

VETERANS DAY

November 11, 2018

This year Veterans Day represents a significant anniversary. It is the 100th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice which ended World War I. American Expeditionary Forces were sent to Europe in 1917 by President Woodrow Wilson to assist our British and French allies whose efforts against the Germans were stalemated. The American doughboys were commanded by General John F. 'Black Jack' Pershing whose entrance into the conflict on the Western Front brought Germany to the peace table. Originally celebrated as Armistice Day, the name was changed to Veterans Day in 1954. Nevertheless, the signing of the armistice is commemorated on each year on November 11th, the eleventh month, the eleventh hour, the eleventh minute, by a moment of silence to honor the sacrifice of those who fought in the war "*to keep the world safe for democracy.*"

World War I and World War II represented victories for America. Unfortunately, these victories were discarded by national leaders and politicians whose blood was never shed. Sadly, our ally, Czarist Russia, was overthrown by the Bolsheviks and our enemy, the Muslim regime in Turkey, was allowed free reign to slaughter and enslave 1.5 million Christian Armenians and Greeks so that American robber barons could derive benefit from exploiting Turkey's natural resources. Even our victory of 50 years ago in defeating the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong during the TET Offensive was discarded when President Johnson curtailed the bombing of North Vietnam to bring the communists to the engage in the peace conference in Paris. The communists used this as an opportunity to rebuild their forces and as a result, American casualties increased and our leaders succumbed to the forces who demanded our withdrawal from the Republic of Vietnam and the abandonment of our allies and American prisoners of war and missing in action. Of course, history has repeated itself in Iraq and Afghanistan with the withdrawal and reduction of our forces, respectively, by the previous administration.

President Trump had originally suggested a massive parade this Veterans Day to honor our nation's military and our veterans. However, complaining that such an event would be too costly, the Mayor of Washington DC fought against it. I daresay if the previous president had suggested it the mayor would have supported the idea. Consequently, it is up to us, surviving veterans and patriotic Americans, to remember this important event in our nation's history and its significance.

In 2016, Americans stood for the return of America's greatness. This past Election Day, some of that impetus may have been lost for various reasons, however, America's *greatness* still has an opportunity to be restored by patriotic national leaders who realize that American greatness would never have been achieved without VETERANS. The sacrifices made by American veterans must never be forgotten

Thanks to America's Veterans may you enjoy a BLESSED VETERANS DAY!