

Proclamation 6878 of April 4, 1996

Death of Those Aboard U.S. Air Force Aircraft in Croatia

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

As a mark of respect for Secretary Ronald H. Brown and all those killed in the April 3, 1996, crash of the U.S. Air Force aircraft in Croatia, I hereby order, by the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America by section 175 of title 36 of the United States Code, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff at the White House and upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions through Wednesday, April 10, 1996. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

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

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6879 of April 5, 1996

National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day, 1996

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Throughout our history, America's Armed Forces have stood proudly in defense of the United States and of freedom everywhere. Countless courageous service men and women have given their lives for our Nation, and many others have sacrificed their own freedom as prisoners of war so that the cause of liberty might prevail.

Enduring with patience and determination, prisoners of war are a powerful reminder that the indomitable spirit of the American soldier cannot be broken, even by brutal treatment in violation of international law and morality. In Nazi Germany, Japan, North Korea, Vietnam, and Iraq, prisoners of war repeatedly demonstrated their devotion to duty, honor, and country, despite the often terrible suffering inflicted upon them by their captors.

On this day and throughout the year, let us honor all who have borne the indignities of captivity in service to our country, remember the brave soldiers who died as prisoners in foreign lands during our Nation's past struggles, and recognize those at home who anxiously awaited their loved ones' return. Their faith in God, love of family, and trust in our Nation are an inspiration to all Americans, and we will always remember their sacrifices.

NOW, THEREFORE I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, 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 April 9, 1996, as National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day. I ask all Americans to join me in honoring former American prisoners of war who suffered at the hands of our enemies, and I call upon Federal, State, and local officials and private organizations to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6880 of April 5, 1996

**National Day of Remembrance of the Oklahoma City
Bombing**

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

On the morning of April 19, 1995, America was devastated by news of an explosion at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. As rescuers rushed to the scene, citizens across the country waited by their televisions and radios for information, and we prayed for the children, Federal workers, and many others caught by the bomb's deadly blast. Despite heroic efforts of emergency personnel and countless samaritans, 168 people lost their lives as a result of the brutal attack.

For a year we have mourned the dead, aided the residents of Oklahoma City in their struggle to rebuild, and strengthened our resolve to fight terrorism. And though it has been a sad and challenging time, the outpouring of love and support for those affected by the tragedy has helped our Nation to come together in common purpose. As we mark the first anniversary of the bombing, we remember the victims and honor their memory with a moment of silence. In prayer and quiet reflection, let us move forward together to foster peace in our land.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, 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 Friday, April 19, 1996, as a National Day of Remembrance of the Oklahoma City Bombing. I ask all the people of the United States to observe a moment of silence on that day at 9:02 a.m., Central Daylight Time, gathering with family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues at home, at work, and in places of worship to commemorate this solemn occasion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON