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**TEXAS LIBERATORS EXHIBIT SHARES STORIES OF TEXAS VETERANS WHO
LIBERATED NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS**

AUSTIN, Texas— Seventy seven years since the United States declared war on the Axis powers and the first American troops went into battle for what would be known as World War II (WWII), the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission (THGC) is touring *The Texas Liberator: Witness to the Holocaust* exhibit.

When U.S. soldiers from Texas arrived at concentration camps during WWII, they were not prepared for the inhumanity they discovered. After being hailed as “liberators,” many soldiers were haunted for the rest of their lives by what they had seen. The exhibit features firsthand accounts of Texas soldiers who bore witness to the Holocaust.

The exhibit is part of a larger *Texas Liberator Project* which is a one-of-a-kind collaboration between THGC and Texas Tech University dedicated to preserving history and educating future generations about the horrors of the Holocaust. The project includes an interactive website, traveling exhibit, a printed book featuring the narratives of 21 Texas liberators, and an Honor Roll of more than 350 Texas liberators identified to date, compiled on a user-friendly website, texasliberators.org. In November, THGC premieres the virtual tour of the exhibit online.

The traveling exhibit introduces the history of World War II and shares the oral histories and photographs of what Texas soldiers saw at the camps. The traveling exhibit was previously at the Texas Capitol and Holocaust Museum Houston. It will be on display at the USS Lexington through December 2018. The exhibit will be on tour through 2020 with stops in Midland, Hutto, Corpus Christi, Killeen, Dallas, and Fredericksburg.

Since 2009, THGC has been dedicated to bringing awareness of the Holocaust and other genocides to Texas students, educators, and the general public by ensuring availability of resources, and in doing so imbue in individuals a sense of responsibility to uphold human value and inspire citizens in the prevention of future atrocities. For more information regarding Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission programming, visit www.thgc.texas.gov.