

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, today the American Merchant Marine continues a long tradition of essential service to the American economy and defense; and

WHEREAS, throughout our history, American ships have contributed to the development of our modern economy as well as to the strength and unity of the country; and

WHEREAS, this Nation's economy continues to expand, we will continue to need ships -- fast, modern descendants of the famous "Clippers" -- to carry our products to the far corners of the earth and return with the raw materials essential to our national prosperity; and

WHEREAS, our merchant marine is also vital to our friends all over the world. The transportation of surplus commodities to many of the underdeveloped countries is an important part of our foreign aid program; and

WHEREAS, for as long as the United States may be called upon to defend the Free World's interests anywhere on the globe, our ships are necessary to insure continuous supply of the military material that helps to prevent or defeat aggression by any country and the complex task of creating and maintaining a merchant marine adequate to our needs for peacetime commerce, and sufficient for defense purposes, requires the efforts of government, management and labor and the support of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, to remind the American people of the important role of the American Merchant Marine in the life of this Nation, the Congress in 1933 designated May 22 of each year as National Maritime Day and requested the President to issue a proclamation annually in observance of that day. May 22, 1819, is the day the SS Savannah, the first steamship to cross the Atlantic, set forth on its historic journey into the future.

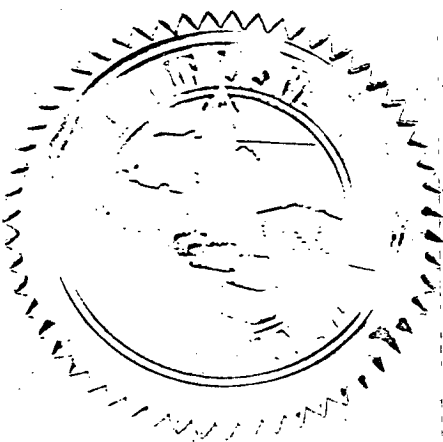
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Oran K. Gragson, Mayor of the City of Las Vegas, do hereby proclaim May 22 as American Merchant Marine Day in Las Vegas, and urge the citizens of this City to take recognition by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, to be affixed this twenty-seventh day of April, 1967.


Oran K. Gragson, Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk



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