WHO WAS KILROY?

WWII soldiers often claimed that wherever they went, even on remote Pacific Islands or brand new naval vessels, they found that Kilroy was already there. Everyone knew Kilroy, yet no one knew who he was. Many legends grew up about him, but the usual explanation was that James Kilroy, a Boston shipyard inspector, would chalk the drawing and the words “Kilroy was here” on the bulkheads of ships he approved. Troops crossing the oceans on those ships took to copying it wherever they went, and soon Kilroy was everywhere. The simple graffiti was scrawled on planes and crates, walls and letters home, becoming one of the most recognizable symbols of WWII.

YOUR MISSION:

Help preserve the legacy of the WWII Generation by learning all you can!

To complete the mission, take this passport to four of the organizations that participate in the World War II Heritage Alliance, as listed inside the brochure. At each stop, remember to get a stamp or sticker showing that you visited.

MISSION: ACCOMPLISHED

When you have completed the mission, show your passport to the final museum to receive your prize.

To Virginia’s WWII Sites

OPERATION KILROY PASSPORT

KILROY WAS HERE
The Virginia World War II Heritage Alliance

is a cooperative association of Virginia-based, not-for-profit foundations, organizations, museums, and memorials whose missions contribute to the preservation of the history and heritage of the Second World War. The Alliance’s mission is to ensure that the services and sacrifice that were the price of freedom are recognized, honored, and remembered.

Http://www.wwiiheritagealliance.org/

Did you know?

- Virginia’s Tidewater region was vital to America’s war effort, with important Navy facilities and shipyards. German submarines were sunk off of the coast of Virginia while targeting ships in the area.
- Notable World War II figures such as George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, George Patton, Desmond Doss, Chesty Puller, and many others had Virginia connections. Look them up!
- On D-Day, Virginia National Guard Units were some of the first men to land at Omaha Beach, and paid an enormous price to make victory possible.
- The Pentagon, the center of military command in World War II and today, was completed in Arlington, VA in 1943. It’s the world’s largest office building!