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October 26, 2000

To: Produce for Victory Possible Scholars

From: Jennifer A. Mitchel, Assistant Director/Museums Coordinator

RE: Information on the *Produce for Victory* Exhibit/Tour

Dear Scholars:

Thank you for bearing with me as I put materials together for the many interested parties that have expressed interest in this project. Besides you (the scholars) I have been preparing information for AAA, AARP, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, the D-Day Museum, the Louisiana Division of the Arts and potential funding sources. Yes, this is a huge project and has been a daunting one for me as I've only been at the LEH 8 months. But it is a most exciting project and one I am proud to be a part of. I hope you feel the same as you peruse the materials I have prepared for you.

At this time, I have been visiting the 6 host sites, learning about what was going on in their communities during WWII, as well as filling them in with greater details on the project. The stories about WWII are unbelievable and amazing. Their enthusiasm to tell these stories is even greater. Local involvement and participation grows by the day as schools, government officials, chambers of commerce and businesses are made aware of the upcoming event.

But they are desperate for scholars to participate in the project in numerous ways. Please feel free to contact them after reading the enclosed information to learn more about what they are planning and work out ways you can participate or assist. As you will notice, the LEH is providing up to \$5000 in grants for each site, so honorariums will be available. I know many are planning on applying for a \$1000 planning grant on January 15, 2001 in order to invite potential participating scholars to their towns, as a means of finalizing public programs and activities for their leg of the tour. The sites are also raising additional funds on their own through local banks, chambers of commerce, businesses, tourism organizations, Wal-Mart and the decentralized arts councils. Many are also successfully seeking sponsors and volunteers for the project, of course in an effort to cut costs, but most importantly, to reap the rewards of networking throughout their community now and in the future.

The LEH is also doing a 16-20 page spread in *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* for the summer 2001 issue. Articles will focus on WWII on the Louisiana home front. While the articles will not be long, we do want them to be substantive and that is why we will be seeking your assistance in writing them. Here are some of the topics we are looking to include: