

In recognition of the importance of transportation and of the millions of Americans who serve and supply our transportation needs, the Congress, by joint resolution approved May 16, 1957 (36 U.S.C. 160), has requested that the third Friday in May of each year be designated as "National Defense Transportation Day" and, by joint resolution approved May 14, 1962 (36 U.S.C. 166), that the week in which that Friday falls be proclaimed "National Transportation Week."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Friday, May 18, 1990, as National Defense Transportation Day and the week of May 13 through May 19, 1990, as National Transportation Week. I urge the people of the United States to observe these occasions with appropriate ceremonies that will give full recognition to the individuals and organizations that build, maintain, and safeguard our country's transportation system.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17 day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6136 of May 17, 1990**

**National Trauma Awareness Month, 1990**

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

Because all of us are potential trauma victims, it is fitting that we pause to reflect upon the causes of traumatic injuries, their impact, and how to prevent them.

Each year, traumatic injury claims the lives of at least 150,000 Americans. Many thousands more are severely or permanently disabled.

Young Americans are particularly at high risk. Traumatic injuries kill six times as many children as cancer, the next most common cause of death in children. Four out of five deaths among teenagers and young adults are caused by traumatic injuries—injuries most often suffered in motor vehicle collisions.

Even among our older citizens, traumatic injury continues to be a major public health problem. The death rate due to falls among persons 75 years or older is nearly 12 times the rate in the general population.

At any age, death or disability from traumatic injury is tragic and almost always preventable. The vast majority of traumatic injuries result from hazards that can be reduced if we use our common sense and take advantage of current knowledge about how traumatic injuries occur. All Americans should learn more about the circumstances and behaviors that lead to traumatic injuries and how they can be avoided.

Every citizen should also learn more about the role of trauma care and rehabilitation in reducing deaths and disability associated with traumatic injury. Effective treatment begins with ambulance and rescue

services and hospitals that are capable of providing the high level of care needed by trauma victims. Optimal treatment includes rehabilitation programs and follow-up services that enable injured patients to recover as fully as possible.

Premature deaths, disabilities, and economic costs resulting from traumatic injuries impose a high toll on our Nation. The physical and emotional suffering they inflict upon individuals and their families is incalculable. Fortunately, however, through the concerted efforts of concerned citizens, health care professionals, scientists, volunteer groups, and leaders in the public and private sectors, we can reduce the heavy burden of traumatic injury on our society. Trauma is every American's business.

To enhance public awareness of traumatic injury, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 224, has designated the month of May 1990 as "National Trauma Awareness Month" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this occasion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of May 1990 as National Trauma Awareness Month. I urge the people of the United States, their government agencies, health care providers, and schools to take part in efforts to prevent traumatic injuries and to provide the best possible emergency treatment and rehabilitation programs for those that do occur. I also urge all Americans to support public and private traumatic injury prevention programs. We can reduce the devastating impact of traumatic injuries on our Nation by supporting research into new ways to prevent and treat them, and by aiding those Americans who suffer the physical, emotional, or financial consequences of traumatic injury.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6137 of May 22, 1990**

### **National Maritime Day, 1990**

*By the President of the United States of America*

*A Proclamation*

For more than 200 years, the members of the American merchant marine and civilian American seafarers have made vital contributions to the economic development of the United States. They have also played an essential role in securing and maintaining our freedom.

The effectiveness of the merchant marine in military operations was first revealed during the Revolutionary War, when our Nation's commercial vessels supplemented the 34 ships of the Continental Navy. These vessels captured or sank some 600 British merchant craft, thereby disrupting enemy shipping and helping to advance the end of the war. Since that time, America's merchant sailors have continued to