

Our merchant ships are an essential part of the transportation bridges that extend from communities in America to those in Europe and Asia—and to our servicemen and women wherever they stand in freedom's defense.

They have carried more than 20 million tons of food, weapons, and supplies to our fighting men in Vietnam.

Last year alone, they delivered about 4 million tons of wheat to our friends in need in foreign lands.

In the same year, they transported 12 million tons of our products to our trading partners abroad—and returned with 10 million tons of their goods for our people's use.

America's present position as the world's greatest trading power grows from its early tradition, when a strong merchant fleet carried the commerce of a young nation to the seaports of the old world.

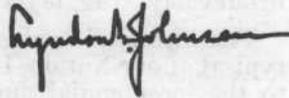
The imagination, daring and farsightedness of that fleet was exemplified by the SS *Savannah*, which in 1819 became the first steamship to cross the Atlantic.

It is in honor of that historic voyage that the Congress in 1933 designated May 22 as National Maritime Day and requested the President to issue a proclamation annually in observance of that day, to remind Americans of the importance of the merchant fleet to our national life.

48 Stat. 73.  
36 USC 145.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby urge the people of the United States to honor our American Merchant Marine on Wednesday, May 22, 1968, by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places, and I request that all ships sailing under the American flag dress ship on that day in tribute to the American Merchant Marine.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



### Proclamation 3848

MOTHER'S DAY, 1968

By the President of the United States of America

April 29, 1968

#### A Proclamation

The hope, the courage, and the faith that guide us through all our lives are priceless gifts that go back in time beyond our first recollections. They were given us by our mothers and enriched with each passing year.

To the extent that each of us makes use of these gifts, our adult lives will reflect our faith, our compassion, and our strength to meet our problems and obligations, and to deal with them wisely and justly in the finest traditions of our national character. Thus the training and love that we receive from our mothers play mighty roles in determining the quality of our adult lives—individually, and as a Nation.

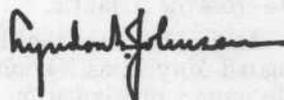
38 Stat. 771.  
36 USC 142.

Once each year, our Nation sets aside a special day to pay tribute to our mothers. This day, pursuant to a joint resolution of the Congress approved on May 8, 1914, falls each year on the second Sunday of May.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby request that Sunday, May 12, 1968, be observed as Mother's Day, and I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

Let us pay a special tribute to those courageous mothers of our gallant fighting men on the battlefields of Vietnam. Let us honor both mother and son for their personal commitment to honor and duty that reflects the Nation's dedication to a search for a lasting peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 29th day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



### Proclamation 3849

#### CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, DAY

By the President of the United States of America

#### A Proclamation

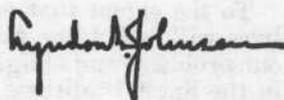
This year will mark the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Charlotte, in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

As one of the original thirteen colonies, North Carolina—and particularly the people of Mecklenburg County—played an important role in our early struggle for freedom.

The historical background and dynamic growth of Charlotte are typical of our Nation. It is fitting, therefore, that recognition be given to the bicentennial anniversary of Charlotte—the Queen City. To this end, the Congress, by a joint resolution of May 13, 1968, has designated May 20, 1968, as Charlotte, North Carolina, Day, and has requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for the appropriate observance of that day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, do hereby invite the people of the United States to observe Charlotte, North Carolina, Day, May 20, 1968, with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-second.



May 13, 1968

Ante, p. 121.