

During the recent energy crisis, we became more aware than ever of the central, critical role our transportation system plays in meeting our social and economic needs through the efficient movement of people and goods. The quality of our life and the health of our economy require that our transportation system remain robust.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Friday, May 17, 1974, as National Defense Transportation Day, and the week beginning May 12, 1974, as National Transportation Week.

I urge the participation of Governors and other elected officials as well as the people of America to join with the Department of Transportation in observing this week as further proof of our efforts to give the Nation balanced and energy-efficient transportation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON

Proclamation 4293

• May 11, 1974

Legal Rights for Retarded Citizens Week, 1974

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

America's more than six million mentally retarded citizens face many hardships in their daily lives. Too frequently, they are even denied basic legal rights without having the means or the knowledge to protect themselves.

Retarded children, for instance, are too often deprived of the opportunities open to other children, and many mentally retarded adults are denied a free choice of a place to live.

Too many of the mentally retarded who, with proper training and encouragement, could lead healthy, productive lives in the outside world are needlessly institutionalized. Many are the victims of direct and indirect discrimination in their everyday lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week beginning May 12, 1974 as "Legal Rights for Retarded Citizens Week", and call upon all Americans to make an added effort to accord full legal rights and individual respect and dignity to all retarded Americans not only this week, but every week of the year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eleventh day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON

Proclamation 4294

May 25, 1974

**Prayer for Peace
Memorial Day, May 27, 1974**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The defense of freedom and the search for peace cannot be separated. Together, they are an essential part of the American ideal. During the past two hundred years, our Nation has endured sacrifice in battle for the sake of this ideal. Americans died valiantly at Saratoga, King's Mountain, and Yorktown because they would not buy peace at the price of liberty. Americans died at Shiloh, Antietam, Gettysburg, and Vicksburg because a peace that cost the division of the Nation and the enslavement of a people could not be accepted.

We have occasion to show special gratitude this Memorial Day to those who fell in the cause of freedom in the longest and perhaps the most difficult war in our history. Because of their efforts, and the efforts of all our fighting forces, we can celebrate a year in which no American serviceman has fallen in the defense of his country.

During the past year, we have made progress toward the creation of a stable world order based on respect for the dignity and the larger interests of all nations. We have made this progress in part because America has pursued its tasks from a base of strength—not only military and economic strength, but strength of conviction and strength of pur-