



National Mall and Memorial Parks

August 2010 • Volume 3, Issue 8

DAILY INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS



Join National Park Service rangers to learn more about the meaning, symbolism, and significance of the park's many memorials. No prior sign-up is required, and all programs are free. Program length varies. For more information contact a ranger at each memorial.

Programs are offered at the following memorials...

- World War II Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Scheduled Programs are presented on the hour from:

10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

**Additional programs on request.

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This newspaper is also available online. Visit www.nps.gov/nama and click on NEWS.

Editor In Chief: Jason Martz
Editors: Mike Leard, Stephanie Ortiz

Damn the Torpedoes, full speed ahead!

By Ranger Brad Berger

The stifling heat of a late-summer morning along the Gulf Coast settled on the shores of Mobile Bay. The humidity weighed heavily on the frames of the troops guarding this extremely important stretch of Alabama coastline. Shortly before 7 a.m., on Friday, August 5, 1864, the Confederate artillerymen manning the guns of Fort Morgan noticed a large body of ships moving toward their position through the early morning haze. The air's heavy stillness was broken by a shot from the USS Tecumseh, a single-turreted monitor of Admiral David Glasgow Farragut's 18-ship flotilla, in an attempt to find the cannon's range. Shortly thereafter, the lead elements of the flotilla began to engage the batteries of Fort Morgan. Admiral Farragut employed the use of four virtually impregnable ironclad monitors to serve as starboard (right-hand) screens for his wooden fleet of 14 vessels, lashed together in pairs to ensure that any damaged vessel would be carried past the fortress by the momentum of its sister ship.

Admiral Farragut's goal in forcing this attempt of his fleet past Fort Morgan was the ultimate sealing of the port of Mobile, Alabama to blockade runners. These were vessels laden with cargo from foreign ports which served to clothe and equip the Confederate armies. If Mobile Bay fell into the hands of the Federal



Admiral David Farragut

navy, the Confederate government in Richmond would have a vital supply depot cut off.

At half past seven, the Federal fleet was fully engaged with the guns of Fort Morgan as they lumbered past the Confederate citadel. The lead monitor, the Tecumseh, trundled toward the small Confederate fleet which defended the waters past Fort Morgan. Captain Tunis Craven moved his ship away from a narrow passage through the chain that marked the torpedo field which defended the bay. This action moved Tecumseh toward more uncertain waters with a view to approach and engage the massive Confederate ironclad CSS

Tennessee, the most formidable obstacle in sight after Fort Morgan. It was at this time that astonished onlookers from both sides of the affair saw the Tecumseh suddenly shudder, lurch to its port (left) and sink beneath the waters of Mobile Bay. Captain Craven took a calculated risk in moving away from the breach in the torpedo chain, ultimately resulting in tragic consequences.

This turn of events froze the blood in the veins of the crew aboard the USS Brooklyn, the lead wooden ship which stalled at this horrific sight. Signal flags reported to the ships that followed in its wake, that Tecumseh had struck a torpedo (or mine in modern military terminology.) The lethargy of the Brooklyn placed the remaining ships of Farragut's command in peril. If the Federal flotilla did not move forward past the potential danger of the torpedoes, the guns of Fort Morgan would surely finish them off. At this juncture, it is said that Admiral Farragut asserted his intentions plainly to his fleet by issuing the immortal words: "Damn the Torpedoes, full speed ahead!" Unlike Captain Craven's bold maneuver, Farragut's decision proved successful. As the wooden fleet made its way into the lower bay in the wake of the monitors, their crews could hear the thud of torpedoes striking the hulls of their ships. Miraculously, none of the torpedoes exploded.

With the Federal fleet now

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HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

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NATIONAL MALL AND MEMORIAL PARKS
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024



Park Headquarters: 202-485-9880
Visitor Information: 202-233-3520

Park Websites: www.nps.gov/nama
www.nps.gov/mall

National Mall Plan Website:
www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan

Radio: 1670 AM

AUGUST

Don't Forget...

