



CITY OF ORLANDO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *the Army Appropriation Bill created by Congress on March 2, 1889 authorized the first body of native troops in Puerto Rico. The "Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry" was organized in 1901. During WWI, the infantry defended the Panama Canal, and, upon their return to Puerto Rico in 1919, was renamed "The 65th Infantry Regiment"; and*

WHEREAS, *during WWII, the 65th Infantry gallantly served in North Africa and Europe, winning the Naples-Foggian, Rome-Arno, Central Europe, and Rhineland battle campaigns, and after the war, were assigned dangerous security, anti-sabotage, and other occupation missions around Kaiserslautern and Mannheim, Germany, making the 65th Infantry among the last units to return home; and*

WHEREAS, *in 1950, after arriving in Pusan, Korea, the 65th Infantry joined the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division and were amongst the first infantrymen to meet the enemy on the battlefields of Korea; and*

WHEREAS, *the 65th Infantry bravely defended their regiment against the Chinese People's Liberation Army who had joined the war on the North Korean side, allowing the U.S. 1st Marine Division to retreat back to Hungnam, averting a potential catastrophic disaster; and*

WHEREAS, *throughout the course of the Korean War, Puerto Rico proportionally suffered more casualties than a majority of the states;*

WHEREAS, *the 65th Infantry was awarded 9 Battle Campaign Awards for bravery: UN Defense-1950, UN Offense-1950, CCF Intervention-1950, First UN Counterattack Offensive-1951, UN and CCF Spring Offensive-1951, UN Summer-Fall Offensive-1951, 2nd Korean Winter 1951-52, Korean Summer-Fall-1952 and 3rd Korean Winter-1952-53; and*

WHEREAS, *the 65th Infantry is credited with the last battalion-sized bayonet assault in U.S. Army history; and*

WHEREAS, *during the Korean War, some 61,000 soldiers from Puerto Rico served with the U.S. Army- 6,000 with the 65th Infantry who were decorated with nine Korean Battle Campaign Awards, the Presidential and Meritorious Unit Commendations, two Korean Presidential Unit Citations, the Greek Gold Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, and many other awards for bravery; and*

WHEREAS, *over the span of WWI, WWII, and the Korean War, the 65th Infantry earned ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 258 Silver Stars, 628 Bronze Stars, more than 2,700 Purple Hearts, and many other individual awards; and*

WHEREAS, *the 65th Infantry fought bravely as they loyally defended America against all enemies while facing discrimination, segregation, and unusual obstacles;*

NOW THEREFORE I, BUDDY DYER, Mayor of the City of Orlando do recognize

"The 65th Infantry Regiment (The Borinqueneers)"

in the City of Orlando.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Orlando to be affixed this 12th day of February 2013.

Buddy Dyer
MAYOR