

THE AMERICAN VETERAN

JUNE 2007 EDITION

SEGMENT TITLE: BILL TUERK MEMORIAL DAY MESSAGE

JENNIFER BRADEN, HOST: MEMORIAL DAY IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DAYS OF THE YEAR FOR AMERICA.

IT IS A TIME TO REMEMBER THAT FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.

THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNDERSECRETARY FOR MEMORIAL AFFAIRS, BILL TUERK, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING ALL THE NATIONAL CEMETERIES AS SHRINES. HE HAS THIS MESSAGE TO SHARE.

SOMBER MUSIC PLAYS IN BACKGROUND

BILL TUERK, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS UNDERSECRETARY FOR MEMORIAL AFFAIRS: ON MEMORIAL DAY, AMERICANS PAUSE TO REMEMBER THE MOST HEROIC OF OUR COUNTRYMEN – THOSE WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN DEFENSE OF THE NATION. WE REMEMBER THE DEBT OF GRATITUDE THAT WE OWE TO THEM – AND TO ALL VETERANS. WE HONOR THEIR LEGACY OF PATRIOTISM AND SACRIFICE. FOR THE VA, PROVIDING FINAL RESTING PLACES FOR THE NATION'S HEROES IS A SACRED TRUST. WITH OUR NATIONAL CEMETERIES, WE EXPRESS SYMBOLICALLY OUR APPRECIATION FOR – OUR REMEMBRANCE OF – THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF ALL AMERICANS WHO HAVE, OVER THE COURSE OF OUR NATION'S HISTORY, ANSWERED THE CALL TO DUTY. ON MEMORIAL DAY, AMERICANS JOIN TOGETHER IN HONORING THE GREATEST OF HEROES: THE BRAVE CITIZEN SOLDIERS WHO STOOD AND WHO WERE LOST ... IN SERVICE TO US. LET US HONOR THEM ALWAYS, AND LET US ENSURE THAT THEIR LEGACY CONTINUES TO BURN BRIGHTLY IN OUR MINDS, AND IN THE MEMORIES OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

END OF VIDEO