Daily ranger programs presented at the memorials, every hour from 10 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.	2 🕒 7 p.m.	3 🚶 10 a.m.	4 🚶 6 p.m.	5 🕒 10 a.m.	6 🕒 7 p.m. 🕒 8:30 p.m.	7 🕒 8 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m. 🚲 1 p.m.
8 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.	9 🕒 7 p.m.	10 🚶 10 a.m.	11	12 🕒 6 p.m. 🕒 8 p.m.	13 🕒 7 p.m.	14 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m. 🕒 3 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.
15 🚲 1 p.m. 🚲 2:30 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.	16	17	18	19 🕒 10 a.m.	20 🚶 10 a.m.	21 🚶 8 a.m. 🕒 8 p.m. 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.
22 🚶 8 a.m. 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.	23	24	25	26	27 🚶 10 a.m. 🕒 11 a.m. 🕒 1 p.m.	28 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m. 🕒 8 p.m.
29 🕒 11 a.m. 🚲 1 p.m. 🚶 6 p.m.	30	31				To learn more about the Burning of Washington, the Chesapeake Campaign and the War of 1812 please visit the Star Spangled Banner National Historical Trail website at www.nps.gov/stsp .

BRITISH BURN THE CAPITOL · 1814

PROGRAMS

Monday, August 2, 9
The Navajo Code Talkers of World War II
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

In World War II the commanders in the Pacific theater were aware that their encoded messages were easily deciphered by the enemy. The Marine Corps needed an unbreakable code and found one in the language of the Navajo Indians. The Navajo Code Talker's devotion to their craft made them invaluable. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Tyler Smith at 202-233-3520.

Thursday, August 5 & 12
Roosevelt, Churchill, and Spy Games
10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The espionage programs of world powers grew a great deal during the lives of Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. Was it portentous for future decades or a necessary measure? Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact David Hoffman at 202-233-3520.

Friday, August 6, 13
World War II Operations & Vehicles
7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The operations and vehicles of World War II proved critical for the United States' rendezvous with destiny. We will view bronze timeline panels and era photographs to learn about the Pacific and Atlantic battle zones. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Victor Pillow at 202-841-1774.

Saturday, August 7
The Battle of Guadalcanal
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The Battle of Guadalcanal was a major turning point in the War of the Pacific in 1942. It developed into a six-month campaign where hard lessons were learned by both the American and Japanese forces. Find out what the Americans learned from this campaign. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Thursday, August 12
Stalingrad: Struggle on the Volga
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

The Battle of Stalingrad was a titanic clash between the German and Soviet forces. Find out the significance of this engagement

and how it helped turn the tide in eastern Europe. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O'Brian at 202-438-7066.

Saturday, August 14
Masterpieces of World War II Photography
3 p.m. - 4 p.m. & 5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Some of the great masterpieces of photography are images related to the victories of World War II. They recall the conflict, the stakes, and the heroes who left proof of their honor and valor for posterity. Meet at the World War II Memo

rial. Contact Jan Buerger at 202-497-1397.

Thursday August 19
The Foreign Policy of Thomas Jefferson
10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m., 12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m., 2 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson is a fascinating character in American History. This citizen of the world explored that world before serving as President, but just how effective was his administration at relating to it? Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact David Hoffman at 202-233-3520.



Saturday, August 21
Douglas MacArthur:
“We shall return”
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

When General Douglas MacArthur evacuated the Philippine Islands, he proclaimed “We shall return.” Another famous MacArthur quote is engraved in the World War II Memorial. Find out what his words meant. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Friday, August 27
Heroes or Outlaws?
The Crime Wave of 1933-34
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The great crime wave of 1933-34 introduced America to such outlaws as Bonnie and Clyde, John Dillinger and Baby Face Nelson. Learn how the Great Depression spurred their criminal acts and led to the creation of the modern day FBI. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Contact Jon Manchester at 202-233-3520.

Friday, August 27
Lincoln’s Motivation
– Stephen Douglas
1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Abraham Lincoln was a former congressman and prosperous Illinois attorney in 1854. Then the actions of Senator Stephen Douglas caused him to re-enter politics. Come hear how Abe Lincoln passed Stephen Douglas on the way to the White House. Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact David Rappel at 202-359-1533.

Saturday, August 28
The Battle of Britain
8 p.m. - 9 p.m.

