



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

A Message Commemorating the End of World War II

This August marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II and on behalf of all the men and women of the Department of Defense. It is my honor to commemorate the service and sacrifice of America's "greatest generation."

Your unwavering commitment to the defense of freedom and liberty ensured a more peaceful and prosperous world for your children. This commitment lives on in the men and women who serve, around the world, today.

I commend the "Spirit of '45," for their efforts to ensure America does not forget these 'ordinary heroes' who not only fought the war but rebuilt our own Nation and much of the world in the war's aftermath.

As you celebrate this milestone, I thank you and your families for answering the call to serve. I'm immensely proud of everything you have accomplished, and I salute your continuing devotion to the strength of our Nation.

May God bless you, and may God bless the great Nation we defend.

Sincerely,