



## Proclamation

WHEREAS: On November 21, 1783, a French balloonist named Etienne de Montgolfier made the first manned flight in history when he soared aloft in a hot air balloon at LaMuette, France. The balloon sailed over Paris for 25 minutes and traveled five and one-half miles; and

WHEREAS: This epochal flight fulfilled mankind's desire, as old as the myth of Icarus, to become airborne. But it was also something more than the fulfillment of a dream. Montgolfier's achievement was a concrete demonstration of the power of technological know-how when coupled with the yearnings of the human spirit. For the first time, man had freed not only his imagination but his physical self from the forces of gravity. With every advance our imagination and knowledge have leaped forward--from Montgolfier to the Wright brothers through the moon walks and the space shuttle; and

WHEREAS: In the 200 years since that first flight, man's quest to understand the unknown has resulted in our ability to fly higher, faster, safer and farther. We race the sun as we move from continent to continent in a matter of hours. We have vastly multiplied commerce and communication among far-flung peoples. We have flown 250 thousand miles to explore the surface of the moon, and, with this unprecedented triumph of spirit and technology, changed forever our view of the Earth. She is a delicate blue jewel in the darkness of space; and

WHEREAS: In recognition of 200 years of progress around the globe in manned flight, the Congress Senate Joint Resolution 270, has designated the year 1983 as the Bicentennial of Air and Space Flight. I view the celebration as an opportunity to increase public awareness of our Nation's achievements in aviation and space flight and to rededicate ourselves to the spirit of excellence which has brought us so far so fast; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of July, 1983, to be

BICENTENNIAL OF AIR AND SPACE FLIGHT

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED

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Jean Anderson Howe  
Secretary of State

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in Minnesota, and call upon all government agencies and the American people to observe this year appropriate ceremonies and activities.

*Jean Anderson Howe*  
*Rudy Perpich*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this fifth day of July in the year of our one thousand nine hundred and eighty-third.