

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War, also known as the Second Indochina War, military struggle was fought in Vietnam from 1959-1975, involving the North Vietnamese and National Liberation Front (NLF) in conflict with United States forces and the South Vietnamese army; and

WHEREAS, the United States became involved in Vietnam because American policymakers believed that if the country fell under a Communist government, Communism would spread throughout Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, in 1964, the U.S. Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as “peace and security” had returned to Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, in 1965, U.S. combat troops composed mainly of volunteers arrived in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, by the end of 1965, there were 80,000 U.S. troops in Vietnam and by 1969, a peak of about 543,000 troops would be reached; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1973, the last U.S., troops left Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, more than 58,000 Americans lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 U.S. soldiers were wounded; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated at the Capitol to commemorate the U.S. personnel who died or were declared missing in action in Vietnam;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BUDDY DYER, Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim Sunday, March 30, 2014 as

“WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY”

in the City of Orlando.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Orlando to be affixed this 31st day of March 2014.