

**PROCLAMATION OF SUPPORT
For the Fort Stewart Historic Communities Council**

WHEREAS Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, was established in June of 1940 when Congress authorized funding for the purchase of property in coastal Georgia for the purpose of building an anti-aircraft artillery training center. It was to be located just outside of Hinesville, GA, some 40 miles southwest of Savannah; and

WHEREAS Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is the largest Army installation east of the Mississippi River, and covers 279,270 acres, which include parts of Liberty, Long, Bryan, Evans, Tattnall, and Chatham Counties, providing about 39 miles across from east to west, and 19 miles from north to south capable of providing training for infantry, tank, field artillery, helicopter, small arms and live fire training; and

WHEREAS the areas within the boundaries of Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is steeped in history with Native Americans lived near the banks of the Canoochee River as early as 10,000 BC; and

WHEREAS the areas' first military installation, Fort Argyle, named in honor of John, Duke of Argyle, and garrisoned by Captain McPherson with a detachment of Rangers, was established in this area around 1733 to give protection to settlers and protect from hostile invasion; and

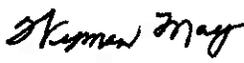
WHEREAS the area grew with communities starting to form as early as the late 1760s with around what would later be known as the community of Taylors Creek; and

WHEREAS Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield has more than three thousand five hundred recorded historic sites on the installation to include 58 cemeteries on Fort Stewart and two cemeteries on Hunter Army Airfield; and

NOW THEREFORE: Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and the Fort Stewart Historic Communities Council are resolved to protect and honor the installation's cemeteries and historical communities as an important and respected historical resource.

9 March 2011


COL KEVIN W. MILTON
Colonel, US Army
Commanding


WYMAN MAY
Fort Stewart Historic Communities Council
Vice-President