



Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council
Northamptonshire



The Book of Governors 1992

**Presented to the Parish Council of
Chelveston-cum-Caldecott on the
occasion of the 50th anniversary of
the USAAF arriving in the Village**



Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council Northamptonshire



This book is one of two copies of the 1992 Book of Governors of the USA that were produced and presented by the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association. This copy was presented to Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council and the other copy to Higham Ferrers Town Council. These books were presented on the occasion of one of the reunion visits to Chelveston in September 1992, in celebration of 50 years since the USAAF first came to Britain in World War II.

During World War II, the 305th Bombardment Group (Heavy), known as the “Can Do” Group, was stationed at RAF Chelveston (Station 105). As part of the 40th Combat Wing of the 1st Air Division of the US 8th Air Force, the 305th BG(H) consisted of four flying squadrons – the 364th, 365th, 366th and the 422nd. Attached were S2 Intelligence, the 325th Service Group, the 983rd MP Company, the 413th Air Service Group, the 876th Chemical Company, the 1632nd Ordnance MM Company, the 1121st Quarter Master Company and the 2nd Station Complement Squadron. 769 valiant members gave their lives to preserve freedom for all. The Group flew 480 combat missions, with over 174 of their aircraft shot down or destroyed.

A copy of the “Chelveston book” has been made and resides in a display cabinet in the parish church of St John the Baptist at Chelveston. An on-line copy resides on the internet on the Chelveston History website (www.chelveston.org.uk/History).

There is a memorial tablet that was mounted on the external east wall of the Church Tower in September 1980 and in May 2007 a new memorial was completed in the centre of the village beside the B645. The dedication and unveiling was attended by 15 US veterans and 39 family members, watched by approx. 400 members of the public.





8th AIR FORCE

1st Air Division - 40th Combat Bombardment Wing (H)



305th BOMBARDMENT GROUP (H) MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

SQUADRONS 364, 365, 366, 422 AND ATTACHED UNITS
CHELVESTON, ENGLAND, WWII

413 AIR SERVICE GROUP
983 MP CO.
2nd Sta. Comp. Sqd.

PRESIDENT

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WILLIAM D. WHITSON
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GLENN F. NELSON
WALTER W. THOM, JR.
ANTHONY J. DUPLECHIN (Dec.)
EDWARD F. DAHM
MAX PACE
FRED H. GOLDSTONE
MICHAEL H. DASCOLI, JR.
EUGENE H. NIX
RIDGELY D. KEMP
EDWARD C. LUKACH
MAURICE S. THOMAS
C. ARNOLD CARLSON

"CAN DO"

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON, NORTHANTS, ENGLAND.

This 1992 Book of Governors of the United States of America is presented to you for and on behalf of the membership of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association.

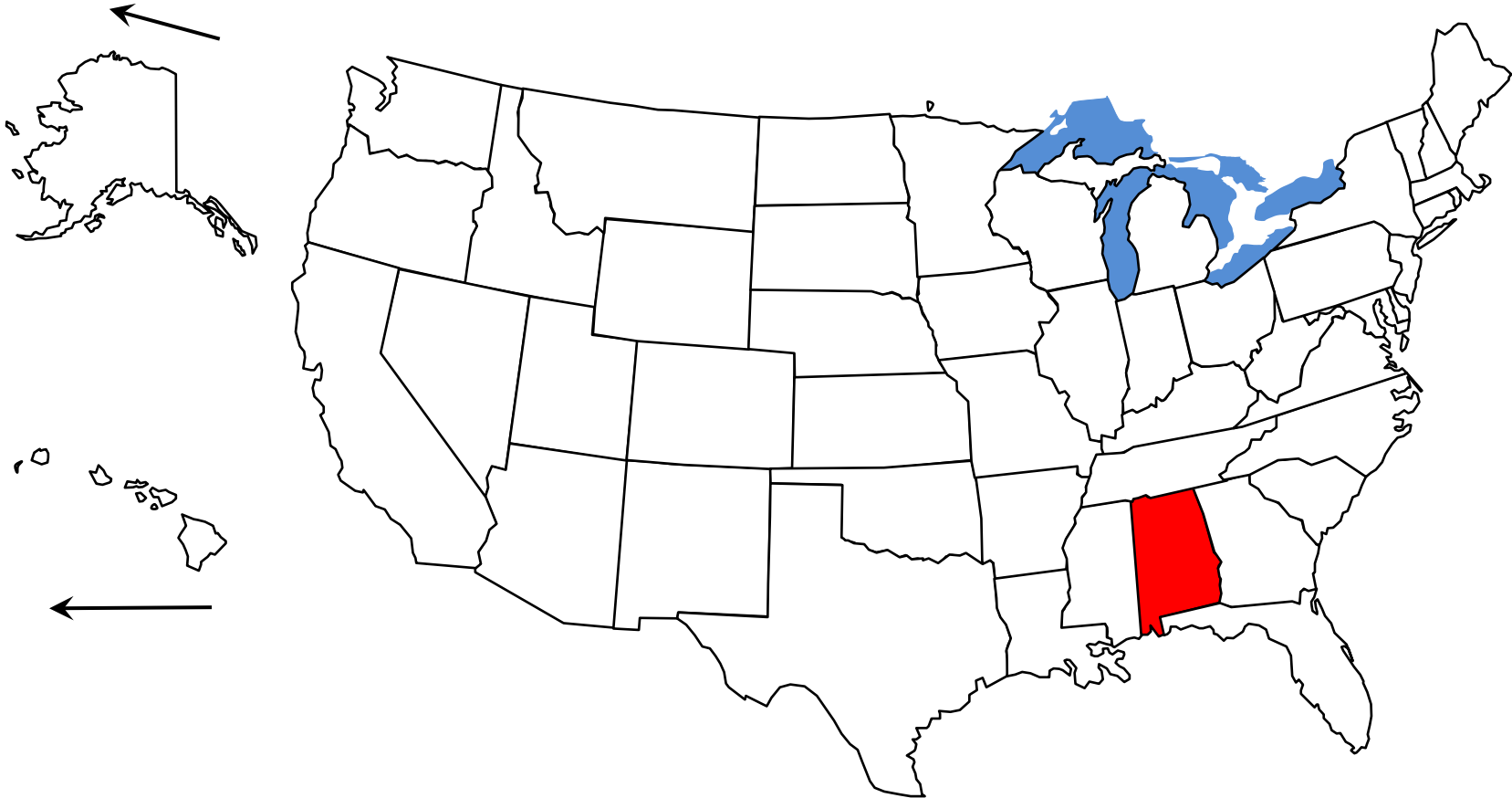
Each and every one of us 305thers gained different memories of those World War II Days, but one memory we all share in common has to do with the friendly and generous manner with which you English people opened up your hearts and welcomed us into your society.

While both of our peoples experienced the unusual tensions of long hours of hard work and the worries, fears and apprehensions of the war time environment, it was always a real rejuvenating relief to relax and socially interact with friends and allies at the end of an arduous and laborious day. Those war time days and nights brought the people of both our nations closer together than they had ever been.

Since the membership of the 305th Bomb Group of those days hailed from every State and Territory of the Union, it seemed appropriate that there should be some means of making this fact apparent. As a result, the fifty 1992 governors of the United States were contacted and asked to compose a letter of appreciation for the gracious manner in which you people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers hosted their citizens.

The governors happily did as they were bid, so as a result, we 305thers can now proudly present to you this unique book.

The United States of America



Alabama



GUY HUNT
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALABAMA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

MONTGOMERY 36130

May 1, 1992

GREETINGS TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRES, ENGLAND:

As Governor, it is with great pleasure that I send greetings from Alabama, the "State of Surprises!"

The English people were gracious hosts for the American Airmen who were stationed in England during World War II. Likewise, all courtesies extended to the members of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association on the occasion of their reunion will be greatly appreciated. Please know that you have an open invitation to visit Alabama.

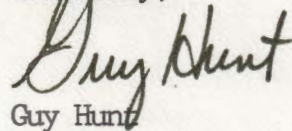
The armed services has contributed their time, expertise and livelihood to the principles of the United States Constitution and the protection of our freedom. Sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, and other loved ones have gone to foreign lands to protect the rights and freedoms that we all cherish. We must never take our freedom for granted! We all must cherish the privilege and freedom we now have and must do everything in our power to protect these rights for future generations.

The war indeed was a uniting force for our country and it once again showed that we are a strong and proud nation. Many Alabamians served in the war and so our feelings about what happened are especially strong.

I commend you on your efforts to preserve an important part of history for the benefit of future generations. Years from now they will look back on your foresight and thank and admire you.

Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your effort to enrich their future and their past. Please accept my very best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable reunion.

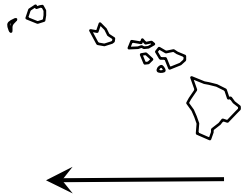
Sincerely,



Guy Hunt

GH/bhh

The United States of America



Alaska

WALTER J. HICKEL
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

May 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England

Greetings from the Great Land of Alaska!

As governor of the 49th state of the United States, I wish to salute you, the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, for the generosity of spirit extended to the American airmen who were stationed in your communities during World War II.

Although Alaska was an American territory at that time, our citizens served with the 305th Bombardment Group under the leadership of General Curtis LeMay.

As the 50th anniversary of this era in history is celebrated, all Alaskans wish to thank you and remind you that your hospitality is not forgotten.

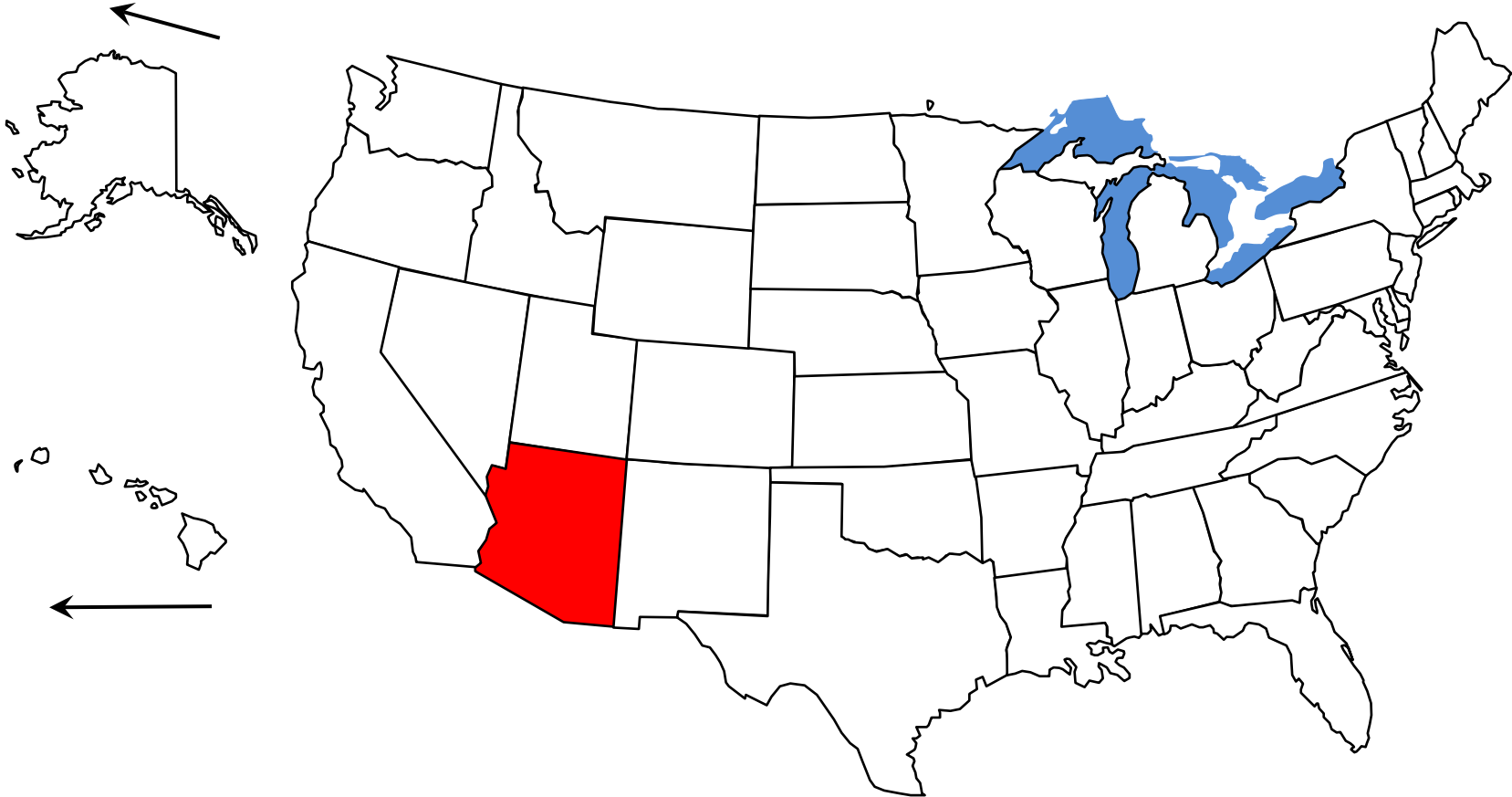
God bless you all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Walter J. Hickel".

Walter J. Hickel
Governor

The United States of America



Arizona



STATE OF ARIZONA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

FIFE SYMINGTON
Governor

May, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND:

On behalf of the State of Arizona, it is my pleasure to greet the British people, particularly those who helped the 305th Bombardment Group while they were stationed in England during the Second World War. Your aid and assistance is still greatly appreciated today, the 50th Anniversary of the deployment to the British Isles.

Because of your generous and dedicated assistance to this important tactical group, the Allied Forces were able to launch many strategic bombing missions from Chelveston Army Air Base, as well as important sorties out of Higham Ferrers. The United States and the rest of the world thank you for your contributions.

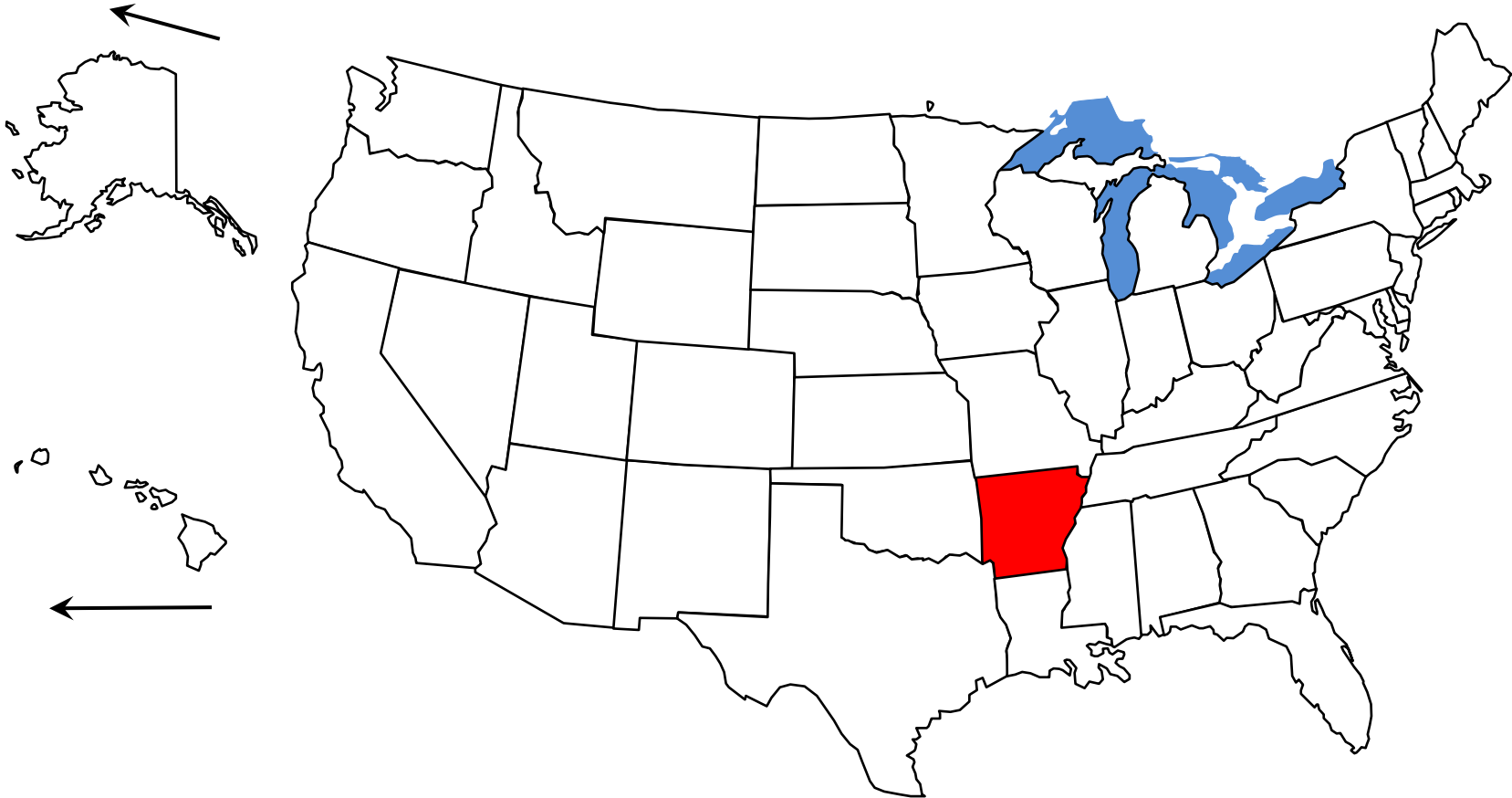
Enjoy the celebrations you have planned for the 50th Anniversary of the first United States Bombing Group to operate out of England. The people of the State of Arizona and the United States of America will not soon forget you.

Sincerely,

Fife Symington
GOVERNOR

FS/jmd

The United States of America



Arkansas



STATE OF ARKANSAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State Capitol
Little Rock 72201

Bill Clinton
Governor

May 8, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

This year, members of the 305th U.S. Bomb Groups will travel to England to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. Bomb Groups to fly to England in 1942. The commander of this group, then Lieutenant Colonel Curtis LeMay, led his Bomb Group to England; where, at Chelveston Army Air Base, he began the group formation flying pattern, and the service of this group in World War II.

I am pleased that the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers as well as citizens from Rushden, Bedford, and Northampton in the midland areas of Northamptonshire and East Anglia, will join with these American veterans in celebrating the triumph of your joint effort in that great war.

I thank the English people in this region for welcoming the American airmen who were stationed there during World War II by extending them your warm friendship and hospitality.

Best wishes for a memorable reunion.

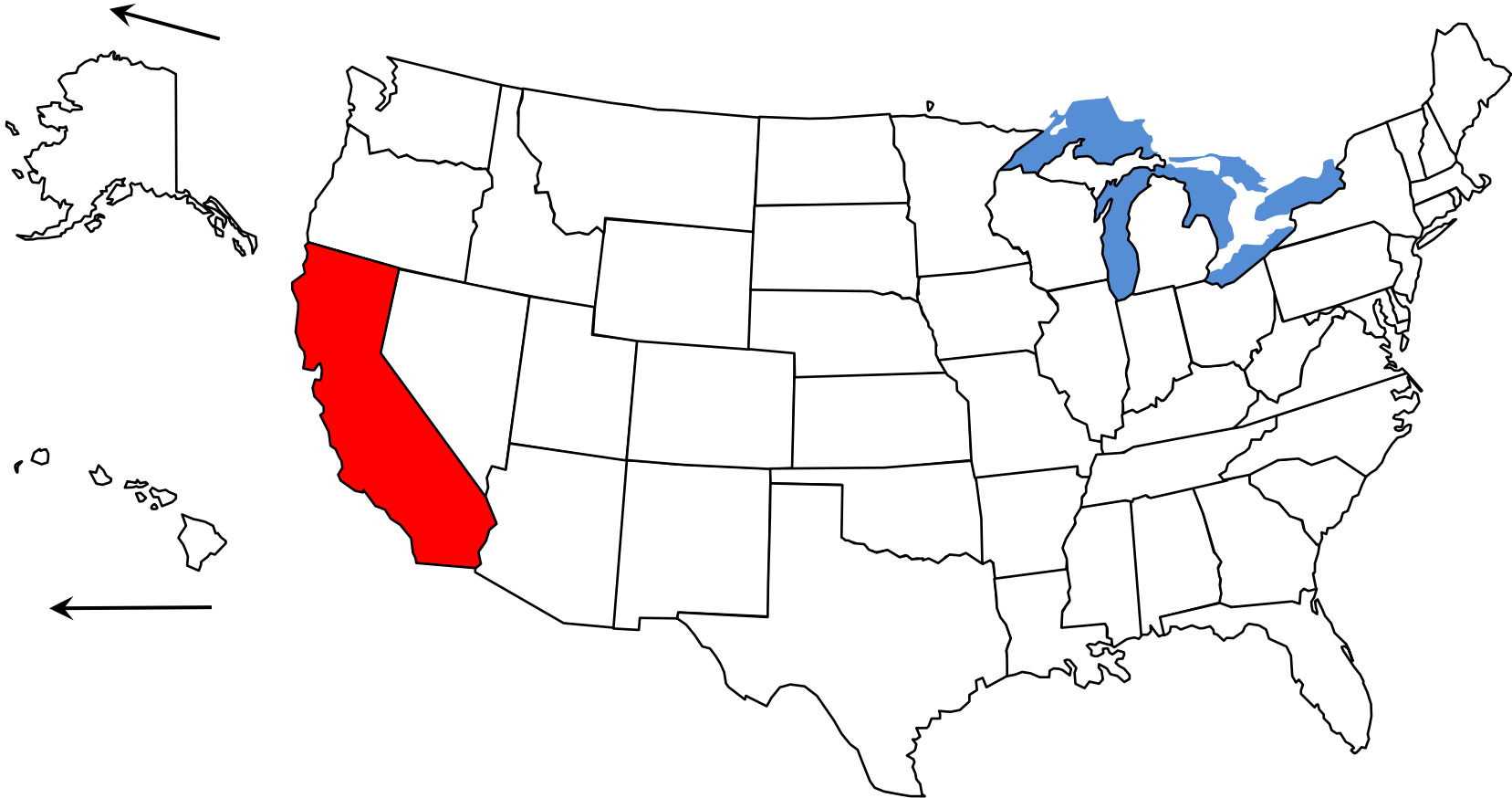
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bill Clinton", is written over the printed name.

Bill Clinton

BC:cf

The United States of America



California



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State of California

May 30, 1992

TO: THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND

I send my warm regards and best wishes for enjoyable celebrations as you commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. Bombardment Groups to fly in your country, including the 305th Bombardment Group led by Colonel Curtis Lemay.

I know the men who were a part of this important wartime undertaking appreciated the kindness you extended to them while they were so far away from home. You helped bring a measure of joy and hope to these brave soldiers as they undertook their dangerous and difficult mission to help keep England and the world free from Axis tyranny and domination.

