



For Immediate Release
April 15, 2010

WWII VETERANS JOURNEY TO SEE MEMORIAL

BISMARCK, ND – More than six decades after the greatest military conflict in history, 90 World War II veterans will journey to Washington, DC, on Friday, April 16, to visit a memorial built to commemorate their service. Through the Honor Flight Network, the veterans are flown, at no charge, to see their monument.

“This is our third trip and after we return, we still have more than 150 veterans who have filled out applications asking to travel with us,” said Kevin Cramer, chairman of the Roughrider Honor Flight committee. “To make future trips possible, donations of any size are needed and will be accepted from anyone except the veterans we serve.”

The cost of each RRHF trip is approximately \$175,000, all funded by the private sector. The donations are tax deductible and can be sent to PO Box 220, Bismarck, ND 58502.

In addition to the WWII memorial, the veterans will visit the Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean and Iwo Jima memorials. They will also tour the Arlington National Cemetery where they will see the Kennedy family graves and observe the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

“The Honor Flight program was conceived as a way to recognize the courage and sacrifices of our veterans,” said Cramer “This is our way of thanking them.”

The RRHF committee is based in Bismarck, serving primarily central and western North Dakota WWII veterans and terminally ill veterans from all wars. The group escorted approximately 200 veterans to Washington, DC, in 2009. Applications for future flights are available at www.rrhonorflight.com or by calling (701) 373-5416.

The WWII memorial pays homage to the 16 million Americans who served during the campaign. The monument was not completed until 2004, and the majority of the men and women who served have never had the opportunity to visit the site. Of the 69,000 men and women from North Dakota who served, it is estimated that 7,000 to 10,000 are still living.

-- 30 --

Media Notes: Veteran interviews can be arranged by contacting RRHF Media Coordinator Sarah Mudder at (701) 391-7630 or rep_woman@yahoo.com. High-resolution JPEG images taken by a professional photographer during the RRHF trips are available for publication. There is no charge for use of the images. RRHF Chair Kevin Cramer can be contacted for media comments at (701) 220-6368.