

**The original documents are located in Box 34, folder “Columbus Day” of the William J. Baroody Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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## Columbus Day, 1974

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

On Columbus Day, 1974, we again celebrate the historic achievement of the Italian sea captain whose courage and determination led him across uncharted oceans to a New World.

Sailing in the service of the Spanish crown, the voyage of Christopher Columbus marked one of history's most challenging and rewarding explorations. He opened this continent to the migration of settlers who created an enduring nation. The United States of America still carries forth his spirit of exploration as part of its national heritage.

Americans of the twentieth century strive to follow the vision and unshakeable faith of Christopher Columbus by seeking to discover a "New World" of peace and cooperation among all men.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657), as modified by the act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 14, 1974, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches, and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twentieth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-ninth.

*Gerald R. Ford*



## Columbus Day, 1975

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

On October 13, we honor the great Italian navigator whose historic westward voyage blazed the way for the settlers from many lands who followed to build a new world.

Our admiration for the achievement of Christopher Columbus has not dimmed over the span of nearly five centuries. Sailing in the service of the Spanish Crown, whose vision and support made his journey possible, Columbus pursued his dream in the face of enormous challenges with an unshakable courage and faith that set an example for future generations of Americans.

We can all take great pride, as we look forward to our Bicentennial celebrations, in honoring the memory of the epic accomplishments of Christopher Columbus which led to the development of the Americas and the founding of this great Nation.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657, 36 U.S.C. 146), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. 6103(a) and note), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 13, 1975, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald R. Ford".



## Columbus Day, 1976

*By the President of the United States of America*

### A Proclamation

In this our Bicentennial year, we owe special tribute to the great Italian explorer whose historic voyage to the new world opened the way to the founding of these United States.

Sustained by the vision and financial support of Queen Isabella I of Spain, Christopher Columbus established the first permanent European settlement in the Americas, paving the way for the generations of immigrants from all over the world who came to build a new nation. This great achievement marked the beginning of a new era in the history of mankind.

As the heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus, we are proud to honor his memory and unshakable courage and faith which made his epic journey a reality nearly five centuries ago.

In tribute to the achievement of Columbus, the Congress of the United States, by joint resolution approved April 30, 1934 (48 Stat. 657, 36 U.S.C. 146), as modified by the Act of June 28, 1968 (82 Stat. 250, 5 U.S.C. 6103(a) and note), requested the President to proclaim the second Monday in October of each year as Columbus Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Monday, October 11, 1976, as Columbus Day; and I invite the people of this Nation to observe that day in schools, churches and other suitable places with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the great explorer.

I also direct that the flag of the United States be displayed on all public buildings on the appointed day in memory of Christopher Columbus.

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

*Gerald R. Ford*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1976

*Clara*

MEMO FOR: ROLAND ELLIOTT *M*

FROM: MARGUERITE MCAULIFFE

SUBJECT: Columbus Day Proclamation

Please arrange to have the attached letter  
robo-typed to the individuals on the enclosed  
list for the Columbus Day Proclamation.

Thanks very much.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 29, 1976

Dear

President Ford recently signed a Proclamation designating October 11th as Columbus Day, 1976. In his Proclamation the President states, "As the heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus, we are proud to honor his memory and unshakable courage and faith which made his epic journey a reality nearly five centuries ago."

The President has asked that I send you the enclosed duplicate of his Columbus Day Proclamation as a small remembrance of this occasion. It comes to you with his very best wishes.

Sincerely,

*Bill Baroody*  
William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 5, 1976

Dear Mr. Villeci:

President Ford recently signed a Proclamation designating October 11th as Columbus Day, 1976. In his Proclamation the President states, "As the heirs to the spirit and determination of Christopher Columbus, we are proud to honor his memory and unshakable courage and faith which made his epic journey a reality nearly five centuries ago."

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Sincerely,

William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

Enclosure

Mrs. Grace Genco  
Grand Venerable  
Order Sons of Italy  
3501 Drexel Avenue  
Tampa, Florida 33609

Mario Albi, Chairman  
Coordinating Committee of National  
American-Italian Organizations  
72 Burroughs Place  
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

Mr. Veto Presutti  
Supreme Trustee  
Order Sons of Italy  
Ohio Fireworks Company  
Rock Hill Pike  
Bellaire, Ohio 43906

614/676-0283

~~Joseph SIMILIE~~  
Grand Venerable of the Grand Lodge of California  
(takes in all of West including Hawaii)  
1233 West Roseburg Avenue  
Modesto, Calif. 95350  
209/524-5583

~~MR. ALFRED SANTANGELO~~

~~PRESIDENT~~

*Americans of Italian Descent*  
299 Broadway  
New York, N.Y. 10007

Mrs. Mary Sansone  
President, Congress of Italian-American Orgs. Inc.  
1451 59th Street  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11219

Mr. Joseph Maselli  
Chairman  
Italian-American Federation of Louisiana  
2810 Napoleon Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70115

Mr. John G. Spatuzza  
Supreme Grand Venerable  
Order Sons of Italy in America  
221 N. La Salle Street  
Chicago, Ill. 60601

Joseph Villici, Grand Venerable  
Grand Lodge of California Order  
~~Order Sons of Italy~~  
22 Campbell Court  
Pittsburgh, California 94565

— Villici

Mr. Angelo B. Cardone, Sr.  
Grand Venerable  
Grand Lodge of New Jersey  
Order Sons of Italy  
124 N. Fourth Street  
Camden, N.J. 08102

609/963-3264

Anthony J. De Julio  
Supreme Secretary  
Italo American National Union  
30 West Washington Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Mr. Jeno F. Paulucci  
Chairman of the Board  
Paulucci Enterprises  
525 Lake Avenue South  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

September 29, 1976

Dear

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Sincerely,

William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

Enclosure



October 9, 1975

Dear

President Ford recently signed a Proclamation designating October 13th as Columbus Day, 1975. In his Proclamation the President states, "We can all take pride, as we look forward to our Bicentennial celebrations, in honoring the memory of the epic accomplishments of Christopher Columbus which led to the development of the Americas and the founding of this great Nation."

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William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President



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Sincerely,

William J. Baroody, Jr.  
Assistant to the President



Enclosure

September 16, 1974

One Proclamation to Frost Stella of  
Detroit, per request of Mike Balgau.

Mike also will assist w/ list of ~~Stellini~~  
for remaining Proclamations



8/19/74

Marguerite;

Columbus Day -- Monday, Oct. 14, 1974

Katie

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Marguerite McAuliffe

The President has signed a Proclamation entitled:

"Columbus Day, 1974"

*Robert D. Linder*  
Robert D. Linder