

The background of the entire page is a stylized American flag. The top-left corner features a dark blue canton with a grid of white stars. The rest of the page is filled with horizontal stripes, alternating between a dark red and a light gray color.

# Centennial Flag Project

Develop a special Flag to be flown at key locations surrounding the World War I Unknown Soldier selection and journey home to the United States during the national commemoration of the Centennial of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Updated October 29, 2021

# Centennial Flag Project

- Work with partners to follow the history of the World War I Unknown Soldier and fly a US Flag at key locations surrounding the events in 1921.
  - Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
  - Tomb Guard Platoon, 3d United States Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard)
  - Independence Seaport Museum (ISM)
  - American Battle Monument Commission (ABMC)
  - City of Châlons-en-Champagne (FR)
  - City of Le Havre (FR)
  - Naval District Washington (NDW)
  - United States Capitol



# Centennial Flag Project Background

- Project proposed by SHGTUS Assistant Quartermaster, and current Frist Responder in Pennsylvania
  - The project is based on a flag used each year by fire department honor guards at the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Weekend.
  - Contents of the case will include:
    - US Flag
    - Framed Photo of TUS prior to 1931
    - Special Coins to commemorate TUS100
    - Small piece of wood decking from USS Olympia
    - Small vial of crushed headstones from 3 candidates not selected
    - Link to website where full story/photos can be found



Centennial Flag Case



# Centennial Flag Project Status

- Permissions needed:
  - TUS Platoon
    - **Agreed** to participate
  - ISM
    - **Agreed** to participate, developed plan for date
  - ABMC
    - **Agreed** to allow flag to be flown at sites
    - **Agreed** approval for crushed headstone
  - Châlons-en-Champagne (FR)
    - **Agreed** to drape flag on casket during vigil and ceremony
  - Le Havre (FR)
    - **Agreed** approval to use during ceremonies
  - NDW
    - **Agreed** to use flag during ceremonies
  - US Capitol
    - **Pending approval**

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- Materials needed:

- Pelican Case Secured
- US interment sized flag Secured
- Coins
  - 2 x TUS100 Coin secured
  - 2 x France Tour coin secured
- Vial for crushed headstone material
  - 8oz glass vial (3" in height) Secured
- Wood decking from USS Olympia Secured
- Links to website(s)
  - Under development

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- Specific Details for SHGTUS Members
  - ~~Hathaway~~ brings flag to TUS on May 24
  - ~~Livingston~~ pickup after memorial day, take to Olympia on September 27
  - ~~Hathaway~~ returns flag to TUS
  - ~~Livingston~~ transports flag to France
  - ~~**All tour members participate during events in France**~~
  - ~~Livingston~~ transports flag back to US, secures it in SOG office
  - McIlvenna picks up flag from TUS November 7
  - TBD transports flag to US Capitol on November 10
  - TBD / McIlvenna returns flag to TUS before November 11
  - Hathaway picks up flag after November 11 for Reunion
  - Hathaway / McIlvenna returns flag to TUS platoon after Reunion for final display

# Centennial Flag Project Background

## Timeline:

- **May 31, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - Post the Flag at TUS on Memorial Day by members of the Platoon. Platoon would retire the Flag and fold it, as well as prepare it for transport to France in custom made case.
- **September 27, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - Society transports the Flag to the USS *Olympia*, where it is flown from the ship, marking the start of the mission in 1921. It is then folded and placed in the case for transport to France.
- **October 15, 2021- *Mission Complete***
  - Society will transport Flag to France.

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- **October 21, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is escorted to the St. Mihiel American Cemetery, flown from cemetery Flagpole prior to ceremonies, then lowered, folded and placed in case prior to departure.
- **October 22, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is escorted to the Aisne-Marne and Somme American Cemeteries, flown from the individual flagpoles prior to ceremonies, then lowered, folded and placed in case prior to departure.
- **October 23, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is transported to the Meuse-Argonne Cemetery where it is flown from cemetery Flagpole prior to ceremonies, then lowered, and refolded.
  - Upon conclusion of the planned ceremony the Flag is then taken to the headstones of the three candidates not selected.

