

There is no reason to delay enactment of a law that would require taggets in explosive materials. Every day that goes by without a law like that is another day a terrorist can walk into a store and buy material that is virtually untraceable. As long as the basic building blocks of bombs are sold without taggets, we can only hope they're not being bought by terrorists.

The Senators who want to oppose my bill on these points simply argue that these provisions will open the door to an overly broad domestic use of military troops, to overly invasive wiretapping, or to an erosion of the constitutional rights of those who buy explosives. I disagree. Constitutional protections and legal restrictions are not being repealed. We are simply giving law enforcement agencies who are committed to fighting terrorists for us the tools they need to succeed in the modern world.

I want to work with Congress to resolve these differences and to make my antiterrorism bill the law as soon as possible.

On this Memorial Day weekend, we honor those who fought and died in our Nation's wars to keep America free. In the 21st century, the security of the American people will require us to fight terrorism all around the world and, unfortunately, here at home. It's a fight we have to be able to win.

Thanks for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 2:22 p.m. on May 26 in the Oval Office at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on May 27.

Proclamation 6806—Time for the National Observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of World War II, 1995
May 26, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

In remembering the nightmare we now know as World War II, it is natural and fitting that we pause to mourn our loss. Eleven million service members—more than 400,000 of them American—perished in that war. Countless more civilians died in its awful course. We Americans retain a special bond

to all of these heroes. We've seen pictures of their faces and told stories of their courage. For when the darkest days of fear seemed to tear our world apart, the brave millions we now honor kept liberty alive.

As the forces of oppression sought to extinguish freedom's light, Americans from every walk of life heard the call to service. Women joined our Nation's factories, and farmers doubled their efforts in our fields. Victory gardens flourished across the land, and although the rationing of goods made our dinners less than feasts, the sharing of a cause filled our hearts with hope. Hand in hand, our parents and grandparents led our Nation on to victory, and together with our allies, we prevailed.

Like the men and women who fought half a century ago, Americans today are just as bound to defend the cause of freedom. Now as then, we are privileged to see the triumph of democracy in nations too long oppressed. Now as then, we know that service is our highest call. And still today, we pray for lasting peace.

May the spirit of those prayers forever grace our land. May they guide relations between citizens and friendships among nations. May our children remember our cause well, and may they one day see a time when harmony fills the Earth.

The Congress, by Public Law 103–291, has designated May 29, 1995, through June 6, 1995, as a "Time for the National Observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of World War II."

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 29, 1995, through June 6, 1995, as a Time for the National Observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of World War II. I call upon all Americans to celebrate these days with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and nineteenth.

William J. Clinton

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NOTE: This proclamation was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on May 29, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on June 1.

**Remarks at the Unveiling Ceremony
for the POW/MIA Postage Stamp**
May 29, 1995

Thank you very much, Secretary Brown, for your remarks and for your service. Postmaster General Runyon, Senator Simpson, Congressman Bishop, Secretary and Mrs. West, General and Mrs. Shalikhshvili, to the distinguished service chiefs who are here, members of the Armed Forces, and especially to our veterans on this Memorial Day: We are proud to have you all here at the White House and honored to have the opportunity to unveil this stamp, which honors the extraordinary sacrifice of American prisoners of war and the memory of all those who never came home. It will help to ensure that all these Americans who gave so much to our freedom are never forgotten.

We are especially fortunate to have a number of former prisoners of war joining us here today. They represent a half-century of commitment to the principles that our Nation has stood for throughout the world. They embody a level of devotion and service almost unimaginable. And I am proud to recognize several of them who are here today.

Lt. Colonel Charles Prigmore was a young bombardier during World War II. On his 14th mission over Germany, his plane was shot down, and he spent a year as a POW. Today he is the national commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War. Colonel Prigmore, would you be recognized, please? [Applause] Thank you.

Infantryman Bill Rolan fought at Anzio Beach and helped to liberate Rome. During the invasion of southern France he was captured and forced to spend the rest of the war in a slave labor camp. Mr. Rolan, welcome. [Applause] Thank you.

When the Philippines were attacked in 1941, Ruby Bradley had already been an Army nurse for 7 years. She was captured just days after Christmas, and her internment lasted until 1945. Ms. Bradley. [Applause] Thank you.

Robert Fletcher was serving in Korea in 1950 when he was captured. He spent nearly 3 years as a prisoner of the North Korean and Chinese forces before he finally could return home. Mr. Fletcher. [Applause] Thank you.

Captain Isaac Camacho, a green beret, was captured outside Saigon when his camp was overrun in 1963. He endured the jungle prisons of the Viet Cong for nearly 2 years and was one of the very few to escape and to survive. It is especially appropriate to have him here today because he is still a servant of our country; he is the U.S. Postal Service station master in El Paso, Texas. Captain Camacho [Applause] Thank you, sir.

And finally, Lt. Colonel Rhonda Cornum is a flight surgeon who served in Operation Desert Storm. On a rescue mission in Iraq her helicopter was shot down. She was badly injured, with broken arms and a gunshot wound, captured by Iraqi forces and held until the end of the fighting. Colonel Cornum. [Applause] Thank you.

Ladies and gentlemen, these and the others who have suffered similar fates are American heroes, among the finest and bravest individuals our Nation has ever produced. They had to bear hardships but never faltered. They inspire us still, and will for generations to come. I am pleased now that millions of Americans will be reminded every day of the extraordinary service they rendered, and all others like them rendered, by this new stamp.

On this Memorial Day, as every year, we also remember those who answered the call but never came home. Their loss is the greatest cost our Nation has paid for freedom. We can only imagine the pain their families have experienced, the grief that comes with uncertainty, the grief that comes with being denied a proper and clear grave. We know very well our obligation to them and their families to leave no stone unturned as we try to account for their fate and, if possible, to bring them home.

We have worked hard and made good progress. We have put the issue of MIA cases ahead of all others in our dealings with Vietnam. And today I am proud to say that we are receiving more cooperation from Hanoi than ever before.