



# IRC Page

May 2011

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## Memorial Day Last Monday in May

Memorial Day is a holiday celebrated by Americans on the last Monday of May to remember and honor those who died while in the military service. In this picture, a family visits the gravesite of a loved one during Memorial Day at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. It is the largest national cemetery in the United States. Not only are members of the armed forces buried here; astronauts, explorers and



Each year some 5,000 to 6,000 U.S. flags are placed on the headstones of deceased service personnel in this cemetery. On Memorial Day millions of Americans visit cemeteries to honor members of the U.S. military who died in defense of their country.

other distinguished Americans have all be honored with a special place here.

**ពន្យល់ពាក្យគន្លឹះ:**

Be In the military service: បំរើក្នុងជួរកងទ័ព

Cemetery: កន្លែងបញ្ចុះសព ទីស្នូសាន

Be honored: ផ្តល់កិត្តិយស



Isabel Diaz of Fresno, California, cleans the headstone of her husband Phillip Diaz, a World War II Navy veteran, in preparation for Memorial Day.



Visitors stop to read the names on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at sunrise during the Memorial Day weekend in Washington.



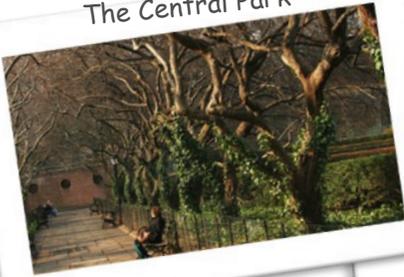
Floating candle-lit lanterns are released into the Pacific Ocean during the Lantern Floating Hawaii ceremony in Honolulu, a traditional Buddhist ceremony conducted every Memorial Day.

# The United States of America - Focus On:

## New York City

New Yorkers often feel they are at the center of the universe; sometimes they are. New York has Wall Street, the theater district, the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, world-class museums, and street vendors offering foods of the world's nations. It commands the world's attention. Every chef who opens a restaurant here, every designer who presents a line of clothing and every artist who hangs work in a gallery feels the buzz of excitement that threads each square block of the Big Apple. Visitors have the pleasure of absorbing that energy, whether they are bombarded by the grandiose flashiness of Times Square or given the soft sell by artists presenting their crafts in Union Square Park.

The Central Park



View from Empire State Building



The Metropolitan Museum of Art



The Statue of Liberty

### Quiz

Memorial Day became a federal holiday in 1971, and is now observed on the last Monday in May. Memorial Day was started to remember those who died in what conflict?

- A. The World War I
- B. The American Civil War
- C. Conflict between Democratic Party and Republican Party

The correct answer is:

Email your answer to [wfr@state.gov](mailto:wfr@state.gov).  
The first person who finds the correct answer will win a prize from us!

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### Information Resource Center

#### Time of Operation

Visitors Walk-in Hours

Monday - Friday\*

08:00 a.m. to 17:00 p.m.

13:30 p.m. - 16:30 p.m.

Phone: (855-23) 728-274 or (855-23) 728-286

Fax: (855-23) 728-800

\* Except public holidays

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