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- **October 23, 2021 (continued) - *Mission Complete***
  - After the headstones are cleaned the Flag is then unfolded and refolded in the center of the three headstones, honors rendered, and refolded.
  - The Flag will be touched to each headstone.
  - The Flag is transported to Châlons-en-Champagne, where it will cover the coffin used during the vigil that night.
- **October 24, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is used during ceremonies to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the selection of the World War I Unknown Soldier. Upon conclusion of ceremonies the flag is folded and placed in case prior to departure.

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- **October 25, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is transported to Le Havre, where it will be used during ceremonies to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the departure of the World War I Unknown Soldier from France to the United States.
- **October 26, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - The Flag is escorted to Paris and brought to the wreath ceremony at the French Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
  - The Flag would be placed on display that evening for the gala.
- **October 28, 2021 - *Mission Complete***
  - Society will transport Flag to the United States.

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- **November 9, 2021**

- The Flag is unfolded and refolded during the dedication of the historical plaque at the Navy Yard, marking the exact time/date 100 years later of the arrival home aboard the USS *Olympia*.

- *Under Development* **November 10, 2021**

- The Flag is presented at the US Capitol to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when the World War I Unknown Soldier lay in state in 1921. Then it is retrieved and refolded by the Society Members and delivered to the TUS Platoon.

- **November 11, 2021**

- The Flag is flown at the TUS for Veterans Day, retrieved and then refolded by the platoon. This would be the last time it is folded, until used in a similar manner for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the double internment in 2058.

# Centennial Flag Project Background

- **November 12-14, 2021**

- The Flag would be on display at the hotel during the centennial celebration.
- The Flag is escorted into the gala and placed on display at the front of the venue.
- During the banquet, a presentation will be made on the project which will include photos/video.
- Upon conclusion of Reunion, the Flag is placed on permanent display in the platoon quarters or entrance display case.



## Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

May 31, 2021

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
Arlington National Cemetery

- 2 x TUS Platoon members
- 1 x SHGTUS representative

- 07:00 – Raise Flag
- 17:00 – Lower flag
- 17:02 – Fold flag
- TBD – Pass off flag to SHGTUS

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

September 27, 2021 @ 11:50am  
Independence Seaport Museum

*Mission complete*

- 11:00 – Rehearsal
- 11:45 – Move into position at flagpole
- 11:48 – Unfold Flag
- 11:50 – Raise Flag on USS Olympia, render honors
- 11:52 – Lower flag
- 11:54 – Fold flag





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 21, 2021 @ 13:05pm  
St. Mihiel Cemetery, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 22, 2021 @ 9:05am

Aisne-Marne Cemetery, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 22, 2021 @ 14:35pm  
Somme Cemetery, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 23, 2021 @ 09:05am

Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 23, 2021 @ 09:45am

Meuse-Argonne Cemetery, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 23, 2021 @ 16:30pm  
Châlons-en-Champagne, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 24, 2021 @ 10:00am  
Châlons-en-Champagne, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

**October 25**, 2021 @ 10:00am  
Le Havre, France

*Mission complete*





# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

October 26, 2021 @ 16:30pm  
Arc de Triomphe, Paris, France

*Mission complete*



## Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

**November 9**, 2021 @ 15:00pm  
Navy Yard, Washington DC

- 1 x SHGTUS representative
- 15:00 – Ceremony Starts



# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

November 10, 2021

United States Capitol Building

- 2 x SHGTUS representatives
- 1 x TUS Platoon representative

- TBD – Unfold Flag
- TBD – Present flag
- TBD – Refold flag
- TBD – Pass off flag to TUS Platoon



# Centennial Flag Project Specific Event Timeline

**November 11, 2021**

Tomb of the Unknown Soldier  
Arlington National Cemetery

- 2 x TUS Platoon members
- 1 x SHGTUS representative

- 07:00 – Raise Flag
- 17:00 – Lower flag
- 17:02 – Fold flag
- **TBD** – Pass off flag to SHGTUS