



America's Defenders

Veteran's History Project Urges YOU To Get Involved In American History

(NAPSA)—Part of America's history is on the verge of disappearing. It's estimated 1,600 American war veterans die each day. There is an urgent need to tell and collect personal wartime accounts while the veterans are still among us.

How can we ensure their stories live forever? How can the public help to preserve this firsthand history so that future generations will understand the sacrifices and courageous acts that preserved our freedom?

Fortunately, the Library of Congress's Veterans History Project has responded by involving Americans of all ages and backgrounds in the preservation of our national collective memory.

This ongoing program calls for everyone to help collect oral histories, along with letters, journals, and photographs from veterans who served in World War I, World War II, and the Korean, Vietnam, and Persian Gulf Wars, as well as from those who served in support of them.

The Veterans History Project is part of the Library of Congress's American Folklife Center. AARP is the sole founding private-sector sponsor.

The Veterans History Project has already received 3,000 submissions. But, there is still a need for more Americans to contribute by recording their wartime experiences or volunteering to take a veteran's story. It can be an excellent opportunity for a child to learn more about his or her father or grandmother or uncle.

The Veterans History Project has over 420 partners from a wide range of veterans' organizations, military installations, civic and



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youth groups, museums, libraries, historical societies, and educational institutions.

AARP is mobilizing its 35 million members to help the Veterans History Project, and its partners, by recruiting veterans to tell and submit their stories as well as encouraging all Americans to participate by interviewing veterans and recording their stories.

If you are a veteran of WWI, WWII, or the Korean, Vietnam or Persian Gulf Wars, or if you supported on the home front, the Veterans History Project wants your story. If you know a veteran, the Veterans History Project needs you to take his or her oral history.

To learn more visit the Web site at www.loc.gov/veterans or call a toll free number, 1-888-371-5848.

