



**NAVAJO NATION PROCLAMATION  
IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
THE LATE NAVAJO CODE TALKER THOMAS CLAW**

**WHEREAS,** The Navajo Nation is greatly saddened by the loss of the late Thomas Claw; and

**WHEREAS,** The late Thomas Claw was a renowned Navajo Code Talker who served the United States of America, the U.S. Marine Corps, and the Navajo Nation during World War II with courage, honor and distinction; and

**WHEREAS,** The late Thomas Claw served in the Asiatic Pacific Areas of New Caledonia, Australia, New Britain, the Solomon Islands, Palau Islands, and Ryukyu Islands in Japan; and

**WHEREAS,** The late Thomas Claw endured the horrors of combat and received two presidential unit citations for his heroic service against the enemy at Peleliu and Ngesebus from Sept 15-29, 1944, and during the invasion and capture of Okinawa, April 1 to June 21, 1945, and he received the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon for service with the 11<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment for service against the enemy; and

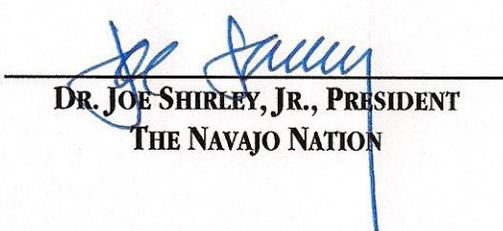
**WHEREAS,** The late Thomas Claw was wounded during combat on Okinawa and received a Purple Heart as a result of enemy action on June 24, 1945; and

**WHEREAS,** In recognition of his honorable service to our country, he was awarded the Congressional Silver Medal in 2001; and

**WHEREAS,** The Navajo Nation unites and offers prayers and deepest condolences to his family during this time of grief.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED:** In honor of the late Navajo Code Talker Thomas Claw, all flags on the Navajo Nation shall be flown at half-staff from May 28, 2009, through May 30, 2009.

**PROCLAIMED THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MAY 2009**

  
DR. JOE SHIRLEY, JR., PRESIDENT  
THE NAVAJO NATION