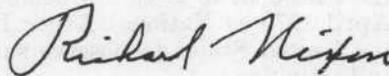


Through the Organization of American States and its predecessors, the nations of our Hemisphere have learned a great deal about each other in these eight decades. Our cooperation with one another has increased—but so have the demands which history places on our shoulders. The 1970s must therefore be a decade in which we achieve an increasingly vigorous, mature and balanced partnership, one which allows us to seek ever greater adventures and to realize even greater goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 14, as Pan American Day, and the week beginning April 12 and ending April 18 as Pan American Week; and I call upon the Governors of the fifty States of the Union, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the officials of all other areas under the flag of the United States to issue similar proclamations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fourth.



Proclamation 3979

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

By the President of the United States of America

April 17, 1970

A Proclamation

The imperiled flight and safe return of the crew of Apollo 13 were events that humbled and inspired people all over the world. We were humbled by the knowledge that in this stage of man's exploration of space, a safe splashdown of an imperiled mission is in its way as successful as a landing on and safe return from the Moon. We were inspired by the courage of the crew, the devotion and skill of the members of the NASA team on the ground and by the offers of assistance from nations around the world.

Particularly inspiring was the spontaneous outpouring of prayer, from every corner of the world, from members of every faith, calling upon God in His infinite mercy to bring home in safety to our small planet three fellow human beings.

Now James A. Lovell, Jr., Fred W. Haise, Jr., and John L. Swigert, Jr. are home again. The prayers of millions all over the world helped to bring them home safely. I urge my fellow Americans and all the peoples of the world to join with me in offering another prayer, one of deep thanks, for the safe return of the crew of Apollo 13.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, April 19, 1970, as a National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred ninety-fourth.

