



Proclamation

WHEREAS: The Eighth Air Force was dispatched to England early in 1942 to bring the ravages of war to the German homeland; and

WHEREAS: The first all American staffed mission was a 12 bomber attack on August 17, 1942; and

WHEREAS: This was the modest beginning of what became the largest bomber force of all time; and

WHEREAS: No Mighty Eighth mission was ever turned back due to enemy action; and

WHEREAS: This mighty air armada was the most decorated and had the highest casualty rate, with 27,000 fine young men killed in combat; and

WHEREAS: Over 700 Minnesotans have joined in a Chapter of the Eighth Air Force Historical Society to commemorate these dead and to dedicate a united effort for continued peace;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim August 17--the 45th anniversary of the first mission--to be

THE MIGHTY EIGHTH DAY

in Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this second day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven, and of the State the one hundred twenty-ninth.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Joan Anderson Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
JUN 4 1987

Joan Anderson Howe
Secretary of State