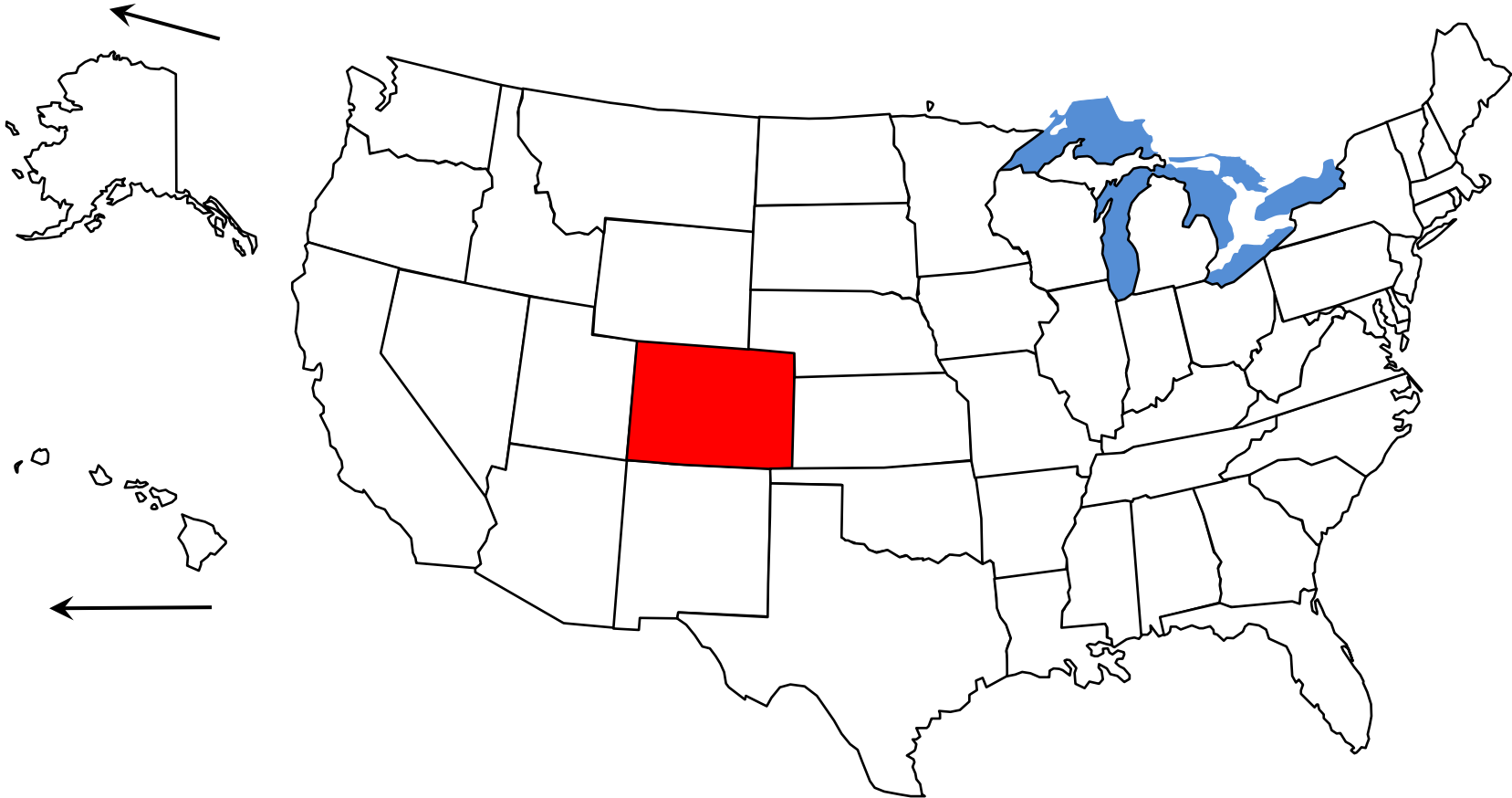
The members of the 305th hold many warm memories of the English people who reached out to make them feel welcome and strengthen their morale -- all of you and your fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers and others who demonstrated a notable compassion and concern for these noble airmen.

Now, 50 years later, you have welcomed them back, and I know they are proud to have been so warmly remembered by all of you who shared experiences and your friendship during World War II. Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and meaningful anniversary celebration and every future happiness.

Sincerely,

PETE WILSON

The United States of America



Colorado

STATE OF COLORADO

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

136 State Capitol
Denver, Colorado 80203-1792
Phone (303) 866-2471



Roy Romer
Governor

May 1992

To the People of Chelveston
and Higham Ferrers, England

Greetings:

I am pleased to join the residents of Colorado in thanking you for making this anniversary reunion of the 305th Bombardment Group Memorial Association so memorable.

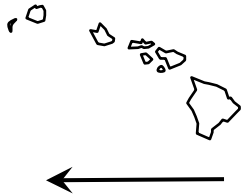
It has been 50 years since the first U.S. bomb groups began the training at Chelveston Army Air Base that proved to be a critical factor in bringing World War II to an end. The courage of the British and American military during this terrible time in our history must never be forgotten. We also must not forget the role the English people held in that historic time. Their valor will always be remembered.

There will be poignant memories to share as you gather for this 50th anniversary reunion. The people of my nation and my state send our best wishes to you and our deepest appreciation for again serving as gracious hosts to the members of the 305th.

Sincerely,

Roy Romer
Governor

The United States of America



Connecticut



LOWELL P. WEICKER JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
06106

February 1992

To the Great People of Chelveston
and Higham Ferrers:

Greetings from your many friends in Connecticut - 50 years after you hosted the airmen of the 305th Bomb Group, offering them your hearts and hospitality during World War II.

From this state who sent sons to your care and protection, you have our deep gratitude and affection.

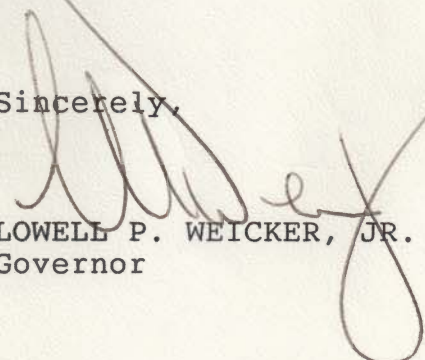
The 305th represented every state and territory of our country, proudly and with distinction.

It is my honor, on behalf of the people of Connecticut, to join in this anniversary celebration with special words, prayers and thanks to those who gave so unselfishly and lovingly to this unit of airmen we sent to fight by your side.

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers and to the veterans of the 305th Bomb Group in World War II - Well done! Beautifully done! Eternally done!

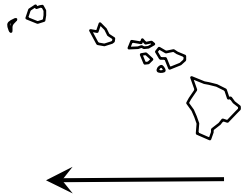
Very best wishes,

Sincerely,


LOWELL P. WEICKER, JR.
Governor



The United States of America



Delaware



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

MICHAEL N. CASTLE
GOVERNOR

February 10, 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England for your land support while hosting the American Military during the international crisis of World War II. I especially take pride in the 305th Bombardment Group that so bravely served the United States and the World.

On behalf of the people of the State of Delaware, I would like to thank you for extending yourselves to my fellow countrymen in a very difficult and uncertain time. For that you will not be forgotten.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michael N. Castle".

Michael N. Castle

MNC:cef

The United States of America



Florida



THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

LAWTON CHILES

May 1992

Greetings to the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers,
England:

It is a pleasure to extend greetings to you on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. Bomb Groups to fly to England during World War II. You were gracious hosts to the American Military stationed in your area, and we are appreciative of your hospitality.

I send greetings from the Capital of Florida and issue an invitation to you to visit our beautiful city and state. I am pleased to learn of the cooperation exhibited between you and our Military (the 305th Bombardment Group Memorial Association) in the past as well as for the significance of the current reunion and time of reminiscing.

My best wishes are sent for a most enjoyable time together.

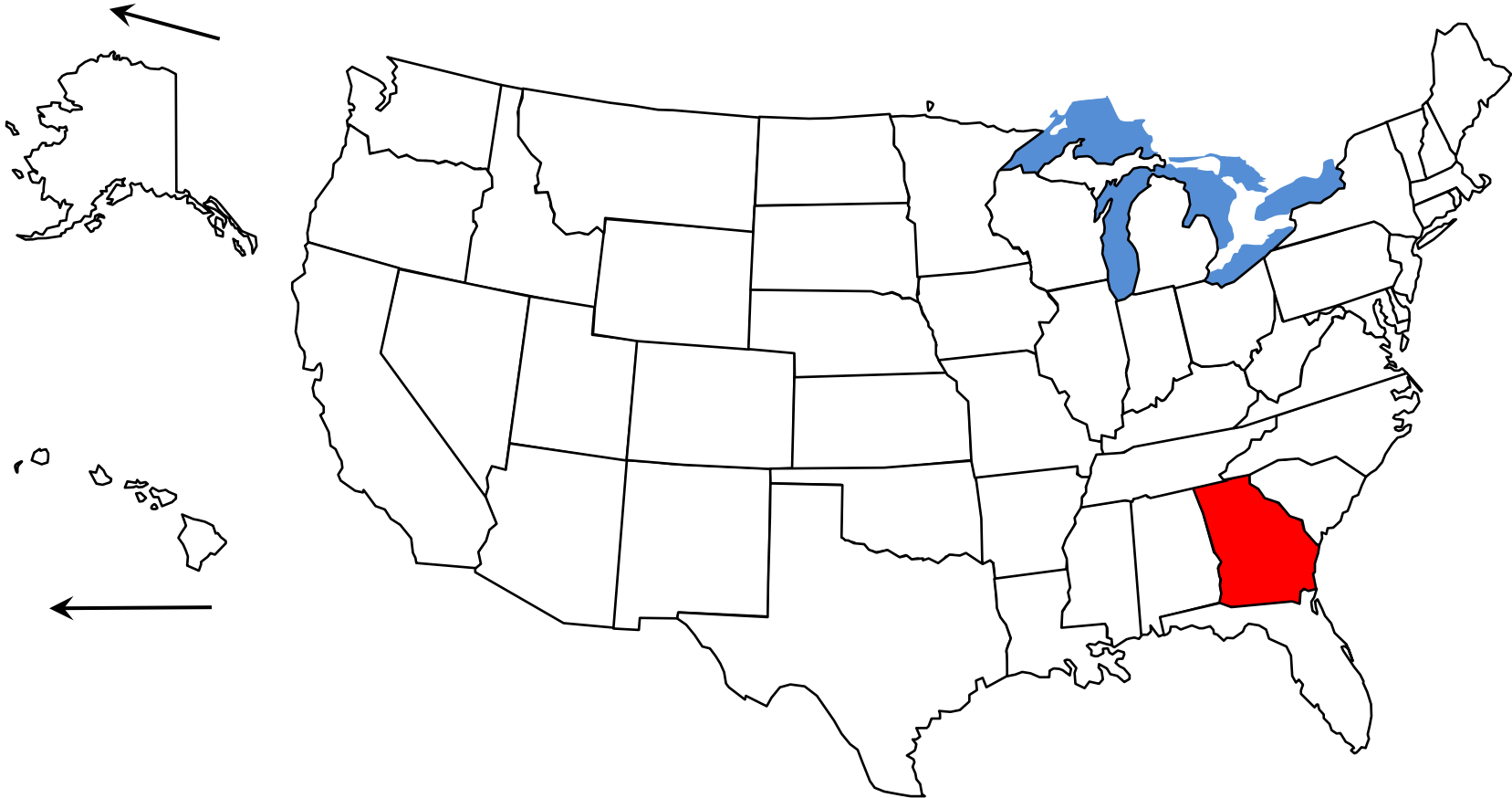
With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Lawton Chiles
LAWTON CHILES

LC/hss

The United States of America



Georgia



STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ATLANTA 30334-0900

Zell Miller
GOVERNOR

May 1, 1992

TO: The people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England


Fifty years ago, the first U.S. bomb groups flew to England. It was there that the group formation flying pattern was begun, which permitted planes to fly daylight precision bombing missions.

While the American military personnel were stationed in England during World War II, the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers were gracious hosts. A camaraderie was formed that remains strong to this day.

As this historical event is observed, I extend greetings on behalf of the citizens of Georgia. I salute you and the members of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association.

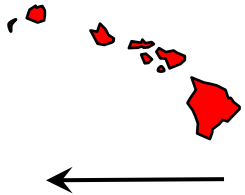
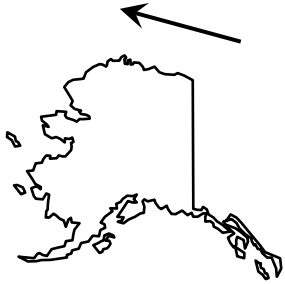
With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely,


Zell Miller

ZM/rp

The United States of America



Hawaii



MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR JOHN WAIHEE

May 1992

It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and best wishes to the members of the 305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association and the people of England who host this distinguished group on the 50th Anniversary of the deployment of the first U. S. Bomb Group to England.

Fifty years ago the members of the 305th Bomb Group arrived at Chelveston Army Air Base to begin the group formation flying pattern at Chelveston Army Air Base. This flying pattern permitted the 8th Air Force planes to fly daylight precision bombing missions.

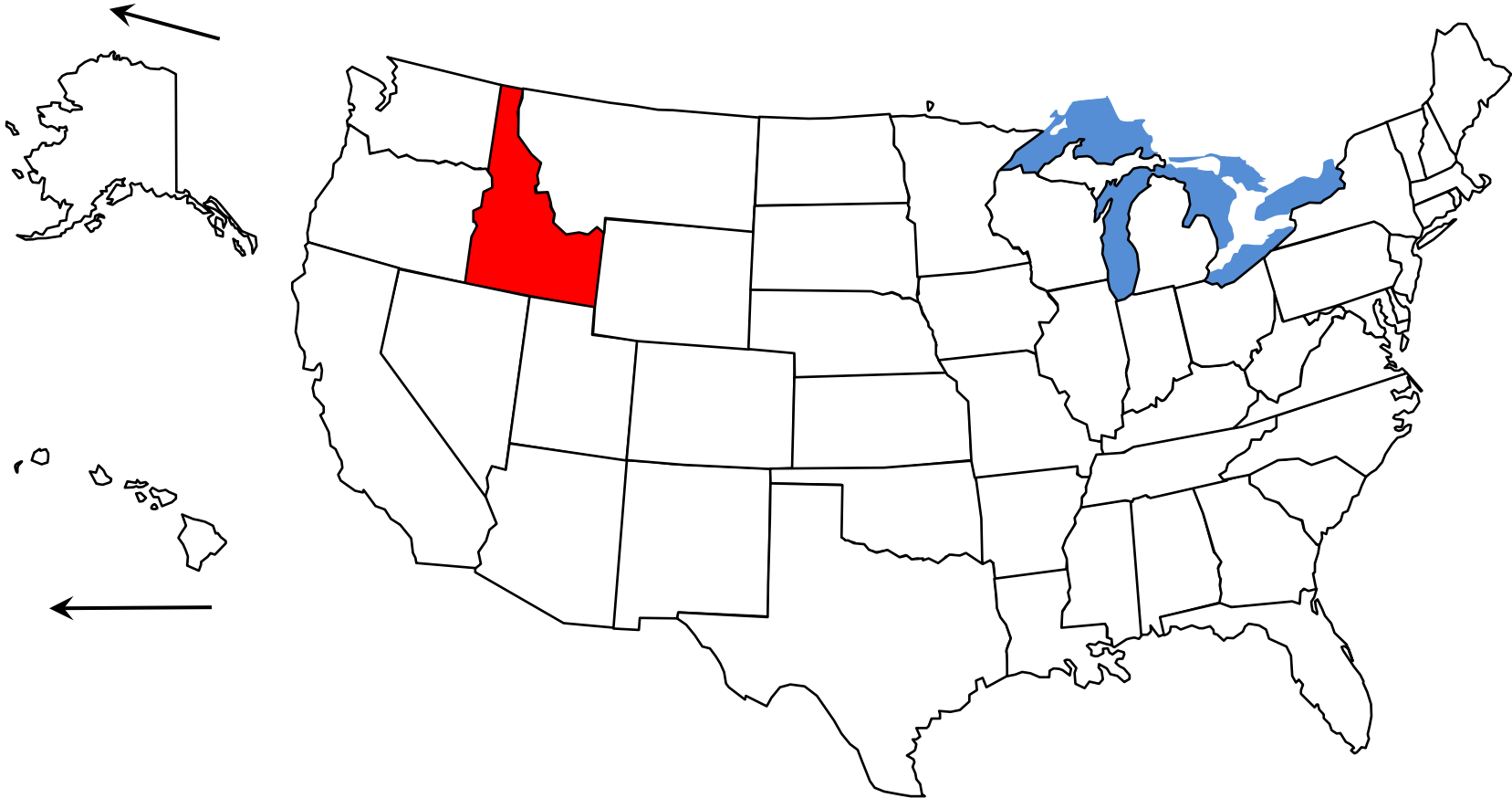
The veterans who visit today served our country with great distinction. They are set apart by the gallantry with which they came to the defense of liberty. Their sacrifice is a constant reminder of the blessings we enjoy today.

During that stressful time five decades ago the people of England were gracious hosts to these American military personnel stationed there. The people of Hawaii extend our warm aloha to the citizens of England who opened their hearts and homes to our native son, Mr. Curtis Keko, and other young men so far from home. The hospitality they received helped strengthen the strong tie between England and Hawaii which remains today.

Let us reaffirm our commitment to liberty and equal rights as an expression of our gratitude for the sacrifice of the men of the 305th Bomb Group and the people of England who helped in the fight for democracy and peace.

JOHN WAIHEE

The United States of America



Idaho



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL

BOISE 83720-1000

CECIL D. ANDRUS
GOVERNOR

(208) 334-2100

June 19, 1992

A MESSAGE FROM CECIL D. ANDRUS
Governor of Idaho

It is with pleasure that I send warm greetings to the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England on the occasion of your reunion with members of the 305th Bombardment Group.

Please know that the people of Idaho are today as appreciative of your gracious hospitality as they were in the agonizing days of 1942 when our two countries joined forces to defend freedom.

On behalf of all Idahoans, I wish you all a most gratifying and successful reunion.

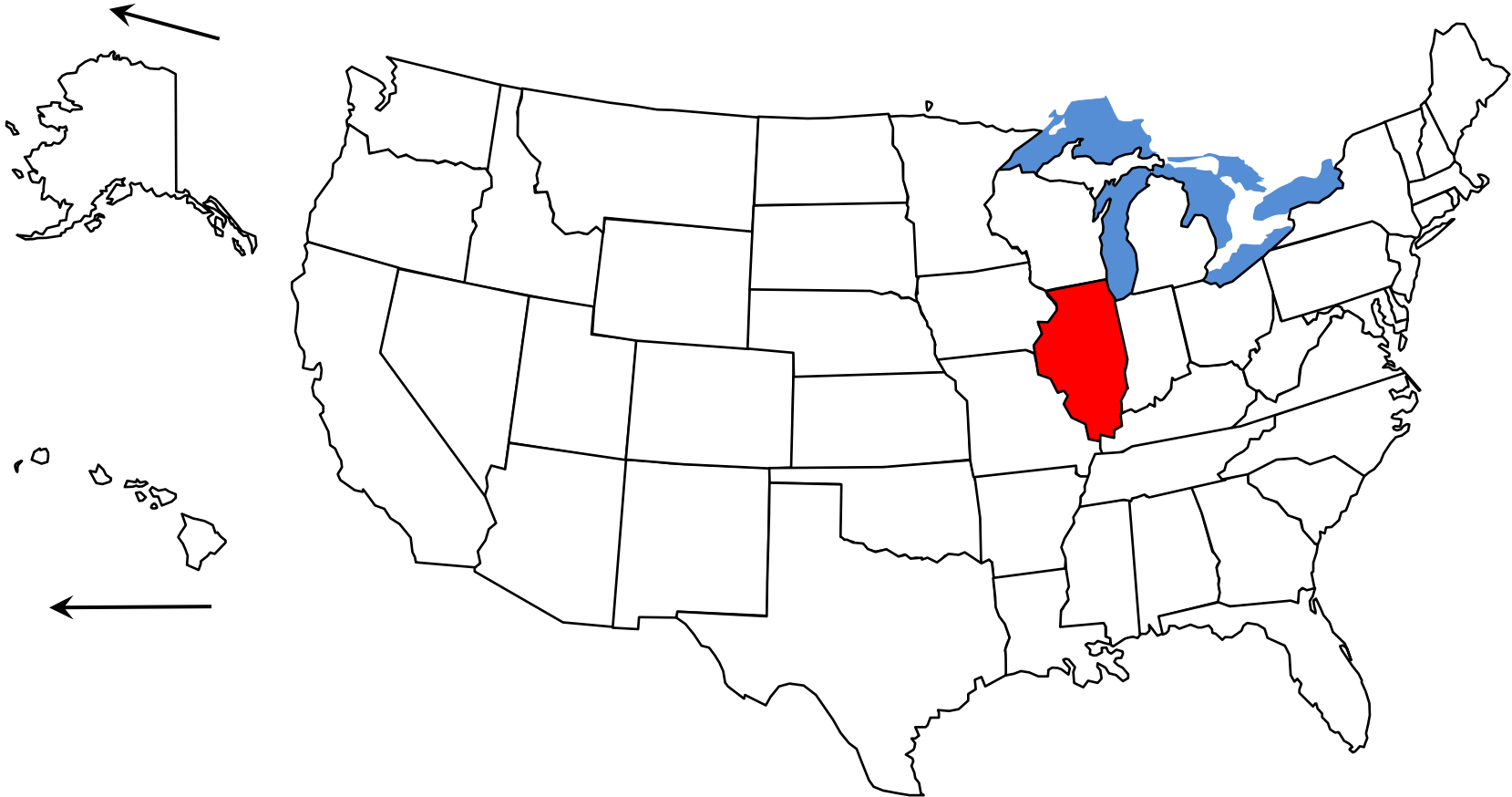
With best regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Cecil D. Andrus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Cecil D. Andrus
Governor

The United States of America



Illinois



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SPRINGFIELD 62706

JIM EDGAR
GOVERNOR

May 1992

Greetings:

As Governor of Illinois, I am pleased to send greetings to the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England.

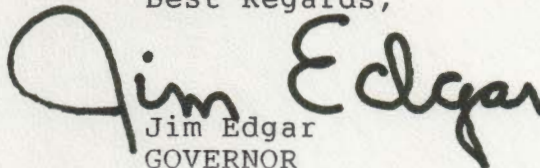
I would like to commend all of the English people who were hosts for the American Military stationed in England during World War II. It is through this unified effort that we won the war. Even today our victory shines in the defeat of Communism throughout Eastern Europe.

I would also like to commend those involved with the 305th Bomb Group. These people put their own lives at risk to aid the war effort. It is their hard work and dedication that make the Allies proud to call them their own.

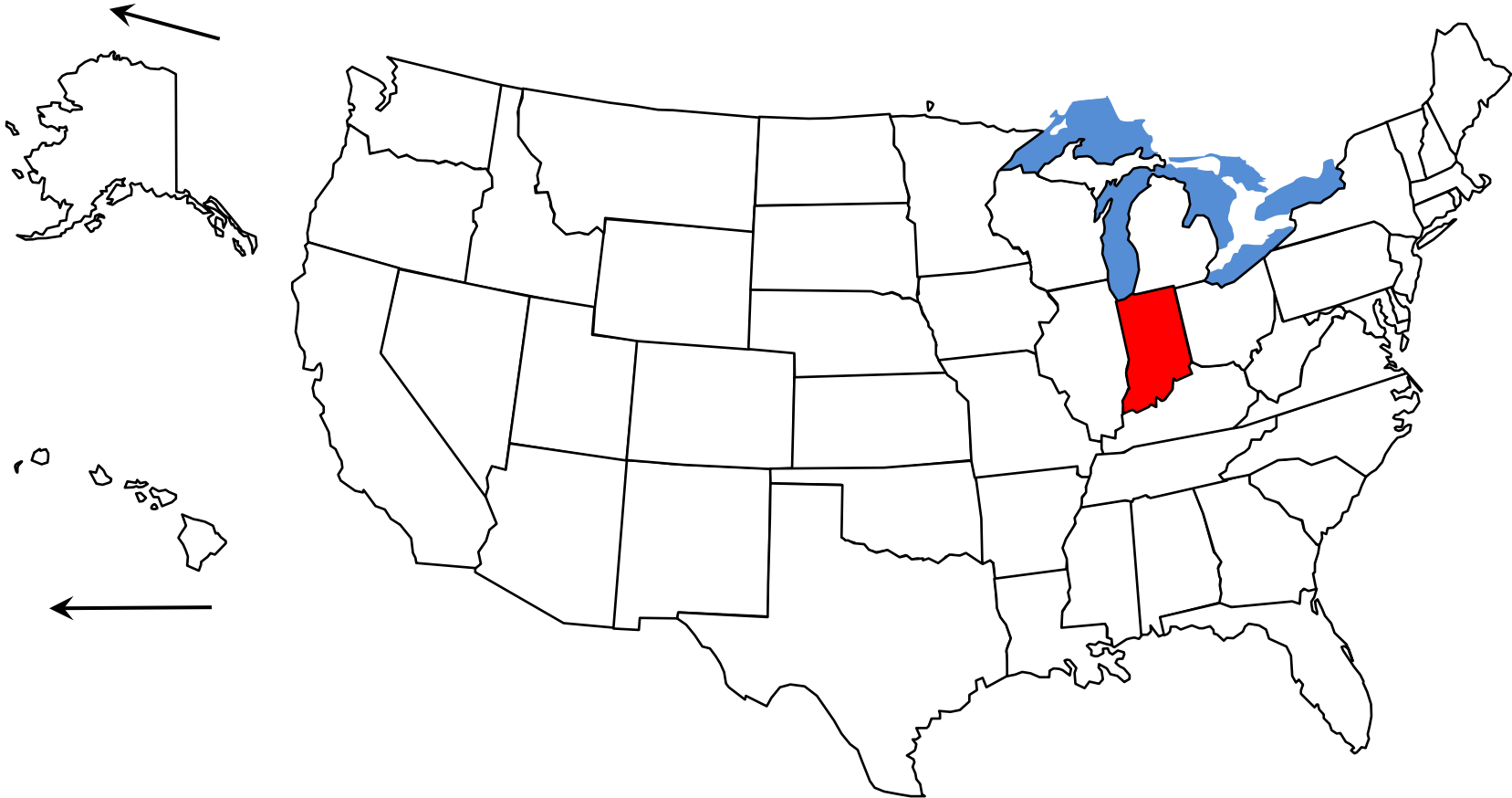
The Allies are extremely fortunate to have had such dedication and service from the 305th Bomb Group and the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers.

On behalf of the citizens of Illinois, please accept my very best wishes for the 50th anniversary celebration of the first United States Bomb Groups to fly to England.

Best Regards,


Jim Edgar
GOVERNOR

The United States of America



Indiana



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-2797

EVAN BAYH
GOVERNOR

July 1992

GREETINGS!

As Governor of Indiana, it is my pleasure to send greetings to the fine people of Higham Ferrers and Chelveston, England.

In Indiana we are known for our Hoosier Hospitality, but today I recall and commend the hospitality and generosity which you showed to Hoosier pilots and all Americans during World War Two.

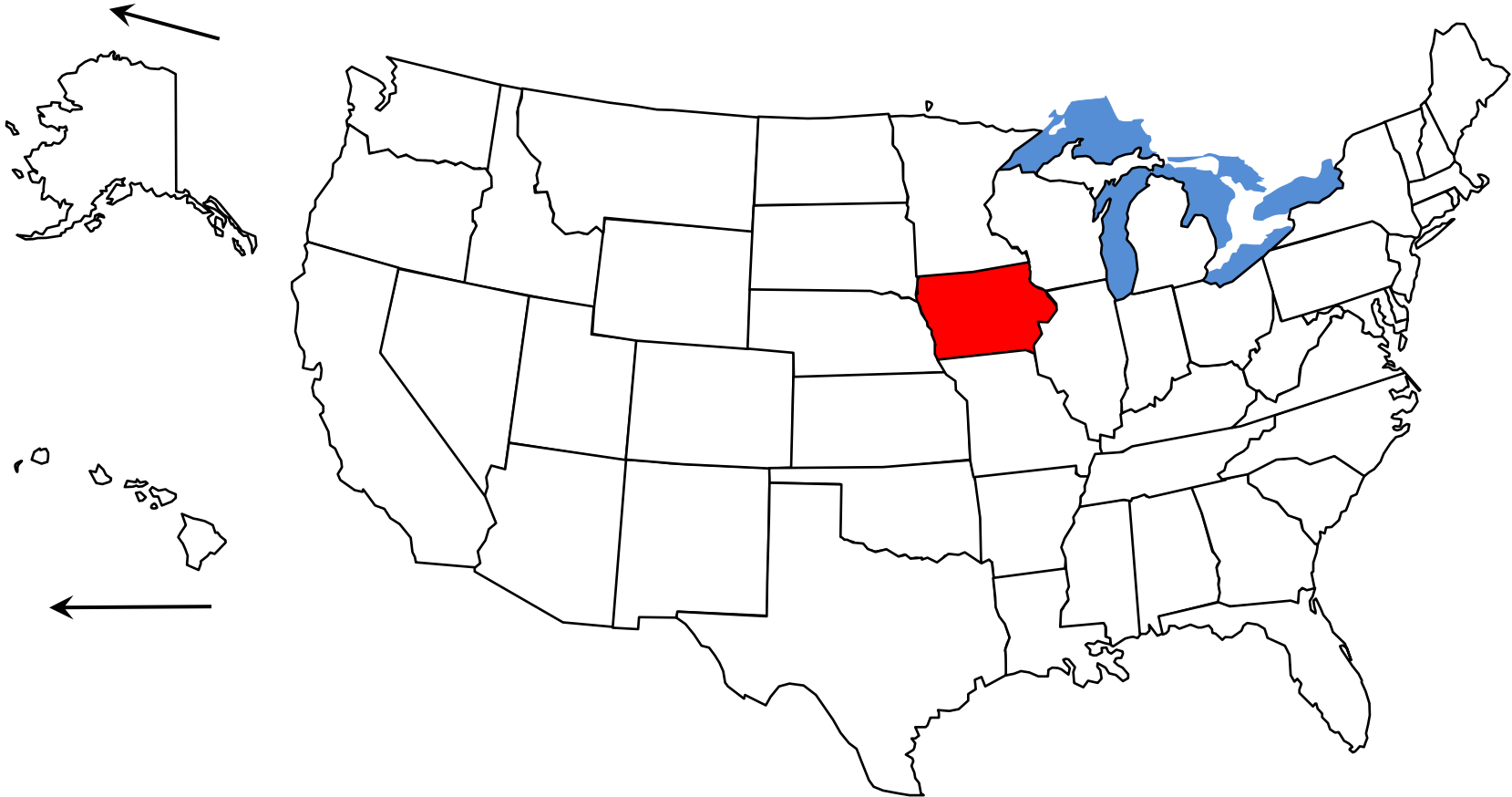
Your efforts helped democracy withstand the challenges of years past and paved the way for today's triumph of freedom. I wish you a successful reunion and an enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely,

Evan Bayh

EB/tav

The United States of America



Iowa



TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

515 281-5211

May 1, 1992

Dear People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

As Governor of Iowa, I would like to wish you the very best as you celebrate the 50th Anniversary of your association with the the first United States Bomb Group to fly to England - the 305th Bomb Group led by Lt. Col. Curtis LeMay.

I extend my gratitude to you, the people of England, for your remarkable support and cooperation in the war effort. You were gracious hosts for many Americans who were stationed with you during World War II. The teamwork between our two countries was crucial to the victory of the Allied Forces. As a result, every American and English citizen can take pride in celebrating this anniversary.

The State of Iowa and our nation will never forget the dedication, sacrifice, and service of these courageous bomber pilots and the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, who stood behind them.

On behalf of all Iowans, I salute the members of the 305th Bomb Group and the people of England as you come together one more time.

Best wishes for a joyous celebration.

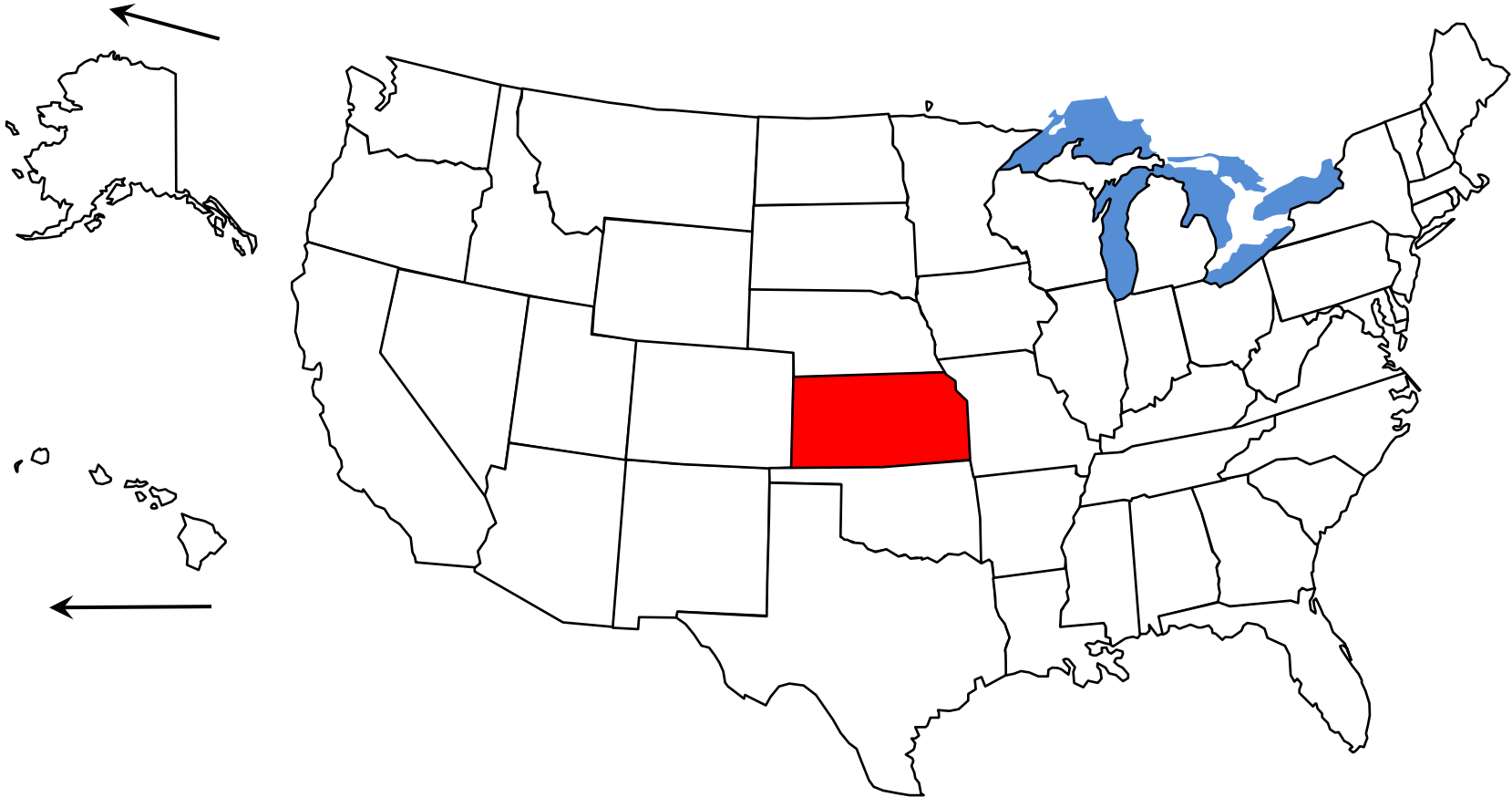
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry E. Branstad". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "T" and a circular flourish at the end.

Terry E. Branstad
Governor of Iowa

TEB/cc

The United States of America



Kansas

STATE OF KANSAS



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

JOAN FINNEY, Governor
State Capitol, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

913-296-3232
1-800-432-2487
TDD# 1-800-992-0152
FAX# (913) 296-7973

May 8, 1992

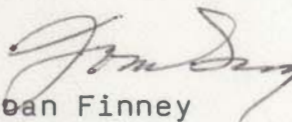
To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

On behalf of the people of Kansas, I would like to thank the English people for the hospitality they showed to Kansans who were airmen in the 305th Bombardment Group.

It was their generosity which helped enable both American and British forces to unite and bring victory to the Allies in World War II.

Again, thank you to the citizens of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers and may God bless you all.

Sincerely yours,


Joan Finney

The United States of America



Kentucky



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

BRERETON C. JONES
GOVERNOR

THE CAPITOL
700 CAPITAL AVENUE
FRANKFORT 40601
(502) 564-2611

May 4, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I want to offer a special thanks to your citizens on behalf of all Kentuckians for their generous support and welcome of our American airmen who served with the 305th Bombardment Group on this, the 50th anniversary of their arrival in England.

Mere words cannot express the close bonds that tie our nations together. Our friendship was forged in the fires of World War II in times that were difficult for all of us.

It is never easy to be away from home, especially in the midst of a great conflict such as World War II. Your citizens' kind and attentive efforts made our servicemen feel welcome and at home in a land most had never dreamed of visiting. Kindness such as this is not forgotten by the men and women of Kentucky.

Now, even fifty years later, your kindness is remembered and recounted to our grandchildren. Once again, thank you for your kindness and consideration in a difficult time.

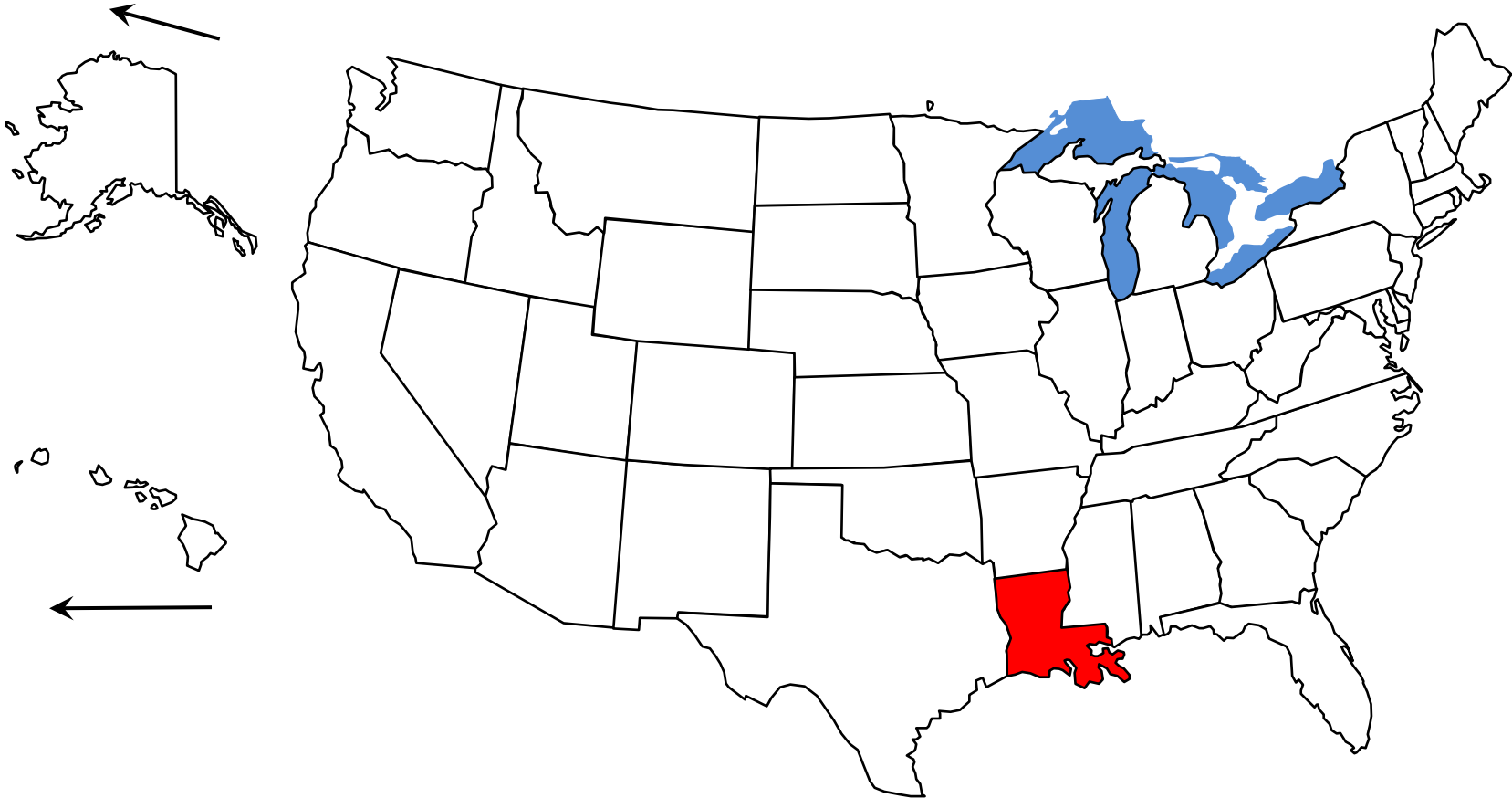
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brereton C. Jones", written over a horizontal line.

Brereton C. Jones



The United States of America



Louisiana



EDWIN W. EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Baton Rouge

70804-9004

POST OFFICE BOX 94004
(504) 342-7015

May 15, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

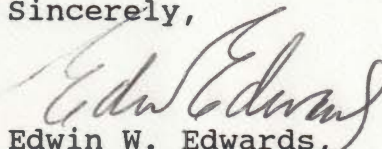
I am pleased and privileged to join millions of Americans in extending greetings and best wishes to you on this momentous occasion.

The graciousness of the English people toward our American Bomb Group in a time of danger and hardship was matched only by their fortitude during the entire World War. Not only Americans but democratic peoples throughout the world owe you a tremendous debt -- one that will not be forgotten despite the passage of years.

As you celebrate this anniversary with warm memories of the past, I hope you, as we, look forward also to an unending bond of understanding between our nations and an unfailing commitment to keep alight the fires of freedom.

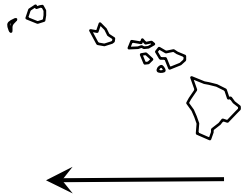
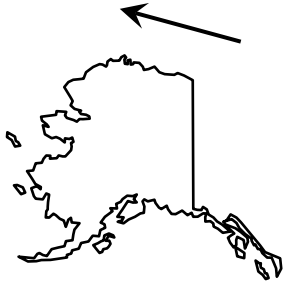
Kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,


Edwin W. Edwards,
Governor

EWE/krc

The United States of America



Maine



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333

JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR.
GOVERNOR

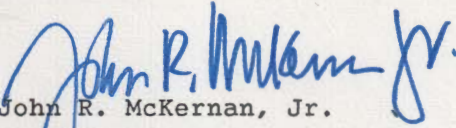
May, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

On behalf of the citizens of Maine, I would like to extend greetings and best wishes on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the 305th Bombardment Group to your shores. The ties which connect our two countries are strong. The men and women who settled and developed this country came from a hundredfold farms, villages and cities in your country. For many of the American servicemen sent to England in the course of two World Wars and a protracted cold war, the journey was - in a sense - a homecoming. They were received more as family than strangers. And when they left England to return to America many had, in fact, built families who repeated the cycle of immigration. Thus are the bonds renewed and strengthened.

I hope that the future will find us united in the pursuit of peace - not war - and that we will continue to share the amity and understanding which has characterized our relationship for nearly two hundred years.

Sincerely,


John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor



The United States of America



Maryland

STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



IN REPLY REFER TO

WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER
GOVERNOR

ANNAPOLIS OFFICE
STATE HOUSE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
(301) 974-3901

BALTIMORE OFFICE
ROOM 1513
301 WEST PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201
(301) 225-4800

WASHINGTON OFFICE
SUITE 315
444 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001
(202) 638-2215

TDD (301) 333-3098

September, 1992

To the citizens of Chelveston and Hagham Ferrers, England

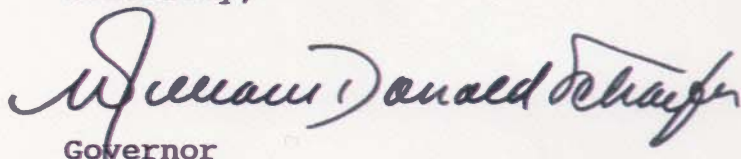
Dear Friends:

As Governor of Maryland, I am pleased to extend my best wishes as proud members of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association journey to England to rekindle the strong bonds of friendship and goodwill which they had maintained with all of you more than a half century ago. This past May marked the 50th anniversary of the mighty 305th's flying to England and establishing a presence in your town and area. I understand that former members of this distinguished Bomb Group are eager to return to a community which took great pains to make them feel at home for the length of their military stay. Maryland applauds your tremendous hospitality expressed both then and now, and we look forward to further building upon lasting and productive ties between our respective people.

I am especially interested in your celebration, since I cherish warm memories of my own experiences in Blandford, England at the United States Army 22nd General Hospital during World War II. I will never forget the kindness of Blandford's residents. I imagine that those who served in the 305th Bomb Group harbor similar feelings for Chelveston and Hagham Ferrers.

