displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in honor of our di-
verse history and all who have contributed to shaping this Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of Oc-
tober, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Indepen-
dence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8883 of October 5, 2012

German-American Day, 2012

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

United by dreams of freedom, opportunity, and better lives for their fami-
lies, generations of immigrants have crossed land and sea to pursue the
American promise. With unfailing hope for the future they knew was pos-
sible here, German Americans have shared in that promise and contributed
immeasurably to our Nation.

During the more than three centuries since the first German settlers arrived
in North America, German immigrants and their descendants have played
a vital role in every part of our society. With each generation, they have
passed on to their children and grandchildren an enduring commitment to
hard work, civic engagement, and family. Many German traditions are so
 ingrained in our Nation’s story that many people are unaware of their ori-
gins, but the indelible mark they have left on the character of our country
is unmistakable.

The United States is proud to count Germany as one of our closest and
strongest allies. At its core, the alliance between our nations is a partner-
ship between our peoples. For many years, citizens of both our countries—
entrepreneurs, innovators, students, scientists, and soldiers—have worked
together to forge a brighter future at home and around the world. Those
bonds continue to grow stronger with lifelong connections cultivated
through educational exchanges and valuable partnerships between our two
nations. Today, we celebrate that spirit of collaboration, and we reflect on
the innumerable ways generations of German Americans have enriched the
American story.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of
America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and
the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2012, as Ger-
man-American Day. I encourage all Americans to learn more about the his-
tory of German Americans and reflect on the many contributions they have
made to our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of Oc-
tober, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Indepen-
dence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

BARACK OBAMA