

Most instances of child abuse and child neglect are not caused by inhuman, hateful intent but by the accumulation of stresses experienced by parents attempting to meet their responsibilities. If parents can get help in coping with the pressures in their lives and if communities support preventive programs to assist parents and others responsible for the care of their children, young lives can be saved and suffering prevented.

The health and well-being of our children is and must continue to be one of our Nation's highest priorities.

The Congress, by Senate Joint Resolution 149, has recognized the magnitude of the problem of child abuse by requesting me to designate June 6 through June 12, 1982, as National Child Abuse Prevention Week.

Ante, p. 112.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week of June 6 through June 12, 1982, as "National Child Abuse Prevention Week." I urge all citizens to renew our Nation's commitment to meet the serious challenge which child abuse and child neglect pose to the welfare of our children and families.

I especially invite the Governors of the States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; the heads of voluntary and private groups; and the offices of local, State, and Federal government to join in this observance. I urge them to encourage activities whose purpose is to prevent and treat child abuse and child neglect.

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

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4947 of June 15, 1982

National Peach Month, 1982

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Peaches are a refreshing and nutritious addition to our Nation's diet.

Peaches are a \$365 million cash crop that bolsters the economies of 32 States.

The United States is the world's largest peach producer, providing more than 20 percent of the world's peaches and exporting approximately 250 million pounds each year.

In recognition of the role peaches play in our food supply and our economy, the Congress by Joint Resolution approved March 16, 1982 (96 Stat. 12), has requested the President to designate July 1982 as "National Peach Month."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim July 1982 "National Peach Month" and call upon the people of the United States to incorporate this nutritious fruit into their diets, and call upon interested groups to celebrate this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4948 of June 14, 1982

Baltic Freedom Day

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The independence of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia was extinguished in 1939 as a result of a nefarious deal struck between the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany. Hitler handed Stalin the three Baltic republics as a bonus to secure his cooperation in the destruction of Poland and to obtain a secure eastern frontier which enabled him to launch war against the western democracies. Subsequently, hundreds of thousands of Baltic nationals were deported to the Soviet Union where many of them perished in prisons and forced labor camps. The darkest day of that great human tragedy occurred on June 14, 1941, when their homes and jobs were taken by Russian settlers.

Today, some of the survivors of these mass deportations are citizens of the United States. Their aspirations for a better future for the peoples of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania have helped to bring new meaning to our nation's commitment to freedom for all people. The United States has never, over the intervening forty-one years, recognized the forcible incorporation of the Baltic states into the Soviet Union.

As a nation, we remain dedicated to the furtherance and preservation of the fundamental human rights and freedoms of all people and take note on this special day of our hope that the blessings of liberty will one day be part of the national life of the courageous people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Ante, p. 117.

The Congress of the United States by Senate Joint Resolution 201 has authorized and requested the President to proclaim June 14 as Baltic Freedom Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate June 14, 1982, as Baltic Freedom Day. I call upon the people of the United States to reaffirm their belief and hope that the citizens of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia and of all nations will one day achieve through peaceful means the goals of democratic freedom and self-determination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

RONALD REAGAN