



As the days grow shorter and the weather grows colder, that only means one thing...that the holiday season is approaching. It is a time for family and friends to get together and celebrate the Holidays in the spirit of love and sharing.

At this time of year, every time we turn on the television, we are bombarded with commercials for expensive gifts and trinkets. But if every year the holidays become more and more commercial, we must not forget the spirit of this time – peace on earth and good will to men.

If there is any group of people who have brought us peace on earth, it is the brave men and women of our armed forces, many of whom are thousands of miles away from family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers go out to them. But more importantly, our service to them is not only at this festive time, but 365 days a year. Whether it is at a medical center, a clinic, a benefit office, a cemetery or a staff office, every day we serve those who serve us.

So let us remember our brave veterans and men and women in uniform, not just during the holiday season, but every day of the year, and recommit ourselves to their service.

On behalf of the National Veterans Affairs Council and the more than 200,000 bargaining unit employees we represent, I wish you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons.