Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy Opens at INSERT HOST NAME

New exhibit highlights Home Front contributions to World War II

INSERT CITY (INSERT DATE) – On INSERT OPENING DATE, INSERT HOST NAME will open a new special exhibit – Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy presented by national touring exhibit sponsor HP with additional support provided by Citi. Produced by The National WWII Museum, the exhibit follows the industrial journey that took the United States from a nation perilously unprepared for war to a global superpower that led the Allies to victory in World War II.

During the war, a sense of civic duty and responsibility united the nation and fueled America’s war effort like nothing before or since. American citizens stepped forward to fulfill the jobs demanded of them, and they excelled beyond all expectations. But the US mobilization on the Home Front actually began before the country was officially involved in the conflict.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed the nation on December 29, 1940 – a year before Pearl Harbor – declaring, “We must be the great arsenal of democracy. For us, this is an emergency as serious as war itself. We must apply ourselves to our task with the same resolution, the same sense of urgency, the same spirit of patriotism and sacrifice as we would show were we at war.”

Roosevelt gave the arsenal concept a democratic meaning that saw every man and woman as a vital partner in the war effort regardless of where they worked. United by the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Americans in factories, farms and businesses ceaselessly worked with ingenuity and spirit to create an unprecedented arsenal of military resources to overwhelm our enemies.

“Civilians on the Home Front who worked to assemble America’s arsenal of democracy were essential to securing an Allied victory,” said exhibit curator and Samuel Zemurray Stone Senior Director of Research and History at The National WWII Museum Keith Huxen, PhD. “Their stories serve as a reminder of what patriotism truly means.”

Iconic companies contributed to victory from the factory floor to war in the air, on land and across the seas, producing at a staggering rate and with unparalleled excellence. In the process, the arsenal of democracy opened new opportunities to individual Americans and planted seeds that changed the social fabric of America, crushed the Axis war machine and vindicated the President’s democratic and strategic vision.

Manufacturing Victory, a 1500 sq. ft. exhibit, includes compelling artifacts, photographs, oral histories and interactive audio-video components that immerse the visitor in the story of America’s mighty industrial war engine. The exhibit debuted at The National WWII Museum in 2014, before embarking on a national tour to expand access and educational opportunities across the country.
“It’s an honor and pleasure to be in association with and a sponsor of an organization that preserves and celebrates this country’s history,” said Scott Spradley, CIO Hewlett Packard Enterprise. “The Manufacturing Victory traveling exhibit is an excellent example of how The National WWII Museum is ensuring that all generations understand the price of freedom. We’re thrilled to support this exhibit and expand its reach, and we hope that audiences everywhere are inspired by it.”

Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy will be on display at INSERT HOST NAME/GALLERY through INSERT CLOSING DATE. See artifacts and images from the exhibit and learn more about America’s arsenal of democracy at manufacturing-victory.org.

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The National WWII Museum tells the story of the American experience in the war that changed the world – why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today – so that future generations will know the price of freedom, and be inspired by what they learn. Dedicated in 2000 as The National D-Day Museum and now designated by Congress as America’s National WWII Museum, it celebrates the American Spirit, the teamwork, optimism, courage and sacrifices of the men and women who fought on the battlefront and served on the Home Front. For more information, call 877-813-3329 or 504-528-1944 or visit nationalww2museum.org.

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