

ROBERT MENENDEZ
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN
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FINANCE
FOREIGN RELATIONS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

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Mr. Robert Turkavage
Chairman
Friends of Bernie Friedenber
219 North Roosevelt Boulevard
Brigantine, New Jersey 08203

Marco Polo Smigliani
Vice Chairman
Friends of Bernie Friedenber
219 North Roosevelt Boulevard
Brigantine, New Jersey 08203

Dear Mr. Turkavage and Mr. Smigliani:

I was pleased to learn of the efforts of the Friends of Bernie Friedenber to recognize the distinguished service Bernard Friedenber during World War II.

Staff Sergeant Bernard Friedenber was born in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He was deployed to many of the key battles of World War II, including: Operation Torch in Algeria in 1942; as a member of the "Fighting First" in the campaign for Sicily in August, 1943; Omaha Beach on D-Day, June 6, 1944; and through the fields of France into Aachen, Germany, in 1944. Bernard was also involved in the infamous Battle of the Bulge in December 1944. He was in Czechoslovakia at the end of the War and afterwards, assigned to occupation duty in Germany.

Bernard returned to the United States in the fall of 1945. He served as a member of the Medical Detachment, 1st Battalion, 16th Regiment, and 1st Infantry Division during his military service. It was his duty to remove wounded soldiers from the front lines to nearby aid stations, where he would tend to their wounds.

Bernard Friedenber was a highly decorated soldier, receiving his first Silver Star for making five trips under heavy enemy fire to recover the wounded soldiers from a minefield on Omaha Beach. He was awarded another Silver Star for his actions in Munsterbusch, Germany. He was awarded, twice, the Bronze Star for valor and was the recipient of two Purple Hearts for the injuries he received.

Up until Bernard's death in 2018, he regularly spoke to middle and high school students about his World War II experiences. He also was the author of his book "Of Being Numerous: World War II as I saw It". Bernard was recognized by former New Jersey Governor, Jon Corzine, in 2009 and was honored at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, in 2016.

Bernard Friedenber answered the call of our Nation to defend our freedom. He served with courage, bravery and resolve. His service is a reminder of the sacrifices and contributions made by those of the greatest generation.

Sincerely,


ROBERT MENENDEZ
United States Senator

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