ans still seek to exercise their human rights to think, speak, and believe as their conscience directs them.

The people of the United States of America share the just aspirations of the people of the Baltic nations for national independence, and we cannot remain silent in the face of the continued refusal of the government of the U.S.S.R. to allow these people to be free. We uphold their right to determine their own national destiny, free of foreign domination.

The government of the United States has never recognized the forced incorporation of the Baltic States into the Soviet Union and will not do so in the future.

In its defense of the rights of the Baltic people, the United States does not stand alone. On January 13th, the Parliament of Europe passed a resolution by an overwhelming majority on "The situation in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania," calling for the restoration of self-determination for the Baltic States.

By House Joint Resolution 201, the Congress of the United States has authorized and requested the President to designate June 14, 1983, as "Baltic Freedom Day." *Ante*, p. 208.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate June 14, 1983 as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate remembrances and ceremonies and to reaffirm their commitment to principles of liberty and freedom for all oppressed people.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5069 of June 17, 1983

National Scleroderma Week, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Scleroderma is a painful and debilitating connective tissue disorder that causes hardening of the skin and can also affect several internal organs of the body. Although it can begin at any age, it usually afflicts people in their productive years. Several thousand middle-aged Americans—women more than men—have scleroderma.

In the more serious systemic form, scleroderma can not only affect the skin, joints, and muscles but also strike the gastrointestinal tract, lungs, heart, or kidneys. The cause and cure of scleroderma remain unknown, and it may be difficult to treat.

Nevertheless, there is ample reason for hope because the outlook for victims of scleroderma has improved significantly in recent years. Previously, the chances of survival were slim when scleroderma attacked the kidneys. But this is no longer the case. Medical researchers have discovered in the

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past few years that aggressive treatment with newly-developed anti-hypertensive drugs can lower blood pressure, improve kidney function, and dramatically save lives. In addition, recent research has revealed the importance of abnormalities of fine blood vessels in the development of scleroderma.

Supported by the National Institutes of Health and by private voluntary agencies, researchers throughout the world are focusing their efforts on scleroderma. Improved methods for diagnosis, treatment, and control are being explored.

To increase awareness of scleroderma, recognize progress, and emphasize the need for a continued effort to defeat this disease, the Congress has, by Senate Joint Resolution 75, designated the week of June 12 through June 18, 1983, as National Scleroderma Week, 1983.

Ante, p. 210.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of June 12 through June 18, 1983, as National Scleroderma Week, 1983. I urge the people of the United States and educational, philanthropic, biomedical research, and health care organizations to continue their diligent and valuable efforts to discover the cause and cure of scleroderma in order to alleviate the suffering of all persons afflicted by this disorder.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5070 of June 20, 1983

National Children's Liver Disease Awareness Week, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Liver disorders affect thousands of American children from infancy to adolescence. More than 100 different types of liver diseases, which attack these young people, have been identified. These diseases can be inherited or acquired from infection, poisons, injury, or such diseases as cystic fibrosis, anemia, leukemia, kidney or intestinal disease and glandular disorders. Infants can be born with a damaged liver or with biliary atresia, a disease characterized by abnormally-formed bile ducts. Some disorders can result in cirrhosis of the liver. Other causes of fatal or chronic liver disease include hepatitis, Reye's syndrome, Wilson's disease, galactosemia, and glycogen storage disease.

Research on liver diseases is continuing in order to increase our understanding of the underlying causes of these disorders, find preventive measures, develop better means of early detection, and improve our current methods of treatment.

Ante, p. 211.

The Congress of the United States, by House Joint Resolution 234, has designated the week beginning June 19, 1983 as "National Children's Liver Disease Awareness Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of that week.