

Proclamation

**50th ANNIVERSARY DEFENSE SUPPORT PROGRAM
SATELLITE LAUNCH
November 6, 2020**

- WHEREAS,** the United States launched the first Defense Support Program (DSP) satellite on November 6th, 1970 with the primary mission of detecting and providing strategic warning of an intercontinental ballistic missile launched against the United States and/or Canada followed by 22 additional DSP satellite launches over the next 27 years with the launch of Flight 23 on November 11, 2007; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1990 at the start of Desert Shield/Desert Storm the mission of the Defense Support Program was expanded to include warning of tactical ballistic missile launched thus providing timing warning to United States and its Coalition members in Southwest Asia as well as our strategic allies in Israel of Iraqi Scud launches; and
- WHEREAS,** the Pikes Peak region has played a major role in the life of DSP with all requirements being developed and funding obtained first by Aerospace Defense Command headquartered in the Chidlaw Building in Colorado Springs from inception through 1980 and then after a short transfer to Strategic Air Command returned to Colorado Springs with the activation of Air Force Space Command in 1982 also at the Chidlaw building before moving to its Headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base; and
- WHEREAS,** all missile warning launch reports as well as all nuclear detonation reports detected world wide by DSP are sent to the Missile Warning Center located in Cheyenne Mountain here in Colorado Springs with data also going to Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command on Peterson Air Force Base. This data is also sent simultaneously to the National Command Authorities of both the United States and Canada as well as allied governments and forces around the world; and
- WHEREAS,** Satellite Control Authority to ensure the health and safety of DSP satellites were performed by the men and women in the 21st Space Wing and 50th Space Wings, both headquartered in Colorado Springs; and
- WHEREAS,** with the mission expansion to tactical warning the Air Force's Attack and Launch Early Reporting to Theater (ALERT) was activated in 1995 at Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs and the Army's Joint Tactical Ground Stations (JTAGS) fall under the command of the 1st Space Brigade headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base; and
- WHEREAS,** in December of 1999 the United States and Russia stood up the Center for Year 2000 Strategic Stability here in Colorado Springs of which DSP was its primary source of data; and
- WHEREAS,** numerous men and women who have been involved with DSP in their Air Force, Army, Navy Active Duty, Guard and Reserve careers as well as United States Government Civil Servants and civilian contractors now permanently call Colorado Springs home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard Skorman, President of the Colorado Springs City Council, do hereby proclaim the day of November 6, 2020 as

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in Colorado Springs to celebrate and give thanks the contributions of our citizens who were involved in DSP's long history of keeping the peace and winning the Cold War as well as protecting US and Allied forces world wide who are subject to ballistic missile threats.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this twenty seventh day of October 2020.



Richard Skorman, Council President
City of Colorado Springs