



Jim Doyle, Governor
John A. Scocos, Secretary

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Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs to host Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony

(MADISON) -- December 7th marks the 63rd anniversary of the unexpected attack in 1941 by Japanese forces at Pearl Harbor. President Franklin Roosevelt called December 7, 1941 "a date which will live in infamy."

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle signed a proclamation declaring December 7, 2004 "Pearl Harbor Day" in Wisconsin. "Throughout 2004, we have remembered and honored the many brave Americans who fought valiantly during World War II," Governor Doyle said. "It is fitting that we close this special commemorative year with Tuesday's unveiling by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs of a bronze plaque in memory of all World War II veterans. This plaque will serve as a fine reminder of all those who served during the Second World War."

The plaque will be unveiled during a special event to commemorate Pearl Harbor Day, to be hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs on **Tuesday, December 7, 2004 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum at 30 W. Mifflin Street. The department hopes to have the plaque permanently placed in the state Capitol, in honor of veterans of WWII.

"The men and women of the greatest generation have made a contribution to the country and the world not seen before or since. We at the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs are here to assist World War II veterans, and through our 'Mission: Welcome Home' program, we look forward to receiving the newest generation of combat veterans engaged in advancing freedom for the peoples of Iraq and Afghanistan," said Secretary John A. Scocos.

The department will host a Pearl Harbor Day commemoration event to honor World War II veterans and especially Pearl Harbor veterans. Secretary Scocos will present the Governor's Proclamation to WWII veterans attending the ceremony, who had been at or near Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Also attending will be members of the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs and veterans organizations. Legislators, veterans, and the public are invited to attend.

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum is located across the street from the State Capitol. For further information, call 1-800-WIS-VETS (947-8387).