

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 22

A RESOLUTION HONORING MAY 8, 1945 AS VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY

WHEREAS, On May 8, 1945 - known as Victory in Europe Day or V-E Day - celebrations erupted around the world to mark the end of World War II in Europe; and

WHEREAS, the war had been raging for almost five years when U.S. and Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944. The invasion signaled the beginning of the end for Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. In less than a year, Germany would surrender and Hitler would be dead; and

WHEREAS, there were two surrender signings. The first was on May 7, 1945, when German Col. Gen. Alfred Jodl signed Germany's surrender on all fronts in Reims, France. The second signing, on May 8, 1945, was by German Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel in Berlin; and

WHEREAS, Over 250,000 U.S. troops were killed in the fighting in the European theater. We must always remember and honor the sacrifices that were made; and

WHEREAS, Tens of thousands of people filled the streets in America to celebrate V-E Day. There was also a massive celebration in Paris. U.S. forces participated in the celebrations in France, a nation that had borne much of the brunt of the fighting; and

WHEREAS, during his radio address on V-E Day, President Harry S. Truman said, "Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by a supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band. Let us not forget, my fellow Americans, the sorrow and the heartache, which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbors - neighbors whose most priceless possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to redeem our liberty."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. The City Council honor May 8, 1945 as Victory in Europe Day and would like to honor and recognize all veterans of World War II.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 26th day of April, 2022.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk