



News from the County of Cumberland

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cumberland County, ME

"A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE FORGOTTEN HEROES OF THE COLD WAR"

At their bi-monthly meeting, the Cumberland County Commissioners proclaimed May 1, 2008 and every year thereafter, "A Day of Remembrance for the Forgotten Heroes of the Cold War." The resolution, also signed by several local communities, takes note of the sacrifices made by many to bring an end to the longest conflict in this Country's history, and the victory over Communism.

Chair Esther Clenott stated, "By signing this proclamation, we are remembering those who served their country so ably between the end of the Second World War and the collapse of the Soviet Union in December 1991. Not only are we remembering our soldiers who served in the Armed Services, but those agencies that contributed that contributed to our proud victory, including our own defense contractors at Bath Iron Works, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Naval Air Station Brunswick and other sites around the State."

The Resolution stated, "Whereas, the county of Cumberland, in the State of Maine thanks all who contributed to the West's victory over Communism, and salutes all who represented our nation, especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, in the eventual victory that ended imminent threat of nuclear war".

The full text is attached.

For more information contact Commissioner Esther Clenott or Bill Whitten at 871-8380.

**"A Day of Remembrance for the Forgotten Heroes of the Cold War."
May 1, 2008**

WHEREAS, the Cold War was a long and arduous struggle for freedom between the forces of democratic nations, led by the United States, and the tyranny and brutality of the Union of the Soviet bloc; and

WHEREAS, the Cold War began after World War II with a new threat to world security posed by the Soviet bloc which lasted until Dec. 1991; and

WHEREAS, The Cold War was marked by periodic confrontations between the West and the East, including international crises such as the Berlin Airlift in 1948. The Korean War, 1950-1953, the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962, and the Vietnam War, 1960-1975; and

WHEREAS, FOREIGN policy for US Presidents from Harry S. Truman to George H. W. Bush was dominated by the constant struggle against the communist foe, in what became the longest undeclared war in the United States' history; and

WHEREAS, many lives were lost in missions so secret the losses were reported as training accidents and families did not learn the truth for many years, with some personnel still listed as missing in action and unaccounted for; and

WHEREAS, standing side by side with our devoted Armed forces were many agencies that contributed to our proud victory, including our own defense contractors at Bath Iron Works, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Naval Air Station Brunswick, and other sites around the state; and

WHEREAS, due to the collaborative efforts with our allies, the demise of communism began with the fall of the Berlin Wall in November, 1989, and culminated with the collapse of the Soviet Union in December, 1991; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cumberland, in the State of Maine thanks all who contributed to the West's victory over Communism, and salutes all who represented our nation, especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, in the eventual victory that ended imminent threat of nuclear war;

Therefore, we, the Board of Commissioners of Cumberland County of the State of Maine, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2008, and every year thereafter,

A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE FORGOTTEN HEROES OF THE COLD WAR

Esther B. Glenott, Chair

Richard J. Feeney

Malory Shaughnessy