



# ***MERCHANT NAVY VETERANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE***

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## ***Media Advisory***

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August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005

**Merchant Navy Veterans Day  
Ceremony at the National War Memorial  
September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005**

**Ottawa** – Members of the media and the public are invited to attend a wreath laying ceremony to commemorate the *2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the Merchant Navy Day of Remembrance*, in keeping with *The Year of the Veteran*, and the *60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the End of the Second World War*, at the National War Memorial in Ottawa.

This year's Merchant Navy Day of Remembrance ceremony is the second to be held at the National War Memorial in Ottawa, an historical precedent that began at last year's event. Each year we will continue to recognize the Merchant Navy's valiant contributions and sacrifices, as the fourth arm of the Canadian Forces, which were the mainstay of the Allied Force's victory in 1945.

During the Second World War, a total of 25,343 merchant ships, with 164,783,921 tons of cargo on board, sailed from North America to Britain. The Canadian Merchant Navy suffered the highest losses, losing one seafarer in eight of the 12,000 who served in the crews of the Canadian, British, and Allied merchant ships.

This commemorative ceremony will include representatives from Canadian Veterans' organizations, a small youth contingent of cadets, Parliamentarians, embassies, and various government representatives.

**Date:** Friday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005

**Time:** 10:30am

**Location:** National War Memorial  
Ottawa, Ontario

**Media Enquiries:**

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