



THE NAVAJO NATION

RUSSELL BEGAYE PRESIDENT
JONATHAN NEZ VICE PRESIDENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESIDENT BEGAYE AND VICE PRESIDENT NEZ SAY 'LET'S EXTEND OUR HEARTS AND HANDS TO ASSIST OUR VETERANS'

Ya'at'eeh' from the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President,

As Diné people we are descendants of great warriors. Historically, chiefs like Manuelito, Barboncito and Narbona have led our tribe. With courage and foresight, these leaders protected our people, our land and our culture.

Before the Federal Government had granted the Navajo Nation sovereignty, through the Treaty of 1868, we had long established a society of warriors and chiefs to protect our people.

The Begaye-Nez Administration recognizes the critical and distinguished role our veterans have in our society. The impacts of their military service have been tremendous to say the least.

Our people have never looked toward defending our country with any reluctance. If you look back upon any American war or conflict, our Navajo people have been there on frontlines. They've put their lives on the line to defend our freedom, our way of live and the lands we live on.

As such, the honor and respect we owe our veterans is perpetual and should extend to every day of the year. But on Veterans Day, I'm asking the Navajo people to extend their hearts and hands to assist our veterans and recognize their service.

Veterans are at the forefront of the pillars of the Begaye-Nez Administration. We are working to address issues of housing, health and mental health services, as well as employment and veteran benefit programs. We are working to protect the legacy of our great Navajo Nation Code Talkers with a museum in their honor.

Our administration will strive to work on their behalf as they have done the same for us and continue to do so.

On this Veterans Day of November 11, 2015, we ask that people across the Navajo Nation join us in celebrating the dignity with which our Navajo Nation Veterans, and all veterans, have selflessly served our great country and our Nation.

Ahe'hee',

Honorable Navajo Nation President
Russell Begaye

Honorable Navajo Nation Vice President
Jonathan Nez