Every FRIDAY 2:00pm – 5:00pm** **1-713-228-0732**

READJUSTMENT COUNSELING SERVICES **1-866-644-5371**

WOMEN VETERAN'S SUPPORT GROUP **936-668-2151**

HEARTS VETERANS MUSEUM **936-295-5959**

TEXAS/UNITED WAY HELPLINE **Dial 211**



Membership enrollment form

Your Name as it will appear on our membership roll



Please Print Name

- \$25.00 Member: You will receive a Membership Card, Free Admission to the Veterans Museum for one year and a 10% Discount on a Gift Shop purchase and a subscription to the H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum Newsletter for one year.
- \$35.00 Contributing Member: Above, plus two One Day Guest Pass to the Veterans Museum for a friend or a family member
- \$60.00 Supporting Member: Above, plus official Veterans Museum Embroidered Cap
- \$250.00 Museum Benefactor: Above, plus a HEARTS Museum T-Shirt (your choice)
- \$500.00 Museum Patriot: Above plus a 4X8 brick identifying you as a museum patron
- \$1,000.00 Patriots Circle: Above, plus a Table for Eight at the Veterans Banquet on Veterans Day

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (Please Make Check Payable to HEARTS Veterans Museum)

Please Charge my Visa Mastercard Discover

Card # _____ EXP DATE: _____

Signature _____ Telephone # _____

We will need to contact you for your 3 digit security code

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

The H.E.A.R.T.S. Veterans Museum of Texas is a non-profit 501(c)(3) Corporation. contribution is tax deductible within the limits prescribed by law.