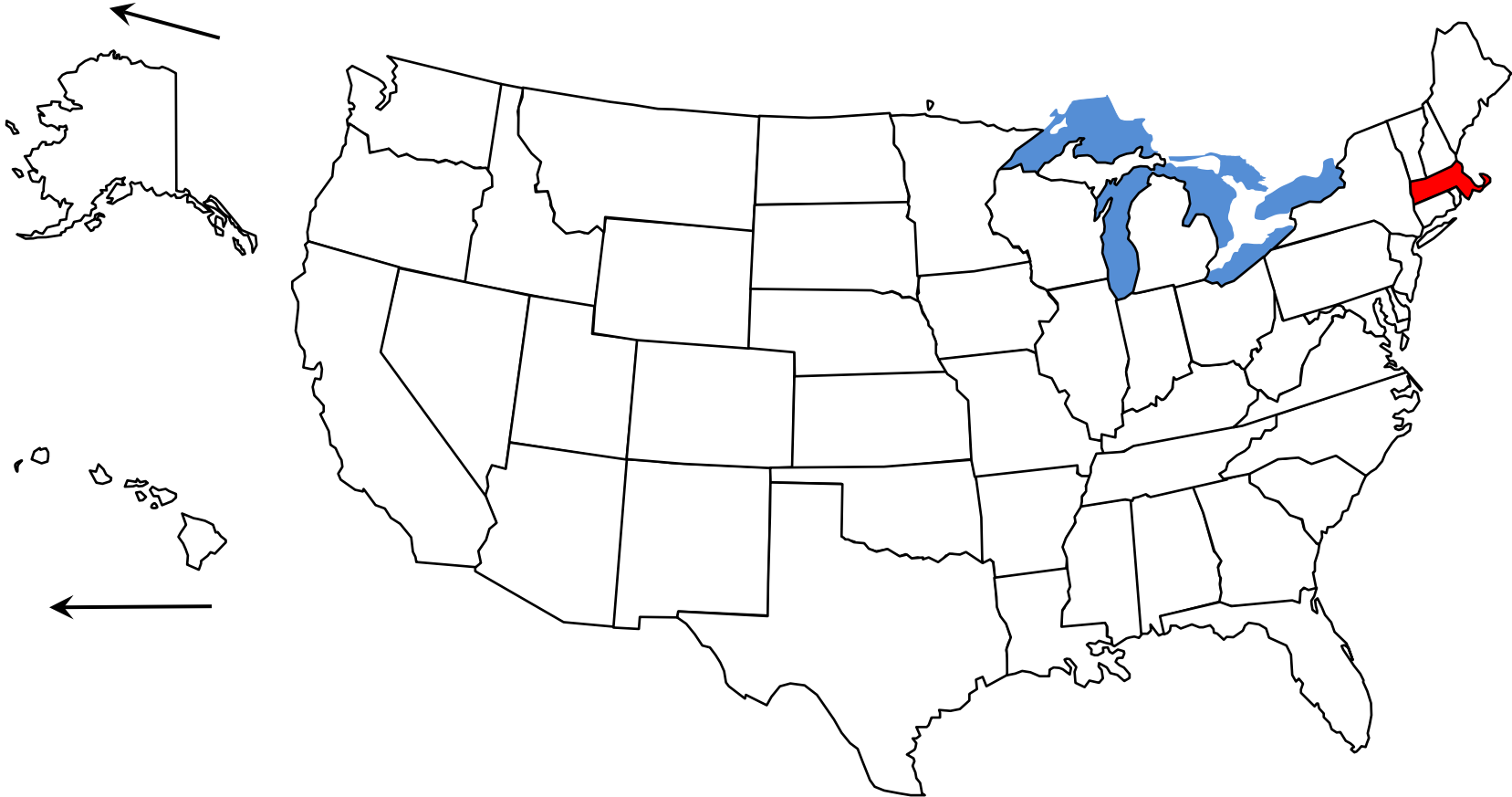
Again, I commend you for hosting this 50th anniversary celebration. May all of your days be blessed by good health, peace and happiness.

Sincerely,


Governor



The United States of America



Massachusetts



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR

May 14, 1992

305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association
c/o Harry J. Task
107 Harrow Lane
San Antonio, TX 78227

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND:

Lieutenant Governor Cellucci and I are delighted to send our greetings, and those of the people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to you as you gather to commemorate the arrival of the 305th Bomb Group fifty years ago.

During the ensuing half century, pleasant memories of the friendliness and generous hospitality of the good people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers have continued to warm the hearts and minds of the American military who were stationed here during World War II. Over the centuries, England and the United States have shared a significant history. The events of WW II and the achievements of the 305th here nourished and strengthened the powerful bond between our two nations.

Please accept our best wishes for a joyful and memorable celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Weld".

William F. Weld
Governor

The United States of America



Michigan



STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JOHN ENGLER
GOVERNOR

July 6, 1992

Greetings:

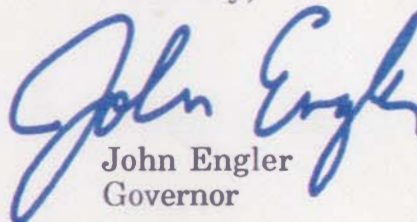
As Governor of the State of Michigan, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the members of the 305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their departure from the United States to the war-torn soil of Europe.

In 1942, General Curtis LeMay and the members of the 305th Bombardment Group left the United States for the Chelveston, England, Army Air Base to join with Allied forces defending western Europe from the oppression and tyranny of Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. General Curtis LeMay and the members of the 305th Bombardment Group were responsible for the introduction of group formation flying patterns, an innovation which enabled the 8th Air Force to fly daylight precision bombing missions that greatly contributed to the Allied triumph in Europe.

I would also like to acknowledge the citizens of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England. These people obviously understood the importance of the United States' involvement in the war and graciously welcomed our servicemen into their home towns with open arms during World War II. Without the warm hospitality and cooperation of the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, the efforts of the 305th Bombardment Group during the war might not have been as successful.

Once again, on behalf of the citizen of the State of Michigan, I take great pride in recognizing the courageous efforts of the members of the 305th Bombardment Group on the occasion of their 50th anniversary. I also want to remember all of the men and women who gave their lives on foreign soil during this historic struggle, while protecting the freedom of the people of Europe and America.

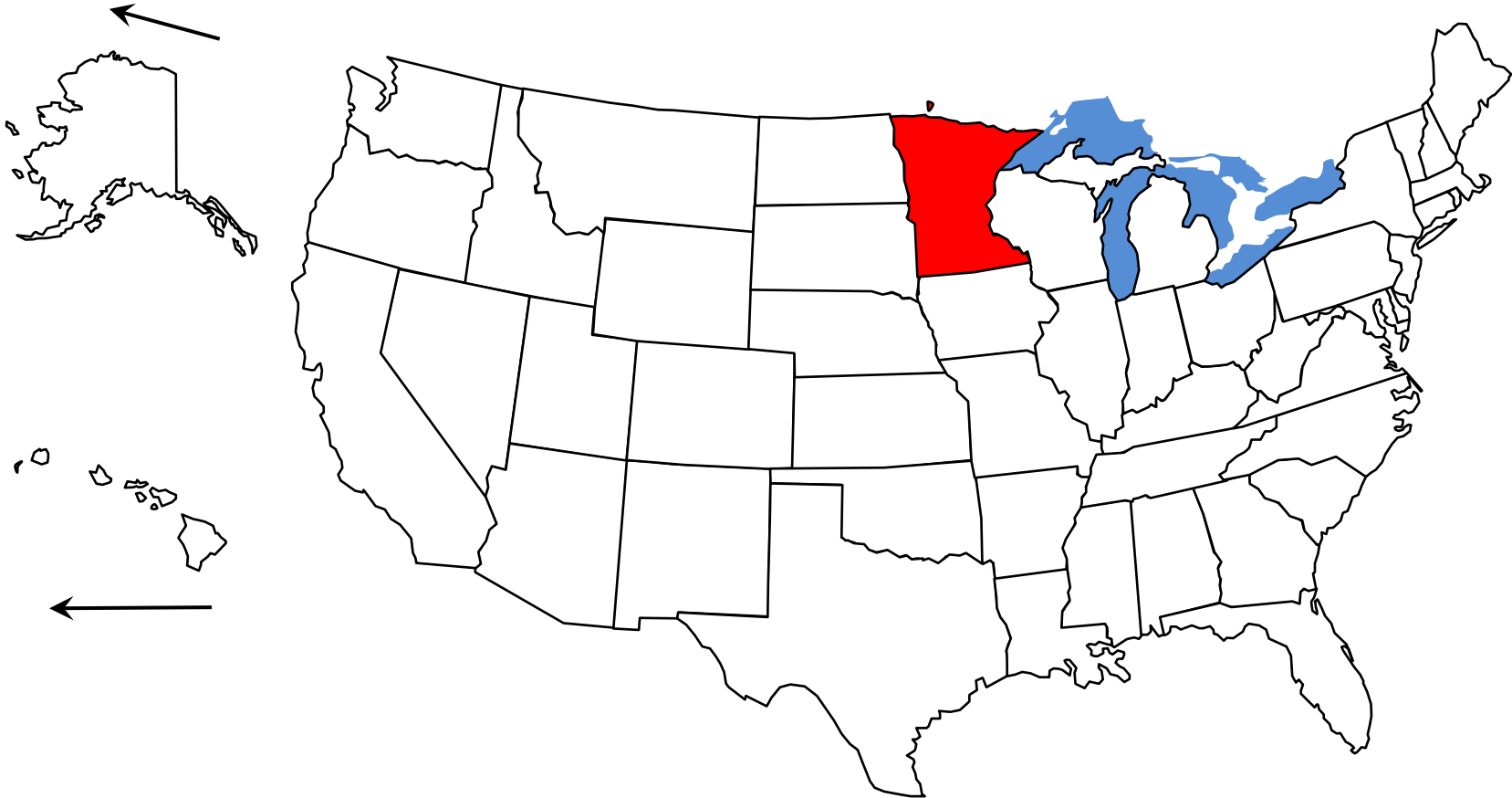
Sincerely,



John Engler
Governor



The United States of America



Minnesota



ARNE H. CARLSON
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
130 STATE CAPITOL
SAINT PAUL 55155

May 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

After 50 years, your kindness has not been forgotten by the United States Air Force - 305th Bomb Group.

In May of 1942, these courageous American airmen left their hometowns and families behind and headed for a foreign land called England. It was a difficult and uneasy time for all of us. But our airmen were pleased to find the people of England to be very gracious hosts. Ironically, in times of war, it has often been kindness, cooperation and trust among allies that has helped our two nations endure and preserve the freedoms we hold so dear.

On behalf of all Minnesotans, I send you greetings and gratitude on this 50th anniversary celebration.

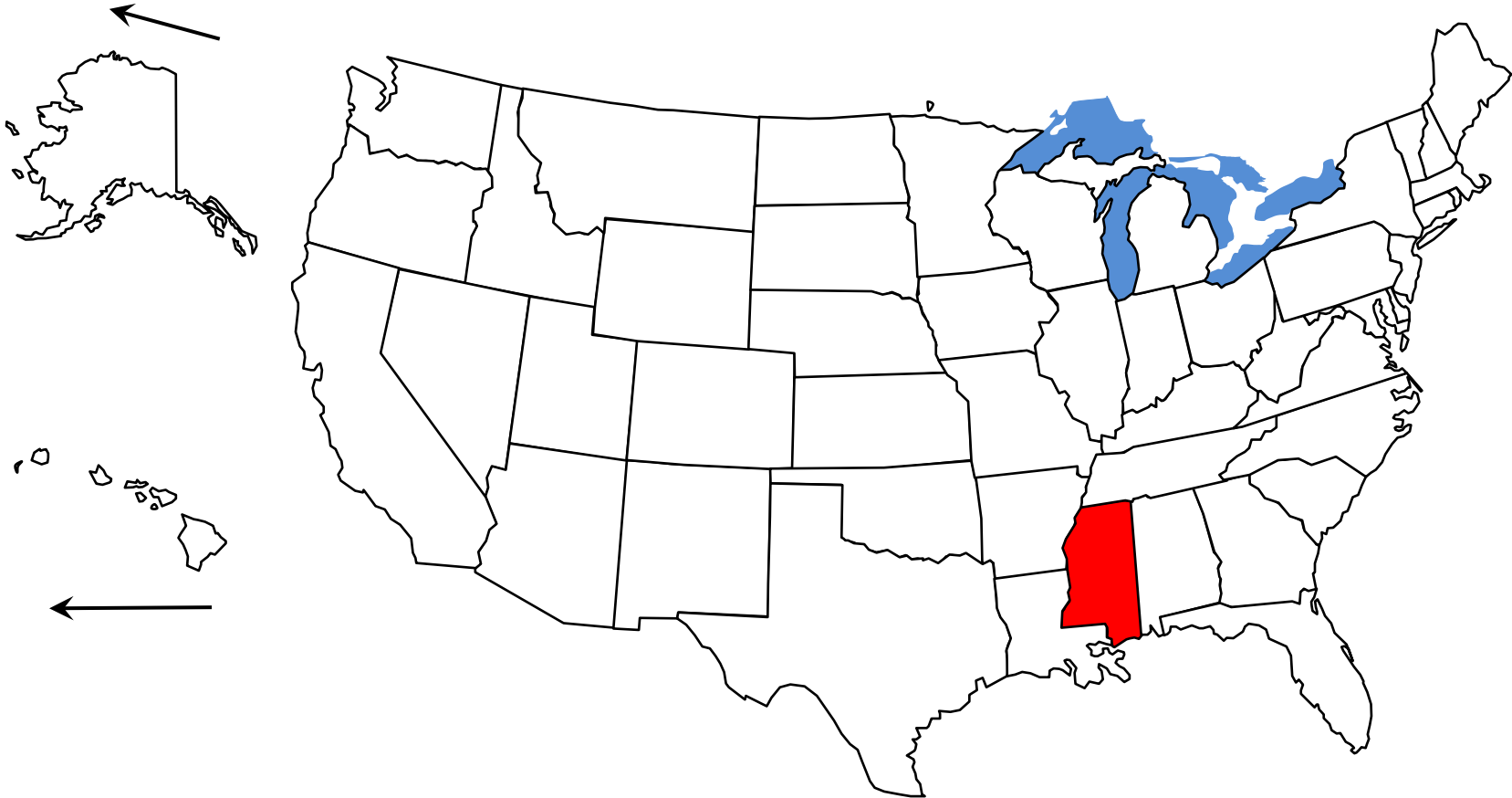
Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Arne H. Carlson".

ARNE H. CARLSON
Governor



The United States of America



Mississippi



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

KIRK FORDICE
GOVERNOR

May, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND:

On behalf of the State of Mississippi, it is a privilege to extend our heartfelt greetings to the wonderful British people, especially those who aided the 305th Bombardment Group during their mission in England during World War II. As we remember the 50th Anniversary of the 305th's departure to the British Isles, we offer our sincere thanks to you.

Your support, warmth and hospitality has never been forgotten by the 305th or America. You are to be commended for your contributions that enabled the strategic bombing missions to be successful and led to the Allied victory.

May this Golden Anniversary celebration mark a special time of remembrance for all who gave so much to so many, both English and American. Mississippi salutes you!

Sincerely,

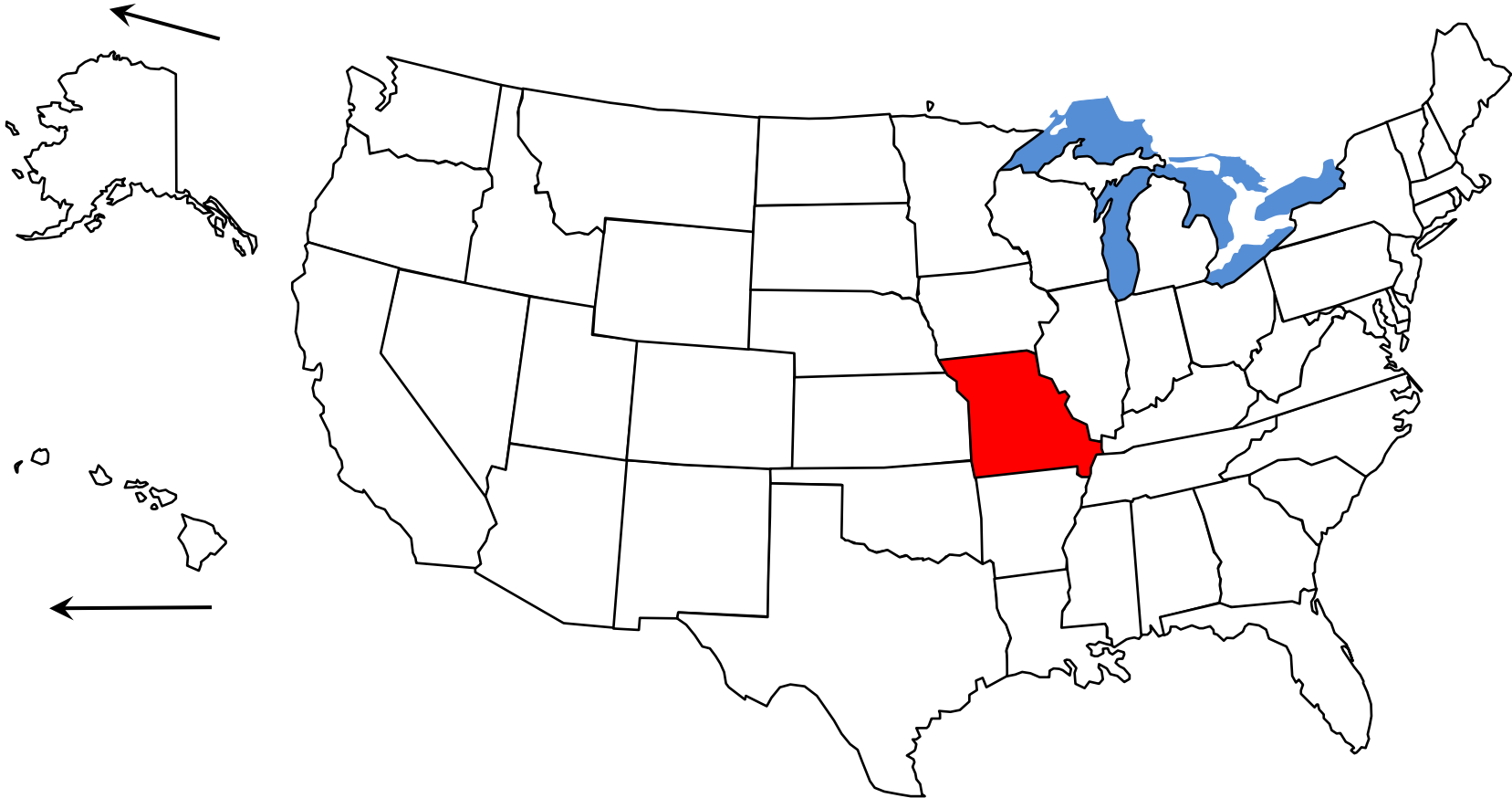
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirk Fordice".

KIRK FORDICE
Governor

KF:pm



The United States of America



Missouri



**EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY**

**JOHN ASHCROFT
GOVERNOR**

May, 1992

Greetings:

As Governor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 305th Bombardment Group Memorial Association's 1992 Reunion. Please accept my best wishes as you celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. bomb group to fly to England.

In the final line of the Declaration of Independence, our forefathers pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to secure freedom for themselves and posterity. There is no higher recognition of their sacrifice than that of service in the Armed Forces to ensure that their dream of freedom is preserved for future generations. As General Douglas MacArthur said in his farewell address at West Point, "A soldier above all prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."

On behalf of all Missourians, I extend sincere appreciation to the English people for their support of and graciousness to the American Military stationed in England during the war.

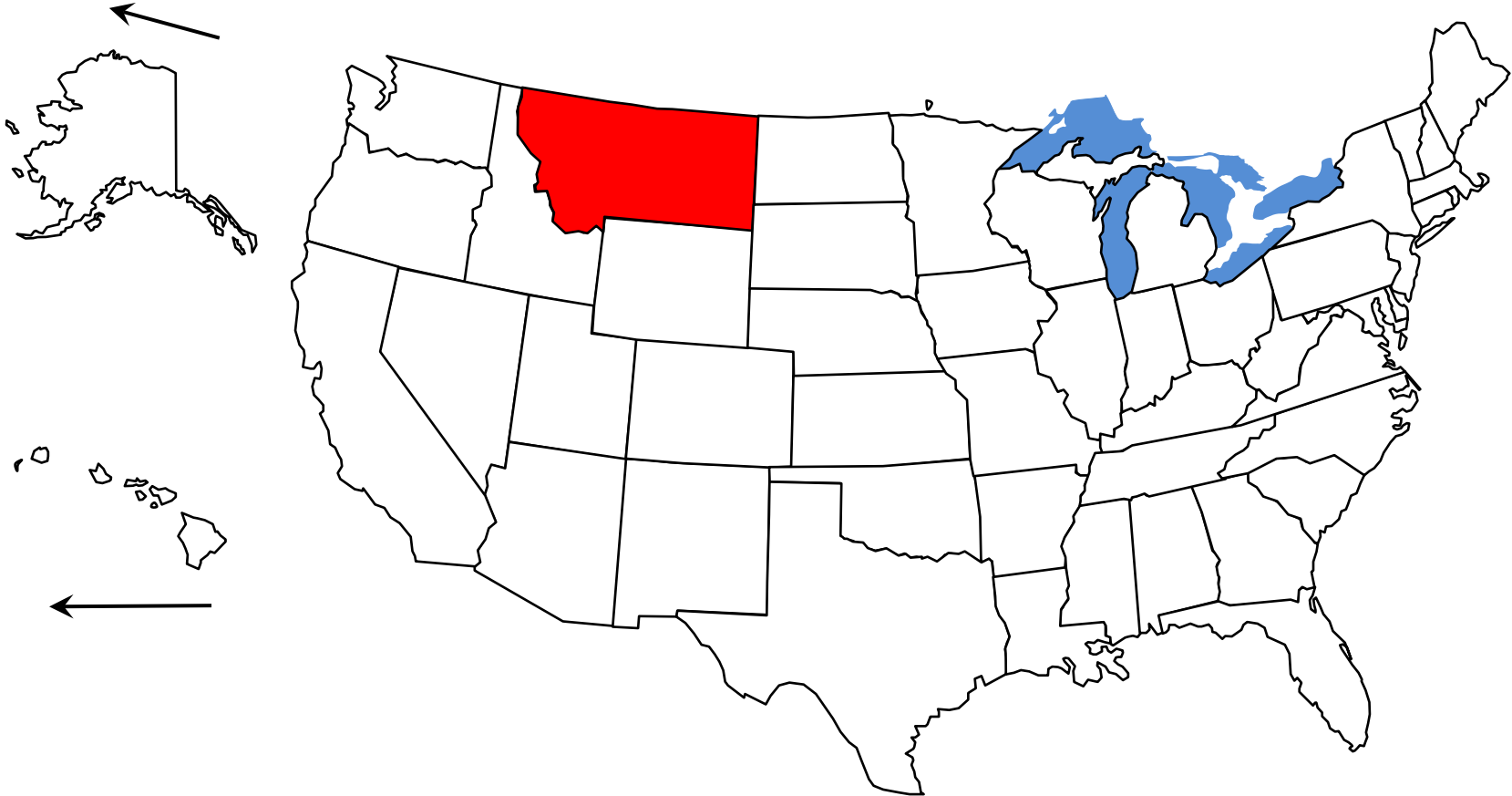
I join with all Missourians, and all Americans, in saluting you, members of the 305th Bombardment Group for your service to our country. You have our esteem and gratitude for all you have done for us. May God bless each of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "John Ashcroft", is positioned above the title "GOVERNOR". The signature is fluid and cursive.

GOVERNOR

The United States of America



Montana



STAN STEPHENS
GOVERNOR

State of Montana
Office of the Governor
Helena, Montana 59620
406-444-3111

June 25, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND:

On behalf of the people of Montana I want to extend greetings to you all from the Big Sky Country. In Montana we enjoy a lot of freedoms and many of us remember a time in history when we had to fight for that freedom. We honor those who took part in the events of World War II.

