

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, President Harry S. Truman led the effort to establish a single holiday for citizens to pay tribute to our military members for their patriotic service guarding the freedom and security of this Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day, a single-day celebration signifying unification of the Armed Forces under the Department of Defense; and

**WHEREAS**, each branch of the Armed Forces, contributes directly to the defense of our Nation by protecting the freedom which defines the greatness of America; and

**WHEREAS**, the 579<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron was stationed at Walker Air Force Base in Roswell, New Mexico from 1962 through 1965, and during the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962 when all 12 operational 579<sup>th</sup> missile sites were at a high level of alert and on standby to launch the Atlas F missile to defend our Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the 579<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron for their countless contributions during one of the most dangerous periods in recent history to defend the freedom and security that we cherish today.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SAM LAGRONE, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO**, do hereby proclaim May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008 as

## 579<sup>TH</sup> STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON DAY

### IN CELEBRATION OF

### NATIONAL ARMED FORCES DAY

and call upon all citizens of our "**ALL-AMERICA CITY**" to not only display the flag of the United States at their homes on this day, but to show their sincere appreciation to our veterans and all who are serving in our Armed Forces. On behalf of the citizens of Roswell, **THANK YOU** veterans of the 579<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron for your valor during such a dangerous period and being an integral part in the history of the City of Roswell, New Mexico.



*Sam Lagrone*

SAM LAGRONE, Mayor

Attest:

*D. Parko*

DAVID KUNKO, City Clerk