

ropolitan Opera also reaches out to discover and encourage young American talent by auditions held throughout the country, and it nurtures and develops great singers of the future.

Through its deep involvement with artists, audiences, and patrons, and with the voluntary assistance of the members of its National Council, the Metropolitan Opera has contributed invaluable to the growth of an American opera community whose vitality and brilliance are acclaimed around the world.

In recognition of the Metropolitan Opera's extraordinary achievements and commitment to excellence, the Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 128, has authorized and requested the President to designate October 22, 1983, the one hundredth anniversary of its first performance, as "Metropolitan Opera Day" throughout the United States.

Ante, p. 847.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate October 22, 1983, as Metropolitan Opera Day and call upon all Federal, State and local government agencies, interested groups and organizations, and the people of the United States to observe that day by engaging in appropriate programs and activities to show their support of America's rich heritage in music theater and one of its premier performing institutions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of October, 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 eighth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5121 of October 23, 1983

Death of American and French Military Personnel in Beirut, Lebanon

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

As a mark of respect for the American and French military personnel who died violently in the performance of their peacekeeping duties in the tragic bombings of October 23, 1983 in Beirut, Lebanon, I hereby order, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States of America, that the flag of the United States shall be flown at half-staff upon all public buildings and grounds, at all military posts and naval stations, and on all naval vessels of the Federal Government in the District of Columbia and throughout the United States and its Territories and possessions through Monday, October 31, 1983. I also direct that the flag shall be flown at half-staff for the same length of time at all United States embassies, legations, consular offices, and other facilities abroad, including all military facilities and naval vessels and stations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-third day of October, 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 eighth.

RONALD REAGAN