

II Cor. 3:17 -- "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is..."

LIBERTY

A Ministry of Grace Baptist Church, Pittsfield, Illinois - 217-285-5230

Pastor Randy Love

Leonard Dice, Editor

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BATTLE OF THE BULGE

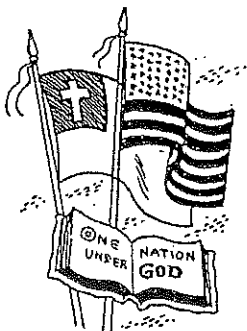
DEC 16, 1944 - JAN 25, 1945



LEST
WE
FORGET

**Veteran's
Day**

NOVEMBER 11



Multiplied thousands of American soldiers died in this battle and in other battles around the world for the freedom of people worldwide.

**WE OWE A DEBT OF
GRATITUDE TO ALL
VETERANS**

VETERANS DAY—HOW IT WAS NAMED

"A Soldier Known But to God"

In 1921, an American soldier—his name "known but to God"—was buried on a Virginia hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington. The Arlington National Cemetery burial site of this unknown World War I soldier became the personification of dignity and reverence for America's veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an "unknown soldier" was buried in each nation's highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe).

These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I hostilities at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as "Armistice Day."

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action.

If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was "The War to end all wars," November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But shortly after the holiday was proclaimed, World War II broke out in Europe and shattered the dream. Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part. Four hundred and six thousand died. The families and friends of these dead longed for a way to honor their memory.

"To Honor Veterans of All Wars"

An answer to the dilemma of how to pay tribute to those who had served in this latest, great war came in a proposal made by Representative Edwin K. Rees of Kansas: Change Armistice Day to Veterans Day, and make this an occasion to honor those who have served America in all wars.

President Eisenhower, in 1954, signed the bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day, and he called for Americans everywhere to rededicate themselves to the cause of peace.

On May 30, 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought to Arlington Cemetery from overseas and interred in the plaza beside their Comrade of World War I. One was killed in World War II, the other in Korea. A law passed in 1973 provided for the interment of an unknown American who lost his life in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam era. For several years no qualifying remains were discovered so a memorial plaque was placed in the Amphitheater's Memorial Display Room. On Memorial Day 1984, however, the Unknown Serviceman from that conflict was placed "In Honored Glory" alongside his fellow countrymen.

To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army honor guard, The 3d United States Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

"Date Too Significant to Change"

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens. Congress, therefore, enacted legislation (Public Law 94-97) which returned the observance of this special day to its traditional date beginning in 1978.

"Once Belonged to Robert E. Lee"

Focal point for ceremonies conducted by the Veterans Day National Committee continues to be the Arlington Memorial Amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. The site, established in 1864 and now operated by the Department of Defense, lies on property that once belonged to General Robert E. Lee.

At 11 a.m. on Veterans Day a combined color guard representing all military services honors the Unknowns by executing "Present Arms" at the Tomb. The Nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a Presidential wreath. The bugler sounds "Taps." The balance of the ceremony, which includes a brief address, takes place at the Amphitheater.

Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington and elsewhere in the Nation are coordinated by the President's Veterans Day National Committee. Chaired by the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, the group has an executive committee which includes representatives of eighteen national veterans organizations chartered by Congress. The remaining members represent other national veterans service associations.



Miscellaneous.

Leonard R. Dice, Editor and Asst. Pastor

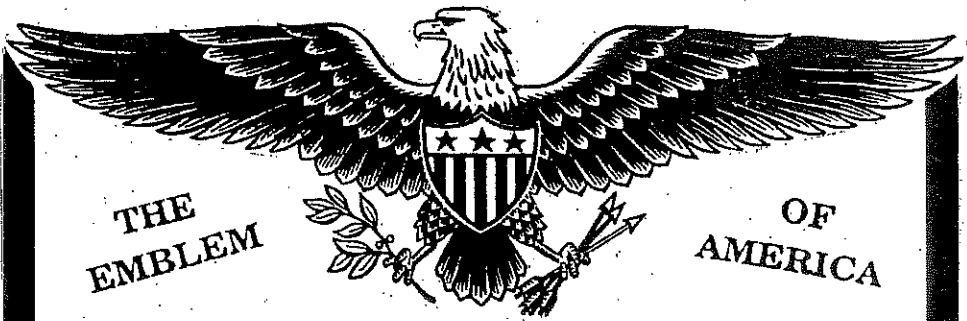
*STORIES
*EVENTS
*VIEWS.
*NEWS



WHAT MADE AMERICA GREAT

"I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers-and it was not there . . . in her fertile fields and boundless forests-and it was not there . . . in her rich mines and her vast world commerce-and it was not there . . . in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution-and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great,"

Alexis de Tocqueville.
Democracy in America.



When God made the oyster, He made it with absolute economic and social security. He built the oyster a house, and a shell to protect it from its enemies. When hungry, the oyster simply opens its shell and food rushes in.

When God made the eagle, He made it with the blue sky as the limit, and the eagle could build his own house. The eagle builds its house on the highest mountain crag where storms threaten constantly. For food, the eagle must fly through miles of rain and snow and wind. But the eagle is free!

The eagle, and not the oyster, is the emblem of our great nation, AMERICA!