



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the United States of America joined World War II on the side of the Allied nations; and

WHEREAS, General George S. Patton had perfected armored tactics during the summer of 1941 at Camp Forrest, near Tullahoma, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the United States War Department decided to resume field maneuvers in Tennessee during the fall of 1942 after the U.S. Army found similarities between the Cumberland River and hilly country in Middle Tennessee and the Rhine River and Western Europe; and

WHEREAS, between September 1942 and March 1944 nearly one million soldiers passed through the Tennessee Maneuvers area, which encompassed twenty-one counties of the state; and

WHEREAS, seven different scenarios were conducted in Tennessee, involving more than 850,000 soldiers in very realistic simulated combat, which cost more than 250 men and a number of civilians their lives during the demanding exercises; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Tennessee opened their homes, civic facilities, and businesses to the soldiers preparing for the Normandy invasion in 1944;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, hereby recognize September 2022, as the

80th Anniversary of the Start of the Tennessee Maneuvers

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this nineteenth day of August, 2022.

Handwritten signature of Bill Lee in blue ink.

Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe Hargett in blue ink.

Secretary of State