

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** Sixty years ago the wheat fields, orchards and foothills surrounding our quiet community thundered with the roar of airplanes filled with crews training for a mission to crush a great threat to our Country; and

**WHEREAS,** Sixty years ago this month many of our residents prayed for the safe return of their friends, husbands, and future husbands as the departing warriors and their support crews lifted off to fly to England to join in the elimination of the threat to America; and

**WHEREAS,** Sixty years ago as the Flying Fortress airplanes and crews departed for England, few in our community suspected the sacrifice by the crews to protect the freedoms we now enjoy; and our community appreciates and remembers the sacrifice, counted by the 899 killed and 111 missing in action, by the 91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group for our Country; and

**WHEREAS,** Sixty years have dimmed the memories of the terrible war, but many of our residents still remember the excitement of working with the 91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group to defeat the evil in the world at that time; and

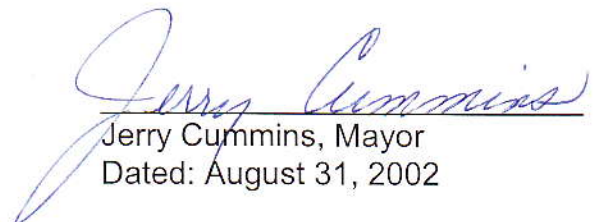
**WHEREAS,** the 91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group, 1<sup>st</sup> Air Division of B-17 "Flying Fortress" of the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force was known in the Air Force as the first among equals, but in Walla Walla it is **the** first air group **without** equal.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Jerry Cummins, Mayor of Walla Walla, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2002 as:

### ***91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group Memorial Association 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Day***

in Walla Walla and encourage our citizens to remember the sacrifice for freedom made by the 91<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group during World War II.



  
Jerry Cummins, Mayor  
Dated: August 31, 2002