

All Americans should have learned in these 15 tumultuous years that changing circumstances may place any one of us in the path of common enemies: obsolete skills in an age of technological revolution; the danger of disability through injury or disease in a hazardous environment; mutual vulnerability to shrinking energy, housing, and food resources. All of us have learned that our country cannot afford to allow differences—in income, in social status, in geography, in age, in intellect or health, in color, accent, or religion—to divide and polarize us.

This generation has learned also that poverty is not a question of income alone—we can be energy-poor, even though wealthy as a Nation; we can be spiritually impoverished, even when we are materially satiated.

Let us take this occasion, then, to rededicate ourselves and our country to the ideals of the Economic Opportunity Act with a renewed commitment to our Nation's goal of securing the opportunity for every individual to "attain the skills, knowledge, and motivations . . . to become fully self-sufficient."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and designate the next 12 months as a year of rekindled effort to open to everyone in our land "the opportunity to live in decency and dignity."

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

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4676 of August 29, 1979

Columbus Day, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Four hundred and eighty-seven years have passed since an Italian navigator in the service of Spain left the Old World to find the New. Christopher Columbus was determined to test an audacious theory: to reach the East, sail west. On the morning of October 12, 1492, with ninety men in three small ships, he sailed into immortality.

The voyage of this intrepid explorer marked the convergence of American and world history. His discovery opened a new age—an age that gave the world a new center.

We are the inheritors of Columbus' legacy. As a nation which has always striven for the same qualities as the Great Navigator, we must continue the search for new horizons.

It is fitting that, on the observance of this October 12, we once again recall to mind Columbus' extraordinary voyage and, in the spirit of that undertaking, rededicate ourselves to that which is best and most courageous in us.

In tribute to Columbus' achievement, the Congress of the United States of America, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modi-

fied by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day. 5 USC 6103.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 8, 1979, 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 his honor.

I also direct that the flag of the United States of America 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 twenty-ninth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fourth.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4677 of August 29, 1979

Leif Erikson Day, 1979

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

From time immemorial, explorers have sought new frontiers to explore and new worlds to conquer. Their insatiable curiosity, their willingness to face new challenges remain inspirations to the modern world.

Few people can surpass the courage and accomplishments of Leif Erikson, a remarkable representative of a remarkable people. His voyage west to uncharted waters epitomized the virtues of bravery, skill and imagination.

In honoring this great Norseman, we honor the representative of a people whose respect for law and whose early devotion to representative government mirrors our own commitments. We honor, too, Americans of Scandinavian descent, who have made such notable contributions to the development of the United States.

To express our respect for the accomplishments of Leif Erikson and his followers, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved September 2, 1964 (78 Stat. 849, 36 U.S.C. 169) designated October 9 in each year as Leif Erikson Day. 36 USC 169c.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, October 9, 1979, as Leif Erikson Day, and I direct the appropriate government officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings that day.

I also invite the people of the United States to honor the memory of Leif Erikson on that day by holding appropriate ceremonies in suitable places throughout the land.

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

JIMMY CARTER