From Rome to the Alps and Victory

-American Battle Monuments Commission
This agency of the United States government operates and maintains 26 American cemeteries and 30 memorials, monuments and markers in 17 countries. The Commission works to fulfill the vision of its first chairman, General of the Armies John J. Pershing. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Forces during World War I, promised that “time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”

Florence American Cemetery and Memorial
The cemetery site was liberated by the 6th South African Armored Division of the U.S. Fifth Army, on August 3, 1944. It lies astride the Greve River and is framed by wooded hills. The government of Italy granted its use as a permanent burial ground in perpetuity without charge or taxation.

For more information on this site and other ABMC commemorative sites, please visit www.abmc.gov

“Time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”
- General of the Armies John J. Pershing
After the liberation of Rome on June 5, 1944, the U.S. Fifth Army and British Eighth Army, supported by the Mediterranean Allied Air Forces (MAAF), pushed northward toward the Gothic Line. That was a major German defense taking advantage of the Apennines that separate central Italy from the Po Valley.

July 18, 1944: The 361st Infantry Regiment of the 91st Infantry Division was the first unit to reach the Arno River.

July 19: U.S. forces, including the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, seized the port of Leghorn.

August 4: Florence fell to the Allies.

August 25: Eighth Army attacked the eastern half of the Gothic Line. Fifth Army attacked the western half soon after.

Mid-October: The northward drive halted south of Bologna. Shortages of personnel and supplies, and the onset of severe weather contributed.

April 9, 1945: Heavy and medium bombers of the MAAF pounded German positions defending Bologna as Eighth Army resumed the offensive. Fifth Army joined the effort on April 14.

April 17: 10th Mountain Division pierced German defenses south of Bologna, opening the way forward.

April 21: Bologna fell to the Fifth Army.

April 25: 10th Mountain Division approached Verona.

April 27: The 92nd Infantry Division entered Genoa. From there, U.S. units struck northwestern to link up with French Resistance forces.

May 2: All German forces in Italy surrendered.

The long and bloody Allied campaign liberated Italy and contributed to the success of campaigns elsewhere in Europe.

FROM ROME TO THE ALPS AND VICTORY

Useful Information

 Visitors Building
Here you can meet our staff, get your questions answered, and sign the guest register.

Guidons of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, July 27, 1944.

From the Via Cassia entrances, the crescent drive leads to parking near the visitor building. The graves area and memorial are reached via a small bridge over the Greve River.

Table of the Missing
Names and particulars of 1,409 persons missing in action appear on tablets connecting the memorial's north and south aisles. A Medal of Honor recipient's name is inscribed in gold.

Spirit of Peace
The sculpture representing the spirit of peace surmounts the pylon in front of the memorial. The figure hovers over the fallen, bearing olive branches.

Graves Area
The 4,398 headstones in eight plots radiate in gentle arcs from the memorial pylon. Their array enhances the harmonious relationship between the graves area and the memorial.

Headstone Location

PLOT: .................................................................
ROW: ............................................................
GRAVE: ............................................................

Medal of Honor Recipient
Headstones of recipients of the Medal of Honor are inscribed in gold, as on the one marking the grave of Sgt. Roy W. Harmon.

Standing Watch
The sculpture of a soldier of the 363rd Regiment, 91st Infantry Division, stands watch over the graves of the fallen.

Entrance Gate
Entrance gates of the Florence American Cemetery welcome visitors arriving via the Via Cassia from north or south. Tuscan cypress trees flank the gates.

Tablets of the Missing

Medal of Honor Recipient

Headstones of recipients of the Medal of Honor are inscribed in gold, as on the one marking the grave of Sgt. Roy W. Harmon.

Standing Watch
The sculpture of a soldier of the 363rd Regiment, 91st Infantry Division, stands watch over the graves of the fallen.

Entrance Gate
Entrance gates of the Florence American Cemetery welcome visitors arriving via the Via Cassia from north or south. Tuscan cypress trees flank the gates.

Tablets of the Missing
Names and particulars of 1,409 persons missing in action appear on tablets connecting the memorial's north and south aisles. A Medal of Honor recipient's name is inscribed in gold.

Spirit of Peace
The sculpture representing the spirit of peace surmounts the pylon in front of the memorial. The figure hovers over the fallen, bearing olive branches.

Graves Area
The 4,398 headstones in eight plots radiate in gentle arcs from the memorial pylon. Their array enhances the harmonious relationship between the graves area and the memorial.

Headstone Location

PLOT: .................................................................
ROW: ............................................................
GRAVE: ............................................................


Tablets of the Missing: 1,409  Multiple burials: 2 headstones with 2 remains, and 1 with 3 sets of brothers; 6

Medal of Honor Recipient: 2 interred, and 1 memorialized  Dedicated: July 25, 1960

Useful Information

Visitor Building
Here you can meet our staff, get your questions answered, and sign the guest register.