

industry to end congestion and delay and to prepare for the burgeoning demands of the future.

36 USC 160.

To give public recognition to this great industry—to focus attention upon its contributions and the challenges it faces—the Congress, by a joint resolution approved May 16, 1957 (71 Stat. 30), has requested the President to proclaim annually the third Friday of May of each year as National Defense Transportation Day, and by a joint resolution approved May 14, 1962 (76 Stat. 69), has requested the President to proclaim annually the week of May in which that Friday falls as National Transportation Week, as a tribute to the men and women, who night and day, move our goods and our people throughout the land and around the world.

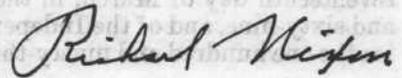
36 USC 166.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Friday, May 16, 1969, as National Defense Transportation Day, and the week beginning May 11, 1969, as National Transportation Week.

I urge our people to participate with representatives of the transportation industry, our armed services, and other governmental agencies in the observance of these occasions through appropriate ceremonies.

I also invite the Governors of the States to provide for the observance of National Defense Transportation Day and National Transportation Week in a way that will give the citizens of each community the opportunity to recognize and appreciate fully the vital role our great and modern transportation system plays in their lives and in the defense of the Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



Proclamation 3901

WORLD TRADE WEEK, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

There is a clear interrelationship between America's economic health and that of the rest of the world. It follows from this that the cause of stability and peace is served by the advancement of free-flowing world trade.

The United States works closely with other nations to promote the expansion of trade on an equitable basis in the world market. Our national trade policy supports the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other international institutions that seek new ways to facilitate the fair exchange of goods between nations. By reducing barriers to trade the United States and its trading partners have contributed to the growth of the world economy.

As we work toward freer trade, we recognize that our greatest strength lies in the traditional competitive urge of American business and labor. As their international efforts increase their earnings, the nation benefits from a strengthened dollar position and an improved balance of payments.

March 18, 1969

March 17, 1969

Exports of United States merchandise rose to a record \$34 billion in 1968, \$3 billion more than in 1967. Imports of foreign products into the United States, attracted by vigorous domestic economic activity and rising consumer income, reached almost \$33 billion, an increase of \$6 billion.

Since imports advanced much faster than exports, our trade surplus dropped \$3 billion to a total of less than \$1 billion. One lesson in this decline is especially important: We must intensify our efforts to contain inflationary pressures at home, helping make our exports more competitive; as our exports expand, we will restore a healthy trade surplus.

Additional outlets are needed for the diversity and abundance of our industrial and agricultural production. We also must find ways to help less developed countries participate more fully in world trade.

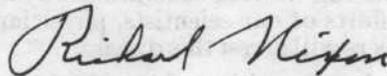
Enlarged markets for our goods and services speed the pace of our economic progress and advance the well-being of all our people. New markets abroad create new jobs at home; new avenues of world trade run parallel to new roads to world peace.

Government in the past has helped American industry and agriculture to open up new markets abroad; today we are more willing and better prepared to help than ever before.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 18, 1969, as World Trade Week; and I request the appropriate Federal, State, and local officials to cooperate in the observance of that week.

I urge business, labor, agricultural, educational, professional, and civic groups, as well as the people of the United States generally, to observe World Trade Week with gatherings, discussions, exhibits, ceremonies, and other appropriate activities designed to promote continuing awareness of the importance of world trade to our economy and our relations with other nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-third.



Proclamation 3902

NATIONAL MARITIME DAY, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The American Merchant Marine must project the Nation's economic strength throughout the world in peacetime and give mobility to our national defense in times of emergency. Its vessels must enable us to compete effectively in international trade and to transport and supply our Armed Forces in defense of freedom.

Through the cooperation of business, labor, and Government, and with prudent use of advancing technology, the American Merchant Marine must become capable of providing modern, productive service to the Nation's commerce as an integral part of transportation.

March 18, 1969