

General Pulaski died on October 11, 1779 of wounds received in the Battle of Savannah two days earlier. Nearly two hundred years later we continue to pay tribute to him and to the millions of Americans of Polish descent who have played such an important part in founding our country, making it grow, and preserving its ideals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Wednesday, October 11, 1978, as General Pulaski's Memorial Day and I direct the appropriate Government officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to honor the memory of General Pulaski by holding appropriate exercises and ceremonies in suitable places throughout our Nation.

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

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4583

August 8, 1978

White Cane Safety Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

For the more than six million Americans who suffer severe visual impairment, merely crossing the street may be a harrowing experience. This is especially true for the one-half million of our citizens who are legally blind and whose skill and resolve are tested daily in the traffic of our busy cities.

For such people, the white cane is an invaluable tool with which they can move about confidently and, most important, independently. Because the white cane is deceptively simple, many of us do not realize that special training and skill are required to use it effectively and safely. The cane is not a crutch but serves much as an extension of its user, providing assurance that the path ahead is clear and safe.

For the sighted, the white cane should serve as a reminder of the special needs of the visually handicapped person and of the importance of exercising simple courtesies which may otherwise be overlooked in haste. Observing the pedestrian's right-of-way in a crosswalk is a basic rule of traffic safety which has extra importance to the visually handicapped person who cannot see a vehicle's approach. For the sighted pedestrian, even a gesture as simple as offering to accompany a visually handicapped person across a busy intersection can make the difference between a safe crossing and a hazardous one.

To heighten public awareness of the importance of the white cane to the independence and safety of thousands of blind and visually handicapped Americans, the Congress, by a joint resolution approved October 6, 1964 (78 Stat. 1003; 36 U.S.C. 169d), has authorized the President to proclaim October 15 of each year as White Cane Safety Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 15, 1978, as White Cane Safety Day.

On this occasion, let us all recognize the achievements of those who have overcome visual disability and blindness to lead independent, productive, and fulfilling lives. At the same time, let us all resolve to increase our awareness of the needs of visually handicapped people and observe those courtesies which enable them to move about safely and without needless constraint.

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

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4584

August 8, 1978

National Aviation Year and Wright Brothers Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

This year, 1978, is the diamond jubilee anniversary of aviation. Seventy-five years ago on December 17, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, the Wright Brothers launched man into the age of powered flight. The magnitude of the heritage of Orville and Wilbur Wright is heroic. The significance of their achievement to men and women everywhere is profound.

At 10:30 in the morning on that cold and windy day Orville, aboard his fragile "Wright Flyer," was driven aloft by a four cylinder 12 horsepower engine also ingeniously fashioned by the two brothers. This first successful flight in a heavier-than-air powered aircraft lasted but 12 seconds and covered a distance of only 120 feet.

In the seventy-five years since that historic flight, the science of aeronautics and the prowess of American industry have combined to make aviation a giant among the Nation's transportation and communications systems. Air transportation has become the prime public carrier between American cities and to international points. And the movement of cargo, especially perishable goods, life saving pharmaceuticals and other high-priority items important to the public welfare and commerce, has become largely dependent upon the speed, efficiency and safety of air transport.

Aviation today is one of America's greatest enterprises and among its largest employers; a major contributor in the social and cultural enhancement of the American public and, in the international arena, an instrument of signal importance in the deterrence of aggression and as a mighty defender of peace.

THEREFORE, in this 75th anniversary year of powered flight, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the year 1978, diamond jubilee anniversary of powered flight, as National Aviation Year. And further,

To commemorate the historic achievements of the Wright Brothers, the Congress, by joint resolution of December 17, 1963 (77 Stat. 402, 36 U.S.C. 169), designated the seventeenth day of December of each year as Wright Brothers Day and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon the people of this Nation, and their local and national