Cancer Control Month, 1974

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Cancer is the second leading cause of death among Americans today. This year, 350,000 Americans will die of it. Striking at young and old, cancer is varied, insidious, and relentless.

In the past, we have learned to cope with and cure other, equally frightening illnesses. With years of research, we have virtually eliminated such plagues as diphtheria, cholera, smallpox and typhus in America. And we are going to conquer cancer. The struggle will be long, difficult and costly, and the victory may come by inches. But it will come.

Today, medical efforts against cancer, conceived and developed in our great research institutions, are going forward all over America.

The National Cancer Program, authorized by the National Cancer Act of 1971, provides twin ventures in cancer control and cancer research, as cancer control efforts translate the results of research into useful tools for the bedside physician and for the community effort in cancer prevention. There must be no slowdown in these efforts.

As a means of giving continued emphasis to the need for a broad, systematic attack on cancer, the Congress, by a joint resolution of March 28, 1938 (52 Stat. 148), requested the President to issue annually a proclamation setting aside the month of April as Cancer Control Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 1974, as Cancer Control Month, and I invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the appropriate officials of all other areas under the United States flag to issue similar proclamations.

To give new emphasis to this serious problem, and to encourage the determination of the American people to meet it, I also ask the medical and health professions, the communications industries, and all other interested persons and groups to unite during this appointed time in public reaffirmation of our Nation’s strong commitment to control cancer.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON
April 3, 1974

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25th Anniversary of NATO

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

A quarter-century ago, on April 4, 1949, in Washington, twelve nations, united in a determination to preserve their freedoms, integrity, and common heritage, signed the North Atlantic Treaty. In succeeding years Greece, Turkey, and the Federal Republic of Germany became parties to that accord and members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization—which was established to fulfill the Treaty's commitment to a joint defense.

In those early years the military threat to the West was clear. Today, while collective defense remains the first task of the alliance, opportunities have arisen—resulting from more than two decades of Western cohesion—which have allowed the allies to engage in a broad new enterprise aimed at reducing tensions between East and West.

The Atlantic alliance remains the cornerstone of United States foreign policy. In addition to advancing the cause of peace, members can enlarge the purposes of our historic alliance by reinvigorating our association to meet the interrelated security, political, economic, and environmental problems that confront us in the complex world of this decade and beyond. Understanding, cooperation, and consultation must be the hallmark of our on-going relationship. The achievements of the past must not be sacrificed to the pursuit of national interests narrowly conceived. I re-dedicate the United States today to that course, for it is only in this way that the Atlantic nations can truly serve the cause of peace and prosperity for succeeding generations.