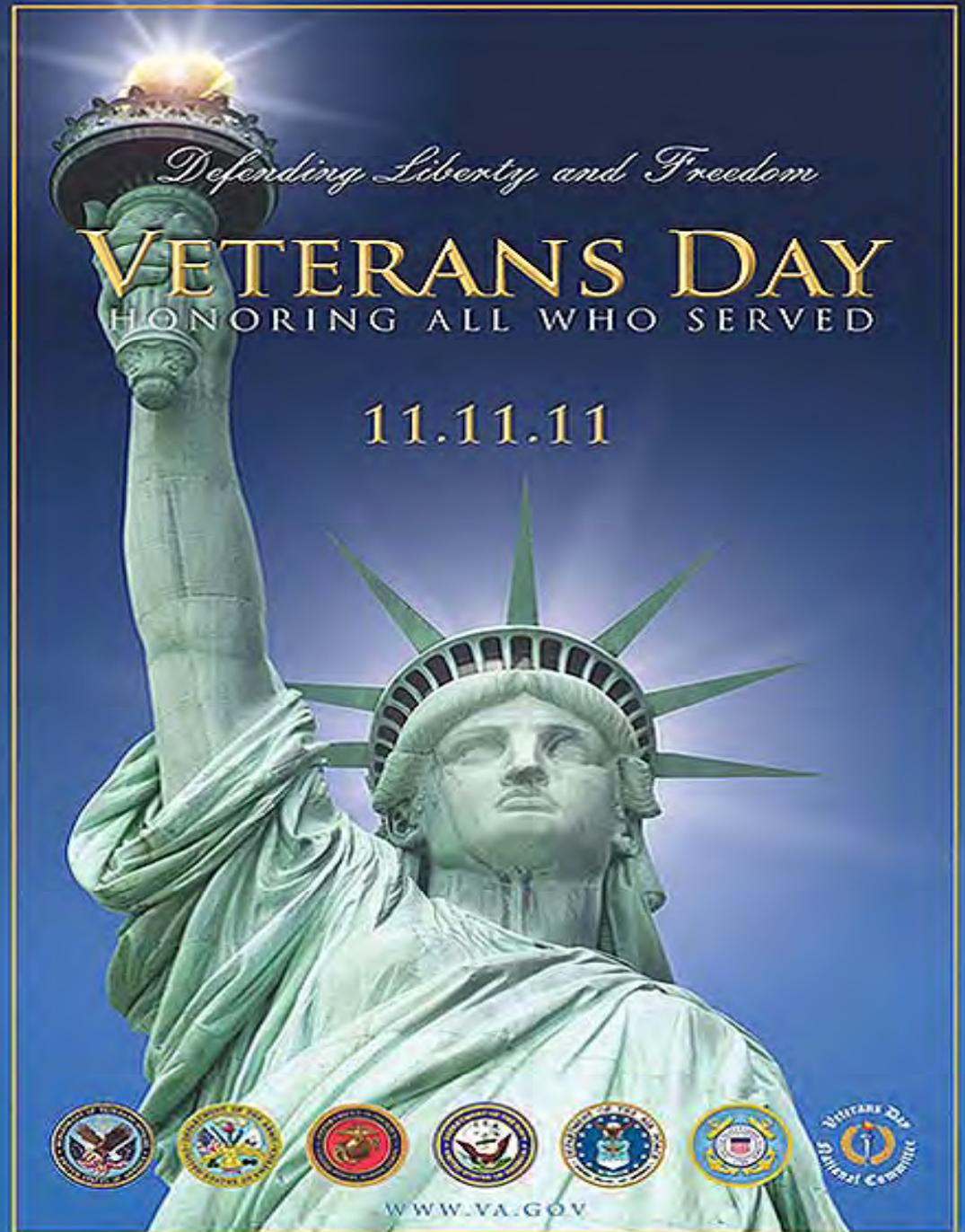


USDA-NRCS

CARIBBEAN
AREA

SALUTES
ITS
VETERANS



History of Veterans Day

World War I – known at the time as “The Great War” - officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace of Versailles outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of “the war to end all wars.”

In November 1919, President Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations..."



SPC EDWIN ALMODOVAR – IRAQ (US ARMY) PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT – STC CARIBBEAN AREA



WW I, WW II,
Korea and Vietnam
DC Memorials



The original concept for the celebration was for a day observed with parades and public meetings and a brief suspension of business beginning at 11:00 a.m.

The United States Congress officially recognized the end of World War I when it passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926, with these words:

Whereas the 11th of November 1918, marked the cessation of the most destructive, sanguinary, and far reaching war in human annals and the resumption by the people of the United States of peaceful relations with other nations, which we hope may never again be severed, and

Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and

Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.

The first Veterans Day under the new law was observed with much confusion on October 25, 1971. It was quite apparent that the commemoration of this day was a matter of historic and patriotic significance to a great number of our citizens, and so on September 20th, 1975, President Gerald R. Ford signed Public Law 94-97 (89 Stat. 479), which returned the annual observance of Veterans Day to its original date of November 11, beginning in 1978. This action supported the desires of the overwhelming majority of state legislatures, all major veterans service organizations and the American people.

