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# THE U.S. COMMITTEE FOR THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY MUSEUM

October 7, 1986

Ms. Ann Kelly  
Private Sector Initiatives  
Old Executive Office Building  
Room 154  
Washington, D.C. 20500

## Directors & Advisors

Serge Bellanger\*  
Mrs. Omar N. Bradley  
Anthony J.A. Bryan  
Gen. J. Lawton Collins  
Pierre Colmant\*  
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George C. Stevens, Jr.  
Anthony C. Stout\*  
Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor  
Sen. Strom Thurmond  
Gen. John W. Vessey  
Gen. Vernon A. Walters

Dane Towell  
Staff Director

\* Executive Committee

Dear Ann:

I assume everything is on track for Fred's trip to Brussels. I saw him briefly last night at a huge dinner for the Art in Embassies program but did not get a chance to inquire. I did send a message to Daniel Janssen via another Belgian, who was to see him last weekend. Unfortunately Daniel will be in the United States when Fred is in Europe.

I am enclosing a bit more information about the Battle of Normandy Museum. As you can see, it is mostly government supported. Interestingly, the expenditures of 90 million are taxed at 17+%, but the TVA (tax) will be returned to the Museum, when the work is completed. I guess this is one type of tax benefit. Also, the Museum will belong to the Fondation de France, which is the only officially recognized tax deductible foundation in France. I can explain how it works, if you wish to know.

As you know, we are raising funds for the Museum in the United States through a direct mail campaign.

I look forward to hearing how Fred's trip went.

Sincerely,



Dane Towell

DT/esn  
Enclosures

## THE MEMORIAL OF THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY

The museum is going up on 15 hectares of land belonging to the City of Caen. It will open out onto an esplanade and seven hectares of grounds on the edge of a limestone plateau overlooking a small, green valley. Beneath this layer of limestone were installed the underground headquarters of the German commander, General Wilhelm RICHTER, who had the task of opposing the advance of the Anglo-Canadian forces.

The architect, M. Jacques MILLET of Caen, was appointed after winning the open competition for designs for the museum, with his plans for a building of simple and sober lines. The museum's external walls will be built of Caen stone and there will also be a steel and glass structure overlooking the valley.

The building will have three levels totalling 7,373 m<sup>2</sup> and will include an auditorium seating 169 people. Besides the entrance hall of 828 m<sup>2</sup>, a boutique, a cafeteria-restaurant, the space destined for the Research and Documentation Centre (643 m<sup>2</sup>), space for temporary exhibitions (334 m<sup>2</sup>) and accommodation for the building's caretaker, the museum will also have, according to the preliminary plans :

- Space dedicated to showing, by use of various audiovisual systems, how the origins of the Second World War were to be found in events which took place between 1919 and 1939; causes which were political but which were accompanied by scientific, technical and cultural developments of significant importance.
- Following this there will be a section dedicated to the dark years 1940-1944 : the Occupation, the Free French, the Resistance within France and elsewhere within occupied Europe, repression and deportation (an audio-visual display plus exhibits and documents).
- This in turn will be followed by scenes illustrating the "turning of the tide" : the first victories of the free world, the entry into the war of the United States and of the U.S.S.R., the tactical and strategic preparation of the counter-offensives (illustrated by dioramas, pictures, models, reconstructions, luminous maps, arms, uniforms, equipment and audio-visual images).
- A very large space will, of course, be given to recounting the Battle of Normandy :
  - . There will be a huge audio-visual layout of the D-day landings, showing the armed forces which were there, the bombing of so many Norman towns, and the different battles.

- . An animated luminous map will show how the battle progressed (with Caen as the centre around which it raged) and the final destruction of the German Army in the battle of the Falaise Gap. There will also be examples of the military equipment and material in use at the time, such as tanks, guns and vehicles.
  - . Finally there will be a section illustrating the overall cost : both the military losses and the amount of civilian destruction.
- In the auditorium (cyclorama) visitors will be able to see, after a brief reminder of the Battle of Normandy, scenes illustrating the end of the war in Europe and in the Pacific, and the beginning of post-war history projected onto a large semi-circular screen (19 metres wide and 8 metres high).

These are the broad outlines of the preliminary plans, and it must be remembered that they are subject to any changes and improvements which might be suggested by the historians.

