

U.S. Mission to the OECD Paris, France

Press Release: May 23, 2008



Memorial Day Services of Remembrance

On May 26, 2008, the United States of America will observe a day of prayer for permanent peace to remember servicemen and women who lost their lives in service to their country. On Memorial Day, the United States pays tribute to their personal courage, love of country, and dedication to duty.

Memorial Day services will take place on Sunday, May 25 at 11 American military cemeteries in France. Ambassador Christopher F. Egan, U.S. Permanent Representative to the OECD, will bring remarks on behalf of the United States Government at the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial at 10:30am. In remembering those who died, Ambassador Egan noted, “On this Day of Memory, we mourn brave citizens who laid their lives down for our freedom. They lived and died as Americans. May we always honor them. May we always embrace them. And may we always be faithful to who they were and what they fought for.”

Memorial Day has been observed in the United States since 1868 to honor those who died in fighting for their country. Since 1950, the President issues a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace and designating a period on that day when the people of the U.S. might unite in prayer. The Congress has also designated the minute beginning at 3:00pm local time in the United States on that day as a time for all Americans to observe the National Moment of Remembrance.

For a copy of Ambassador Egan’s remarks please visit the U.S. Mission to the OECD website at www.usoecd.org

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