

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 11-44

Declaring May 10, 2011 as a national day of mourning in respect for the tragic and untimely death of Sergeant Sonny J. Moses, (E5) who lost his life while honorably serving the United States Army in Afghanistan.

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses died on April 18, 2011 in Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany, of wounds suffered as a result of a grenade attack at Forward Operating Base Gamberi, Nangarhar Province, Afghanistan on April 16, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses is survived by his beloved wife Rachel Coots Moses from Gallop, New Mexico and daughter Juanita Telilei Moses, his father Sudo Moses, his mother Anemary Moses and his sisters Melisha, Joycelene, Deila, Leah and his brothers Joey, Ralph and Arnold Moses; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses is the youngest and was born and raised in Palau, graduating from George B. Harris Elementary School in June 2002 and Palau High School in June 2006; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses was inducted in the Republic of Palau on Thursday, July 10, 2006 at 10:00 am. to United States Army and was assigned to 101st Special Troops Battalion, 101st Sustainment Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses was posthumously promoted to sergeant and was deployed to Afghanistan at the time of his death; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Sonny J. Moses was highly decorated, having received numerous awards and decorations including the Army Commendation Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, NATO Medal and Purple Heart, among others; and

WHEREAS, the death of Sergeant Sonny J. Moses is a loss not for his family and loved ones, but for our entire Republic; and

WHEREAS, the people and the Government of the Republic of Palau mourn and pay tribute to the passing of this brave Palauan soldier who was supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and made the ultimate sacrifice in the fight against terrorism which threatens regional and international peace and security; and

WHEREAS, the people and the Government of the Republic of Palau wish to extend their heartfelt sympathy and condolences to Sergeant Sonny J. Moses's family and loved ones; and

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, and by virtue of the provisions of 1 PNC § 503 and Executive Order No. 292, I, Johnson Toribiong, President of the Republic of Palau, hereby proclaim that a state of national mourning exists throughout the Republic of Palau as a tribute to the bravery and service of Sergeant Sonny J. Moses, and that to properly observe the occasion of the death of his brave Palauan citizen and soldier who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedom, democratic values, and security, all flags regularly flown within the jurisdiction of Palau and flags of the Republic of Palau flown at the embassies and consulates of Palau in other countries shall be hoisted at half mast effective May 6, 2011 from 7:30 am. to 5:00 p.m, until May 10, 2011.

SO PROCLAIMED this 6th day of May, 2011 at the National Capitol, Republic of Palau.

/s/

Johnson Toribiong
President
Republic of Palau