

The United Nations has also been a forum for other areas of international concern: conferences to work out laws to govern the use of the oceans, to promote arms control, and to focus world attention on such problems as human rights, health, education, and hunger; new programs to promote trade and economic developments; and other activities designed to solve many of the new problems associated with independence in today's world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Sunday, October 24, 1976, as United Nations Day. I urge the citizens of this Nation to observe that day with community programs that will promote the United Nations and its affiliated agencies.

I have appointed Edgar Speer to be United States National Chairman for United Nations Day and, through him, I call upon State and local officials to encourage citizens' groups and all agencies of communication to engage in appropriate observances of United Nations Day in cooperation with the United Nations Association of the United States of America and other interested organizations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of September in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4455

September 7, 1976

Columbus Day, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In this our Bicentennial year, we owe special tribute to the great Italian explorer whose historic voyage to the new world opened the way to the founding of these United States.

Sustained by the vision and financial support of Queen Isabella I of Spain, Christopher Columbus established the first permanent European settlement in the Americas, paving the way for the generations of immigrants from all over the world who came to build a new nation. This great achievement marked the beginning of a new era in the history of mankind.

As the heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus, we are proud to honor his memory and unshakable courage and faith which made his epic journey a reality nearly five centuries ago.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657, 36 U.S.C. 146), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. 6103(a) and note), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1976, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4456

September 8, 1976

National Forest Products Week, 1976

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In the Nation's first century, Americans viewed their forests primarily as a source of survival and economic growth. In our second century, we continue to depend upon our forest resources for fuel, timber and sustenance, but we recognized the limits of our natural resource heritage and initiated action to conserve and manage our forests for future generations.

Fortunately, as we begin our third century, we have developed important tools to balance the needs of a growing population, our desire for an ever-improving standard of living, and concern for environmental quality.

Forestry research continues to make progress in achieving maximum efficient utilization of forest resources. In addition, strong Federal, State, and local forestry programs have been established to foster sound management of publicly owned forest lands and to encourage private forest landowners, through education, technical assistance, and grants, to practice sound forestry management on their lands. This cooperation among Federal, State, and private sectors is essential if we are to continue to provide the forest products our people require.

In order to emphasize America's reliance on forest resources and products, and to recognize their contribution in providing this Nation with consumer products, transportation systems, jobs and capital for economic growth, the Congress, by joint resolution of September 13, 1960 (74 Stat. 898; 36 U.S.C. 163), has designated the seven-day period beginning the third Sunday of October in each year as National Forest Products Week and has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation calling for its appropriate observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon the people of the United States to observe the week beginning Sunday, October 17, 1976, as National Forest Products Week, with activi-