

Class of 2018 presents USAWC with gift commemorating heroic sacrifices of WWI

By Robert Martin 19 June 2018



The resident class of 2018 dedicates their class gift of Lady Liberty tomorrow, June 20, at 8:30 a.m. in front of Root Hall near the flag pole. the statue represents the United States as a symbol of democracy and freedom.

The resident class of 2018 dedicated a class gift to the Army War College during a ceremony at the flagpole in front of Root Hall tomorrow June 20. The gift commemorates the centennial of Armistice Day and the end of World War I.

The statue of Lady Liberty represents the United States as a symbol of democracy and freedom. She wears a crown of olive leaves and holds an olive branch in her out-stretched left hand to represent peace. In her right hand, she holds a sword to symbolize power, protection, authority, strength, and courage to defend freedom.

The class of 2018 chose artist Gray Casteel to sculpt their gift. After some discussion, the class and Casteel agreed on Lady Liberty "to symbolize the cause of freedom and liberty preserved by the Allied victory during WWI," said Lt. Col. Scott Dellinger, the Gift Committee Chairman, during the ceremony.

Casteel based his representation of Lady Liberty on the committee's descriptions and illustrations provided to him. "I did some drawings based on their concept, and then together we chose what we would do with it, so we decided on a deep relief of Lady Liberty, with sword in one hand and an olive leaf in her other," he said.

On the backside of the granite supporting the bronze relief is a quote from Gen. John J. Pershing that reads, "I hope... Soldiers may learn to battle and to vanquish for the liberty of the World."



Lady Liberty is hoisted into the air on her way to her permanent place on the grounds of the Army War College in front of Root Hall during her installation. June 15.

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