The Memorial will be inaugurated on Sunday June the 6th 1988.

## THOSE IN CHARGE

### AT THE HELM

- . Maître Jean-Marie GIRAULT, Senator-Mayor
  - . Monsieur F. DUNCOMBE, First Deputy Mayor
  - . Monsieur F. CARDINEAU, Deputy Mayor
  - . Madame C. RIVIERE, Deputy Mayor
  - . Monsieur E. SAULNIER, Secretary-General
  - . Monsieur S. LETELLIER, Deputy Secretary-General
  - . Monsieur J.P. DAUNERRE, Director of Technical Services
  - . Monsieur J.F. SALLES, Project Director
  - . Monsieur F. GUILLOT, Deputy Director of Technical Services
  - . Madame A. BOULAY, Delegate attached to the Technical Services
  - . Monsieur D. MARECHAL, Historical Advisor
  - . Madame D. BREDA, Head of Press and Public Relations
  - . Mademoiselle M. CORBINAIS, Press Attachée
- . Mademoiselle LE CACHEUX, Principal Curator of Libraries, will leave her post to become Curator of the new Centre for Research and Documentation.

A curator will be appointed in the near future to take charge of the MEMORIAL.

### THE ARCHITECT

M. Jacques MILLET, D.P.L.G., architect in Caen, PRIX DE ROME and the BEAUX ARTS GRAND PRIX for Architecture, 1975, was appointed to design the Memorial after winning the Open Competition in which seven different projects were examined by the judges.

### A MUSEOGRAPHER

M. Yves DEVRAINE has been put in charge of creating zones 2 and 3 of the new museum and has overall responsibility for the interior layout, visual effects and general style of presentation.

M. DEVRAINE, who is a designer-scenographer, is the author of numerous projects in France and abroad, and was responsible, notably, for the interior design of the French pavilion at the International Exhibition in VANCOUVER.

### AUDIOVISUAL

Two companies specialising in audiovisual techniques SERTIS and STUDIREC (appointed after a competition) have been put in charge of the audiovisual presentation of sections 1 to 4 in the Memorial.

## THE HISTORIANS AT WORK

The Historical Committee of the Memorial Museum has been placed under the patronage of M. François BEDARIDA, Director of the Institute of Modern History (IHTP) which forms part of the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), of M. Pierre CHAUNU and M. Jean-Baptiste DUROSELLE, both members of the Institute, and of M. René REMOND, President of the National Foundation for Political Science.

The Committee includes M. Henri ROUSSO, Head of Research at the CNRS, M. Denis PESCHANSKI and Mme Dominique VEILLON, both historians on the Institute staff, M. Robert FRANK, Senior Lecturer at Paris X University and M. Philippe BUTON, Assistant Lecturer at Paris VII University. The team also has the collaboration of M. Etienne FOUILLOUX, a professor at Caen University.

According to the terms of an agreement with the City of Caen, the IHTP carries full responsibility for making all the preparations for the new museum from the historical angle. The City of Caen, with the help of its Historical Committee, has overall responsibility for all important decisions concerning the general historical approach and museum policy.

The historians have mostly been concentrating their energies on the first four sections of the museum, which will cover the years from the end of the Great War in 1918 to the end of the Second World War. They will supervise and control the presentation of these sections until the museum opens.

## FINANCING THE PROJECT

The estimated total cost amounts to 80.590.000 francs, inclusive of tax, at May 1985 values, allocated as follows :

In millions of francs

Building costs	41.04
Museology	27.00
Furniture and Equipment	2.00
Exterior Layout	9.90
Provision for miscellaneous expenses	0.65
	<hr/>
	80.59
Up-dating is estimated at	7.10
Fees paid for the study of the project	1.43
Provision of funds not yet allocated	1.88
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Total amount of the operation	91.00
The finance will be provided by :	
. The Lower Normandy region	24.00
. The department of the Calvados	5.00
. The City of Caen	47.00
. Government support in the requested amount of	15.00
	<hr/>
	91.00

A grant of 4 MF has already been allocated for the year 1986.

Moreover, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is giving generous support by providing a video-disc system and special equipment for diffusing tele-computerized information.

Note : V.A.T. of 17,6 per cent will be reimbursed to the City of Caen.

