



April 2019

Sailing to the Normandy Beaches License Plate to D-Day

“Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force, you are about to embark on the great crusade...”

75 years have elapsed since General Dwight “Ike” Eisenhower delivered those famous words to the men who were about to enter continental Europe in the world’s largest military operation, today known as D-Day.



***79th Infantry Division Monument at La Haye-du-Puits
just west of Utah Beach, France***

Earlier this month, in observance of the 75th Anniversary of Normandy, this Tennessee Battlefield preservation supporter journeyed to Normandy to honor his father and his friends who served in the 313th Infantry Regiment of the 79th Infantry Division.

The 79th Infantry Division landed on Utah Beach, reinforcing the first landings of June 6th, 1945. After their initial landing on June 8th, they captured the critical port of Cherbourg. In hand-to-hand combat, elements of the 79th captured Fort Du Roule, a 19th century brick fort atop a high hill in Cherbourg - where, 80 years prior, in June 1864, French spectators watched the duel between the CSS Alabama and the USS Kearsage in the harbor below - one of the most famous American Civil War naval battles fought in foreign waters.



Commanding the 313th Division was Colonel Sterling A. Wood, son of Confederate General S.A.M. Wood who commanded a brigade in Cleburne's Division at Chickamauga. Another Tennessean under Wood's command was killed in France five months after Normandy and is now buried in Chattanooga's National Cemetery.

As the 75th Anniversary of D-Day approaches, we remember the contributions of Tennessee's "greatest generation." They left a legacy of honor in the traditions of their Civil War forebears.

Send Us a Photo of Your Plate

Share a photo of your Civil War license plate at a Tennessee battlefield or Civil War site. Email your photo and name of the battlefield or site to info@tcwpa.org. We'll do the rest. Help tell the stories of Tennessee's Civil War history.

Complimentary Membership

Not a member of the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association? After purchasing a Civil War Battlefield specialty plate, you are eligible to receive a complimentary 1-year membership. Visit tcwpa.org/license-plate for more details.



You can purchase the license plate at your County Clerk's office for \$36.00 plus your regular registration fees. Proceeds from the sale of the plate will help protect and interpret important battlefields in Tennessee.

For more information, visit: tcwpa.org/license-plate

The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association preserves and interprets Tennessee's Civil War Battlefields and their contributing landscapes for present and future generations.

Become a member: tcwpa.org/join Make a donation: tcwpa.org/donate [Purchase a license plate](http://tcwpa.org/license-plate)