The Battle of Britain in 1940 meant that Great Britain would stay in World War II. Find out why it also meant that Great Britain would need assistance from the United States. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Paul O’Brian at 202-438-7066.

Sunday, August 29
Coming Home:
The Allies Demobilize
11 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.,
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The victorious American veterans of World War II returned to a nation assuming its new role as a global superpower. Discover how the “G.I. Generation” shaped the destiny of the modern United States. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Mike Leard at 202-233-3520.

Friday, August 6
Urban Campfire Programs
8:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

As the sun sets on a day of visiting the Nation’s Capital, join National Park Service rangers as we present another season of Urban Campfire programs on the grounds of the majestic Washington Monument! This four-week session of programs will be presented with accompanying illustrations on a wide screen draping the stage of the Sylvan Theater. This summer’s theme is “Ranger Grab Bag.” Find out what topics our talented rangers select when you arrive! Only one thing is certain: these programs are a great way to cap off your day to National Mall and Memorial Parks! Meet at the Sylvan Theater. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173.



Sunday, August 1
World War II in Washington
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Threats of assassination, air raids, and sabotage filtered through every layer of Washington society and government during the uncertain years of 1941-1945. Explore the sites of the Nation’s Capital through the words and thoughts of those who led and served the United States war effort during World War II. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Saturday, August 7
Somebody’s Eyes are Watching
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Spies have been in or around Washington D.C. almost since it was built. Learn tales of treachery that were both successful and disastrous. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Sunday, August 8
What Lies Beneath
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Washington, D.C.’s modern sewer system is not so modern. It dates back to the founding of the city and is one of the country’s oldest systems. How did it come about? How does it save lives? Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Saturday, August 14
Those Shady Ladies
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Mistresses, spies, and conspirators have been the downfall of politicians the world over, including



Washington, D.C. Explore the sites and stories behind the scandals and intrigue here in the nation’s capital. Learn about the women at the epicenter of scandal that tore into the very fabric of democracy and union. Intrigued? You should be! Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Sunday, August 15
Birthing a Nation
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Even as his monument towers above the city that bears his name, the example of George Washington towers above his peers in the founding days of this country. Join us as we journey through the birth pains of the United States of America through the eyes of the men who gave life to an ideal. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Sunday, August 15
Family Bike Tour: Amazing
Events in the Nation’s Capital
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Whoa... That happened here! This tour will guide families through the ages to discover exciting events that took place in and around the National Mall. From hot air balloons over the White House, to canal boats floating down Constitution Avenue. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 to make reservations.

Saturday, August 21
Performing Arts in D.C.
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Though Washington, D.C. is not the Great White Way, the history of the performing arts in the city is illustrious. Political assassinations, the civil rights movement, and other historical events have been centered around the stage and screen. Meet at the Thomas

Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391 for more information.

Sunday, August 22
On This Date in History:
The Burning of Washington
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

August 24, 1814 – After their victory at Bladensburg, the British continued their march south along Maryland Avenue and into the heart of the Federal City. British troops set fire to the U.S. Capitol building then proceeded up Pennsylvania Avenue to the President’s House where a similar fate awaited the home of James and Dolley Madison. We will follow the path of destruction from Capitol Hill, along Pennsylvania Avenue, to the President’s House, and culminating at the Octagon House. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Saturday, August 28
Famous Last Words
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

When George Washington left office, he published a Farewell Address giving sound advice to future generations. As John Adams and Thomas Jefferson lay dying on July 4, 1826, they thought of the past and each other. As Abraham Lincoln left Springfield, Illinois to become President, he expressed his hopes and doubts to the friends he left behind. In their parting words, famous Americans teach eternal lessons, touch our hearts, and give us hope. A few even make us laugh. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

Sunday, August 29
Mr. Lincoln
Goes to Washington
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Discover the Federal City that Lincoln knew. Uncover the details of his secretive arrival, learn about

daily life in the White House, and follow the President through his time in Washington, D.C. up to his fateful visit to Ford's Theater. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Jason Martz at 202-438-4391.