## THE RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

The existence of the Centre for Research and Documentation should enable the general public to improve their knowledge of the history of the Second World War, should also help to throw more light on the events of the period, and thus to keep the lessons to be learnt from it before the public mind.

The Centre will welcome both French and foreign research workers as well as students with grants. The Centre will also welcome visitors to the Memorial whose curiosity has been aroused by what they have seen in the museum. It will become a meeting point, a place for discussion and debate, a centre of documentary information and a place in which will be gathered together the eye-witness accounts of actors in the drama : documents, diaries, letters, newspapers, photographs, sound recordings and so on.

All the material, which is being collected throughout the world, will be made easily accessible, thanks to the use of the most modern techniques; and the Centre will constantly enrich and develop its collection.

As the financing of the Memorial is already assured, all the supplementary funds collected, notably by the various fund-raising committees around the world, and, in particular, the subscription fund which has been launched recently in the United States, are destined to improve the equipment of this new centre of research and learning, UNIQUE of its kind, as at present, in the world.



## INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT

Within the framework of the "Fondation de France" a new branch of the organisation has been created under the chairmanship of the Mayor of Caen. Its purpose is to collect private funds to contribute towards the construction, everyday functioning and promotion of the museum. Members of the Board of Directors are, besides a Government delegate, representatives of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Western Germany as well as two former ministers, M. Raymond TRIBOULET and M. Maurice SCHUMANN.

### UNITED STATES

Following the visits of the Mayor of Caen to the United States, which were much encouraged and helped by M. Charles McC MATHIAS, Senator of Maryland, who visited Caen in December, 1984, an American committee (U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum) has been set up to promote the Memorial. The chairman of this committee is M. Anthony C. STOUT, Chairman of the Government Publishing Corporation, and is composed of M. Serge BELLANGER, President of the French-American Chamber of Commerce in the U.S.; Mrs Omar N. BRADLEY; M. Anthony J.A. BRYAN, President of Copperweld Corporation; M. Pierre COLMANT, former French Minister Plenipotentiary; Senator Robert DOLE; Representative Sam GIBBONS; M. Cooper HOLT, Executive Director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars; Senator Paul LAXALT; M. Joe RODGERS, the United States Ambassador to France; M. Emmanuel de MARGERIE, French Ambassador to the United States; M. Paul SHEELINE, Chairman of the Inter-continental Hotels Corporation; Senator Strom THURMOND; General John W. VESSEY, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; General Vernon A. WALTERS, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, and M. George STEVENS, son of the film director who filmed, in colour, certain aspects of the Battle of Normandy. Advisors are General J. Lawton COLLINS, who commanded the U.S. 7th Army Corps landing on Utah Beach and General Maxwell D. TAYLOR, who commanded the 101st Airborne Division. Mrs. Bradley is the widow of General Omar BRADLEY, Commander-in-Chief of the American Land Forces in Normandy.

A direct-mail fund-raising appeal was launched in July, 1986, to assess reactions, in the shape of a letter signed by General VESSEY which was sent to 50.000 persons.

If reactions are positive, the fund-raising appeal will then be sent out to some nine million Americans.

Last June, M. Jean-Marie GIRAULT, Senator Mayor of Caen, went to the United States where he was most warmly received by President Reagan, who had already shown his interest in the future Memorial in a letter dated May 12, 1986, which he had written to the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum.

## CANADA

M. Jean-Marie GIRAULT will visit Canada in October. A committee is being established under the chairmanship of M. Michel GAUVIN, former Canadian Ambassador to Vietnam and to China.

## GREAT BRITAIN

Preliminary contacts have been made. A committee in support of the Memorial is being formed, and among those who have agreed to take part are General Sir John MOGG, GCB, CBE, DSO, DL, Chairman of the Normandy Veterans Association and General Sir Nigel POETT, KCB, DSO, Joint Chairman of the Trust to preserve the History of the 6th Airborne Division's Assault into Normandy.

## FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Links have been established since the project for the Memorial first got under way.

# COMMEMORATE

## The Triumph of Liberty

On 37 beautiful acres overlooking the historic city of Caen, France, the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum will stand as a permanent tribute to the memory of the Allied sacrifice for the liberation of Europe.

