Joint Proclamation

WHEREAS, on March 1, 1953, by General Order # 7, the Adjutant General of the State of Washington, Major General Lilburn H. Stevens, federally recognized the Bellingham detachment of the 143rd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron in Seattle as the 262nd Combat Communications Squadron, Operations; and

WHEREAS, the 262nd squadron was activated during the Korean War and served in various communications and radar sites in Alaska Distant Early Warning locations and over the years, has developed innovative communications equipment, technical control facilities and tactical mobile air control towers which were adopted for use by Air National Guard communications groups throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, the 262nd has supported many charitable causes and events in our community including Camp Horizon, the Blossom Time Parade, Business and Industry Day, the Red White and Hullabaloo in Civic Field, Lake Whatcom Water Quality Study, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall, and the Ski to Sea Race; and

WHEREAS, the 262nd has always answered the county, state, and federal call in response to all emergency efforts to protect lives and property, and continues to provide critical mission support to Operation Enduring Freedom throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the 262nd was the first unit of its kind in the Air National Guard and only the second in the U.S. Air Force to remission to an Information Warfare Aggressor Squadron, becoming the premier cyber operations warfare unit in the country, as it continues to train, prepare and deal with threats to our national cyber security; and

WHEREAS, several generations of men and women of the 262nd Combat Communications Squadron, now known as the 262nd Network Warfare Squadron, have served and continue to serve the country as guardians of American interests at home and abroad since its inception; and volunteer their time and put their personal lives aside when the needs of the people of Whatcom County, the State of Washington and the nation arise.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County, Washington express appreciation to the devoted families and dedicated employers of the current and former airmen of the 262nd Network Warfare Squadron for their support and role in enhancing the quality of life and economic vitality of the county over the past 60 years.

NOW, THEREFORE: we, Kelli Linville, Mayor of the City of Bellingham, and Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive hereby proclaim September 21, 2013 to be:

262nd Network Warfare Squadron's Day

in the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County, and encourage all citizens to join us in congratulating and celebrating this fine Squadron of individuals for their laudable accomplishments and endeavors.

Signed this 21st day of September, 2013.

Kelli Linville, Mayor, City of Bellingham

Jack Louws, Whatcom County Executive