**WALKING TOURS
and Running**

Sunday, August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Holocaust: Remembrance and Repetition?
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

The year 1945 marked the end World War II and its death camps. Or was it only a pause in time before that industry of death resurfaced? We will discuss these matters at this memorial and sites nearby. Content and photos may not be appropriate for children. Meet at the World War II Memorial. Contact Lowell Fry at 202-438-9603.

Tuesday, August 3, 10
Friday, August 20, 27
A Day with a Ranger
10 a.m. - mid afternoon

Spend the day with your very own park ranger and learn about the history and architecture of the National Mall from A to Z. The tour ends on the grounds of the Washington Monument (entrance not included). Bring comfortable shoes and water. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173.

Wednesday, August 4
Saturday, August 14
An Evening with a Park Ranger
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Spend an evening with a ranger and tour the mall as you learn more about its history, monuments, and memorials. Bring water and a flashlight. Meet at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Kathy Kagle at 202-438-5377.

Saturday, August 7, 14, 21, 28
Vive la Revolucion:
South America's War for Freedom
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Have you ever wondered why some of Latin America's greatest leaders have statues in the heart of the nation's capital? Join us for a guided tour of the memorials to the heroes that helped liberate Latin America from Spain. Meet at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station. Contact Michael Balis at 202-438-9710.

Saturday, August 21
Chit-Chat Run - Quotable America
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Stretch your muscles and exercise your mind! Join us for a morning run around the National Mall. Meet the subjects of Washington, D.C.'s memorials through their own words. Route will cover approximately 3.5 miles. Please provide good running shoes and your own water. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Susan Martin at 202-437-1888.

Sunday, August 22
Chit-Chat Run:
The British are coming to Washington
8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

The War of 1812 left a distinct impression on the Washington landscape. The run will cover about three miles with interpretive stops pointing out some of the elements of the British burning of Washington, D.C. on August 24, 1814. Please bring your own water. Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Susan Martin at 202-437-1888.



How to Visit the Washington Monument

Washington Monument admission is free, but does require a ticket for everyone over the age of two. Open daily except July 4 and December 25.

Timed entry tickets are required and may be obtained in two ways:

1. The Washington Monument Lodge, located along 15th Street, opens at 8:30 a.m. for distribution of free, same day, timed tickets on a first come, first served basis. One person may pick up as many as six tickets as well as select their preferred ticket time from what remains available for that operating day.
2. Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-559-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days or more ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a \$1.50 convenience charge.

Summer Hours: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Monday, May 31 - Monday, September 6

Rest of Year: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

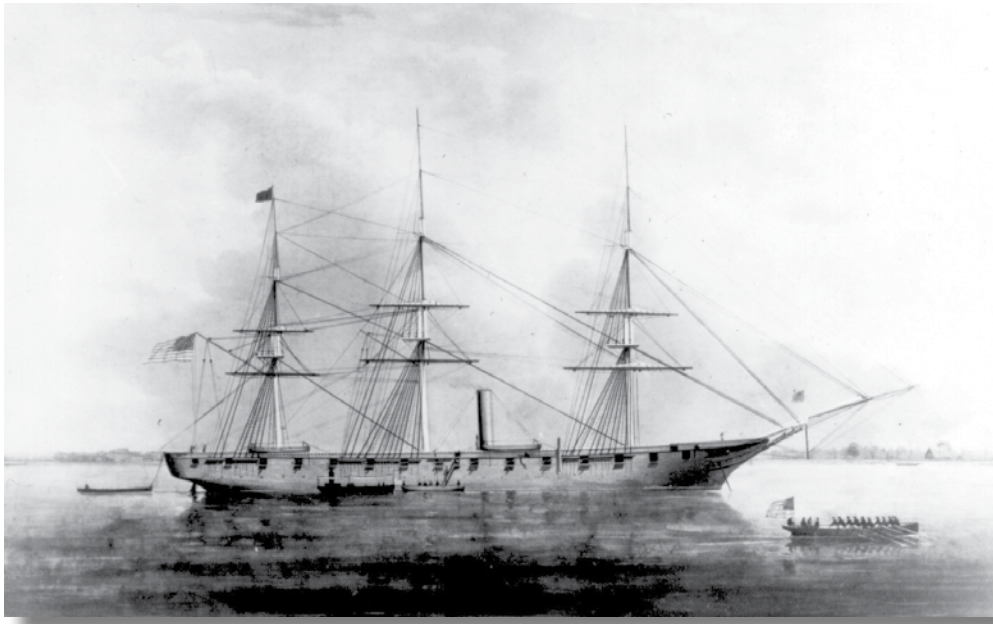
National Mall and Memorial Parks Cell Phone Tours

