



Gary Richard Herbert

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of the end of World War II and greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility, and spiritual reflection;

Whereas, the victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust;

Whereas, these historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the home front, as well as the more than 400,000 Americans who gave their lives in service to their country during World War II;

Whereas, August 14, 1945, marked not only the end of the war, but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding, led by the United States to restore the societies of both their allies and former foes alike, and the formation of an array of organizations and institutions which helped strengthen the American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism, and service to community and country;

Whereas, the courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and compassion of the "ordinary heroes" of the World War II generation continue to inspire our nation, particularly the men and women who are currently serving and protecting our country around the world; and

Whereas, the World War II generation, military and civilians alike, provided a model of national unity and community that will continue to serve as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together in order to work for the continued prosperity of the United States and the world;

Now, Therefore, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare August 14, 2011, as

Spirit of '45 Day
Gary R. Herbert
Governor