The Price of Freedom Theme of America's Hometown Thanksgiving Parade Paul Jehle



The phrase "a picture is worth a thousand words" has a history from antiquity. But there is no question that the picture of the rifle and hat of a fallen soldier who paid the ultimate price for defending the freedom of others is worth many, many words of gratitude. It is this sober thought that undergirds this year's America's Hometown Thanksgiving Celebration theme of *the price of freedom*.

From World War II, Korea, Vietnam and through the war on terror, those watching this year's parade will get a somber sense of the *price of freedom*. This powerful section of the parade will include men, women, paralyzed, and disabled veterans as well as Gold Star families, and will culminate with a float of rifles and hats, representing the 1.4 million who have given the ultimate sacrifice throughout our nation's wars. Let us never forget those who paid the ultimate price as well as the veterans still



among us. May they continue to inspire future generations to defend our God-given liberty.