

White Shield American Legion Members Travel to Normandy for 82nd D-Day Anniversary

Members of the American Legion Young Hawk/Bear Post 253 and Auxiliary Unit 253 of White Shield traveled overseas this summer to take part in commemorations marking the 82nd anniversary of D-Day in Normandy, France.

The group arrived in Normandy for a series of major remembrance events held around June 6, 2026, honoring the Allied invasion that helped turn the tide of World War II. Ceremonies across the region paid tribute to the courage, sacrifice and service of the Allied forces who stormed the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Nearly 160,000 Allied troops landed in Normandy on D-Day, including about 73,000 Americans. The invasion, known as Operation Overlord, involved troops from the United States, Great Britain, Canada and other Allied nations and opened the way for the liberation of Western Europe.

For members of Post 253 and Unit 253, the trip carried special meaning. As representatives of White Shield and the American Legion family, they joined visitors, military officials, veterans' organizations and families from around the world in honoring those who served and those who never returned home.

The 82nd anniversary was especially poignant because it is expected to be among the last major D-Day commemorations attended by living World War II veterans. With the youngest surviving veterans now in their late 90s or older, each anniversary has become an increasingly rare opportunity to hear their stories firsthand and to thank them in person.

For the White Shield delegation, the journey was both a tribute and a commitment to remembrance. By traveling to Normandy, members of the Young Hawk/Bear Post 253 and Auxiliary Unit 253 helped ensure that the legacy of D-Day, the service of World War II veterans and the sacrifices made for freedom continue to be remembered by future generations.

(White Shield News Article)