

APRIL 13, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 2920 -- Thomas Jefferson Building. This bill renames the Library of Congress Annex the Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building.

Most of the books in the Library of Congress were destroyed when the British burned the Capitol on August 24, 1814, during the War of 1812. Thomas Jefferson, then living in retirement in Monticello, offered his personal library of more than 6,500 volumes to the Congress in order to begin rebuilding the Library's collection. The act to purchase his library was approved on January 30, 1815.

S. 2920 will honor Jefferson's role in the development of the Library of Congress by renaming the Library of Congress Annex the "Library of Congress Thomas Jefferson Building."

The President has signed H.J. Res. 670 -- Thomas Jefferson Day. This resolution authorizes and requests that you proclaim April 13, 1976, as "Thomas Jefferson Day," in honor of the birthday of the third President.

The resolution will designate April 13, 1976, as "Thomas Jefferson Day," in honor of the 233rd anniversary of his birth.

#