In the spirit of international brotherhood that marked the battle itself, a select Committee of Americans is seeking support for

this historic project here in the United States. As a proud, patriotic American, you are cordially invited to join the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum as a *Charter Member!*



Share the pride,  
the honor,  
and the drama...



# The Battle of NORMANDY MEMORIAL MUSEUM

*A Powerful Monument for Freedom-Loving People the World Over*



General Eisenhower gives the order of the day, "Full victory — nothing else!" to paratroopers in England on June 5, 1944, the eve of D-Day.

The battle was a daring military gamble and the greatest struggle for freedom ever fought. Now, the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum will remind millions for generations to come that human liberty is a fragile blessing worth defending at *any* cost.

## **A Stunning Monument to Sacrifice and Victory...**

Just 5 miles from the beaches where the Allies landed, this magnificent glass and stone structure on the newly named Esplanade Eisenhower will proudly fly the flags of all the Allied nations that liberated France. Across the north front entrance will be engraved these poignant words by a survivor of the invasion: "*Suffering broke me. Brotherhood raised me. From my wounds spring a fountain of liberty.*"

To the west will lie the Garden of Remembrance. With its flowers, stones, and epitaphs this beautiful spot will evoke the sacrifice, drama, and major events of World War II. To the south, visitors will descend from the museum proper to an open-air museum across a "Bailey Bridge," the temporary bridge Allied soldiers built in battle.

## **Superb, State-of-the-Art Exhibits...**

Young and old alike will be enthralled by superb audio-visual exhibits and auditoriums... 180-degree cinema screens and the finest audio equipment available... never-before revealed photographs, films, and slides of the battle... recordings of

historic encoded messages... a superb collection of WWII tanks, landing craft, uniforms, weapons, and a wide variety of fascinating memorabilia.

## **The Drama of History Vividly Recreated...**

Featured will be the sights and sounds of world events between 1919 to 1945 — Hitler's rise to power... American workers building the secret arsenal for D-Day... 5,000 destroyers, battleships and landing craft stretching end-to-end across the English Channel... courageous soldiers crawling through the pounding surf under Nazi artillery fire... dislodging enemy mines... binding the wounds of their comrades... Canadian and British soldiers taking Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches... daring American Rangers scaling the sheer cliffs of Pointe du Hoc with grappling hooks and ladders... grateful townspeople embracing the brave young liberators... the Allied push to Paris and the final liberation of Europe... and much, much more.

## **American Heroism Honored...**

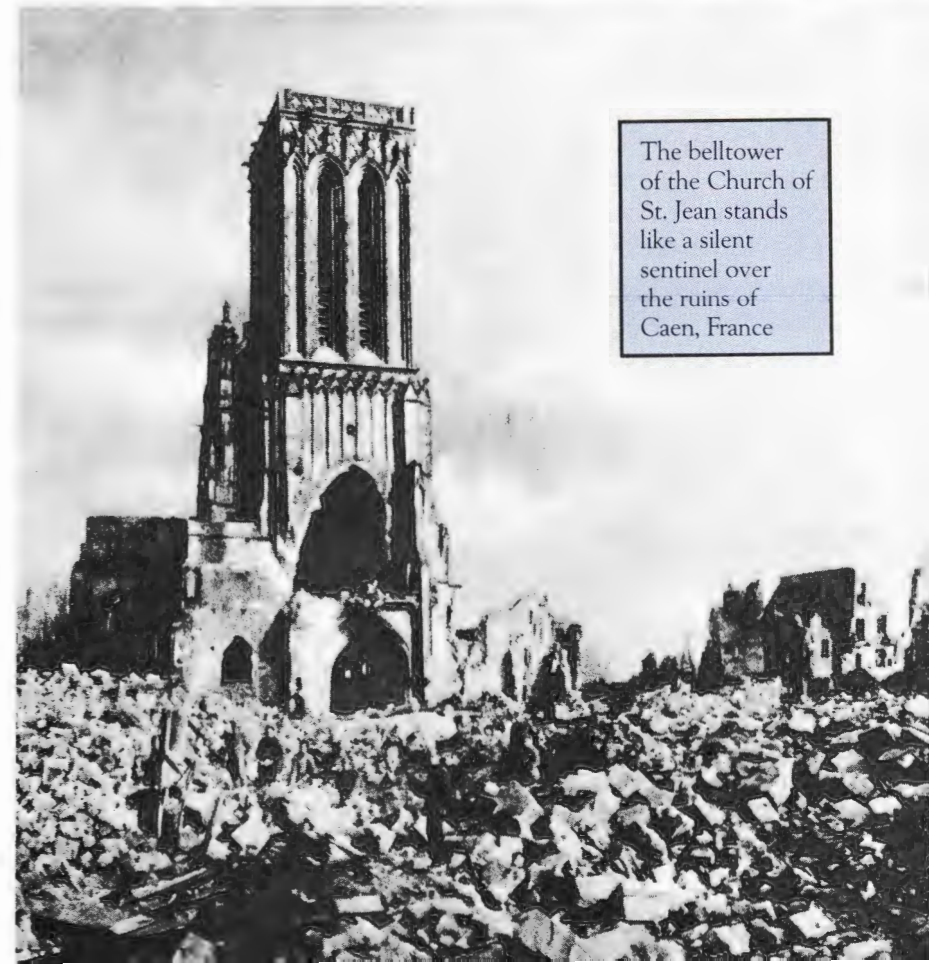
Special exhibits will be dedicated to individual acts of American heroism... the daring of French Resistance fighters... and the horrors of Nazi death camps. In the central gallery, a massive wall will be encribed with the names of every Allied unit that fought at the Battle of Normandy. And, soon after Opening Day, the Nazi underground bunker on the Museum site will be developed into an unforgettable highlight of the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum.



