



The French Will Never Forget

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DETAILED PRESENTATION OF THE OPERATION "THE FRENCH WILL NEVER FORGET - SEPTEMBER 11, 2011" IN PARIS

This document describes in details the upcoming project that the Association "The French Will Never Forget" (TFWNF) is planning in Paris to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the tragedy of September 11 2001, and in so doing to send a new and strong message of friendship, respect, gratitude and sympathy from the French people to their American allies.

The key idea is to erect, on September 11 2011, a scaled reproduction of both World Trade Center Towers, in front of the Palais de Chaillot esplanade. These will be built by erecting scaffolding which will be covered on each of the four sides by a white tarpaulin. Each of the towers will measure approximately 30 meters in height (or the equivalent of a 10-story building) and will be 4 meters wide. The technical aspects of the project have been validated by the firm OGER INTERNATIONAL, and the LAYHER Company will be tasked with the actual construction of these scaffolding. These two companies are world-renowned in their respective field.

The scaffolding covers of the first Tower will list all the names of the victims of the attack. On the second tower, will be the signatures and messages of thousands of New Yorkers and others who will be given the opportunity to associate their name with the TFWNF event in the preceding weeks.

The Eiffel Tower framed in perspective between the two model towers will link our Nation in a very strong visual way to the American sorrow. The message of sympathy and friendship will be obvious.

One large French flag and one large American flag will be unfurled, each on one of the two towers of the Palais de Chaillot. They will be carried, just before the official commemoration, by several school children in a solemn March from the Place Militaire to the Trocadero. These two flags, which are the property of TFWNF are the biggest in the world (18 m x 9 m) and were manufactured in 2007 to anchor the 2500-person human chain which spelled out "FRANCE WILL NEVER FORGET" on Omaha Beach. These same flags are used by the United States Embassy in Paris to drape the embassy building in the Colors of the two countries on the occasion of the annual July 4th official reception and celebration.

Banners will be deployed on the towers as well as on the balustrade of the esplanade.

The key message will be :

- **"THE FRENCH WILL NEVER FORGET"**, with the double meaning:
 - o That we do not forget the terrible catastrophe America suffered exactly 10 years ago.
 - o That we do not forget the sacrifices made by America in the World War II to help us regain our freedom. This is the traditional message of our Association since its foundation in 2003.

The name of the location chosen for the event, “Le Parvis des Droits de l’Homme” (or the “Esplanade of Human Rights”), shares a particular relevance to the spirit of this commemoration. It evokes the parallel struggles in both countries to fight for the rights, not only of their own citizens, but for all peoples around the world in the spirit of justice and peace. The juxtaposition of the American and French iconic buildings will send a particularly powerful symbolic message.

At this stage in the planning of the event, we are reasonably hopeful that the official commemoration will happen in the presence, of the most senior representatives of the French Nation and of the city of Paris, and will be the subject of a significant media coverage. Ideally this commemoration will take place in a time frame between 14: 46 (which is the French time of the impact on the first Tower) and 16: 28 (the French time of the collapse of the second Tower).

A nighttime vigil is also planned. Thousands of participants (through various associations of Franco-American friendship) will assemble for a candle light memorial along with appropriate solemn music, a special lighting display on the two model towers, and, if possible, a special illumination of the Eiffel Tower.

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