

WW II setting in it.

- * Include WW II reenactment units, which set up "period" encampments or other "living history" programs, that are authentic recreations of period military camps including uniforms, civilian clothing, food and way-of-life during WW II.

- * Encourage military units and civilian organizations to set up mini-exhibits (perhaps a shelf or two, protected by glass).

- * Collect and display WW II photos, memorabilia, letters, and diaries of WW II veterans, equipment, and other items of historical significance, prominently in libraries, schools, and unit area where all unit members and visitors may view. For added significance, make the reproduction a permanent display and invite unit members to visit and sign at a small ceremony. Photograph/videotape the event.

- * Encourage library displays of books with WW II themes.

- * Use posters and facsimile reproduction of photographs, documents, or quotes to create a WW II corridor.

- * Encourage model airplane builders to display WW II-era aircraft. Educational Activities

- * Develop "Adopt-A-School" programs or "Programs of Excellence" with local schools that highlight WW II as a special study program throughout the commemorative period.

- * Cosponsor with DoD service associations, or patriotic organizations, trips to WW II training sites, museums, and monuments, to learn about the sacrifices and accomplishments of veterans.

- * Encourage school groups to visit military installations; discuss significance of WW II and how it relates to the world today.

- * Invite recruiters or other military members from a local installation to visit schools to discuss importance of WW II.

- * Encourage youth organizations to conduct and participate in WW II commemoration programs.

- * Encourage students/youths to participate in WW II map, essay, poster, and speech contests.

- * Host area high school speech tournament, focusing on presentation of famous WW II speeches.

- * Encourage creating WW II messages for bulletin boards in military and civilian installations.

- * Publish questions and answers and crossword puzzles highlighting WW II.

- * Distribute bookmarks with WW II messages.

- * Debate the great issues of military strategy, United Nations proclamations, economic or political decisions.

Cultural and Performing Arts

- * Request military band units present WW II programs of music and narration for military and civilian audiences. Narrative portion could combine military and civilian participants. Concert program would include popular WW II era music. DoD service bands have arrangements that can be used.

- * Dedicate military and civilian concerts and productions to the WW II veterans, their families, and home front supporters. Ask those in the audience to stand for appropriate recognition.

- * Encourage high school bands and chorale groups to provide a WW II concert.

- * Encourage local theater groups to perform WW II musicals or plays.

Communications and Products

- * Designate a representative to actively represent command or unit on community or state WW II commemorative/commission/committee. Reinforce military identity by wearing uniform during all contacts.

- * Emphasize WW II commemorative goals and objectives during staff meetings, professional development seminars, and commander's call by reading quotes, showing one of the videotapes available, or inviting speakers to address the group.

- * Research and publish historical data on the involvement of local command during WW II activities.

- * Promote WW II 50th anniversary through Speakers Bureau by addressing schools, social, and civic groups.

- * Develop an easily modifiable basic WW II speech.

- * Include WW II references and quotes in speeches to internal and civilian audiences as well as military associations.

- * Include the DoD WW II logo on agency/command letterhead, programs and other appropriate publications.

- * Include a WW II message with your mail and on military and civilian pay statements.

- * Publish selected WW II reviews, articles, or excerpts in unit bulletins or command newspapers.

- * Publish interviews written by military journalists in command information papers.

- * Produce videotaped messages from local commander to veterans, social, civic, and school groups, to be used when the commander cannot personally attend the gatherings.

- * Produce WW II public service announcements to include "WW II 50th Anniversary Commemorative Minutes" for internal audiences through installation cable or closed-circuit television and for external audiences through local television stations.

- * Print or silk-screen a WW II battle streamer bookmark.

Memorial Services

- * Conduct wreath laying ceremonies to honor veterans at national, state and local cemeteries, and at WW II monuments.

- * If overseas, check with the DoD 50th Anniversary of WW II Commemoration Committee for current guidance on propriety of inviting host nation personnel to participate in WW II commemoration activities.

- * Include and highlight the 50th Anniversary of WW II during Memorial Day and Veterans Day programs throughout the commemorative period, 1991-1995.

- * Locate WW II veterans, their families or descendants, and include these people in your celebrations. Determine if descendants are currently serving (National Guard or Reserve units, in particular, often have grandchildren serving in their grandfather's WW II unit.)

50th Anniversary of World War II
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