American GIs celebrate the advance of Allied troops.



British troops land under enemy fire on the Normandy shores, June 6, 1944.



The belltower of the Church of St. Jean stands like a silent sentinel over the ruins of Caen, France

**REMEMBER** THE BATTLE.

**HONOR** THE AMERICAN HEROS WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES.

**TEACH** FUTURE GENERATIONS TO DEFEND FREEDOM...

Become a Charter Member of the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum — today!

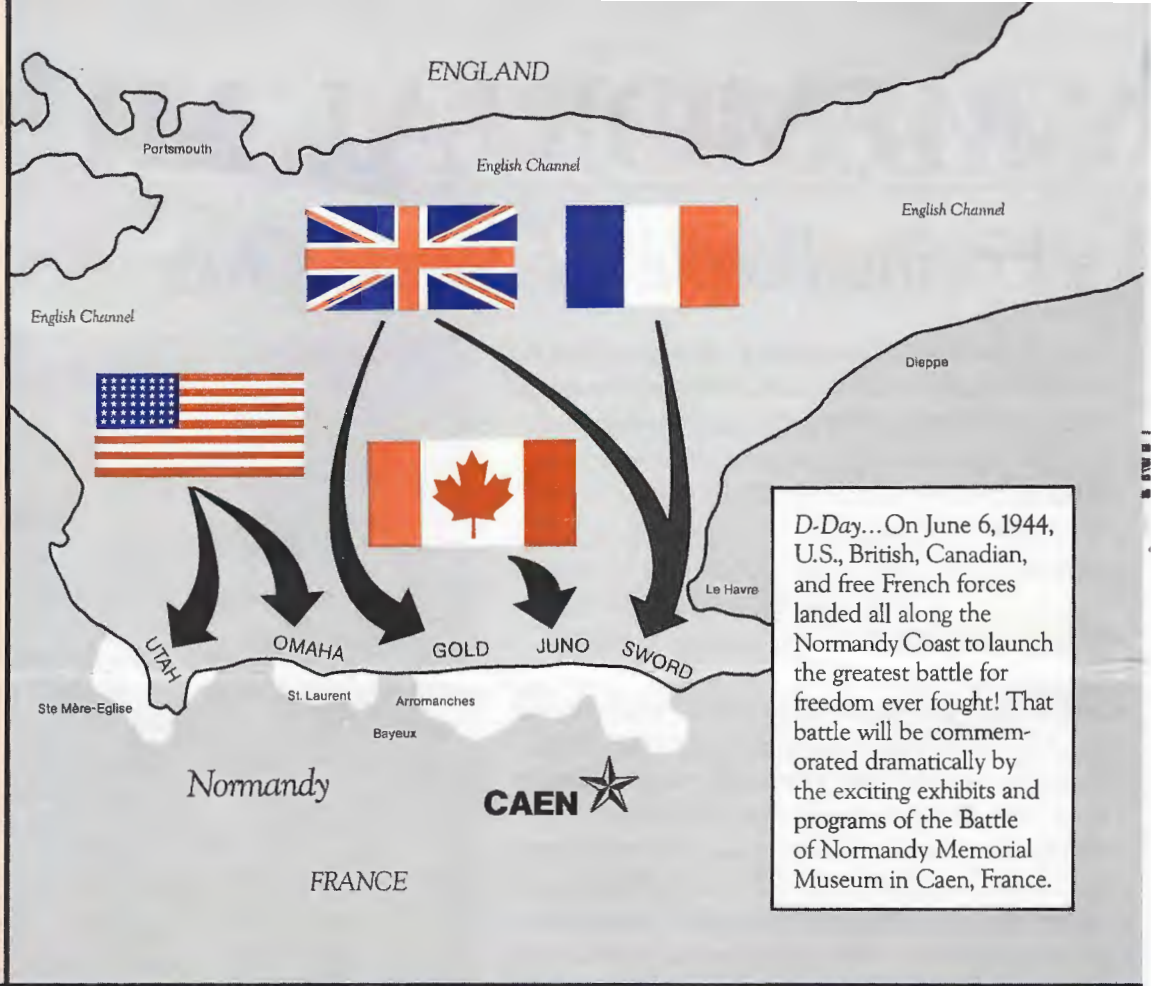


The U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum

Directors & Advisors

- Serge Bellanger\*
- Mrs. Omar N. Bradley
- Anthony J. A. Bryan
- Gen. J. Lawton Collins
- Pierre Colmant\*
- Sen. Robert Dole
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- Sen. Mayor J. M. Girault
- Sen. Paul Laxalt
- H. E. Emmanuel de Margerie
- Sen. Charles McC. Mathias
- Hon. Joe M. Rodgers
- Paul Sheeline
- Anthony C. Stout\*
- Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor
- Sen. Strom Thurmond
- Gen. John W. Vessey
- Gen. Vernon A. Walters

\*Executive Committee



*D-Day... On June 6, 1944, U.S., British, Canadian, and free French forces landed all along the Normandy Coast to launch the greatest battle for freedom ever fought! That battle will be commemorated dramatically by the exciting exhibits and programs of the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum in Caen, France.*

Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum

CHARTER MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE FORM

