



Independence Day

(Greeting)

Today, we gather here to celebrate the founding of our great nation and to commemorate the extraordinary journey that led us to this momentous day — Independence Day.

As veterans, we understand the true cost of freedom. We have witnessed firsthand the sacrifices, the courage and the unwavering determination displayed by our fellow servicemen and women. We have stood shoulder to shoulder, facing the perils of the battlefield, united by a common

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

406 W. 34th Street
Kansas City, MO 64111

Office 816.756.3390
Fax 816.968.1157

WASHINGTON OFFICE

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002

Office 202.543.2239
Fax 202.543.6719

info@vfw.org
www.vfw.org

purpose — to defend and protect the ideals and liberties that make America the land of the free and the home of the brave.

On this monumental day, we reflect upon the indomitable spirit of our founding fathers, who dared to dream of a nation founded upon the principles of liberty, justice and equality. They envisioned a nation where the pursuit of happiness was not just a dream, but a birthright for every citizen. Their unwavering resolve led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence — a document that forever changed the course of history and laid the foundation upon which our great country stands.

Today, as I stand before you as a proud representative of the VFW, I encourage you to join me in carrying the torch of patriotism and dedicating our lives to honor and support our fellow veterans. We understand the true meaning of sacrifice, as we have witnessed the loss of comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice, paying the price with their lives to secure the freedoms we hold dear.

Independence Day is not just a time for celebration; it is a time for remembrance. We honor the brave men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation, defending the principles upon which America was founded. We remember those who gave their last full measure of devotion, whose names are etched on memorials across this

great land, whose valor will forever be etched in the annals of American history.

Today, we pay tribute to America's service members and our fellow veterans, all who embody the ideals of patriotism, selflessness and honor. They have faced adversity with unwavering determination and have shown us what it means to serve a cause greater than oneself. As members of the VFW, we stand with our brothers and sisters-in-arms, offering support, camaraderie and a steadfast commitment to ensuring their needs are met when they return home.

But Independence Day is not just a time to look backward; it is a time to look ahead with hope and determination. Today I remind you that we carry the

responsibility to advocate for and protect the rights and well-being of our fellow veterans. We must strive every day to ensure they receive the care they deserve, both physically and emotionally. We must continue to work tirelessly to empower them, providing educational opportunities, job assistance, and most importantly, a strong network of support.

Today as we celebrate 247 years of freedom and independence, let us remember that the true power of our nation lies in the unity and resilience of its people. The VFW stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of our veterans and their dedication to our country. Together, let us renew our commitment to supporting our veterans, bridging the gap between military service and civilian life.

On this day, let us stand united, with our hearts filled with gratitude for the sacrifices of our veterans, and with an unwavering commitment to upholding the values that define our nation. As members of the VFW and the veterans community, we proudly continue our mission to ensure that no veteran is forgotten, that their sacrifices are recognized, and that their contributions to our nation are celebrated.

May the spirit of Independence Day ignite a flame of patriotism within us all, and may it inspire us to work tirelessly for the betterment of our great land.

Happy birthday America, God bless.

-VFW-