Navajo President Shelly Releases Statement for Veterans Day

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. – Navajo Nation President Ben Shelly released the following statement to commemorate Veterans Day.

“As Navajo people, we have always honored our warriors through ceremonies and prayers. We have long been a people who cherished our warriors.

Since World War I, as Americans, we have celebrated the courage of our veterans on the 11th day of the 11th month. As Navajo people, we have adopted Veterans Day to show our continued gratitude and support for our veterans.

Our veterans have given our people much to be proud of. From the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Iraq War, to our current battles in Afghanistan and other parts throughout the world, we have Navajo servicemen and women who continuously bring great pride to the Navajo Nation. Our servicemen and women bring freedom and safety to our homeland.

On behalf of the Navajo people, I say thank you for your dedication and service. Your service is so greatly appreciated that words can never fully express our gratitude for your sacrifices. We welcome you home and honor you by remembering your service each day as we live and pray.

For our active servicemen and women, we pray for your safe return home.

I urge our Navajo people to thank our veterans as we rejoice in their heroic deeds. From the days of Narbona to our returning veterans of today, our warriors have been a part of who we are as Navajo people. Let us continue to honor and recognize our veterans not only on Veterans Day, but each day we walk Mother Earth. Let us pray for our veterans, and offer them kind encouraging words.”

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