Lincoln Memorial: 202-747-3420
First Amendment: 202-595-0085
Cherry Blossom Festival: 202-747-3465



Damn the Torpedoes, full speed ahead!

Berger from page 1



USS Hartford

past the guns of Fort Morgan, one more addition to the day's drama was just unfolding. In a seemingly rash move, Admiral Franklin Buchanan, Flag Officer of the Confederate ships in the bay, directed the captain of the Tennessee to steam forward and engage the Federals. The slow, deliberate movement of the Tennessee toward Farragut's flagship, as if a juggernaut was stilled only after close-in action by the Federal warships. The climax of the Tennessee's attack witnessed point-blank engagement of the Hartford's guns on the ironclad as they literally scraped sides with one another. This fire, coupled

with constant pounding from the guns of the monitors Chickasaw and Manhattan on its stern, ended the day for the Tennessee. This last ditch attempt by Admiral Buchanan to inflict major damage on Farragut's ships ultimately failed. The white flag of surrender was offered to the Federal fleet, and upon the surrender of Admiral Buchanan's sword, Mobile Bay was no longer a haven for the blockade runners which served as the Confederacy's lifeline during the Civil War. Outside the realm of military significance, this victory also served President Abraham Lincoln the vital political capital he needed in a potentially tight

race for the presidency in November.

On April 25, 1881, a statue was unveiled to honor Admiral David Farragut, the victor of Mobile Bay. Taking his place among the pantheon of Civil War-era heroes who adorn the nation's capital, located at the southern terminus of Connecticut Avenue, between I and K Streets, NW, the admiral stands silent watch over the square which bears his name. Emerging from a stiff competition, Vinnie Ream Hoxie's winning design captured the fancy of such judges as General William Tecumseh Sherman, and the widow of Admiral Farragut. Her design captures the image of Admiral Farragut upon a pedestal, spyglass in hand, as if observing a naval engagement from the deck of his flagship, the USS Hartford. The statue stands as a testament not only to the victory to which he guided the Federal Navy on that hot August morning in 1864, but to Farragut's other noted actions in the Civil War, such as the capture of the city of New Orleans



Vinnie Ream Hoxie at work on Farragut statue
Photo courtesy Library of Congress

in the spring of 1862. Metal from the propeller of his flagship was mixed with the bronze used in the statue, as well as the four small mortars that surround the statue. This mixing of materials thereby adds elements which were present in the instrument of Farragut's great victories to the monument that honors them.

Eastern National Bookstores



Eastern National

Serving the Visitors to America's National Parks and Other Public Trusts

National Mall and Memorial Parks is a very inspiring and powerful place, but your experience does not have to end in Washington, D.C. Continue learning more about park sites and American history by visiting the many Eastern National bookstores throughout the park. Capture the moment, take home a book, and explore the ideas and values that make visiting National Mall and Memorial Parks such a stirring experience. Eastern National, a park partner, operates four bookstores located at:

Washington Monument Lodge
8:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Lincoln Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thomas Jefferson Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Franklin Delano
Roosevelt Memorial
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Washington Monument Lodge

www.easternnational.org

Park Concessionaires

Guest Services, Inc. manages all retail operations for National Mall and Memorial Parks. This includes refreshment kiosks and gift stores throughout the park. They also operate the following recreational opportunities...



GUEST SERVICES

Tidal Basin Paddle Boats
202-479-2426
www.tidalbasinpaddleboats.com

East Potomac Tennis Center
202-554-5962
www.eastpotomactennis.com



Tourmobile Sightseeing provides live, narrated shuttle tours with hop on/hop off service. You choose where to stop, stay as long as you want, then reboard and ride to another historic location. Purchase your tickets directly

from the driver at any tour stop or any seasonal ticket booth.

