

As NATO moves forward into another decade of achievement, we look toward the future with confidence, aware that continuing Allied cooperation will provide the international stability and security upon which our ideals, our civilization, and our well-being depend. As NATO begins this new chapter in its distinguished history, I am proud to rededicate the United States to the NATO objectives which have served the cause of peace so well.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby direct the attention of the Nation to this thirtieth anniversary of the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty; and I call upon the Governors of the States, and upon the officers of local governments, to facilitate the suitable observance of this notable event throughout this anniversary year with particular attention to April, the month which marks the historic signing ceremony.

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

JIMMY CARTER

**Proclamation 4649 of March 27, 1979**

**Law Day, U.S.A., 1979**

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

### **A Proclamation**

The Congress of the United States has set aside the first day of May as Law Day, U.S.A.

This year will mark the Nation's twenty-second annual celebration of Law Day—a special day for reflection on our heritage of individual liberty and for rededication to the observance of the rule of law.

The rule of law is not automatic. Each citizen must accept a share of responsibility to administer and obey the law, if the rights and opportunities of all citizens are to be preserved.

Americans also have a responsibility and a constitutional right to change the law by orderly process, when such change is needed. Our forefathers gave us this birthright, so that the Nation and its people might remain free.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson, "Laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind."

The theme selected in recognition of Law Day, 1979, therefore, is most appropriate: "Our Changing Rights."

In a rapidly changing world, it is vital that we preserve and strengthen our ability to respond to the needs for legitimate change while safeguarding the rights of all citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, invite the American people to observe Tuesday, May 1, 1979, as Law Day, U.S.A., and to reflect upon individual and collective responsibilities for the effective administration of the law.

I call upon the legal profession, the courts, educators, clergymen, and all interested individuals and organizations to mark the twenty-second nationwide observance of Law Day, U.S.A., with programs and events which underscore our Nation's devotion to the principle of equal justice for all. To that end, I call upon all public officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on that day.

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

JIMMY CARTER

**Proclamation 4650 of March 28, 1979**

### **Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week, 1979**

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

#### **A Proclamation**

America's greatness—its ideals, its system of government, its economy, its people—derives from the contribution of peoples of many origins who come to our land seeking human liberties or economic opportunity. Asian-Americans have played a significant role in the creation of a dynamic and pluralistic America, with their enormous contributions to our science, arts, industry, government and commerce.

Unfortunately, we have not always fully appreciated the talents and the contributions which Asian-Americans have brought to the United States. Until recently, our immigration and naturalization laws discriminated against them. They were also subjected to discrimination in education, housing, and employment. And during World War II our Japanese-American citizens were treated with suspicion and fear.

Yet, Asians of diverse origins—from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Southeast Asia—continued to look to America as a land of hope, opportunity, and freedom.

At last their confidence in the United States has been justified. We have succeeded in removing the barriers to full participation in American life, and we welcome the newest Asian immigrants to our shores—refugees from Indochina displaced by political, and social upheavals. Their successful in-