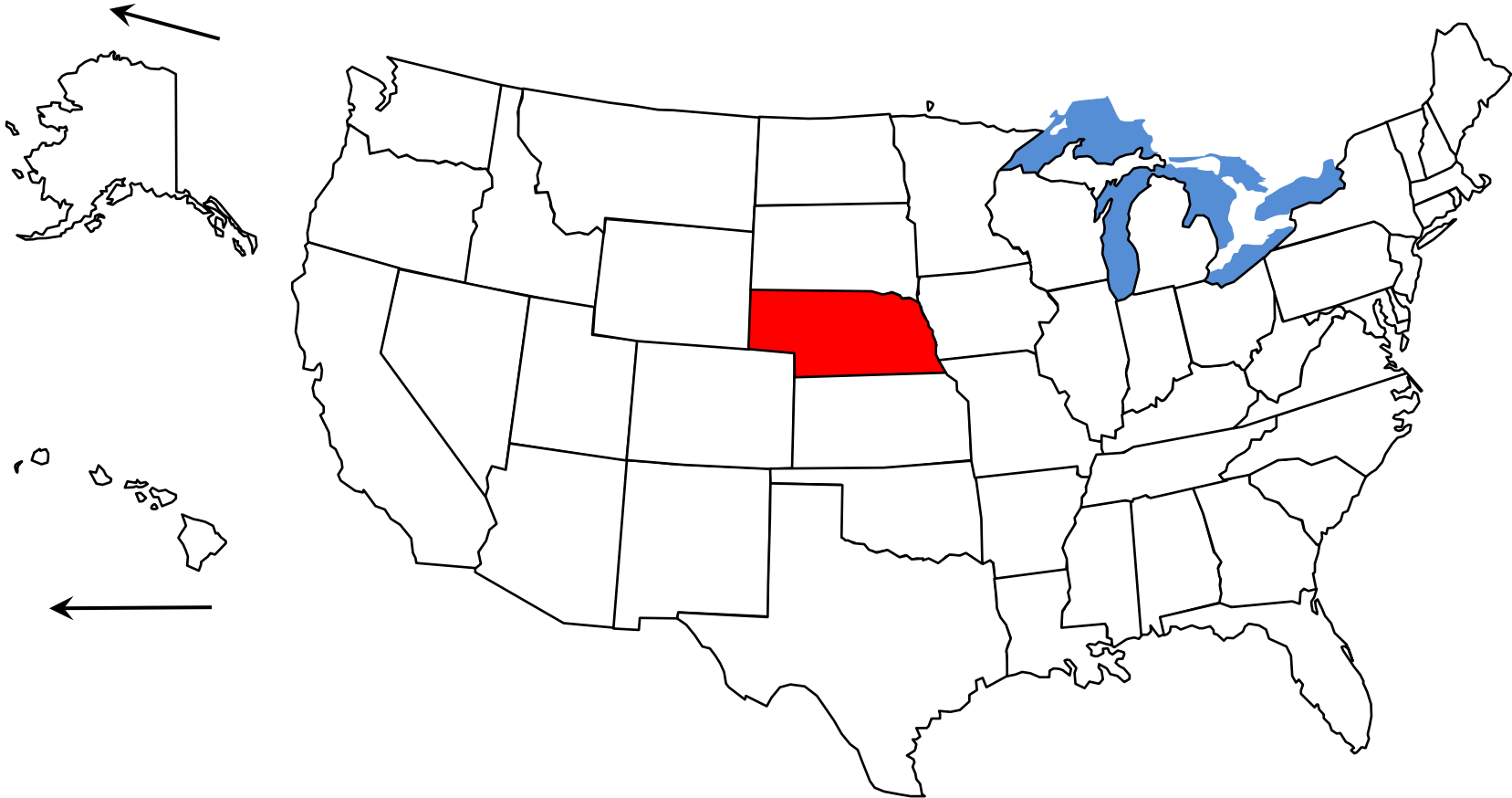
For those Montanans who called England and Chelveston and Higham Ferrers home I thank you for your hospitality and generosity during those times of need in 1942. I hope that your celebration brings back memories of those courageous days and the realization that without all of your efforts we may not be able to enjoy the same freedoms that we enjoy today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stan Stephens", written over a horizontal line.

STAN STEPHENS
Governor

The United States of America



Nebraska

STATE OF NEBRASKA

EXECUTIVE SUITE

P.O. Box 94848
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4848
Phone (402) 471-2244



E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor

May, 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

As Governor of the State of Nebraska is an honor for me to extend greetings to the 305th Bomb Group and the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England.

This 50th anniversary is a time when we can again thank you for your gracious hospitality extended to the American Military during World War Two. With all the uncertainty happening in our world today, it is comforting to remember a time when people joined together to help one another. I am sure this reunion is a bittersweet time in which to renew old acquaintances and yet remember those who gave their lives for freedom.

I wish for all of you a successful 50th anniversary celebration.

Sincerely,

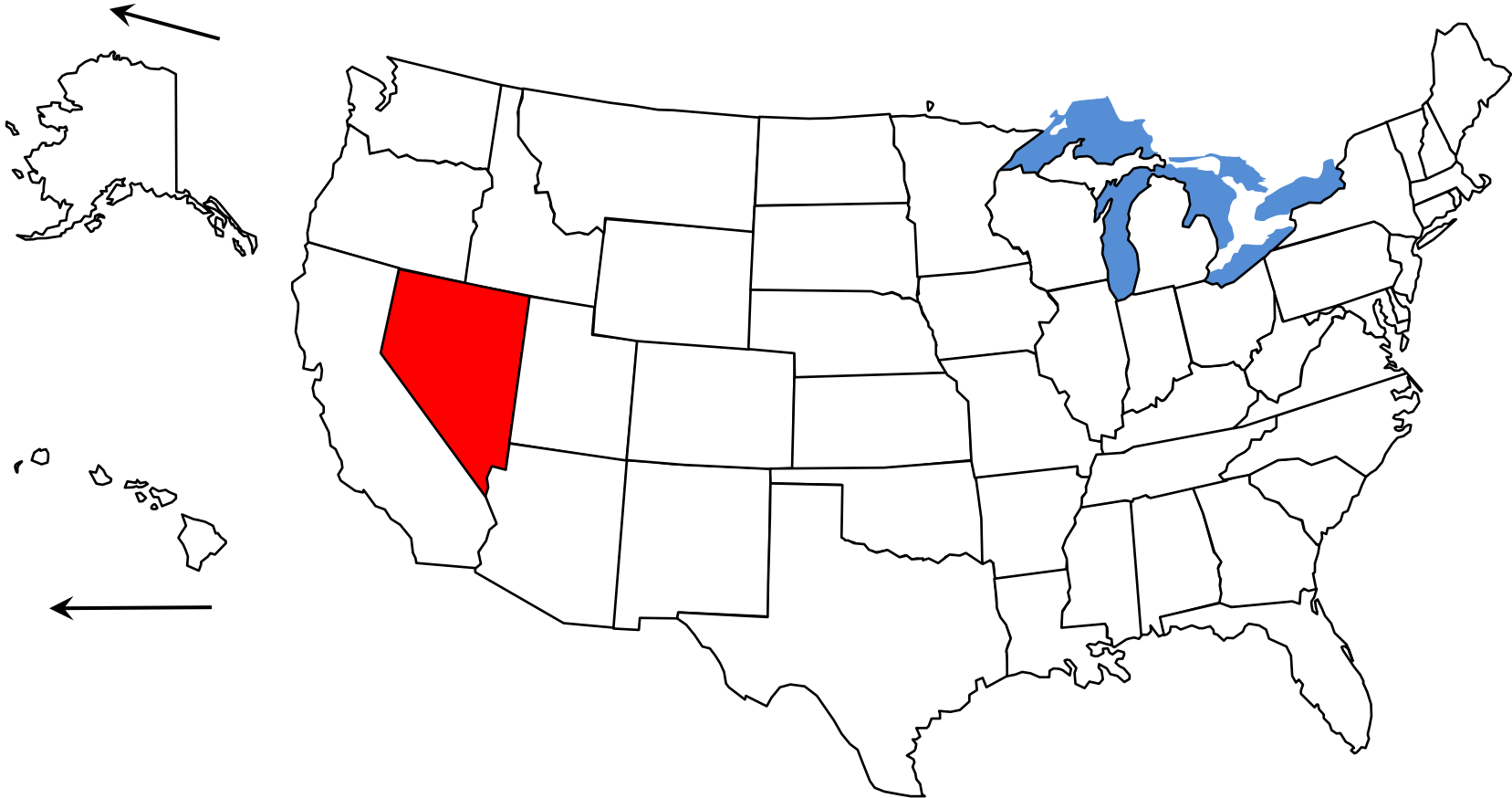
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Benjamin Nelson".

E. Benjamin Nelson
Governor

EBN/tjp



The United States of America



Nevada



STATE OF NEVADA
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER

Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710

BOB MILLER
Governor

TELEPHONE
(702) 687-5670
Fax: (702) 687-4486

JULY 4, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF HIGHAM FERRERS AND CHELVESTON, ENGLAND:

As Governor of the State of Nevada, I am pleased to send greetings from all Nevadans to you across the miles. Nevadans are proud of the role its citizens played in the forces of Joint Allied Command as, together, we marched across Europe toward ultimate victory. Only now are we seeing the fruit ultimately borne by that great effort. True vindication of our combined noble effort is now seen throughout Europe as democracy and freedom now ring as walls tumble and borders disappear.

The people of England were a great source of inspiration and pride to those Nevadans who served in our Armed Forces during World War II. We are also most grateful for the warm hospitality received from the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers.

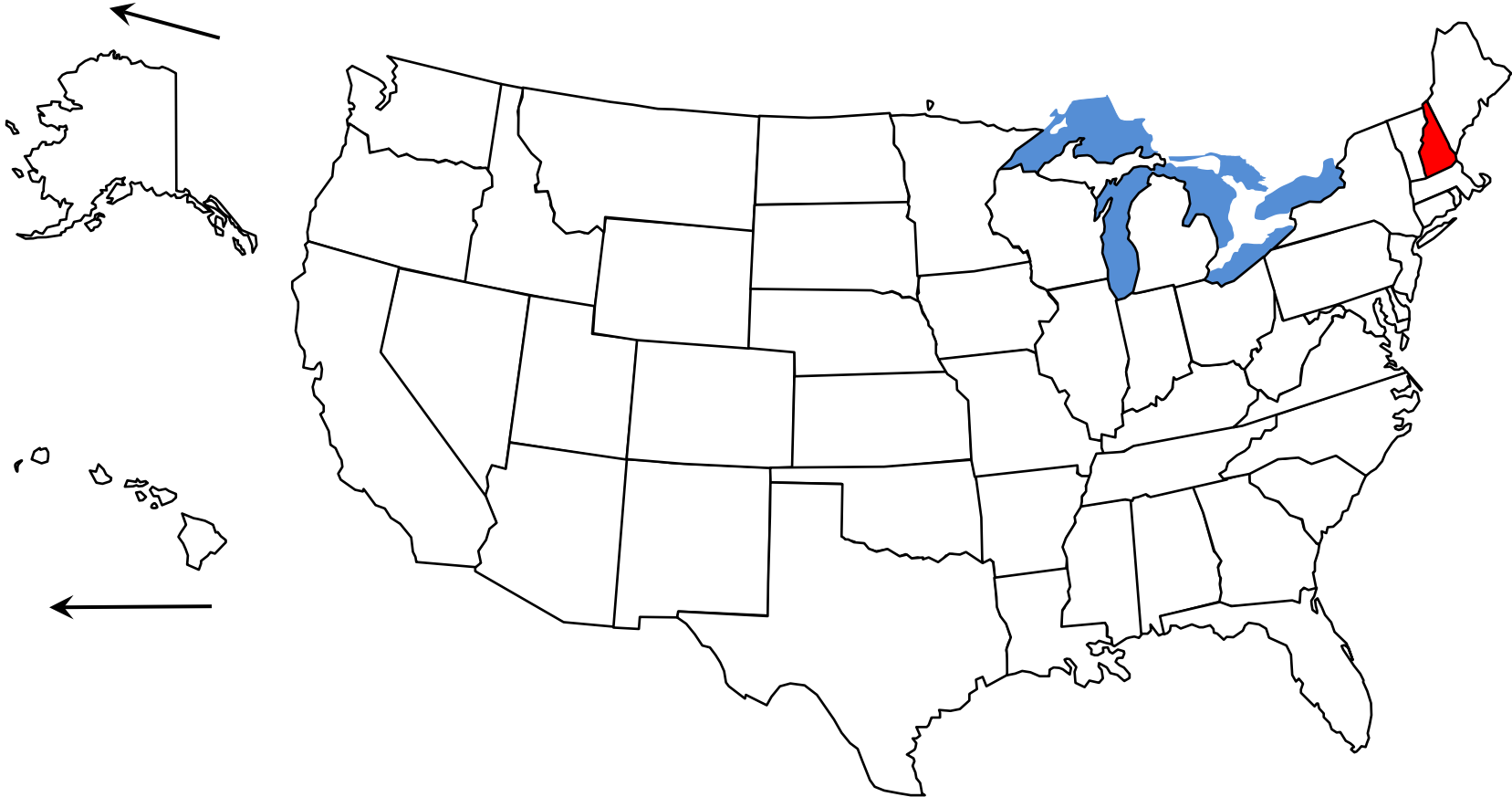
On behalf of all Nevadans, we commend you for your celebration and for pausing to reflect upon the great effort required to keep the forces of FREEDOM burning in our hearts and minds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bob Miller".

BOB MILLER
Governor

The United States of America



New Hampshire

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

JUDD GREGG



GOVERNOR

September 19, 1992

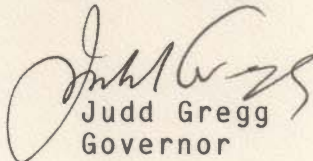
To The People of Higham Ferrers and Chelveston:

On behalf of the citizens of the great State of New Hampshire, I am pleased to send greetings to you as you host members of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association.

We commend you for hosting ceremonies this week to honor the historic fiftieth anniversary of the creation of one of the United States Air Force's most distinguished fighting units. We in New Hampshire deeply appreciate the contributions and sacrifices made by the veterans of World War II as they worked to advance the causes of freedom and democracy. We thank you for your gracious hospitality to the veterans of the 305th during their reunion visit.

If you ever have the opportunity to visit our beautiful State, please know that you will be warmly welcomed.

Sincerely,


Judd Gregg
Governor

The United States of America



New Jersey



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CN-001
TRENTON
08625

JIM FLORIO
GOVERNOR

**TO THE PEOPLE
OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND**

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am delighted to extend warm greetings as you gather to remember the sacrifices and significant contributions of the 305th Bombardment Group.

The Garden State joins you in renewing our sincere respect and pride for the veterans who so courageously fought to defend our freedom. Your gracious hospitality to our people during a time of bitter strife is remembered and deeply appreciated.

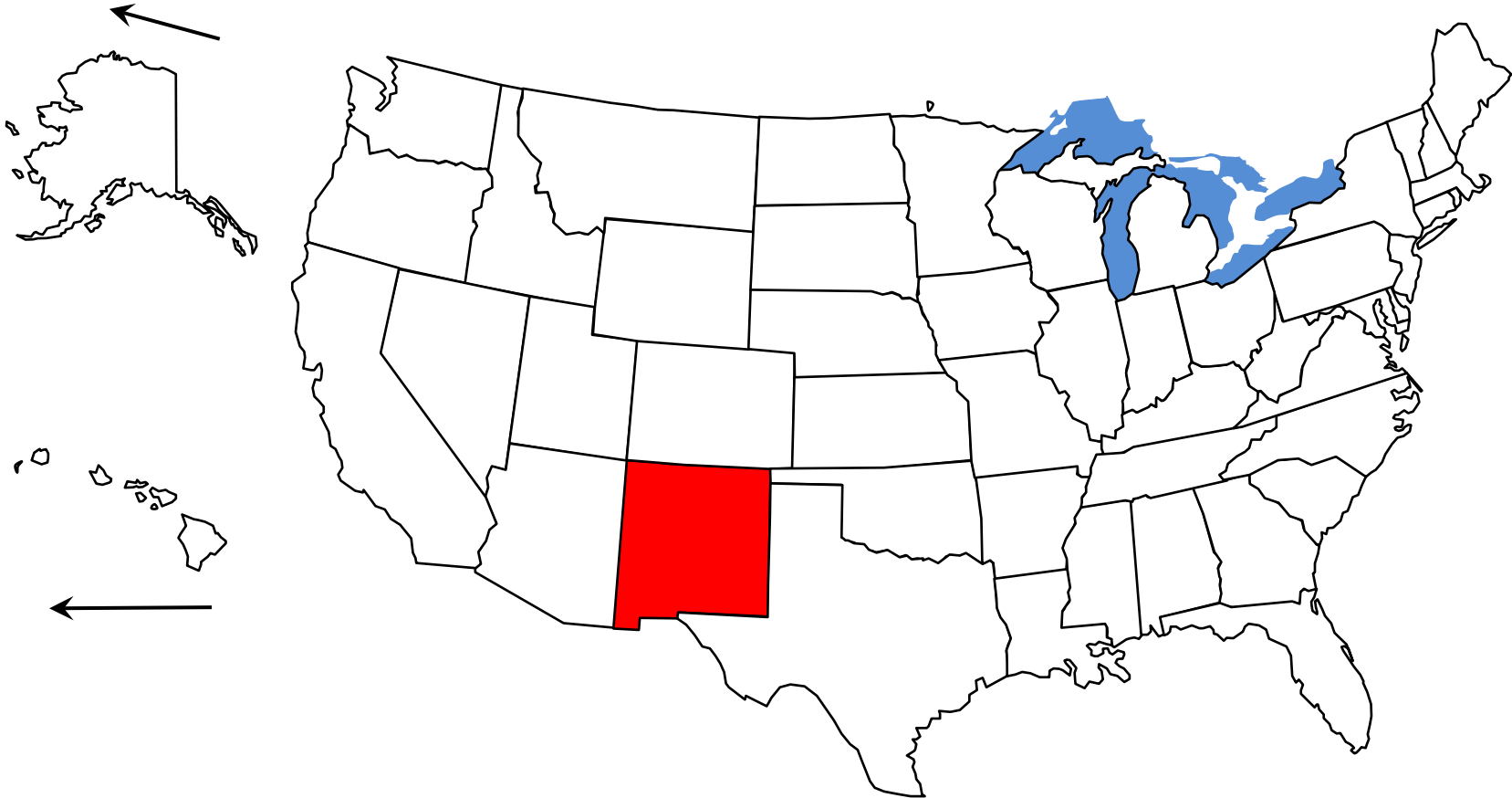
May this celebration revitalize our awareness of England's rich history and capture the spirit of pride and honor that signifies the noble efforts of the 305th Bombardment Group.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jim Florio".

Jim Florio
Governor

The United States of America



New Mexico



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE CAPITOL
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87503

BRUCE KING
GOVERNOR

(505) 827-3000

May, 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

It is my honor and privilege to send you greetings from the people of New Mexico on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. Bomb Groups to fly to England.

As the people from the United States and England gather on this momentous occasion, we know that you will be honoring all of the brave men and women who served in England during World War II, with special remembrance for all of those who perished during the War. I am thankful that our world is making strides toward a peaceful co-existence with all people.

On behalf of the people of the great State of New Mexico, I would like to give special thanks and appreciation to the English people who so graciously hosted the American military personnel stationed in England during World War II. I must make a special note on the bravery and durability of the English people who suffered terrific losses during the bombing of Britain by the Axis. You were an inspiration to all of us during the dark hours of World War II. It is good to know that the special relationship between America and Great Britain has continued to grow and thrive in the years since World War II.

Mrs. King joins me in sending you our warmest best wishes for a very memorable celebration, and for continued success.

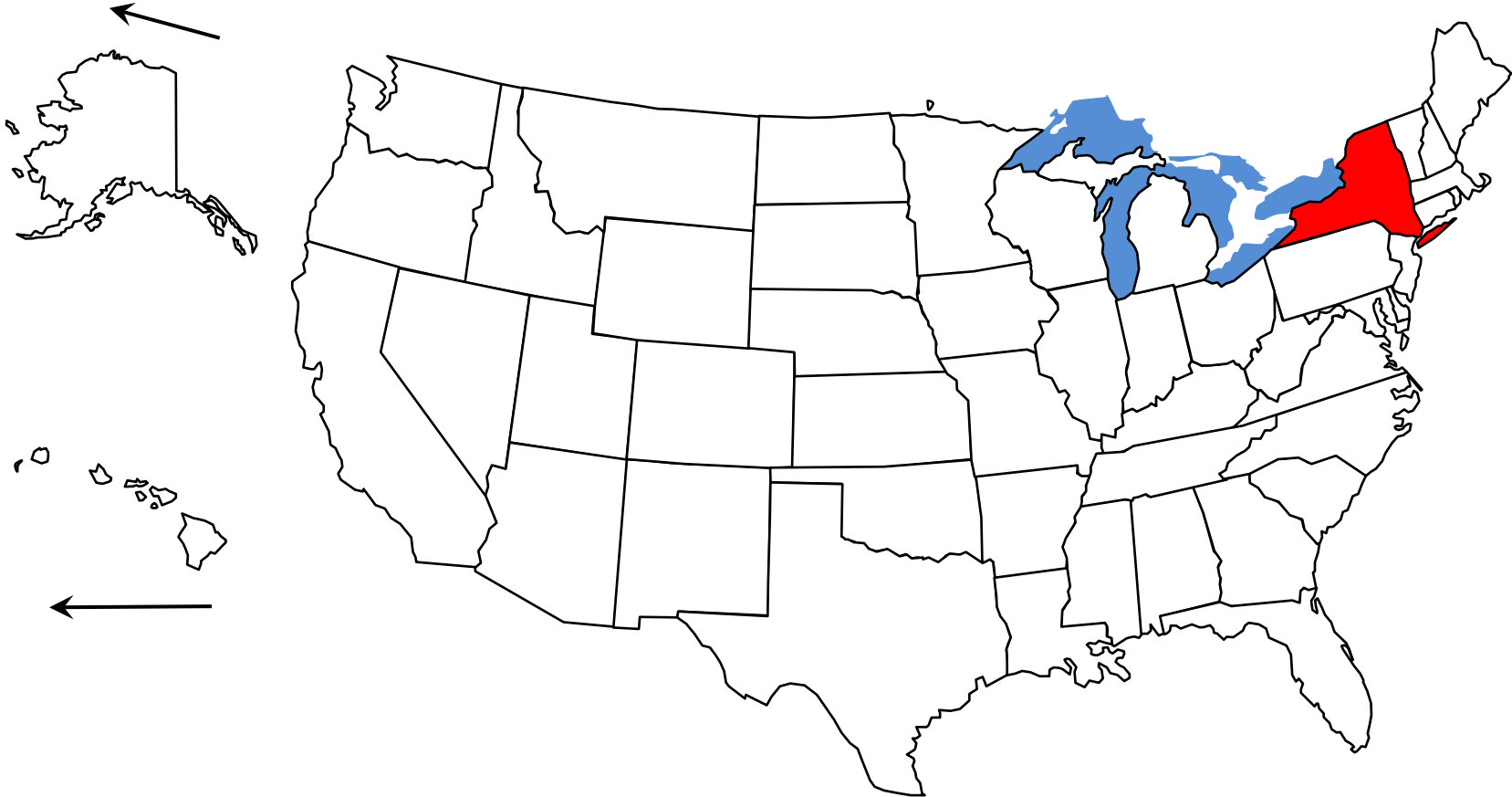
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce King".

