

A PROCLAMATION

(Armed Forces Day)

WHEREAS, the armed forces of America have heretofore each set aside separate days when the public was invited to visit the installations and inspect the equipment of the Army on Army Day; the Navy on Navy Day; and the Air Force on Air Force Day; and

WHEREAS, the experience of WorldWar II demonstrated the necessity for unity of command; unity of action; and unity of purpose among the various branches of the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has enacted legislation which unified the Army, Navy and Air Force and brought them under one common and immediate head and legislated to weld them all together into one fighting machine; and

WHEREAS, instead of each service having its own special day, there shall be but one day when the armed forces, acting in unison, shall all be host to the public, and that shall be called "Armed Forces Day", and

WHEREAS, we South Carolinians having since the beginning of our illustrious history been keenly aware of the necessity for an adequate national defense, and having assumed a leading role in every national struggle since colonial days, and being keenly desirous of lending every aid and assistance toward the preservation of democracy and the American way of life,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of South Carolina, do hereby designate the day of May 20th as Armed Forces Day in South Carolina, and I call upon our citizens to observe this day with special emphasis upon the great responsibility that is ours, to the end that in any crisis we shall present a unified front to the world.

Given under my hand and seal this
24th day of April, in the Year
of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and
Fifty.

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor