



OBJECT ID	2015.21.13
OBJECT NAME	Button
DATE CREATED	1939 – 1945
EVENT	World War II
MEASUREMENTS	2.8575 cm. W x 2.54 cm. Diameter, Item (Overall)
MATERIAL	Metal; Paper; Plastic
OBJECT ENTITIES	Brown, Constantine (owned by)

#### OBJECT DESCRIPTION

A pin-back button. The button is white and depicts three flags flying on poles. On the left is a British flag. In front of, and to the right of, this is an American flag. In front of, and to the right of the American flag is a Greek flag. Behind and around the flags is a field of small blue dots. At the top of the button, written in blue letters, are the words "Symbols of Liberty". At the bottom of the button, also in blue letters, are the words "Amer. Fed. of Fur Wkrs". The bottom edge of the button contains the words "Apollo Jewelry Co., New York". The back of the button is made of metal and has a non-fastening pin. The metal is rusted, and there is some sort of white material stuck onto some of it.

#### ORIGIN

This button was donated by Jenny Boondas. It was part of a collection belonging to her brother-in-law, Constantine Brown, who died in 2014. This button is from World War II. It appears to have been made to support the allied war effort, particularly, Greece, the United States, and the United Kingdom. The button seems to suggest that the three countries were equal partners in World War II, representing liberty over the tyranny of the Axis powers. The American Federation of Fur Workers was a furriers' union that existed during the 1920s, '30s, and '40s. There were about 4,000 Greek fur workers in New York during this period, and these pins were probably made especially for the Greek members of the union. The Apollo Jewelry Company, now called Apollo Manufacturing, is a jewelry company based in New York.

#### CITATION

Button, 1939 – 1945, *National Hellenic Museum*, <https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/>. Accessed 05/02/24.