

Congressman Jo Bonner personally welcomed a group of over 90 World War II veterans to the nation's capital on Wednesday, May 12th.

He greeted the Honor Flight South Alabama delegation during their noon arrival at the World War II Memorial, presenting them with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol in their honor and a tribute he entered into the *Congressional Record* commemorating their historic journey.

The non-profit Honor Flight South Alabama program provides free transportation to and from Washington, DC for local World War II veterans, enabling them to see for the first time the recently-dedicated World War II Memorial, which was built in their honor.

Speaking to the veterans from the Alabama pillar at the World War II Memorial, Congressman Bonner praised the sacrifices that each made to save the world from tyranny more than a half century ago.

"Nearly 70 years ago, you left the safety of your families to defend our land against an unspeakable evil and in the process you faced an unknown future," Congressman Bonner said.

“Your bravery and patriotism continue to inspire the generations that have followed you and have enjoyed the freedoms that you and your comrades fought to protect. We can never repay the debt we owe to you for the preservation of our liberty.”

While in Washington, each veteran was also afforded visits to the Korean War Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery.

Honor Flight South Alabama left Mobile at approximately 7 am Wednesday and was scheduled to return to Mobile to a hero's welcome at 7:30 pm.

