

1
2
3
4

19901
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
MAY 6 - 1968
Joseph L. Anderson
Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, throughout American history, the Merchant Marine has been indispensable to our security and prosperity, and

WHEREAS, today, our merchant fleet binds us in peaceful commerce with the increasingly interdependent nations of the world, and

WHEREAS, in this decade alone, our imports and exports have risen nearly 60 percent -- from less than \$25 billion in 1960 to nearly \$95 billion in 1968, and

WHEREAS, merchant ships carry the essentials of life to millions in need and transport military supplies and equipment to our forces abroad, and

WHEREAS, ninety-eight percent of all of our supplies being sent to Vietnam today are carried by ship, and

WHEREAS, to remind Americans of the important role which the merchant marine plays in our national life, the Congress in 1933 designated the anniversary of the first transatlantic voyage by a steamship, the SS Savannah, on May 22, 1819, as National Maritime Day, and requested the President to issue a proclamation annually in observance of that day,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harold Levander, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim May 22, 1968, as

"NATIONAL MARITIME DAY"

in Minnesota, and do hereby urge the people of Minnesota to honor our American Merchant Marine on that day 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 Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this sixth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight, and of the State, the one hundred tenth.

Joseph L. Anderson
SECRETARY OF STATE

Harold Levander
GOVERNOR