National Security May Events

- "**Month of the Military Caregiver**" is observed in **May** annually in honor and recognizes the significant contributions and sacrifices of individuals who provide care for wounded, ill, or injured service members and veterans. It aims to raise awareness about the challenges and needs of these caregivers while also showcasing their dedication and support.
- **National Military Appreciation Month,** observed in **May**, is a time to honor and recognize the contributions, sacrifices, and service of members of the U.S. Armed Forces, both past and present. It's a period designated for publicly showing appreciation to service members, their families, and veterans.

Silver Star Service Banner Day, observed on May **1**, to remember and honor the wounded, but give thanks to the loved ones who have chosen to look beyond the injuries and continue to dignify their veterans with the honor and respect they deserve.

Loyalty Day is observed on May **1** in the United States. It was proclaimed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as a day for declaring loyalty to the United States of America and to acknowledge American history.

VE Day, or Victory in Europe Day, May **8**, commemorates the end of World War II in Europe, specifically the surrender of Nazi Germany on May 8, 1945. It signifies the Allied victory and the cessation of fighting in the European theater, marking a time of immense joy and relief for millions.

Military Spouse Appreciation Day, typically the Friday before Mother's Day, recognizes and honors the significant contributions, sacrifices, and support of military spouses.

Armed Forces Week is a week-long national celebration, May **12 – 17,** in the United States that honors the men and women who serve in the U.S. Armed Forces. The purpose of Armed Forces Week is to express gratitude and appreciation for the service and sacrifices of military personnel, past and present.

Children of Fallen Patriots Day, observed annually on May **13**th, is a day dedicated to honoring the children of military service members who have died in the line of duty. It recognizes the sacrifices made by these children and their resilience.

Arlington National Cemetery, observed on May **13**th, marks the establishment of a final resting place for many war heroes, reminding us of the ultimate sacrifices made by service members.

Armed Forces Day, observed on the third Saturday in Maty (**17**th), recognizes and pays tribute to all individuals currently serving in the armed forces.

National Poppy Day, observed on the Friday before Memorial Day (**23**rd), is a day to honor and remember the sacrifices of those who have served and died for the United States in all wars. The red poppy is a nationally recognized symbol of sacrifice, worn to show respect for the fallen and support for veterans and encourages everyone to wear a red poppy to remember the sacrifices of military men and women.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, observed on May **26**, from the early tradition of decorating graves with flowers, wreaths and flags, Memorial Day is a day for remembrance of those who have died in service to our country.