Adults: \$27.00
Children 3-11: \$13.00
202-554-5100
www.tourmobile.com

The Burning of Washington

August 24-25, 1814

By Ranger Jason Martz

Free trade and sailors rights

The War of 1812 was largely fought over this one phrase. Our burgeoning young country yearned to trade freely with any country, primarily either Great Britain or France, where American businesses could earn a fair price for their goods and services. However, a long-standing conflict between Great Britain and France precluded our young country from freely pursuing this end. Each country forbade American merchants to trade with its adversary and if American merchants were caught in this act their sailors were pressed into military service for whichever country caught the perpetrators. This, for both Great Britain and France, solved two problems. One, it kept supplies from reaching enemy shores, second, it boosted manpower for whichever country apprehended American sailors. Furthermore, the British still held broad tracts of land beyond America's frontier that some felt should become new United States territory.

As a result of the combined factors of a Great Britain weakened from years of war with France, the continued impressment of American sailors, and an increased desire to move ever westward, a second war with Great Britain seemed inevitable. Ultimately President James Madison declared war on Great Britain on June 1, 1812.

For the first two years of the conflict, engagements largely took place throughout the Great Lakes region and on the high seas of the Atlantic Ocean. Thankfully for our young republic, the British military was still fighting France, and could not afford to throw their entire military might upon the United States. But with the defeat of France in early 1814 British military leaders organized and initiated the Chesapeake Campaign. Their efforts focused on the region and ultimately the city that was the hive of British resistance, Baltimore, Maryland.

Once organized, British forces landed along the shore of the Patuxent River at Benedict, Maryland, (approximately forty miles southeast of Washington, D.C.) on July 19, 1814 and began to march northward under the command of General Robert Ross. Until this point, John Armstrong, United States Secretary of War, felt the British would continue marching north toward Baltimore and would bypass the Federal city and declared, "What the devil will they do here? No! No! Baltimore is the place... that is of so much more consequence."

When Ross decided to move

on Washington, D.C. instead of Baltimore, it came as a great surprise to American leaders as none of the possible river crossings had been secured and only a few thousand local militia could be mustered to meet this powerful threat. Ross chose a route that would allow his soldiers easy passage across the Eastern Branch of the Potomac River, now called the Anacostia River, and the crossing at Bladensburg, Maryland met his objective.

The early stage of the Battle of Bladensburg, on Wednesday, August 24, 1814, resulted in a victory for the hurriedly assembled American militia as they were able to beat back the British at the bridge crossing the Eastern Branch. This victory was short-lived as the British reorganized and were able to push past the ill-led and ill-trained American militia units. Although able to momentarily resist the oncoming red wave of war hardened, veteran British soldiers, the American forces broke and ran back into Washington and beyond in what became known as the Bladensburg Races.

Around 8 p.m. on August 24, 1814, British forces arrived at the northeast outskirts of the Federal city and were met with musket fire from a neighboring house. A ball from this musket fire killed the horse of General Ross and he ordered the home

to be set afire. This began the Burning of Washington as British forces torched numerous buildings in the Federal city including: the U.S. Capitol building, the President's House and the Treasury Department. The Navy Yard was also destroyed by American forces in order to keep ordinance and other supplies from falling into the hands of the British military.

With many of the important Washington structures ablaze the British retired for the night. The only thing that saved many of these structures was an unusually heavy rain storm that doused the flames. On August 25 the British began to retrace their steps back to Benedict where they reboarded their ships and made sail for Baltimore.

It would be in Baltimore Harbor were the British were finally turned back. After the British bombarded Fort McHenry for twenty-five straight hours, Francis Scott Key saw the Star Spangled Banner wave in the dawn's early light. This inspired a poem, which inspired a song, which became our national anthem in 1931.

Although the war came to a close when the Treaty of Ghent was

Martz Continued on page 8

The following excerpts help tell the tale of August 24, 1814 from two very different perspectives. First Lady Dolly Madison writes a hasty letter to her sister Anna and George Gleig, a British soldier who participated in the attack and burning of Washington, D.C. and the President's House.

Three o'clock. -- Will you believe it, my sister? We have had a battle, or skirmish, near Bladensburg, and here I am still, within sound of the cannon! Mr. Madison comes not. May God protect us! Two messengers, covered with dust, come to bid me fly; but here I mean to wait for him... At this late hour a wagon has been procured, and I have had it filled with plate and the most valuable portable articles, belonging to the house. Whether it will reach its destination, the "Bank of Maryland," or fall into the hands of British soldiery, events must determine. Our kind friend, Mr. Carrell, has come to hasten my departure, and in a very bad humor with me, because I insist on waiting until the large picture of General Washington is secured, and it requires to be unscrewed from the wall. This process was found too tedious for these perilous moments; I have ordered the frame to be broken, and the canvas taken out. It is done! And the precious portrait placed in the hands of two gentlemen of New York, for safe keeping. And now, dear sister, I must leave this house, or the retreating army will make me a prisoner in it by filling up the road I am directed to take. When I shall again write to you, or where I shall be to-morrow, I cannot tell!

Dolly Madison - First Lady and
Wife of President James Madison

When the detachment sent out to destroy Mr. Madison's house entered his dining parlor, they found a dinner table spread and covers laid for forty guests. Several kinds of wine, in handsome cut glass decanters, were cooling on the sideboard; plate holders stood by the fireplace, filled with dishes and plates; knives, forks, and spoons were arranged for immediate use; in short, everything was ready for the entertainment of a ceremonious party. Such were the arrangements in the dining room, whilst in the kitchen were others answerable to them in every respect. Spits, loaded with joints of various sorts, turned before the fire; pots, saucepans, and other culinary utensils stood upon the grate; and all the other requisites for an elegant and substantial repast were exactly in a state which indicated that they had been lately and precipitately abandoned.

You will readily imagine that these preparations were beheld by a party of hungry soldiers with no indifferent eye. An elegant dinner, even though considerably overdressed, was a luxury to which few of them, at least for some time back, had been accustomed, and which, after the dangers and fatigues of the day, appeared peculiarly inviting. They sat down to it, therefore, not indeed in the most orderly manner, but with countenances which would not have disgraced a party of aldermen at a civic feast, and, having satisfied their appetites with fewer complaints than would have probably escaped their rival gourmands, and partaken pretty freely of the wines, they finished by setting fire to the house which had so liberally entertained them.

George Gleig - British Soldier

KIDS' Column



Let's Celebrate the 94th Birthday of the National Park Service!



Fun NPS Facts

- President Woodrow Wilson signed the legislation to create the National Park Service on August 25, 1916.
- The first national park created was Yellowstone National Park.
- There are about 20,000 employees in the National Park Service.
- The largest national park is Wrangell-St. Elias in Alaska.
- The smallest national park is Thaddeus Kosciuszko National Memorial in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Happy Birthday National Park Service

National Parks Word Search

C H A C O C U L T U R E
 D E V I L S T O W E R X T K X
 C V S E E L M O R R O L A K E M E A D B S Y
 O S A N V C A B R I L L O C A P E C O D H T
 W A R A E Z I O N H A L E A K A L A V A I O
 P N A L R M N S H E N A N D O A H D S N L N
 E J T I G O L D E N G A T E T U Z I G O O T
 N U O B L U E R I D G E P A R K W A Y G H O
 S A G R A N D C A N Y O N T G L A C I E R
 N A J D T Q M A M M O T H C A V E H B Y
 F E D E R A L H A L L M V T U P E L O
 S R S A F O R T L A R A M I E Q K
 Z I I C O L O N I A L B R Y C E
 L T N E L L I S I S L A N D O
 K I Y O S E M I T E X A Q
 A E P E T R O G L Y P H
 R H O T S P R I N G S
 B A N D E L I E R
 B A D L A N D S
 B O S T O N

Parks in the Word Search

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------|
| Acadia | Devils Tower | Mammoth Cave |
| Badlands | El Morro | Mount Rainier |
| Bandelier | Ellis Island | Petroglyph |
| Blue Ridge Parkway | Everglades | San Juan |
| Boston | Federal Hall | Saratoga |
| Bryce (Canyon) | Fort Laramie | Shenandoah |
| Cabrillo | Glacier | Shiloh |
| Cape Cod | Golden Gate | Sitka |
| Chaco Culture | Grand Canyon | Tonto |
| Colonial | Haleakala | Tupelo |
| Cowpens | Hot Springs | Tuzigoot |
| Death Valley | Lake Mead | Yosemite |
| Denali | Lava (Beds) | Zion |



CAN YOU SOLVE THIS MONTH'S MALL MYSTERY?

How many national park units are there in the system today?

Message from the Superintendent

August is a great time to experience your national park. Our ranger staff presents interpretive programs throughout the park including park-wide walking tours and shorter detailed programs of each memorial.

To learn more about the future of the National Mall, visit the National Mall Plan website, www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan to read current alternatives, express ideas, and follow our progress.

Page through this newspaper to find out more about the many fascinating ranger programs offered throughout the park. Our park staff and volunteers will be glad to answer any of your questions. Thanks for visiting, and have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Superintendent
John Piltzecker

“Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

National Park Service Organic Act

August 25, 1916

Potomac Nature Packs

Birds, Bugs and Trees, OH MY!

Discover the wild side of the National Mall with nature packs designed to engage the entire family. Each pack is filled with a sketch pad, binoculars, books, park brochures, maps, and activities for the whole family. These self-guided nature packs allow the whole family to put on their Eagle eyes, and explore the unbelievable sights and sounds of the National Mall!

Packs are available at the Survey Lodge Ranger Station near the southwest corner of the Washington Monument grounds. Packs are available on a first come, first served basis, and require an adult's drivers license. One pack per family. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.



Old Post Office Tower

The Old Post Office, built between 1892 and 1899, is home to the Bells of Congress, which were a gift from England on our Nation's Bicentennial. From the observation deck, located 270 feet above the street level, the visitor can get a spectacular view of our Nation's Capital.



Operating Hours

Summer: Memorial Day through Labor Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Winter: Labor Day through Memorial Day

Monday through Saturday
9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays
10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

202-606-8691

www.nps.gov/opot

Ranger led walking tours of Pennsylvania Avenue

Upon Request:
Saturdays and Sundays
11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Join a park ranger for an interpretive program to learn more about one of Washington, D.C.'s more impressive and fascinating landmarks, the Old Post Office Tower. Tours are by

request. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

For Whom the Bell Tolls: The Washington Ringing Society and the Bells of Congress

First Thursday of every month
6:45 p.m.

The art of change ringing goes back to the Middle Ages, and you can experience it first-hand at the Old Post Office Tower! To learn more about the systematic ringing of the Bells of Congress, join members of the Washington Ringing Society the first Thursday of each month for a full explanation of the Bells of Congress, why they are here, and how they work. The program will be followed by their weekly practice session. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

Martz Continued from page 6

signed on December 24, 1814 in Ghent, Belgium, the war would continue in the United States due to the slow pace at which news spread from one continent to another. During this time the United States won an overwhelming victory at the Battle of New Or-

leans in January, 1815. This victory helped to launch the political career of Andrew Jackson. Once the Treaty of Ghent arrived in the United States it was ratified by the U.S. Congress and signed by President Madison on February 16.

The War of 1812 ended with an agreement of *status quo ante bellum*,

Latin meaning *the state in which things were before the war*. Trade resumed, impressment ended and no meaningful territory had been won or lost by either side.

There are numerous sites in Washington, D.C. that relate to the War of 1812 and the Burning of Washington to include:

- Octagon House. The temporary White House where Madison signed the Treaty of Ghent.
- Andrew Jackson statue in Lafayette Park.
- Albert Gallatin statue on the north side of the Treasury Building.
- and many others.

Be sure to visit the updated Lincoln Memorial website! <http://www.nps.gov/linc>

Highlights include a new Lincoln Memorial Construction Flipbook and an Interactive Site. The flipbook utilizes historic photographs to tell the story of the memorial construction from inception to completion. You can experience a virtual walk-through of the memorial, and listen to ranger reflections of the memorial and its history on the Interactive Site.

