

seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twelfth.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5704 of September 17, 1987**

**National Year of Friendship With Finland, 1988**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

Finnish settlers first arrived in this country in 1638, when Nordics, many of them natives of Finland or Swedes who spoke Finnish, established the colony of New Sweden in present-day Delaware. They introduced European civilization to the Delaware River Valley and began the transformation of a vast wilderness. Theirs were the pioneer spirit and virtues that are the foundation of our national character. The 350th anniversary of their landing is a most fitting time to celebrate the legacy of America's Finnish pioneers and their descendants and to recall that the friendship of the United States and Finland has deep historical roots.

To commemorate the relationship between the peoples of Finland and the United States on the 350th anniversary of New Sweden, the Congress, by Public Law 99-602, has designated 1988 as "National Year of Friendship with Finland," and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in its observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim 1988 as National Year of Friendship with Finland. I call upon all Americans to observe the year with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twelfth.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5705 of September 22, 1987**

**Fire Prevention Week, 1987**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

Fire is most often preventable, but this past year it killed almost 6,000 Americans, injured 300,000, and caused more than \$9.5 billion in direct property losses. Fire often affects the very young and the very old, and more than 80 percent of fires take place in the home. Such facts are exactly why our Nation observes a special week every autumn to remind ourselves

that fire prevention and safety messages are vitally important to each of us and to our families.

This year the National Fire Protection Association, the originator of Fire Prevention Week, is encouraging families to be safe and to design and practice a home fire escape plan. Private sector initiatives in partnership with the public sector are complementing this effort. All who can should join with government officials at every level, fire service personnel, citizens' groups, and private citizens to develop and carry out public awareness and education programs about fires. Campaigns being formulated will reach high-risk populations, including inner city and rural residents, children, and the elderly.

On Sunday, October 11, 1987, at the National Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the tribute of a proud and grateful Nation will be paid to the 114 American fire fighters who died in the line of duty in 1986. Let us honor these heroes in prayerful remembrance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week beginning October 4, 1987, as Fire Prevention Week, and I call upon the people of the United States to plan and actively participate in fire prevention activities during this week and throughout the year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twelfth.

RONALD REAGAN

**Proclamation 5706 of September 23, 1987**

### **Emergency Medical Services Week, 1987**

*By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation*

We can all be extremely proud of and grateful for those who staff our Nation's emergency medical services (EMS). They make a tremendous difference in our land as they save lives and care for the injured and the critically ill. Dedicated physicians, nurses, paramedics, park rangers, fire fighters, law enforcement officers, and countless devoted volunteers form a system that works daily for the safety and well-being of all Americans. Many perform their tasks under severe conditions, and many risk their lives to rescue accident victims; all of them make EMS a national success.

Most of us can tell from personal experience of quick, efficient EMS teams who have saved the lives of people we know and love. Despite these many successes, however, more than 750,000 Americans continue to lose their lives from emergencies each year. That is why EMS teams across our country strive constantly to improve their remarkable lifesaving record. They