BRUCE KING
Governor of New Mexico

MH

The United States of America



New York



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

MARIO M. CUOMO
GOVERNOR

May 13, 1992

Dear People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you greetings from the people of the state of New York on this most auspicious occasion. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the departure from the United States of the 305th Bombardment Group to Chelveston Army Air Base, England. From there and other bases throughout England, the Allies brought the war home to the Third Reich.

The people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers proved to be the most gracious and warmest of friends and hosts to the brave soldiers and airmen who flew and supported those long and dangerous missions from "fortress England." It was an era when the resolve of the citizens of both nations was unquestioned; a time when the bond between the people of our two great nations was once again forged in mutual adversity.

This year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the end of Nazi tyranny. We do so as free men and women dedicated to the democratic ideals held so dear and paid for by the blood and pain of so many of our fellow countrymen. It is a time of reflection and thanks.

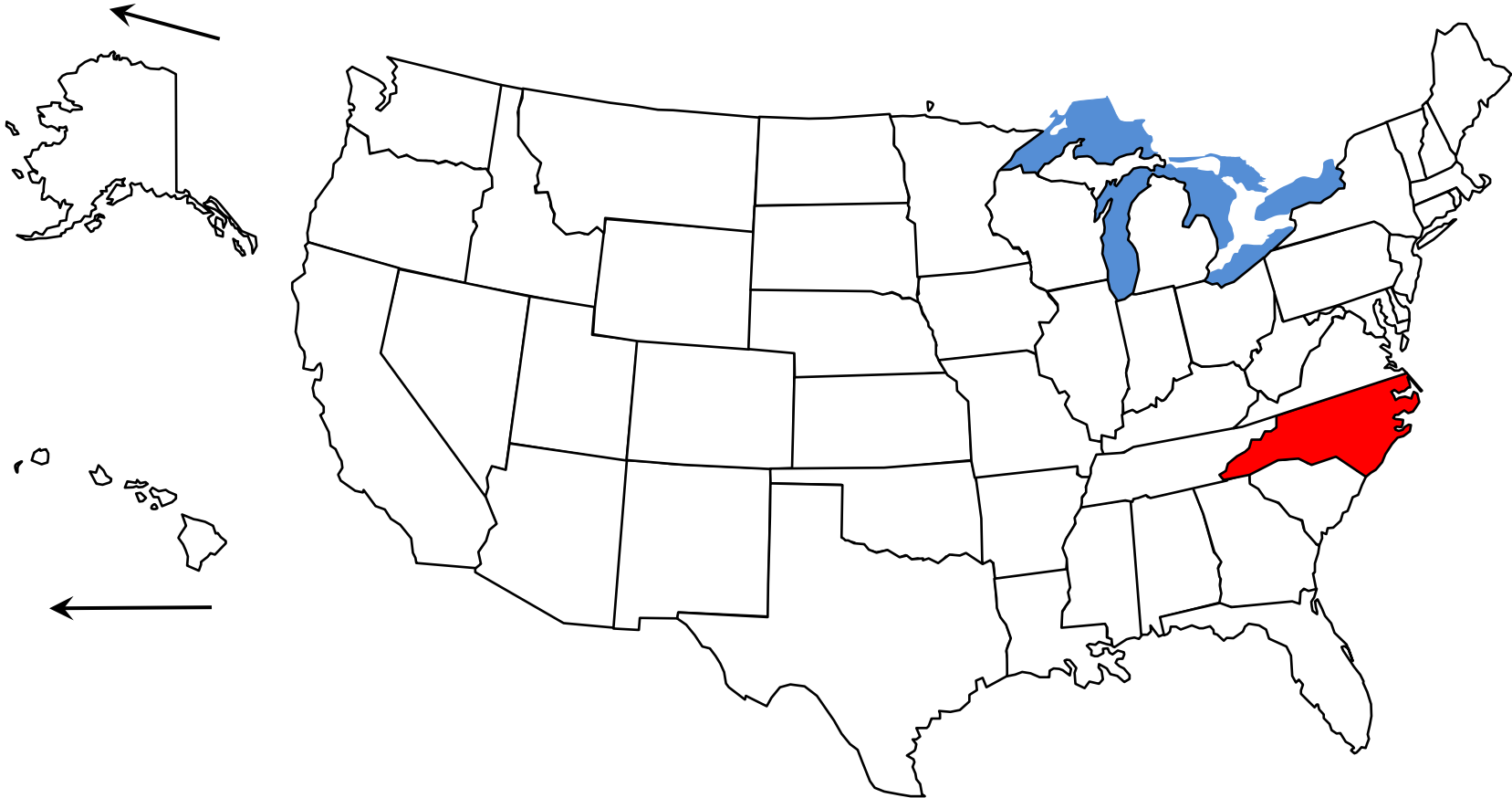
My most sincere best wishes on your celebration of this momentous time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Mario M. Cuomo'.

305th Bombardment Group (H)
Memorial Association
Chelveston, England, WWII

The United States of America



North Carolina



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
RALEIGH 27603-8001

JAMES G. MARTIN
GOVERNOR

May 1, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

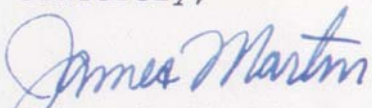
As Governor of North Carolina, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks for the gracious hospitality you showed the American troops stationed in your area during World War II.

In 1942, the 305th Bomb Group led by then Lt. Col. Curtis LeMay began their group formation flying pattern from Chelveston Army Air Base. The success of their mission allowed members of the 8th Air Force to fly daylight precision bombing missions.

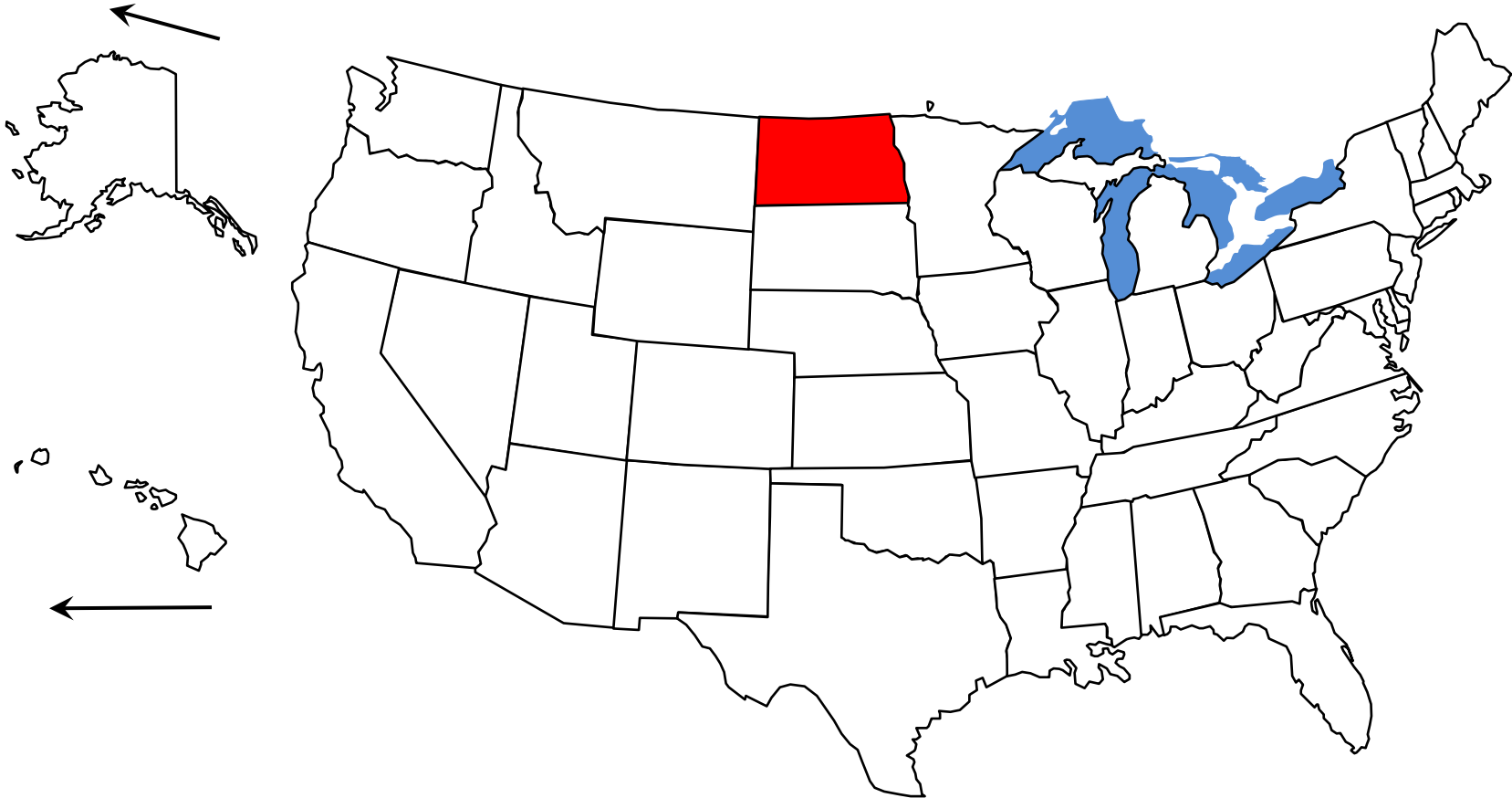
The fact that the members of this group are returning to England after so many years is a tribute to your kindness and generosity.

Best of luck for a memorable celebration of the anniversary of this important World War II mission.

Sincerely,


James G. Martin

The United States of America



North Dakota



GEORGE A. SINNER
GOVERNOR

State of North Dakota

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
600 E. BOULEVARD — GROUND FLOOR
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505-0001
(701) 224-2200

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrer, England,

In 1942, the 305th Bomb Group arrived to your city to carry out an air war. From the Chelveston Army Air Base, Lt. Col. Curtis LeMay led the bombing missions that were crucial to the Allies' victory.

Fifty years later, the survivors of the 305th Bomb Group wish to celebrate that anniversary with you and to recognize the kindness and generosity that the English people extended to the American military that were stationed there during World War II. The members of the bomb group have many warm recollections of your benevolence, which helped them endure the ugliness of war.

On behalf of the 305th Bomb Group Memorial Association and the citizens of North Dakota, I extend my heartfelt thanks and my best wishes on this very special occasion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George A. Sinner".

George A. Sinner
Governor

The United States of America



Ohio



GEORGE V. VOINOVICH
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS 43266-0601

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR:

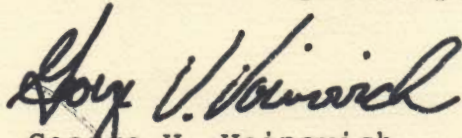
It is indeed my pleasure to send greetings to the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the 305th Bombardment Group in England.

I am pleased to be able to send this warm greeting to you and to thank you for your hospitality to our young service people during World War II. Two members of my staff were born in Europe and tell me the people of Great Britain and Europe are grateful to the young American soldiers and airmen who stood and fought beside them until the end of the war. However, we are grateful for the friendly assistance of the people of your area in helping the young American flyers adjust to their surroundings.

Those who will be visiting you this month have very fond memories of the people and the countryside and often talk about their good times when they meet one another here in the States. The special friendship which has always existed between Great Britain and the United States continues to be fostered by this kind of friendship. I know the men of the 305th and their families are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and will be surprised and perhaps shocked at the changes which have occurred over the years. Again, to all the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, our thanks for your support of our young people so far away from home.

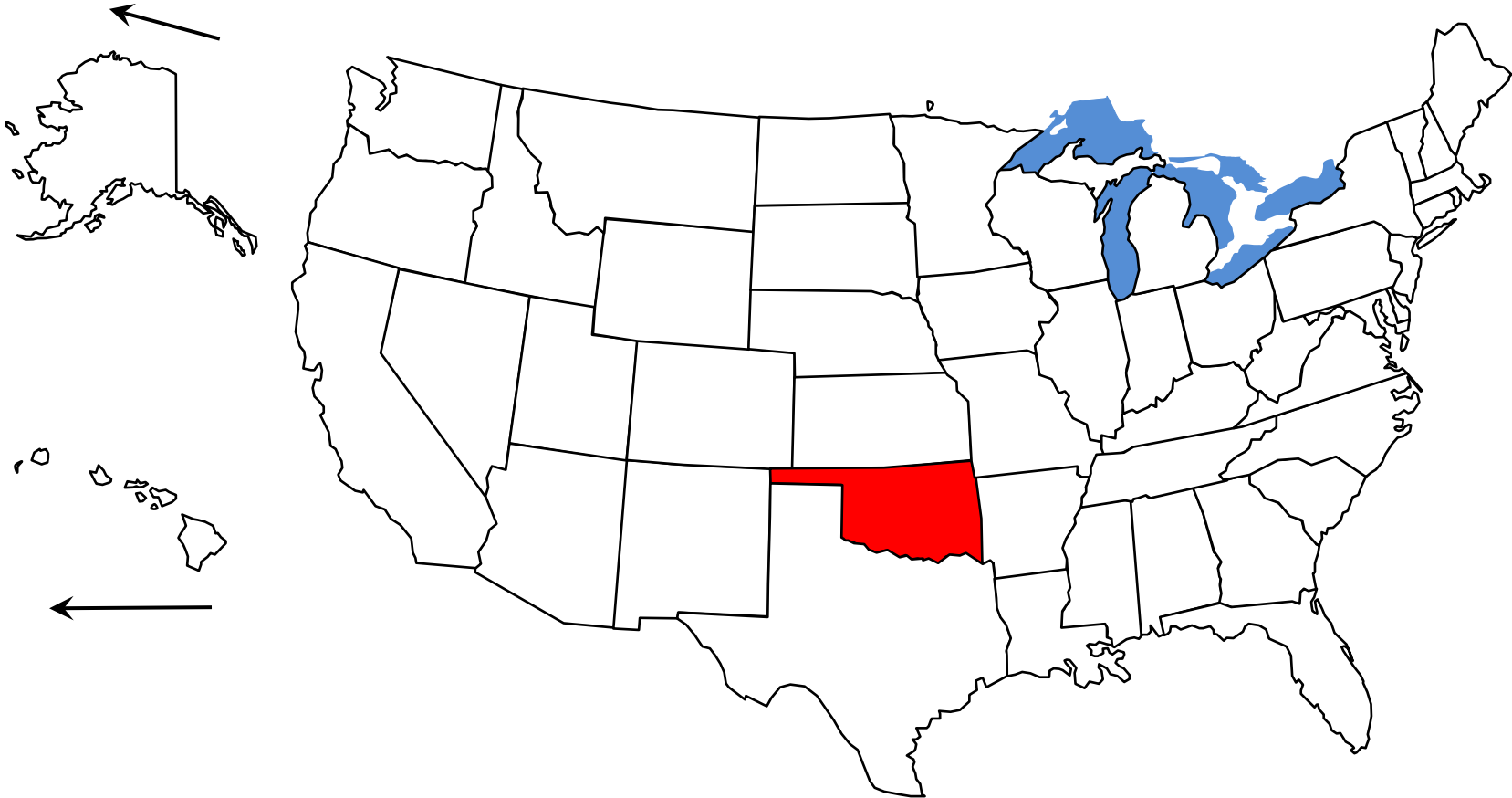
May the bonds of friendship forged so many years ago continue into the following generations.

On this 1st day of May, 1992


George V. Voinovich



The United States of America



Oklahoma



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

May 1, 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England,

As governor of the Great State of Oklahoma, it gives me great pleasure to send my greetings to those celebrating the 50th anniversary of the first United States Bomb Groups to fly to England, and particularly the members of the 305th Bomb Group.

The bravery and heroism demonstrated by the citizens of Chelveston, Higham Ferrers and the members of both of our nations' military services will never be forgotten by generations to come. In a time of world crisis, the people of our two countries joined together as did men and women from every state in our nation, including the Great State of Oklahoma, and worked to defeat a common enemy.

This anniversary celebration marks a half century since that era of cooperation, and it must not be overlooked. The task facing United States military personnel was made a great deal easier by the gracious hospitality and support provided to them by the people of England. This anniversary celebration will provide another opportunity to renew old friendships and reflect on those great accomplishments.

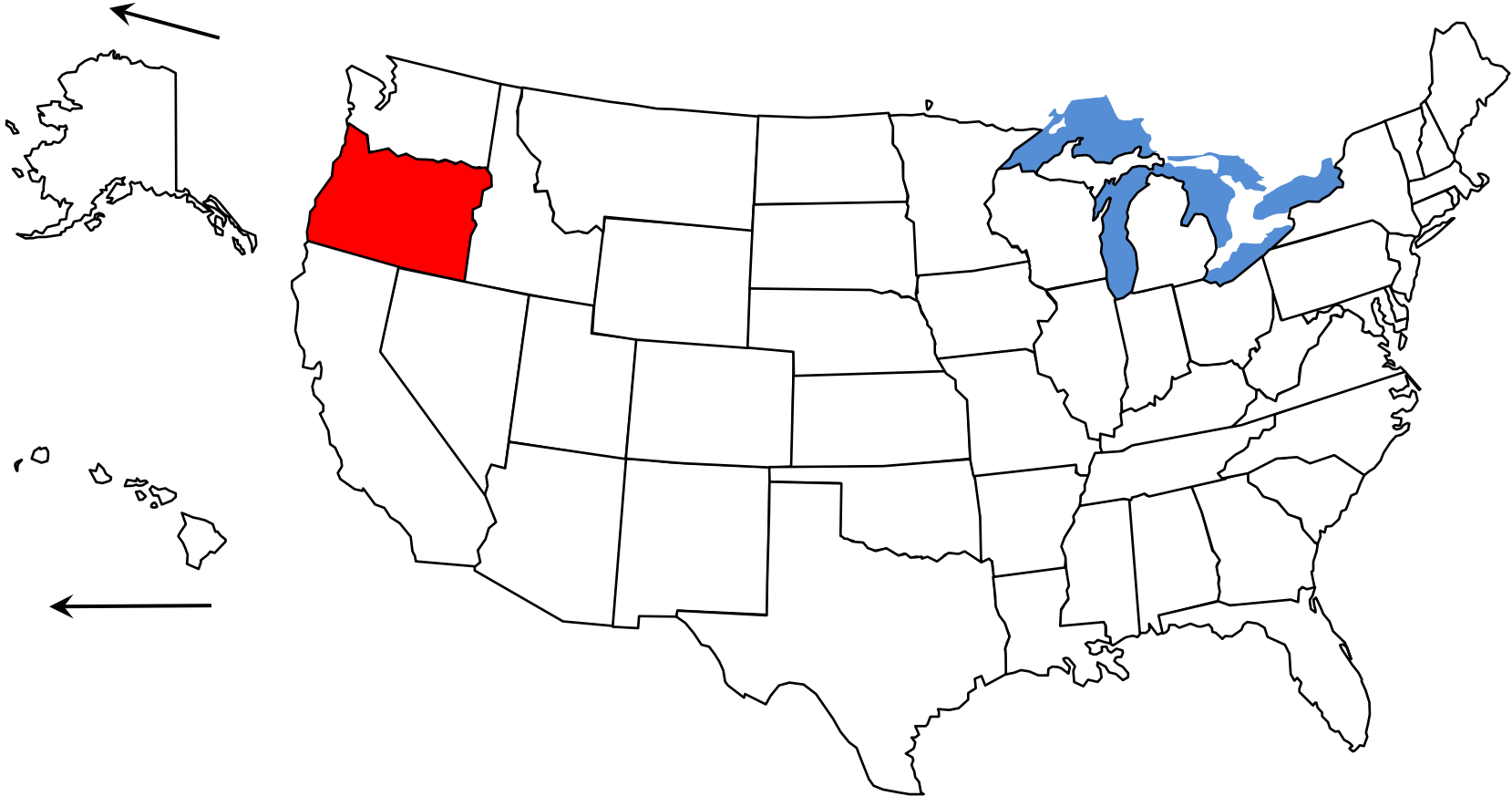
On behalf of all Oklahomans, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Walters".

David Walters
Governor-State of Oklahoma

The United States of America



Oregon

BARBARA ROBERTS
GOVERNOR



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
STATE CAPITOL
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0370
TELEPHONE: (503) 378-3111

May, 1992

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

GREETINGS

On behalf of the State of Oregon, I would like to congratulate the members of the 305th Bombardment Group for their patriotism, their heroics and their fortitude in defending the United States and her allies in World War II.

It is my pleasure to participate in this 50th anniversary reunion of the 305th and to thank the English people for their kindness to these brave servicemen, you were gracious hosts under very adverse circumstances.

I wish you all a successful and meaningful reunion.

Cordially,

Barbara Roberts
Governor

The United States of America



Pennsylvania

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

TO: THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND

As Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I wish to extend greetings to you on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the 305th Bomb Group of the 8th United States Air Force to Chelveston.

A half century ago, members of the Royal and American Air Forces fought together against tyranny in a spirit of camaraderie and fellowship. The people of England showed a unique and gracious acceptance of the Americans who were stationed on your soil, and it is with great honor that I extend my thanks today on behalf of all of the Pennsylvanians of the 305th.

As the years go by, the bonds between our peoples continue to hold strong. Although it has often been said that we are two nations separated by a common language, the special ties of friendship developed during the War continue to weather the test of time.

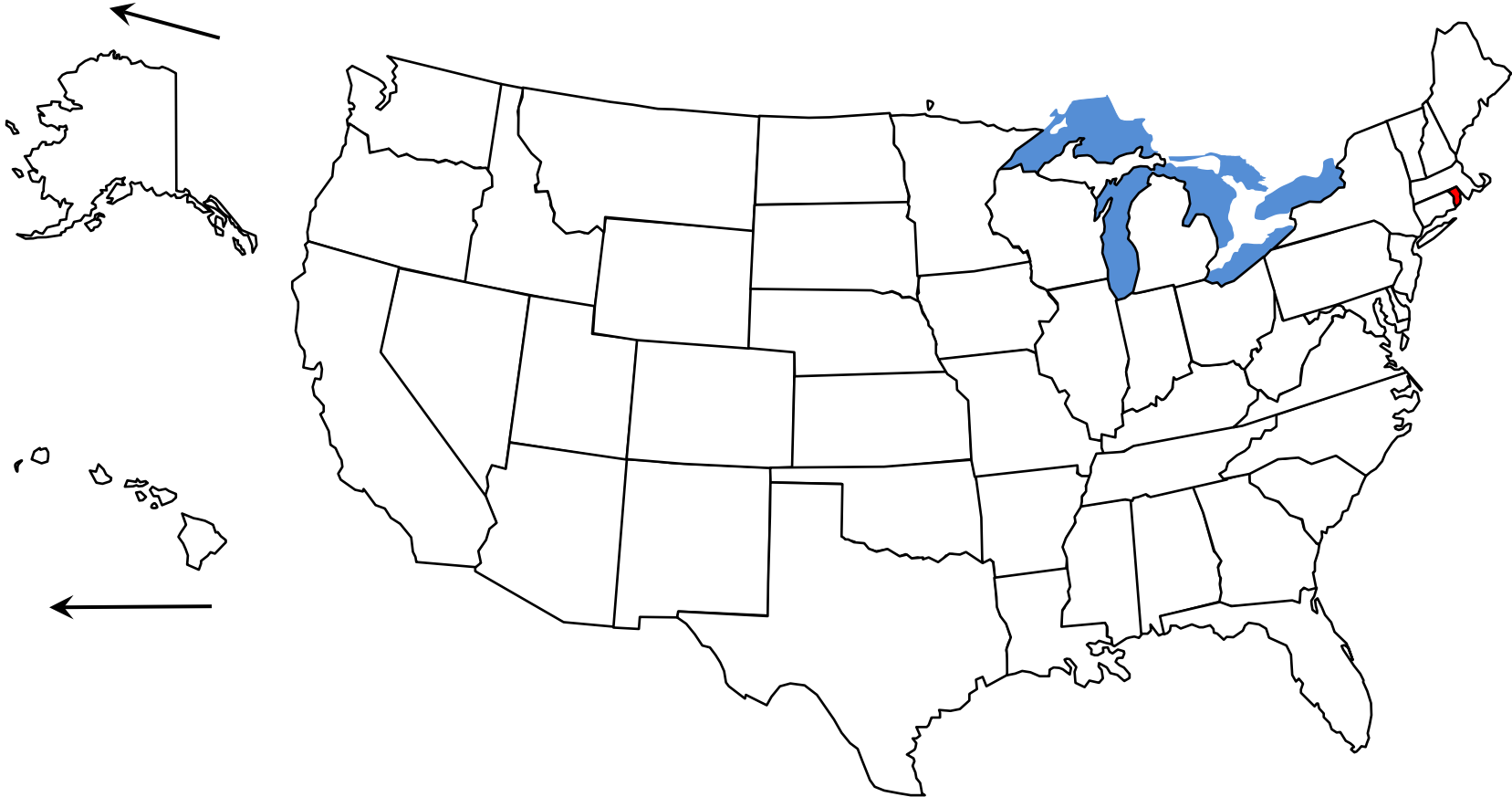
On behalf of all Pennsylvanians, I extend my best wishes and express my hope for every good fortune in the future.



