

foster a better understanding of the Constitution, and of the rights and duties of United States citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4518

August 31, 1977

National Lupus Week, 1977

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The medical challenge which the disease lupus erythematosus presents is the subject of many research projects in hospitals and medical centers throughout the United States. The disease most often strikes during its victims' most active and productive years, and can affect many organs of the body with inflammation and changes in structure and function.

The cause of lupus still eludes investigators, but promising leads into its relationship to the immune system, as well as to other factors, may yield new understanding of the origin of this chronic inflammatory disease, which afflicts an estimated fifty thousand new victims annually.

The Federal Government is supporting an aggressive program of research into the cause and treatment of lupus, which, it is hoped, will ultimately lead to its prevention or control. Genetic studies suggesting the role of heredity in the occurrence of lupus have begun to provide important information. The study of immunity, the body's ability to resist disease, is now pointing the way to an understanding of the relationship to lupus of abnormal immune reactions of the body. Although a cure must await further knowledge of the basic cause, presently available forms of treatment can frequently delay the often grave consequences of the disease.

In recognition of the seriousness of lupus and America's commitment to its control, the Congress, by joint resolution approved July 25, 1977, has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of September 18 through 24, 1977, as National Lupus Week and calling for its appropriate observance.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week of September 18 through 24, 1977, as National Lupus Week. I invite the Governors of the several States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the chief officials of local governments, the medical profession, and the people of the United States to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

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

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4519

September 13, 1977

Veterans Day, 1977

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The blessings of liberty which our ancestors secured for us are today, as they have always been, the birthright of every American. They have remained so because in each generation there have been men and women who have been willing to suffer the hardships and sacrifices necessary to preserve our rights for future generations.

No act of citizenship is more worthy of our respect than a willingness to serve in our armed forces and to protect and defend our ideals. There are nearly thirty million of our fellow citizens among us today who have earned that respect by their loyal and honorable service.

In recognition of the contributions our veterans have made to the cause of peace and freedom, the Congress has determined (5 U.S.C. 6103(a)) that one day each year should be set aside as a national holiday in order that all Americans may be able to take part in activities designed to show our respect for their dedication to their country.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, ask all Americans to observe Monday, October 24, 1977, as Veterans Day in a manner that will let our Nation's veterans know that their sacrifices are and always will be recognized and appreciated.

I urge the conduct of public ceremonies, the visible tribute of members of the business community, and the personal participation of all Americans of all ages in honoring our Nation's veterans.

I especially encourage remembrance to those men and women who are sick and disabled and to those who are patients in our hospitals.

I call upon Federal, State and local government officials to mark Veterans Day by displaying the flag of the United States and by supporting and encouraging public involvement in appropriate exercises and programs.

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

JIMMY CARTER