**YES, enter my Charter Membership!**

I am proud and honored to help build this lasting tribute to the American heroes of the Battle of Normandy who, on June 6, 1944, launched history's greatest battle for freedom and democracy.

\$20     \$25     \$35    (\$35 or more entitles you to receive our commemorative lapel pin, minted exclusively for our Charter Members.)

In the spirit of international brotherhood that marked the Battle of Normandy, I want to give even more. My check totals

\$50     \$100     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to: U.S. Committee for Normandy.  
All contributions are tax-deductible.

(please print) NAME \_\_\_\_\_

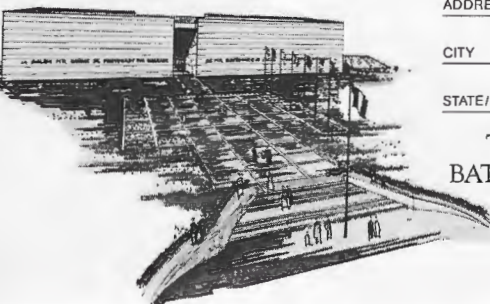
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

THE U.S. COMMITTEE FOR THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY MUSEUM

P.O. Box 37603  
Washington, D.C. 20013



**Your Charter Membership Benefits...ROLL OF HONOR:**

Your name will be inscribed on the Battle of Normandy Memorial Museum Roll of Honor and displayed prominently inside the Museum entrance.

**PERSONAL CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION:** Suitable for framing and display in your home or office, this unique document will proclaim your vital role in creating an institution destined to be world-famous.

**LAPEL PIN:** Minted exclusively for American Charter members. With your generous gift of just \$35 or more, you'll receive this exquisitely



detailed enamel and brass lapel pin featuring the symbol for the great force that liberated

Normandy—General Eisenhower's Allied Expeditionary Forces. It can only increase in rarity and meaning to you over the years.