Robert P. Casey

Robert P. Casey
Governor
May 1992

The United States of America



Rhode Island



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER, PROVIDENCE

Bruce Sundlun
Governor

July 6, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF CHELVESTON
AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND

As a former WW II B-17 bomber pilot, I well remember the hospitality of the people of England who so generously opened their hearts and homes to me 50 years ago.

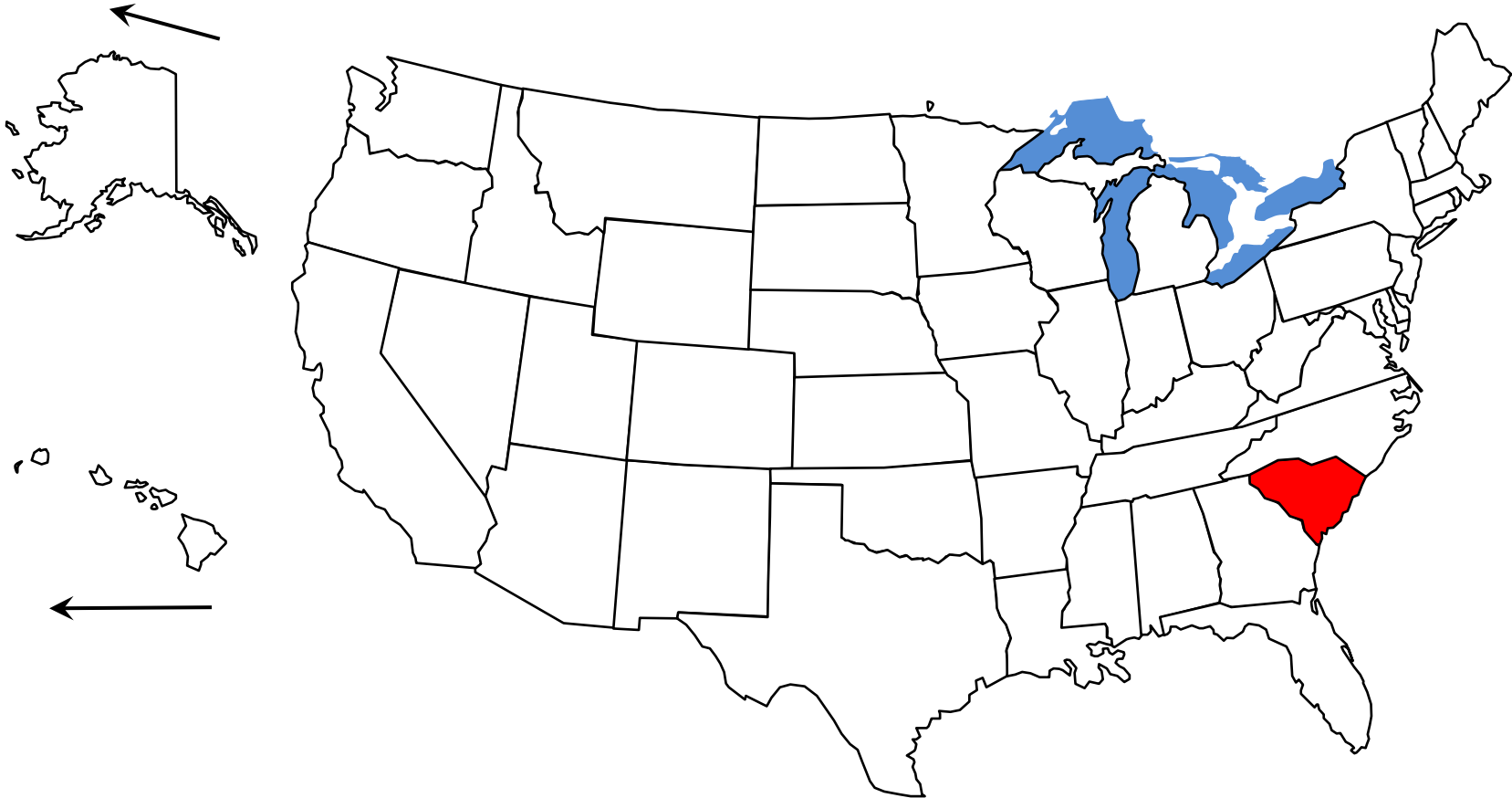
On behalf of all Rhode Islanders who called Chelveston and Higham Ferrers home in 1942, I would like to thank you for taking in so many lonely soldiers.

Your kindness will always be appreciated.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

The United States of America



South Carolina



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

CARROLL A. CAMPBELL, JR.
GOVERNOR

POST OFFICE BOX 11369
COLUMBIA 29211

GREETINGS

On behalf of the State of South Carolina, I am pleased extend greetings to the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers on the occasion of the 50th anniversary celebration of the first flights of U.S. Bomb Groups to England.

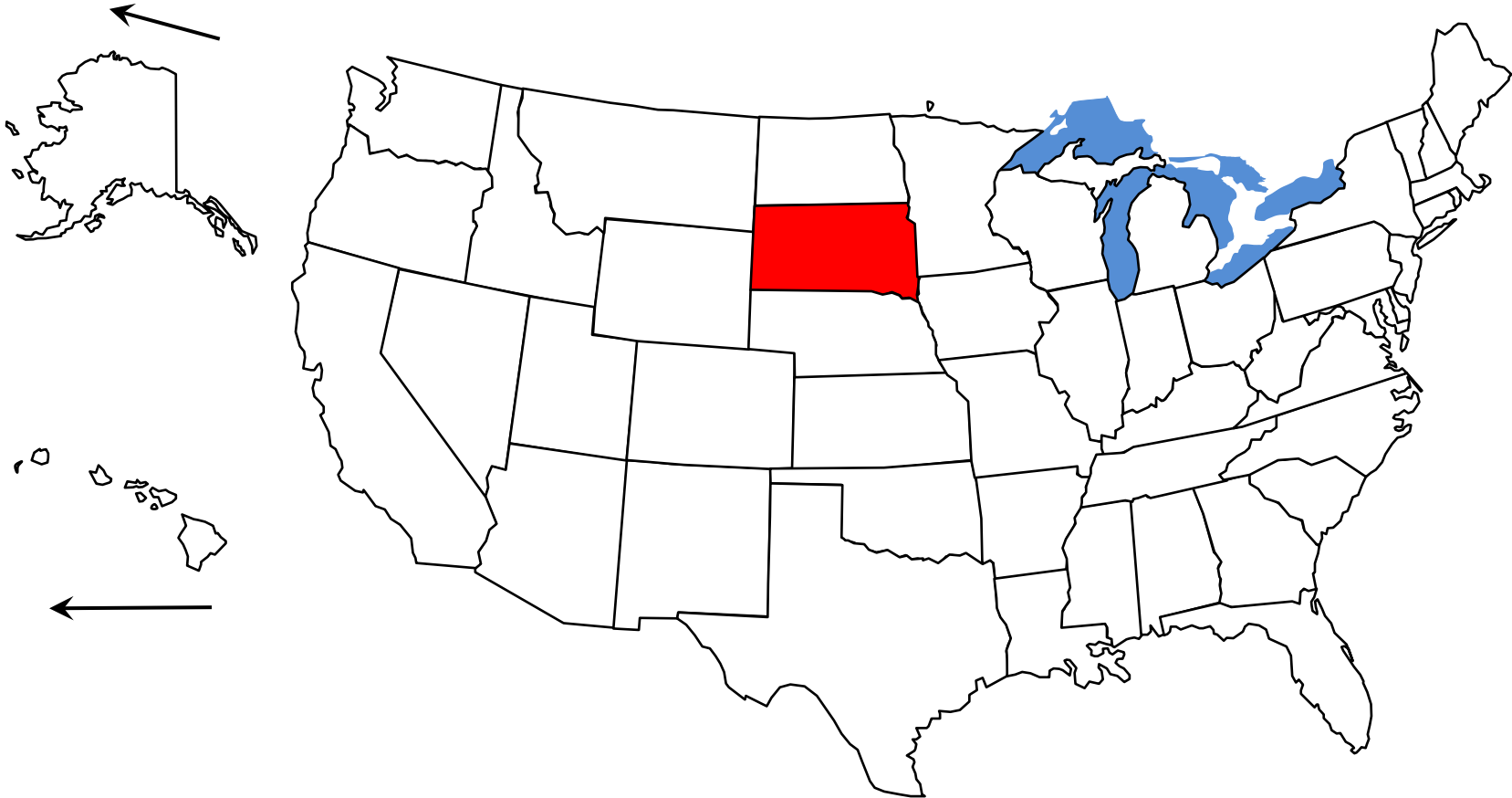
The long-standing alliance that the United States has shared with England has provided both our nations with a strong foundation for military excellence. As you pause on this special occasion to remember the service rendered in securing the level of peace we enjoy, we must pay special tribute to those veterans who made the supreme sacrifice in defense of our freedom. Of greatest importance is the reaffirmation that we have not forgotten and will not forget. We can never repay our veterans for their service and sacrifices.

Please accept my warmest wishes for a memorable observance and do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of any assistance to you in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Carroll A. Campbell, Jr.
Governor

The United States of America



South Dakota



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

GEORGE S. MICKELSON
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL, 500 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA
57501-5070
(605) 773-3212

May 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

Today, I come to you with great humbleness and thankfulness. You are the people who reached out to our brothers, fathers and husbands when they were in need during World War II.

For many of the airmen of the 305th Bomb Group, the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers provided the moral support and the encouragement our men needed. You were their family away from home.

On behalf of South Dakota and the South Dakotans who served our country during World War II, I want to wish you a successful anniversary celebration and hope we never have to experience another conflict as such in the preservation of peace.

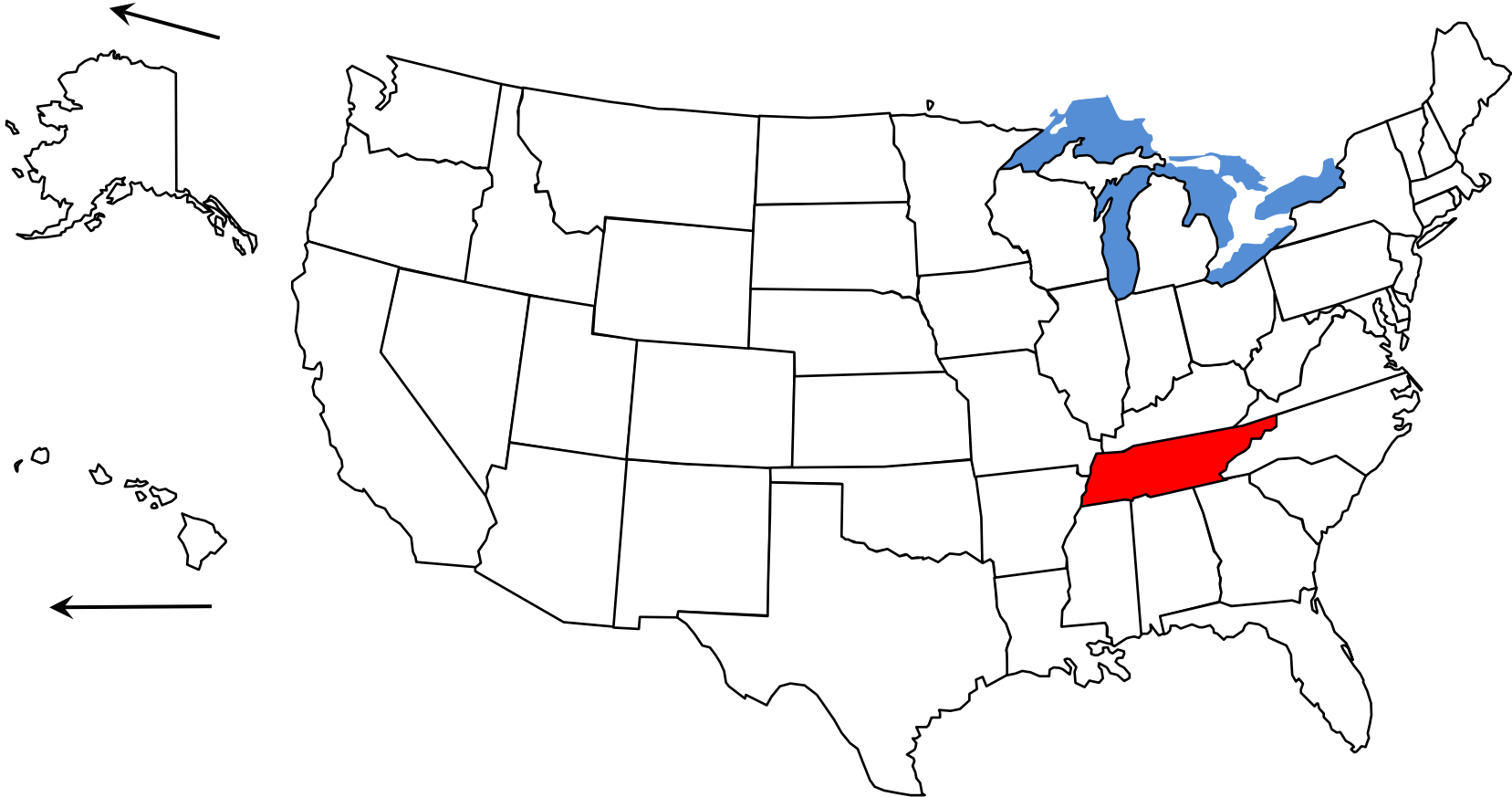
Very truly yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature of George S. Mickelson in dark ink.

GEORGE S. MICKELSON



The United States of America



Tennessee



State of Tennessee

NED McWHERTER
GOVERNOR

May 1, 1992

To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England

As Governor, it is a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to extend greetings to you on behalf of the citizens of the Great State of Tennessee.

Recently, I was advised by the 305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association that 1992 is the 50th anniversary of the first U.S. Bomb Groups to fly to England. I understand that the English people will be celebrating this anniversary with many national events, and that members of the 305th BGMA plan to visit not only the cities of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, but also Rushden, Bedford and Northampton in the midland areas of Northamptonshire and East Anglia.

Tennesseans certainly recognize the high price of freedom and are grateful for the sacrifices which have been made, and continue to be made, in order to preserve the cause of freedom and democracy around the world.

As you take part in the festivities planned to commemorate this anniversary, please accept our sincere appreciation for the hospitality and assistance given to our soldiers by the English people during World War II. Our two countries share a common bond and special kinship. May God continue to bless our countries and their peoples.

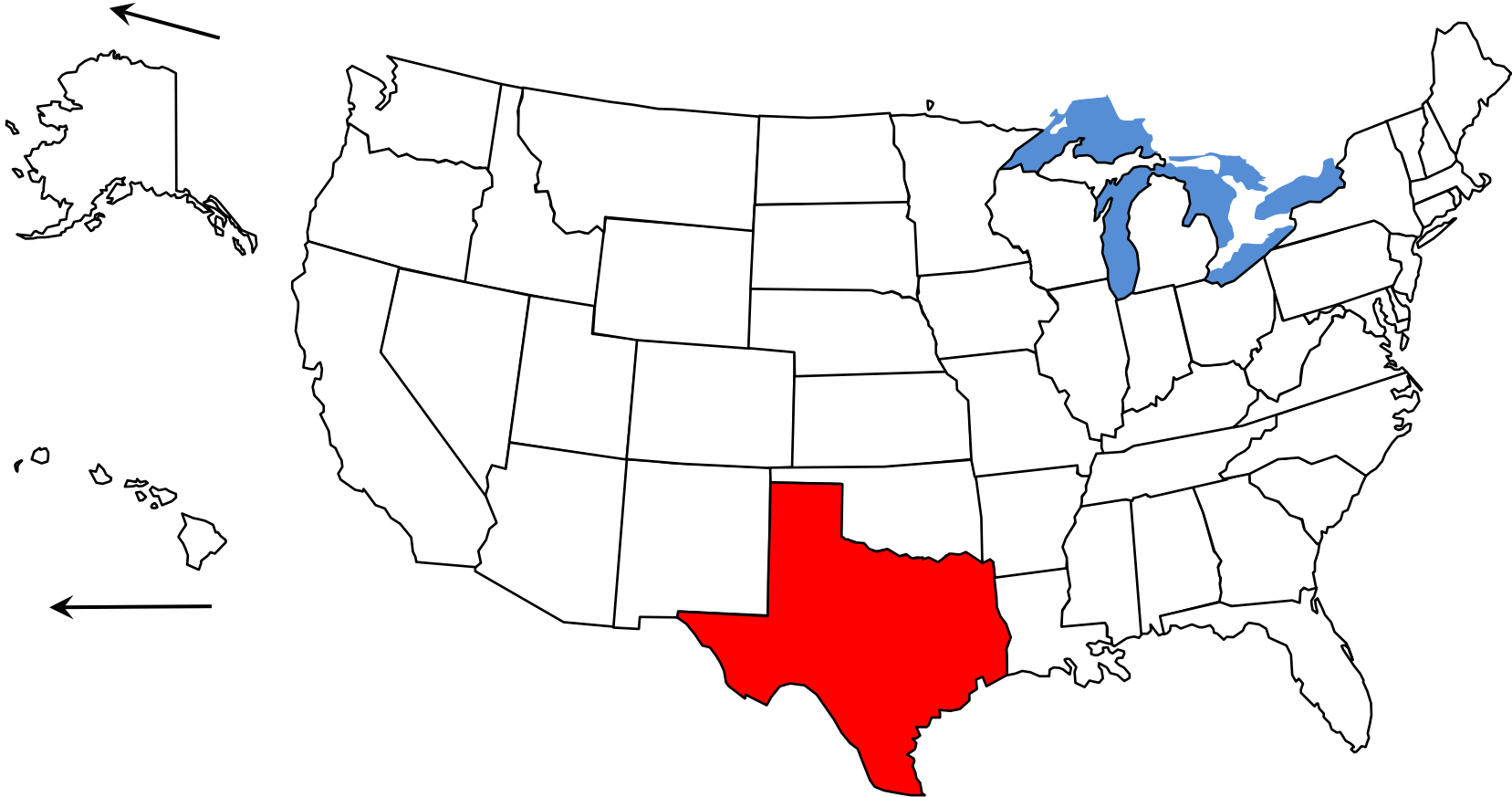
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ned McWherter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ned McWherter

NM/cgs

The United States of America



Texas



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

ANN W. RICHARDS
GOVERNOR

May 12, 1992

Greetings to:

The People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England

As Governor of the State of Texas, it is a pleasure for me to join you and the veterans of the 305th Bomb Group in recognizing the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the 305th in England. As men and women around the world mark the 50th anniversary of World War II, this special event stands out. It epitomizes the kind of global cooperation that brought the Allies victory in the Second World War. It is that same kind of unified effort that will allow us, as citizens of the world, to face together the challenges of the coming century.

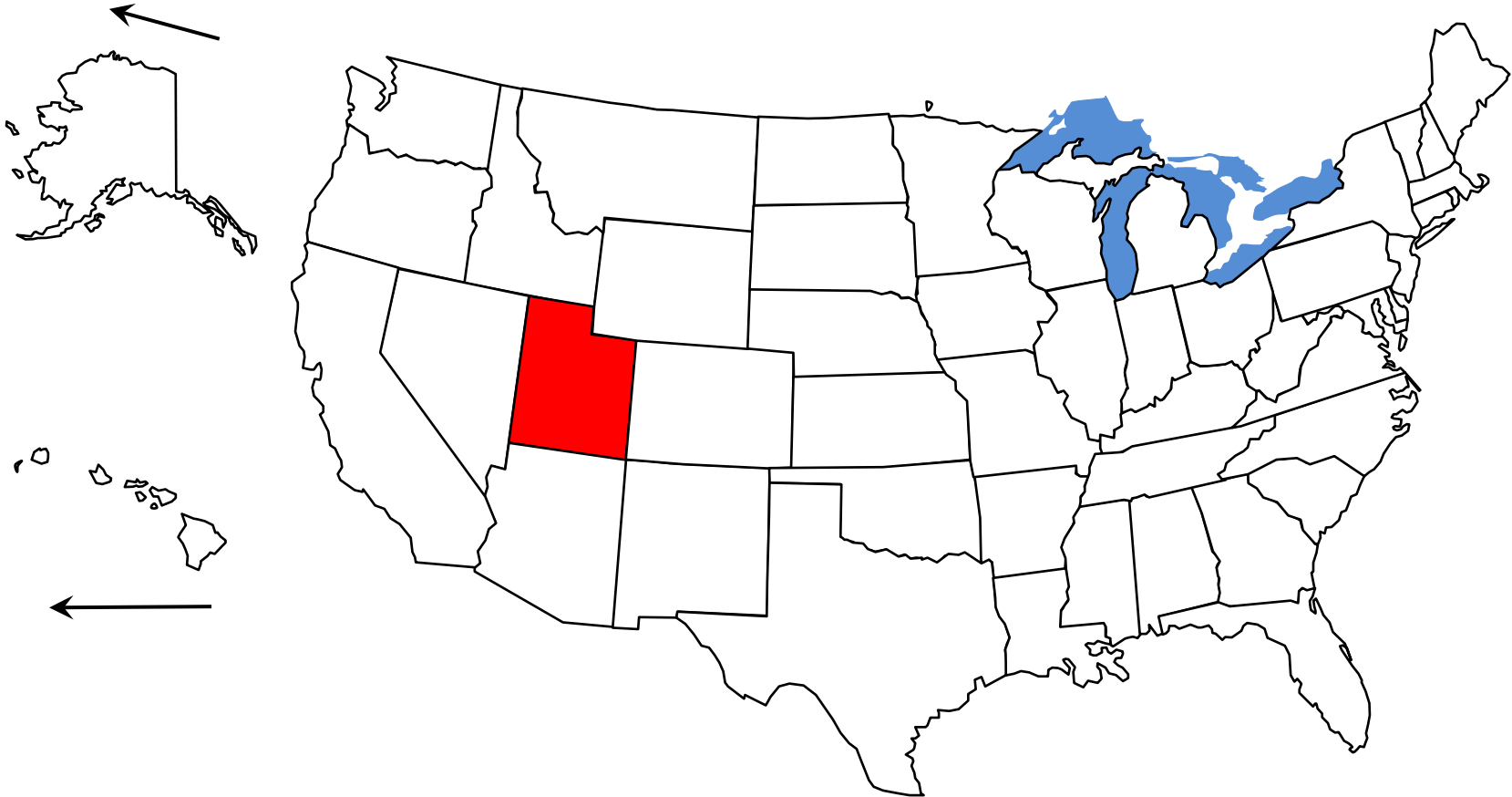
On behalf of the people of Texas, I thank you for your special contributions to that great cause of 50 years ago, and I wish you all the best for the future.

Sincerely,


ANN W. RICHARDS
Governor



The United States of America



Utah



NORMAN H. BANGERTER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF UTAH
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY
84114

May 1, 1992

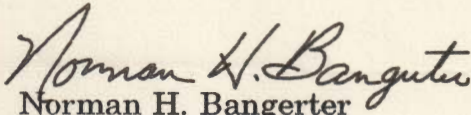
To the People of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

It is my pleasure to recognize the fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of the 305th Bomber Group in England. This deployment began the group formation flying pattern that led to the success of daylight precision bombing missions.

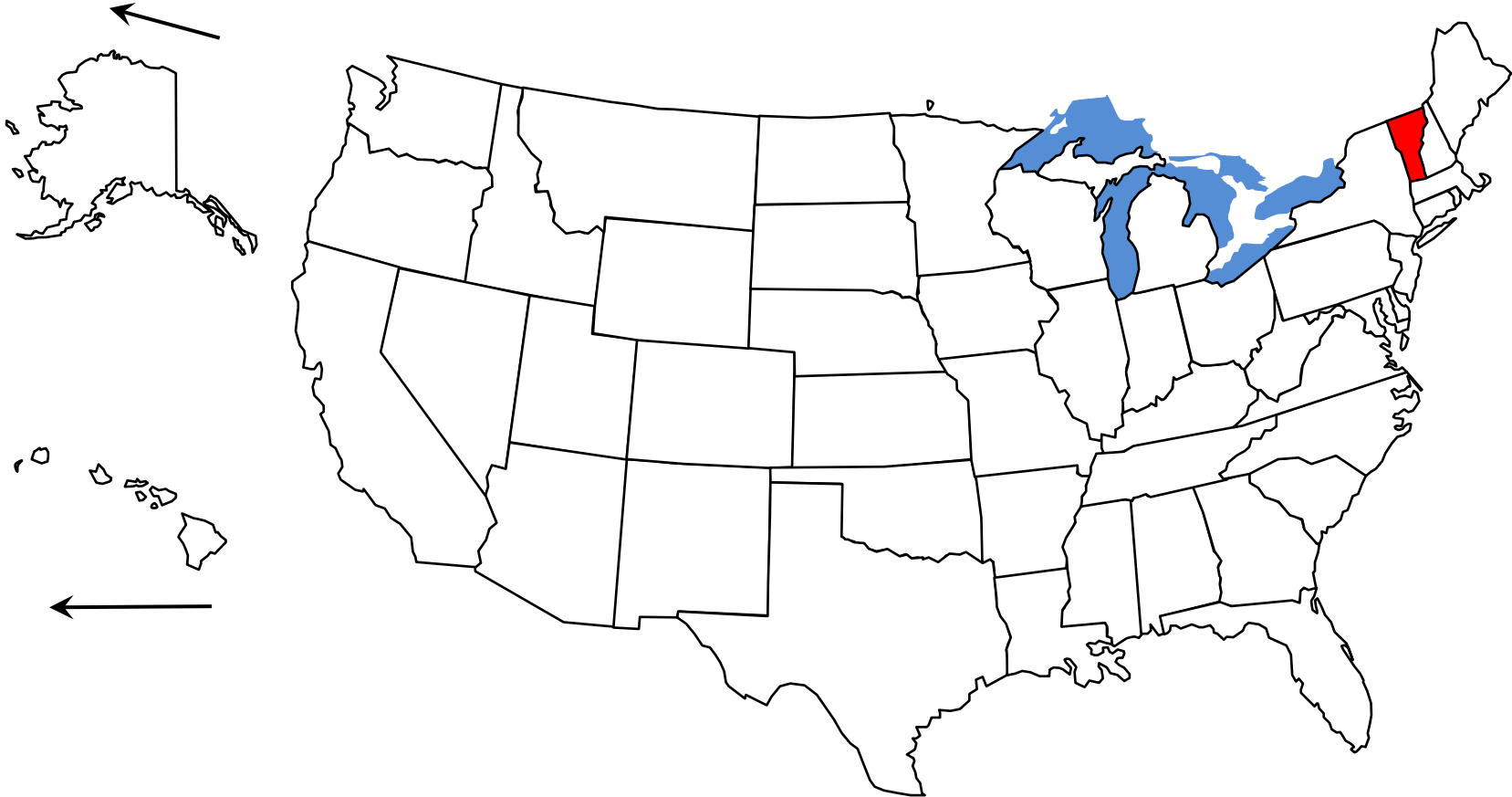
I would like to also express my gratitude to the English people who extended their friendship to the American Airmen stationed in England during the war. Having had three brothers serve as members of the armed forces during the war, I understand how much this friendship meant to their families in the United States.

It is my understanding that the people of England will be hosting many national events to commemorate this anniversary. I convey my best wishes for a successful celebration.

Sincerely,


Norman H. Bangerter
Governor

The United States of America



Vermont

Howard Dean, M.D.
Governor



State of Vermont
Office of the Governor
Pavilion Office Building
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
(802) 828-3333

June, 1992

TO THE PEOPLE OF HIGHAM FERRERS AND CHELVESTON, ENGLAND:

Greetings from Vermont to all of you as you pause to remember and pay homage to that time in history that England and the United States of America will never forget, World War II.

Your hospitality and generosity for those Vermonters who called Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England, home during those difficult days is very much appreciated.

On behalf of all of us here in the Green Mountain State, I offer best wishes on your celebration and hope that the memories stirred will not foster hatred and strife, but rather foster hope and determination, that lasting peace will be an attainable goal for all mankind.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. Dean", written over a light-colored background.

Howard Dean, M.D.
Governor

HD:cj

The United States of America



Virginia



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Richmond 23219

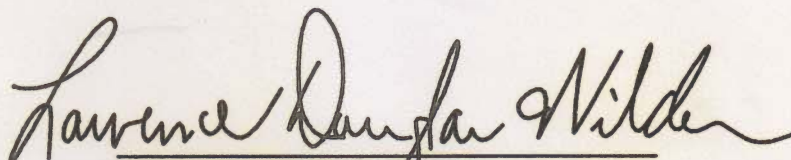
Lawrence Douglas Wilder
Governor

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia, I would like to take this opportunity to offer greetings to the citizens of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers.

As the members of the 305th Bombardment Group Memorial Association gather to thank you and honor you for supporting them during World War II, please know that many citizens of our country remember and recognize the generous hospitality you and others provided to the members of our military who were stationed in your cities during the war. I assure you that your kindness will never be forgotten.

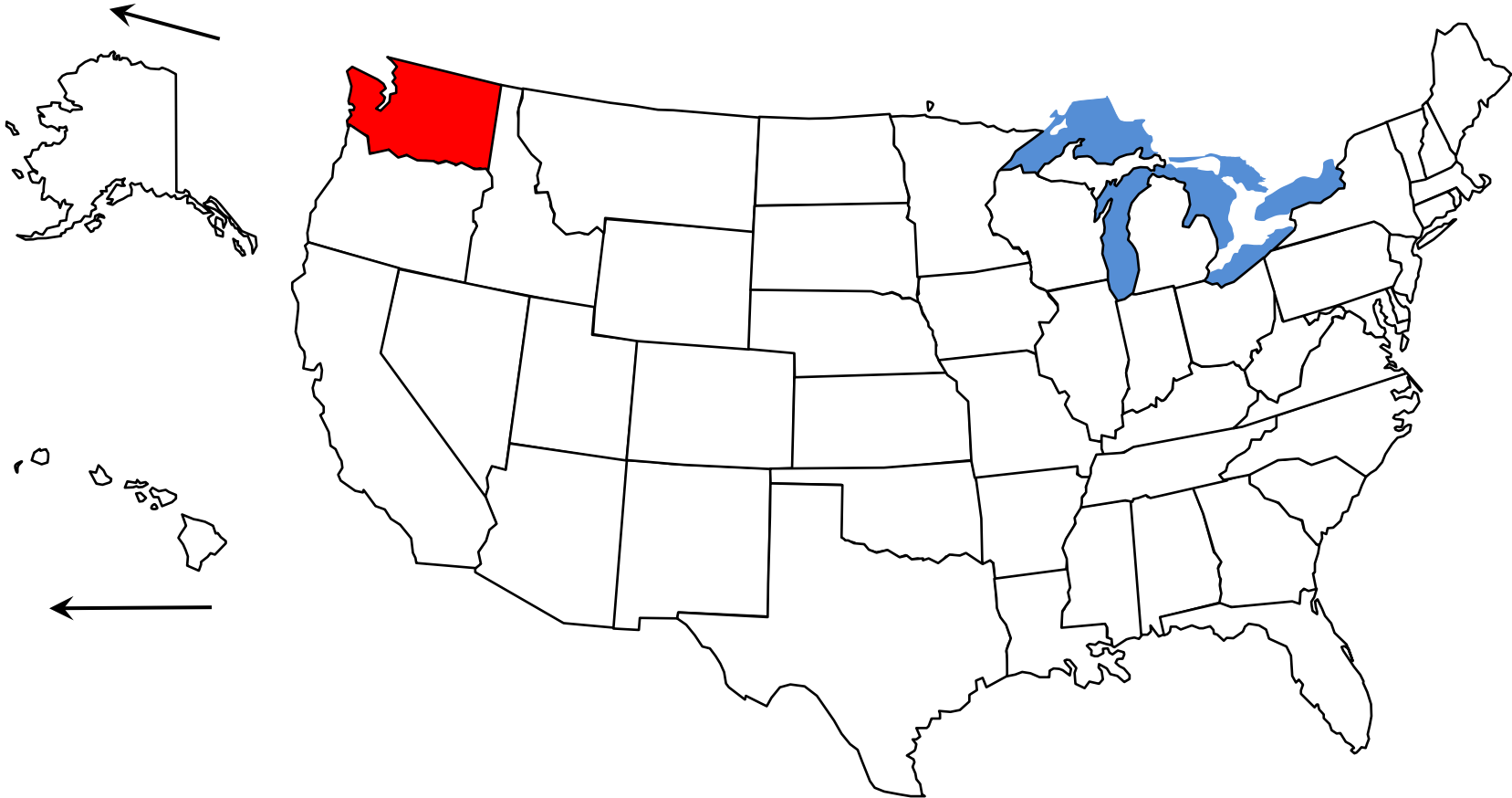
Please accept my best wishes for a meaningful reunion and an enjoyable celebration.


Governor

1992

LDW/wrb

The United States of America



Washington



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OLYMPIA
98504-0413

BOOTH GARDNER
GOVERNOR

May 1992

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England:

As the governor of the State of Washington, it is with great pleasure that I send greetings to the citizens of the England cities who were gracious hosts of the American military during World War II.

The people of your area contributed greatly to the success of the American military, and their support of the airmen of the 305th Bomb Group is deeply appreciated.

On behalf of the people of the State of Washington, I extend my best wishes and hopes for everlasting peace.

Sincerely,

Booth Gardner
Governor

The United States of America



West Virginia



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CHARLESTON 25305

GASTON CAPERTON
GOVERNOR

GREETINGS FROM THE GOVERNOR

As Governor of the State of West Virginia, it is my distinct pleasure to extend a warm Mountaineer greeting to everyone participating in the 50th anniversary of the first United States of America Bomb Groups to fly to Chelveston Army Air Base in England during World War Two.

To the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England, I extend a special greeting and our sincere appreciation to you for being gracious hosts for the American military personnel who were stationed in your country during World War Two.

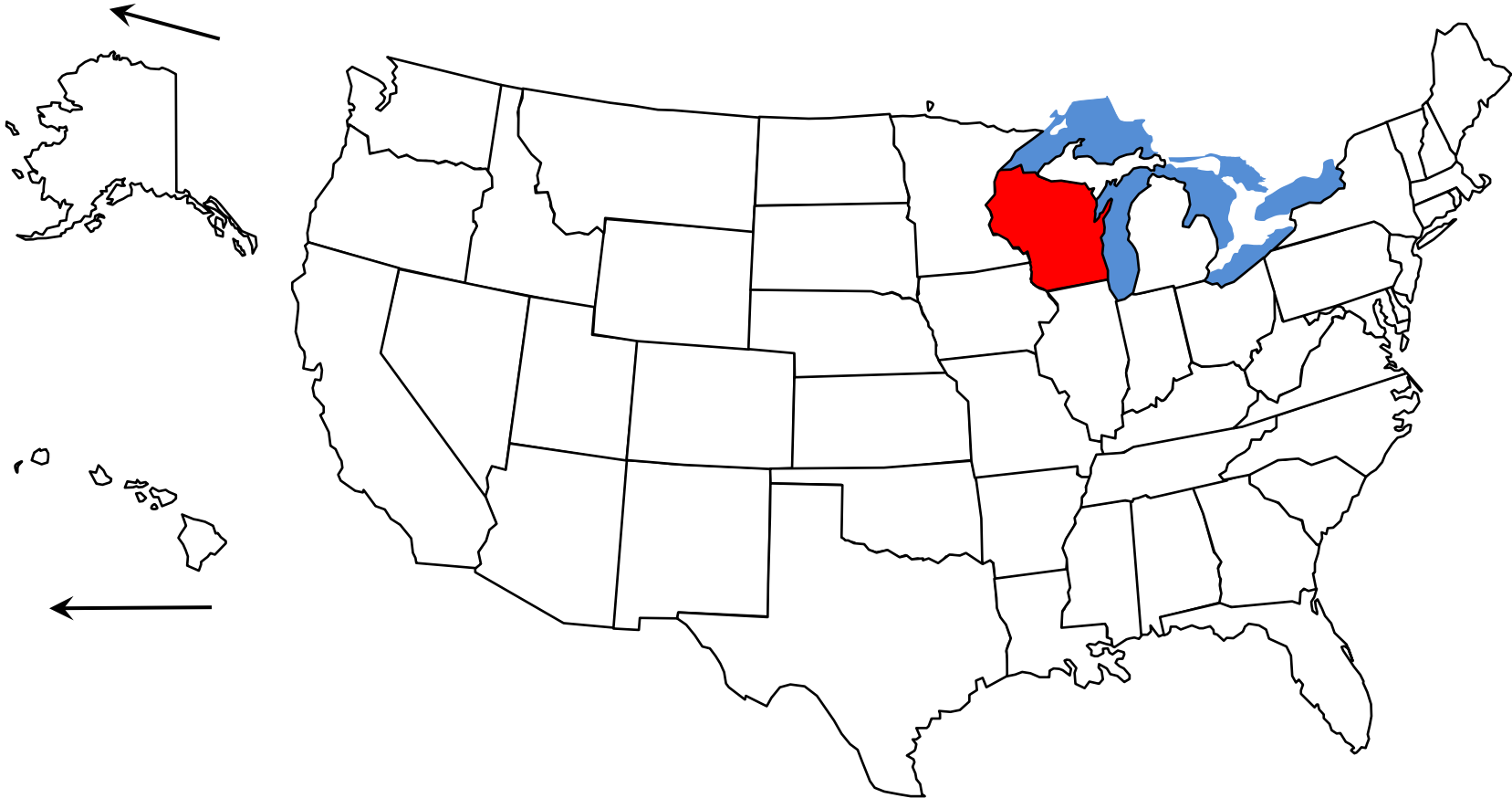
Fifty years ago, your training prepared you for the defense of our nation and required great sacrifice and dedication to your jobs. Your devotion to duty, honor and country ensured our nation's and the world's security. Your exemplary dedication to the United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Allied Armed Forces is a source of pride for all West Virginians.

Though the miles may separate us from you, we are with you in spirit. We of the Mountain State salute you.

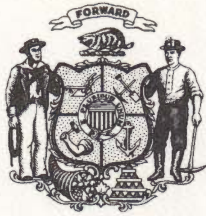
Sincerely,

Gaston Caperton
Gaston Caperton
Governor

The United States of America



Wisconsin



TOMMY G. THOMPSON

**Governor
State of Wisconsin**

GREETINGS:

On behalf of the people of the State of Wisconsin, I am pleased to extend greetings to all those gathered to remember a historic time and to rekindle old friendships and form new ones.

I commend you, the people of Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England, for the kindness and hospitality extended to my fellow citizens fifty years ago. I hope as the 305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association pays tribute to you today, you understand the heartfelt appreciation we feel. You can take great pride in the contributions you have made to our nations and the rest of the world.

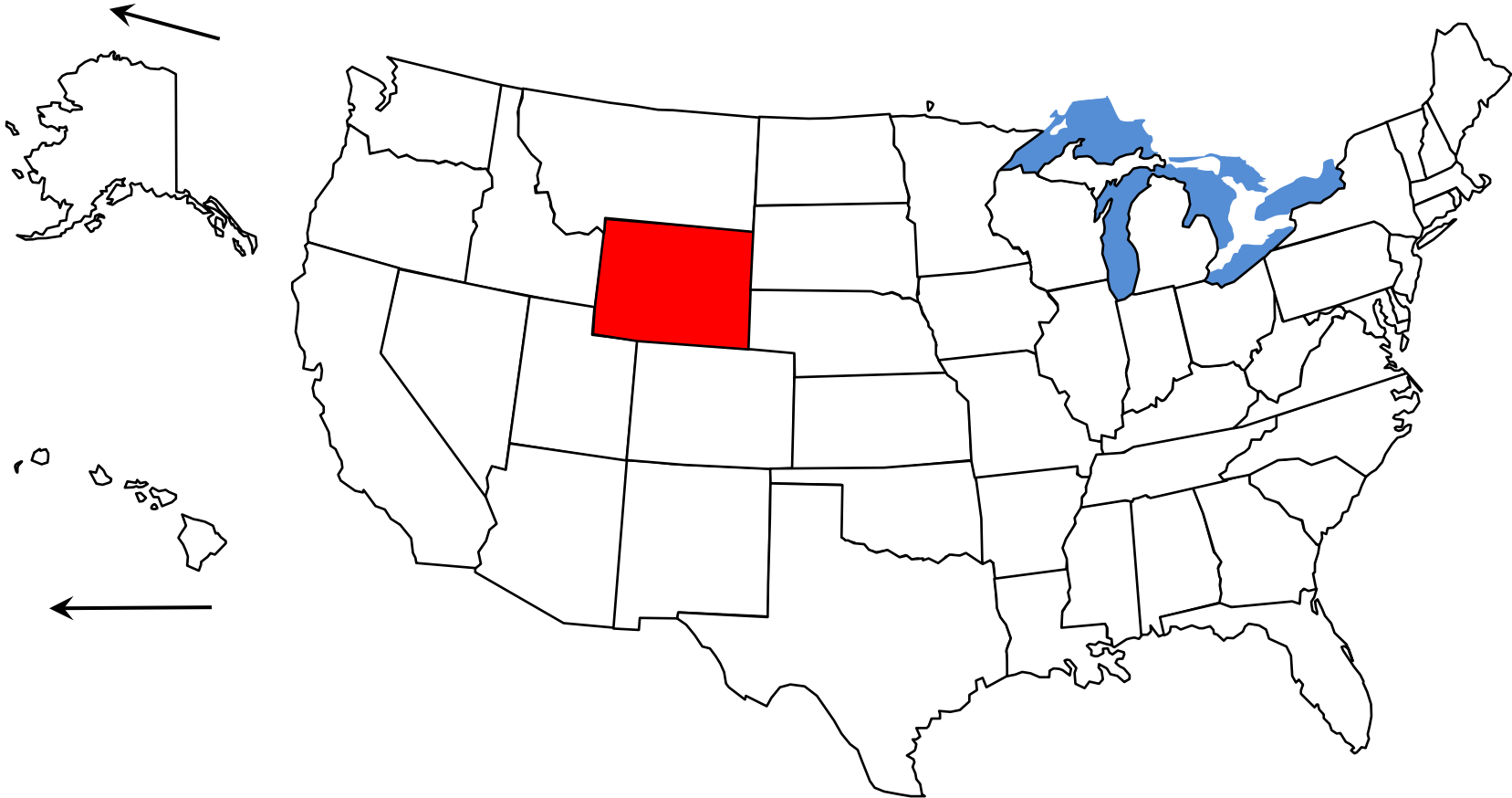
Best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tommy G. Thompson".

TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

The United States of America



Wyoming

MIKE SULLIVAN
GOVERNOR



STATE OF WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
CHEYENNE 82002

May 1992

***TO THE PEOPLE
OF CHELVESTON AND HIGHAM FERRERS, ENGLAND***

I send warm Wyoming greetings to you all as you pause to remember and pay homage to a time of great history for England, the United States of America and for all of us who choose and honor freedom of choice as our way of life.

In behalf of those Wyomingites who called England and Chelveston and Higham Ferrers home I salute your hospitality and generosity, which were both apparent and appreciated during those harrowing days in 1942.

On behalf of all of us here in the Equality State, I offer hopes that your celebration will inspire memories of pride and courage, and induce hopes for peace now and forever more.

With warm regards, I am

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Sullivan".

Mike Sullivan
Governor

MS:ib

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

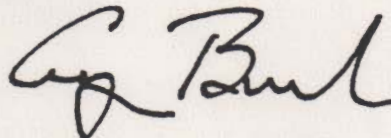
September 17, 1992

I am delighted to send greetings to all those who are gathered in Chelveston and Higham Ferrers, England for the 50th anniversary reunion of the members of the 305th Bombardment Group (H) Memorial Association.

World War II was nothing less than a life-and-death struggle over the fate of millions of freedom-loving men and women, and our Nation is forever indebted to those of you who helped to achieve the Allied victory over tyranny. During one of mankind's darkest hours, you defended the sacred light of liberty with your very lives. You met the brutal force of the Axis powers with the best in the American spirit, and your faith, courage, and sacrifices will never be forgotten. They will not be forgotten because they helped to change the course of history. With the defeat of Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan, the United States entered a new position of leadership in the international arena. Over the years, our Nation has continued to champion democracy and human rights, achieving victory in the Cold War through vigilance and resolve. The collapse of communism and the rise of democracy in nations around the world must be especially gratifying to you, who so bravely defended the cause of freedom half a century ago.

While we have much to celebrate on this occasion, I know that you are also mindful of your comrades who are not with you today: those who fell in the line of duty during World War II and those who have since gone to their final rest. Like you, these fallen heroes demonstrated that we must never take our way of life for granted, and I join with you in honoring their memory.

Barbara and I send best wishes to you on this occasion and for the future.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Bush".