Veterans Day continues to be observed on November 11, regardless of what day of the week on which it falls. The restoration of the observance of Veterans Day to November 11 not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: A celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

1LT JAY RODRIGUEZ
(US ARMY)
TWO TOURS IRAQ
STATE OFFICE





SFC LUIS A. GARCIA (US ARMY RETIRED),
OPERATIONS URGENT FURY & NOBLE EAGLE
STATE OFFICE

USDA – NRCS CARIBBEAN AREA VETERANS (NO PHOTOS AVAILABLE)

1. JOSE “LINO” RIVERA – ARECIBO FO (US ARMY & US NAVY)
2. ISRAEL VEGA – UTUADO FO (US NAVY)
3. RAMON BAEZ – JUANA DIAZ FO (US ARMY)
4. WILLIAM DIAZ – COROZAL FO (US ARMY), PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT
5. LUIS DIAZ – USDA-NRCS ACES STATE OFFICE (US AIR FORCE RETIRED), ALSO A USDA-NRCS RETIRED
6. BENJAMIN TORRES – USDA-NRCS ACES, ARECIBO FO (US ARMY RETIRED), ALSO A USDA-NRCS RETIRED
7. WILFREDO “WILL” MIRANDA – USDA-OCIO, CARIBBEAN AREA (US MARINES)
8. ANGEL FIGUEROA – DIRECTOR, HAWAII STATE OFFICE – US ARMY

“USDA-NRCS Supporting and Honoring Our American & Puerto Rican Veterans”

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR EMPLOYEES RELATIVES THAT HAD SERVED:

1. **NILDA GONZALEZ, STATE OFFICE – FATHER US NAVY, THREE BROTHERS, ONE US AIR FORCE PILOT (RETIRED), TWO US ARMY (1) VIETNAM VET AND FORMER HUSBAND US ARMY, VETERANS**
2. **ORIEL VELEZ, STATE OFFICE – FATHER, KOREAN WAR ERA US ARMY VETERAN & SON, US ARMY**
3. **CARMEN SANTIAGO, STATE OFFICE – FATHER & HER HUSBAND NELSON US ARMY**
4. **MANUEL RIOS, STATE OFFICE – FATHER, KOREAN WAR VETERAN US ARMY RETIRED. BROTHER US ARMY IRAQ VETERAN & PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT**
5. **HILTON MIRO, STATE OFFICE – FATHER, KOREAN WAR US ARMY VETERAN**
6. **JAIME VALENTIN, STATE OFFICE – NEPHEW, US ARMY RETIRED & IRAQ WAR VETERAN. HE ALSO HAS 7 MORE RELATIVES THAT ARE VETERANS FROM DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF SERVICE**
7. **TATIANA QUINTANA, SCA STATE OFFICE – UNCLE, COL. PENTAGON US ARMY ACTIVE**
8. **JULIE WRIGHT, USVI FIELD OFFICE – FATHER, US NAVY RETIRED, (LTC) COMMANDER USS “387” VANCE, WW II & VIETNAM VETERAN. COMMANDER WRIGHT WAS ALSO IN THE US MERCHANT SERVICE**
9. **MARIO RODRIGUEZ, GUANICA PROJECT – FATHER, US ARMY**
10. **LUIS DIAZ, USDA-NRCS ACES – SON, PUERTO RICO AIR NATIONAL GUARD (Currently Deployed Afghanistan)**
11. **ILEANA CURBELO, COROZAL FIELD OFFICE – FATHER, US ARMY VETERAN**
12. **ANTARES RAMOS, NOAA LIASION, STATE OFFICE – BOTH GRANDFATHERS, US ARMY WW II DOCTORS**
13. **EDWIN ALMODOVAR, STC CARIBBEAN AREA – UNCLE, US ARMY KIA VIETNAM**
14. **FAYE WILIAMS, USVI FIELD OFFICE – BROTHER, SFC US ARMY NATIONAL GUARD USVI**
15. **JAY RODRIGUEZ, STATE OFFICE – FIVE UNCLE’S, THREE SERVED IN VIETNAM BUT ALL US ARMY VETERANS**
16. **ILEANA PABON, OCIO CARIBBEAN AREA – FATHER AGE 93 WW II & KOREAN WAR VETERAN US ARMY AND PURPLE HEART RECIPIENT**
17. **EDGAR DIAZ, STATE OFFICE – FATHER, WW II EUROPEAN FRONT US ARMY**
18. **ISMAEL MATOS, STATE OFFICE – FOUR NEPHEWS, TWO US ARMY, ONE US AIR FORCE & ONE US COAST GUARD**
19. **RAQUEL ROBLEDO, MAYAGUEZ FIELD OFFICE – KOREAN WAR US ARMY VETERAN**
20. **ROBERTO GIERBOLINI, MAYAGUEZ FIELF OFFICE – SON, IRAQ US ARMY VETERAN**
21. **LUIS A. GARCIA, STATE OFFICE – ONE COUSIN IRAQ US ARMY VETERAN & ONE NIECE US ARMY RESERVE**
22. **MARISOL MORALES, STATE OFFICE – BROTHER, US ARMY**

“USDA-NRCS Supporting and Honoring Our American & Puerto Rican Veterans”



Luis A. Garcia, Caribbean Area, Veterans Emphasis Program Manager

"Supporting and Honoring Our American & Puerto Rican Veterans"