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CONTACT:
Michael Vyskocil
717-338-1243, extension 2107
mvyskocil@gettysburgfoundation.org

Gettysburg National Military Park visitors invited to send messages to troops during Memorial Day weekend

Gettysburg, Pa. (May 19, 2010) — Visitors to Gettysburg National Military Park during Memorial Day weekend are invited to send messages to members of the United States Armed Forces through a partnership between the Gettysburg Foundation, Lockheed Martin and Operation Homefront.

Visitors to the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center can write messages to the troops on special Operation Homefront postcards. The postcards and collection box are located outside the Museum Bookstore, adjacent to the group lobby of the Museum and Visitor Center. The Gettysburg Foundation will forward completed postcards to Operation Homefront, which will deliver the postcards to service members.

Operation Homefront is a non-profit organization that provides emergency assistance and morale to American troops, to the families they leave behind and to wounded service personnel when they return home.

“This postcard initiative gives park visitors a great way to connect the sacrifices of the past with the sacrifices still being made by our service members today,” said Jim Knotts, president and chief executive officer of Operation Homefront. “It means so much to service members when Americans simply say ‘thanks.’ During Memorial Day, when people stop to remember our military, visiting Gettysburg and writing a postcard message is a great way to honor their service.”

“The Gettysburg Foundation is extremely proud of this salute to men and women in the service of our country,” said Barbara J. Finfrock, vice chair of the board of directors for the Gettysburg Foundation. “We thank Lockheed Martin Corp. and Operation Homefront, our partners, for their continuing support in this effort, and we thank thousands of our visitors for taking time to send messages to our troops.”

Lockheed Martin Corp. has a history of working with organizations that support military men and women who serve this country. With a strong interest in Gettysburg and its legacy, the Gettysburg Foundation is proud to join Lockheed Martin in this partnership to support our troops.

The Gettysburg Foundation is a private, non-profit educational organization working in partnership with the National Park Service to enhance preservation and understanding of the heritage and lasting significance of Gettysburg. The Foundation raised funds for and now operates the Museum and Visitor Center at Gettysburg National Military Park, 1195 Baltimore Pike, in Gettysburg. In addition to operating the Museum and Visitor Center,

the Foundation has a broad preservation mission that includes land, monument and artifact preservation and battlefield rehabilitation — all in support of the National Park Service’s goals at Gettysburg.

For information about the Foundation, the Friends of Gettysburg (the membership component of the Gettysburg Foundation), visiting Gettysburg, or becoming a part of the history of Gettysburg through your contribution, visit www.gettysburgfoundation.org or call 877-874-2478 or the administrative offices at 717-338-1243.