

ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY APRIL 6



Governor Meadows signing Army Day proclamation, with Lt. Col. George Rochman and Col. Nelson Diggley III

On April 6, 1948, West Virginians celebrated Army Day, a national observance honoring the United States Armed Forces.

CSO: SS.8.25, ELA.8.1

Investigate the Document: (*State Papers and Public Addresses, Army Day – 1948, Clarence W. Meadows, 1945-1949*)

1. What 20th century military conflict had recently ended upon observance of Army Day, as cited in the proclamation from Governor Meadows?
2. How does the proclamation describe the manner in which people should observe Army Day and pay respect to the armed forces?

Think Critically: Why do you think the United States maintained a position of neutrality in the war for so long? What was the role of the U.S. in this conflict before the official declaration of war? Which nations were part of the Axis and Allied powers during the war? What infamous attack caused the U.S.S. West Virginia to sink? How did West Virginia aid the war effort?

ARMY DAY—1945

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
CHARLESTON

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, The men and women of the American Army are gallantly demonstrating their courage, resourcefulness and valor in the cause of world liberation; and

WHEREAS, They must be sustained unto final victory in both Europe and the Pacific by the continued production on the home front of all the essential materials of war; and

WHEREAS, Congress has recognized and the President has annually proclaimed April 6 as Army Day, which has been sponsored annually by the Military Order of the World Wars:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Clarence W. Meadows, Governor of the State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 6, 1945, as *Army Day*, and do call upon all the citizens of West Virginia to honor the Army on this day with a display of the flag at their places of business and at their homes, and to participate in any civilian observances which may be held in tribute to America's valiant soldiers.

CLARENCE W. MEADOWS,
Governor.

(Great Seal)

WM. S. O'BRIEN,
Secretary of State.