

Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, Air Force General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold convened the first recorded meeting of the United States Army Air Corps Commanding Generals for three and four-star officers in 1944 with the intent of improving efficiency, eliminating weak command personnel, and examining the postwar goal of the United States air power; and

WHEREAS, the conference held 1961 was led by Air Force General Curtis E. Lemay and he underscored the critical need for unity and teamwork by placing a 100 foot-long table in the center of a small room, then ordered his four-star commanders to complete the nearly impossible undertaking of moving the table closer to the window, which required precision, unity and coordination; and

WHEREAS, the task set forth by General Lemay was successfully completed and after reminding his colleagues that anything could be accomplished without waste of time, resources and casualties if all worked together in unity of purpose, he rewarded their labor by presenting each with his favorite "Corona" cigar, and thereby established the tradition of naming the annual Commanders Conference the **Corona**; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Corona is to continually reshape the world's greatest Air Force power through open, dynamic and spirited dialogue to ensure the continuation of the Air Force's ability to fly, fight and prevail in air, space and cyberspace, regardless of the adversary; and

WHEREAS, to achieve its mission the Air Force maintains a vision of global vigilance, reach and power that orbits around five distinctive capabilities that include air and space superiority; intelligence gathering; surveillance and reconnaissance; rapid global mobility; and global strike force and command and control; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that Senior Air Force Leaders are gathered in Tampa, Florida, home of MacDill Air Force Base, for the United States Air Force's Annual Corona Conference, in the spirit of teamwork that has thrived between the City of Tampa and the Air Force.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim February 19, 2013 as

"CORONA CONFERENCE DAY"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and encourage all citizens to join me in welcoming the Senior Air Force Leaders and thanking them for the extraordinary service and leadership they provide on our nation's behalf.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2013.

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Mayor

