



Office of the Governor
State of Missouri

Proclamation

WHEREAS, what began as a top-secret naval operation to prepare United States Army and Naval forces for the June 6, 1944, D-Day Invasion would end with one of the highest losses ever suffered in combat by the United States Army and Navy in World War II; and

WHEREAS, *Exercise Tiger* was the code name for one of several secret military full-scale rehearsals for the Battle of Normandy, conducted along the southern coast of England; and

WHEREAS, *Exercise Tiger* involved over 30,000 United States Army and Navy personnel, as well as British forces; and

WHEREAS, during this staging in the English Channel, on April 28, 1944, eight tank landing ships carrying American troops were unexpectedly attacked by German Naval Forces; and

WHEREAS, the aftermath of the German attack found two American vessels sunk, a third crippled, and 749 soldiers dead, including 201 soldiers from the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the courageous servicemen who participated in *Exercise Tiger* made great sacrifices and endured hardships to help achieve victory and preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy for this great country.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2012, to be

EXERCISE TIGER DAY

in Missouri to recognize the 68th anniversary of the WWII Battle of Exercise Tiger, and urge all Missourians to honor all troops, especially the soldiers and sailors of *Exercise Tiger*.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 2nd day of March, 2012.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon".