



Terry E. Branstad
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Kim Reynolds
LT. GOVERNOR

February 20, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Office of Governor
1205 Penleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

As the 70th Anniversary of the end of World War II approaches this summer, I write to draw your attention to the Spirit of '45. This is a national organization dedicated to honoring the service and legacy of the men and women who served our country during World War II. I recently met with Captain Jerry Yellin, (USA, Ret), who was the pilot of the last combat mission of the war. Recently, he has served as the national spokesman and continues to be a strong advocate for the Spirit of '45.

I know we all share a deep level of respect for every serviceman and woman who has worn the nation's military uniform including our World War II veterans. I plan to highlight the service of the "Greatest Generation" veterans this summer. I am sure many of you already have plans to do the same. Perhaps the late Senator Daniel Inouye best summarized the importance of the Spirit of '45's work when he stated, "All Americans can learn from our Greatest Generation about commitment, service, and patriotism as their spirit lights our way into the future."

I am providing Captain Yellin's contact information, so that you and your staff might consider ways how South Carolina can honor the World War II veterans who selflessly served their nation and saved the world from tyranny. Mr. Yellin may be contacted at jerryellin@gmail.com or 772.538.8886. You may also learn more about the Spirit of '45 organization at: www.spiritof45.org

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Terry" being more prominent.

Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa